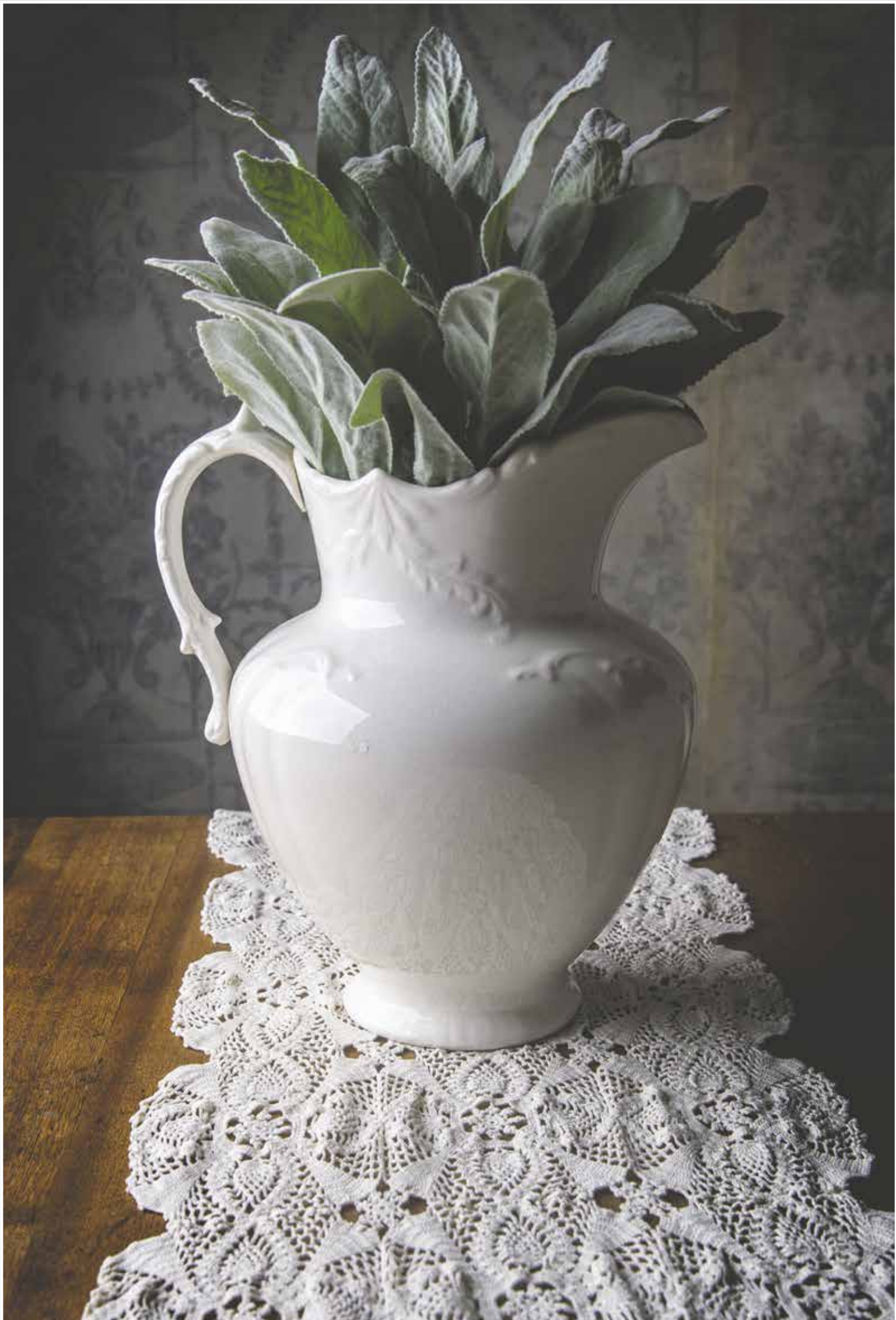


Old Stuff

July | August | September [™] 2021

Vol 44 | Ed 3



Antiques, Collectibles, History and Nostalgia for the Pacific Northwest

By Rusty Rae
Old Stuff Associate Editor
Ding dong the witch is dead! The wicked witch named COVID-19 may not be dead and buried, but finally we seem to have it on the run. That's good news for everyone, but especially for vintage and antique collectors .

We've seen a burgeoning (and perhaps pent up) demand bloom over the last several months, which has meant stores open for business and many collectible events, cancelled last year due to the pandemic, back on the calendar.

Trying to reach Connie LaFarge of **Main Street Mercantile** on her mobile phone one day; she was trying not to get lost in north Portland while picking up a cool new kidney shaped desk that a friend of hers found at a sale. You can tell Lafarge eats, drinks, and sleeps vintage and antique items.

She notes she and her staff purchased a number of vintage signs over the last six months, and said she's added two new vendors, which brings the total number of vendors and consignees to 45.

However, she adds, "We have plenty of space for more vendors."

Meanwhile, at **Antique Alley** in Portland, Jaime Russell said business has been booming and their 100 vendors are continually updating their booths with new merchandise.

Over on the Coast Liz Butler and her husband at **The Butler Did It Antiques** said they've been truly blessed with strong spring sales, since reopening.

Butler noted while the shop has many antique items her husband has established a mens' section that includes a selection of tools, model cars, and books and magazines.



Its a sad day in the Seattle area as the Pacific Antique Gallery, after surviving the pandemic, had decided to close as of August 31. The massive site hosting more than 100 vendors will send all packing at the end of August. Those looking for great bargains will find them as most vendors have their items at reduced prices/

If you're heading for the North Oregon Coast -- Cannon Beach -- be sure to stop in and say hello.

Over in Longview, Washington, Cindy and husband Jim Gray at **Commerce Corner Collectibles**

There's sad noted things have slowed down a bit in June but they had a strong spring.

They're excited for the upcoming **Shop Downtown Longview Days** put on by the Longview Downtowners. That goes on the last Saturday of each month and

draws a good number of people downtown.

We were sorry to hear that Joyce Basl of **JJ's Ranch Shop** in Scio, Oregon had a fall in January and broke her hip. She's been

Li said she was sorry she had to close the facility, which will be marketed either for sale or lease.

Li's retirement will leave many of her vendors searching for new homes. Seattle's high priced real estate means they'll likely be paying a higher rate for space or face moving to an area with lower rates.

Judy Tormey at Multnomah Antiques reports they've been doing a brisk business. She notes they're revamping their Facebook page and says they'll be showing some of their new and interesting pieces there.

Tormey said they just received an Italian crystal chandelier which has brought significant interest. They also have just gotten in a "cute" (Judy's word) featherweight Singer sewing machine.

Loved by quilters, this model is ivory in color and its case is green and ivory, making it unique among the Singer machines, which are normally black.

You'll find **Multnomah Antiques** in the Multnomah district, just off the Capital Highway in Portland.

This just in: **Junk Refunk** goes to the beach. Vinage clothing, farmhouse,, vimntage repurposed, and upcycled vendors in Reedsport, Oregon, July 17. And it's free admission.

Owner Grace Li said, "I'm 72 -- it's time for me to retire."

While its bad news for vendors

who will need to move all their wares out by the end of August, its good news for anyone looking for a good deal on antique, vintage or collectible items, as many of the vendors have items on sale.

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Old Stuff magazine wants to know more about what's happening in the Northwest antiques and collectibles world. Send press releases or news items of interest to oldstuffnews@gmailcom. Want to contribute or have a story idea? Email us; we'd love to chat about it. See our pedal car story on page 19 for an example. of what we're looking for.

ANTIQUES, MEMORIES BACK AT THE EXPO

By Ossie Bladine

It's one of my favorite candid pictures I've taken: My daughter strapped in the baby pack on my wife, a huge smile on her face, while mom gingerly sips on a refreshing drink.

