

Arizona's  
**ANTIQUE REGISTER**

Vol 23 - Issue 5 A Guide to the Antique, Vintage & Collectible Marketplace Nov-Dec 2019



**Visit Savale in the  
Heart of Old Town Scottsdale**  
*Story on page 3...*

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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## Savale in the Heart of Old Town Scottsdale Has Antiques, Flowers, Premier Paint & More

Located in the heart of Old Town Scottsdale, **Savale Antiques** offers beauty and charm through antiques, decorative paint and florals.

Owner Lisa Savale opened her business in April 2015 so she could provide things to her clients that make their lives beautiful—fine antiques, decorative premier paints, unique jewelry and custom florals. Lisa says she loves helping others create spaces that reflect their personal style.



Lisa has always enjoyed creating and decorating and has a huge appreciation for beautiful furniture. She has a Fine Arts degree with a minor in Art History and has always loved sculpture, painting and textiles. She managed *Trouve*, a high-end antique store and boutique for 15 years.

Being artistic runs in her family; her brother is an artist and her grandmother was an excellent painter. A long time passion of Lisa's is designing

custom florals. She started doing flowers for family weddings with her friend, Barbie Moody, over 10 years ago and their collaboration has flourished ever since.

**Savale's** two-story building has a rich history. In the 1940s, the building served as a family's workshop. In the 1960s, it was a go-to location for quilters and seamstresses called the Knitting Store. In the 1990s, it transitioned to well-known Interior Designers who used it as their office/warehouse space. Now Lisa is thankful to call the charming building her own shop. She says, "The beautifully landscaped front garden and back courtyard always makes me smile. And I love the cozy and inviting feeling people experience when they visit."

The shop proudly retails Jolie—a premier matte finish decorative paint that is extremely versatile. Hands-on paint workshops are one of Lisa's favorite ways to spend time with her clients. Everything that is needed to learn the various Jolie paint techniques is provided. Also, you could be dreaming about a dozen different things to paint in your home, but if painting isn't your thing, custom design services are offered where the painting is done for you—either in the store or in your home.

Two local antiques dealers are featured at **Savale**—Barb Gray with Cottage White and Marianne Linz with Das Haus Designs. Their inventory consists of finely crafted furniture, one-of-a-kind antiques, lighting, artwork and architectural artifacts.

The shop carries jewelry made by Jennifer Koeniger with Humble Jewels. Her studio is on the second level where her sterling silver, 14K gold filled and precious stone jewelry are hand-made with love and purpose.

**Savale** also offers The Sheet Lady, a local company that

provides the softest, wrinkle-free and extremely affordable sheet sets in all sizes—even split king. Additional bedding, such as cozy throws and fine linen duvet covers and shams, are also available.

Great gift ideas include European triple milled bar soaps, candles and lovely lavender products from Gospas Lavender Farm, which is right here in the valley.

Lisa says, "Our staff people are kind, courteous and knowledgeable. They are devoted to helping our clients, whether it's with that next painting project or selecting a side chair for your guest bedroom. Aline Button is an experienced painter/designer and has a great eye for detail. Her organizational skills help keep the shop and my projects in order. Marcia Hayes is an expert and also loves one-of-a-kind and fine antiques. Her knowledge of high-end French antiques comes from her time spent in France and she is also fluent in French. Kim Nguyen is exceptional in assisting our clients with the Jolie painting techniques and finishes. She majored in Interior Design and also works at the Interior Design Studio next door to my shop."

When asked about future plans, Lisa responded, "I would say my goal for the shop is simply to continue to offer our services and expertise for all of our clients. We want to always inspire our visitors and help them make their lives beautiful."

**Savale** is located at 7135 East 1st Avenue in Scottsdale. Learn more at: [www.savale.us](http://www.savale.us), Savale Flowers and Antiques on Facebook and [instagram.com/savaleflowersantiques](https://www.instagram.com/savaleflowersantiques). You can also email [info@savale.us](mailto:info@savale.us) or call 602-778-9777.

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## Rinker On Collectibles

## What Is An Antique? A 21st Century Definition

by Harry L. Rinker

“What is an antique?” is a question I was asked a great deal in the twentieth century. Only recently did I realize that I only have been asked this question a few times in the twenty-first century. The obvious conclusion is that most collectors and the general public as a whole no longer desire to specifically define the term. If they like something, they buy it no matter how it is classified within the trade.

Although what follows will be repetitive for longtime “Rinker on Collectibles” readers, it is necessary to set the stage for a new approach to defining antiques. When I studied with the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Fellows during the spring 1963 semester at the University of Delaware, I was taught an antique was anything made before 1830. 1830 was the magic date that separated handcraft from machine technology in the United States. Although machine technology was in place in England and Europe by the end of the eighteenth century, collectors and museum personnel thought in American terms.

In the early 1960s, Winterthur used an 1830 cutoff for its collections. Fifty-two years later, Winterthur has expanded its collection to include material from the early and middle Victorian period. It is only a matter of time before Winterthur includes the late Victorian period.

The general public used the 100-year-old rule to define an antique. The rule is the result of the United States Custom Agency’s rule that any item imported into the United States older than 100 years can enter duty free. In the 1960s, this meant an antique was an object made in the 1860s or earlier. Using this approach today, an antique is any object made before 1918. The only merit to this definition is its forward movement.

When I began writing “Rinker on Collectibles” in the mid-1980s, I selected 1920 as the dividing line between antiques and collectibles, a new term to the trade at the time. Over the years, I updated the dividing line—first defining an antique as anything made before 1945, anything made before 1962 and, most recently, anything made before 1980. For those wishing to know my reasoning behind these dates, see the series “Defining An Antique” in the “Rinker on Collectibles Special Series Columns” URL on my website [www.harryrinker.com](http://www.harryrinker.com).

In 2019, 2045 is only 26 years in the future. In 2045, 1945 will qualify under the obsolete 100-year rule. I would love to live long enough to see this happen, but the odds are against me.

