

# Old Stuff

February | March | April 2023

Vol 46 | Ed 1

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ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, HISTORY AND NOSTALGIA FOR THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST



# Save The Date!

Our next event  
**July 15 & 16, 2023**

Keep an eye on  
[RoseCityVintageMarket.com](http://RoseCityVintageMarket.com)  
for all updates



**D**id you miss us? Like many organizations the staffing crunch hit our organization, too, causing a delay in publication of Old Stuff's October-December edition.

Since the fourth quarter Old Stuff deadline whizzed by our depleted staff like a moon rocket, we've decided to change the publication schedule beginning with this printing of a February-March-April issue.

We believe in the long run this new schedule will be beneficial to readers and advertisers, since the final issue of the year will cover November-December-January, allowing for a more complete holiday presentation.

That allows all who are interested in holiday bargains to imbibe in Old Stuff through the entire season.

So, thanks for your patience with our publication schedule. Enjoy this issue and future issues under the new timetable.

Being open to the possibilities often pays off with a surprise -- sometimes its Christmas in June.

A customer brought in a box of what



Brian Landry of Third Time Around in McMinnville with his green conductor's lantern.

appeared to be general junk to Brian Landry at *Third Time Around* in McMinnville. It seemed to Landry as if they'd just cleaned out an attic and were just looking for a place to dump a bunch of junk.

He accepted the box with a smile and perhaps a bit of bewilderment, wondering just how much treasure he would find for the store and how much would end up in the trash or recycle bin.

Much to his surprise, buried in the box was a conductor's lantern from the 1890s.

The lantern sells in the range of \$700 making Landry a happy

camper and antique store owner. As we hop into the new year, there are many new year resolutions to consider.

Shawn Liggett at *Past to Present* in Coos Bay, Oregon said that they're looking forward to getting more involved in community events and doing more to meet community needs.

"We are hopeful of developing more events to bring customers into the store. One of the events that has been quite popular and successful has been hosting wine tasting."

You can find out more about specific event dates on their

Facebook page including their Valentine's Day special in which they've partnered with the Oregon Coast Culinary Institute (OCCI) to provide a special meal or sweets for the day. This program helps to fund some of the OCCI programs.

Sharon Vo may hold the title for longevity in one location, as she starts her 34th year at *Wine Country Antiques* in Newberg. Vo said she hopes to continue making a difference in the lives of customers who come through her door in 2023.

Located across the street from the Newberg Library and just down the street

from the Chehalem Cultural Center, she piggybacks with many of the vents they offer.

Additionally, she regularly offers parking lots sales and is able to take advantage of the Camelia Festival in April and the Lavender Festival in July.

Over at *Penny Lane* in Vernonia, Nina Shaffer is nearly giddy over the number of new items they have received.

"We are always buying so every day is another adventure for us.

"We see many people who are downsizing and wind up going to their homes on a personal visitation," she said.

Shaffer said they often find collections that families have been working on for 30-40 years.

"That's when you find the really good stuff collectors are looking for," she said.

Those finds translate into really great finds for collectors.

Carly Willis at the *Antique Marketplace* in Auburn, Washington, where she has 100 vendors and 13,000 square feet of space, is focused on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle as their general marketing focus

for the new year.

"I believe in today's market people are looking for items that have stood the test of time, rather getting something new that will cost them significantly more," she said.

Willis said in addition to a Mother's Day promotion on chocolate and a gemstone promotion in September, the store is also doing several Sip and Shop days during the year.

We'd be remiss if we didn't offer a tip of the hat to Amy Hall and the team at *Third Street Antiques* here in McMinnville. They regularly help us find items in their store to illustrate stories in Old Stuff. Not only that but at time they let us clear out a section for a couple of hours and turn it into a photo studio. We couldn't do it without Hall and many others. Thanks to you all!

Last but not least, if you've a classic collectible you are looking to part with, try our new classified section. It gives your item prime exposure on the back cover each edition, giving you an opportunity to market to 15,000 eyes all over the Pacific Northwest.

Wishing you all the best in 2023.

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## AMERICAN SOCIETY CLASSIFIED ONE AD AT A TIME

BY OSSIE BLADINE  
Editor/Associate Publisher, Old Stuff

With just a small space in this issue for my welcome note, I'll get right into my promised, albeit brief, book review of "Strange Red Cow ... and other curious classified ads from the past."

Author Sara Badar presents a unique telling of American history by chronicling the various ways classified ads have been used, organized in six of the original classifications: Lost and Found; The Runaway Slave Notice, Information Wanted; Personals; Help Wanted; and, Swap.

From Founding Fathers seeking information on escaped slaves, to potential wet nurses advertising a "fresh breast of milk," to young officers returning from war seeking a companion, and much more, it's fascinating to see the breadth of how this form of communication has been used through the generations.

For a variety of reasons, people have long pub-

lished their personal business in print, much as is done on the internet and social media these days. Badar includes 21st century classified postings on Craigslist, to show how the advertisement of these matters remains similar in content today as they were when the country was founded.

More than just a cultural history tale, there's plenty in the book for collectors and antique dealers, too. As Badar writes, these notices describe the value of materials in the past. "There for the taking are precious historical details that require no fact checking: what a snuff box was made out of, the fabric used to line a nineteenth-century cloak, the contents of a soldier's Civil War saddle bag, or the color of a 1949 Girl Scout pencil."

I don't have a thousand words to go on about the book, so pick it up yourself. You'll find that, just like a picture, a small classified can be worth a thousand words when viewed through the lens of American society.


# Old Stuff

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# Old Stuff

Antiques, Collectibles, History & Nostalgia for the Pacific Northwest

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**ON THE COVER:** Japanese glass fishing floats from the North Lincoln County Historical Museum are put together in this composite created by Associate Editor Rusty Rae. Composed of three photographs, the image of the glass floats, a sunset from the Oregon coast, as seen through a set of windows, an image provided by photo pal Paul Webb. Special Thanks to museum executive director Jeffrey Syrop and ace volunteer Nick Simpson. See the story starting on page 13.



# 'Pigging Out' With tips from Kovel

Story and photo by Terry and Kim Kovel

Gustav Stickley created icons of American design. Inspired by John Ruskin and William Morris of the English Arts and Crafts movement, Stickley started the Craftsman Workshop in 1900.

He originated what was later called mission furniture, with its simple, sturdy shapes, iron and hammered copper hardware, and emphasis on skilled craftsmanship and practicality instead of decoration.

He favored oak because it is strong and heavy. Like the movement in England, Stickley's style went beyond a furniture brand -- it was an entire philosophy. He published a magazine called "The Craftsman."

Advertising signs are most popular when they include a well-

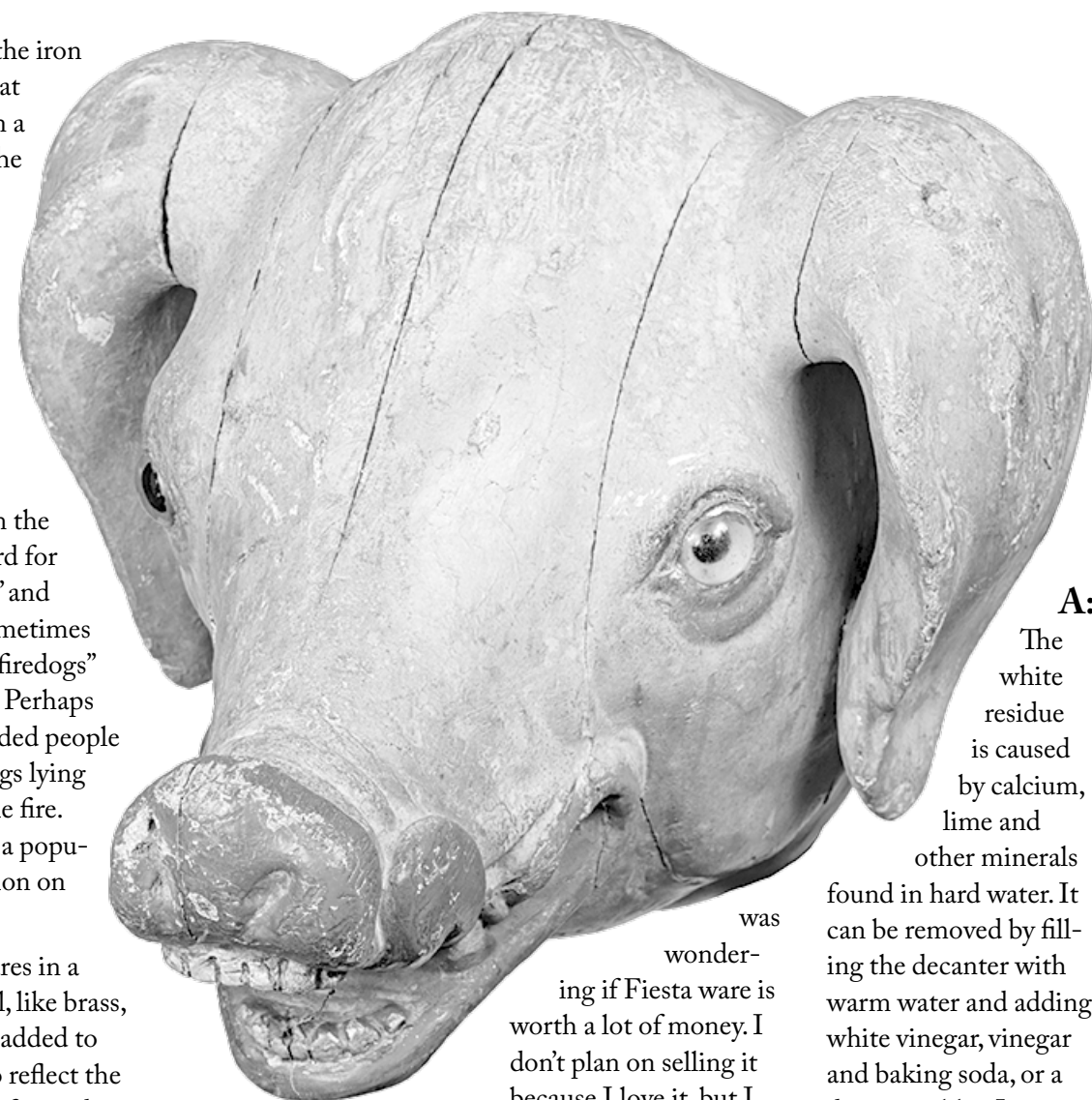
known brand name or recognizable mascot. Sometimes, a sign doesn't have a name or brand attached, but there's no mistaking what it's for.