When Christine Palmer & Associates shut down mid-pandemic last year, it left a gaping hole in the Northwest antiques and collectibles scene. After nearly 40 years, "America's Largest Antique & Collectible Show," and several other large events put on by the company, would be no more. The hundreds of vendors and thousands who enjoyed being attendees were left with only memories and hopefully a few great photos – like the one here that I cherish.

Fast forward to a recent Friday, when Mindy King called me with news that injected quite a breath of fresh air.

"We're putting on a vintage show at the Portland Expo Center."

Ahh, music to my ears.

The news of Christine Palmer's closing left an empty space to fill on the back page of Old Stuff. Christine Palmer had long been a major partnering advertiser with this publication, a marketing fixture on the back page. Not only was it a financial loss among many caused by pandemic



shutdowns, but also a loss of a dependable and attractive piece of content for the quarterly magazine.

So while talking to King, hearing of her experience and plans, it was a rush of enthusiasm – not just for this magazine, but for the hundreds of vendors and thousands of attendees who enjoy the Expo shows.

King launched a vintage market in Palm Springs in 194 that runs monthly late fall to early spring. Now, the part-time Portland resident, along with her assistant, Maureen Thompson, is working to bring

a new experience to the Expo; "it is out of our love of collecting that we take the leap of faith to re-imagine the event that once was," as their website states.

King said to not expect the nation's largest show off the bat. They seek to start at a manageable size and grow from there. But I'm sure there won't be any complaints from attendees.

The return of an antiques and vintage show to the PDX Expo Center is just one more step out of an unprecedented time. It's also an opportunity for new memories to be made, and hopefully a few great photo ops.

For more information, see the back page.

Old Stuff

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ON THE COVER: From the collection of Sheila Neumann and Two Odd Ducks, the classic 100-year-old ironstone pitcher with a bouquet of Lambs' Ear against an equally old background of wallpaper at Neumann's historic home in Lafayette, Oregon. Photo by Old Stuff Associate Editor Rusty Rae.

Old Stuff

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LALIQUE GLASS SCULPTURES REMAIN A FAVORITE

By Anne Gilbert

Objects made by French glass designer Rene Lalique have never gone out of fashion with collectors. That goes for reproductions as well. This has led to faking his signature. It is important to research before paying too much.

French glass designer, Rene Lalique, (1860-1945) created everything from decorative glassware to car ornaments, known as "mascots." Many of his items have been reproduced over the decades. These days even the reproductions, such as his "Bacchantes" vase sell for thousands of dollars. His small bird figure repros are more reasonably priced for a couple of hundred



A classic 1928 René Lalique Victoire Car Mascot Hood Ornament in Light Amethyst Glass. A piece similar to this one is for sale at an online site for \$18,000.

dollars.

Lalique adapted his work to cover the popular decorative art movements of two eras: Art Nouveau and

Art Deco. Learning to recognize his various signatures and glass techniques over the years offer clues to when the pieces were

made.

It was his unique Art Nouveau jewelry designs with firefly and nymph motifs that originally made him famous. He combined new materials such as pearls, horn, ivory and glass with gold. It was a totally new concept for women's jewelry. Famous jewelry houses of the era, such as Cartier and Boucheron commissioned him to create pieces for their wealthy clients. This venture was so successful he was able to open his own workshop in 1885 and a third one in 1890. His last jewelry designs were made in 1913.

Always looking for new glass techniques, in 1902 he became interested in creating objects using industrial glass. In 1907 he received a commission from perfumer Francois Coty to design labels for his perfume bottles. He also began designing perfume bottles as well. When they make a rare auction appearance prices can range into the thousands of dollars.

After the end

of World War 1 he opened a large factory in Alsace, an area known for producing French art glass.

Historically, the early pieces were made of a demi-crystal, rather than the fine lead crystal popular at the time. It was his molded glass designs introduced in 1925 at the Paris International Exhibition of Decorative and Industrial Arts that today's collectors consider typically Lalique. The "Bacchantes" vase introduced in 1927 and the 1924 "Ceylon" vases are good examples of his molded technique.

As his fame and reputation spread he received commissions for interior designs. Among them for the Cote D'Azur



This segment of a Lalique crystal vase shows his technique. These vases sell for upwards of \$10,000.

Pullman Express train carriages. Later, in 1935 he created the lighting columns and chandeliers for the Normandy luxury liner dining room.

In the 1930s Lalique introduced a fascinating new category of glass objects for cars. The ornament was named "the car mascot." He created an entire series in clear and colored glass in a variety of molded motifs that included bird and animal heads. The colored glass pieces are rare and costly. They were set into a brass cap that connected it to the radiator cap. When the car was in motion they lit up. All are signed "R.Lalique."

CLUES: It was inevitable that his popular glassware would be copied by others. This happened with the boxes and vases with molded designs of mermaids, dragonflies and fishes that he had introduced at the Paris Exhibition. These pieces had an outside surface enameled in black, contrasting with the transparent body.

All Lalique glass is signed with the exception of beads, tiles and some lamp parts. The earliest signatures were signed "R.Lalique, France" Lalique type crystal glassware. It is signed simply "Lalique." Fake pieces have an "R" in front of the last name.



A blend of old and new, Puyallup's Antique District invites shows off its historic buildings, such as the one that houses Victoria Sells Antiques along with the modern sculpture of geese taking flight.

DESTINATION: PUYALLUP/SUMNER

GATEWAY TO PUGET SOUND REGION'S THRIVING ANTIQUE, VINTAGE COMMUNITY

By Rusty Rae
Old Stuff
Associate Editor

When Ohioan Ezra Meeker finally landed in Puyallup (Pew-al'-up) in 1882 after a decade of false steps around the region, he found a fertile valley awaiting his skills as a prodigious entrepreneur.

The Oregon Trail pioneer at once became the "Hop King of the World" (at least in his own mind) planting more than 500 acres of the aromatic flower used by brewers of beer and ale.

Though the hops are long gone, as is much of the agricultural texture of the area, today the town of nearly 40,000 retains its small town flavor. According to Third Street Antiques owner Gregg Zehnder, it's a destination for any and all seeking a full antique or collectible experience.

"While the city has changed in many ways since Meeker was its first mayor, we still own the character of a farming



A must-see stop in Puyallup for anyone interested in the history of the town and Washington State is the Meeker Mansion, located near to Third Street Antiques. In Summer, the Ryan Mansion has become a full-fledge museum.

community. Those small town roots and our focus on our history anchor our downtown area and in particular our core antique and vintage shops providing a full and rich collecting experience," Gregg said.

You need to look no further than Gregg's shop of 15,000 square feet and 85 vendors to appreciate the variety and flavor of visiting Puyallup.

Celebrating their

20th year in business Gregg says, "Of course we're like many antique shops. We have some wonderful antiques and collectibles and quite a variety of items. But what sets us apart perhaps, is we want people to have a good time when they visit."

Third Street Antiques is large enough you might need GPS to keep from getting lost. It's a true vintage collectors' paradise where



Third Street Antiques offers a broad range of antiques and collectibles, but as owner Gregg Zehnder notes, "we want people to have a good time when they visit."

you'll find items ranging from Victorian to retro, vintage toys, costume and estate jewelry, and collectible cars (see page 19).

If Third Street Antiques is a collectors' paradise, then Victoria Sells Antiques in the downtown corridor of the antique district might be considered seventh heaven with 10,000 square feet spread over two floors and 100 vendors.

It, too, is large enough to require a compass to keep from getting lost and offers a broad range of antique and

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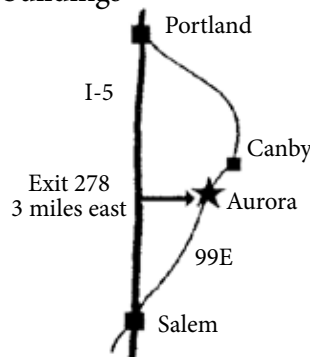
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Third Street Antiques with its numerous vendors gives collectors a wide range of items, such as the classic Corona typewriter.

collectible items. Owner Sandy Hackbarth is a lifer in the antique and collectible business. She and her husband began collecting cookie jars. One thing led to another and before long their hobby had morphed into a business.

