AntiqueWeek

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Christmas cards still have a place in our hearts

By Donald-Brian Johnson

When does the Christmas season really begin? When the first store pipes in the Bing Crosby holiday favorite? When the first hundred twinkling lights go up on that big house down the street? When the first grocery store parking lot becomes a wonderland of freshly-cut Christmas trees?

For many, it's the first day your mail coughs up something out of the ordinary. Maybe it's an envelope dotted with stenciled snowflakes. Maybe there's a grinning snowman on a return address label. Maybe you spy an envelope flap, carefully glued down with Christmas Seals. But whatever the clue, you know, even before opening it, exactly what you've received. It's a Christmas card—the first one of the season. Let the holidays begin!

The modern tradition of exchanging commercially produced Christmas cards began in 1843 with Sir Henry Cole, director of London's Victoria & Albert Museum. Cole had a long-standing tradition of sending handwritten holiday greetings to family and friends. But by 1843, Sir Henry's hand grew tired, and his patience thin. Inspiration struck: he commissioned artist friend John Calcott Horsley to create a card that could be lithographed, colored by hand, and sent to those on Sir Henry's list. "Extras" in the initial printing of 1,000 were then made available for sale to the general

public, at a shilling apiece.

Horsley designed a 3 by 5 inch card illustrating three scenes. A merry-making

Christma

DADDY



Above: From 1912, a postcard of a snow-dappled home, complete with season-appropriate accents: ivy and an ornament. All Photos by Donald-Brian Johnson

enjoying a holiday toast filled the central panel. Highlighting the true spirit of the season, the side panels featured charitable folk feeding the hungry, and clothing the paked

Early Victorians, however, were easily shocked. The cards were roundly condemned, not for their depictions of the starving and the unclothed, but because one of the figures shown sipping wine in the central panel was a child. Horsley was criticized for "fostering the moral corruption of children," and the cards were quickly withdrawn from the market; today, only about a dozen remain.

While images of wine-swilling youngsters may not have appealed to buyers in the mid-1800s, the idea of the ready-made Christmas card did. Over the

exchange grew in popularity, although with illustrations of more palatable seasonal subjects, such as holly, ivy, and blissful sleigh rides.

next several years, the

The expense of lithographed, hand-colored cards initially meant that only the wealthy could afford them.

Left: Just for "Daddy," a gingerbread man with flocked glitter finish visual. Hallmark, 1946.

Eventually, thanks to the development of the steam printing press, production costs plummeted, bringing the price of a Christmas card within the reach of almost every budget. And, thanks to England's Postal Act of 1840, even mailing a Christmas card was extremely affordable: postage was just a penny, to any destination in the United Kingdom. A new and destined-to-endure holiday tradition was soon underway and flourishing — at least on the far side of the Atlantic.

In the United States, however, those

SEE CHRISTMAS CARDS ON PAGE 19

Right: A peaceful winter scene, complete with glitter snow, on a "Nephew" card by Meryle, released in



Above: Each candle on this early 1950s "Week Of Christmas Blessings" offers a different wish. Among them: "Hope," Peace," and "Good Will."



Below: A youthful Christmas choir, surrounded by an oversize gilt window and poinsettias, on a postcard dating from the early 1930s.









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NEWS

X-Men #1 comic powered its way to \$131,334 at Hake's

YORK, Pa. – Hake's \$2.3 million auction held online November 18-19 fired the final salvo for their 2025 Premier Series in a year of spectacular sales that, to date, have earned \$12.5 million for the pop-culture powerhouse. A September 1963 issue of Marvel's X-Men #1 comic book, CGC-graded 9.2 NM-, shot to the top of prices realized at the series' season closer, attracting 13 bids before ending its uphill run at \$131,334.

Within the Marvel pantheon, X-Men #1 is considered especially significant because it contains the origin story and first appearance of Professor X, Cyclops, Iceman, Angel Beast and Marvel Girl - as well as the villainous Magneto. The now-classic debut issue of X-Men was the product of a dynamic collaboration that paired Stan Lee's brilliant storyline with Jack Kirby's inimitable cover and interior art.

Hake's Auctions' president, Alex Winter, observed that condition played a big role in attracting such a robust price. "The book we auctioned was a beautiful example of a key Silver Age comic, with very strong colors. It would be difficult to improve upon its condition, and that point would have been foremost in the minds of any bidder competing at that level."

Described in Hake's catalog as "the undisputed crown jewel of political campaign buttons," a Cox and Roosevelt 1920 jugate button, 7/8 inches in diameter, was so beautifully preserved, it still had its backing





Above: Marvel 'X-Men' #1 comic book, September 1963, CGC 9.2 NM-, Contains origin story and first appearance of the X-Men. A key Silver Age Marvel comic in high grade with strong colors, it claimed top-lot honors at \$131,344.

paper identifying Whitehead & Hoag Co., Newark, N.J., as its manufacturer. Graded NM, and possibly a salesman's sample, it was without question one of the finest of few known examples of its type. Formerly in the Roger Richert Collection, it sold well above its high estimate for \$50,740, a

Left: Hasbro Transformers (1985) Series 2 Shockwave (Deceptioon Operations), AFA 80 NM, in original box. Sold for \$11,450.



Above: Hasbro Transformers (1984) Series 1 with Optimus Prime (Autobot Commander) AFA 85 NM+ in window box with intact tape seals at left and right, no color breaks. Sold for \$15,340.

world-record price for this particular type of button in the 7/8-inch size.

Created by Kenner in 1984 for photography purposes, a Star Wars: The Power of the Force (1985) Luke Skywalker (Imperial Stormtrooper outfit) first shot/photo sample action figure of-

> SEE HAKE'S AUCTION PAGE 4

Right: Historical circa-1847 Mormon plate with portraits of Hyrum and Joseph Smith above the Temple of Nauvoo, likely based on an 1847 print published in London by Moses Martin. Sold for \$20,768, a record price for any Mormon ceramic.



You don't need to go to the ballgame to get a Cracker Jack prize

By Doug Graves

The journey of the Cracker Jack prize is a miniature reflection of American history. It started with simple novelties and evolved through different materials, fads, and manufacturing eras, creating a tangible timeline of the 20th century that you could hold in the palm of your hand.

It all began with Frederick William Rueckheim, a German immigrant who moved to Chicago to help clean up the city after the great fire of 1871. With help from a partner, he started a confectionary business that churned out popcorn accented by molasses. The partnership fizzled, but his younger brother Louis joined him to begin the F.W. Rueckheim & Brother company, and business boomed.

In early 1896, the brothers applied for a trademark patent for "Cracker Jack," a name derived when a salesman allegedly shouted "That's a crackerjack!" after eating the candied popcorn that didn't stick together. This crunchy treat of nuts and caramel corn, sold with the slogan "The more you eat, the more you want," soon took off, and the company began ship-



Above: In the 1930s and 1940s, most Cracker Jack toys were made of aluminum. (photo submitted)

States and overseas.

ping the confection throughout the United bulky tins, which were not ideal for travel and could reduce the product's freshness Cracker Jack was initially packaged in and crispness. The treat was enclosed in



Above: Cracker Jack was already a hit by 1920. (photo submitted)

> SEE CRACKER JACK Page 5

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Hake's Auction

FROM PAGE 2

fered collectors the complete package. It was encapsulated, archivally cased, and AFA-graded 75 EX+/NM Display. The figure depicted Skywalker with light brown hair with a prototype rubber Stormtrooper helmet. It captured a world-record price of

An important circa-1847 Mormon plate was bordered with a fancy double-garland border and portraits of brothers Hyrum and Joseph Smith above the Temple of Nauvoo (Illinois). The decorative darkbrown transfer was likely based on an 1847 print published in London by Moses Martin. The coveted historical memento was formerly owned by renowned antique dealer Rex Stark, who once advertised that in his entire 34-year career he had never seen another example like it. Considered a significant material-culture artifact of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it sold for \$20,768, a record price for any Mormon ceramic.

