

Arizona's ANTIQUE REGISTER Your Two-State Guide to the Antique and Collectible Marketplace • Established 1998

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The Antique Register was founded by Barbara Floyd

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515 E Carefree Hwy, #1128 • Phoenix, AZ 85085 Email: info@theantiqueregister.com Cover Story

Shopping Fun in Humboldt & Camp Verde

by Barb Stillman

It's always fun to get away from the office to visit some of our advertising shops. So, when Carol Williams at **Re-Collectables** asked me to come up to Humboldt for one of her semi-monthly weekend sales' events, I decided to make a day of it and visit two other shops as well – **Sweet Pea Antiques** and **Ruby Road Resale Mall**, both in Camp Verde.

Re-Collectables in Humboldt

My first stop was at **Re-Collectables**, where Carol offers a wonderful mix of antiques and vintage items displayed in attention-grabbing vignettes. Each unique arrangement invites you in to take

a closer look at the interesting pieces on display. There are also lots of garden and rustic pieces outside. The shop is open Thursdays through Saturdays, twice a month, from February through October. Carol devotes the other months to collecting and preparing for her season.

Sue Martin and Liz Allison work with Carol and the three complement each other, providing different talents that make **Re-Collectibles** a fun market to explore.

Carol opened **Re-Collectables** almost 18 months ago and the large building is located in a

of Joy.

Re-Collectables in Humboldt

beautiful and peaceful countryside setting with green meadows and large weeping willow trees at the back of the property. She had previously owned Carol's Main Street Antiques in Humboldt and closed that shop with plans to relocate to its current location. Customers regularly drive up to the shop each month to check out the latest "new" treasures. The building is easy to find with good signs directing you from the Main Street exit off Hwy 69.

Carol began collecting antiques in the 1960s when she would accompany her mother, Shirley Williams, as they scoured antique Continued on page 4...











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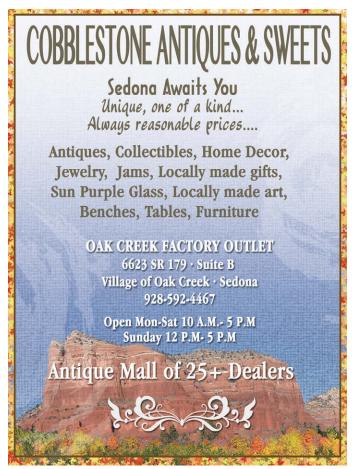
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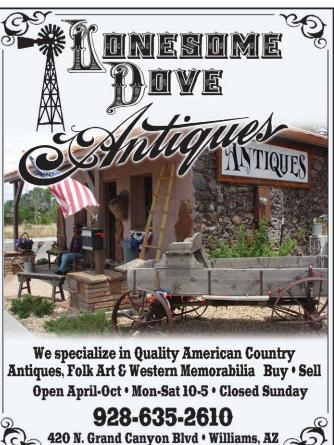
Pure Fun!

Where the

Dealers Love

to Shop





Cover Story, continued from page 3...

shops, shows, garage sales and thrift shops. Shirley collected Depression glass and was a member of the Phoenix Depression Glass Club for many years. Carol became "addicted" to antique hunting—now called "picking," and it looks like one of her granddaughters is following in the family tradition. Dylan Esch, age 4, found several items to sell at **Re-Collectables** when she was out with her mom, Emily Esch. Dylan has already learned to see the potential in the "pick" and carefully pocketed her earnings from the items she sold!

Plan a trip to visit **Re-Collectables** for one or more of the four remaining sales this year. Check their ad on page 3 for the September and October dates. Located at 13540 Prescott Rd, Humboldt, it is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the sale or call for an appointment at 928-273-2464. Be sure to pick up a jar of Shirley's Applesauce Jam like I did—it's delicious!

Sweet Pea Antiques, Camp Verde

Just a short half hour drive from Humboldt through some beautiful northern Arizona scenery and I was in Camp Verde. My first stop was at **Sweet Pea Antiques**, a busy mall with more than 40 vendors that is "over 5,000 square feet of pure fun!" And that is what I found as I strolled through the store enjoying one display after another, all beautifully arranged.

Owner Wynne Melton has brought together a group that she affectionately calls her "Sweet Peas" whom she describes as "a wonderful group of vendors who are unique collectors and artists." From antiques, vintage, furniture and home décor to gifts, there is something that appeals to everyone's interest. The Fiesta Ware that is featured on our front cover was a display that caught my eye with its great colors in a pretty cabinet setting.

An original vendor when **Sweet Pea Antiques** opened in 2006, Wynne became the mall's owner in March 2012. She had always wanted to own her own shop so it was a dream come true for her when the opportunity to buy the mall came up. Adding her personal touch, Wynne uses the front parlor to feature new merchandise or a new theme and she gives it a complete makeover every three months, keeping it fresh and exciting for her customers. In the next few months, **Sweet Pea Antiques** will be adding a new "industrial" themed space full of fun rusty goodness.

Sweet Peas is a family affair. Wynne says, "My husband Todd and my parents, Mickey and Donna Momeyer have been my saving grace. They chip in with just about every aspect of the business and I am so blessed to have their help!"

Continued on next page...

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Cover Story, continued from previous page...

Stop in and visit Wynn and the Sweet Peas. Located right on Highway 260, the mall is easy to find and is open Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m. Find them at facebook.com/sweetpeaantiques or call 928-567-6555.