This three-dimensional pig's head made of carved and painted wood with glass eyes was made for a butcher's shop. It sold at Cowan's Auction in Cincinnati for \$3,125. The buyer may be a collector of advertising and store furnishings, might have an interest in the meat industry, or may have recognized the pig's value as an interesting work of folk art. The head is detailed, with wrinkles where the snout rises, teeth and a tongue visible in the open mouth. It took plenty of skill for the unknown artist to carve and paint such a realistic design.

"Chenet" is the French word for

"andiron," the iron brackets that hold logs in a fireplace. The andirons keep the burning logs off the floor, allowing air to circulate. "Chenet" comes from the French word for "little dog," and they are sometimes known as "firedogs" in English. Perhaps they reminded people of small dogs lying down by the fire. Dogs were a popular decoration on them!

Cast figures in a shiny metal, like brass, were often added to andirons to reflect the light of the fire and brighten the room. Metal crafters experimented with designs, including columns,



A:

The white residue is caused by calcium, lime and other minerals

found in hard water. It can be removed by filling the decanter with warm water and adding white vinegar, vinegar and baking soda, or a denture tablet. Let it sit for several hours or overnight. Rinse out the solution and wash the decanter in a plastic tub or in a sink lined with a towel or rubber mat to prevent chipping. Turn the faucet to one side or put a rubber collar on the spout to avoid hitting the metal. Wash in warm (not hot) water and detergent, rinse and put upside down on a dish rack to dry. The inside of the decanter can be dried by inserting pieces of an old cotton sheet and using the handle of a wooden spoon or a wooden dowel to wipe it.

was wondering if Fiesta ware is worth a lot of money. I don't plan on selling it because I love it, but I am curious.

animals, human figures and mythological characters.

A set of Louis XV style chenets, which sold for \$500 at New Orleans Auction Galleries, features putti (cupids or cherubs), grapes, wheat and gilt bronze scrolls. The set was made in France in the late 19th century.

TIPS:

If the name "England" (or that of another country) appears on a dish, it was probably made after 1891, but it may have been made as early as 1887. The words "Made in England" (or another country) indicate the piece was made after 1914.

Mint, rosemary, lavender and thyme repel moths. Hang bunches of the herbs near stored textiles. Grow your own in raised gardens or large pots, even if you don't have a yard or a garden. Never wear rubber gloves when cleaning or handling silver. The sulfur from the gloves tarnishes silver.

Q: During the holidays I pulled out the Fiesta dinnerware that I began buying at flea markets 20 years ago. I

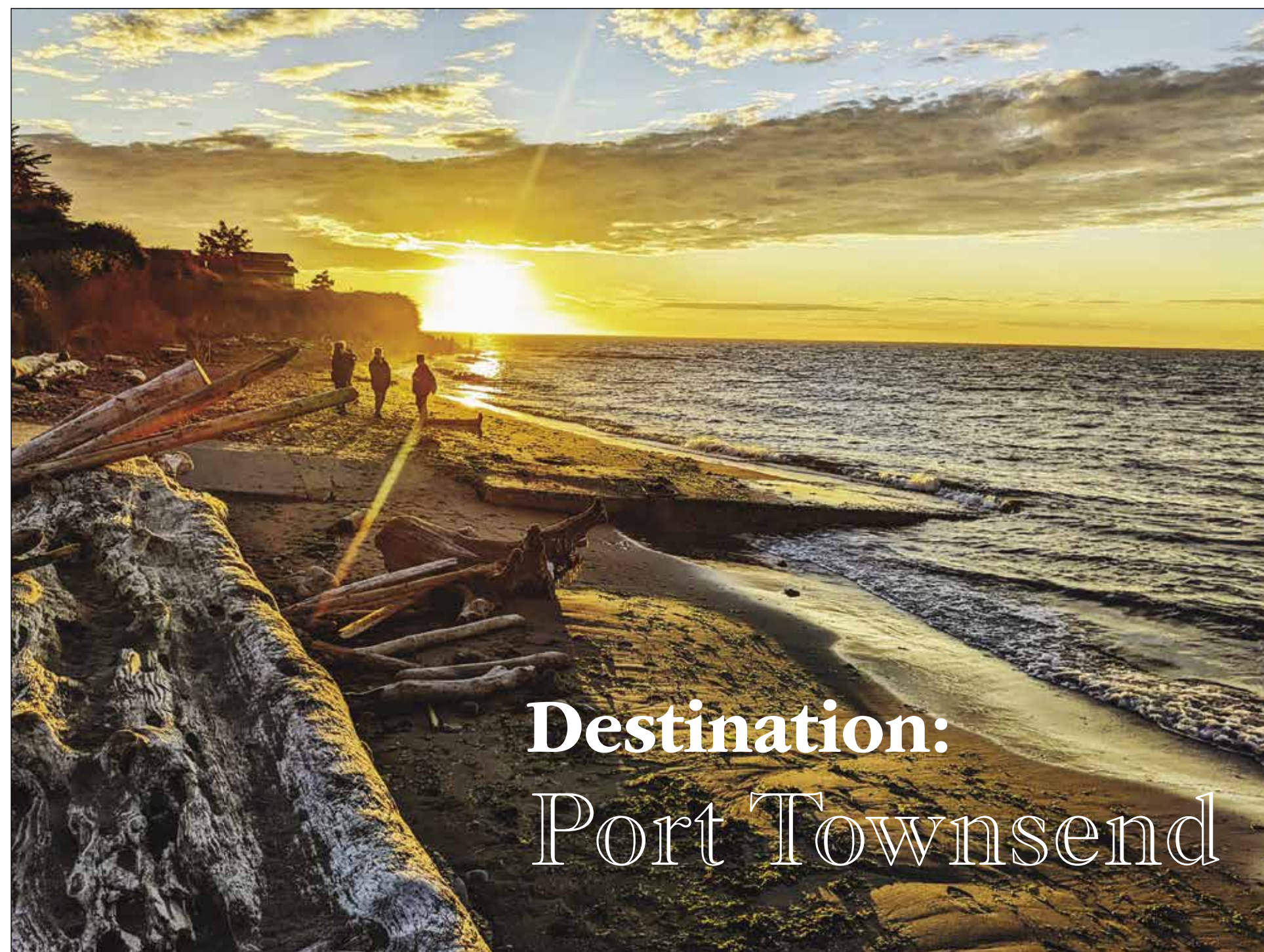
A: Fiesta ware was introduced in 1936 by the Homer Laughlin China Company of West Virginia. Pieces of this American-made glazed dinnerware were found on Depression-era tables across the United States and continue to attract collectors. Its value is tied to color and rarity. Everyday items such as bowls and serving items are popular but do not bring the bigger prices unless they are a rare color. The original colors were red, cobalt, yellow, light green, old ivory and turquoise. In the 1950s, gray, rose, chartreuse and forest green were added. The rarest color is medium green, introduced in 1959. In Kovel's Antiques and Collectibles 2022 Price Guide, a rare medium green soup bowl with molded handles sold for \$735. Fiesta is still being made and a new color is introduced every March.

Q: What is the value of an aluminum Christmas tree in great shape? It's five-feet tall.

A: Save your aluminum tree. It's likely worth over \$400. Aluminum Christmas trees were popular in the 1960s. The wire branches, wrapped with narrow aluminum strips to represent "needles," came in individual paper sleeves to protect them when stored. If the branches aren't inserted into the sleeves end first when disassembling the tree, the "needles" get twisted

Q: I recently bought a cut-glass decanter at an auction. It has a white residue on the very bottom. How can I remove this without damaging the crystal?

See KOVELS, 17



## Destination: Port Townsend

Linda Hanlon/ for OLD STUFF

North Beach is a favorite place for an evening walk or picnic. After a long day of searching for treasures in Port Townsend, it's the perfect place to end your day.

## Come for the treasures, stay for the adventure

BY LINDA HANLON

Port Townsend isn't your average sleepy village on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. It's a bustling port city, one of only three Victorian seaports in the US (along with Cape May, New Jersey and Galveston, Texas) where the world of antiques, vintage items, and collectibles will surprise visitors in their diversity and genuine quality. Expect to find treasures as diverse as the stories they spark about how they were made or the journey they took to land on this northern stretch of the Olympic Peninsula.

The welcome sign for Port Townsend proclaims that you are entering a historic Victorian seaport and arts community, and indeed, this is evident from the scenery as you wind down the bluff into town. The first thing you see, along with the stunning view of the bay surrounded by islands and moun-



Linda Hanlon/ for OLD STUFF  
Uptown Port Townsend.

One of the favorite places for searches of vintage, antiques and collectibles is Rust and Relics in

tain that indeed inspire the creative arts, is the large marina and boat-yard called Boat Haven.

Founded in 1851, Port Townsend is the county seat, situated on the Quimper Peninsula (yes, a peninsula on a peninsula!). This part of the Olympic

Peninsula is a blend of history dating back to the days when it thrived as a hub for the S'Klallam people under the wise leadership of Chief Chetzemoka (Cicmehan). Others then arrived. Dreamers, settlers, and others, who headed west by wagon

or by train to the Puget Sound region, and by steamer or mosquito fleet (early ferries) to towns throughout the area. A short drive from Port Townsend you will find Port Hadlock and Chimacum both renowned for their natural and farmland

features – and antique and thrift stores. When you visit the Port Townsend Antique Mall, at 15,000 square feet on two floors, with about 35 vendors, you will feel transported to the mid-1800s, and to a town that back then was banking on the

railroad coming there, and a future as one of the largest and most prosperous cities on the Salish Sea (Strait of Georgia, Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Puget Sound).

The train never arrived, which is why time seems to stand still in this historic seaport. You will find the Antique Mall downtown next to the historic Bishop Hotel, on Washington Street, a block off of Water Street.

Mark Lowder,

Continued ON next page

Oregon's First National Historic District

## AURORA, OREGON

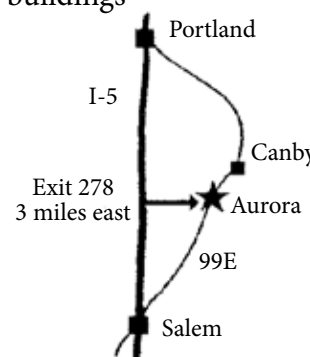
ANTIQUES CAPITAL OF OREGON

Aurora has made the TOP TEN of Best Antiquing Towns in the US by four online sources, MSN.com, the TravelChannel.com, HouseBeautiful.com and CountryLiving.com.