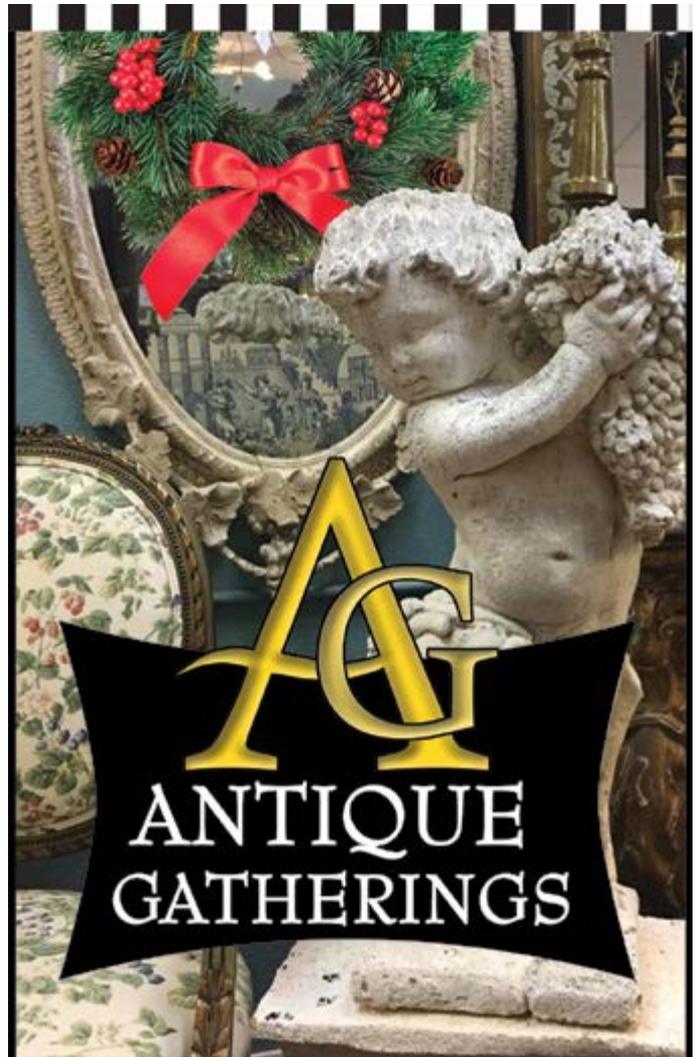
A date is the common element in all these definitions. This did not strike me as odd until recently. A specific date is comforting and easy to understand. It removes all doubt and requires no thought. It is safe and absolute.

In late October 2018, Linda and I attended a Halloween dinner at the University Club of Winter Park, Florida. During a break, one of the individuals seated at our table came over to talk with me.

“You mentioned your strong interest in antiques and collectibles,” he began. “My wife collected antiques. She had an unusual definition of an antique. To her, an antique was anything older than 25 years that she did not remember or recognize.”

Cue the lights. Sound the alarm bells. Slap the side of my head. Why did I not think of that? Imagine a definition of antiques that floated. It is enough to cause a lexicographer to turn over in his/her grave.

*Continued on page 6...*



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*Rinker, continued from page 5...*

Since the end of the 1990s, I have wrestled with understanding how younger generations approach antiques as a concept. They clearly have no interest in a fixed date. As indicated earlier, it is highly possible they do not even care. The more I think about this, the more I question if I care.

Imagine a definition that is individually relevant as opposed to an absolute, concise, fixed definition that is universally acceptable. Actually, a fixed date is meaningless. If 20 collectors are asked to define an antique, it is highly likely that 10 or more separate definitions, each with a different date, will result. The dictionary definitions of antique are broad and vague to the point of uselessness.

Older, more traditional collectors prefer to define an antique as something older than them. Few individuals are willing to accept they have reached the point in their lives where they qualify as an antique. I am not one of them. I am an antique and proud of it.

Time is a critical perspective. Although I have always known this, its impact upon me in this age of social diversity becomes more evident each year. I watched so many of the values I was taught by my parents, my religious upbringing, my college professors and mentors being overturned that I now wonder if what I believe is what I am supposed to believe.

The more I think about defining an antique based on a person's individual perspective, the more it helps explain what I am seeing in the field. Members of Generation X, the Millennials and Generation Z tend to focus on their own past rather than that of previous generations. This approach moves

the time definition of an antique forward at a far more rapid pace than I am prepared to acknowledge.

This new floating definition of an antique is a difficult concept to understand and accept. Adding memory to the definition only complicates the picture. Once again, this addition needs to be considered. How does a person, especially a collector, deal with objects they do not remember?

I recently encountered a Whitey Lockman first baseman's mitt while doing a home walk-through appraisal. I had no idea who Whitey Lockman was. The glove was well used. As a result, I misdated it. I assumed it was older than it was.

Carroll Walter "Whitey" Lockman (1926-2009) was a major league baseball player, coach, manager and front office executive. Lockman, a first baseman and outfielder, signed with the New York Giants in 1946. He was traded to the Cardinals in 1956 but sent back to the Giants at the end of the season. He finished his career playing for the Baltimore Orioles and Cincinnati Reds.

Lockman played while I was growing up. I certainly knew his name at the time. He later served as manager of the Chicago Cubs. I probably knew that as well. If I had remembered, I would have dated the baseball mitt correctly.

I played first base during a relatively undistinguished Little League career. I used an Eddie Waitkus endorsed mitt. Waitkus was the first baseman for the Philadelphia Phillies and inspiration for the Roy Hobbs character in the movie "The Natural." Out of curiosity, I did an Internet search to see what my Eddie Waitkus mitt looked like. I was surprised to find it closely resembled the

*Continued on next page...*

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*Rinker, continued from previous page...*

Whitey Lockman endorsed mitt. Is my memory starting to fade?