Every Hake's auction can be counted on to include original comic-book art by creators whose names speak for themselves. The November selection featured Luis Dominguez's (1923-2020) original pen-andink art for the cover of Ghosts #82, published by DC Comics in November 1979. Measuring 11.25 by 17 inches, the artwork was a quintessential example of the spooky style Dominguez perfected in the 1970s while working on Bronze Age horror comics. It sold above its high estimate, for

One of the most desirable of all Hasbro Transformers toys, a 1984 Series 1 Optimus Prime (Autobot Commander), AFA-graded

85 NM+, was offered in



Above: Original circa-1932 silver gelatin photograph of Pollock's Cuban Stars baseball club, a famed lineup hailed in its day as being the 'Cuban House of David.' Sold for \$9,086.

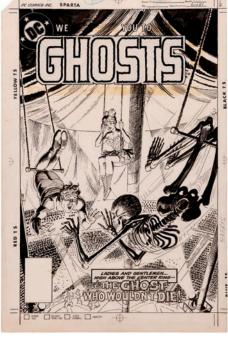
tape seals at left and right, and no color breaks. It was bid to \$15,340.

Also from Hasbro, a Transformers (1985) Series 2 Shockwave (Deception Operations) was graded AFA 80 NM and housed in its original box. It boldly made its presence known to kids of 40 years ago by illuminating and emitting sounds as it transformed from a laser gun to a robot and back. It reached a final price of \$11,450.

Interest in the superstars of Negro League and pre-World War II Cuban baseball is growing rapidly among collectors of early sports memorabilia. Two outstanding photos with provenance from the famed Richard Merkin collection knocked it out of the park at Hake's November sale, seprominent figures from Black baseball history, Jimmy Claxton and Luis Tiant Sr., and two other important US Negro League stars of the day, Terris McDuffie and Lazaro Salazar. Its handwritten and signed inscription on verso indicated the photo was a gift from Salazar to his mother. The glossy 8 by 10 rounded the bases to slide home at \$9,086.

fied 14 uniformed players including two

A circa 1948-49 silver gelatin publicity photo of Hall of Famer Satchel Paige in his Cleveland Indians uniform bore a

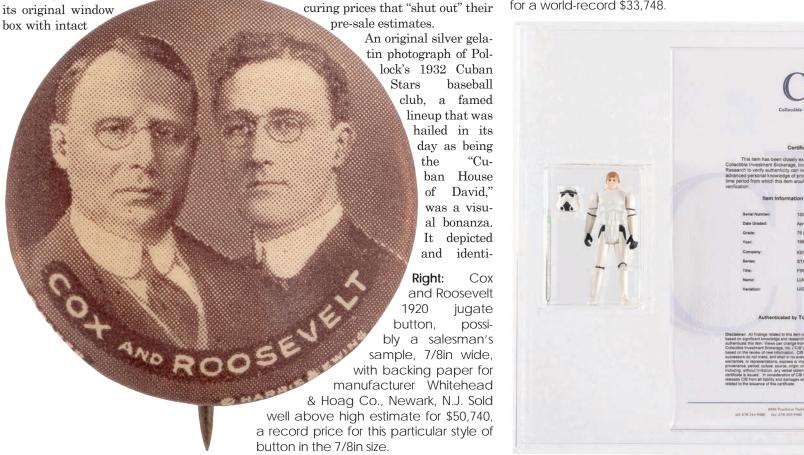


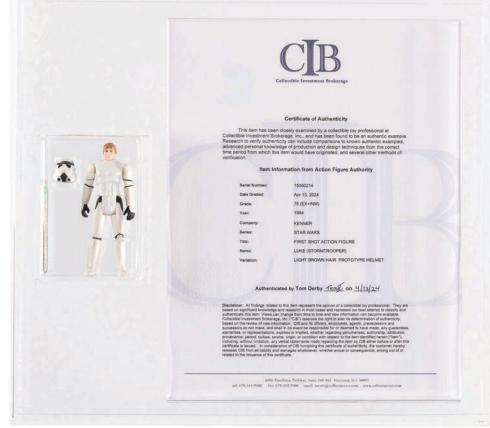
Above: Luis Dominguez (1923-2020) original pen-and-ink art for the cover of 'Ghosts' #82, published by DC in November 1979. Sold above high estimate, for

fountain-pen inscription on verso that read "Best Wishes From Satchel Paige To My Best Friend Orestes Minoso," referring to fellow Hall of Famer "Minnie" Minoso, who played for the Indians in 1948-49 and was the first African American pitcher in the American League. The historically-important picture unleashed its star power to slam in a winning bid of \$7,211.

For more information visit https://hakes.

Below: 1984 Kenner Star Wars: The Power of the Force (1985) Luke Skywalker (Imperial Stormtrooper outfit) first shot/photo sample action figure AFA 75 EX+/NM Display, encapsulated, archival case. Created by Kenner for photography purposes only. Sold for a world-record \$33,748.





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Cracker Jack

FROM PAGE 2

a wax-sealed package in 1899. The sealed package was later replaced by a waxsealed wrapper of flexible paper, which further improved the product's preservation and distribution. The iconic red, white and blue boxes that we're familiar with were introduced in 1916.

By 1908, the candy was immortalized in a song by Jack Norworth and Albert Von Tilzer, in which a fictional Katie Casey asks her beau to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," where he would buy her "some peanuts and Cracker Jack." Today, that tune is sung at baseball parks across America during the seventh inning stretch.

From the onset, Cracker Jack included a prize in every package. Cracker Jack has given away an estimated 23 billion toys and prizes since 1912. This staggering number represents one of the longest-running and most successful prize promotions in history. The promise of "A Prize in Every Box" was as iconic as the caramel-coated popcorn and peanuts themselves.

Cracker Jack Collectors Association president Lisa Brazeau heads up an organization that brings Cracker Jack enthusiasts together on an annual basis. The group met in Columbus, Ohio in August.

"I think of many of our members as Cracker Jack archaeologists," Brazeau said. "No one was really keeping track of what prizes were distributed until the 1930s, so that gives a good 30 years of prizes that no one really for sure knows unless it was in an advertisement."

From 1912 through the 1930s, the prizes were often made of paper, tin, lead or porcelain. You would have found things like miniature books and comics, paper dolls, riddles, tin lithographed toys like whistles, crickets and clickers, small porcelain figurines of animals or people, metal soldiers and miniature tools.

The undisputed kings of Cracker Jack collectibles are the 1914 and 1915 baseball card sets. Not surprising, a set would fetch five figures in today's market. The 1914 set of 144 players is the most difficult to secure, and all these cards were only obtained in each box of Cracker Jack. The

Below: By 1933, Cracker Jack was inserting aluminum coins of U.S. presidents into its boxes of caramel popcorn. (photo submitted)





Above: The face of Cracker Jacks got a boost in 1918, when Sailor Jack and his dog, Bingo, were added to the packaging. (photo submitted)

1915 set of 176 cards could be obtained by mailing in one coupon and 25 cents.

Some high-grade cards can fetch six-figure prices, with Christy Mathewson's card estimated at \$60,000 and Shoeless Joe Jackson's card valued at \$130,000. A 1915 Ty Cobb baseball card, depending on condition, would range from \$2,000 to \$15,000 and higher.

Between 1933 and 1936 more than 200,000 kids joined the "Cracker Jack Mystery Club." Many of the items of the 1930s were connected to mysteries, due to the era of the radio listener.