Ruby Road Resale, Camp Verde

My next and last stop was at Ruby Road Resale just a short



Ruby Road Resale

couple of miles up the road on Highway 260. The owners are Pamela and Paul Bridgnell who have combined antiques and collectibles with art, home furnishings, jewelry, apparel and everyday items. The store has become a leader in the practice of "Reducing, Recycling and Repurposing" used goods and, with more than 60 dealers, there is something for everyone in every price range

As I browsed through the 6000 square foot mall, I discovered a fun place to shop with a surprise around every turn—including the proverbial

kitchen sink. In this case, it was a colorful Mexican-style painted Prior to opening Ruby Road Resale in 2005, Pamela had spent many years doing private estate sales in the Phoenix and Scottsdale areas. The Bridgnells decided that Camp Verde would be a perfect choice to open their mall—right in the heart of the Verde Valley and minutes from beautiful Sedona and the Verde Valley Wine Country. It looks like it was a good choice since they are in the process of expanding and adding more space to meet shoppers' needs.

Ruby Road Resale is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information,

Continued on page 18...



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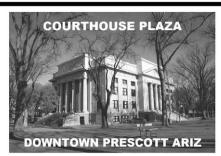
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Those Were The Days

Ulster County Gazette - The First Reproduction?

by Jay Mark

One of the big banes of collectors and antique dealers is the longtime proliferation of reproductions. Unfortunately, they have been around just about as long as people have collected. Now with advanced technology the problem is more acute than ever before.

That's why knowing and authenticating provenance and trusting the seller has never been more critical to avoid being a victim of fakes.

If you haven't figured it out yet, this article is about reproductions. Not just the ordinary copies that we run into on a regular but basis, what might actually be one of the earliest American replicas. So unique are these copies that they have managed to earn their very own antique status.

Ulster County Gazette,

A fac-simile of an old ftyle newspaper for Jan. 4, 1800, in which was printed the Congressional Proceedings in regard to the death of Washington, has been reprinted by the underfigned, as a curiosity. Thousands of them are now selling, at 10 cents a copy; \$5,00 per 100, LONGLEY BROTHERS, 168 Vine ft., Cincinnati, Obio.

One of the earliest known advertisements offering a replica of the January 4, 1800, Ulster County Gazette appeared in a Cincinnati, Ohio, newspaper in 1858.

Phil Barber, www.historicpages.com

Let's go back to the beginning—to Ulster County, a small district in the southeast corner of New York State along the Connecticut and Massachusetts borders.

On May 5, 1798, Samuel Freer and his son Samuel S. Freer began publishing a small circulation, four-page, Federalist weekly along the Hudson River in Kingston, NY—the Ulster County Gazette.

The paper, one of many weeklies published in the fledgling United States for local distribution, might have gone otherwise unnoticed if not for its imprint of January 4, 1800.

The exceedingly rare edition represents one of the earliest accounts of George Washington's death at Mt. Vernon on December 14, 1799. In the era years before the telegraph, it would have taken considerable time for word of the first Continued on page 8...

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Home of the Navajo Lodge sign





Ulster County Gazette, continued from page 6... President's death to reach the rural village of Kingston.

The paper featured dramatic, bold, black mourning borders. In addition to reports on the passing of Washington and news of the day, the paper contained intriguing advertisements like "For Sale, A stout healthy, active Negro Wench," Lost, A watch

on Wednesday last," and numerous Sheriff sales.

Because of the paper's historic importance, reproductions began to emerge in the ensuing years. There is some evidence that the UCG's original publisher, Samuel S. Freer himself, produced the first reprint on July 4, 1825, in commemoration of Washington's death a quartercentury before.

In 1848, on the 50th anniversary of the *Ulster County Gazette*, one or two facsimiles were printed. More reproductions began appearing in the 1850s.

The country's Centennial in 1876 offered the biggest opportunity for recreating a historical souvenir of what was often described as, "The

oldest Paper! A relic of 1799." A proliferation of facsimiles technology didn't emerge until late in the 19th century, all followed in the ensuing years. It is safe to conclude that more than a million copies of the various reprints were eventually circulated.

But what about an original?

So illusive is the original paper that it wasn't until 1931 that an authenticated version was first discovered. It remains so rare that in the intervening years only one more has surfaced.

Even as early as 1917, researchers were commenting on the various reprints uncovered over the years. A.J. Wohlhagen, in an

article for the New York Historical Society Bulletin titled "The Spurious Ulster County Gazette of January 4, 1800, observed the *Ulster County* Gazette was "without doubt the most widely known literary relic in this country."

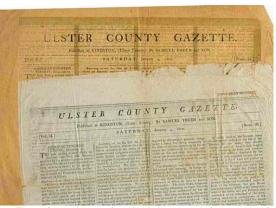
While as many as 100 different versions of the *Ulster County* Gazette may exist, no one knows for sure which is the earliest. Scholars and historians have long debated this very question.

It should be noted that all the reprints were originally made not to deceive but rather to commemorate George Washington's death and the publication of one of the early U.S. newspapers.

Because photo-reproducing

facsimiles had to be re-typeset by hand using whatever historiclooking fonts were available at the time. Fortunately this led to numerous deviations from the original that help researchers

Continued on next page...



Two of nearly one hundred documented reprints of the January 4, 1800, Ulster County Gazette. With its brown discoloration and brittleness, the top version is readily identifiable as a reprint.

Phil Barber, www.historicpages.com

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Ulster County Gazette, *continued from previous page*... identify the various bogus editions.

Because an original of the less than 500 copies of the *Ulster County Gazette* was initially printed, it is virtually impossible to find. But for some, it's the fun of building a collection of reprints that has taken on a life its own. While presenting a special connection with our past, it can be an engaging hunt tracking them down. Best of all, prices are affordable. A clean copy in good condition should never cost more than \$20—often much less.

HINT: Beware! Even today reprints are being sold as originals. eBay usually has one or two listed. Understand that you are more likely to win the lottery than finding an original *Ulster County Gazette*.