[Author's Aside: Years ago, I reacquired an Eddie Waitkus mitt. Mine disappeared. I found an example for sale on eBay. The seller wanted \$100.00 plus close to \$10.00 to ship it. I counter offered with \$60.00. The seller refused. eBay responded with a suggestion I counteroffer with \$75.00. This is not a game I play. Since I already own one, assuming of course I can find it, a second example is not worth more than \$60.00 to me.]

Memory does define what each individual considers an antique. Lack of memory places the object back in time, often further back than deserved but back nevertheless. Objects not remembered are presumed to be old in the 21st century.

Historically, the definition of antiques has been immune from being associated with the concept of old. This is no longer the case. Old is a relevant term. Once linked with antique, antique also becomes a relevant term.

What is an antique? In the twenty-first century, it depends entirely on who you ask.

POSTSCRIPT: This column marks the 32nd birthday of "Rinker on Collectibles." As I keep reminding my wife, age marks the completion of a year. I am 77. When asked my age, I reply, "I am in my 78th year." Rinker on Collectibles begins its 33rd year with my next column. I already have written it. Recently, I made a list of future text columns I wish to write. I have identified enough topics for another year. Column #1700 and most like #1750 are within sight.]

*Harry L. Rinker welcomes questions from readers about collectibles, those mass-produced items from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Selected letters will be answered in this column. Harry cannot provide personal answers. Photos and other material submitted cannot be returned. Send your questions to: Rinker on Collectibles, 5955 Mill Point Court SE, Kentwood, MI 49512. You also can e-mail your questions to [harrylrinker@aol.com](mailto:harrylrinker@aol.com). Only e-mails containing a full name and mailing address will be considered. You can listen and participate in WHATCHA GOT?, Harry'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.*



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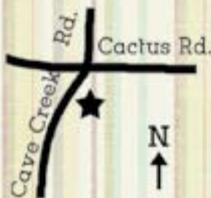
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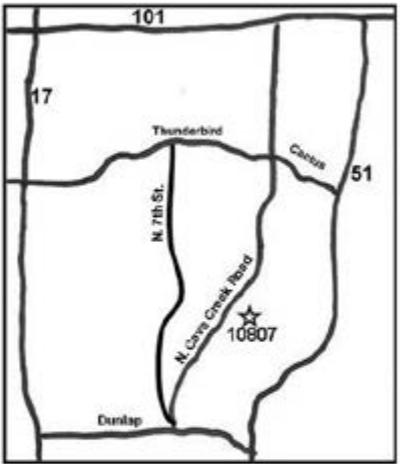
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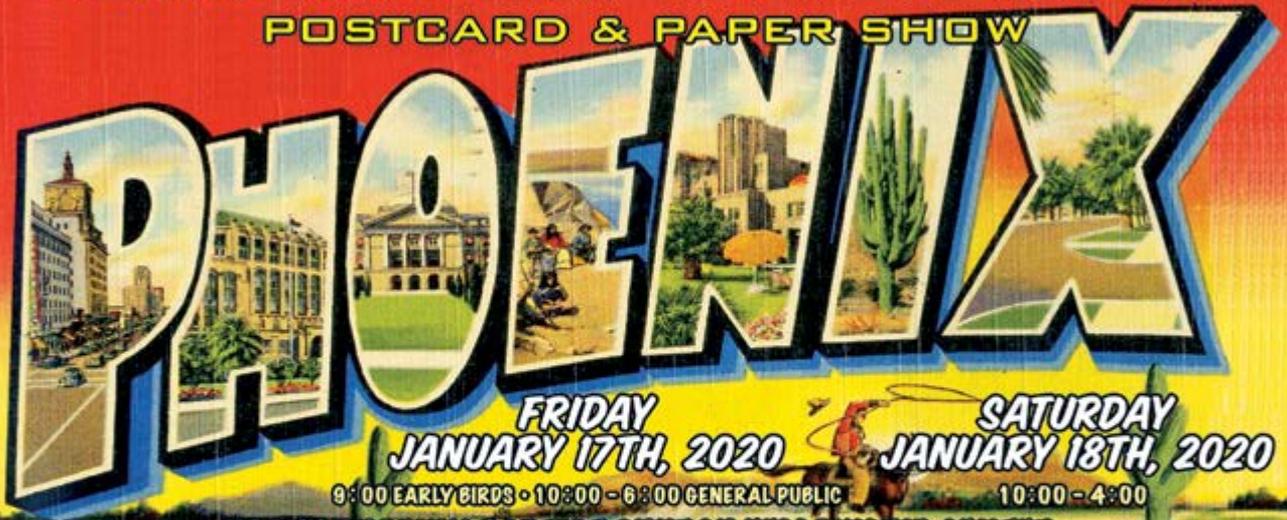
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**Giveaway Winner from September-Oct Issue**

Lucille Straub from Buckeye will be sent a \$25 Gift Certificate to be spent at her favorite Antique Register advertiser, **The Brass Armadillo Antique Mall** in Goodyear.

Lucille wrote, "Great service, great stuff, great prices. This is really my happy place!"

We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy *The Antique Register* and use it to hunt for great finds. In this issue, there is another \$25 Gift Certificate giveaway so be sure to enter and tell us where you pick up *The Antique Register*. Be sure to take a copy with you when you travel in and around Arizona! We wish all a joyous and safe Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year!



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## New Visitor Information Center Opens In Historic Downtown Glendale Boutique

A new Visitor Information Center has opened in Historic Downtown Glendale. Located inside Memory Lane Trinkets and Treasures is a wide array of Arizona travel information for cities and attractions across the five regions of the state to help both visitors and residents with their vacations.

Included are the Official Arizona State Travel Guide and official state map, Valley Guide, *The Country Register*, *Antique Register*, Experience AZ and Pride Guide Arizona. Dozens of the latest statewide travel and destination brochures are also available in partnership with Certified Folder Display Service, Inc., which has the largest brochure rack and digital display distribution in North America. Arizona travel information is also available in Spanish and Chinese.