World War II put a crimp in Cracker Jack toys as they were made of paper and wood during the war. Model tanks and planes could be found, but they were made of paper.

In Canada, Cracker Jack was manufac-

Below: In the 1920s, Cracker Jack released five toy circus trains depicting five animals. (photo submitted)





Above: This tiny Cracker Jack pinball toy was released in 1950. (photo submitted)

tured under license by Walter M. Lowney Co., of Montreal. A series of 50 aircraft picture cards was distributed during World War II. Due to the popularity of the item a second set of cards was issued entitled: United Nations Battle Planes. The cards measured 3 by 2 ½ inches. The entire set of either would fetch up to \$200.

Aluminum Cracker Jack coins of U.S. Presidents were hidden inside boxes of the treat starting in 1933. A complete set of 31 coins from that year will fetch \$200, while individual coins are valued at \$10. There were 132 million coins issued between 1933-36.

A complete set of metal Train Cars from the 1930s would command \$300 to \$500, while a metal baseball player statuette from the 1930s would be worth \$75 to \$150.

From the 1960s through the 1980s all toys were made of plastic, and these included spinning tops, charms and animal figures. Temporary tattoos were included in boxes in the 1980s.

The company returned to feature baseball with an issue of 24 players in 1993. The boxes featured a picture card on the outside of the box. Baseball cards were issued again in 2004.

Below: This array of plastic animals were produced by Cracker Jack in the 1970s (photo submitted)





Above: Most are familiar with Cracker Jack being packaged in a small red, white and blue oblong box, but in the 1930s the treat came in a can. (photo submitted)

From 2017 to present Cracker Jack entered the digital, or QR age. Mobile games, digital experiences via the "Prize Inside" app replaced all tangible toys.

The joy and difficulty in collecting Cracker Jack prizes is that while some of the prizes are marked Cracker Jack, others have no markings at all. Identifying an old prize can be tricky, as many early toys were unmarked. Many plastic toys from the 1950s onward were marked "C.J. CO." or have the full Cracker Jack name molded into the plastic.

There are several collector's guides, both online and in print (such as "Cracker Jack Toys: The Complete, Unofficial Guide" by Larry White). These resources have pictures and checklists to help identify the prize by its shape, material and

There are plenty of Cracker Jack toy collectors out there, as well as many toys to be found. The Cracker Jack Collectors Association (CJCA) holds an annual get-together for enthusiasts. "We still have study sessions and discussions about all kinds of prizes, plus we have a newsletter that is written by our members and sent out four times a year to our members," Brazeau said.

For more about the CJCA go to www. crackerjackcollectors.com/collecting.htm.

Below: In the late 1930s, Cracker Jack began inserting toy planes into its boxes. (photo submitted)



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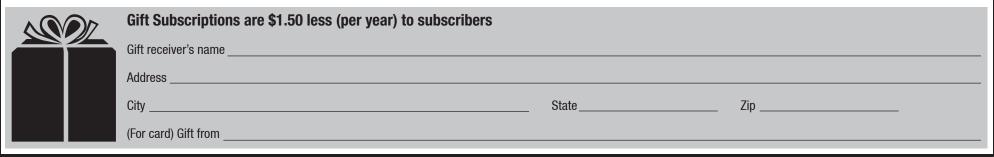
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Telephone

Telegrams were the emails of generations past

By WILLIAM FLOOD

In an era long before email and texts, telegrams were the fastest way to reach someone with an important message. A single sheet of paper could carry urgent news, congratulations, or instructions across great distances in a matter of minutes. Today, collectors treasure those communications as glimpses into the personal and professional affairs of another time.

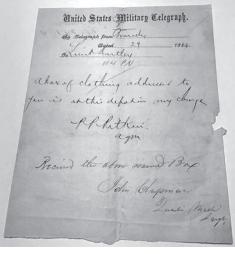
Before the telegraph, messaging remained virtually unchanged for centuries; written dispatches were delivered by hand, taking days, weeks, or months to arrive. That changed in 1837, when Samuel Morse invented the telegraph, making communication nearly instantaneous. The technology was quickly commercialized, and by the 1860s, telegraph lines had spread across the country. Soon after, the first successful transatlantic cable was laid, connecting North America and Europe.

Early telegraph systems relied on two experienced operators — one to transmit, one to receive - using the famous Morse Code. Advances called "printing telegraphs" allowed messages to be typed on keyboards and printed at the receiving end. The first was patented just two years after Morse's first transmission. Improvements followed, including Thomas Edison's model introduced around 1873. These devices eventually evolved into teleprinters — machines resembling a cross between a typewriter and a printer that could both send and receive messages. These systems relied on cables, but the advent of radio technology allowed telegrams to travel over the airwaves, making it possible to reach remote locations, including ships at sea.

The first commercial telegram services appeared in the mid-1840s, when private companies began selling messages by the word. One of the earliest, the Magnetic Telegraph Company, used Morse's original telegraph

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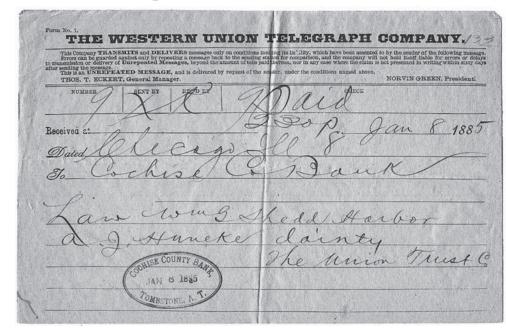
Above: A Civil War-era dispatch from a quartermaster in 1864 to a Lieutenant commanded a solid \$95.

lines to offer a speedier, more reliable messaging alternative than the mail. Though expensive, the service quickly gained popularity with businesses, newspapers, and anyone needing urgent communication.

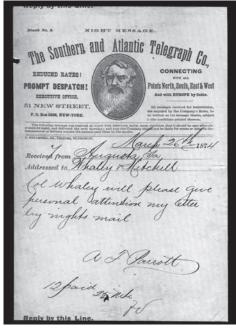
Western Union was born in 1856 from the merger of several regional telegraph companies. With the expansion of countrywide telegraph lines, it quickly became the nation's dominant provider. Competition arose: in the 1870s, the American Union Telegraph Company briefly challenged Western Union, prompting rate cuts and network expansion; the Postal Telegraph Company, founded in 1881, mounted a longer-term challenge with lower prices and its own national system. Both, along with other competitors, like the American Telegraph Company and the Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Company, were eventually absorbed into Western Union, ensuring its dominance.