Our wide variety of antique and vintage shops, boutiques, art galleries, restaurants and wineries make this a fun destination for all.

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2023 ————— 2023

BRIMFIELD MASS.

**Starts at 9am ♥ Wednesday, May 10**

Heart -O-the Mart gets high marks for the quality of the merchandise there  
—Antiques and the Arts Weekly

Connoisseurs of the previously-owned share their hunting ground in Paris, Berlin and Brimfield, MA. Insider's tip: The best shows include Heart-O-The Mart.  
—Wall Street Journal

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owner of the Port Townsend Antique Mall, said, "I bought this business last January 2022. I had been working part-time looking for something to do after retiring from work at the boatyard. I was having such a good time working for the former owner, Frank, that I decided to buy it when he retired. I left my career, and have found work that I really love! I just love well-made old things!"

Across the street, browse through Bergstrom's Antique & Classic Autos where you can find restored classic cars for sale that part you need, or a model of your favorite childhood car. Take your pick of cafes, restaurants, and lodging options, and galleries nearby. The Jefferson Museum of Art & History is just steps away. Visiting the museum gives you a firsthand view of the area as you explore Port Townsend and its antique stores in person.

Just as you enter Port Townsend, you'll see the Boat Haven Marina where you will find the Marine Thrift which is run by the Northwest Maritime Center, the founder of the fabulously popular Wooden Boat Festival. In addition to running the Marine Thrift, the Maritime Center (located on the other end of downtown) offers classes in boatbuilding for all ages, hosts boat races, and is a gather-



Linda Hanlon/For Old Stuff

Port Townsend provides a variety of opportunities for those searching for a specific item. The Port Townsend Antique Mall (top) is a prime place since it is one of the largest repositories in the area. Bergstrom Antique and Classic Auto offers a plethora of automotive antique and collectible items (center), while the Marine Thrift Shop is worth the trip just for ambiance, if not a distinct item you need to complete your collection.



ing place and event venue downtown on the Point Hudson Marina.

One goal of the Marine Thrift shop is to keep boating items out of the landfill. Here you'll find a treasure trove of vintage and hard to find marine hardware items.

Amongst the items one might find at Marine Thrift are: anything bronze (props, shackles, etc.), fenders, boat hooks, and a variety of fasteners. Some may find their way back to the sea and others are perfect as nautical knick-knacks.

Maritime Thrift is open Thursdays - Sundays. You

may enjoy peering through portholes and marveling at an inventory of wooden blocks, brass propellers, and just about anything that makes a sailor's heart sing.

Next door is the Blue Moose Café open for breakfast Thursday-Monday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a beloved spot for locals, shipwrights, and visitors. If you're looking for a great breakfast to get the day started this is one eatery of many not to miss when you visit Port Townsend. You'll find a tasty veggie hash, eggs Benedict, and other favorite breakfast fare.

It is permissible to walk, bicycle, or

drive through the Boat Haven boatyard to see or photograph the wide variety of boats, including many historic wooden boats that come in for dry-dock work, and others moored in the marina.

If you're hankering for a bike ride or a nice walk after your Blue Moose Café meal, you will find the Larry Scott Trail section of the 135-mile Olympic Discovery Trail on the shoreline in Boat Haven. It's open to walkers, hikers, bicyclists, e-bikes, and horses. No motorized vehicles are allowed. The trail is a 14.7-mile out and back trek.

Up the hill from Boat Haven as you enter town, you can't miss Vintage Hardware and Lighting, which is a treasure chest overflowing with the special touches for your home or home restoration project. Located on one of the two roundabouts, the store states that, "Vintage Hardware and Lighting specializes in reproducing and recreating vintage lighting and hardware. Our physical store and show room also features beautiful vintage furniture and our free Art Deco lighting and furniture museum."

Currently open by appointment only (check to see if the hours have changed recently). Vintage Hardware and Lighting offers those looking for that special piece a wide range of options which will warm your heart. This place is huge.

If you're up for an epic barbecue experience, Mo-Chile, located nearby, on the roundabout, is a must-stop diner when you visit Port Townsend. Mike of Mo-Chile is a Texas transplant whose aim is to bring the feasts of Texas-style BBQ to the Northwest. You'll find ribs, melt-in your mouth prime rib, yummy bacon-wrapped peppers and more.

You can find Mo-Chile and other



Linda Hanlon/for Old Stuff

cafes and dining options nearby, as well as a variety of hotels and motels upon entering town, including the historic Manresa Castle and its very nice courtyards and restaurant. Manresa is next to the hospital as you enter town. It is a favorite place for live bands, readings, trivia night, great Asian-fusion dining and specialty drinks. Some say it is also haunted!

Bottle Zone, a nook of a shop that's easy to find for its size, is where you'll find more than old bottles. It is around the corner from Cherry Blossom consignment shop and the Celtic Crossroads store on Kearney Street just off Sims Way. Owner Russ West is an eccentric and enthusiastic guy with boundless curiosity. His inquisitiveness has taken him from coast to coast, armed with a metal detector, shovels and spades. You'll find that Russ's treasures reflect generations of families and their delights as well as their broken dreams (and dishes, toys, etc.) as they settled and then resettled from town to town. Look for Russ's found object art made from bottles and driftwood outside his shop.

Nearby you'll find waterfront lodgings, Thai and Mexican restaurants, and an amazing bakery, Pane d'Amore, and the other kind of bottle shop, the Pour House which is where you can find a moment of respite after a morning or afternoon of antiquing right on the beach.

If Magpie Alley was

The Marine Thrift Shop (above) a favorite place to visit for many offers a variety of items. While you're visiting the thrift shop, you can also take a walk through the harbor boat yard where there is always something going on. Here the Lady Washington has been hauled out for some hull maintenance (center). Nearby the Bottle Zone shows off their selection of doll parts (bottom).



a theatrical production it would likely be a musical comedy. This shop, which is on Water Street just past Tayler Street, blooms with a multitude of

colors. Each display shows off something unusual that will catch your eye. Magpie Alley is a shopping adventure where you'll find

Continued **ON** next page

**WAGON WHEEL DOLLERS**  
40th Annual Spring Doll Show and Sale  
Polk County Fairgrounds  
Rickreall, OR (Hwy 99W)

**Saturday March 25, 2023**  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Admission: Pre-Sale, 9am-10am, \$10  
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Hwy 99W | Hwy 22 | Salem  
Rickreall | Polk County  
Fair Grounds

**Classified section is coming to OLD STUFF: See back page for more information!**

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Linda Hanlon/ for Old Stuff

The Antique Company (top right), a few miles from downtown Port Townsend on Highway 19 offers a varied selection of antique and vintage furniture. Maggie Alley (top left) on Water Street provides an eclectic selection of vintage items. Rust and Relics (center right) provides a grab bag of vintage and collectible goods. The farmer's market (below), which operates May to October, provides fresh fruit and vegetable from local farms



**Classified section has arrive at OLD STUFF: See back page for more information!**

antiques and oddities, vintage records, antique buttons, and other shiny objects. Cool stuff galore.

Owner Amanda Kingsley opened the store as a pop-up experiment and on a whim for summer tourists. After seven years she is still having so much fun that the store has become a year-around community treasure.

"Our store started out as a way to display and sell my favorite things, my sisters antiques, and family heirlooms. It started as a summer pop-up store but I've loved it so much I'm

still here after seven years.

"It's good for my heart to see others come in and find something that has meaning for them. Seeing the smiles on their faces as they recall bygone times means so much to me," Kingsley said.

Sharing the store is an amazing collection of LP records. Chuck Moses also works at the store, and he can tell you most anything about the records and help you find your lost



golden oldie album.

Whether you are exploring Downtown Port Townsend's waterfront with historic hotels and other really fun stores and galleries, wine bars, restaurants, and coffee shops, or Uptown which has more stores, a bakery, pubs, restaurants and the seasonal Farmers Market, or the Point Hudson Marina area downtown with its restaurants, campground, the historic Swan Hotel, whale watching excursions, marina, and the Northwest Maritime Center, or the Boat Haven boatyard, you are sure to be dazzled by the mountain and water views, the local flavors, and the town's vintage charm.

Port Townsend's

Uptown brings one up the hill and onto Lawrence Street, which is the center of activity for this lovely Victorian neighborhood. When you're Uptown you may find yourself slowing down and wandering a bit more to find gems tucked into historic buildings on Lawrence Street and around the corners on adjoining streets.

Uptown is where you'll find Rust & Relic Vintage. Sale items from Rust & Relic overflow the shop onto the sidewalk with colors and textures that draw you in. You'll find collectibles, vintage jewelry, and antiques that are difficult to leave behind.

Rust and Relic is a woman-owned business, Michele and

Corrie have developed a knack for finding that special antique or collectible item. The twosome work with about six others who also have consignment items there.

The shop is about 1,200 square feet, and it opened this past spring. Corrie brings her Labrador mix dog, Olive Oil, to the store. "Have you met our shop dog? Olive Oil has a social media page! We are definitely a dog-friendly shop," noted shop owner, Corrie.

"My store partner, Michele, is the experienced one with antiques. She had a shop in Poulsbo for three years before we opened here. She has taught me so much, and now we are both out picking and finding a mix of vintage goods, furniture, clothing and a few new things and locally made pieces as well. We are still asking locals and visitors what they want us to carry."

You can visit Rust & Relic Vintage without actually traveling to Port Townsend through their new online store at RustAndRelicVintage.com.

The Antique Company is an unassuming warehouse-style store along Hwy 19 between Port Hadlock and Port

Townsend. Sometimes you pass an antique store and wish you had stopped. This is one of those places. And when you do stop you are not disappointed.

One happy shopper posted this about their experience: "This place is the real deal if you're looking for authentic antique furniture with a large selection of exquisite pieces, all in beautiful condition. The friendly and knowledgeable owners won't breathe down your back while you browse, and they are ready to help when you need it."

"My husband and I just went to look, but ended up buying a beautiful bookcase with leaded glass doors complete with skeleton key, and if you find a piece that doesn't have the original key the owner will have one made up for you. Local delivery is also available!"

The Antique Company, owned by Mike and Debbie Slack, has been in the area

for about 33 years. At more than 5,000 sq. feet you'll find this space full of vintage furniture to fill that empty niche in your restoration project or re-imaged room.