Also featured is a variety of locally sourced and artisan-crafted Arizona gift items and souvenirs. A large world map is on display for visitors to place pins representing their hometown with pins already placed from Germany, Bulgaria and Australia and across the U.S.

The Center is managed by Lorraine Zomok, co-owner of Memory Lane Trinkets and Treasures. Lorraine is a 48-year resident of Glendale with nearly two decades of travel and

tourism industry experience. She and her husband Bud live in a 101-year old home located in Historic Downtown Glendale's Catlin Court.

Lorraine said, "We are thrilled to bring a travel resource to our residents and tourists who visit Historic Downtown Glendale and help them plan their Arizona adventures."

The Visitor Information Center is in the heart of century-old Historic Downtown Glendale, which consists of two unique, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods—the Old Towne District and the Catlin Court Historic District. The locally owned small businesses in Downtown contribute to a unique sense of place and bring community pride. Historic Downtown Glendale is the backdrop for award-winning events, nationally recognized restaurants and iconic shopping.

The Zomok and Kenn Clark opened Memory Lane Trinkets and Treasures in May 2019. The boutique-style shop is located inside a 1948 ranch-style historic building and features nine themed rooms featuring fashion jewelry, handbags, women's apparel, infant and toddler clothing, home and garden décor, kitchen gifts, antiques and an artisan gallery.

Memory Lane Trinkets and Treasures and Visitor Information Center is located at 5836 W. Palmyra Ave. in Catlin Court. Hours are Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with extended hours during Downtown special events. For more information, call 623-440-9036 or visit [www.MemoryLaneTrinketsandTreasures.com](http://www.MemoryLaneTrinketsandTreasures.com).

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## Selling Antiques to an Antique Shop

by Dave Emigh

Several times per week, people bring things into Shady Lawn Antiques to see if we are interested in purchasing them. When these interactions are complete, I don't give them another thought.

The bottom line is: If I like an item, I buy it. If I don't like it, then I don't buy it. It recently occurred to me that it might not be that simple, especially from the individual seller's point of view.

It is often hard for people to even decide to sell their things, especially family pieces. Then, when shop owners/dealers say they are not interested, it might even be mentally harder for them. It is as if something that an individual thought was good (and memories and emotions are often involved) is of no value.

This may be true in some cases. However, most items have value, but they are just not of interest to a shop owner who may already have enough of those pieces in inventory. So it is a matter of individual sellers finding a shop that would like their items and understanding that no two antique shops are the same.



Antique shops have unique looks and feels and their inventories

are also different. In fact, the definition of antique is probably different at each shop, reflecting the owner's interests, passions and personality. Therefore, all shop owners have different visions of the inventory that they would like to purchase.

That being said, there are a few ways to improve your chances of selling your things to an antique shop. Briefly stated, just try to minimize the reasons for the shop owner to say no.

Shop owners are most likely to say that they are not interested if they are busy, if it takes too long to look at the items or if the items are dirty. So it is best to approach the shop owner on a slower day or time, such as weekday mornings. Weekends are always the busiest and customer service is our number one priority. Rather than being distracted, I will often give individual sellers' items a cursory glance or just say that we are not buying at the current time.

Further, I have found it helpful when someone calls ahead to talk about bringing something in. It helps me schedule a time that is best for both of us. It also gives me an opportunity to think about the item(s) that they are bringing in, especially if they are unusual.

The more time that a dealer thinks that it will take to look at items, especially smaller items, they are more likely to say that they are not interested. Fragile items are a particular problem because they need to be wrapped up to be safely transported. It is then hard for the dealer to get a quick sense of what the items are. Few shops have the space to unwrap and look at several boxes of items.

One solution is to pack items loosely, with bubble wrap, one layer deep in a box. The dealer can see through the plastic wrap

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well enough to see if the items deserve a closer look. It is also good to pack similar items together, especially pairs of items.

Perhaps the best solution to this problem was presented by a woman with four boxes of fine 1880-90s Victorian era silver and glassware. She took a picture of each item before she wrapped and packed it. She was then able to show me pictures of each piece. I essentially "bought" everything before she even brought the boxes into the shop.

Clean items also sell better than dirty items for several reasons. Shop owners can never tell how well dirty pieces will clean up and it is easier to assess clean items for damage. Clean items can also be made ready for sale more quickly and that could be the factor that encourages the shop owner to purchase them.

All of this also applies to selling smaller pieces of furniture (that can be taken to a shop). When the pieces are too large to easily move, take some pictures to show to the shop owners. They will want to see an overall view, a couple of interesting details, and any flaws or damage. Don't expect a firm offer until the dealer can see the furniture in person.

*Continued on page 22...*



# Flashback Antiques

**7th Anniversary Sale ~ November 1st & 2nd**

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*Selling Antiques, continued from page 19...*

Furniture falls into a wide variety of different sizes, styles and design eras. Some shop owners are total generalists—meaning that they don't specialize in specific styles or eras. Others, such as Shady Lawn, have more specific furniture characteristics in mind. For example, we prefer oak furniture that is about one hundred years old.

Size matters, too. While we have room for large cabinets and pieces of furniture, other shops may have more limited space. On the other end of the size spectrum, small, fragile rocking chairs have extremely limited appeal so we don't purchase them. It might seem that antique furniture would be the easiest thing to sell. However, you will likely have to contact several shops before you find one that is interested in yours.

Keep in mind that some of your antique items may have limited retail potential. Unfortunately, there is nothing that you or the shop owner can do about that.

Sadly, you may apply all of the suggestions outlined above and still not be able to sell your item(s). But at least you know that you gave it your best effort.

