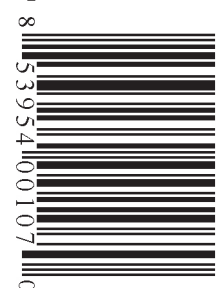


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Collectors are still celebrating Bicentennial stamps

BY BARBARA MILLER BEEM

The last time America threw itself a birthday party, Bicentennial fever had spread throughout the country and beyond. Leading up to the big day on July 4, 1976, it was a time to celebrate with fireworks displays and tall ships, outdoor concerts and backyard barbecues. The country was awash in red, white, and blue, and collectors enthusiastically scooped up flag-themed quilts, t-shirts, and baseball caps, as well as souvenir thimbles, bells, and spoons. Not surprisingly, an event as important as this one was marked by the issuance of commemorative stamps, both domestic and foreign, used by the general public, but now collected by beginner and veteran philatelists alike.

Of course, American Bicentennial stamps were not the first of their kind, as the history of commemorative stamps dates back to 1892. Tom Fortunato said a stamp honoring Christopher Columbus is widely considered the first commemorative stamp. It was released by Argentina and pictured his three vessels, the "Pinta," "Nina," and "Santa Maria." As for the first commemorative stamp issued by the United States, Fortunato pointed to a stamp issued the following year in celebration of the



Above: Greetings from the Atlantic coast of Africa: Gabon issued a colorful strip of five stamps for America's Bicentennial.

Below: Whereas South Korea joined in the celebration of America's 200th, North Korea did not.



Columbian World's Fair in Chicago. It was just the beginning.

Fortunato, who is active in the Rochester (NY) Philatelic Association, as well as the American Philatelic Society, continued by describing other categories of commemorative stamps. For example, he noted joint-issue stamps, ones with "two or more countries issuing similar-looking stamps regarding a common occasion or anniversary." Of particular note is what he called the "best example" of such a stamp: In 1959, the United States and Canada joined together to commemorate the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Another good example, the philatelist added, would be a stamp honoring Benjamin Franklin, jointly issued by the United States and Canada and timed for the 1976 American Bicentennial.

Left: "Stars and Stripes Forever" from Nicaragua.

The issuance of any stamp is not an overnight procedure, he continued. In the years leading up to the Bicentennial, the United States Postal Service set in motion the years-long process. To begin, the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, appointed by the Postmaster General, reviews ideas that have been submitted by the public. Members determine which subjects are to be honored, moving the project to the design phase of the operation. "This process can take three years or longer before a stamp is issued," Fortunato explained. To understand the scope of this undertaking, multiply that by 113, the number of American stamps

SEE BICENTENNIAL STAMPS
PAGE 19

Right: Benjamin Franklin was honored by Great Britain with a stamp bearing this stately portrait.



Below: For the Bicentennial, Bangladesh produced stamps with familiar images of Mount Rushmore and the Statue of Liberty, as well as the Mayflower and the Liberty Bell. Images courtesy of the American Topical Association



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NEWS

Porcelain Frontier service station sign pumped up bidders to \$43,000

BY SUSAN EMERSON NUTTER

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Held during their 39th annual jam-packed vendor show located in the Columbus, Ohio, Embassy Suites, June 25-27; Check the Oil, LLC, once again put together a stellar auction of highly desirable oil and gas memorabilia. The auction was held the last day of the show on June 27, and show attendees could preview and bid live or the masses could bid online via liveauctioneers.com.

A great selection of 470 advertising pieces related to the oil and gas industry including porcelain signs, neon signs, gas pumps, oil cans, advertising displays, and early automotive toys made up this auction which is often considered the highlight of the three-day Check the Oil managed show.

Auctioneer Andy Husser did the selling. The top lot of the day was purchased by an in-house bidder who offered \$43,000 for an iconic “Frontier” gas and oil service station double-sided porcelain 60 inch in diameter identification sign. Featuring a detailed horse and rider graphic on each side, this example is one of the toughest to find versions of Frontier signs. The display side is graded 8.5 while the reverse is graded 8.25.

Prices reported are hammer prices and do not include the buyer’s premium.

Another hard-to-find beauty selling for \$37,500 was the “GMC Gasoline/Diesel/Trucks” dealership 30” double-sided porcelain advertising sign with its original bracket. Recently discovered at a Midwest dealership, this new-old-stock sign is undoubtedly the best example of its kind in existence. It measured 46 inches by 41.5 inches and is marked “Veribrite of Chicago”.

A bid of \$26,000 was needed to ac-



Above: Featuring the trademark horse and rider graphic “Frontier” gas and oil is known for, double-sided porcelain service station sign was 5 feet in diameter and brought \$43,000.

quire the “Chevrolet Super Service” double-sided porcelain advertising sign with black tips. The black tips is what makes it special and difficult to find as does the serif-styled Chevrolet lettering. The 49 by 41.5 inch sign was marked “Walker & Co. Detroit” and was graded a 9 on the display side and an 8.9 on the reverse.

Featuring loads of graphics and color

for a double-sided porcelain sign, a General Motors “Red Crown Gasoline Ethyl” sign featuring the well-known crown graphic sold for \$15,000. It was 30 inches in diameter.

Neon signs are always a hit with collectors and there were lots to choose from at this Check the Oil event. Leading this group was the hard to find “Chevrolet Su-



Above: Featuring detailed graphics including a crown, this General Motors “Red Crown Gasoline Ethyl” double-sided porcelain advertising sign brought \$15,000.