Debbie Slack, "Over the years, we traveled to England, Scotland and Wales, but since travel and shipping is more difficult now due to Covid-19, more of our antiques today are American."

"Our furnishings are ready-to-use in homes and offices."

As you are driving to Port Townsend on Hwy 19, be sure to look for The Antique Company.

Nearby you'll find cafes and restaurants, including the lovely and historic Ajax Café in lower Hadlock, the iconic Chimacum Corner Farmstand, which is actually a very nice grocery and garden store. You'll also find the Chimacum area community hub, Finnriver Farm & Cidery, where you'll find great locally-sourced food – from oysters to wood-fired pizzas and other epicurean delights. Their ciders, live music, readings, arts performances, and other engaging events are a great way to

relax after a long day.

Finnriver is family-friendly with a Cider Garden covered seating area and outdoor seating, yard games, and farm tours.

At first glance the Olympic Peninsula is an outdoor recreation destination particularly for those headed to the Olympic National Park, whale watching, fishing or to the many ocean beaches. Its towns offer dining, shopping, and lodgings that reflect the wealth of the region's fishing, timber, boat-building, and organic farming history, all representing a last-

ing legacy you'll enjoy experiencing over and over... along with the antiques and collectables you'll discover along the way. One visit will not be enough time to explore this peninsula on a peninsula on the Salish Sea.

Linda Hanlon grew up as the middle child of seven in a family that loved antiquing in a town known for its famous flea market, Springfield, Ohio. She moved West to Seattle in 1990, and she has found treasures all across the Pacific Northwest that fascinate and inspire especially in relation to

family stories and the

power of objects that span

generations. She now

lives in Port Townsend.



Finnriver Farm and Cidery (top right) provides home cooked meals and entertainment. The Port Townsend Aero Museum (center) has a large collection of vintage planes dating back to the early years of aviation as well as one of the best collections of aviation art, such as this painting the Hawker Hurricane. The Point Wilson Lighthouse in Fort Worden State Park provides a great place to relax after a day of antique hunting (bottom).



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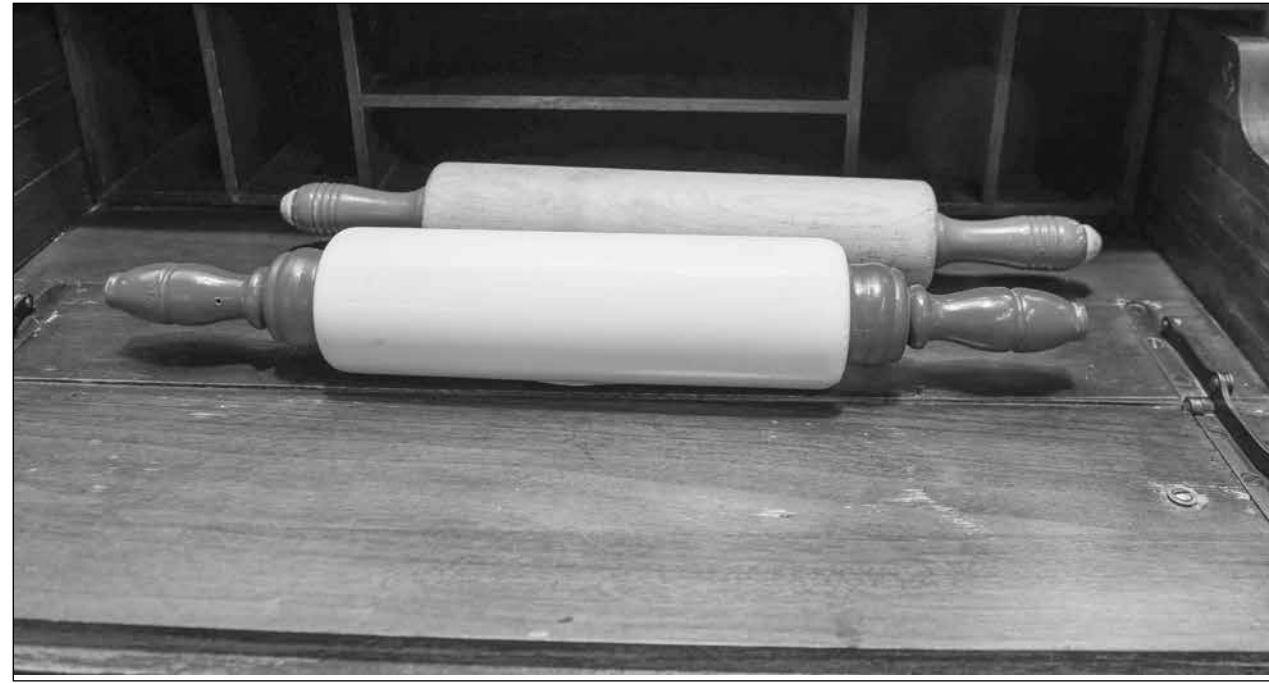


# Rolling Pins: a collectible worthy of the dough

One of the most important tools in any kitchen is the humble rolling pin. In most cases, it is a strictly utilitarian object — although the famous cartoon characters Maggie and Jiggs have also shown us that it can be used as a weapon!

Wooden rolling pins are the most common type and have been so for several centuries now. The earliest ones had no handles. Sometimes called the French type, they were the easiest to hand carve because they consisted of a wide center section that tapered to narrower ends.

Cooks preferred handles, however, and other early wooden rolling pins had one or two stationary handles



Rolling Pins have become a regular staple in many antique and vintage shops.

carved at the ends.

Hardwoods were used when available because they do not absorb fats or oils. Maple, mahogany, cherry and sycamore were all carved into rolling pins; other woods such as pine, beech and applewood,

can also be found. As in all phases of life, early craftsmen used the materials that were available. The pins came in a variety of sizes, too, from small ones for children and up to 30 inches in length.

Although most rolling pins were hand-

made, by the mid-1800s there were at least two companies producing them — Smith, Mason & Co. of Vermont, and Crystal Rolling Pin Co. of Massachusetts.

Wooden rolling pins were not always just smooth wood. Some were decorated or inlaid with bone or ivory. Another type had a deeply carved design that imprinted the design on cookie dough to make fancy cookies. An Italian version was divided into squares and used to roll out pasta dough.

One special pin was actually two. There were two rollers, side by side. Presumably this was to make the dough extra smooth. One clever arrangement had a dusting bin on top of the roller, to sprinkle flour during the rolling process. Yet another type had a double barreled handle above the rolling pin to give an extra good grip.

There also were a few rolling pins made of metal. The early traveling tinsmiths occasionally produced a tin one. One somewhat later rolling pin was a

combination utensil, with removable pieces for the ends, which allowed it to be used as a funnel, strainer and cookie cutter. Another metal rolling pin was nickel plated and weighted with lead to make it heavy enough to do the job.

Popular with pottery collectors as well as with collectors of rolling pins are those made of stoneware, yellow ware or other ceramic materials. These were hollow cylinders. Some had two turned wooden handles, one of which was inserted through the body of the rolling pin and screwed onto the other handle at the opposite side. This made the pin returning. Later versions in the first few decades of the 20th century had molded ceramic handles.

All pottery types were fired with a glaze, to make them non-absorbent. Occasionally they were used as premiums or advertising gimmicks, and the advertising message was fired under the glaze. Glass rolling pins are some of the most inter-

esting. The earliest ones were handblown, with short blown handles at each end. They came in a variety of sizes and several different colors. These were not utilitarian. They were often decorated with romantic words in gilt, or scrollwork, and had a ribbon or cord tied to each end for hanging the pin on the wall.

This item was probably first introduced at Nails in England in the late 1700s. Collectors find them referred to by that name.

They were an especially popular gift for sailors to bring home to their wives or sweethearts. Some were decorated with sailing ships or sea birds. A favorite design had an anchor at one end and a ship at the other, with "My Love Is Thine" written on the line connecting them. There was a superstition that if the glass rolling pin fell off the wall and broke the loved one would be lost — either at sea or to another woman!

Some glass rolling pins had handle ends that were fitted with glass or cork stoppers. Sailors could fill them with commodities to bring home, such as sugar, cologne or even some smuggled rum. In the United States this glass type was used as a merchandising premium with tea or coffee inside.

There was a practical side to some of the glass rolling pins. Those with open ends were designed to be filled with chips of ice. In use, this kept the dough chilled and easier to work. Later models of this type were made into the 1930s, with these later versions having screw caps.

Although they are not showing up in reference books yet. In recent years the rolling pins made out of a crushed and molded marble material have become popular. Undoubtedly, in time these, too, will make their way into collections.



Teaspoons commemorate a variety of events and have become collectible items that all can enjoy.

## The ordinary teaspoon extraordinary to collectors

That ordinary utensil in use at every meal, the teaspoon, has not always been so ordinary. They were once used only for very special purposes. They have also undergone several modifications in shape.

All spoons made during Colonial times had large bowls that were almost round, with short straight handles. The first major change in their shape occurred when tea drinking became popular. Then a variety of teaspoons appeared.

Teaspoons became smaller, and easier to manage with a teacup and saucer. They were sometimes called five o'clock spoons and were

not as large as today's teaspoon.

A tea-caddy spoon was another special shape designed to accompany the tea-drinking ritual. It was used to measure out the correct amount of leaves from the tea canister. Some had small hooks on the underside for hanging on the caddy. Others had a bowl shaped to resemble such things as a scallop shell, bird, fish and even a jockey cap.

The strainer teaspoon had a long, slender tapered handle and a pierced bowl. The handle was used to unclog the spot of the teapot from accumulated leaves; the bowl skimmed the leaves from the tea

after it was poured.

Sugar spoons also were needed at the tea table. They were used in the sugar bowl and were wide, flaring and shallow. A fluted scallop shape was common.

A late addition to the tea table, not appearing until the end of the 19th century, was the tea-ball spoon. It had a pierced covered bowl. Tea leaves were placed inside and could be used to make a single cup of tea. These were included in some sets of sterling silver.



Collectible teaspoons are found in many antique and vintage stores. They highlight many of key events celebrated in the US and around the world, from World Fairs to centennial anniversaries. These teaspoons are an inexpensive way to get started in collecting.



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The journey of 3,000 miles begins with a single storm

# Storms are the friends of glass float collectors

By Rusty Rae  
Associate Editor,  
OLD STUFF

While many of us find winter storms that bring icy roads, flooding, and power outages are a general nuisance if not a total pain, Alan Rammer, one of many glass fishing float collectors, lives not for the storm but for the aftermath of the storm. That's because those winter storms, specifically those out in the Pacific Ocean, are the triggering events that bring to-die-for glass globes to the beaches of the Pacific Northwest.