*Dave Emigh and his wife Jill are the owners of Shady Lawn Antiques in Walla Walla, WA, perfectly located in the 1870s wood frame creamery buildings that Dave's great-grandfather purchased in 1897. A professionally trained woodworker, Dave, along with his son Nick, specializes in the restoration of oak furniture. In its 25th year, Shady Lawn has become a regional destination for oak furniture and is also known for its well-curated displays of country, rustic and rare and unique "small" antiques. Glimpses of the ever-changing Shady Lawn inventory can be seen on Facebook and at [www.shadylawnantiques.com](http://www.shadylawnantiques.com).*



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## Artists Emporium Is Open Year Round & DT Mesa Festival of the Arts Now Open

When Mark Svoboda set up as an artist at the Festival for the first time in April 2013, he and his wife Karen never envisioned the impact it would have on their lives. The couple saw the potential of the Festival—which began in 2007—offered to help it grow and have never looked back.

As a result of the Festival's growth and success, the Svobodas opened **DTMesaFest Artists Emporium** in May of this year. A bricks and mortar building adjunct to the **Downtown Mesa Festival of the Arts** in the heart of Downtown Mesa, **Artists Emporium** offers a home for artists who also take part in the Festival. Nearly 50 talented artists currently rent spaces in the new store and offer a variety of art pieces and locally handcrafted items. There is a classroom that is available for rent and acrylic painting and wire wrap classes have already been held with many others in the works.

Karen Svoboda says, "Our goal for the **Artists Emporium** is a place where local residents as well as visitors can find unique handcrafted gifts year round. We hope to expand that down the road to engage the community more and allow for more artists to participate."

Located at 6 N. MacDonald, **Artists Emporium** is open year-round from Noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday and Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday to Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

*Continued on page 24...*

**Join Us For Our 12th Season**

Made by Me!

**Downtown  
Mesa Festival  
of the Arts**

Nov 2nd, Nov 16th, Dec 7th,  
Dec 21st, Jan 4th, Jan 18th,  
Feb 1st, Feb 15th, Mar 7th,  
Mar 21st, Apr 4th, & Apr 18th

Main Street & Macdonald  
in Downtown Mesa, Arizona  
**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**  
Festival Dates and Hours:  
Every 1st & 3rd Saturday  
October 2019 - April 2020  
10am to 4pm

For more information on artist participation, Email: [info@dtmesafest.com](mailto:info@dtmesafest.com)  
Find us on the web at: [dtmesafest.com](http://dtmesafest.com)

 DT Mesa Fest  dtmesafest  @DTMesaFest

Visit us year around at DTMesaFest Artists Emporium at 6 N MacDonald  
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Historical militaria of all types and eras,  
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*Artists Emporium, continued from page 23...*

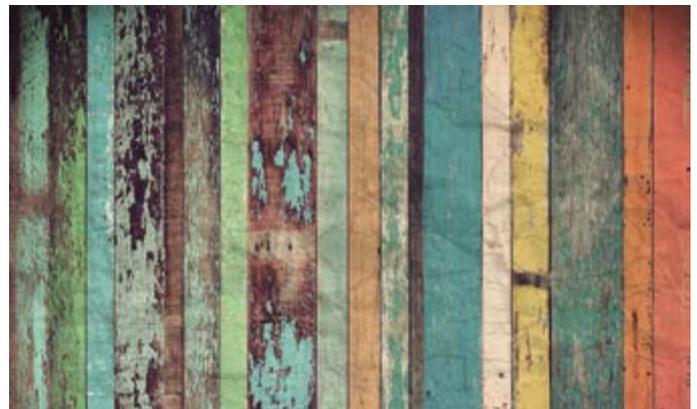
Saturday. Select Fridays and holidays will have varied hours so check the website. For more information, email for **Artists Emporium** is [artistsemporium@dtmesafest.com](mailto:artistsemporium@dtmesafest.com) or call 480-534-7050.

The **Downtown Mesa Festival of the Arts**, featuring unique artists creations music, food and fun for the whole family, opens for its 12th season on Saturday, October 5th, at Main Street and MacDonald. The 2019-2020 season events will be held on the first and third Saturdays of each month, October through April 18th during the seven months. Located in the heart of Downtown Mesa, the Festivals are Free to the public and hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The mission of the **DT Mesa Fest** is to provide an environment that encourages the economic and artistic growth of emerging and established artisans, while revitalizing downtown Mesa and building a sense of community. There are youth vendor and veteran vendor grants for the season and also a small fund for starving artists mini grants that has been used for emergencies. This is accomplished with **DTMesaFest Artists Emporium** Year Round and **Downtown Mesa Festival of the Arts**, October to April.

**DT Mesa Fest** is 100% run and organized by volunteers. If you want to be a part of something great in the community, sign up to volunteer by emailing [info@dtmesafest.com](mailto:info@dtmesafest.com).

Learn more at [dtmesafest.com](http://dtmesafest.com), on Facebook at **DTMesaFest** on Twitter **@DTMesaFest** or at Instagram [dtmesafest](https://www.instagram.com/dtmesafest). For more information, including artist participation, email [info@dtmesafest.com](mailto:info@dtmesafest.com) or call 480-534-7050.



