

Arizona's  
**ANTIQUE REGISTER**

Vol 19 - No 1

A Guide to the Antique, Vintage & Collectible Marketplace

Jan-Feb 2016





# Arizona's ANTIQUE REGISTER

Your Guide to the Antique, Vintage and Collectible Marketplace • Established 1998

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The Antique Register was founded by Barbara Floyd

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# Arizona's ANTIQUE REGISTER

Your Guide to the Antique, Vintage and Collectible Marketplace • Established 1998

## Deadlines Schedule

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Edition Month 2016	Editorial and Ad Deadline
January - February	December 1
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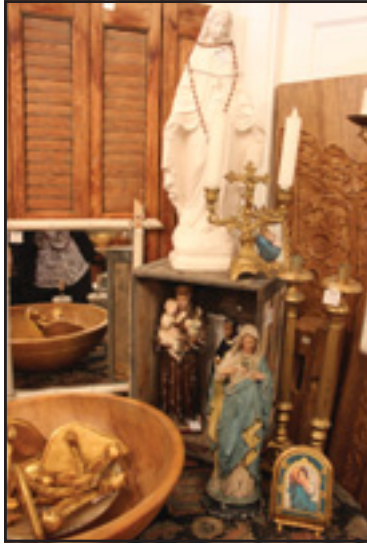
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## Cover Story

## Diverse Blend of Offerings in Tucson at The Grey House Antiques & Home Décor

by Barb Stillman



During a recent visit to **The Grey House Antiques & Home** in Tucson, I saw the delightful grouping, which is shown in the picture on the cover, and knew it would be perfect for our January-February issue. The vintage mix of reds, pinks and whites immediately made me think of Valentine's Day. And isn't that Cupid, presiding over it all, possibly pondering where he will shoot his arrows?

This colorful vignette is just one of many to enjoy throughout the shop with its diverse blend of antique and vintage furniture and home décor.

A variety of collections offers wide choices of interesting merchandise to please shoppers. Even its lovely window displays beckon you inside to explore more.

**The Grey House Antiques & Home Décor** has been in business in Tucson for almost twenty years. It began in

an old grey adobe house—thus the name. Like many successful retail businesses, it has adapted and expanded with new owners and new locations. The shop has moved twice, each time trading up to larger and better locations, and is currently in an adobe building with gorgeous wood beams and Saltillo tile floors. Large expanses of windows bring in great light while showcasing the ever-changing merchandise displays.



Since its beginning, **The Grey House** has been run as

*Continued on page 6...*



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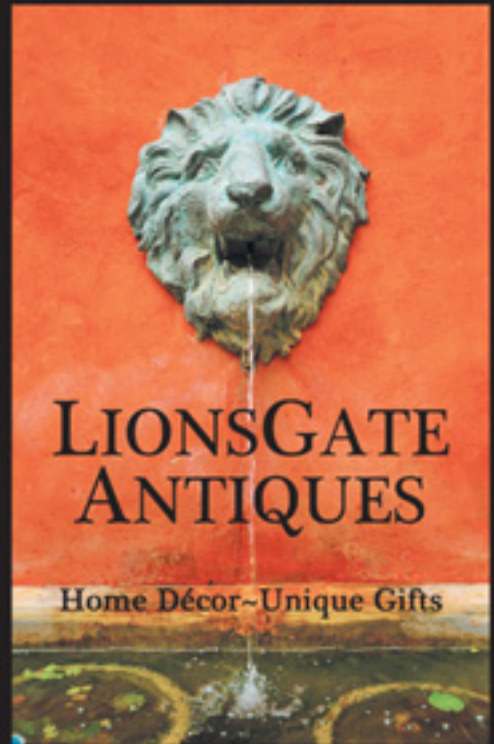
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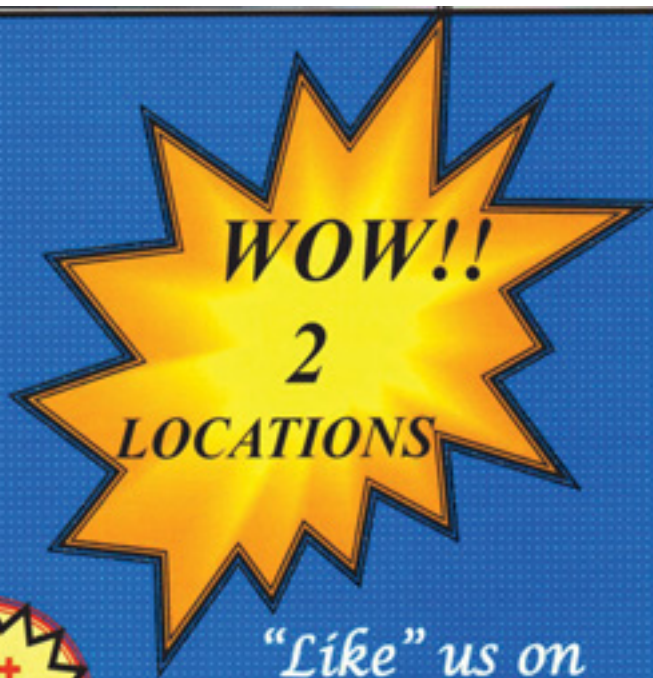
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*Grey House, continued from page 3...*



a co-op with owners sharing space, work days and overhead. Each owner has a specific design philosophy so when you walk through the store you will find an eclectic mix of fine European antiques and lighting, gorgeous paintings, folk art and early Americana, Asian antiques, Persian rugs, colonial religious items as well as midcentury barware, farmhouse chic accents, architectural elements, silver and vintage jewelry.

Known for its beautifully staged vignettes, **The Grey House** has been mentioned in numerous national magazines as well as a USA Today's Best 10 listing.

Located at 3067 N. Campbell Avenue in Tucson, **The Grey House Antiques and Home Décor** is in a great shopping center. Next door is a hugely popular restaurant creating a fun destination for a few hours of shopping followed by a delicious lunch. The shop is open Monday to Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Sunday "by chance." For more information, call 520-325-0400 or follow the shop on Facebook.

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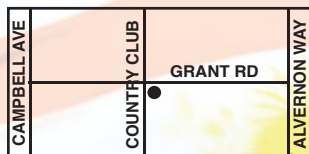
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## Vintage African Indigo Batiks —The Fabric of Life

by Simone Gers

When my husband Tray gets home from a “picking” trip, my first question is usually, “What’s your favorite find?” Earlier this year, it was Vintage Indigo Batiks from Africa. He couldn’t stop gushing about them. And they are beautiful.



Photograph by Julie Shaw

I’m a pragmatic person so I love items that have multiple purposes and indigo batiks are so inspirational. Of course, they make great shawls and wraps and are fantastic for throws. Some people like the lighter-weighted textiles for clothing and we like the heavier batiks for the throws. They bring tablescapes to life and make gorgeous tablecloths for all kinds of dishes, especially white ironstone and yellow or red Fiesta ware. Many people are using batiks for pillows, bolsters and upholstery work—and it’s no wonder because the handwork on vintage indigo batiks is inspiring.

Each batik, like a quilt, tells a story that is handed down from father to son, mother to daughter. Sections of cloth are

*Continued on page 11...*

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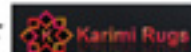


**Raytheon** Tucson Lifestyle

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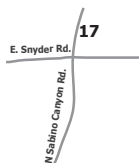
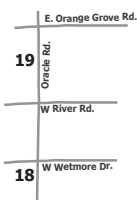
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# Tucson's Guide

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6. **Darlene Morris Antiques, LLC**  
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7. **American Antique Mall**  
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8. **Tom's Fine Furniture & Collectibles**  
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9. **Antiques Etc.**  
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10. **Grey House**  
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11. **Adobe House Antiques**  
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12. **LionsGate Antiques**  
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13. **Arte De La Vida**  
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16. **Gather - A Vintage Market**  
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17. **Sundrea Landscape Center**  
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18. **Antique Village Mall**  
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19. **Déja Vu Too Antque Mini Mall**  
5827 N Oracle Rd. • 520-887-1700



Maps Not To Scale

## Those Were The Days!

### Nursery Rhyme Rocker

by Jay Mark

Even as grownups, we find something about children's furniture especially captivating. When well executed, they are delightful, precisely scaled-down versions of their adult counterparts.

They are pieces expressly created to accommodate a child's stature while providing useful lessons in experiencing a grownup's world. Imagine the thrill of a little one rocking right along side mom or dad in his or her very own chair.