Rammer, who's been collecting the glass globes for more than 50 years, began his quest for the glass orbs on a family trip to Hawaii. The family was on the island of Kauai when they asked the woman at the front desk of their hotel where they should go to look for shells.

She answered, "You don't want to look for shells, you want to look for glass bubbles." Bubbles, that's what they were called back then and she proceeded to give Rammer and his family instructions for how to find these glass jewels from the ocean.

She told the family they had to crawl and look through the under the brush – that's where one would find a bubble. Rammer didn't really know what he was looking for at the

time, but was up to the adventure. "Tourists don't mess about in the weeds," the desk clerk told him.

Sure enough luck or perhaps destiny was with Rammer when he found one of the lost bubbles that day and gleefully showed it off to the desk clerk on their return to the hotel. She directed Rammer to a bookstore in Honolulu, which he visited a few days later. There he found a copy of the book *Beachcombing For Japanese Glass Fishing Floats* by Amos Wood, who lived in Seattle.

Rammer attended the University of Washington in Seattle the next fall, his freshman year. One of his first sojourns from campus was to Woods' home. "I looked him up, gave him a call and he invited me to his home," Rammer recalled. That was the beginning of a long friendship with one of the preeminent experts in collecting glass fishing floats.

Rammer, who went on to earn a degree in shellfish biology and invertebrate zoology, today lives in Aberdeen, Washington. His collection of glass floats numbers more than 300, each one with a special story.

"That's the thing about collecting these glass fishing floats – each one has a story to tell," Rammer said.

"Think about it –



The permanent display of glass fishing floats at the North Lincoln County Historical Museum is a great place for novice collectors to get started. The collection gives insight into the variety of glass floats from the 12-inch longline (top), to the frosted blue six-inch and the frosted bullet float (center) and the purple pie seal float (bottom).

these floats began life, for the most part, in Japan – and they've travelled thousands of miles and to a certain extent it's a bit of a miracle they wind up on our beaches," he added. Floats begin life in the fishing industry and for one reason or another separate from their nets.

To understand how these floats get all the way to North American shores you have learn a smattering of oceanography and meteorology.

First, there's the gyre which is defined as a large system of rotating ocean currents, according to the National Ocean and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA). The ocean churns up a variety of currents and together the larger more permanent currents make up systems called gyres.

There are five major gyres, but the one we in the Pacific Northwest are most interested in is the North Pacific gyre, which is essentially a circular current that delivers a variety of flotsam and jetsam to our beaches, including those fascinating glass globes from the fishing nets in Japan.

Rammer notes that as the current flows eastward, as it approaches

current of the Pacific Ocean, running as far North as the latitude 48. Because of the two currents it requires a strong easterly wind to bring the floats ashore.

So now you see why those really hellacious storms that most of us hate bring a smile to the face of collectors of glass fishing floats. It first of all requires a storm to break the piece of the garbage patch off. Then as that patch gets close to the coast it takes another storm with West-blowing winds to blow the last vestiges of the garbage vortex cookie by the Davidson current and ashore.

Rammer says, "The first tell-tale sign there is chance of finding a glass globe is you'll start seeing plastic bottles, dixie cups, light bulbs – light items that are on the surface. They'll be the first – and they'll be covered with algae."

Within hours of seeing those items, Rammer added, "Expect to see the large glass floats – those which would ride high on the surface and which would catch the



Alaska, it splits into two currents. One travels north to Alaska, while the other pushes south, bringing the treasures of the Far East to the shores of Washington and Oregon.

Before we complete our review of the issues with current, we need to backtrack to the concept of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, sometimes called the Pacific Vortex Patch.

According NOAA, this is a gigantic (and by that we mean too large for scientists to trawl) amalgam of plastic waste and other debris held together by the gyre current. Among the items trapped in this floating garbage pit are glass fishing globes.

This vortex doesn't want to let go of its occupants. The only way it does is when an even larger weather event



bashes it, breaking off a small piece, like a broken piece of cookie. The North Pacific gyre continues its circular motion bringing this cookie crumb of flotsam and jetsam closer to the West Coast shore.

As it travels down the coast of Washington and Oregon, there's another challenge: the Davidson Current. This is a seasonally changing coastal counter-

notes, "Size does not equate to value. Like anything else that is collected, the rarer an item, the more it will bring from collectors, assuming you aren't keeping it for your collection."

According to Rammer, the large glass floats – the size of a basketball or a bit larger, are marker floats. They were found at the start and end of nets and usually had some sort of a flag or later on perhaps a light that provided ownership and net location.

Larger glass floats were used predominantly for Tuna fishing. However, high seas tuna fishing ended in 1993 and today it is quite rare to find one of these floats. It would have first of all had to be captured by the garbage vortex nearly 30 years ago. Then it would have had to be released from the garbage pit and travel to the shores of the United States.

Glass float sizes follow fish sizes, to a certain extent. Softball to orange sized floats were generally used for salmon fishing. Rolling pin and smaller golf ball sized floats were used for herring, bait fish, and octopus gathering.

Today glass floats are all but an asterisk in history as the fishing industry has moved to cheaper plastic floats. Finding an actual glass float that has washed up from one of the storms is cause for celebration. Today it's a rare occurrence.

Nick Simpson, a retired dentist formerly of Waldport now living in Depoe Bay, Oregon is the Accession Volunteer at the North Lincoln County Historical Museum, and has been collecting glass floats for over 60 years.

He remembers back in the 1970s he could go to the beach after a storm and pick up a gunny sack of glass floats. Those days, sadly, are long gone. Simpson said he hasn't found a float on the beach in more than 20 years.

Like Rammer, Simp-

son found one float on a college biology trip to the coast and was hooked. After dental school he moved to Waldport in the 1970s, which at the time, like much of the northwest coast, was a gold mine for finding and collecting floats.

His most exciting and prized float now resides in the museum with many others from his collection, that at one time numbered more than 3,000 glass floats.

"One night south of Waldport, after a big storm, we – my dog and I – were out on the beach. My dog actually found it. She was standing on top of a log waiting there. It was a big green jumbo float. I told her 'Good job, now go find another,'" he recalled.

This find was so special Simpson unearthed it and brought it back to his car and then went back out on the hunt – bringing home another gunny sack of floats. Today, those who comb the beaches looking for glass floats are somewhat secretive -- like mushroom hunters. They have their special places and with the rarity of finds they don't want anyone else to know their special coastal spots.

The North Lincoln County Historical Museum in Lincoln City has exhibits that show several types of floats. Nick Simpson's collection along with Jim Watson's are on exhibit and show the various types and country of origin on the Pacific rim. There are over 500 floats on exhibit and in storage for visitors to enjoy. Each float is identified and there is history and information on individual floats for those who would like to know more. The museum has

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Retired dentist Nick Simpson, formerly of Waldport now of Depot Bay, with a basketball-sized green Japanese float. His collection numbered more than 2,000 at one time. Most have been donated to the museum.

all of the books that are currently available for sale. There are also floats for sale. Its a great place to get basic information, and more on glass float collecting.

In addition to the permanent display of floats by Simpson and Watson, there is also a traveling float exhibition which is heading to the Garibaldi (Oregon) Maritime Museum for a spring exhibition.

For Simpson, the thrill of finding the large green float, his first and only large float, made that float his favorite. But Rammer notes there are a number of metrics that determine value of a float: color, shape, and markings.

According to Rammer the color of the float is determined by the glass that was used in blowing the float. Clear floats generally are made from recycled window glass. These floats are perhaps some of the oldest, dating from the late 1800s to 1920s. Age gives individual floats a certain cache.

Aqua floats indicate a period when float makers shifted from

window glass to Saki bottles. Other colors, such as green and blue, indicate other types of glass used in the process. Rammer also said the other thing that creates value in a glass float is the markings on the float.

"Floats that have the maker's marks on

SEE **FLOATS**, 19

## Oregon, Washington coastal cities offer glass floats to find

While finding glass fishing floats these days may be a rare occurrence, there are numerous opportunities to find floats on the Oregon and Washington beaches thanks to several promotional programs.

Westport, Washington will be populating its beach with glass floats from January thru Memorial Day the Westport South Beach Historical Society and the Westport Maritime Museum will litter the beach with original Japanese glass floats.

Ocean Shores gets into the act with a Beach Comber Swap Meet March 4-5 where you'll be able to find a number of booths selling floats as well as purchase a glass globe.

Lincoln City (Oregon) beaches get the full meal deal with regular drops of glass floats throughout the year.

Here's the Finders Keepers "special drop" schedule thru June:

**Feb. 11-18** – Antique week: 100 Japanese antique floats

**Feb. 12-14** – Valentine's Day: 50 Red/pink/white floats

**March 18-April 16** – Spring break: 200 floats

**April 21-23** – Earth Day: 50 Earth Day floats

**May 12-14** – Mother's Day: 50 floats

**May 27-29** – Memorial Day: 50 Red/white/blue floats

**June 17-18** – Father's Day: 50 floats

**June 23-24** – Casino Anniversary: 28 floats

**June 24-25** – Summer Kite: 10 floats



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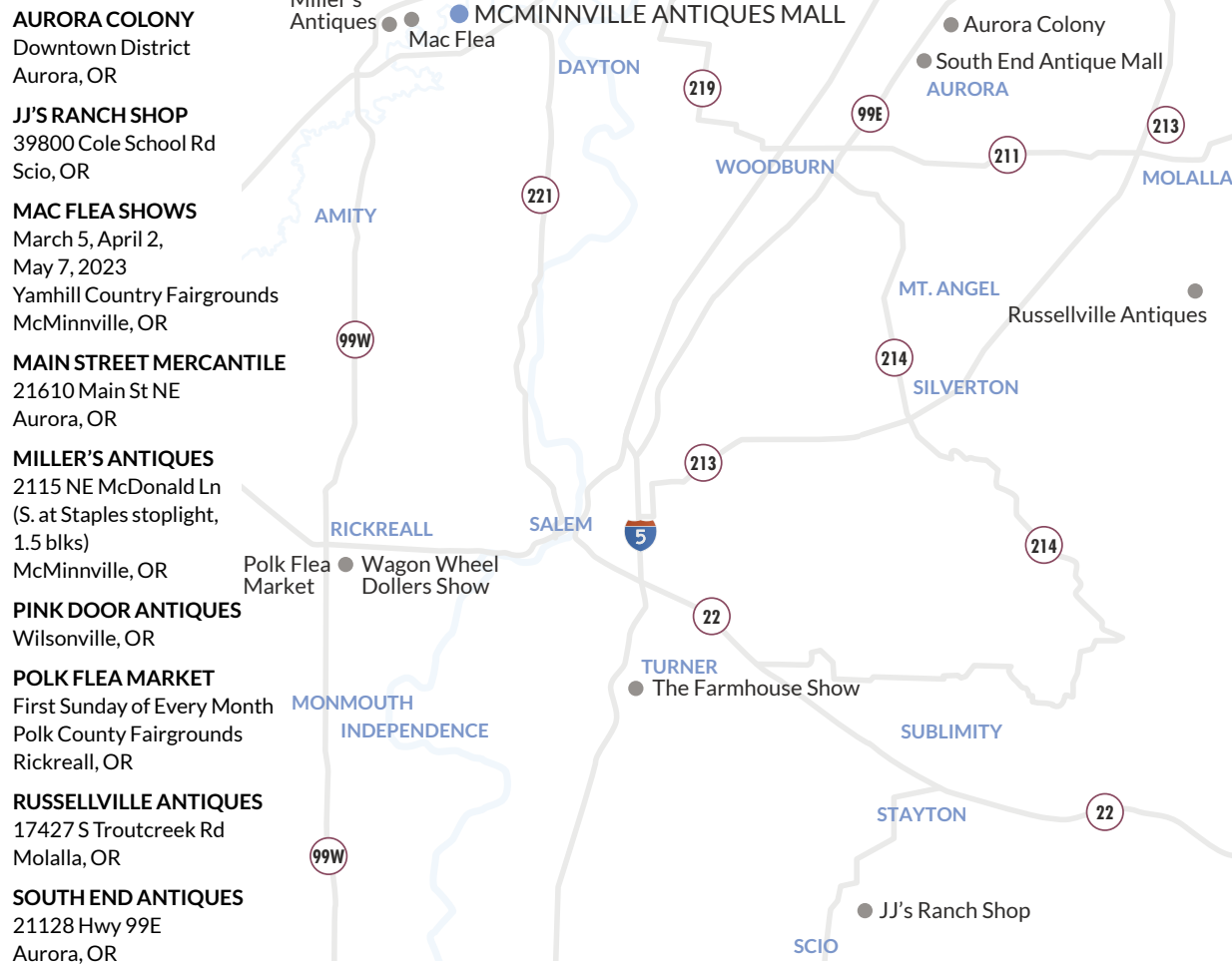
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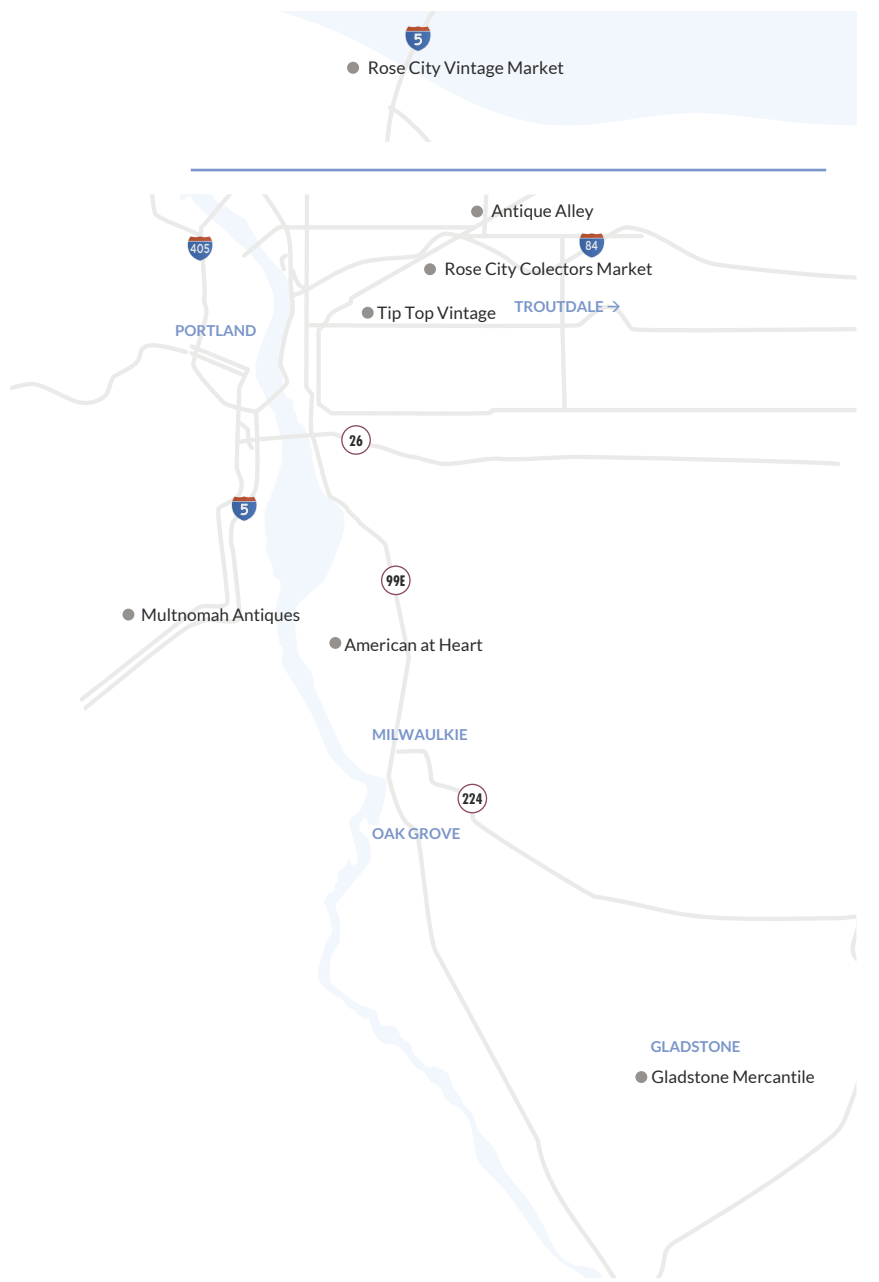
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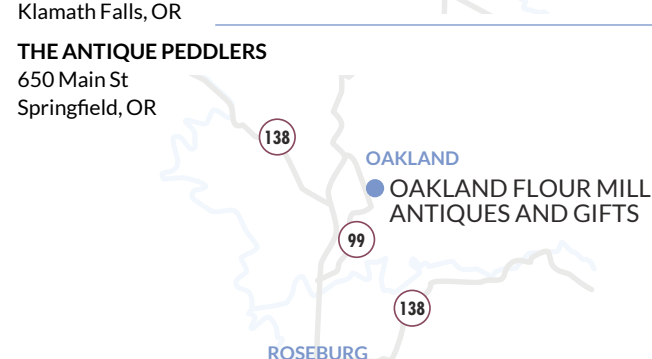
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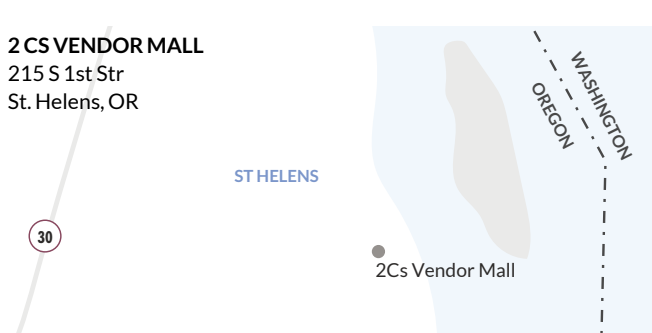
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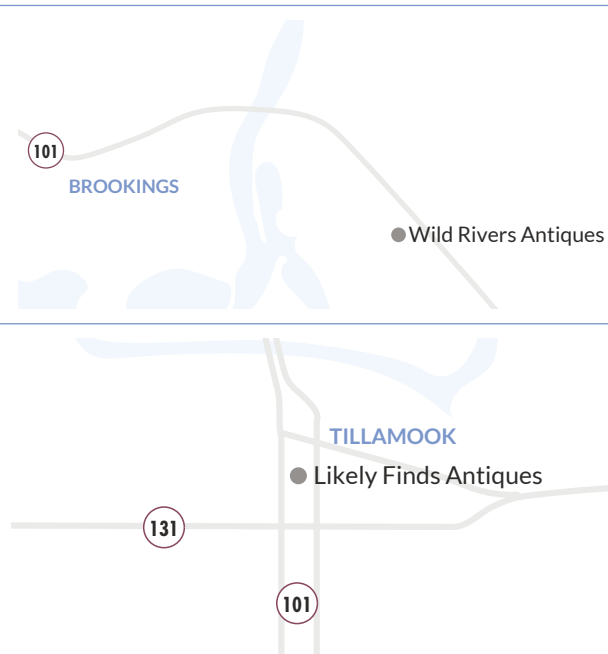
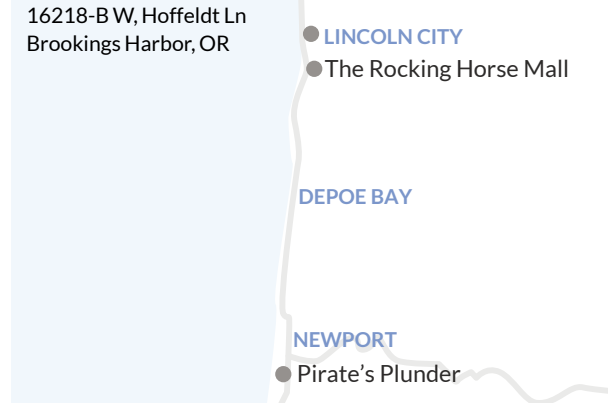
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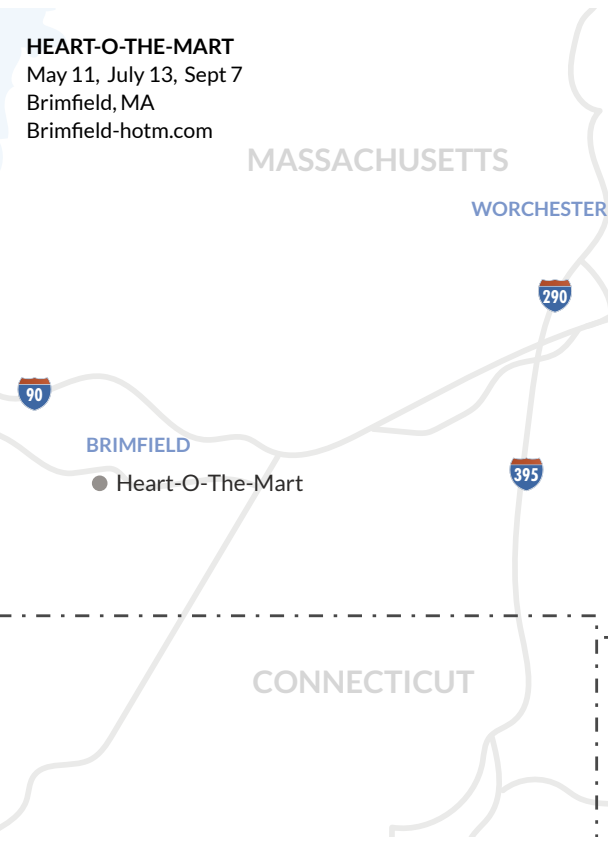
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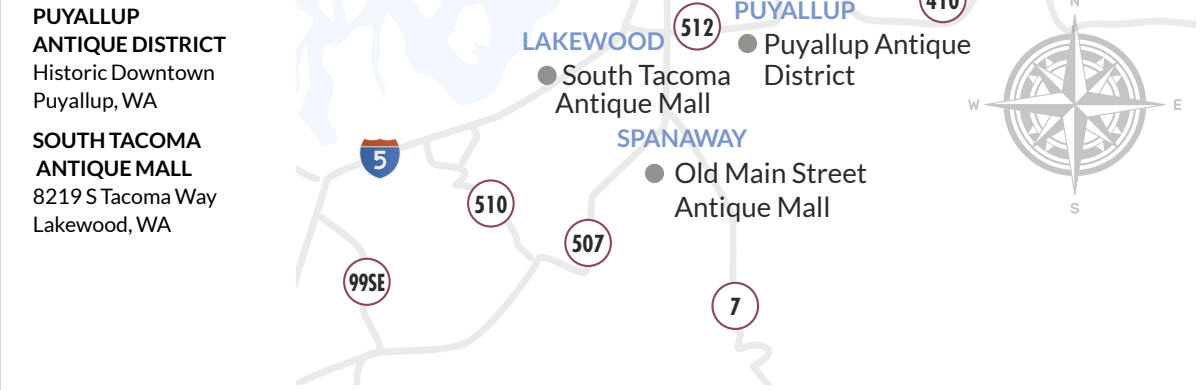
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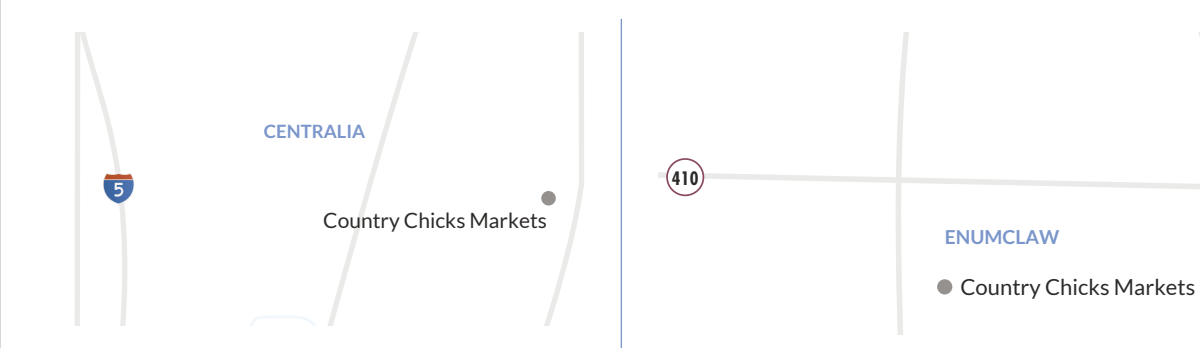
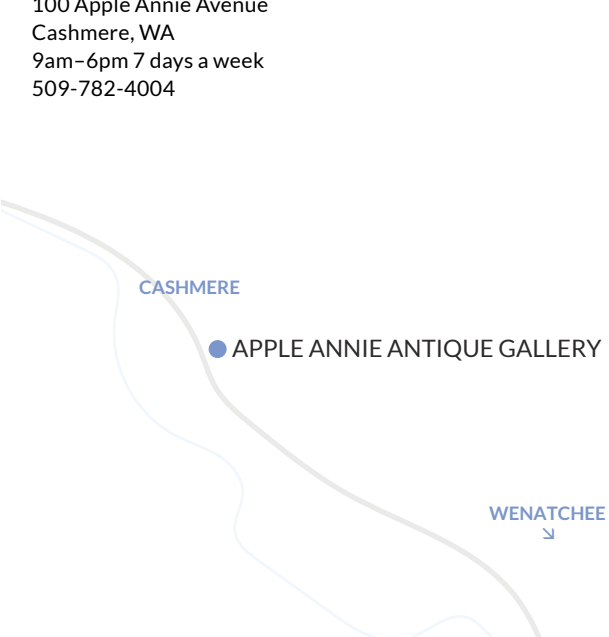