Knowing some basics, like the difference between 18th century rag paper and thin, friable, post-Civil War pulp paper, is one of the easiest ways to discern a fake.

A number of Internet sites can help delineate the more subtle differences between the original and various reprints.

A GOOD BOOK: The earliest study of the *Ulster County Gazette* still offers the seminal information on the subject. This important monograph—The *Ulster County Gazette and its Illegitimate Offspring*—was researched by R.W.G. Vail, Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society. First issued in 1930, the publication was updated in 1951. Long out-of-print, it is fairly abundant online for as little as \$10. Best of all, the book enumerates and illustrates more than 60 variations and how to identify the various reprints.

Nearly an antique himself, Jay Mark is a 41-year antiques business veteran who owns Those Were The Days! now an online bookstore. He also teaches, lectures frequently and writes regularly about antiques and history. Reach him at jaymark@twtdbooks.com. ©2013



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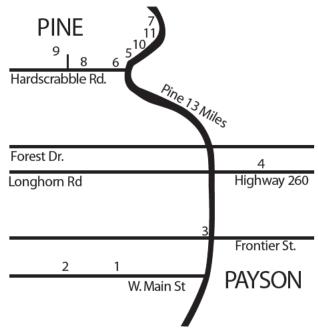
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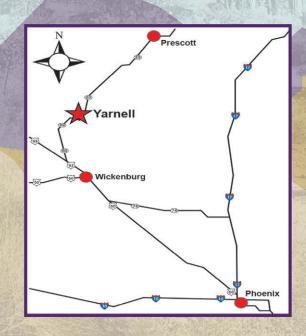
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Yarnell Is Open For Business! Grand Re-Opening August 31 – September 2

Yarnell wants Arizona to know that it is OPEN FOR BUSINESS! Fortunately, no businesses were lost to the Yarnell Hill Fire so there is going to be a Grand Re-Opening of the Yarnell Business District on August 31 through September 2, and visitors are invited to come shop and eat in Yarnell. (Check the ad on page 12 to see the shops' hours and information.)

Also, looking ahead, the Chamber of Commerce will continue with the "7th Annual Scenic Highway 89 Yard Sale" on November 2nd from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. As in the past, countless yard sales as well as antique booths, a Pie Scream Social and Live Music will be held in communities along Highway 89.

While business life goes on in Yarnell, it is going to take much longer for residents to recover from the personal and professional devastation caused by the fire. More than 121 homes were destroyed along with 16 other buildings. Additionally, business owners experienced loss of income as well as perishables during the evacuation. Many of these losses are not covered by insurance.

Well-known landmark in the area—The Shrine of St. Joseph of the Mountain-suffered damage when seven houses and out buildings were destroyed. The Way of the Cross was also damaged. Since insurance is insufficient for much of the damage, fundraising is crucial. Their website with information on donations is www.stjoseph-shrine.org

Exiled from their homes and divided by the closure of Highway 89, group of 20 Yarnell and Peeples Valley residents conferred in person and by phone about how to rebuild their fire-ravaged community. Out of that conversation, the all-volunteer Yarnell



Cleaning up after the fire.

Hill Recovery Group was formed with a steering committee made up of five key leaders representing organizations that have long provided services to residents: the Yarnell-Peeples Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Yarnell Community Center, the Yarnell Community Presbyterian Church, the Yarnell Fire Department Board and Weaver Mountains - People Who Care.

Under the direction of the steering committee, a dozen volunteer sub-committees have been formed to provide resources for everything from emergency housing, financial assistance and medical treatment to clean-up and contractor referrals. The group's website, www.YarnellHillRecoveryGroup.org, will provide a single place for residents to get news about recovery efforts and connect with services.

Turkey vultures have long been Yarnell's unofficial mascot. The Chamber of Commerce celebrates the vultures' return every year with its annual Buzzard Bash. So, when it came time to create an image for the rebuilding of Yarnell, Recovery Group members envisioned a buzzard rising like a Phoenix from the flames. The committee is grateful to Sharon Seidl, sharon@ wildlyengaging.com, for donating her time and talent to make

Continued on page 14...



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Yarnell, continued from page 13...

this vision a reality.

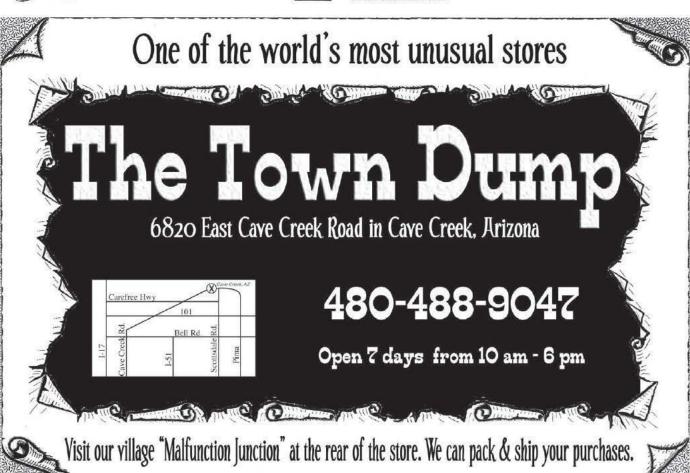
Yarnell is very grateful to all of the volunteers from Mennonite