Furniture scaled to a child's proportions dates early in recorded history. A painted Greek vase, c400 B.C.E. depicts a child on a high chair. By the 16th and 17th Centuries, children's furniture appears with some regularity.

Paul Fass writing in the *Encyclopedia of Children and Childhood: in History and Society, Volume 2* says, "Children's furniture stresses the social position of the child in relation to both the environment and to adults."

"To have an individual piece of furniture indicates status and the right to a status in the home... The very existence of children's furniture promotes the child's status in the home... because the furniture is the property of the child and because the furniture physically occupies space – a choice that excludes other furniture and reflects a priority, stressing the child's social importance."

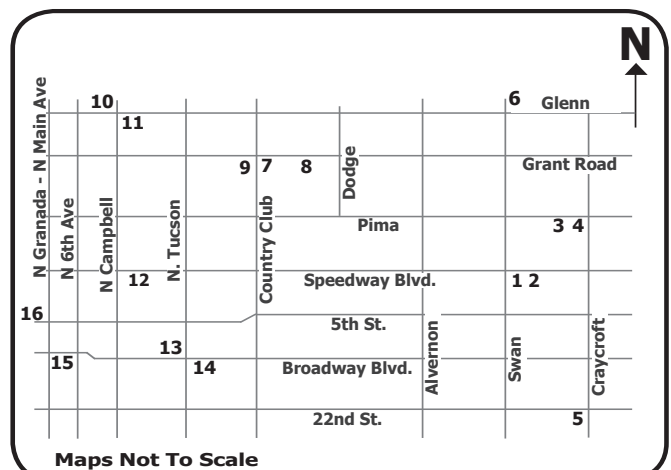
"If a child has a piece of furniture of his or her own, this acknowledges the status and rank of the child. The special form of children's furniture signals that childhood is considered an important period."

The unique feature setting this rocker apart from others is

*Continued on page 19...*



*Victorian pressed-back child's rocking chair features nursery rhyme stories pressed into the chair's back. The solid-seat chair constructed of ash was manufactured between 1900 and 1910. Photo: Jay Mark*



Maps Not To Scale



*Vintage Bakiks, continued from page 8...*

composed of individual motifs such as fish bones, little stars or hunters and each piece has its own unique tale to tell. There are some themes, like wealth and luxury, calabash flowers (a sign of prosperity), brave and fearless, yet meanings differ depending on the individual, ethnic group or region.

African Batik was originally imported in the 19th century by Dutch merchants from Indonesia where paste made from starch or mud is used as a resist instead of wax and the dye is made through a process of grinding indigo plant leaves. African batiks feature larger motifs with thicker lines and more colors than Javanese batik. The complexity of the weave, the color and the type of thread used determines the value of the fabric.

I love looking at the batiks and wondering about the families who made them and what the symbols meant to them. I like to compare the weaves and feel the different textures between my fingers. It's interesting to look at the blues next to each other and wonder how many times each piece was dipped to get it to its perfect shade of indigo. I love that each piece is unique. I love watching customers feel the fabrics between their fingers, throw a batik over their shoulders, wrapping themselves in history. And when someone brings a gorgeous indigo batik up to the register, I wonder what stories will be told about this great, one-of-a-kind find and what memories will become enmeshed with the stories already woven into the fabric.

*Simone Gers began her antiques journey 35 years ago when she married Tray, an avid collector. They still have the first piece they bought together—a pegged farm table that was so decrepit it was behind the antique store—and they have been upcycling vintage finds ever since. The Gers own **Gather A Vintage Market** in Tucson, AZ, a monthly market. Simone has taught writing and literature at the college level for many years.*

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## The Unchanging Seasons of the Human Heart

by Kerri Habben

Often when I'm wearing fingerless gloves or knitted wrist-warmers, the first response I receive is "Oh, texting gloves."

I've texted twice, both times when family in another state had just emerged from surgery. I e-mail—and Alexander Graham Bell's invention continues to work well. Most of the time, more can be achieved or resolved in a short phone conversation than in numerous e-mails. Beyond that, I like hearing peoples' voices and sensing their essences.

I don't begrudge someone's fascination with today's communication methods. They amaze me, too. I rejoice in medical advances and in how social media sites lead people to help each other.

However, I am still happiest when the motion of my fingers is about more than a programmed reaction. If we are blessed with the use of hands and minds, we have precious resources. After all, the brain is the original computer.

Thus, I gravitate to double-pointed needles that look like long toothpicks and work with skinny yarn to make tiny stitches. I use them to make the hand-knit warmth that has covered peoples' wrists for centuries. The men and women, who long ago worked close to windows for light, needed fingerless gloves when the only warmth was a fireplace or sunlight. These gloves were on battlefields to better load a musket or a cannon because, somehow, there has never been

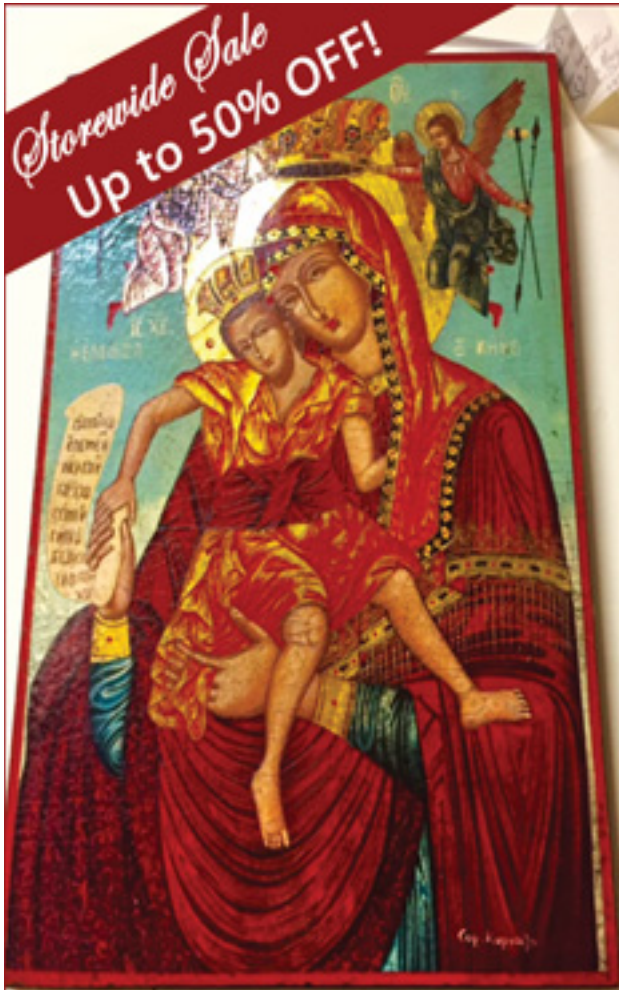
a war to end all wars. If a newspaper was to be printed, the type was once set a letter at a time. Clothing was once sewn entirely by hand since the sewing machine was yet to be invented. The cooper, who made buckets and barrels, needed steady hands—as did the wheelwright, the blacksmith and the miller. As did the spinner, the weaver and any person holding someone vulnerable and treasured. The world was as awash in uncertainty and tenderness as it is now.

At the beginning of the 1800s, the power of steam began to affect how publications were printed, how quickly fabric was woven and how far, fast and by what means people could travel. The turn of time for us today has solidified what we call the information and digital age. Then, too, the people experienced a metamorphosis in how much information they received and ultimately how they used their digits.

I knit stitch upon stitch because the first time I picked up double-pointed needles, I felt a connection to those who had lived before me. For we are very much the same.

We still grow dormant and cold in winter. We harken to spring's rebirth and its ensuing warmth. We hope through summer's emerging crops and flowers and we treasure a successful harvest in autumn. And then we start all over again, just like someone two hundred years or more years ago did.

*Continued on page 19...*



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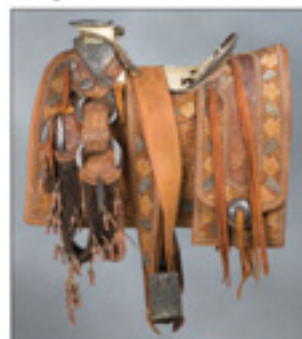
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## Lebel's High Noon Show & Auction Returns to Mesa on January 23 & 24

Brian Lebel's **High Noon Show & Auction** returns to Mesa in January to celebrate its 26th year as the Southwest's premiere event for collectors, dealers and enthusiasts of the art and collectibles of the Old West and the American western lifestyle. The weekend-long event features a Vendor Sale and a live Saturday night Auction that will showcase the very best in authentic cowboy, Indian and western art, antiques, artifacts and other fine merchandise.