SEE TELEGRAMS PAGE 12

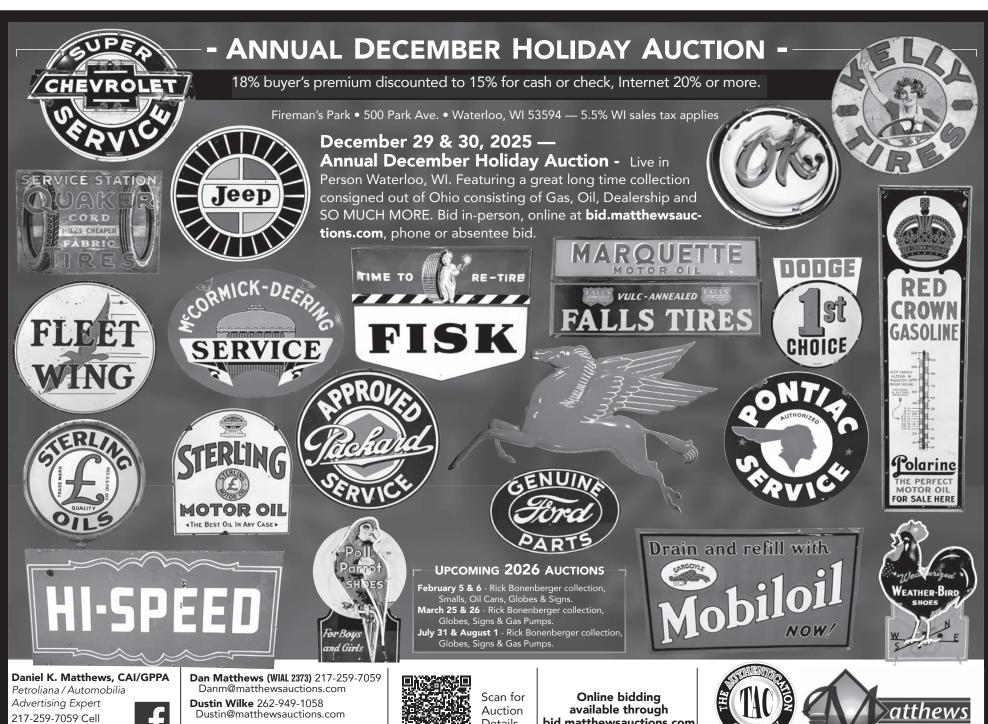
Right: The \$250 price on this 1874 Southern & Atlantic Telegraph Co. reflects its



Above: Over a century old, this telegram was translated from Morse Code sent by telegraph (\$45).







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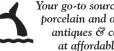
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EVENT FINDER



Georgia Atlanta Scott Antique Markets Jan 081
Illinois Donnellson Live Auction Dec 2011
Indiana Beech Grove New Years Day Auction Jan 01

Shipshewana Antique & Miscellaneous Auction Dec 17	4
Maryland	
Boonsboro Live & Online Auction Jan 03	11
Chevy Chase Catalogue Auction Dec 16	12
Ohio	
Eaton Estate Auction Jan 01	11
Greenville Online Personal Property Auction Dec 16	12

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Planning a trip? Event Finder can help you locate auctions and shows. All events listed under the Event Finder heading are advertised in this issue of Antique Week. Events are listed by state, then by town with a brief description of the event, the opening date and finally the page number where the ad can be located.

Event Finder is only for advertised events. Auctioneers and show managers who want to be listed in our free calendar listings may continue to do so. Those free listings will be contained in the Auction or Show calendar sections.

While we have taken great care in compiling the information shown here, we strongly urge you to call the auctioneer or show manager listed for the event in case of cancellations or postponements. We also encourage auctioneers and show managers to contact us with any changes to their schedule. AntiqueWeek is not responsible for errors or omissions.

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SHOW CALENDAR

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 03

NORTH CAROLINA, Raleigh, Gun & Military Antique Show Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 10am-4pm TheCarolinaTrader.com Day 1 of 2

SUNDAY, JANUARY 04 NORTH CAROLINA, Raleigh, Gun &

Military Antique Show

FRIDAY, MARCH 06

ILLINOIS, Rock Island, Antique Spectacular Fri. 4-8pm; Sat. 10-5pm; Sun. 10-3pm AntiqueSpectacular.com

Saturday, March 07 ILLINOIS, Rock Island, Antique

SUNDAY, MARCH 08

ILLINOIS, Rock Island, Antique Day 3 of 3

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Toy Show &

9am-2pm Townsend Promotions tel: (507) 269-1473

FRIDAY, MAY 08

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Fri & Sat 8am-6pm: Sun 8am-2pm Townsendshows.com Day 1 of 3

SATURDAY, MAY 09

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Day 2 of 3

SUNDAY, MAY 10

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Day 3 of 3

Friday, August 14

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Fri&Sat. 8am-6pm; Sun. 9am-2pm Townsend Promotions tel: (507) 269-1473 Day 1 of 3

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Day 3 of 3

Auction Calendar

Monday, December 15

PENNSYLVANIA, Denver, Online Only

No Time Given MorphyAuctions.com

Tuesday, December 16

MARYLAND, Chevy Chase, Catalogue 11am SloansandKenyon.com

OHIO, Greenville, Online Personal **Property Auction**

No Time Given Midwest-Auctioneers.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

INDIANA, Shipshewana, Antique & Miscellaneous Auction 9am Shipshewana Auction tel: (260) 768-4129

OHIO, Greenville, Online Personal **Property Auction** Day 2 of 2

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

INDIANA, Shipshewana, 3 Day Auction 1pm Chupp Auctions tel: (260) 768-7616

Christmas Auction

Day 1 of 3

INDIANA, Shipshewana, 3 Day Auction

Christmas Auction Day 2 of 3

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

9am Mollett Auction Service tel: (618) 267-3086

PENNSYLVANIA, Cogan Station, Pre-

No Time Given Roaninc.com

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

PENNSYLVANIA, Cogan Station, Pre-

ILLINOIS, Donnellson, Live Auction

INDIANA, Shipshewana, 3 Day Auction Day 3 of 3

PENNSYLVANIA, Cogan Station, Pre-**Christmas Auction**

Day 3 of 3

Monday, December 29 MISSOURI, Kansas City, Between the

Holidays Auctions

OHIO, Middlefield, Antique & Collectible

9am Aaronmast.hibid.com/auctions/current Day 1 of 3

WISCONSIN, Waterloo, Holiday Auction No Time Given bid.matthewsauction.com Day 1 of 2

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

OHIO, Middlefield, Antique & Collectible Auction

Day 2 of 3

WISCONSIN, Waterloo, Holiday Auction Day 2 of 2

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 OHIO, Middlefield, Antique & Collectible

Auction Day 3 of 3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 01

Auction 1pm Heimelauction.com

INDIANA, Greentown, New Years Day

10am Dave Turner tel: (765) 419-1943

OHIO, Eaton, Estate Auction 10am Walnut Harvest Auctions

OHIO, West Union, 27th Annual New Years Day Auction

9am Herb Erwin tel: (937) 544-8252

SATURDAY, JANUARY 03

MARYLAND, Boonsboro, Live & Online Auction

9am ChocranAuctions.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 08 PENNSYLVANIA, Schnecksville, Online

Auction 7pm Tomhallauctions.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 PENNSYLVANIA, Downingtown Americana Auction 9am Pookandpook.com Day 1 of 3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15 PENNSYLVANIA, Downingtown

Americana Auction Day 2 of 3

E-Mail: Advertising@antiqueweek.com

Friday, January 16 PENNSYLVANIA. Downingtown

Americana Auction Day 3 of 3

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

MICHIGAN, Vermontville, Music Machine

No Time Given Stantons tel: (517) 331-8150 Day 1 of 3

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

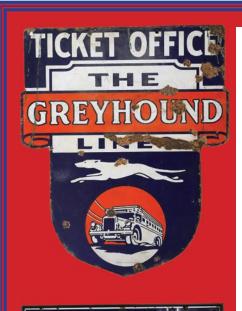
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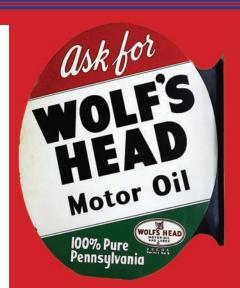
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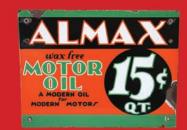


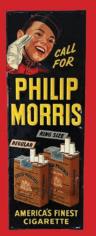










































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LIVE AUCTION



Wayside Antiques - Leon (John) Wall Trust DECEMBER 20th, 9:00 AM 1659 IL Rt. 127 · DONNELLSON, IL

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We are offering the Real Estate and collection of the Estate of Leon Jon Wall of Wayside Antiques in an every thing must go – Multiple Ring Auction in one day! John spent a life time of collecting antiques from the Mid-west and East Coasts. Now is the time to purchase some of the nicest antiques you will ever come across!!!