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## Dorflinger Glass: America's finest cut glass

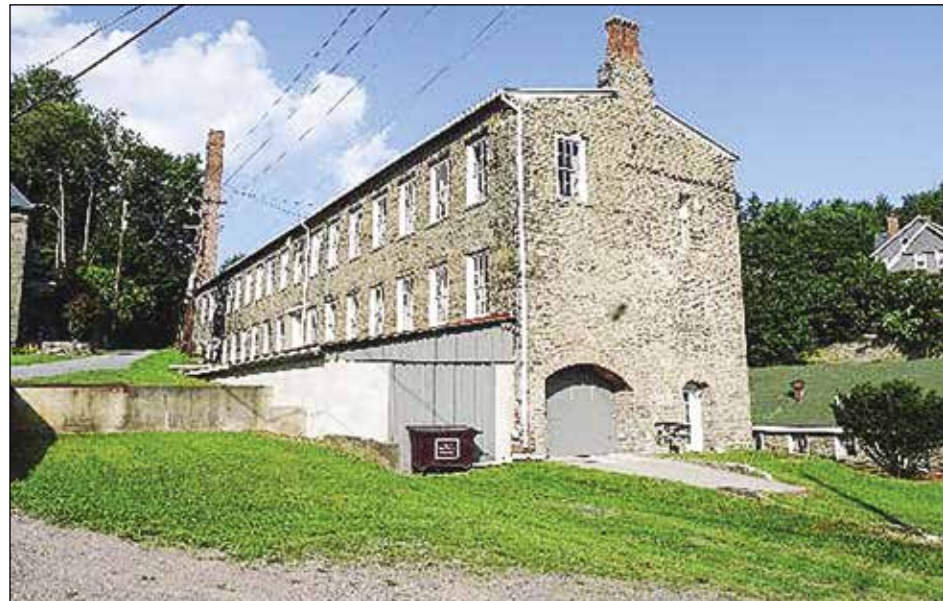
The Dorflinger Factory Museum located in Hawley, Pennsylvania. It offers a complete study of the glass the company made through the years. The historic building where the glass was made is also on site for tours (below).

The Dorflinger Glass Company existed from 1852 until 1921. During that time it produced some of the finest glass made in America.

The business was started in Brooklyn, New York by Christian Dorflinger. Poor health caused the physician to recommend Dorflinger get out of Brooklyn. At the time, 1862,

Dorflinger was 34 years old and in poor health. Acting on the physicians advice Dorflinger packed up his wife and children and moved to a village called White Mills in northeastern Pennsylvania.

His health improved after getting out of the city. Within two years he started up another glasshouse in White



Mills. Part of it is still standing today, as are a few cottages he built for his workers.

Christian Dorflinger's glass was of the highest quality and the company is most often thought of today as makers of cut glass.

Customers included President and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. Dorflinger made a set of cut crystal for their White House table. It was used until the term of Grover Cleveland.

President Harrison acquired a set of 520 pieces in the company's Russian design and Theodore Roosevelt ordered the first high-ball glasses.

The White Mills plant produced not only the cut and engraved glass, which they sold under their own name, but also provided some of the best blanks for other decorating houses. In 1867 they added their own cutting shop at White Mills, under the direction of John O'Connor.

The years between 1881 and 1904 are considered the golden years of Dorflinger, which by this time was named C. Dorflinger and Sons. The 1880s was the start of the Brilliant Period in American cut glass and Dorflinger was one of the leaders in this new, heavier, prismatic style.

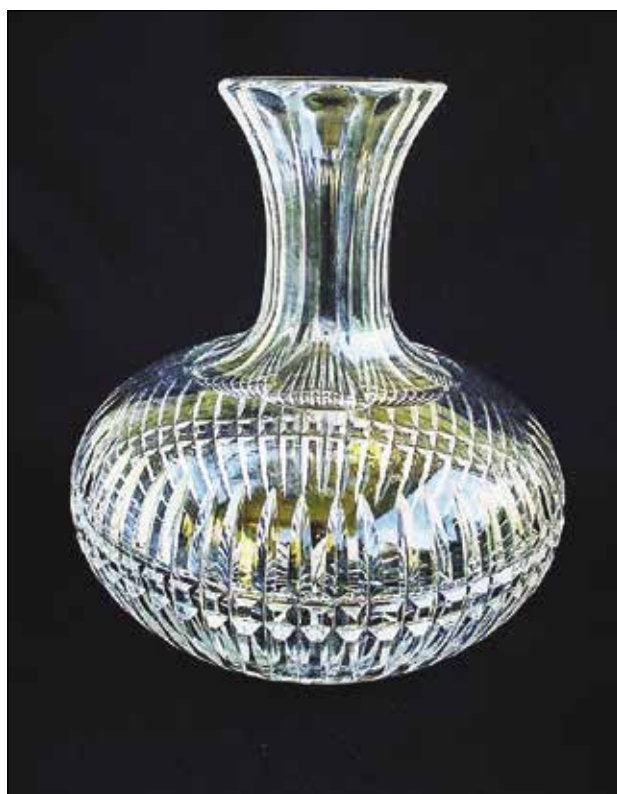
O'Connor, managing and working in Dorflinger's cutting department, is generally recognized as inventing a wheel capable of

cutting a curved mitre. In 1886 he was issued a patent for his Parisian pattern, the first to incorporate the new cut. It furnished the basis for several other new designs.