*Extremely rare Buffalo Bill's Wild West Poster that will be for sale at our 26th annual auction as Lot 202, with a pre-sale estimate of \$30,000-40,000.*

The **Vendor Show** is at the Mesa Convention Center on Saturday and Sunday, January 23 and 24, and the **High Noon Auction** takes place at the adjacent Phoenix Marriott Mesa on Saturday evening beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Buy, sell and trade at the weekend shopping event—known by many as “the Mesa Show.” More than 170 dealers from around the country will offer authentic western fine art, antiques, apparel, jewelry, home goods, antique and historic firearms, books, boots, spurs, horse gear, cowboy trappings, collectibles and much more.

Show hours are: Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is free parking at the Mesa Convention Center, located at 263 N. Center Street. General admission to the show is \$10 per day with kids under 12 free. New this year is a partnership with Mesa's own United Food Bank. Attendees who bring a canned good donation receive \$3 off the price of a general admission ticket. Discount tickets and early entry tickets are available online.

On Saturday evening, the **High Noon Auction** will see over 400 lots of authentic western art and artifacts cross the block, with pre-sale estimates exceeding \$2 million. A number of auction lots boast local Arizona connections, including the sale of the contents of the Valley's mid-century saddlery, Carl Carlock Co. A color catalog is available for purchase.

Auction Preview hours are Friday, January 22, from 9 a.m.

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to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Bidding may be done live, online, by telephone or absentee. The Auction and Preview are both free and open to the public. The Phoenix Marriott Mesa is located at 200 N. Centennial Way, Mesa.

**Brian Lebel's High Noon Show & Auction's** details, Auction highlights, Show vendor lists, catalog sales, Show tickets and much more are available at: [www.oldwestevents.com](http://www.oldwestevents.com) or by calling 480-779-9378.



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*Nursery Rhyme, continued from page 10...*

the charming nursery rhyme characters pressed, under steam pressure, into the back employing an embossed metal die.

Stamping was a manufacturing technique that came into popular use in the last quarter of the 19th century. It evolved as an effective way to simulate hand carving, thereby allowing elaborate images to be inexpensively embossed into a variety of furniture. "Pressed-backs," as they are called, are often found on kitchen chairs, dining, parlor and, of course, children's furniture.

The back of this appealing rocker features a classic Victorian representation of Mother Goose, the Man-in-the-Moon and Itsy Bitsy Spider amid a background of stars—all fanciful images designed to capture a child's imagination.

The style is typical late Victorian, a form produced between



*Detail of the child's rocker back features, pressed within a scalloped cartouche, three nursery rhyme elements – Mother Goose, the Man in the Moon, and the Itsy Bitsy Spider.*

*Photo: Jay Mark*

the 1890s and WW I. The fancy knob-turned spindles and acorn finials provide decorative accents. A dished, slab-seat adds strength and durability against a child's activity. The primary wood is less expensive ash, rather than more costly oak, an indication that the rocker was meant to be affordably priced. Although originally reasonably priced, the chair reinforces the importance of a child in the home.

Regrettably, in the absence of a manufacturer's label, it is virtually impossible to determine the maker of this charming mass-produced piece of furniture. Maybe one day it will show up in an old catalogue.

Originally intended to endure youthful onslaughts, these antiques, now considered too expensive and delicate for a modern youngster's indiscretions, are generally relegated today to display only.

By the nature of their heavy use, antique children's furniture tends to survive poorly. This refinished, all original scarce rocker with its delightful pressed back nursery rhyme theme could sell for more than \$300.

**HINT:** To refinish or not to refinish is an important question. Although good original condition is always most preferred, late-Victorian furniture with industrially applied finishes in less than perfect condition, can actually see their values appreciate with a sensitive restoration.

**A GOOD BOOK:** *American Wooden Chairs 1895-1908*, introduced by Tina Skinner (Schiffer 1997, \$29.95), is a 1907 catalogue reprint of the Phoenix Chair Company of Sheboygan, Wisconsin. It provides valuable insights into the philosophy of late-Victorian seating furniture.

*Nearly an antique himself, Jay Mark, a 43-year veteran antiques business veteran owns Those Were The Days!, now an online specialty bookstore. He also teaches, lectures frequently and writes regularly about antiques. Reach him at jaymark@twtdbooks.com*

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*Unchanging Seasons, continued from page 14...*

We simply have different details that surround the passing of seasons. Details that have absolutely nothing to do with the interior hopes, joys, sorrows and affirmations of the unchanging human heart.

It is all too easy to be distracted from that which means everything by that which means nothing.

Our lives are still lived one heartbeat, one breath, one blink of an eye at a time. Whether we pass that time through creating stitches or with the tap of a smart phone button, each moment builds yet upon another.

In the 21st century view, I knit "texting" gloves. But I'm also simply doing what people have done as long as winter has come. And for as long as they have hoped for a new spring.

*Kerri Habben is a writer, photographer and historian living in Raleigh, NC. An avid crocheter and knitter, she learned these skills from her grandmother and mother. She donates many of her yarn creations to those in need. Kerri has gathered a decade of essays she is working to publish. She can be reached at elhserenade@earthlink.net*



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Covered Wagon Antique Mall in Mesa is having a weekly party—a Tea Party—and you are invited! The special Tea Service is a new feature offered on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mall's "Chuck Wagon Cafe."

During the Full Luncheon Tea Service, two types of tea are served along with a variety of finger sandwiches, scones and sweets. Please call 480-577-2549 the Friday before or stop by to make your reservation.

Of course, during your tea visit, you'll want to be sure to check out the large selection of booths, showcases and bookshelves from more than 200 vendors. Offerings include a large variety of furniture, sports memorabilia, collectibles, military, vintage/retro clothing, jewelry, shabby chic—and so much more.

Even if you can't make it for Tuesdays' teas, you can still stop by the "Chuck Wagon Cafe" and enjoy a cup of coffee and a variety of light snacks when you're done shopping.

Other opportunities at **Covered Wagon** include Do It Yourself classes, such as jewelry making, furniture distressing, basic decoupage and holiday décor that are scheduled on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Supplies are always included at the class and prices vary.

Outdoor Markets on third Saturdays continue through April 16, 2016. There are also sale prices throughout the store on those weekends and great food vendors will be on hand.

*Continued on page 25...*



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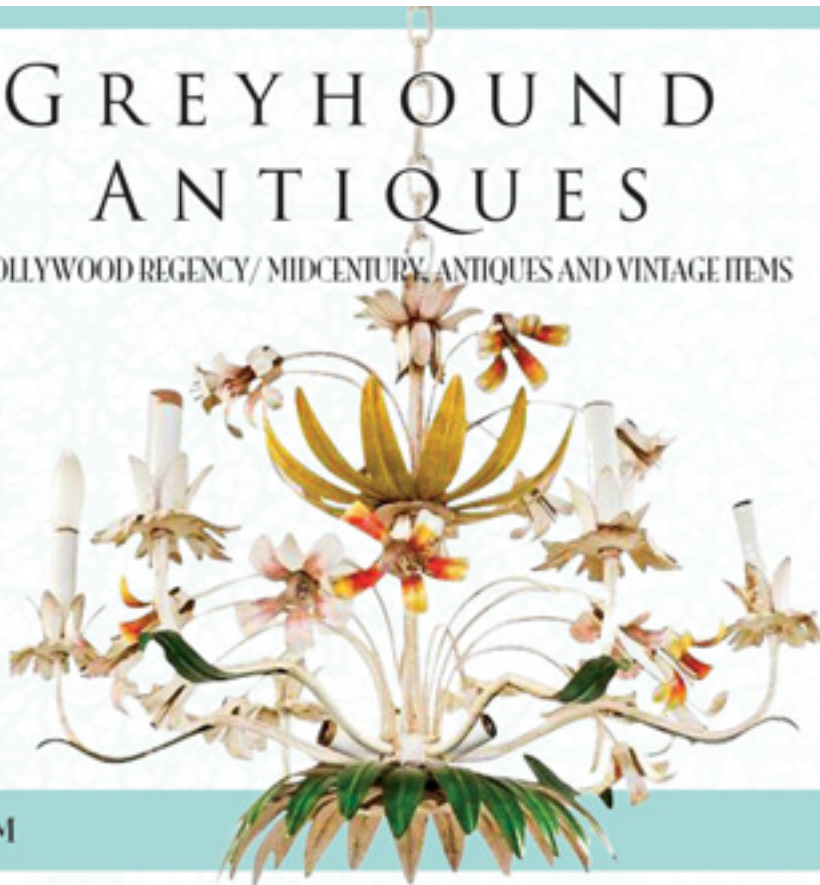
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*Covered Wagon, continued from page 23...*

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To learn more—including finding out about new arrivals, featured items and collections, special sales and other events—go to [www.coveredwagonantiquemall.com](http://www.coveredwagonantiquemall.com). You can also follow **Covered Wagon Antique Mall** on Facebook or on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/CWAntiquemall>, email [coveredwagonantiquemall@gmail.com](mailto:coveredwagonantiquemall@gmail.com) or call 480-355-1554.