They purchased the current store in 1995 and have been one of the driving forces of the Puyallup Antique District where today there are a cluster of antique and collectible shops. Coming out of the pandemic she said most have survived and many have thrived.

"We were fortunate that with the size of our store and for many others, it was easy for collectors to safely shop. They were able to get out of the house and stay six feet apart while still being able to scratch their collective vintage itches," she said.

Hackbarth's Victoria Sells Antiques is a robust shop featuring many antique and collectible items. Some of the items one can admire from afar, or take home to fill a niche, include a nifty collection of antique typewriters from the collection of Greg Estes. If you're a sports card collector, Hackbarth shop touts a complete collection of cards. In addition, among the 100

vendors you're likely to find everything you need to complete a particular collection – from Ironstone dishes to a vintage Ford wheel cover to an antique Cherrywood dining room set.

Just up the street from Victoria Sells is Pioneer Antiques and Accrete Lighting. It's a store offering a complete repair service for antique and collectible lamps and other small appliances as well as a variety of lamps and vintage lampshades.

At Her Shabby Chateau that Shannan Bishoff calls a modern vintage market you'll find her personal touch all around the shop with a variety of vintage home décor items. Among the home décor items she offers professionally painted furniture – painted by none other than Bishoff.

Bishoff is a life-long refinisher – some call her the queen of refinishing – a skill she developed thanks in part to her parents collection of vintage furniture back home in Maryland.

"We always had a lot of antiques and my mother always wanted a different color or a different tone – so I started doing the refinishing. My dad taught many cool tricks – and I really like the feeling I got from the creative



One of the top items for collectors at Victoria Sells Antique is this Bo Jackson card, sealed in plastic.



With a broad level of items, like this Ford hub cap from yesteryear, Victoria Sells Antiques has something for everyone.

process," she said.

In addition to the standard home décor items she also sells a variety of house plants rooted in a vintage container. "I grow all the plants myself. When I have a tin container that doesn't sell, it becomes a planter and they usually sell in a day or two," she notes.

One of the things

Bishoff finds attractive about the Puyallup downtown area is the historical nature of the buildings and the city's concentration on preserving its historical charm.

"The city has worked hard to keep our historical buildings intact. People like that they're travelling back in time when they're shopping. The Victoria Sells building is the

old J.C. Penny store and the building my store is in is over 100 year old," she said.

Bishoff also notes there is something special about the energy in the downtown area. "While the pandemic has been tough on all of us – and we've had some shops close -- when one person's dream comes to a close, it's not long before another person's dream comes alive in this downtown area – it's a part of the Puyallup mystique, I guess," she said.

While most of the

shops in Puyallup and Sumner have battled through the pandemic to stay alive, Debbie Torderson at Kings Row is hanging up her hat after 18 years. In this case the pandemic didn't create the problem – she's moving on to another chapter in her life.

The bad news is she's liquidating all of her wares, but the good news for antique and collectible hunters is she's liquidating her shop – and all her merchandise is on sale – there's bargains waiting for all.

If you're looking for a shop where you can kick back and relax for a few minutes, drop into the Pink Chandelier. Owners Colette Wilson and Renee Quiett are in the process of adding a coffee and snack bar to their establishment which features a range of home décor and gift items.

Just named the best boutique for Pierce County by one local publication, Wilson said, "We always have a handful of vintage and antique items and we're always look-

ing to add more items to go along with our home décor items.

If you're looking for something more than snack, Puyallup and Sumner both feature an abundance of eateries offering a range of cuisines, from your basic bar food to more sumptuous meals from around the world.

For a restaurant where you can get a good meal and make a difference in the local community, try Farm 12 a short drive from the downtown district. Located on Van Lierop Farm site, in addition to the restaurant, the farm has been transformed into a social services hub which includes offices, a family counseling and educational center, job training and workforce preparation facility, a culinary training program, and a greenhouse. All profits from the restaurant support programs in the community.

Over in Sumner, Puyallup's sister city, just five miles away, Pam Johnson of Inta Vintage notes, "People who come to Sumner or Puyallup get the small town treatment. Here in Sumner were located on Main Street – there aren't many main streets left these days. People are truly miss that small town feel and that's something they get here." She said.

Johnson, along with her husband Curt, may espouse the small town ethic but their shop boasts 11,000 square feet of what she notes is upcycled, recycled home décor items along with farmhouse items, rustic chic and industrial collectible items.

While they've been open as a brick and mortar shop for nearly four years in Sumner, the Inta Vintage brand is 25 years old and has a long history on the internet.



Shannan Bishoff (above) of Her Shabby Chateau offers a wide range of wares. She's known for her furniture refinishing and also provides house plants in custom containers.

At The Sparrow and Nest, Dusty McDaniel, one of the vendors and a part-time manager there, described the Sumner shop as an eclectic mix of old and new. "We've many great vintage pieces with a blend of primitive work," she said.

McDaniel's take on the Sumner experience focuses on community and the ability of the small town to stay open during the pandemic. She notes the smallness actually made it easy for customers to social distance and adds, "People love to come downtown to shop. We cater to regulars – though we love all shoppers. We've established a cool rewards program for those regulars that pay a nice dividend."

McDaniels hits the nail on the head when she says of the Sumner antique area, "Everyone who's here is happy – it's just like Disneyland."

Jeff and Raejean Kreel have a similar take on Sumner. Their Whispering Hills Market, also on Main Street, invites customers with a bevy of midwest history brought to the pacific northwest.



Tree-lined downtown Puyallup has grown to a town of 40,000 but still maintains its small town atmosphere.

Jeff enjoys the Sumner community because it reminds him of the small town Mayberry where he grew up.

The Kreels specialize in real American furniture, home decor,

and gifts.

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from China,” he said.

As the motto of the store states, “Bringing joy to your home through furniture, home decor, and gifts.. That’s a promise he and Raejean deliver through careful and detailed review of all goods they bring in.

It’s easy to make a visit to Puyallup and Sumner a weekend event as there are many other activities and attractions to keep one involved.

The area is not only the gateway to great antiquing, but it’s also the gateway to one the great national parks stateside: Mount Rainier National Park. The mountain, at 14,411 feet in elevation, dominates the local scene – and really all of Western Washington. Within its boundaries of nearly 450 square miles are numerous camp sites and during the summer (when the roads are free of snow) you can drive around the mountain in an easy three hours. However, you’ll be wise to plan on an entire day since there is much to see in the circle trip.

If you want to stay closer to the antiquing districts, Puyallup and Sumner offer a number sights prime for the seeing. Of course, in Puyallup, near Third Street Antiques is the Meeker Mansion. The Mansion has been closed during the pandemic but is set to open as the state

lup and Meeker. In Sumner, the Ryan House, that began life as a one-room cabin in 1872, now houses Sumner Historical Society. Over the years it’s been added on to and it’s more than a one-room cabin now, housing the Ryan House Museum.

There is also an opportunity to soak up more area in Sumner with a tour of the seven historical buildings. which are celebrating their 100th birthday.

If you plan your trip for the month of September, you’ll be treated to the Washington State Fair (formerly the Puyallup Fair), one of the top 10 fairs in the United States.

Drawing more than a million people during its month-long run, you’ll also be treated to massive traffic jams, too. But it’s all a part or the month of the fair.

The fair features the normal ag events, but also a rodeo and a broad range of top entertainment acts.

It’s back this year after its pandemic hiatus and the featured entertainment is worth the traffic hassle.