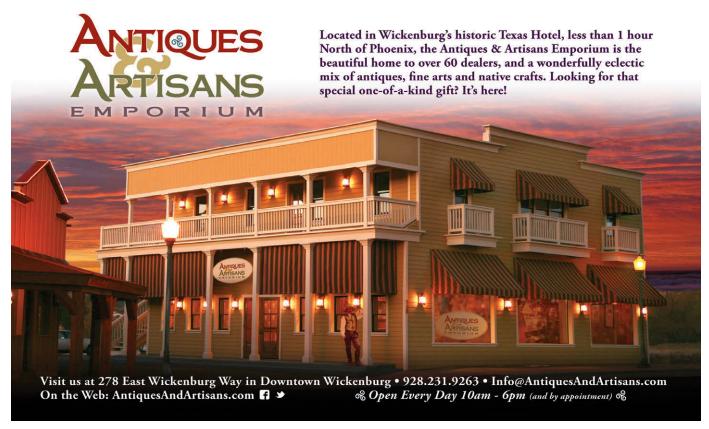


Disaster Services. Southern **Baptist** Disaster Relief, Samaritan's Purse Crisis & Disaster Response and all of the volunteers who traveled to the area on their own seeking to help in any way they could. Yarnell has been blessed with so many donations of food, water, clothing,

This photo shows how close the fire came to this resident's home in Yarnell. toiletries, refrigerators and much more.

The disaster groups have now left; however, volunteers are still needed throughout the devastated area. Those interested in helping can call the Volunteer Center at 928-427-6361 or donations can be made directly to the Yarnell Hill Recovery Group, which distributes money to take care of the unmet needs of community members. The group is run totally by volunteers so no donations go to administrative expenses. Donations can be made to National Bank Account # 7600002730 or checks payable to Yarnell Hill Recovery Group can be sent to P.O. Box 1086, Yarnell, 85362. Donations are tax-deductible. Contact the steering committee at info@yarnellhillrecoverygroup.org for more information.









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Giveaway Winner from July-August Issue

Our giveaway winner from our last issue is Audrey Waite from Sedona. She will receive the book, A Journey Through Northern Arizona written by Victoria Clark and published by Schiffer Publishing.

Audrey shared with us, "Victoria Clark is an amazing author

and collector (you should see her collection of Cracker Jack Toys!)"

Thanks Audrey! We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy *The Antique Register* and use it to hunt for great finds. There are two other book giveaways in this issue so send in your entries and comments.



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Cover Story, continued from page 5...

visit their website www.rubyroadresale.com or call 928-567-5759. Camp Verde is a great place to visit with shopping and special attractions like Montezuma's Castle, Fort Verde State Historical Park and Cliff Castle Casino. The shop owners can make suggestions for local restaurants to eat at or interesting spots to visit, so be sure to ask when you stop at Sweet Peas Antiques or Ruby Road Resale. Each February, the annual Camp Verde Pecan, Wine and Antique Festival is held bringing many people in to the area from all over Arizona. Make Camp Verde a destination for your next day trip.





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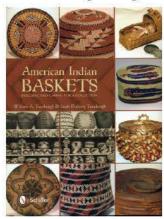
Book Review

Vintage American Indian Baskets Abound in New Guide for Collectors

by Robert Reed

American Indian Baskets: Building and Caring for a Collection by William A. Turnbaugh and Sarah Peabody Turnbaugh is a truly beautiful book that abounds with truly beautiful Native American baskets and very sound information.

This accomplished guide for collectors of vintage baskets



crafted by American Indians offers more than 750 color photographs along with lots of very savvy text. The range of baskets detailed in this volume is significant. Coverage includes specific tribal styles within Native North America's nine basketry regions-Southwest, Great Basin, California, Plateau, Northwest Coast, Arctic and Sub-Arctic, Plains, Southeast and Northeast.

The publishers note that one rather unique aspect of this new book is an-in-depth comparison

of imported baskets being passed off to the unschooled as American Indian work. There is also an extensive look at both the cultural and historical background of Indian basket crafting and its influence on the marketplace.

There is great attention given to buying, selling and caring for such tradition rich baskets, and further a presentation of legal issues as they might affect basket collectors.

The authors are both anthropologists with university teaching and museum experience. They have written previous books on Native American craft and arts, including basketry and Southwestern jewelry.

American Indian Baskets: Building and Caring for a Collection by William A. Turnbaugh and Sarah Peabody Turnbaugh, hardcover, 256 pages, 782 color photos and index, is \$59.99 plus shipping from Schiffer Publishing, www.schifferbooks.com.

Book reviews by Robert Reed, Antique and Collectible News Service, PO Box 204, Knightstown, IN 46148.

Book Giveaway! Enter to Win!

Enter to win your very own copy of American Indian Baskets: Building and Caring for a Collection by sending an email to info@theantiqueregister.com and put Baskets in the subject line.

Be sure to give us your name and address. Or drop a letter or postcard to: The Antique Register, 515 E Carefree Hwy #1128, Phoenix, AZ 85085. The drawing will be held October 1st and announced in our Nov-Dec issue!



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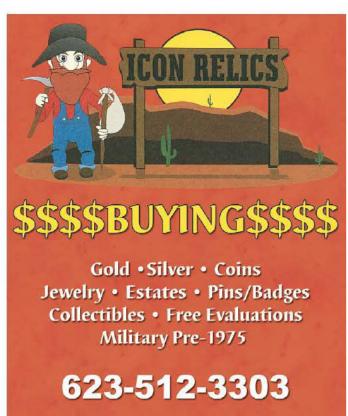
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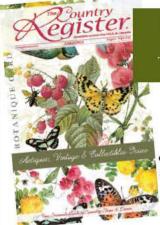
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Deadline for October-November Issue is September 1st 602-942-8950 or 888-942-8950

Collecting Americana

by Mary Dessoie

Americana is one of the most popular fields in today's antiques market, not only in the United States but also around the world. Americana is most commonly defined this way: "Materials relating to the history, folklore or geography of the United States of America, which are considered typical of American culture."