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- Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> (Small Business Saturday)
- Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>
- Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>
- Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>
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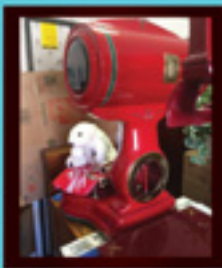
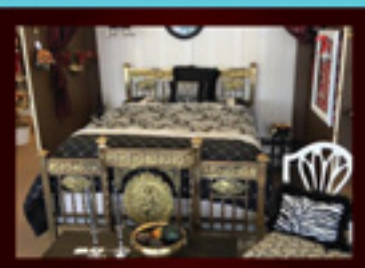
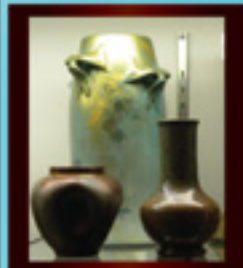


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## 20th Annual Antiques Seminar Presented by Questers in February

by Jay Mark

Being a knowledgeable antiques collector in this Internet age, when information is bandied about with abandon, is critical to avoiding mistakes. Although there is accurate information on the Net, the Web is also full of misinformation.

One of the best ways to learn is from the experts themselves—especially since the Internet is rapidly supplanting books and periodicals as the traditional place where antiquers have traditionally sought knowledge.

For the past two decades, the Hayden's Ferry Questers in Tempe has stepped in to fill a vacuum by bringing the best antiques specialists in Arizona together with antiques enthusiasts for a lively series of seminars.

The popular tradition continues every Tuesday in February from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Tempe History Museum Program Room, 809 E. Southern Ave., Tempe. The series' cost is \$45 and individual sessions are \$15. For advance tickets or additional information, contact Julie Ramsey, 480-838-2414 or Ruth Lancaster, 480-839-1729. Tickets can be purchased at the door, however, class sizes are limited.



*The 1892 historic Petersen House in Tempe is the beneficiary of the proceeds from the 20th Annual Hayden Ferry's Questers Antiques Seminar beginning in February. City of Tempe*

Each night, participants will enjoy two one-hour presentations taught by recognized experts in their fields. It's like having your own personal *Antiques Roadshow* appraiser to educate and answer questions—all without having to wait in line.

Session topics this year include:  
February 2, 2016 Baseball in the Salt River Valley; 1880-1900 John D. Tenney is an Arizona Native who lives and works in Mesa, Arizona. He has written a book on baseball history during the Arizona Territorial Period. He collects antique baseball artifacts and baseball cards. In his spare time he makes, by hand, authentic 1860 Lemon-peel baseballs.

Remember Those Paint by Numbers Masterpieces?

Nancy Holmes will cover a history of paint-by-numbers and include some interesting and funny facts about their development, sales promotion and growth in popularity. Remember some of the slogans such as "every man a Rembrandt!" and "A beautiful oil painting the first time you try."

February 9, 2016 Evolution and Unique Aspect of Helmets

Mike Harlow owns a small business called "Phoenix Flight Gear" that sells and maintains pilot flight gear. He has a large collection of historical flight helmets that he shows at major aviation events. He works with many collectors and "pen-pals" all over the world exchanging parts and collectables to grow his collection.

"Stop that Door!" Collecting Doorstops

Doris Palmer will share the fascinating and little-known history of doorstops. She will offer tips on how to identify reproductions

*Continued on page 30...*

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*Questers Seminars, continued from page 29...*

from originals. You will be surprised at the high costs of vintage doorstops as you view examples through a power point presentation. BRING YOUR OWN VINTAGE DOORSTOPS to add to the display table.

February 16, What is a Code Talker?

Susan McMichael was born and raised in Arizona. Susan writes homespun tales of a four generation family that came to Arizona in territorial days. As a result of her long ties to Arizona, she has an abiding interest in Indians of the Southwest, their art and artifacts.

Susan has been a docent at the Heard Museum for 10 years. One of the most popular exhibits at the Heard in recent years was called Native Words, Warriors, and the story of the Navajo Code Talkers. Susan will bring this story to us.

Lavender Fiestaware

Sherry Gillis is a member of Hayden's Ferry Questers and is a collector of Fiestaware. Sherry will share her collection with us. She will tell us about her most unusual collection of Lavender Fiestaware and how she got the collection.

February 23, 2016

Antique and Vintage Hats


Sandi Dimitro a member of Questers has, for thirty years, been an interior designer and that lead her to become a dealer for antique and vintage hats. Sandi will tell us about her wonderful collection and the history of her collection.

Millinery items, Hatpins and Hatpin Holders

Patricia Riggs, a member of Hayden's Ferry Questers, will tell how the fashionable ladies of the Titanic era kept their hats neatly and securely on their heads. Pat, a long time millinery collector, will take you through the history of hatpins, demonstrate how they were used, and display a selection of various hatpins and hatpin holders. Other millinery items, related ephemera, and hair ornaments will also be shown and explained.

Founded in 1944, the International Questers was created "...to further knowledge and education about antiques, and to encourage the preservation, restoration and conservation of historic buildings, sites and antiquities."

Since 1997, Hayden's Ferry, a local chapter of Questers International in Tempe, has been offering Antiques Seminars that raise money to support the Petersen House Museum in Tempe. Through the seminars, and grants from the Arizona State Questers and International Questers, more than \$50,000 has been raised for restoration and maintenance of the historic home.




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## Salvage Style

## Small Coffee Bar

by Mara Wilson

Coffee and wine bars are very popular right now. I chose to make a small version, so it would fit in most kitchens or dining rooms. I used a small console cabinet, but a chest of drawers or other type of cabinet will work just as well. Old buffets make great bars.

I cut a piece of an old panel door so it would be the appropriate height when attached to the cabinet. An old window would make a good alternative. A scrap piece of lumber serves as the shelf on top and the table legs hold the shelf in place. Paint all parts before assembling. I chose to paint this one a cream color with brown accents. I used stenciling to decorate it, but you could just leave it plain or use some other painting or staining technique.

Use screws to attach the shelf on top of the door piece. Set the door piece on top of the cabinet and secure it with two braces screwed



Continued on page 36...

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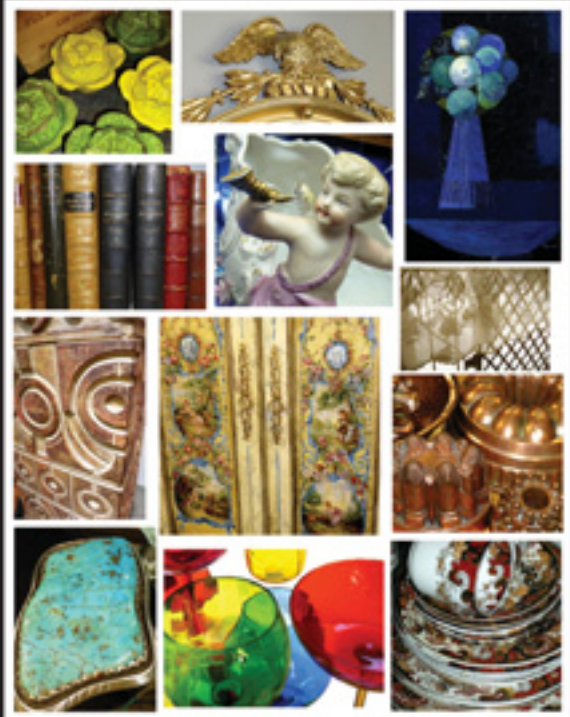




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*Small Coffee Bar, continued from page 33...*

on the back of the cabinet. Cut the table legs or spindles to fit from the shelf to the top of the cabinet. Screw down through the shelf into the table legs and then up through the top of the cabinet into the table legs. (from inside the cabinet) I attached mug hooks on the under side of the shelf.