This auction will have antique furniture, tools, old phones, victoolas, furniture pieces and parts along with multiple chairs and lamps (Aladdin & oil). AND . . . we are STILL finding MORE great pieces that will sell in this auction!! Plan on spending the day with us here in the Greenville/Donnellson, IL area! Lodging is available in Greenville & surrounding area. Lunch Stand & Restroom on Grounds. DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE AUCTION!!!







The Estate of Leon John Wall Trust will be offering this 12.95 acres property for sale. The property has a main store front building of approx. 13,000 sq. ft. of showroom/retail that was used as an antique store. Also attached to the antique store is a 60x96 insulated post frame building with 2-10' overhead doors being currently used for storage and display. To the north of the main building there is a 68x96 insulated post frame building with mezzanines. This building has approx. 1/3 of it lofted and also has an 11 over head door with a small lean-to on the west side of more access to the main part of the building. There is approximately 6 acres of tillable land with a branch creek running across the property. There is an entrance to the back part of the property off of Sorento Ave. The possibilities are endless for this rural property in high traffic area on a major highway! Don't miss this opportunity!!!













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different styles, heights and shapes including g parts) Nightstands, Corner Cabinets, Multiple Size Showcases, Attachable Mirrors, Beds,
Metal PostCard Rack, Double Sided Work Desk, Cedar and Blanket Chests, Dining Room Table and Chairs, Victorian Couches and Chairs,
Printers Cabinets, Map Cabinets, Copper Boilers, Old Scales, Typewriter, Vanity w/Mirror, Drop-Leaf Tables, Pump Organ, Cast-Iron Gas
4 Burner Stove, Dry Sink, Wooden Round Wash Machine, Wooden Butter Churn, Old Radio Cabinets, Wooden File Cabinets, Marble-Top
Dressers, Milk Cans, Metal Pepsi Cooler Bottle Dispenser, Lawyers Bookcase with Drawers, Omate Buffet, Woodworkers Table, School Chalk Board on Stand, Metal Baby Bed, Ship Trunks and Many Unique Pieces, Aladdin Lamps, Glassware, Old Wooden Ice Box with Brass Water Spicket, Victrola Horns, Metal Shelving, Wooden Show Cases, Old Paintings and Prints w/Frames, Rolltop Desks, Jenny Lin Bed, Day Bed, Baby Cribs, Quilts, Stained Glass (framed). TOOLS: Veneer Press, Stripping Tank, Drill Press, Scroll Saws, Table Saws, Band Saw, Furniture Carts, Joiner Planers, Radial Arm Saws, Multiple Shopsmiths w/Attach., Pallet Racking, Peg Board, Ext. Ladders. SO MUCH MORE!

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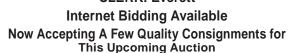
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Oak Empie style library table, Decan's wine making bottles, 6 Board blanket boards & surf boards, 2 Black powder ers-white & green, type pistols, Wine bottles, 5 Gal. glass

bench, Early coffee shop booth w/ chest w/till, Men's Kilts, Warriors 1939 etched glass type top, Maytag gas en- license plate topper, Batter bowls, Pygine, Wico hit-n-miss engine 3-Anvils, rex bowls, WWII? Bayonet, Philco Ra-WWI? Break down coal forge w/case, dio/Clock, 8'x5' Hooked rug, USA 48 Several tongs, Coal forge, R.R. jack, Star flag, Framed artwork, Early easel, Early wooden policeman painted cut- Movie posters, Several Ip records-Elvis out sign, Pay phone, Wooden cigar & others, Board games, Roseville/Rookmolds, Laurel Butter Cracker tin, Can- wood/McCoy pottery, Quilts, Marbles, dy store countertop scales, Oak fire- Collection of Ky Derby glasses, Early place mantle w/mirror, Early Mission large size-stained glass window sun style grandfather clock, Cider press- catchers, Windmill blade & tail assemes, Wagner alum. Ware, Early dentist bly no stand, Green painted wooden chairs, Early porc. commodes, 1 Draw- bucket bench, Mulitcade arcade gameer stand, Enamel kitchen cart, Boogie no key, Early malt shop milk shake mix-

Additional Information: Please check our website for updated listing, 90% of this auction is items from the Kennedy Estate & others.

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Telegrams

FROM PAGE 6

By the turn of the 20th century, telegrams were a regular means of both business and personal communication. Their heyday ran from the 1930s through the 1950s, when Western Union was at its peak and Postal Telegraph Company its only rival. By then, telegram service was efficient, polished, and part of daily life. Businesses relied on telegrams for sending everything from contracts to confirmations, while families used them for things like birth and wedding announcements and other important news.

Sending a telegram was an interesting ritual. A customer would enter a telegraph office and hand the clerk a carefully worded message. Since each word cost money, efficient language was key, and the clerk might suggest even tighter phrasing before keying it into the system. Within minutes, the message would travel over telegraph lines, through switchboards, and arrive at its destination.

Receiving a telegram had its own customs. Originally, a recipient would walk into the telegraph office, but eventually uniformed messengers would bicycle or walk to the recipient, delivering an envelope containing the correspondence. Those "wires" were

Below: This 1955 telegram from Bethlehem Steel to a school safety patrol used one of Western Union's Holiday Greeting varieties (\$39).



unadorned typewritten blocks on Western Union or rival letterhead. By the 1950s, Western Union had softened the formality for special events with nicer "Greeting Telegrams" on festive paper.

In the United States, telegrams began losing ground in the second half of the 20th century. By the 1950s, telephone service was commonplace, giving people a faster, more personal way to communicate — yet telegrams were still employed for important notices. Further decline came in the 1960s and 1970s as long-distance calling grew cheaper and more reliable, making telegrams seem clunky and old-fashioned. By the late 1970s, they were largely outmoded, with later technologies like fax, email, and eventually mobile phones taking over. Western Union finally ended telegram service in 2006, closing the book on more than a century of the format.

By themselves, these small documents and the envelopes that carried them don't seem remarkable. Yet those that have survived are social history time capsules. Preserved exactly as they were sent, the words capture messages once urgent or meaningful, whether family updates or matters of historical weight. Their creases, tears, and wear mark their journeys through another place and time.

Modest or momentous, each telegram offers a vivid, tangible connection to the past, making them a delight for collectors. Some favor broad pursuit of inexpensive pieces that

Below: Complete with a certificate of authenticity, this signed telegram announced Hank Aaron's 715th home run (\$350).



Right: This lot of 1930/40s Western Union telegrams (\$15) would be great for starting a collection.

reflect various providers, timelines, and topics. Others narrow their search to telegrams associated with particular contexts, like travel, shipping, automotive, or even specific companies, or to telegrams concerning political or military matters.

The value of a telegram often mirrors the interests that guide its selection. Common, everyday examples can often be purchased for as little as \$1, making them accessible to beginning or casual collectors. Telegrams tied to significant events or famous people can climb into the mid-hundreds. Early 19th-century examples and those from short-lived ser-



vices generally command the highest prices, thanks to their rarity and historical significance.

To learn more about these interesting collectibles, visit the Ephemera Society of America: www.ephemerasociety.org.





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GILT-DECORATED CHINESE CHIPPENDALE PAGODA WALL MIRROR, 18th century.