Three other patents for brilliant-cut designs were assigned to Dorflinger during this period: Florentine, Colonial and Lorraine. These, along with

Strawberry Diamond & Fan and Renaissance — both made by several companies, comprised the company's most popular patterns. Dorflinger glass did not use an acid-etched trademark. Instead, paper labels were attached to each piece. This has made authentication much more difficult for today's collectors. When silver was used in conjunction with the cut glass, the name Dorflinger was often imprinted on the metal. Although probably most often thought of in connection with its cut lead crystal, the company also responded to the demand for colored glass late in the 19th century, by producing both solid colors and cased blanks. The pieces which were cut on the overlay blanks are especially stunning, especially those of the company's emerald green overlays. These blanks, too, were sold to other cutting houses, such as Hawkes. It

See NEXT page



Dorflinger glass graced the homes of many including President and Mrs. Lincoln. It came in a wide variety of pieces, bowls, glasses, and even a bell (below).

takes a very knowledgeable collector to tell which pieces were cut by Dorflinger itself, and which by one of the other fine cutting houses.

Dorflinger's colors included sapphire blue and ruby, in addition to emerald green. In the early 20th century, amethyst, turquoise, amber, cobalt blue, lilac, rose, poppy, and pale green were also made.

From 1904 until 1917 an acid-etched, colorless art glass was also made and marketed under the name Kalana glass. Some Kalana pieces combined etching with stone engraving. At least 38 different patterns of Kalana glass have been identified.

The Dorflinger



Factory Museum may be visited today. The museum displays the full range of the company's output through the years, including cut, engraved, etched, gilded, named and cased glass.

The museum is located at 670

Texas Palmyra Highway, Hawley, PA 18428. Hours are 10-5 Wednesday through Saturday, 1-5 Sunday, and closed Monday and Tuesday. Their mailing address is Box 353, White Mills, PA 18473.

An excellent reference book, **Dorflinger,**



Examples of Dorflinger glass are varied and include mugs such as the one at left and chalices as seen above. The company produced its glassware in a variety of colors.

**American's Finest Glass, 1852-1921,** is available. It was written by John Quentin Feller and published in 1988 by Antique Publications (note: it is not a price guide). The hardcover cost is \$23.93 at Amazon.

### FANA annual meeting set for Vegas

## Come for the fans, stay for glitz

Are you interested in collecting hand fans?

If so, you should check out this year's Fan Association of North America (FANA) 40th annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV, on April 25-30, 2023. FANA members will gather to view and learn about historic, unique, and Vegas-style hand fans.

Combining some special museum visits, member fan viewing and seminars, the annual meeting will include an educational agenda to delight fan enthusiasts.

The program should have some-

thing for everyone--and a few surprises thrown in, Vegas-style! The hotel is a short walk from the famous Las Vegas Strip. A meeting highlight is the members' fan sale that offers extraordinary antique fans along with other fans in all price ranges, followed by a fun charity fan auction to benefit FANA's educational outreach efforts. The meeting will culminate with a gala dinner where members are encouraged to bring a "glamorous" feather fan to brighten the evening.

If you cannot make this year's meeting, the next FANA annual

meeting will be held in the Los Angeles area June 2024 (exact date TBA).

FANA welcomes new members who may join by visiting FANA's web site, [fanassociation.org](http://fanassociation.org). In addition to the annual meeting, member benefits include the FANA newsletter and journal, virtual presentations, timely news, and regional meetings. Also check out fan discussions on Facebook at *Hand Fan Collectors*. For further information contact Kathryn Hanna at [westonkafan@gmail.com](mailto:westonkafan@gmail.com) or call 952-200-9727.

## Kovels

Continued from 4

and wrinkled. Since lights can't be hung on the tree, aluminum trees were usually illuminated by a revolving lighted color wheel at the base.

The Aluminum Specialty Co. of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, made the first aluminum trees in 1959. Trees were made in silver, gold and several other colors, but silver

was the most popular. Reproduction and new aluminum trees have been made.

The value of a vintage aluminum tree depends on size, desirability and condition. Some people like "Pom Pom" trees that have branches with flared ends resembling pompoms, while others prefer trees with more realistic-looking branches. A 6-foot Sparkler Pom-Pom tree with 91 pom-pom end branches, original

box and sleeves sold recently for \$461. A 6-foot tree with 49 "realistic" branches and a color wheel sold for \$202. And a 7-foot tree with 154 realistic branches and a plastic stand sold for \$461.

Looking to declutter, downsize or settle an estate? Kovels' Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide 2022 by Terry and Kim Kovel has the resources you're looking for.

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Ugly mugs date to 1770s

# Toby figure mugs for history, collectors

By Anne Gilbert  
The Antique Dective

Call them jugs, mugs or pitchers, Toby figures of an ugly seated man holding a liquor cask, have a long history that began in the late 18th century.

However, over the decades the figures and their makers have continually changed. There are even Toby figural teapots. These days they often depict American presidents, celebrities and historical figures. They are known as character jugs.

Subjects vary from Clark Gable to JFK and the recent stars of the Black Panther movie. They are known as character jugs.

Over the years hundreds have been made in all shapes

and sizes. Identifying authentic early jugs requires an expert appraiser or collector.

Historically, the earliest Toby jugs were made by Whieldon and Ralph Wood potteries in the 1770s, in Staffordshire, England. They are typically cream, green and brown. While some are signed by Ralph Wood, others may just have a scrolled, painted "s". They were made by other English potteries as well.

Royal Doulton pottery began making Toby jugs in England in 1800. It has never stopped making them. Over the years forms evolved in shape and size. They are the leading maker of contemporary versions known



Dating back to the late 1770s, Toby Mugs feature historical men integrated into coffee/tea cups. These have included presidents and movie stars. Made in both the UK and the US, today there are scads of reproductions on the market. Prices range from under \$30 to \$3,500 for very rare items.

as character jugs.

Another distinctive early type was made by William Pratt (1780-1840), known as Prattware. When made with a bluish glaze they are

called pearlware. Early pieces also had molded teeth and lips.

The first Toby's were made in the form of a seated, jovial, stout man dressed in the attire of

the period, wearing a tri-corn hat, puffing on a pipe and holding a mug of ale. They are referred to as "ordinary Tobias." The tri-corn hat forms a pouring spout and a handle is attached to the rear. By the 1820s these jugs were very popular and were commonplace in homes and pubs.

Sometimes there are overlaps. For instance, there are Majolica Toby's made by both English and American potteries, such as Bennington, in the late 1860s. Most noteworthy are those made by Minton. Hundreds were made in all shapes and sizes.

The finishes were changed over the years to include black basalt, pearlware and even sterling silver.

Legend has it that the Toby is named for an Englishman, Toby Philpot, a heavy drinker of alcoholic beverages.

American subjects were often made in the English Toby form. One rare and famous

example depicted Benjamin Franklin taking snuff. Reproductions have been made.

Collections can have unusual beginnings. Such was the case for fifteen year old Canadian Steve Mullins. While attending boy's camp in 1947. His camp counselor convinced him to spend his nine dollar candy money on six small size Royal Doulton character jugs, pictured in a catalog. Over the following years he bought them as gifts for his mother and himself. By 1980 he had moved to Evanston, Illinois and his collection numbered 300. By 1995 his collection numbered over 2,000. In 2005 Mullins opened the "American Toby Jug Museum" in Evanston, Illinois.

Today it is the largest in the world with its collection of over 8,000 pieces. Hundreds visit it annually from around the world.

Reproductions of both the Toby jugs from England and America

See NEXT page

have never stopped being reproduced. They have been made in countries around the world from Japan to Germany. By now many made in England in the 1920s show enough signs of age to be passed off as antiques.

The early English Toby's were of a creamy, bone paste. They are also extremely light to the touch unlike reproductions. Another clue, early English Toby's had dotted eyebrows, curled pipe on his chest and a scalloped top on his hat. Late 19th century pieces made by Copeland and Minton are marked, Staffordshire mugs are usually unmarked. While the traditional Toby male form was made so were female and male standing figures. The female figures were uncommon.

These days prices range from \$30.00 to several thousand. Rarities come to major auction houses and specialty dealers. A rare Clark Gable celebrity jug, made in 1934 in connection with his role in the movie "Gone With The Wind" by Royal Doulton is being offered for \$3,500 on eBay. Only 100 were made.

Check eBay prices to get an idea of types. There are also Price Guides and books on the subject.

## Floats

Continued from page 13

them — Kanji symbols — are more valuable since they allow one to determine the manufacturer and the general date of manufacture. Most of the floats you find today — if you are lucky enough — are at least 75 years old and probably more in the range of 100-years old," Rammer said.

"The Hokuvo glass float is the Cadillac or Mercedes Benz of float collecting," noted Rammer. Finding a float with those markings will make any collector's eyes light up Rammer said.

There are a number of books available that assist one in both finding glass floats and determining value.

These include: "Glass Fishing Floats of the World," by Alan Rammer and Stu Farnsworth, Second edition; *Glass*



A marker buoy from the North Lincoln County Museum, complete with battery, light, rope and barnacles.



There are an assortment of books on collecting glass fishing floats, most available on Amazon or through a seller on eBay. A classic on the subject, pictured above, Amos Wood's, *Beachcombing for Japenes Glass Floats*.

*Ball* by Walter Pich; the classic *Beachcombing for Japanese Glass Floats* by Amos Wood. These are normally available on Amazon or eBay.

While finding floats washed ashore these days is uncommon, there are a number of ways you can start a collection. Many of the coastal antique and vintage stores have floats. You can also find glass floats for sale on eBay and Etsy, but as always, let the buyer beware.

Rammer said there will be a large beachcombing swap meet at the Ocean Shores Convention Center March 4 and 5. You'll be able to get items appraised and there will also be a number of booths with a variety of glass floats for sale.

A sharp eye may spot a float of great value. Rammer once found a glass float at a garage sale. He said he paid \$1,000 for it and then turned around and sold it to a collector in Hawaii for \$8,500. Simpson noted that he once sold a very rare float — perhaps there were only three or four

a prayer these winter tempests bring those glorious glass orbs to the sandy beaches of the coast — and maybe you'll be one of the lucky ones to find a glass float.

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