Material List:

Small cabinet Old door

Table legs or spindles

Scrap lumber for shelf and back braces

Paint

Mug hooks

Marla Wilson is the owner of *The Rusty Wheel*, a gift boutique in Scandia, KS. The shop features her floral designs and repurposed "junk," as well as kitchen and baby gifts, home decor and fashion accessories. Follow *The Rusty Wheel* on Facebook, or [www.therustywheel.vpweb.com](http://www.therustywheel.vpweb.com) or contact her at [stumpy1954@hotmail.com](mailto:stumpy1954@hotmail.com).

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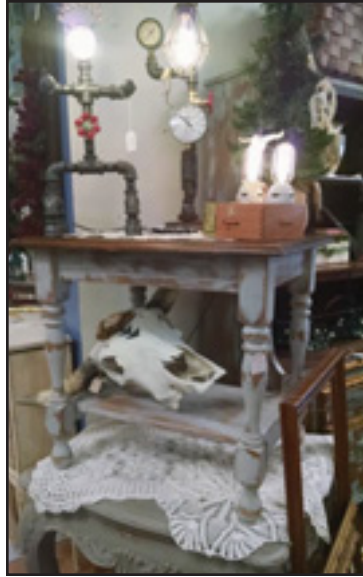
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Home to 53 creative Team Members, Decorators and Curators in a 5,500 square foot store, **3 Vintage Chicks** has a multitude of talent and an amazing selection of products—from Shabby Chic, Industrial, Eccentric to Mid-modern and Farmhouse. There is also plenty of home décor, hand-made signs, soaps, jewelry and clothing.

The shop's designers are always bringing in new items, so you'll find something new almost daily. If you can't find it, they can make it for you. It's their job to delight you with great service and designs. That's what makes **3 Vintage Chicks**

more than a shop—it's a destination. There is an in-house design center (Vintage Finds & Designs) that can help any customer with the dilemmas of decorating, placing furniture, adding color to their homes or a complete design makeover.

**3 Vintage Chicks** started out in January 2014 in 2,400 square foot and expanded its size twice in three months. Customers were so thrilled with the shopping experience, prices and variety that it made good business sense to expand and provide even more to choose from.

Branding itself with a special monthly themed event called Chicks Night Out was an innovative addition to the shop's offerings. It's a happy experience with music, food, wine, loads of laughs and, of course, lots of shopping. The motto is, "Friends don't let friends go to Chicks Night Out alone." It's not just for chicks so bring a friend, hubby or buddy and hang out on the 2nd Friday of every month from 5 to 9 p.m.

Creative Team Members redesign their spaces to reflect each new theme set by Owner Sue Nadeau. The GoGo GaGa, a mobile boutique truck selling clothing and accessories, is set up outside the shop's front door. Wine, coffee, food and desserts are served, making these events amazing shopping experiences—and quite the "parties." These events began in January 2015 and have grown to attract more than 100 monthly attendees—and there is plenty of parking.

The shop is proud to be the only Arizona retailer of FAT Paint, a chalk-style paint for artisans and wanna-be artisans.

*Continued on page 40...*

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*3 Vintage Chicks, continued from page 39...*

This paint comes in 34 different colors and in three sizes—a sample size, pint and quart. They also carry waxes, a top coat, glazes and brushes. They offer FREE Chalk\*tail paint demo classes where you can paint with the FAT Paint product, ask questions and receive tips. It's a free fun class where you can sip a little and chew the FAT.

There is lots planned for 2016 and you are invited to be part of the journey. Sue says, "We are always striving to bring our customers the best we can and to provide top notch customer service. We have a fun and relaxing shopping atmosphere at **3 Vintage Chicks**, plus we give out popcorn and play great music."

Located at 13012 N. Cave Creek Road (the NW corner of Sweetwater & Cave Creek Road) in Phoenix, **3 Vintage Chicks** is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. More information can be found at [www.3vintagechicks.com](http://www.3vintagechicks.com) where you can sign up for their monthly newsletter and shop, by calling 602-237-5386 or on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest.




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## Poppy's Brown Coat

by Kerri Habben

To a grown-up, the brown coat was merely that—a brown coat. To a six-year-old afraid of many things, it was a knight's armor.

To others, the man who wore the coat was merely a man.

To a six-year-old, the man was a knight.

Wearing his brown coat, he wrapped the six-year-old in its furry fabric on winter days when the school bus was late. He kept away little dogs and big dogs—and for those things he was a hero.

As the six-year-old grew, the knight aged, and she saw that he was actually a man with a big battle to wage. Eventually the armor that had stretched across broad shoulders hung on a shrinking body. The day came when the man and the knight spent much of the time in a chair that wheeled him from room to room.

The knight's body grew too tired to fight anymore and, at the end of one year and the beginning of the next, he fell asleep for the last time and met his King, whom he had served faithfully all the days of his life.

But this is a story about a coat, a brown coat with furry fabric inside. The coat lingered inside a closet for a few seasons and then a few more until the day the girl wrapped herself in the coat one last time.

The coat was placed among clothing to be given away. The brown coat with furry fabric inside would keep somebody warm, which was what the man and the knight would have wanted.

A woman found the coat on a rack at the corner donation store. She knew that it wouldn't truly suit her, but it was the warmest coat there. She had ten blocks to walk to work—a stroll in the springtime, a struggle against the wind in the wintertime.

She wore the coat for three winters. It hung on a hanger during the spring she received a promotion at work and she had just taken it out during the next fall when she was offered a job in a place warmer where she would rarely need the brown coat.

So, on her last day's ten-block walk from one building to another, knowing the nights were cold, she left the coat beside a man sleeping in an alley.

As the night darkened and the autumn air chilled, the man huddled in the coat. He wondered who had left the coat beside him, but he was happy to be warm. As he sat, immersed in the brown coat, he remembered other feelings of being warm. The sturdy walls of a house he'd once lived in, the aroma of pot roast and mashed potatoes, and the soft strands of long hair of the woman he loved.

Across the alley, a small child watched the man in the coat. The man studied the child's thin coat and smiled gently as he opened the coat.

They sat cocooned together—the brown coat their armor against the night.

Somewhere, the girl remembered the knight as she fell asleep beneath the cover. Somewhere, the woman tucked her children in and remembered the dark nights.

And, somewhere, to the child, the man was the knight and the brown coat was an armor that kept away big dogs and little dogs.

*Kerri Habben is a writer, photographer and historian living in Raleigh, NC. Also an avid crocheter and knitter, Kerri learned these skills from her grandmother and mother. She donates many of her yarn creations to those in need. A published writer for nearly twenty years, Kerri is currently gathering a decade of essays into a book. She can be reached at khwriter@outlook.com. She says, "I wrote this partially imaginative story in memory of my grandfather, who passed away on New Year's Day 26 years ago. He is forever a knight in the now grown-up heart of his grateful granddaughter."*

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## Phoenix Antiques, Bottles & Collectibles Club Annual Antique Show & Sale, February 26 & 27

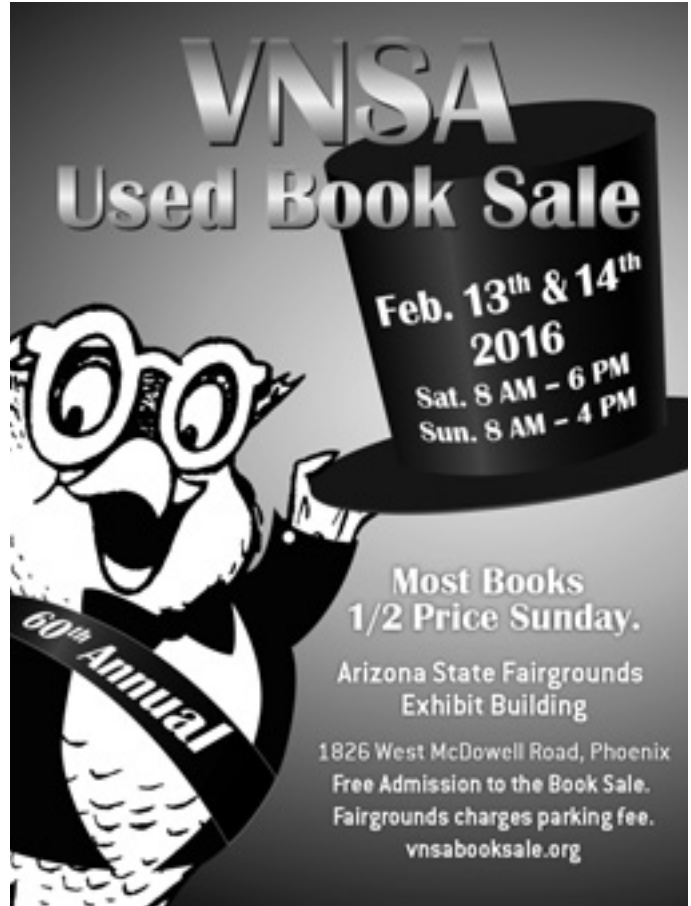
The Phoenix Antiques, Bottles and Collectibles Club will be holding its 33rd Annual Antique Show and Sale on February 26 and 27 at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix.