ITALIAN SILVER EAGLE, GIANMARIA BUCCELLATI, MILAN, 20th century



FOLLOWER OF PIERRE MIGNARD (French, 17th

FOLLOWER OF PIERRE MIGNARD (French, 17th century). Pair of Portraits - A Lady and a Gentleman, Depicts husband and wife who were members of the Baigneres branch of the Boulart family

Texaco Fire Chief pump pushed up bids to \$1,300

By Nancy Kelly

MIDLAND, Mich. — For Pam and Randy Bock, their ideal vacation was not a trip to Hawaii or a cruise. They would carefully plot a route that included as many antique malls, flea markets, and collector shows as possible and then hit the road looking for treasures. After decades of these enjoyable adventures, they decided to downsize and allow other collectors to claim their prizes. Marty Wegner of Wegner Auctioneers was impressed by the variety and quality of the inventory in this online auction. Prices here do not include the buyer's premium.

While there were many small items representing a variety of collecting passions, there were also some large, unique pieces that drew excellent bidder response. The leading example was the red and black Neptune Meter Company of New York Texaco Fire Chief-branded lead gas pump. It sported a reproduction glass globe and some older restorations, but complete with hose, nozzle, lights and keys it made a desirable package. It drew the highest price of the auction, closing with a final bid of \$1,300.

A handsome selection of four vintage gold and silver pocket watches included one with a chain and one with a black face. They were accompanied by an Omega wristwatch mounted on a leather wrist band. To round out this varied lot there was a 1953 Detroit Tigers baseball rain check ticket. No information was given on the condition of the time pieces but that didn't stop the bidders from driving their final offer to \$475.

Vintage equipment drew enthusiastic interest and there were some fascinating examples. An Evinrude Elto Pal 1.5 hp aluminum outboard motor from the late 1930s had been beautifully refurbished by the owner. He then mounted it in a showcase, presenting a museum quality display, complete with period appropriate bottles of Shell outboard motor oil and Marine Chief gasoline. It left for a new home with a final bid of \$375. There was also a Man-U Troll Motors Inc. model 3B hand crank trolling motor produced by Universal Projects of Jacksonville, Florida, possibly from the 1960s. Used in place of an outboard motor or an oar, the handle was manually pumped up and down to rotate the propeller and move the boat along. Complete with stand and in excellent condition, this device departed with a final bid of \$325.

Downsizing means reluctantly giving up large furniture pieces that no longer fit in the home. In this case, that included a very handsome vintage Mission oak

Below: With a delightfully ornate metal frame and a cranberry dot glass jar this pickle caster with tongs closed at \$70.





Above: This Texaco Fire Chief gas pump drew the highest price of the auction, closing with a final bid of \$1,300.

3-door bookcase. This very solid item measured 60 inches wide by 44 inches tall and was in excellent condition with original hardware and no damage. Each of the three compartments had three adjustable wood shelves plus the top provided ample space for displaying collectibles. It was rehomed with a final bid of \$170. An attractive double gateleg game or parlor table of solid wood construction measured 27 inches high. It consisted of two wings that could be raised for dining or folded down for storage in a very narrow space. This attractive and practical table was claimed with a final bid of \$150. In keeping with the nautical theme, there was an unusual fly fishing-themed rocker-recliner with matching ottoman. It was supported by a solid wood frame and was in very clean condition. It left with a final bid of \$85.

There was a selection of tools and

Below: This "G.I. Joe K-9 Pups" tin litho still worked. It finished with a high bid of \$80.





Above: Four gold and silver pocket watches, an Omega wristwatch, and a 1953 Detroit Tigers baseball rain check ticket climbed to a final bid of \$475.



Above: A set of two Dietz vintage traffic lanterns with red globes were claimed with a high bid of \$65.

useful household items that were in excellent condition and ready for their new assignments. Then there were the fun offerings. For example, bringing on a wave of nostalgia there was a Jolly Good Industries Inc. penny gum ball machine with glass compartment and metal frame. The words "1 cent Gumball" were still visible on the front of the glass in colorful letters and the off-white paint on the metal was undamaged. It was taken with a final bid of \$110.

Pam and Randy each had their own personal categories that they would hunt for while traveling. One of hers was cranberry glassware items that were carefully selected and a few were offered here. The highest earning one was a 10-inch-tall pickle castor with tongs consisting of a delightfully ornate metal frame and a cranberry dot glass jar that closed at \$70.

His passion was Elmer Fudd collectibles. There was a fascinating variety including Shaw and Goebel ceramic fig-

Below: A penny gum ball machine was taken with a final bid of \$110.



urines, cloth Dakin dolls, wall plaques, posters, a 20 inch blow mold with Bugs Bunny, ornaments, mini liquor bottles, and even an Elmer Fudd bowling ball. There were 46 lots in all featuring this cartoon character from the Warner Bros. Looney Tunes series. The most collectible lot consisted of four Elmer Fudd Goebel ceramic figurines, each posed with his arch nemesis Bugs Bunny. This selection was taken with a final bid of \$80. A set of two tin signs highlighting Elmer Fudd the hunter featured the phrases "No hunting unless it's for wabbit!" and "If you can wead this you're in wange. BANG! BANG!". They were collected with a final bid of \$70. An Elmer and Bugs 20 inch tall plastic blow mold figure was claimed for \$50, a rare ceramic lamp with leather shade for \$40.

Wegner Auctioneers' busy schedule can be viewed at https://www.wegnerauctioneers.com

Below: A late 1930s Evinrude Elto Pal 1.5 hp aluminum outboard motor that was beautifully refurbished by the owner and mounted in a showcase left for a new home with a final bid of \$375.



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BEARDSTOWN - Beardstown Antique Mall, 2104 Wall St., Beardstown, IL 62618. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5, 217-323-4569, 6,000 sq. ft. See Facebook pg.

EL PASO- El Paso Antique Mall, 15 Linco Dr. 309-527-3705. Visit us on FB www.Facebook.com/ elpasoantiquemall7

JOHNSTON CITY - Shamrock Antiques, Highway 57, Exit 59 toward Johnston City. Left on Hwy 37. 2 blocks on left. Wed-Sat. 10:30am-5pm. 618-983-5200. Shamrock303@frontier.com

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INDIANA NORTH OF I-70

ANGOLA - Remember When Vintage Mall, 2010 N. Wayne, 260-668-0820, Antiques, Vintage, Home Decor, Record Albums. Call for store hours!

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PIERCETON - ANTIQUES ON FIRST STREET, 109 N First Street, 574-594-2131, Antique Mall in historic Pierceton IN Wed– Sat 10am-5pm Sun 12-4pm ANTIQUESONFIRSTSTREET.COM

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REMINGTON - Michigan Street Antiques, 124 E. Michigan St. Tues-Fri 11-5, Sat 10-2 EST. Always buying fine art, coins, stamps, cards and more. 773-447-9203. Facebook/ Michigan Street Antiques LLC. ROCKVILLE - Antiques on York, 100 W. York St., Rockville, IN. 47872. Day: 765-569-1003, after hours: 765-592-0275. Antiques, Collectibles, midcentury, primitives. www.antiquesonyork.com. FB Antiques on York. Ebay Store: AOY. Open 6 days 10-5, Sun 12-5, 1 of 12 Rockville

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Length of run	20 words	ea. word over 20
3 MONTHS	or less \$1.68	\$1.48
6 MONTHS	\$2.55	\$2.18
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AntiqueWeek

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These areas experienced multiple reports of late deliveries during the week of 11/11/25: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin.

These States reported single reported of late delivery for the same week:, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Our staff members will continue to address the late delivery reports we receive. We are constantly striving to rectify the late delivery problem. Please call our customer care center at (800) 876-5133 or e-mail Kphipps@midcountrymedia.com or Skopp@ midcountrymedia.com to report late delivery in your area.