Included in this year’s event are The Beach Boys, Carrie Underwood, Macklemore, Ice Cube, Roger Daltrey and host of other top notch acts.

Now that the state



At more than 14,000 feet, Mount Rainier towers over Puyallup and Sumner and for the most part all of Western Washington. Puyallup is a gateway to the Mt. Rainier National Park and for those seeking to make a weekend or a week out of a visit, it’s a spectacular drive and the opportunity for many great hikes.



Pam Johnson (right) of Inta Vintage in Sumner says people come to Sumner for the small town atmosphere. Her shop offers shoppers a wide range of vintage home decor items (above).



Sumner area may only serve as a jumping off point for a trove of shops in the greater Puget Sound area. Tacoma a few miles north has its own district, but two Tacoma area shops

Sumner’s Sparrow and Nest (right) offers an eclectic mix of old and new.



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These cast-iron toys from the 1940s were painstakingly searched out on a trip to Minnesota by Jeff Krael of Whispering Hills Market in Sumner.

outside of the downtown and a short drive from Puyallup are Pacific Run Antique Mall and the South Tacoma Antique Mall. These are both large shops with many vendors offering a broad range of vintage, collectible and antiques.

Further North in the greater Seattle area is Fairlook Antiques in the waterfront district and in Edmonds, 30-minutes north of

Fairlook is the Aurora Antique Mall, another large mall store with many vendors. To the East of Seattle is the Snohomish antique area, featuring a bevy of seven stores. Those are stories for another edition of OLD STUFF.

But before considering these other areas, remember Puyallup and Sumner are the gateway to antiques, collectibles, and vintage items in the Puget Sound area.

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Sheila Neumann: poster girl for 'Old Stuff'

Story and photos
By Rusty Rae

Lafayette, Oregon's Sheila Neumann could be the poster girl for *Old Stuff* and it's easy to see why.

She lives in a historic home in the third oldest city in Oregon, Lafayette; not only that, but she can quote chapter and verse of home's history, built in 1846 (it was a tavern, a hotel and at one time the first federal courthouse in Oregon.)

But there's more to Neumann's poster girl status. She says she's always had a penchant for classic old items. It began when she fell in love with old photos while she was still a high schooler

That led to her developing

an interest in genealogy so she could determine who in the photos belonged to whom.

Growing up in Glenwood, Oregon, a logging town off Highway 6 on the way to the Oregon coast, Neumann lived along a creek near where a logging camp was located in the late 1800s and early 1900s. At an early age she dug along the bank finding numerous items from the camp and began looking for the story behind each item she dug up.

"That was the first step on the way to my business as full-time antique dealer," she said.

When her husband died she found herself a fulltime mom taking care of a brood of children that included two sons, each affected with Juvenile

Lou Gehrig's Disease, requiring special care. The name of her business, "Two Odd Ducks" is a loving remembrance to her sons, now deceased as a result of the disease.

Though she started slowly, only looking to make a little cash by attending a couple of local flea markets, today Two Odd Ducks is her sole business. She travels to nearly 20 events a year these days and hosts one at her historical home during the summer.

Her passion for antiques, collectibles, and vintage items has continued to push her forward in the business.

Refinishing the historical home she lives in was a major project. When she purchased the

home she said it was so overgrown you couldn't see it from the street.

The former owners made numerous changes to the structure to the point it wasn't recognizable as the historical landmark it is. She devoted two years to returning it to near pristine historical shape. Though there's still more work to do, today it not only serves as the visible extension of her ardor for old stuff, but also provides a roof over head and a place for her many fine pieces.

As she progressed in the business Neumann developed expertise in several areas. She's known for both her collection and knowledge of English Ironstone and has developed

a source of European grain sacks, which she crafts into pillows. She also has developed a sense of the history of quilts over the years.

"I started collecting quilts thanks to my grandmother. She gave me a box of her friends' antique quilts. I've finished many of those with hand stitching the top pieces together," she said.

But perhaps her ironstone collection is one of the tops in the northwest.

"I started collecting Ironstone for myself. I used them for my home dishes – it was neat to have these dishes that were 100 to 200 years old as my regular dinner plates.

"Finally, I had to decide what do I want to keep and what can I clear out. I wound up taking three tubs of Ironstone to a sale and basically sold them all," she recalled.

Additionally, Neumann has a solid collection of antique furniture which keeps her busy refinishing in her off hours. She notes, "I've been refinishing old furniture before it was cool."

Neumann believes anyone with zeal for vintage items can do what she does. "I firmly believe that when you are passionate about something it gives you something like a second sense. When I pick up an item there is a certain vibration that it's meant for me."

She adds, "I don't so much find these pieces as they find me. These pieces almost call to me 'Here I am, come pick me up.'"

She loves the combination of collecting old pieces



A set of ironstone bowls with the hallmark showing on the bottom of one of dishes.

and developing the history for them. She said she started collecting Ironstone for herself and said

she believes she's been called to collect these items and the furniture she refinishes.



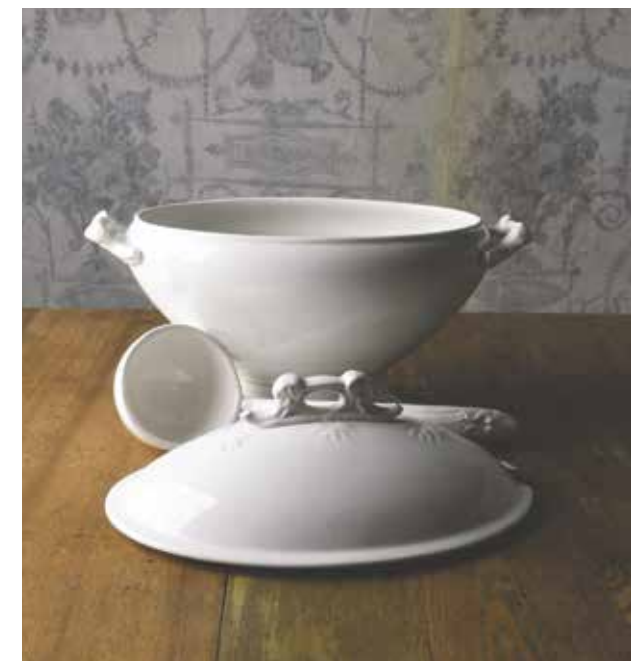
Sheila Neumann in front of a hutch that she found a refinished and which houses a portion of her extensive ironstone collection.

"Really, anyone can do what I do. Start small as a hobby. Then do your homework. The internet can be your friend and YouTube videos have really helped me learn and understand about a number of items

in my collection," she said.

That's the voice of experience speaking.

It's also why Neumann seems the perfect model for the OLD STUFF poster girl.



A classic ironstone soup tureen with ladle.

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Above: Sheila Neuman with some of the quilts she's collected over the years, beginning with those from her grandmother. **At right:** One of her prized pieces: a cracked pitcher with its stained lower area that tells many stories. This is one of those pieces that spoke to her and which she says will be a part of her forever collection.



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IRONSTONE ON THE COVER:

IT'S MADE OF CLAY, BUT WEARS LIKE IRON

Taking a good thing and making it better – it's in our DNA – it's why today ironstone dishes are popular collectible and antique items.

Charles James Mason was a potter in the UK. He married the daughter of importer Richard Farrah, whose business was selling Oriental porcelain – China – to well to do Londoners. Mason continued his father-in-law's business until the East India Company discontinued the bulk importing of the tableware.

At the time potters all over the UK were looking for the formulation of a "mud" that would allow them to produce pottery for the masses because Oriental porcelain was expensive and only the wealthy could afford the elegant dinner ware from the east.