Antique dealers as well as club members will be selling a variety of items such as Blakely Gas Station giveaways from the 50s and 60s, Arizona collectibles, Depression glass, bottles (soda, dairy, pharmacy and more), railroad items, lanterns, breweriana, advertising, linens, dolls, tools, china, mining, kitchenware, paper goods and a whole lot more. Please see the ad in this issue of The Antique Register for times and discount coupons on your admission.

This small collectors club's first show was held in 1982 at the Arizona Coliseum in the Exhibit Building sharing space with the Gem and Mineral Show. It evolved into an independent antique show designed to bring awareness of the club to others and allow members the chance to liquidate some of their unwanted items. What originally began as a bottle show is now a full-blown antique show.

Members of the public are invited to come and meet people who share their same passions and interests. Club members are knowledgeable in many areas of collecting. Some have spent hours researching, writing books, cataloguing, photographing

*Continued on page 48...*



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## Rinker on Collectibles

## Antiques, Collectibles &amp; Murder Mysteries

by Harry Rinker

There is a wealth of titles, new and old, for those individuals who wish to combine antiques and collectibles and a murder mystery. Reading them will introduce the reader to a number of antiques and collectibles' cozy mystery series, their characters and the authors who create them. This column focuses first on new titles and second on older titles, fortunately still in print.

Reading all five of the following books will brighten what's left of your holiday season and well into the New Year. Cozy antiques and collectibles mysteries are gifts that keep on giving—one I am delighted to share with you.

[**Author's Aside #1:** Each author has her own unique writing style, which is one of the reasons I look forward to each new title as it appears. The characters in these cozy antiques and collectibles mysteries have become family. Yet, they are family members I would avoid visiting in real life. Death has a strange habit of knocking at their doors.]

Jane Cleland's *Ornaments of Death*, published by Minotaur Books, is the tenth cozy mystery in the Josie Prescott Mystery Series. For information about Jane Cleland and the full series, visit [www.janecleland.net](http://www.janecleland.net).

Ian Bennington, a distant English relative who discovered his relationship with Josie while doing family genealogy research on Arabella Churchill, a mistress of King James

II, knocks on the door of Prescott's Antiques as Josie and the staff are preparing for the Christmas holiday. Locating and authenticating period miniatures of King James II and Arabella Churchill is the crux of the story. Ian's appearance will be limited to one novel. He is murdered shortly after his initial visit with Josie.

Rocky Point (fictional but real in the minds of the series readers), New Hampshire, is picture-postcard perfect in its winter setting. Seasonal New England is a treasure trove location for writers.

The relationship between the series characters has matured greatly. In most cozy mystery series, the amateur sleuth heroine's relationship with the local police is tenuous. Chief Ellis and several of the officers rely, respect, and encourage Josie's professional expertise. Josie's relationship with Wes, a local reporter, creates an information conduit, albeit it is not clear who is the beneficiary—Josie, Wes or the local police who seem to use the conduit as an off the record pipeline.

As with most cozy mysteries, *Ornaments of Death* is an easy read. Once I start an antiques and collectibles cozy mystery, I often finish it in a single read. This is not to suggest these books are short in length. *Ornaments of Death* is over 200 pages.

Continued on page 49...



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PABCC, continued from page 45...

and seeking out items for their collections and they love to share what they have learned with others. You won't find a better or more knowledgeable group of folks anywhere.

Club meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Heritage Heights Clubhouse, 3030 E. Mission Lane in Phoenix (32nd Street south of the 51). Programs include members making presentations on specific collection or guest speakers on Arizona history and legends. Past topics have been on just about anything you can imagine that falls into the antique and/or collectible categories. Guests are always welcome. To learn more, visit [www.phoenixantiquesclub.org](http://www.phoenixantiquesclub.org).

Table space is still available at February's Show and Sale. If you are interested, please email [BettChem@cox.net](mailto:BettChem@cox.net) for dealer information.



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Antique Register	Phoenix	AZ	602-255-1000	



*Mysteries, continued from page 47...*

*White Colander Crime* by Victoria Hamilton, a pseudonym for Donna Lea Simpson, is a new title in A Vintage Mystery Series, its fifth. It is published by Berkley Prime Crime, an imprint of Penguin Random House. See: [www.victoriahamiltonmysteries.com](http://www.victoriahamiltonmysteries.com).

Queensville, a northern Michigan town just across the border from Canada, is the setting for the series. Jayne Leighton, vintage cookware collector and food columnist, is the heroine. She and a group of other volunteers are celebrating the restoration of the Queensville Historic Manor, a polite name for old Dumpe [I love puns] homestead. The grand opening takes place during the Queensville Dickens Days celebration.

Like all cozy antiques and collectibles mystery novels, *White Colander Crime* is a standalone book—that is to say, you do not have to read the previous novels in the series to enjoy and understand it. However, the cast of character in A Vintage Mystery Series is large and back-story references occur frequently. Hamilton's wide variety of characters with their many foibles and faults lends a real life aspect to the story. While I continue to like Valetta, the postmistress at the Queensville Emporium, I chuckle every time I encounter the volunteers of the Queensville Historic Manor. Having spent more than 15 years as a museum professional, I can attest to Hamilton's ability to capture the mindsets of the individuals involved, a primary reason why I left the field.

Jayne is in her third romance in five novels. Like many of the antiques and collectibles cozy mystery series heroines, one of her early romances was with a member of the local constabulary. This time it is with a rugged, individualist with a young daughter. While children are an element in a number of antiques and collectibles cozy mystery series, they are like boyfriends or husbands—out of sight and out of mind. In this case, the young lady is very much part of the story. Adding a child creates a new twist, something that is also likely happening in Lea Wait's *An Antique Print Mystery* series.

The annual Christmas offering from Barbara Allan, the pseudonym for the husband and wife team of Barbara and Max Allan Collins, is published as an eBook and available on Amazon. *Antiques St. Nicked* is a novelette in A Trash 'n' Treasure Mystery series. Kensington Publishing Corporation is the publisher. For more information about the full series, see [www.barbaraallan.com](http://www.barbaraallan.com).

Brandy and her mother Vivian Bourne are the primary characters—characters being the correct terminology to describe them. Much of the story is written in the first person in a conversational style, primarily narrated by Brandy. In this short chapter novella, Vivian is only allowed one of the five chapters.

In *Serenity* [another pun of sorts], Mississippi, during a downtown Christmas walk, Santa Claus is murdered. Although a novella, enough potential murderers are introduced for the story to have the usual surprise ending. Many of the supporting characters, including Dumpster Dan, from the novel titles are present. Tony, Brandy's boyfriend who just happens to be a police officer, is more fully developed in this story.