People collect American-made pieces for a variety of reasons, from decorating to scholarship, and on various levels, from old railroad lanterns to early tools and furniture valued in the hundreds of thousand of dollars. However, there is a plethora of moderately priced items available with huge appeal.

A favored piece of Americana is the spinning wheel. It is certainly not unique to America. These devices for turning wool or flax fiber into yarn date back to

China over a thousand years ago. What is endearing about them to Americans is that they represent an early form of colonial American rebellion.

Colonists were expected to buy their clothing and fabrics from the mother country. Major tariffs were imposed on importing spinning wheels or looms. American colonists made their own devices, and some women formed little cottage industries. But it was still technically illegal to sell American-made cloth.

Many collectors seek out samplers. The sampler gets its name because it was a sample of a young lady's sewing talent.

Continued on page 26...



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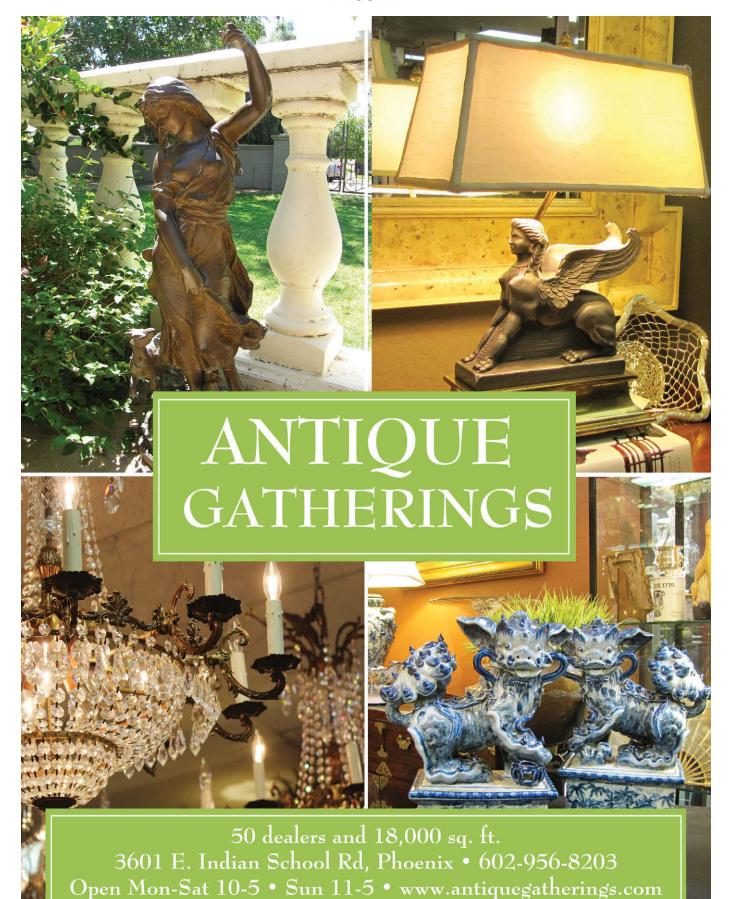
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Collecting Americana, continued from page 23...

Girls and boys did not study together. The girls were taught home crafts.

The first skill a young girl learned was marking, sewing numbers and letters. Examples of this form are known as alphabet samplers. Samplers with sayings on them are called motto samplers.

Another perennial favorite with collectors is old crockery and ceramic ware made for commercial or household use.

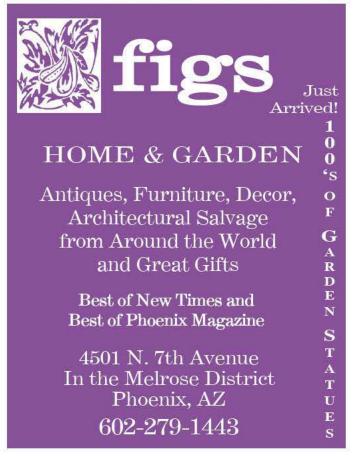
Those who are fascinated by history will add to their collections anything to do with politics or the military. Many items will have decorative value if they depict American historical figures or the flag.

There are many more interesting artifacts of Americana that can be found by attending auctions and visiting your local

antiques shops.

Mary Dessoie covers a variety of topics in the field of antiques and collectibles. She founded the Butter Pat Patter Association for collectors of butter pat—miniature plates that were introduced during the mid-1800s for individual servings of butter. A subscription to The Patter newsletter is \$22 and includes a mint-condition Royal Doulton butter pat and 10 issues. Sample copies are available by sending \$4 and a LSSAE (65 cents) to Mary Dessoie, 7950 E. Keats Avenue, No. 178, Mesa, AZ 85209-5025. Those who would like to start their subscriptions immediately and receive their Royal Doulton pat by return mail can send their \$22 check or money order payable to Mary Dessoie.







Love Your iPod? Thank the Musical Victorians!

by Mary Dessoie
Victorians gave us lots of ways to enjoy music in our homes—from machines that played recorded music to variations on musical instruments themselves. Today's multi-billion dollar music industry owes a great debt of gratitude to the Victorian middle class. By bringing music into their homes, they created a market that hadn't existed before—a market driven by popular demand for a wider variety of musical experiences and for the contraptions and accessories to make those experiences more enjoyable.

Most large Victorian homes included a music room, either as a separate entity or as part of the back parlor, the equivalent of today's family room. Young members of a Victorian family were expected to study music, usually voice for the girls, and some musical instrument, most often the piano, for the young men.

The Victorians loved contraptions and one of the great musical contraptions of the day was the music box, which the Victorians ramped up considerably from the charmingly simple clockwork versions of the previous century. Some Victorian

music boxes were large and elaborate pieces of furniture. Even the tabletop types, however, usually played more than one tune. Some cylinder-operated music boxes could play a dozen or more. Another variety of music box could play an endless number of perforated metal disks.