Please, also contact USPS at 1-800-ASK-USPS or 1-800-275-8777

If you are experiencing consistent late delivery of all mail, we are encouraging you to reach out to your State Representatives to report the ongoing problems with late mail delivery in your area.

While we agree that the physical copy of the paper is the top priority, we do want to remind everyone that in the event your paper does not arrive by the issue date, the current issue is available to view on the website www.AntiqueWeek.com. The online issue is free to subscribers and totally keyword searchable. Thank you for your continued patience & support as we work through the issues with USPS.

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Farm World

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YOU MAY CHARGE with VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express by phone, or we will bill you. PHONE HOURS: Telephone hours 8:00 am-4:30 pm EST, Monday through Friday. Closed Saturday. Evenings & weekends, answering machine will record your subscription, ad or message.

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Civil War.....13

\$2.00 extra per run. CLASSIFIED DISPLAYS (in a border)

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10 word minimum

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7 point type - 27¢ word 7 point bold - 32¢ word 8 point type – 37¢ word 8 pt. bold – 41¢ word

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Number and street name counted as separate words City, state, zip code are FREE OR ... ask about our

10 pt. bold and 14 pt. bold

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20 22 27 26 28 30 33

(Below information will not be included in ad, please specify above)

PHONE

times. Classification preferred

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STATE ____

Exp. Date_

(50¢ added if we bill you.)

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You may advertise up to 10 used books. Two extra items allowed at a cost of \$2.00 each. (Grand total of 12 tiems.) Only books, magazines or newspapers may be advertised. We reserve the right to reject & edit any ad.

Books must be out-of-print or at least 20 years old. If the book is not 20 years old & it is out-of-print, you
must include "op." *The date books were published must appear in ad.* If there is no date on the book, you
must include "nd." A book is considered in print if someone has a quantity of them available to trade or sell.

Deadline – Wednesdays 12 days in advance of date of issue Rates for up to 10 priced items.

Total Selling

\$43 thru \$70 \$11.30 \$71 thru \$115 \$16.15 \$116 thru \$159\$20.80

\$160 & up \$22.70

REMEMBER we'll re-run 1 more time.

On commonly known titles, explanation of content must be omitted. A total of 120 characters (each individual space - such as a letter, a comma, a 1-digit number, etc.) are allowed for the title; and a toal of 120 characters are allowed for the description of the book. This does not include the price you are asking for the book. Postage must be included in book prices.

A checking copy containing the ad will be sent upon request for you to clip and return with sold items crossed off. We will publish the second time in our next available issue at no charge. Second time run must be submitted within THREE months of the first run.

Minimum for Sure Sale book ad is \$7.00. You must show one price per item. You may also add "will consider other offers."

Sure Sale book ads must be paid for in advance of publication. Any reference to price lists, wants to buy, etc., must be run as separate ad.

op – out of print

BOOK ABBREVIATIONS

(See "vocabulary of abbreviations" in a dictionary for others.)

aeg – all edges gilded auth – author bks – books bdg – binding bkpl – bookplate bkstrp - backstrip bl – blue brok – broken buck – buckram

1st - first

(Omit Zip if no sure)

 – copyright ca – approximately cat – catalog chp – chipped cl – cloth col - color conts – contents cpy – copy cv - cover

dec - decorated dict – dictionary disb – disbound dj – dust jacket dlr – dealer dw – dust wrapper ea – each ed – edition or editor Eng – English engr – engraved ex-lib – ex-library ep – endpaper f – fine facs – facsimile f/o – fold out fr – fair

front - frontispiece

fx - foxing

grn – green hist – history hndbk – handbook hng – hinge il – illustrated/illustration inscr - inscribed lea – leather If – leaf litho – lithograph ls – loose ltd – limited m – mint mag – magazine mssg – missing mrbld – marbled

p - poor port – portrait pp – pages ppd - postpaid copy

own – owner SASE - self addr. stamp envelope sig – signature slpcs – slipcase pamph – pamphlet pg – page photo – photograph sl – slight sp – spine stns – stains teg – top edges gilt vf – very fine vg – very good vo – size vol - volume previous priv prntd – privately printed w/o - without pub – published/publishwr - wear rbkd - rebacked yr - year

rev – revised

You may use AntiqueWeek's special Sure Sale ad rates to save money. If you prefer you may also use the regular classified ad rates for books: 7 point 27¢ or 8 point 37¢ per word. Pay 2 weeks, get 3rd week FREE. Minimum charge \$2.70. Be sure to call us on toll-free line if item is sold before your ad expires

You get credit or refund if you notify us after 1st week. Mail your Check, MO, Visa, MasterCard or

nd – no date np – no place

nm - name

American Express number to

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CALL MELISSA AT: 1-800-876-5133, EXT. 352.

9W China-Glass & Paprwts.-Wanted

Wanted Lion, 6 1/2" round top, 5x8 ovel bottom, 3 1/2x6 1/2 oval top. Some large pieces, Jumbo 5" bottom. Leave message 574-952-5918, Argos, In

www.AntiqueWeek.com

44W Movies Wanted

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Dwight Cleveland, PO Box 10922,
Chicago, IL 60610-0922.
773-525-9152.
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Call Melissa at: 1-800-876-5133, Ext. 352.

45 Miscellaneous

Old Radio Sales, Tube, Transistor, Late Model Automobiles, Repair and Sales PO Box 6418, Roanoke, VA 24017, Ask For John, 540-206-7080

59 Notices

"Vendors" Free booth space available at our annual Antique Advertising Specialty Show March 2026, located at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis. This is one of the largest markets for only 40+ year old advertising in the world. Signs, Displays, Clocks, and all other forms of Advertising. For Info: IAAshow.com Contact: damongranger@gmail.com

For Advertising Information Call: 1-800-876-5133

74 China -Glass

Original old glassware for Hoosier Style Cabinets, all styles, spice jars, tea, coffee, sugar, hanging sugar, salts, some with slide tops, 241) pieces, \$1000 for all. Ask for Pattie, 317-727-2391, Greenwood, IN

84 Business Opportunity

Antique Shop, 4 Bedroom Home, Wharehouse With Apartment For Sale On Magical Sanibel Island, Florida, Main Street Frontage, Lots Of Parking. Business Established For 35 Years But Needs Restoring. Great Opportunity 215-275-2365

95 Antiques

Goebel Large Nativity Figures: Holy Family, Standing Shepherd, Kneeling Shepherd Boy, a donkey and a lamb. Perfect condition. M Goebel W. Germany ID mark 1964-1972 asking \$340. 919-542-1068, Pittsboro, NC **Classified Word Ads**

7 pt. type - 27¢

7 pt. bold type - 32¢

8 pt. type - 37¢

8 pt. bold type - 41¢

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INDY ANTIQUE ADVERTISING SHOW September 2026

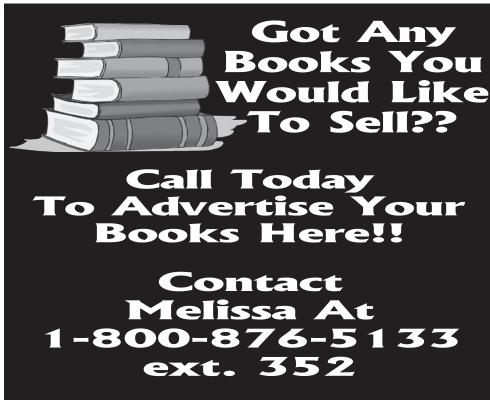
Boone County Fairgrounds 1955 Indianapolis Ave., Lebanon, IN IndyAdShow.com damongranger@gmail.com

2/2026

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Christmas Cards

FROM FRONT PAGE

sending "season's greetings" had to make do with imported cards until 1875. That's when Louis Prang, the "Father of the American Christmas Card," began to sell them domestically. In 1850, Prang set up shop in New York, refining skills acquired as a printer in his native Germany. Among those refinements: significant contributions to the technique of chromolithography. Prang's "chromos" utilized zinc plates for color printing, and proved much less expensive than previous methods of color printing.