Mason took clay into his own



At right this blue transfer pitcher or tea pot is highlighted by the Kensington - Balmoral hall mark (above) showing a production date of 1801.

hands and produced his own wares. Ironstone is a glaze-covered vitreous (impermeable to water) pottery. Though the name seems to indicate these items contain iron, ironstone contains no iron. Mason manufactured ironstone out of Cornwall clay and

cobalt-blue coloring. It was baked at very high temperatures and produced a radiant white sturdy pottery.

Though many credit Mason with the discovery of the process, since they believe he patented the process in 1813, what he really patented was the name Ironstone China. By most accounts George W. Turner of the pottery house Turner, Goddard & Company was the first to develop the ironstone process 13-years earlier.

Once the patent ran out, in 1826, many potters began producing



ironstone. There were up to 200 artisans

in factories in the UK turning out the durable and stylish

dinnerware. They produced plates, bowls, tureens,

pitchers, gravy boats, and even chamber pots. Ironstone was not only attractive, but was found to be a durable dishware and gained popularity as both everyday dishes and later with collectors. Many collectors, in fact, use their antique dishes for special meals.

Ironstone has seen cycles of popularity among collectors. If you want to begin your own collection, keep in mind these basics.

The first thing to check on the piece is the maker's mark or hallmark, normally found on the bottom of each dish. Each of those many producers of ironstone had their own specific "stamp" that identified the piece as ironstone and sometimes might give the date it was made. These ID stamps add a bit of historical relevance to each of the pieces. There are several hallmark catalogs online.

Many of the producers of ironstone produced their pieces for the royal family and received a royal warrant to do so. Their hallmarks had variations of the lion and the unicorn on either side of a shield indicating their status.

You'll also find that ironstone is heavier than it looks. When you pick up a piece you'll recognize it's ironstone by its heft. They feel heavier than they look. If the piece has a handle, hold it by the handle and flick the body – you should hear a wonderful sounding ping.

Of course, always look at a piece's color and the general shape of the dish. Cracks and chips sometimes add character to a piece – but they also mean that the piece's utilitarian use is diminished. Generally, these blemishes will lower the price

point of an item.

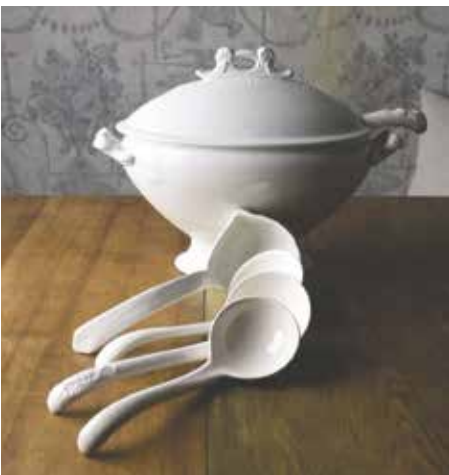
Check the color of the dishware. Ironstone from the UK generally has a blue or gray cast, while American or current English ironstone tends to be creamier in tone. Older pieces may be near beige in color from discoloration over the years. These are all factors which affect the price point along with chips and cracks in the dishes.

Some older pieces may exhibit fine cracked lines on the body. These crazed pieces often turn brown and are favored by some collectors.

Much of the ironstone was produced in simple patterns for the American market. However, English buyers preferred patterned pieces. These transfer patterns are in the colors of blue, brown, and red.



At left a set of various sized creamers. In the bottom row from the left: an ironstone soup tureen with a series ironstone ladles. In the center, another creamer with a blue transfer placed on an antique scale. On the right is another a small pitcher with a blue transfer used to store a number of antique utensils (all from the collection of Sheila Neumann and Two Odd Ducks.)



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When considering purchase of ironstone, check the item for a hallmark. The top photo shows the royal warrant with the lion and unicorn. The middle stamp is from the originator of ironstone and the bottom red one from the initial patent owner of the name ironstone, James Mason.



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Katherine Pallant and Lisa Gorman in front of the Turner Memorial Tabernacle where their Farmhouse show is held.

Not your average farmhouse

Katherine Pallant and Lisa Gorman, sisters by different mothers, share a passion for vintage and antique items that speak to one personally and bring a tangible history to the owner. They share their obsession for history with those who visit their Farmhouse Show in Turner, Oregon.

The two met while working at a vintage shop, became vendors at the Farmhouse Show, then employees at the show, before buying the show from the previous owner in July of 2019. The twosome, with their common love of history bring their own distinctive fervors to the show.

"We love old things. We both live in historic homes and our goal is for the show to bring items to those who attend that they can't find anywhere else," Pallant said.

"Our hope is that the items speak to those who come to the show and connect the past to their present—maybe tell a

piece of their life story," adds Gorman.

To that end Pallant and Gorman go to great lengths in developing the vendors for their show. Not every vendor who wants a booth makes the cut. "That's good for our customers and for the vendors, too. Vendors make sales and customers find the pieces they're looking for without a great deal of sifting," Pendant noted.

Also on their want lists are high quality locally crafted items, particularly around the holidays, that make great gifts.

"We want vendors who bring authentic vintage and collectible items—no reproductions—nothing made in China. Of course the venue itself is rich with history, too" adds Gorman.

That venue is Turner Memorial Tabernacle, a cavernous church in Turner, Oregon, built in 1891. It's a short drive south of Salem. Held twice a year, the next show will be in October.



Above left: A classic pulley, perhaps from a logging operation of yesteryear. At Right: a pair of hand-carved wooden statues.



CERAMIC ARTISTS DECORATE FOR DOLLARS

By Terry and Tim Kovel

Ceramic artists mentioned in auction descriptions or reports are almost always the ones who shape the piece. A dinnerware designer or an artist who creates unique pieces by modeling clay or developing unique glazes usually gets the credit.

But that wasn't always true. In the 1700s and 1800s, there were artists who decorated porcelains with paintings of gardens, flowers,

portraits, religious scenes or buildings.

Another artist made the ormolu mounting to complement the painted picture.

In the early 1900s, housewives began painting ceramics. Amateurs and artists bought marked plain white porcelain from Germany, Japan, England and other countries, and then decorated them in American styles. Magazines featured instructions and designs for this hobby. Special paints

could remain permanently on a glazed vase or dinner plate even when washed.

Unfortunately, the paint will not always survive the heat of a modern dishwasher, and the art can disappear.

One of the most famous professional decorators, John Bennett, was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1840 and worked at Doulton & Co. in the 1870s.

He moved to New York about 1876 and started his own

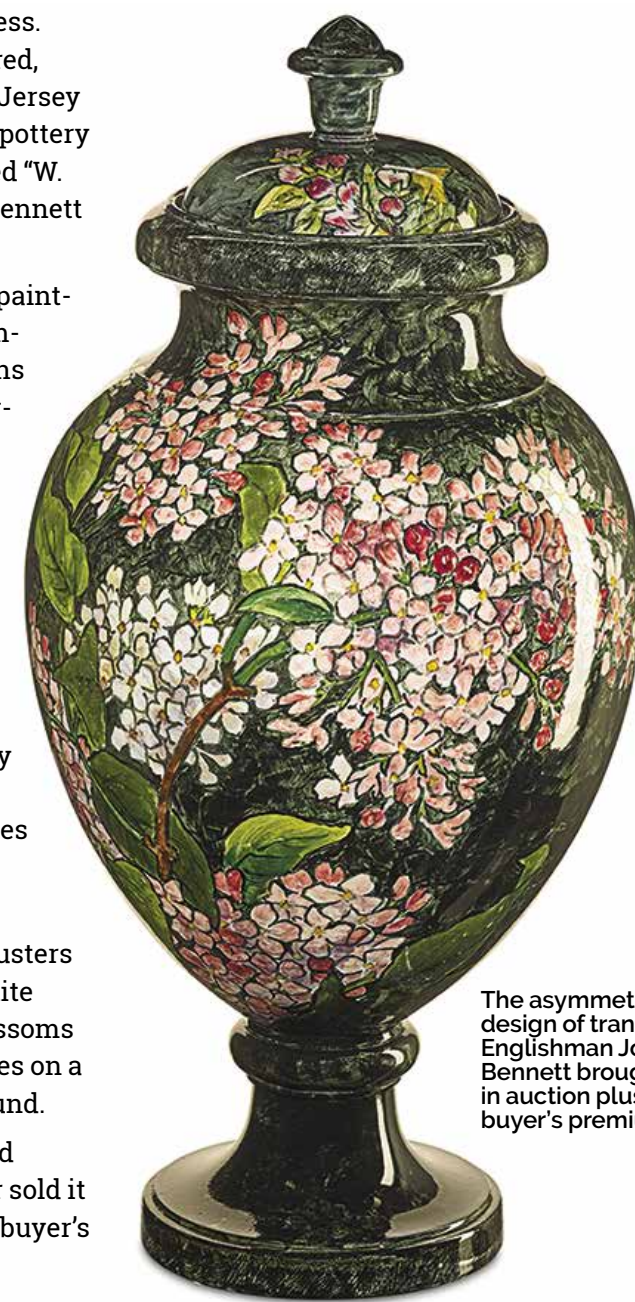
ceramic business. In 1882, he retired, moved to New Jersey and decorated pottery that he stamped "W. Orange-N. J." Bennett died in 1907.