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2. **Midtown Merchantile Merchants**  
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3. **Speedway Antique Mall**  
5045 E Speedway Blvd • 520-327-1200
4. **Tom's Fine Furniture & Collectibles**  
5454 E. Pima Street • 520-795-5210
5. **AZ Modern**  
4469 E 5th St • 520-977-5340
6. **22nd Street Antique Mall**  
5302 E. 22nd Street • 520-514-5262
7. **Darlene Morris Antiques, LLC**  
2100 N Wilmot, Ste. 217 • 520-322-9050
8. **American Antique Mall**  
3130 E. Grant • 520-326-3070
9. **Tom's Fine Furniture & Collectibles**  
3402 E Grant Road • 520-321-4621
10. **Antiques Etc.**  
2319 N Country Club Rd. • 520-322-6269
11. **Adobe House Antiques**  
2700 N. Campbell Ave • 520-325-9439
12. **Arte De La Vida**  
37 N Tucson Blvd. • 520-398-6720
13. **Sunshine Shop Tucson**  
2934 E Broadway • 520-389-4776
14. **Gather - A Vintage Market**  
657 W St. Mary's • 520-878-7215
15. **Roses and Rhubarb**  
657 W St. Mary's Rd. Unit C-7
16. **Safe Shift Estate Sale/Resale**  
4911 E. 29th St. • 520-603-3055
17. **Ignite Sign Art Museum**  
331 S. Olsen. • 520-319-0888
18. **Antique Village Mall**  
4343 N Oracle Rd. • 520-887-0150
19. **Patriot House Antiques**  
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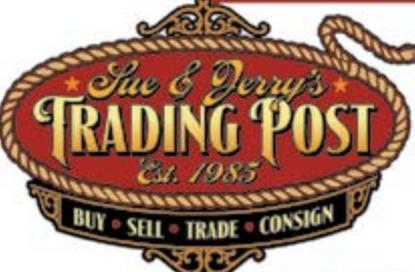
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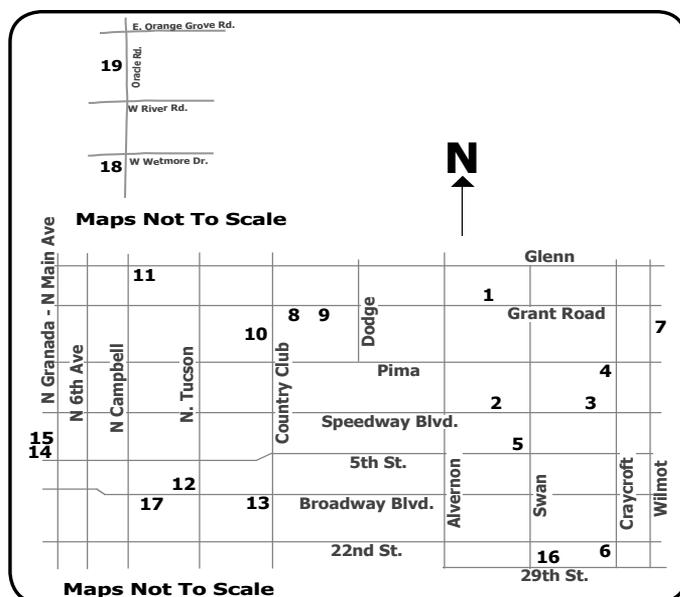
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# 'Snownickles' for Christmas

by David Kish

In 2005, my Mom started giving me 'Snownickles' for Christmas every year. The papier-mâché snowmen figurines are part of a line created by artist Linda Lindquist Baldwin called Belsnickles that are made in many sizes and designs in different poses holding various items including nickels.

The first one that Mom gave me is the tall one on the right with the black top hat and scarf. This 'Snownickle' pulls off his base to expose a tube that holds a roll of nickels.



I display my collection each holiday in a little lead-glass door cabinets on my dining room hutch. When I look in the windows, I feel like I'm looking at a winter display in a shop's front windows. Mom is now in heaven and I thank her for all the wonderful times we had together and her love and generosity.

David Kish is a Fiber Craftsman, Teacher and Writer. He has lived in the Southwest since 1992 and has retired in SE New Mexico. He's been collecting snowmen for many years.

## Vintage, Antique & Collectible Expo

Saturday, January 18th, 2020 (9am to 5pm)  
 Sunday, January 19th, 2020 (10am to 4pm)

**Sheraton Hotel**  
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**Looking for vendors.**  
 For more information, go to  
[www.SAR-events.com](http://www.SAR-events.com)  
 or call Wayne Locke 520-870-8180.

## Visit [www.theantiqueregister.com](http://www.theantiqueregister.com)

Find the entire paper ready to download as a pdf, or you can read each article individually and see galleries of photos from our featured shops.

*The new site is easy to read on your laptop, tablet or phone. Making it even easier to take The Antique Register with you!*

Shop Finder

Shop	City	State	Phone	Type
3rd Street Antique Mall	Tucson	AZ	520-624-8244	
47 Shop	Phoenix	AZ	480-961-1678	
A Chalkboard Post	Chandler	AZ	480-484-0024	
A Loving Impassioned Antiques	Maricopa	AZ	480-484-0024	

**Be sure to visit our interactive map!**  
 You can search for advertising shops and find them on an easy to read map!  
 It's the perfect way to plan your next day trip!

## Leona Caldwell

from the Family Archive

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The Fire Foundation is a 501c3 not for profit. [www.tucsonfirefoundation.org](http://www.tucsonfirefoundation.org)  
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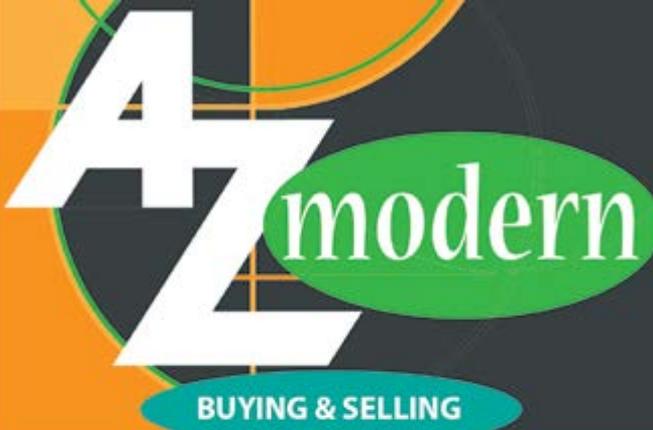


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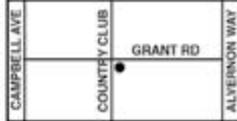
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Those Were the Days!