Prang initially exported his "chromos" for sale in England, but noting the increased demand for imported cards, he introduced them on American shores in 1875. Thanks to the miracles of mass production, and an efficient, inexpensive, postal system, the Christmas card tradition caught on here just as quickly as it had overseas; by the 1880s, Prang's firm was producing nearly five million cards annually.



Above: Watch out for that snowball! The "sweet little niece" pictured on this mid-40s Hallmark card is decked out in a red flocked parka.

By the 1920s, a Christmas card thematic pattern, still in vogue today, had become fairly well established: the cards offered up a unique blend of nostalgia, sentiment, and season-specific visuals. Although sometimes laced with humor, each and every one had the same overriding primary purpose: to tug, sometimes subtly (and sometimes, not so subtly), at the heartstrings.

Holiday wishes became particularly poignant during World War II, as greetings were sent to friends and family members overseas. In addition to its primary function, the holiday greeting card of the 1940s played another important role: keeping morale high, both at home and abroad.

While later cards incorporated photo art, those of the 1940s and '50s relied mainly on illustration. Novelty additions, such as glitter, flocking, window cut-outs, pop-ups, and pull-out tabs were often used, adding to a card's charm. Card trim could include everything from lace ribbon bows to cotton snowdrifts to metallic foil accents. And, while generic sentiments were the norm ("Here's to luck and plenty of it! Here's to cheer the season thru!"), various companies also employed recognized "name" talents to compose their interior messages. These ranged from the homespun (poet Edgar Guest), to the inspirational (Norman Vincent Peale).

Other top trends of the times:

Photo Cards. Whether it's a selfie or a professional shot, for many folks a Christmas card without photos would be unthinkable. The fad actually began in the late 1930s, with amateur black-and-whites adorning semi-glossy one-sheets.

Studio Cards. More upscale than a box of assorted holiday cards from the local dime store, the "studio card" provided understated elegance at overstated cost. First soaring to prominence in the 1950s, each season's selection of studio cards was arranged for viewing in huge sample books.



Above: All aboard! A "Christmas Express" card by Norcross, with a pullout Santa tab.

Below: A Christmas photo card from the baby boomer era: the author and his sister.





We Wish You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

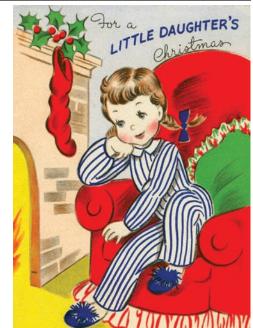


Above: A Christmas greeting that never grows old: "From Our House To Your House," by A & W, early 1950s. The homes are festooned with flocked snow.

Hi Brows. Instantly recognizable by their tall and narrow shape, "Hi Brows" were introduced by American Greetings in 1957. The "Hi Brow" deconstructed the traditional Christmas greeting, reconfiguring it as hip and offbeat, with just a dash of snarky humor.

In addition to American Greetings, other major card producers from the 1940s onward included Quality Cards, Artistic, Rust Craft, Norcross, Golden Bell, Stanley, and, (of course), Hallmark.

Probably the best-known name in the modern greeting card industry, Hallmark was founded by Norfolk, Nebraska native Joyce C. Hall. Hall arrived in Kansas City in 1910, with just a shoebox full of postcards, initially



Above: Waiting for Santa: Stanley card, with visual of girl by fireplace.

conducting business out of his room at the YMCA. But Hall was a determined entrepreneur, and by 1915, "Hall Bros." (comprised of J.C., Bill, and Rollie Hall), began to manufacture its own cards. The company, eventually relabeled "Hallmark Cards, Inc." has been "caring enough to send the very best" ever since. (That slogan, by the way, dates from 1944; the Hallmark "crown," developed by artist Andrew Szoerke, first appeared on cards in 1949.)

Over the decades, Christmas cards have been prized by even the most casual collectors. Arranged individually, in groupings, or as part of a larger holiday display, vintage Christmas cards remain an attractive and extremely affordable

collectible, usually ranging from \$5-10 each.

Today, as in the past, the exchange of Christmas cards continues to serve its original

function: bringing good cheer to those we cherish. Even more importantly, in our far-flung modern world, holiday cards help reinforce the ties of friendship and family that bind us all together. Communication may be erratic the rest of the year, but a Christmas card keeps the lines of communication open and alive. It says "Now, right at this very moment, you, and you alone, are in my thoughts.

Merry Christmas!"
Photo Associate: Hank
Kuhlmann

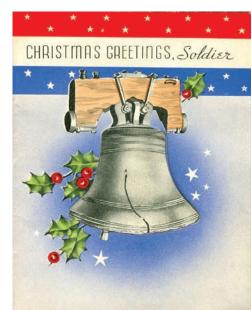
Donald-Brian Johnson is the co-author of numerous Schiffer books on design and collectibles, including "Postwar Pop," a collection of his columns. Please address inquiries (or Christmas greetings) to: donaldbrian@msn.com

Above: Ice capader: 1944 Hallmark card, starring a polar bear on skates.

Below: A Gay '90s couple takes to the floor, on a 1955 Golden Bell Greetings



Below: The Liberty Bell on this World War II card by Paramount is a pullout honeycomb.





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1ST AUCTION SEGMENT I MONDAY, DECEMBER 29 亙 9 AM

Thermometers: Signs; Coins; Miniatures; Railroad Lanterns; General Antiques; Toys and More!

New! Uncatalogued Auction (after Segment 1 is done)

Miniatures; Thermometers; Signs; General Antiques; Toys and more!

2ND AUCTION SEGMENT (BETSY DAN'S AL AUCTION) I MONDAY, DECEMBER 29 互 4 PM

Toy's; Precision Toys; First Gear Toys; UPS Toys; Coins; Miniatures; Assorted Tire Ash Trays; and More!

3RD AUCTION SEGMENT I TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30 互 9 AM

Antique Tools; Miniatures; Griswold; Anvils; General Antiques; Signs; Railroad Lanterns and Collectibles; Toys; General Antiques; Ox Yokes, and More!

New! John Deere Auction (After Segment 3 is done)

JD Thermometer; JD Signs; JD Implement Panels; JD Mini Anvils; JD Knives; JD Gas Pump; JD Lantern; JD Airplanes; JD Toys; 18+ Pieces of JD Precision Toys and More!

4TH AUCTION SEGMENT I TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30 互 4 PM

Large Ford Tool Display (w/ Henry Ford's Key to his penthouse and license plate); Spec Cast Toys (NIB); Ertle Toys (NIB); Toy Farmer Series Toys; Oil Drum Banks; (First Gear Toys NIB) and More!

5TH AUCTION SEGMENT I WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 亙 9 AM

Salesman's Samples; Steam Tractors; Hit N Miss Engines; Antique Tools; Griswold; Signs; Thermometers; Advertising Clocks; Oil Tins; Railroad Lanterns and Collectibles; Toys; General Antiques & more!

New! Sporting Memorabilia (After Segment 5 is done)

Collection of BB Guns; Miniature Guns; Remington Truck Banks; Winchester Truck Banks and More!

6TH AUCTION SEGMENT I WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 互 4 PM

Winchester Advertising; Remington Advertising; Knives; Hatchets; Gun Oilers; Traps; JC Higgins and Marbles Gun Cleaning Kits; Ammo; Shotguns; Rifles, Collector Guns; Hand Guns and More!!



BEER



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