[Author's Aside #2: I owned a Kindle for more than a year. I have it charged but still have not downloaded a book. I am technology resistant. However, I delighted in finding and installing an internet program that allows me to download

*Continued on page 52...*

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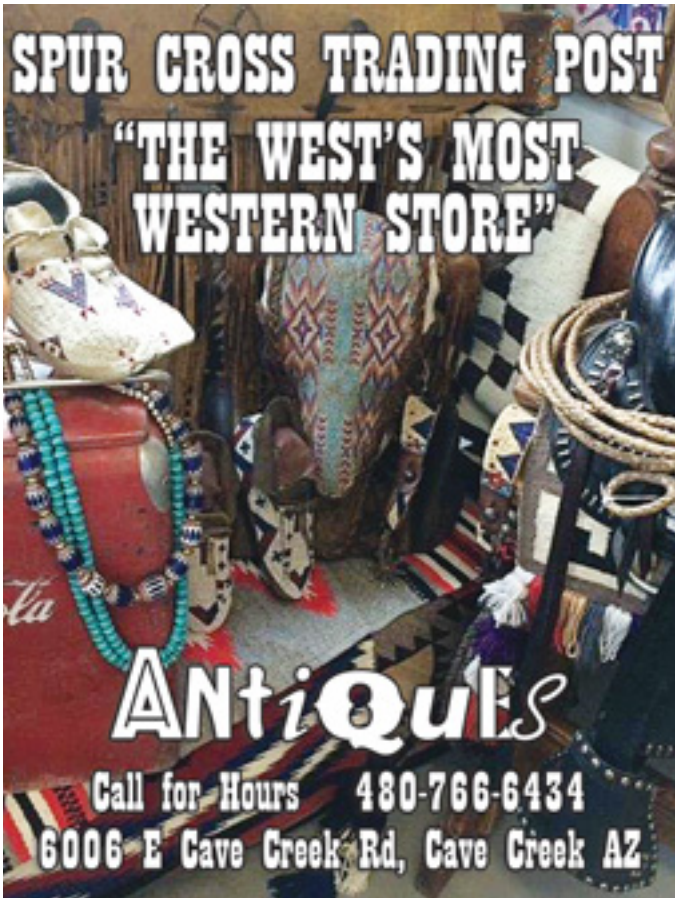
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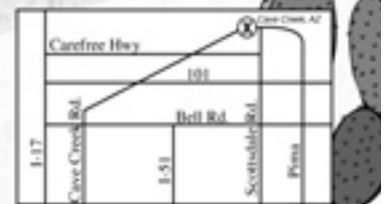
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*Mysteries, continued from page 49...*

eBook files onto my main computer, thus allowing me to read the eBook file sent to me by the Allan's publicist.]

*Antiques St. Nicked* also includes a chapter from *Antiques Fate*, the next A Trash 'n' Treasure Mystery scheduled for publication in spring 2016. I look forward to reading it.

Although published in 2014 by Perseverance Press, Lea Wait's *Shadows on a Maine Christmas*, a title in An Antique Print Mystery series, is a worthy addition to the title list. The next title in the series is due in spring 2016. In the interim, Lea is focusing on developing her Mainely Needlepoint Mystery series. Lea's publisher also is the Kensington Publishing Corporation. See: [www.leawait.com](http://www.leawait.com).

In my 2015 Summer Read "Rinker on Collectibles," I introduced readers to books by Mary Kay Andrews. Eloise "Weezie" Foley and her friend BeBe Loudermilk are the central characters. Andrews offers two holiday titles—*Blue Christmas* (2006) published by Harper Collins and *Christmas Bliss* (2013), published by Saint Martin's Press. For information about Mary Kay Andrews' titles see [www.marykayandrews.com](http://www.marykayandrews.com).

The BeBe and Weezie series is set in Savannah; the charm of the city's historic district is captured in exquisite detail. *Blue Christmas* focuses around a rivalry between local antiques and collectibles shops and other merchants to win the "best decorated shop exterior" annual prize. Unlike the cozy antiques and collectibles mystery titles in the other series, there is no dead body in either of Andrews' Christmas stories.

*Christmas Bliss* centers on the preparations for Weezie's wedding to Daniel, a chef who is working on loan to a New York City restaurant, and the birth of BeBe's child by her live-in boyfriend Harry. There is a feeling of finality to the story. One gets the impression that this is the last encounter with BeBe and Weezie. Given Andrews' writing ability, the loss is deeply felt.

You can listen and participate in, *Harry Rinker's antiques and collectibles radio call-in 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 on the Internet at [www.gcnlive.com](http://www.gcnlive.com). Copyright © Harry L. Rinker, LLC 2015





## Collecting Children's Books Showcases Finest Volumes & Artwork from 1900s

Krause publications announce the November release of the new hardcover volume, *Collecting Children's Books: Art, Memories, Values*, by husband and wife team, Noah Fleisher and Lauren Zittle.

It highlights some of the finest books and accompanying artwork from 1900 to the present in a warm, informative and exquisite fashion, reminding us all of the joy found in this transcendent genre.

From *Winnie-the-Pooh* to *Curious George*, *Alice in Wonderland* to *Mary Poppins*, and from *The Poky Little Puppy* to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, the book is a treasure trove of remarkable—and highly collectible—children's literature.

"The world of Children's Books is such a rich and wonderful subject, we jumped at the chance to write it when we were asked," said co-author Noah Fleisher, who also serves as the editor of *Warman's Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide*. He continued, "A survey of the form, like this one, is long overdue. What we've striven to create with this overview, while knowing there's so much more to uncover, is a celebration of the books we all loved as kids and which we all love reading to our own children and grandchildren."

The book also explores the significant value that some first edition books and original art can carry, likely sending readers running for their bookshelves or those boxes in the garage where they stored their old books. For instance: a First Edition of *Where the Wild Things Are* sold for an impressive \$8,400, while Garth Williams' original *Charlotte's Web* book cover illustration sold for a jaw-dropping \$155,350 at auction. First Edition editions of classic like *Curious George* can net strong five figure prices realized, such as the copy that sold for \$26,290 shown in the book.

This delightful hardcover book features more than 100 years of classic and collectible Children Books. It includes: values for signed and unsigned First Edition works; 500 color images; original art from such masters as Garth Williams (*Charlotte's Web*, *Stuart Little*), Maurice Sendak (*Where the Wild Things Are*) and Dr. Seuss; collecting tips and what to look for when buying. There are also lists of suggested readings by era for those seeking to rediscover the pleasure—and value—found in children's literature.

"These books have delighted generations of the young and the young at heart with amazing adventure, timeless storytelling and incredible illustrations that remain indelibly inked on the brains of readers, said co-author Lauren Zittle. "We hope you find this to be a beautifully illustrated and informative salute to the form that we love so much."

The book is 8" x 8", 224 pages, in full-color, retails for \$26.99 and will be available in bookstores and online at most book retailers.



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### Rinker on Collectibles

## What Is the Best Thing You Have Owned?

by Harry L. Rinker

I received an email from Joanna Reeves, subeditor/editor newspaper supplements for APL Media Limited in London, asking if she could email me a few questions regarding my opinions about current and past developments “for collectibles.” While loath to do another reporter’s work (I prefer the reporter interview me and write his-her own piece—after all, the reporter is the one being paid), I reluctantly agreed. I was momentarily caught off guard after reading the third question, “What is the best thing that you’ve owned?”

This question is similar to another I am often asked when being interviewed, “If there was a fire, what is the one thing you would save?” If my spouse is sitting next to me during the interview, a quick look at her eyes and body posture sends the message, “You had better say you would take me.” As you might suspect, this is not what I would say. My spouse is smart enough to figure out how to get out on her own. I would grab something. The exact object is irrelevant at the moment. My deepest wish is that my spouse does the same. It is better to save two goodies than one.

If Linda was sitting next to me when I was asked what is the best thing I owned, she would expect me to pick her. In all honesty, I would be tempted to do exactly that. Linda is a keeper, and I look forward to a long life with her. The problem is that such a response or attitude is totally unacceptable in this age of political correctness. The concept that one person

*Continued on next page...*

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*Best Thing, continued from previous page...*

“owns” another is an anathema. For better and for worse implies commitment not ownership. As a result, responding “Linda” to the reporter’s question is not possible.

When teaching advanced composition at Davenport University, I tell my students that critical reading leads to critical thinking, which results in critical writing. When asked what is the best thing you have owned, the question, being in a past tense, implies what is the best thing you once owned but no longer own. Phrased in the present tense, the question is what is the best thing you own? Is this what the reporter meant to ask? Since the reporter was on deadline (reporters always are on deadline when they contact you), there was no time to ask for clarification.

I accepted the challenge and thought about the best object or objects I once owned, no longer owned and miss. Loss is a difficult concept for collectors. True collectors—those who do not deal to support their collecting habit—are scarce. At the time of purchase, these collectors assume they are going to die owning the object(s).

Occasionally, for one reason or another, the collector reluctantly parts with an object or objects. The decision is painstaking. Regret haunts the collector for eternity. “When it is gone, it is gone” is not an easy concept to accept. Letting go of an object or objects is easier than letting go of the memories. Memories linger.