## There's a Bedroom in My Piano!

Patents: What Will They Think of Next?

by Jay Mark

One of the great things about our brain is its virtual unlimited capacity for resourcefulness and ability for creativity and resourcefulness. Imagine you are living at the dawn of humankind. And through innovation, experimentation or just dumb luck, you figure out how to create and control fire. That discovery will likely be the most important of man's first millennium.



A quintessential example of the often-outrageous ideas embodied in the patent era was Charles Hess's 1866 patent for a Convertible Bedroom Piano – a novel invention that apparently enjoyed little success.

How would you go about getting recognition and protection for your revelation? Since writing, money or even language had yet to be invented, there was nothing much to be done except sharing your brilliance with your neighbors.

Patents were initiated to celebrate and certify man's (and women's) ingenuity – a validation of just how imaginative the human mind can be. And worthy of protection.

Although some historians believe the idea of securing

intellectual property dates as far back as 600 B.C., it wasn't until

Continued on page 37...

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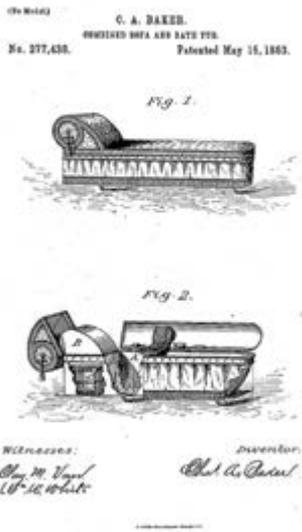
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Patents, continued from page 36...

the Venetian Act of 1474 that the concept of formally issuing patents was introduced. It would take another 150 years for Britain to establish the British Statute of Monopolies—an early system of registering patents.

In 1790, 14 years after the country attained independence, the U.S. Patent Act was established—only to be replaced three years later by the more definitive Patent Act of 1793 permitting the granting of a patent for any “discovery or invention of any useful art, manufacture, engine, machine or device.”

In the first 43 years, just 10,000 patents were issued in a haphazard, un-numbered system. That led in 1836 to a complete overhaul in patent regulations, just ahead of a fire in the patent office that destroyed virtually all of its records—leaving a huge hole in U.S. patent history.



*One of the most imaginative, but least practical inventions of the Patent Era was Charles Baker's Combined Sofa & Bath Tub, in which a Roman-style divan is converted into a bathtub complete with 18 gallons of hot water.*

The loss of an estimated 7,000 models and 9,000 drawings was particularly tragic. Until 1880, all patent applications were required to have a working model accompany them. The Industrial Revolution dawned in 1750. With the second phase beginning in 1850, the number of patent applications exploded.

By the latter half of the 19th century, in a period known as the Patent Era, inventors were flooding the Patent Office with some of their most fanciful and outrageous ideas. Victorian sensibility allowed for, and even encouraged, designs that concealed the actual intent of an object.

Some of the most outlandish examples were manifested in furniture—like the trio here that their inventors believed should be in every Victorian home: the “Convertible bed room piano,” the “Combined Sofa and Bath Tub,” and the “Cabinet Bed.”

On July 17, 1866, Charles Hess of Cincinnati, Ohio, was granted a patent (#56,413) for his unique combination of a piano and bedroom furniture. The full name of his invention was “Improved Combined Piano, Couch and Bureau.”

In his application, Hess described the intent of his invention, “The convertible piano has been designed principally for the benefit of hotels, boarding-schools, &c., containing apartments which are used for parlors, &c. in day-time and yet required for sleeping rooms at night.”

The *Buffalo, NY, Evening Post* was effusive in its praise. “The Divan Piano...indeed a useful device...constructed that can, in the course of a few minutes, be converted from a commodious parlor – which it is at the start – into a well-furnished bedroom.

“In these days of extravagant rent, this is truly a benevolent as well as a surprisingly ingenious invention (that) contains a bookcase, a French bedstead, a bureau, a clothespress, &c., &c.; and the instrument occupies no more space than an ordinary square piano.”

*Continued on page 40...*

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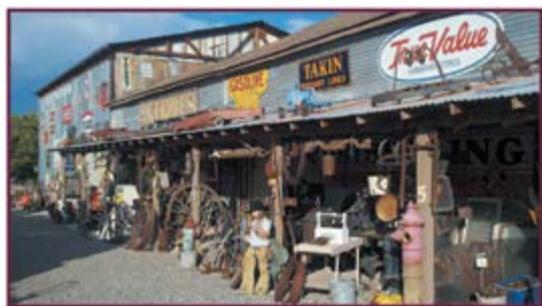
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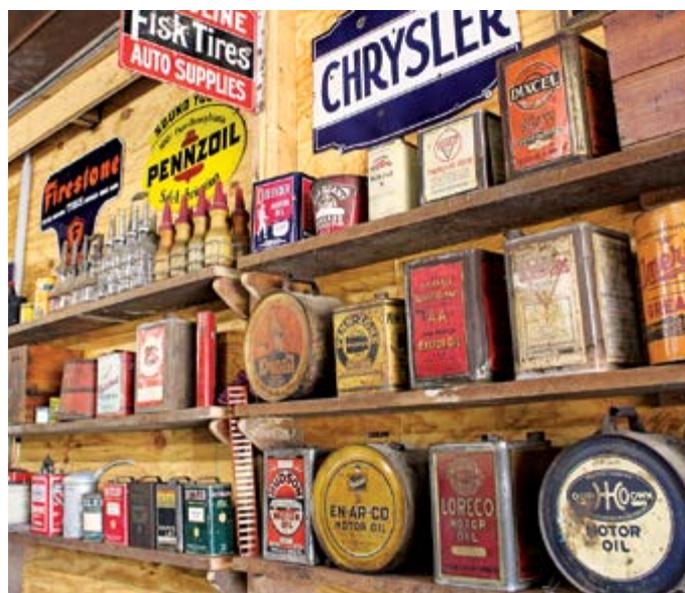
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*Patents, continued from page 37...*

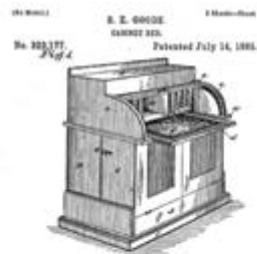
Intriguing idea, although not a best seller by all indications. But that didn't stop others from patenting similar ideas in 1869 and the turn-of-the century.