Besides pianos, music boxes and phonographs, the Victorian music parlor has left us a legacy of other fascinating antiques and collectibles. You may have

to look hard, but there's a treasure trove out there of Victorian accessories with music-related themes—figurines, vases, lamps, boxes, prints, paintings, busts of famous composers, bookends, music stands and more.

Another great find would be a Victorian music cabinet, but it might also be an expensive find. These cabinets were usually decorated with elaborate inlaid and applied decoration, often with musical themes—angels, mythological characters and musical instruments.

Collecting Victorian sheet music is perhaps the easiest and least expensive way to include music in your decor. The beautiful color lithographic covers are often suitable for framing, and are truly evocative of this era, when music first entered the home on such a significant scale and became the important part of our daily life that it is today.

You can make your decor sing by including music-related antiques in at least one room of your home.

Mary Dessoie covers a variety of topics in the fields of antiques and collectibles. She founded the Butter Pat Patter Association for collectors of butter pats—miniature plates that were introduced during the mid-1800s for individual servings of butter. A subscription to The Patter newsletter costs \$22 and includes a mint-condition Royal Doulton butter pat and ten issues. Sample copies are available by sending \$4.00 and a LSSAE (66 cents). For those persons who would like to start their subscriptions immediately and receive their Royal Doulton pat by return mail, please send your check or money order, payable to Mary Dessoie, to 7950 E. Keats Avenue, No. 178, Mesa, AZ 85209-5025.

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Lethal Treasure Is Latest Jane K. Cleland Antiques Mystery

Lethal Treasure, the eighth entry in Jane K. Cleland's Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series, is a tale of silent movie posters, hidden messages, love-and a cat named Hank. The story begins a week before Valentine's Day. With the sun sparkling on the fresh-fallen snow in Rocky Point, New Hampshire, it is the



perfect day for antiques dealer, Josie Prescott, to pursue her newest source of inventory—the contents of abandoned storage units sold at auction. There's no telling what unexpected treasures she might discover.

A crowd gathers at the storage facility, including the owner of a local home décor and interior design store, Henri Dubois, who bids against a man who is new to the local auction scene. Josie is thrilled with her win-a small unit filled with Depression-era

glassware and stunning vintage jewelry. The larger unit won by Henri has some exciting discoveries as well, including

hand-painted silent movie posters. which Henri eagerly hands over to Josie for appraisal.

When Josie receives a frantic call from Henri's wife, Leigh Ann, the next morning, she learns that Henri never made it home after the auction. Heading to the last place he was seen, the police open Henri's newly acquired storage unit. Hidden amidst a jumble of objects, including a broken porcelain garden stool and a shattered bookcase, Henri is found dead. Was he killed over one of the objects? Is his wife hiding secrets that



led to his death? And who was the stranger who bid against Henri? When the police turn to Josie's antiques expertise, she discovers more than provenance—she uncovers a murderer.

Publishers Weekly has called the series "intriguing" and "engaging," and Lethal Treasure lives up to that high standard. The story focuses on people we care about (and you don't need Continued on page 33...

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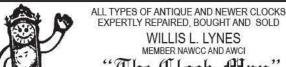


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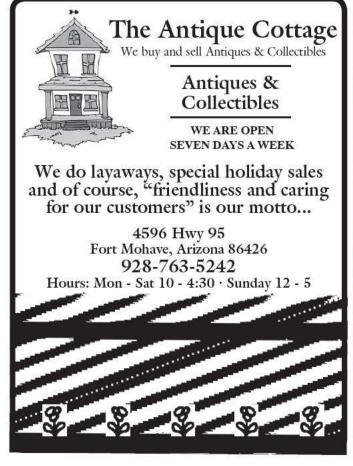
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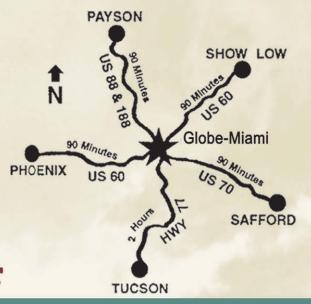
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Lethal Treasure, continued from page 29...

to have read the earlier books in the series to enjoy meeting the characters now) and the plot is intricate and surprising. Plus, antiques lovers will learn fun and fascinating facts without ever feeling lectured at and talked down to. Plan on relaxing with this delightful story—it's definitely in mint condition!

Jane K. Cleland's Lethal Treasure is a page-turning addition to her beloved Josie Prescott mystery series, with the fascinating antiques details and devilishly clever mystery plot that fans adore and newcomers will delight in.

For more information about Jane K. Cleland and her books, visit her official website at: www.janecleland.com.



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Rinker On Collectibles

Antiques and Collectibles Cozy Mysteries

by Harry l. Rinker

My good friend Jane Cleland introduced me to the world of cozy mysteries. Cozy mysteries have 10 main criteria: 1) The crime-solver is usually a woman amateur sleuth, often with a college degree and is intuitive and bright; 2) It takes place in a small town or village: 3) The heroine's boyfriend, husband, significant other or close friend is usually a medical examiner, detective or police officer; 4) The local police do not take the amateur sleuth seriously; 5) The heroine's hearing is exceptionally good, especially in terms of overhearing casual conversations; 6) The demise of the victim is quick, often off scene and occurs early in the story, often in the first or second chapter; 7) The tone is gentle—no graphic violence, no profanity and no explicit sex; 8) Sex occurs behind closed doors (implied but never described); 9) The story is fast-paced with many twists and turns; and 10) Emphasis is on plot and character development. [See: http://www.cozy-mystery.com/Definitionof-a-Cozy-Mystery.html]

More than half a dozen authors have created female amateur sleuths who are involved in one aspect or another with antiques and collectibles. Barbara Allan's Brandy (daughter) and Vivian (mother) Borne own an antiques shop as does Tamar Myers's Abigail Timberlake. Jane Cleland's Josie Prescott is the principal in an appraisal, auction and tag sale enterprise.