His ceramic paintings were asymmetrical designs of colorful flowers and nature. He was influenced by the aesthetic, and arts and crafts movements.

His work is expensive today. This very large covered urn, 16 1/2 inches high, is signed "Bennett."

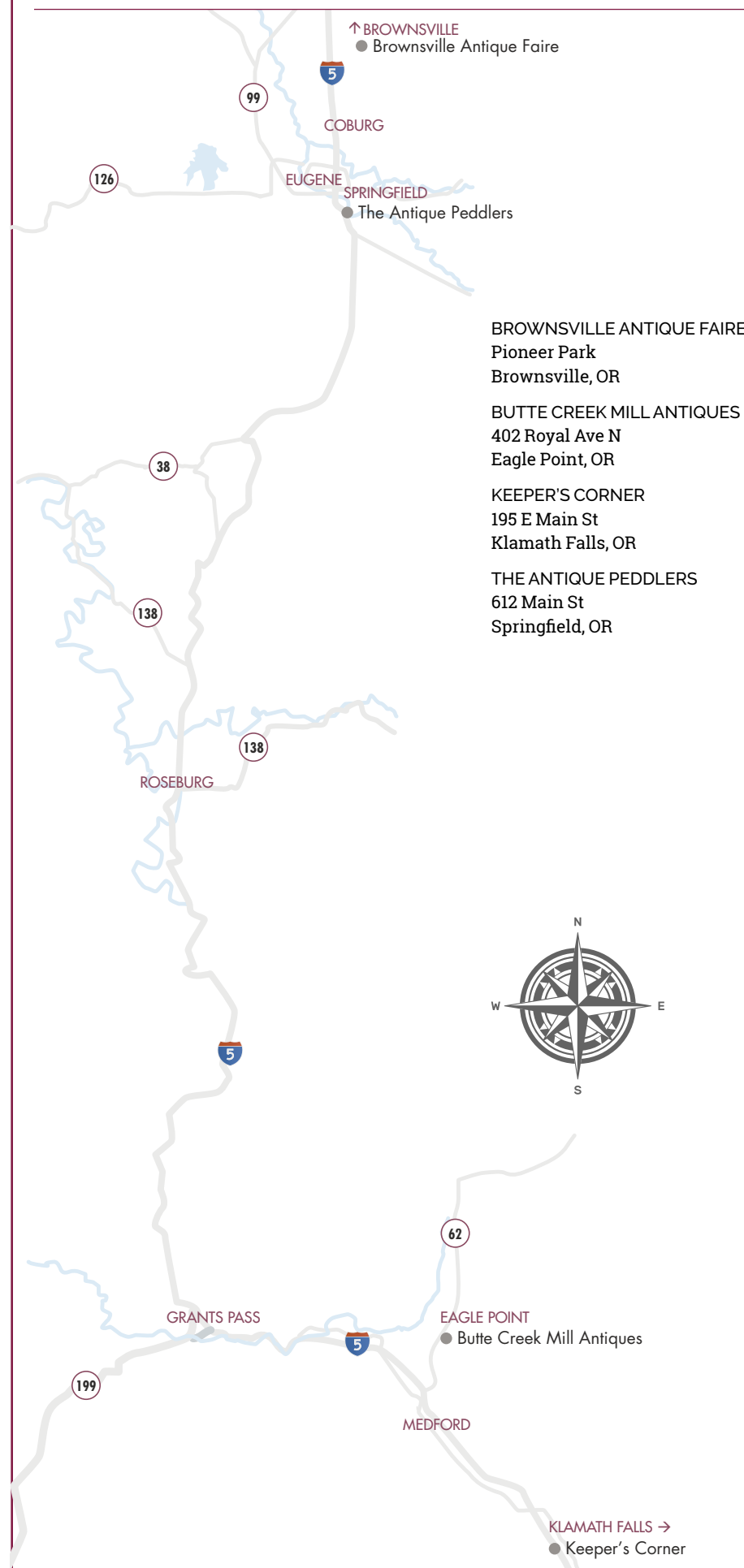
It pictures clusters of pink and white hydrangea blossoms and green leaves on a black background.

Rago Arts and Auction Center sold it for \$5,000 plus buyer's premium.



The asymmetrical design of transplanted Englishman John Bennett brought \$5,000 in auction plus the buyer's premium.

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Antique Bonds: Worth more than the paper they're printed on

BY ANNE GILBERT

While today's stock market may be iffy, collecting old and failed company stock certificates and bonds can be money making investments.

Ever wonder what happens to stock certificates and bonds when the Companies fail or simply become obsolete? While many of these are cancelled the items are destroyed and shredded by banks. Those that survive are born again as an exciting collectible known as Scrippophily. Its collectors are referred to as Scrippophiliacs.

This is a good example of when being a pioneer in a collecting category really counts. George LaBarre was a pioneer in this category.

LaBarre was an incurable collector of stamps and coins since the age of nine and that led, as an adult, to being a dealer. All that changed when by chance he saw a large group of Boston, Hartford and Erie railroad

bonds.

It was the artwork that caught his eye." The engraving on those bonds was so beautiful, including superb color, graph-

In clockwise order: A note from an American bank, a Warner Brothers stock certificate, Stock certificate from The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, and from the Continental Aircraft and Transportation company.



ics and many rows of coupons all bearing a train vignette, that I was hooked. I realized this could be a serious collecting category. Today he has the largest inventory of collectible stocks and bonds in the world: over six million

were collectors in the 1970s not only in America but Europe as a hobby. These days many collectors see it as an important investment. The category often overlaps to include autograph collectors. Among the most sought after signatures are Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Circus, and Eddie Rickenbacker as president of Eastern Airlines. One of the rarest is a United States Steel, \$100,000 bond issued

they were successful or they failed. "Technically the failed ones were just worthless pieces of paper" LaBarre says.

Beautiful graphics of early inventions, such as telegraphing (1870s), aviation beginning around 1910 and railroad construction are just a few. These are known as "vignettes." They are so attractive that collectors often frame them as an art form. However, the bulk of collections are saved in albums.

pieces.

As he pointed out many Companies no longer issues bond and stock certificates.

In actuality there

to Andrew Carnegie with his autograph. It can sell for over \$125,000.

Every certificate offers a history of the Company whether

History is one of the most popular collecting categories. Consider that bonds were issued to finance important events, such as those issued by the Confederate States of America for the Civil War. And, a bond, issued in 1780 to finance the American Revolution.