Charles Hess was a multi-talented man. He was a partner in a piano sales business (hence his invention) and the Principal of the Cincinnati Normal Academy of Music. After the assassination of President Lincoln, Hess composed Lincoln's Funeral March, which was performed nationally.

Seventeen years following Hess's Divan Piano, Charles Albert Baker patented (#277,438) his idea that united a bathtub with a sofa. In the application, Baker asserted that his "... invention combines two useful household necessities in one, thereby saving house-room, lessening the expense of bathing facilities, &c."

What were left out were the practical aspects of the invention. How were 18 gallons of water conveyed to the reservoir? And, more importantly, how were they disposed of?

In 1885, former slave Sarah Elisabeth Goode was only the



*The Cabinet-Bed that transformed a writing desk into a bed was patented by Sara Goode, a former slave who was only the second African-American woman to be awarded a patent.*

*Continued on next page...*

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*Patents, continued from previous page...*

second African-American woman to be awarded a prestigious patent (#322,177). She described her Cabinet-Bed as a "... sectional bedstead adapted to be folded together when not in use, so as to occupy less space, and made generally to resemble some article of furniture when folded."

Although the late 19th century was assuredly the "Patent Era," it in no way meant that all those inventions were successful in the marketplace.

If personal experience is any indicator, researching patents is a decidedly addictive exercise. No matter where you look, a cornucopia of unbelievable ideas awaits. If it could be imagined, it seemed to get a patent.

In the time before the Internet, researching patents was a difficult and cumbersome exercise. Just finding and travelling to an archive that housed the voluminous patent records was challenging.

With the Internet, access to patents is now just a couple of keystrokes away. <https://www.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/search-patents> will take you to the U.S. Patent Office's instructions for finding a patent.

Google patents is a good alternative site: <https://patents.google.com/>

**Some Good Books:** *If you are intrigued by human ingenuity, Innovative Furniture in America from 1800 to the Present by David A. Hanks is a book that you won't be able to put down. Another great read is Mechanization Takes Command – a contribution to anonymous history—an essential resource by Siegfried Giedion.*

*Virtually an antique himself, Jay Mark, a 47-year antiques business veteran and historian, owns Those Were The Days!, an online specialty bookstore. He also teaches, lectures and writes regularly about antiques and history. Reach him at [jaymark@twtdbooks.com](mailto:jaymark@twtdbooks.com). © 2019*



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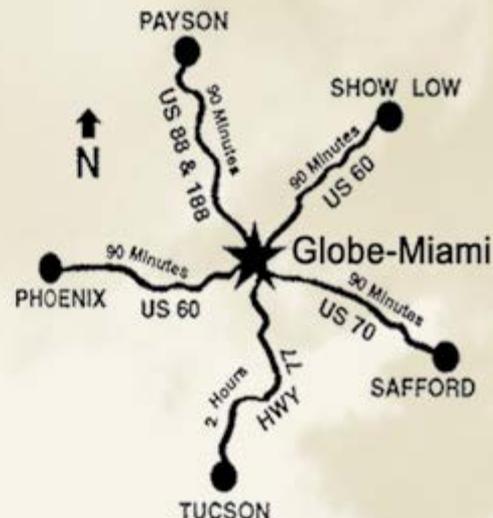
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## Belltown Trivia

by Carol Nixon aka Auntie Ca'h

I reside in the small country town of East Hampton, CT, nicknamed "Belltown." It is home to Bevin Bros. Mfg. Throughout the Christmas season, varieties of bells are heard by shoppers in the downtown village decorated with an antiquated flair of Olde Christmas decorations. Santa rides atop an antique fire truck ringing his bell up and down the streets and hills for three weeks in December.

During the 19th century, thirty bell manufacturers existed across the U.S. Today Bevin Bells is the only one still thriving and ships its merchandise across the entire world. The company's success has been attributed to six generations of the Bevin Bell family, dating back to 1832. The factory was erected in 1880. However, in 2012, lightning set ablaze the 180 year old structure. It has reopened in a new location and produces the high quality of standards of the family history. Historical facts will follow.

The factory is renowned for all bells bearing its name: Salvation Army bells, The Bevin Gong bell that opened and closed the N.Y. Stock Exchange for 7 decades, 1st cycle bell in 1965, Good Humor ice cream truck ringers, cowbells, ornament bells, warning system bells for coal mines, call bells to signal fires, 1st foot bell for horseless carriages, and in the Christmas movie, "It's A Wonderful Life," the angel Clarence received his wings when a Bevin Bell rang. Many boxing matches used Bevin Bell Gongs, marred by Muhammad Ali.

Their most famous of all were Sleigh Bells with over 700,000 packaged annually and sent off throughout the U.S. and

*Continued on next page...*

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Belltown, continued from previous page...

to hundreds of other countries. In the early 1800s, sleighs were a primary transportation. They were quietly operated with no alarm. Laws mandated Bevin sleigh bells to warn pedestrians. Brass or nickel plated bells are usually used on leather straps.

The song "Jingle Bells" was originally copyrighted with the title "One Horse Open Sleigh" but was later changed to "Jingle Bells." It was inspired by early sleigh races. This favorite tune was the first song broadcast from space on December 16, 1965, by astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra. They somehow hid a harmonica and a sleigh bell and surprised the space center with their space rendition of "Jingle Bells."

Try this trivia at your Christmas gatherings. I'll be ringing my sleigh bells in Belltown, New England.

Merry Christmas.



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