Continued on page 37...







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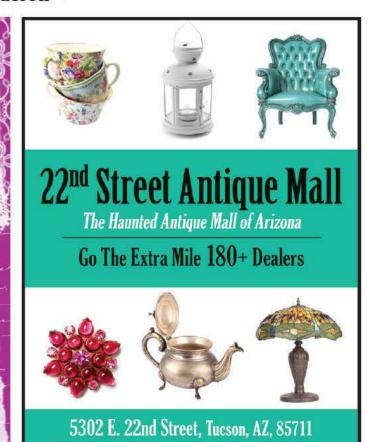
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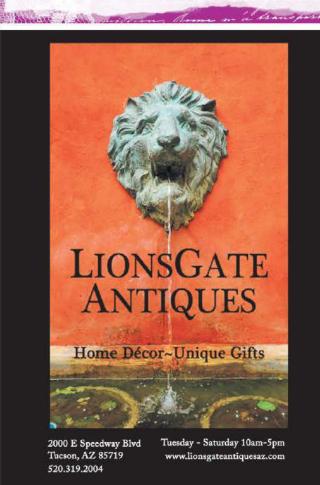
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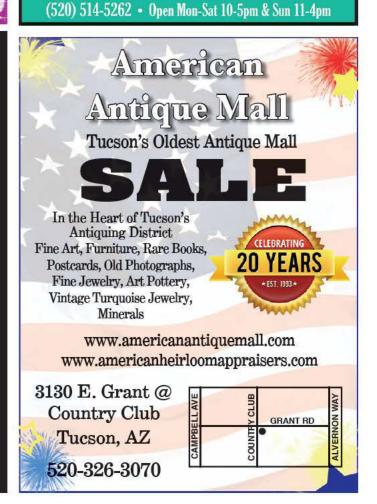
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Rinker on Collectibles, continued from page 34...

Sharon Fiffer's Jane Wheel is a picker who occasionally helps at estate sales. J. B. Stanley's Molly Appleby was a reporter for *Collector's Weekly*. Lea Wait's Maggie Summer is an antiques print dealer who works the show circuit. All these characters appear in numerous titles. Unfortunately, Stanley's Molly Appleby has retired and Sharon Fiffer's Jane Wheel is on hiatus. Both amateur sleuths are missed. The good news is that the titles in the Appleby and Wheel series are available in paperback.

Being friends with an amateur sleuth can be hazardous to your health. Neighbors, relatives and business associates die far more often than total strangers. Little wonder the local police departments do not like these amateur sleuths. Their residence in a community is bad for its crime statistics. When J. B. Fletcher finally left Cabot Cove, Maine, it was a miracle any town folks survived.

Antiques Disposal (2012) and Antiques Chop (2013), the sixth and seventh Barbara Allan titles from "A Trash 'n' Treasure Mystery" series, have appeared since "Rinker on Collectibles" Column #1268, the most recent column I devoted to antiques and collectibles cozy mysteries. Both are published by Kensington Books. Antiques Disposal is available in hard and soft cover. Antiques Chop is only available in hard cover. Barbara Allan is a joint pseudonym for Barbara and Max Allan Collins, a wife and husband writing team.

Allan writes in a conversational story-telling style. While most of the chapters feature Brandy's side of the story, Vivian now receives between one and one and one-half chapters per book to test her insights. Conversations between daughter, mother and their editor—and antiques and collectibles collecting tips at the end of each chapter—add to the enjoyment

Allan's chatty, easy to read stories are set in Serenity, a small Mississippi River town. Although the novels are chronological, like most cozy mystery series, each is a stand-alone read. *Antiques Chop* does begin with a "Cast of Characters," adapting a practice of mystery writers such as Erle Stanley Gardner.

Cozy mysteries are usually set in the present. *Antiques Disposal* is a story involving the contents of an abandoned storage unit. *Antiques Chop* involves Brandy and Vivian's potential participation in a reality television program. For more information about these and other Barbara Allan "A Trash 'n' Treasure Mystery" titles, go to www.maxallancollins.com, click on "Books," scroll down to Barbara Allan and click on a title.

I am in love with Josie Prescott, something my wife Linda does not mind since Josie is a fictional character. Jane K. Cleland's *Lethal Treasures* is the eighth "A Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery," all published by Minotaur Books. I read Cleland's Prescott mysteries in one sitting. Once I start, I cannot put the book down.

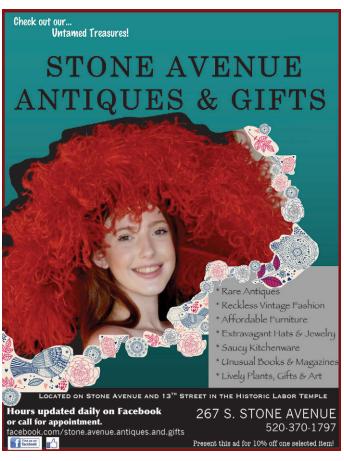
Enter to win a copy of Jane Cleland's newest book Lethal Treasures on page 33.

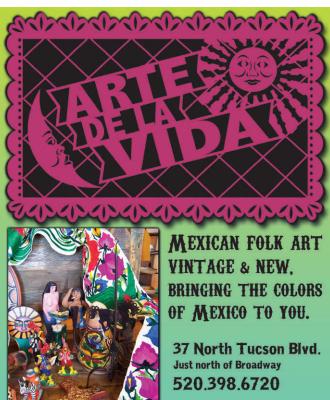
The novels have a lyrical, wistful quality. The characters have become family, although I continue to regret that Josie's current beau, now

working for Homeland Security, contributes little to the murder solutions.