"Railroad stocks are popular with collectors because of their history and their engraving, printed by some of the finest bank note Companies,"says LaBarre. The earliest known share depicts a horse-drawn wagon and dates from 1792.

What collectors buy often is influenced by their personal interests. For example a car collector will probably be interested in automotive stocks such as Packard or Ford. A pilot might wish to collect aviation related stocks and bonds. Others look for specific art styles such as Art Deco or Art Nouveau motifs designed by such famed graphic artists such as Alphonse Mucha. Regime changes influenced the look of other countries, such as Imperial China or Tsarist Russia. A recent example would be paper notes with a Saddam Hussein portrait.

As in any category, usually condition is all. Equally important is the number issued as well as the age. At the October auction held by Archives International, in 2017, a Confederate bond that was water and mud stained fetched \$10,000.

Signatures of famous people add to the value but are often either printed in facsimile or signed by clerks. It was a tradition before the 1950s for them to be legally signed by an officer of the Company, such as John D. Rockefeller, Thomas Edison and J. Pierpont Morgan.

So far this is one collecting category not bothered by forgeries. As LaBarre observed, "The hobby is still relatively young and prohibitively expensive and difficult to fake engraved stocks and bonds, unlike our current paper money."

I asked LaBarre what is the Holy Grail in this collecting category, if there is one. "It would be a certificate owned and signed by Abraham Lincoln of the Illinois Railroad. Lincoln was an attorney for that railroad. However it may never had existed. But, if it had and most were destroyed, just imagine what a single one could be worth.



With life expectancy in the 19th century between 38 and 44 years, mourning rituals that included ritualistic paintings or needle point were common.

Authenticated mourning pictures bring big dollars

BY Terry & Kim Kovel

Death was an important part of life in the 19th century. Life expectancy was 38 to 44 years, and many babies died at birth or before they were a year old.

Mourning and the rituals that accompanied a death were very important and lasted about a year, and included ritualistic paintings or needle point art.

There was a funeral, attended by friends and family, often held at home, and burial in a family plot in the yard if there was no nearby cemetery.

Black clothing was worn for the year of mourning; even the jewelry was made with black stones.

Pictures, in some cases mirrors, were covered, and weekly visits to a religious service to say prayers were expected.

The next few years also included some objects that took time to make, like mourning rings and memorial pictures often created by a close relative.

The picture used symbols of death and life after death. A church, tombstones, anchor, lily of the valley, forget-me-nots,

urns, weeping willow trees, a coffin, candles, skulls, oak leaves and of course, angels and the cross were part of the language.

Collectors of folk art search for painted or embroidered mourning pictures that include some of these symbols and information about the deceased, including name, date of death and location.

Many are signed by the artist. This framed picture was sold at a Skinner auction. It pictured willows, an urn, a tombstone, black dress, church, flowers and a weeping relative.

The inscription on the tombstone says "Amos Tyler." Research found he died in 1829, probably in Massachusetts, at the age of 38. No wonder it sold for \$22,140, about 10 times the estimate.

Q:What's the best way to clean a rubber doll? I've had mine for about 65 years, and

it has a lot of sentimental value to me. It closes its eyes when it's laid down, cries when squeezed and has hair that can be combed. It's dirty from having been played with then left sitting in a corner. I cleaned it with Dawn detergent and water, but I don't think it did a thing. Is there something else I can use, or do I just accept that my neglect stays on the doll?

A: There are a few things you can try, but remember to test them out in an inconspicuous place, like the bottom of the doll's foot, first. It's better to have a slightly dirty doll than one that's ruined. Try rubbing off the dirt with undiluted detergent instead of detergent and water, or use a damp cloth dipped in baking soda. Other suggestions include rubbing the doll with an art eraser or using a damp "magic eraser." Just don't use any thing

COLLECTORS LUST FOR METALLIC LUSTERWARE

Pink lusterware was a treasure in a household during the 1800s. It was only brought out to be used for company or special occasions in the family.

Lusterware is pottery or porcelain that has been decorated with a thin film of a metallic pigment that is often iridescent.

It was painted on before a piece received its final firing.

The decoration was either an all-over coating or a design of some type, against a white, cream or colored background. In addition to pink, lusterware came in silver, gold and copper.

It started to become commercially available around 1790. This was when the pottery companies in Staffordshire, England (so Spode and Wedgwood) figured out how to apply gold into the glaze that then turned pink. The gold iridescent pink pottery grew very popular.

Pink luster reached its height of popularity about 1850.

The shades ranged from a pale mulberry color through rose to a sometimes strong purple hue. Sometimes it was used in combination with

painting or enameling.

There are four principle colors of lusterware: silver/platinum, copper/brown, gold, and pink/purple.

The strawberry pattern was an especially coveted one.

A less sophisticated pattern was the cottage design. Although the cottages reflected different "architects", the pattern always included a house or church, trees and a fence.

Flowers and foliage were probably the most commonly used in designs, especially in tea sets. These also included designs that looked like cross-hatching.

Another type of pink luster decoration can be described as mottled, marbled or splashed.

This is also called Sunderland ware. The splashing came from spraying an oil on the wet luster after it was applied to the white ware, and before firing.

The oil expanded

in the kiln to form bubbles, which "exploded" and formed splashes or splotches.

The greatest variety of pink lusterware was found in the full tea sets. There were also, however, pink cow creamers (usually marbled), jugs, pitchers, ewer and bowl sets, mugs and goblets, and a type of porcelain wall plaque that had a fame of marbled pink luster.

Lusterware was popular at the time when rooms were lit only by oil lamps and candles. People loved to have things around them that shone and glowed in this soft light.

Wealthy people had their silver and glass, their burnished fire-dogs, their gilded furniture; but the less well off had to do it in other ways. One of these was by having lustred pottery and china on their shelves and mantelpieces reflecting the light from the fire into dark corners and recesses.

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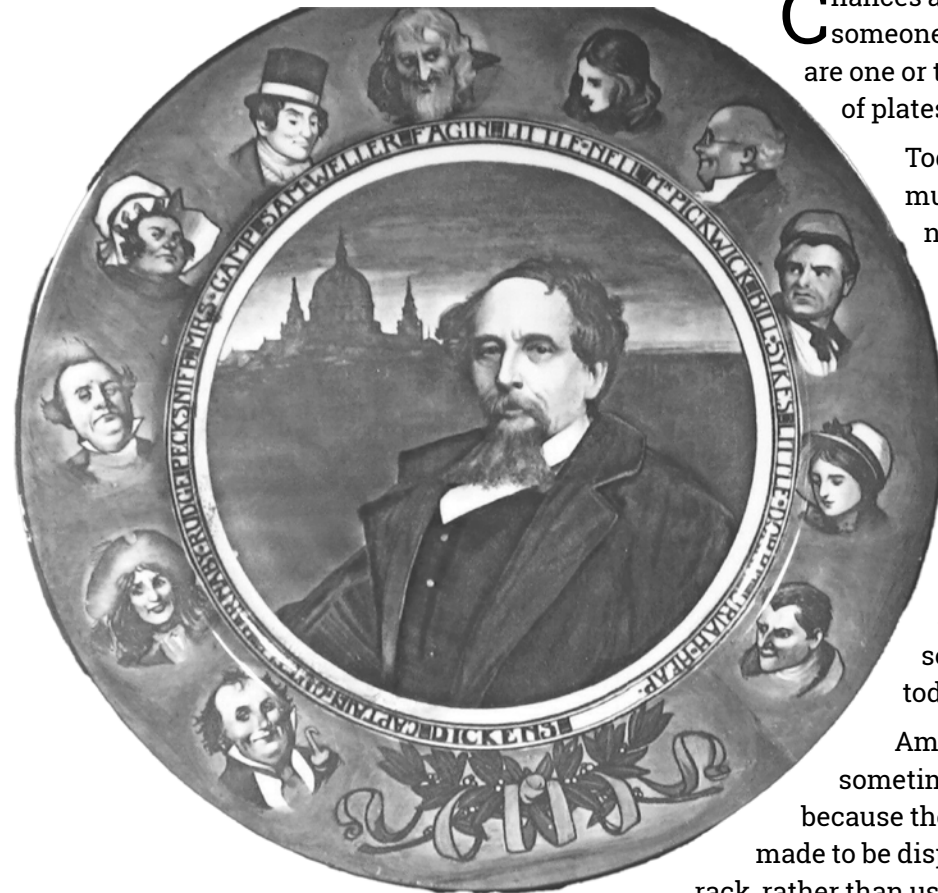
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Royal Doulton rack plates make great wall displays



Above: a popular Dickens plate. At right: the Royal Doulton hallmark.