Until I sold The School (the former Vera Cruz [PA] elementary school), I could count on two hands the number of objects or collections I sold. Unable to fit the objects I had housed in the available 14,000 square feet at The School into a 2,800 square foot house in Michigan, I worked with Kevin Smith of K.D. Auctions in Allentown to dispose of objects I left behind. Two years into the process, the end is in sight.

Needing to answer the reporter’s “have ever owned” question, I made a short list of objects that when I think about them, I experience a brief moment of sadness. To my surprise, the objects fell into two categories—objects with great stories and objects I knew would mean more to another than to me.

The first object that came to mind was a wonderful American 1820s-1830s Country Sheraton painted settee that sat in the living room when I lived in a home located on Third Avenue in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, which I rented from the West Side Moravian Church. I love it because of its rock hard seat, one that became excruciating uncomfortable after a person or persons sat on it for longer than 15 to 20 minutes. I made no effort to alleviate the situation by adding a cushion. Its purpose was simple. When guests in whom I have limited interest stopped for a visit, I offered them a seat on the settee. The settee never failed in its mission. Shortly after marrying Connie, my second wife, she found the role played by the settee downright inhospitable. I viewed it as highly functional. There are some spousal discussions where compromise is not an alternative. Connie eventually issued an ultimatum—she or the settee. To this day, I wonder about the correctness of my decision at the time.

Eventually, Connie and I moved from Third Avenue in Bethlehem to a solar-powered home designed and built to our specifications that was located atop Carl’s Hill in Zionsville, Pennsylvania. Our solar home did not use solar panels. Instead, it used a passive solar system using building mass, a single wood stove, window quilts, landscaping and location to control the flow of warm and cold air.

Our solar home was large, almost 2,000 square feet. Even so, space was limited, especially in the living room area. The furniture was a combination of nineteenth century Pennsylvania

*Continued on page 57...*



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*Best Thing, continued from page 55...*

German pieces, a few “formal” Victorian items and a contemporary couch. When a decision was made to acquire a coffee table to sit in front of the couch, I was determined to find something of antiques origin rather than purchase a contemporary fantasy Colonial Revival piece. The answer turned out to be a child’s funeral pyre, one that was used to support a child’s coffin during a home viewing. It was the ideal size. There was legroom underneath. All that was required was a piece of glass cut to fit on top of it. An adult coffin support pyre was too big. A similar devise used to transport the carcass of a pig or cow when butchering was done on a farm was too bulky in appearance.

The coffee table was the perfect conversation piece. When new guests arrived, I could hardly wait for the inevitable tell us about your coffee table question. The reactions ranged from neat to gross. [Author’s Aside: The unusual coffee table also housed a medical device—an antique rectal examiner. I reserve the stories associated with questions asked by guests about this for another time.]

In 2000, when I moved to the bachelor pad I created at The School, the coffee table went into storage. It did not fit into the 1950s/1960s turquoise, copper and chrome theme for the living room. What did fit was a “U” shaped turquoise covered kitchen nook set that belonged to my Aunt Doris Bebb. Think corner booth in a 1950s/1960s diner. When Aunt Doris renovated her kitchen in the 1980s, she stored it rather than throwing it out. God Bless the Pennsylvania Germans—they never throw out anything. Although not part of the original plan, it fit perfectly in the area set aside for a 1950s Formica table and chair set. Since it was “built in,” I had no choice but to leave it behind when I sold The School. The memories of sitting in the booth at Aunt Doris’s house and The School will remain until I die.

The settee, child’s coffin pyre, and kitchen nook represent objects with great stories. To end properly, this column needs a something-I-once-owned-that-meant-more-to-someone-else-than-it-did-to-me story.

While there are several such objects on my list, the one that stands out is my Mickey Mantle rookie card. The teeth in my mouth are capped and filled with silver or composite fillings for one primary reason—the bubble gum I chewed with relish when collecting bubble gum cards, known today as sport and non-sport trading cards, in the early 1950s. I kept my bubble gum card treasures in two cigar boxes, far more interested in the Hopalong Cassidy and western card sets than I was in the football and baseball players.

In the late 1980s or early 1990s—I do not remember the exact year—I found something I wanted, remembered a baseball card collector’s offer to buy my cards if I ever wanted to sell them and decided to part with the cards in order to acquire the desired object. I was aware the pile included a Mantle rookie card. The collector paid a fair price. Neither of us foresaw the value rise potential of the Mantle card. I was happy. The collector was happy. It was a good deal. To this day, the collector profusely thanks me every time he sees me.

This story always brings a smile to my face. Its importance ranks close to the story about the \$3,000.00 I turned down for the first Hummel Christmas plate in the late 1980s based on the mistaken assumption that if the plate was worth \$3,000.00 then, it would most certainly be worth much more in the future. Dumb as dumb does is a favorite saying among the Pennsylvania Germans.

What is the “best thing you have ever owned?” Email your story or stories to [harrylinker@aol.com](mailto:harrylinker@aol.com).

*You can listen and participate in WHATCHA GOT?, Harry Rinker’s antiques and collectibles radio call-in 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 on the Internet at [www.gcnlive.com](http://www.gcnlive.com). Copyright © Harry L. Rinker, LLC, 2015*



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*Ornaments of Death* is the tenth book in Jane K. Cleland's critically acclaimed Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series [St. Martin's Minotaur]. Prescott, an antiques appraiser-turned-amateur sleuth, once blew the whistle on a price-fixing scandal that rocked the high-end antiques auction houses in New York City. She then relocated to New Hampshire to start a new life, founding her own business in the coastal town of Rocky Point.

Cleland's fictional debut, the IMBA bestselling and multiple-award nominated *Consigned to Death*, introduced her resourceful protagonist and was selected by Library Journal as a "core title" for librarians looking to build a cozy collection.

In *Ornaments of Death*, the story opens when Josie receives an early Christmas present—she is contacted by Englishman Ian Bennington who says he is a long-lost cousin. Ian sold his

*Continued on next page...*



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*Ornaments of Death, continued from previous page...*

business for a huge amount and, after taking up genealogy, found that he and Josie were distantly related through Arabella Churchill, mistress of King James II. He tells her he owns exquisite miniature watercolor portraits of these notable ancestors, which he has given to his daughter Becca, a marine biologist specializing in clams, who is working in Boston.

Ian is warmly welcomed at Josie's annual holiday party so when he later misses a date with one of her friends, then is a no-show for a lunch with Josie herself, she reports him missing. However, there is nothing the police can do. Once Ian's body is found—he has been killed in a hit-and-run—Josie works with her friend Ellis, the Rocky Point police chief, to find out what happened.

Shock follows shock as Josie and

the police make stunning discoveries. Using her knowledge of antiques—and people—, she is able to solve the crime. In addition, in doing so, she discovers the true meaning of family—and of Christmas.

*Publishers Weekly* says, "Fascinating tidbits about collectibles, along with evocative descriptions of New Hampshire in winter, elevate Cleland's 10th Josie Prescott Antiques mystery. Distinctive characters, including Josie's Maine coon cat, Hank, help make this holiday cozy a winner."

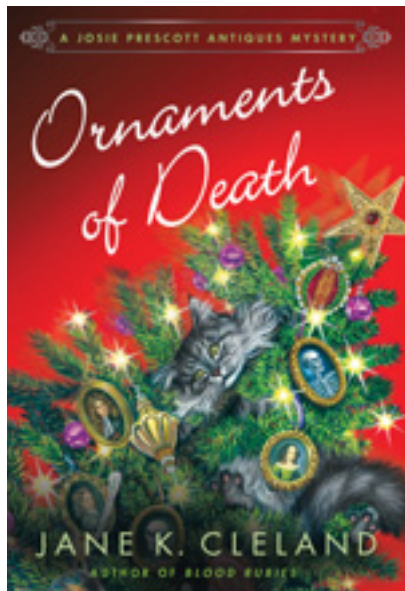
Often reviewed as an *Antiques Roadshow* for mystery fans, Jane Cleland's series marries antiques lore seamlessly with fair-play mystery puzzles. This book, like all of the books in the series, stands alone, but for series readers, it's fun to see the evolution of the familiar stable of characters. It is especially interesting to see how the romance with Josie's boyfriend, Ty, is developing and how she counts on her good friend Hank, the cat, for wisdom and guidance.

*Ornaments of Death* can be purchased from your local bookstore or online. For more information, including book club discussion questions and a free, fun antiques appraisal challenge, "What's It Worth? You Be the Judge!", visit [www.janecleland.com](http://www.janecleland.com).

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