An antique or antiques group plays leading role in each Prescott mystery. While the stories are fictional, the objects are not. The same holds true for Josie and her staff's appraisal, auction and tag sale practices. The Prescott novels offer trade

Continued on page 40...





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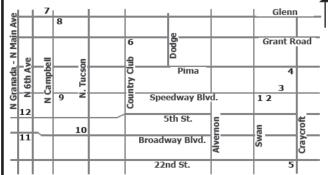


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Rinker on Collectibles, continued from page 37... insights it takes years to learn in the field.

In *Lethal Treasures*, Josie purchased a storage unit filled with Depression era glassware and a fabulous piece of jewelry. Rival dealer Henri Dubois purchases a storage unit containing a stash of hand-painted silent movie posters. Henri's failure to return home after dropping off the posters at Josie's gallery for appraisal, once again forces Josie to solve another murder in Rocky Point, Maine. For more information about this and other "A Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery" titles, see www. janecleland.com.

Tamar Myers, whose "A Den of Antiquity Mystery" series numbers 16 titles, is the dean of antiques and collectibles cozy mystery writers. How I missed these titles in the past is beyond me. The good news is that I found them. I just finished reading *Poison Ivory* (2009) and *The Glass Is Always Greener* (2011), the 15th and 16th titles in the series. The series is available in paperback from Avon, an imprint of HarperCollins.

I was delighted to find a synopsis of each of the previous titles at the end of both books. I read them first to familiarize myself with the principle characters of Abigail Timberlake Washburn, who owns an antiques shop in Charleston, South Carolina, and her mama, Mozella. Whereas Barbara Allan's stories suggest a lazy southern style, Myers'Abigail is Old South aristocracy. It took this "northern boy" a few chapters to get caught up in the atmosphere. Once done, Abigail and Mozella became as familiar as the characters in Allan's, Cleland's and Wait's mysteries.

In *Poison Ivory*, Abigail is accused of importing illegal ivory. *In the Glass is Always Greener*, Abigail travels with Roby, a

Continued on page 42...





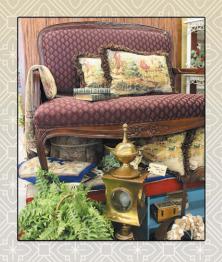
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Rinker on Collectibles, continued from page 40...

dealer friend, to Charlotte to visit his Aunt Jerry, described on the back cover as a "crazy, caustic old gal" whose mock wake turns out to be the real thing. There is a sense of finality in the last chapter, suggesting that Abigail may be retiring from the amateur sleuthing business, as did Molly Appleby a few years ago. Do not miss the opportunity to read the full series while the novels are in print. For more information about these and other "A Den of Antiquity Mystery" titles, see www. tamarmyers.com/novels.htm.

Lea Wait's "An Antique Print Mystery" series took a brief hiatus after *Shadows at the Spring Show*, the fourth title in the series. Thanks to Perseverance Press/John Daniel Company, the series was revived with *Shadows of a Down East Summer* (2011). *Shadows on a Cape Cod Wedding* (2013) is the latest title.

Lea Wait, as well as her main character Maggie Summers, is a print dealer. Each chapter begins with the description and value of an antique print. Wait weaves the print or its theme into the chapter. The series is set along the east coast from New Jersey north into New England. Obviously, *Shadows on a Cape Cod Wedding* is set in Cape Cod.

Wait writes in an easy to read, third person conversation style. Like Cleland, Wait's novels are hard to put down once I begin reading. While antiques and collectibles are scattered throughout the stories—Maggie's friend Gussie owns an antiques shop—they are peripheral to the plot.

In Shadows on a Cape Cod Wedding, Maggie is in Cape Cod to serve as maid of honor for Gussie's wedding. Two murders, a hurricane and an antiques obsession advance the story. For more information about this and other "An Antique Print Mystery" titles, see www.leawait.com.

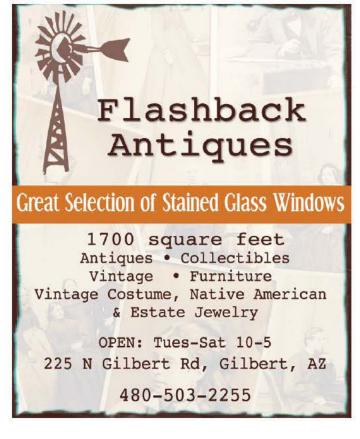
Josie and Maggie are single. Brandy is divorced. Abigail is divorced and remarried. Ex-boyfriends and husbands flow in and out of the storylines. The supporting characters have fascinating back-stories, which develop as each series progresses.

Read all the titles in these series. I promise you hours of enjoyment.

PS: In the course of preparing this column, I encountered several other antiques and collectibles theme novels outside the cozy mystery genre. I will share them with you in a subsequent "Rinker on Collectibles" column.

Rinker Enterprises and Harry L. Rinker are on the Internet. Check out www.harryrinker.com. You can listen and participate in Whatcha Got?, Harry's antiques and collectibles radio callin show, on Sunday mornings between 8 and 10 a.m. Eastern Time. If you cannot find it on a station in your area, Whatcha Got? streams live and is archived on the Internet at www.gcnlive.com. Sell, Keep Or Toss? How To Downsize A Home, Settle An Estate, And Appraise Personal Property (House of Collectibles, an imprint of the Random House Information Group, \$17.99) is available at your favorite bookstore and via www.harryrinker.com. Copyright © Harry L. Rinker, LLC, 2013

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