Chances are you've been in someone's home where there are one or two or perhaps a series of plates displayed on a wall.

Today, there are a multitude of companies who make these plates specifically for display.

However, the Royal Doulton company has been making pottery for more than 200 years. During that time it has produced a vast variety of items sought by collectors today.

Among these are plates, sometimes called rack plates because they were specifically made to be displayed on a shelf, or rack, rather than used at the table.

Most of these were made in the early 1900s. Many were part of Dolton's "series" ware, which featured many pieces based on a theme.

The topics illustrated on the plates were numerous, ranging from Arabian Nights to scenic landscapes. Popular series included a blue and white set featuring American scenes and another blue and white somewhat later, into the 1940s.

Another popular series of plates featured the author, Charles Dickens.

While many plates are numbered, there is no complete company list that groups and identifies all pieces and numbers.

The best available reference for Royal Doulton plates is Kovel's **Illustrated Price Guide to Royal Doulton**, published in 1984. These are readily available at multiple sources. Do an online search.

Prices vary, based on a quick review of eBay sales, from \$10-12 up to \$200 for the rarer must have plates.

COLLECTING HUMIDORS:

A COOKIE JAR FOR CIGARS MADE IN JAPAN

By Terry and Tim Kovel

A reader sent us a picture of an item in an auction catalog that looked like a cookie jar decorated with racing horses, but it had a strange lid. What else could it be? Why horses on a cookie jar?

The lid and the size, 7 inches high, are clues. The jar is a humidor, a container for cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco and even cannabis that keeps the tobacco moist and shields it from sunlight, insects and damage.

Humidors were

necessary and very popular in the late 1880s to early 1900s, when smoking cigars was a sign of masculinity.

Most vintage humidor cases are made of attractive wood and lined with Spanish cedar, a wood that holds moisture and does not warp. It also has a pleasant odor and discourages tobacco beetles.

But humidors were also made of glass, ceramics, metal or even plastic. The humidor pictured is marked with an "M" in a green wreath, the trademark used by the Morimura Brothers Company, a New York City import firm that operated from 1911 to the 1950s.

The humidor is called the Kentucky

Derby Scenic. It was probably made by Noritake, a Japanese company. It auctioned

TIP: Wrap jewelry in acid-free tissue or in cotton bags to keep pieces from bumping

basket, Choctaw, Mississippi bamboo, river cane, natural dye, large diamond pattern, black, orange, tan, square base flared to round top, c. 1970, 18 x 19 inches, **\$280**.

Architectural, frieze, terra-cotta, semi-circular, shield, two stylized dragons, acanthus tails, egg & dart band, squared border, made up of 10 sections, **\$480**.

Advertising sign, "Twin Drive-In Theater," "Turn Right" printed inside arrow, metal, painted, green, reflective yellow letters, New York City area, 24-inch diameter, \$750.

Tole coal scutle, black, crackled pattern, gold bands, tapered rectangle, ball feet, domed lid, 17 x 18 inches, **\$45**.



A humidor that is actually a cookie jar.

for \$130 at an online sale of Nippon china by the Harritt Group of Indiana.

and scratching.

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Pedal cars bring home older era of toys

Not long after the automobile arrived in America, the pedal car followed.

The actual history of pedal cars dates back to the 1890s. Made of steel and nearly indestructible, since their inception they've been something kids have wished for.

At the turn of the century pedal cars were pricey toys reserved for children of the wealthy. In the 1920s and 1930s the pedal car industry catered to the wealthy since they were the main market. During the 1940s, when all metal was directed to the war effort, pedal cars went out of production.

In the post war years of the 1950s and 1960s pedal cars returned to vogue, only this time, the market expanded and pedal cars became a toy for many.

To check for authenticity, look at the underside of the pedal car to make sure that it is made of steel. The car should feel solid, and it should have a manufacturing date that matches an actual car that was produced at that time. Collecting vintage pedal cars can be a lot of fun. You can restore them and set them up to display or let the next generation take the wheel.



Top: A classic fire engine pedal car found at Third Street Antiques in Puyallup. Above Left: a wall hanging of a pedal car. At right: the bright yellow steering wheel of the fire engine complete with string to ring the engine's bell (above right).

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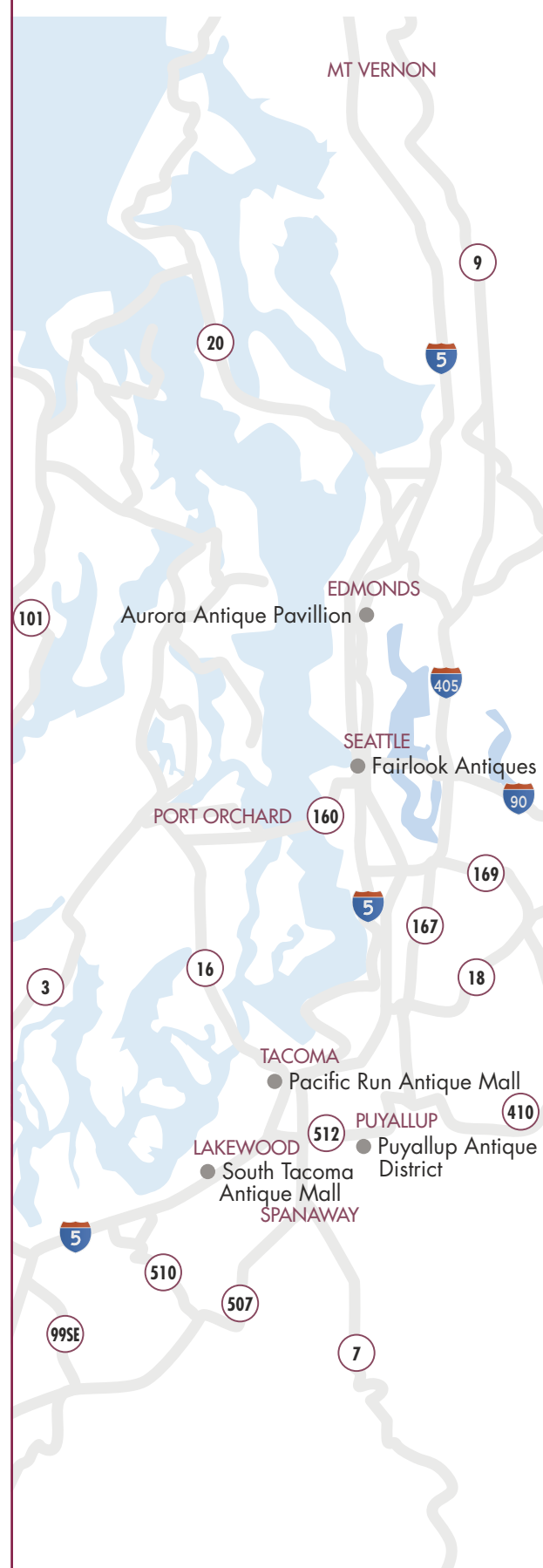
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