Below: This hard-to-find “Chevrolet Super Service” neon and milk glass light-up, single-sided porcelain dealership advertising sign realized \$25,000.



per Service” neon and milk glass light-up single sided porcelain dealership advertising sign which made \$25,000. Again having black tips, but also milk glass let-

SEE CHECK THE OIL
PAGE 4

Sail250 dropped anchor in Virginia’s historic harbors

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

America celebrated one of its biggest birthdays on July 4, which marked the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States. A year-long celebration known as America250 is bringing festivities to communities nationwide, with parades, historical reenactments, and other special events honoring the nation’s past.

One of the most spectacular attractions is Sail250, a maritime festival featuring some of the world’s most impressive tall ships, historic vessels, and naval ships. The flotilla is stopping along the East Coast at major ports including Norfolk, Baltimore, New York, and Boston, giving visitors a chance to see the vessels up close.

Sail250 is especially significant in Virginia because the Commonwealth stands at America’s beginning. Its waterways welcomed the first permanent English settlers at Jamestown in 1607. A centu-



Above: Costumed enactors brought history to life at every port. In Smithfield, one portrayed Revolutionary War-era privateer John Sinclair.



Above: The Godspeed, one of the three ships that brought English settlers to Jamestown in 1607 sailed to Yorktown and Norfolk.

SEE SAIL250 MARITIME FESTIVAL
PAGE 5

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Check The Oil

FROM PAGE 2

ters, this sign was also impressive in size measuring 66.5 inches by 61.25 inches by 12 inches.

A bid of \$16,000 won another wonderful neon porcelain “Chevrolet” dealership “bow-tie” advertising sign . The sign had great gloss and color and the neon was in good working condition. The sign measured 85 inches by 10 inches by 29 inches, and was graded an 8.5.

Thought to be the only surviving example; a double-sided “Shell” neon sign produced by Duranso Sign Co. of Winston-Salem, N.C., was also put up for bids and brought \$14,000. According to the catalog listing, “These were professionally made by using original double sided Shell porcelain signs for The Quality Oil Co. which was the largest Shell oil distributor along the Eastern seaboard.” The sign measured 48 inches by 48 inches by 16 inches and was all original.

One of the more unique neon signs



Above: Large in size being 83 inches wide, this “Ford” dealership oval neon advertising sign was hard to miss. It brought \$11,500.

was the 7 foot oval “Ford” example that retained incredible color and gloss. The sign was marked “Meyers Outdoor Advertising Inc. Mpls.” The sign was unusual due to its size, but also because the neon had been added to this sign. However, no holes were drilled to do so. Measuring 83 inches by 35.5 inches by 6.5 inches, and graded an 8.9, this sign sold for \$11,500.

A sign without neon but boasting milk glass letters that lit up was the 1920s “Garage Service/Repairs” double sided vertical sign. Beautifully restored and in working condition, one side retains the original milk glass letters while the other side has newly made identical milk glass letters. It measured 120 inches by 9 inches by 46 inches and sold for \$19,000.

A non-sign advertising item that landed in the top ten best sellers list at this Check the Oil event was a museum quality “Red Crown Gasoline Polarine Motor Oil” delivery truck box or trunk. The wooden box with painted tin side panels showing early Red Crown and Polarine lettering sold for \$17,000. It measured 51 inches by 24 inches by 16 inches.

For more information visit <https://checktheoil.com/>

Right: At 120 inches tall, this impressive 1920s “Garage Service/Repairs” double-sided, light-up vertical sign with milk glass lettering was taken home by the bidder who offered \$19,000.

Below: Having black tips and serif-styled Chevrolet lettering this “Super Service” double-sided porcelain advertising sign sold for \$26,000.



Above: A bid of \$37,500 won this “GMC Gasoline/Diesel/Trucks” dealership 30-inch double-sided porcelain advertising sign that included its original bracket.



Above: Considered museum quality by Check the Oil, LLC, this “Red Crown Gasoline Polarine Motor Oil” delivery wooden with painted tin side panels truck box was a beauty. It sold for \$17,000.

Below: Boasting of great color and gloss, this “Chevrolet” dealership bowtie neon porcelain advertising sign came in at \$16,000.



AntiqueWeek

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250Sail Maritime Festival

FROM PAGE 2

ry and a half later, those same waters helped carry the American Revolution to victory. For the past 250 years, Virginia has remained closely tied to the nation’s naval and maritime legacy, with Hampton Roads serving as a major global port and natural Sail250 stop.

Over two weekends in June, Norfolk and 10 affiliated Virginia harbors welcomed more than 60 tall ships and other vessels. Norfolk served as the centerpiece, with ships arriving from as far as Europe and South America. Norfolk Mayor Kenneth C. Alexander called the festival a “pinnacle celebration of the city’s maritime heritage and national pride.”

Rather than concentrating solely in Norfolk, other ports of call were spread across Virginia’s historic waterfronts, in Richmond, Yorktown, Smithfield, Norfolk, Alexandria, Cape Charles, Hampton, Onancock, and Portsmouth. The arrangement allowed visitors to experience different waterways and the vessels that have shaped Virginia’s history for more than four centuries.

Richmond’s contribution was Richmond SailFest, hosted in partnership with the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. While few today think of Richmond as a port city, the James River once served as a commercial gateway linking the capital to Atlantic trade routes and driving its early growth. That history included construction of the nation’s first great ship lock in 1816, allowing vessels to bypass the James River falls and reach downtown. The waterfront became an important export center for tobacco and flour bound for Europe. Commercial shipping continued into the early 20th century before gradually declining. During opening ceremonies, Richmond Mayor Danny Avula acknowledged the riverfront’s importance, saying the James “played an important role in the history of the state and nation for centuries.”

SailFest revived that waterfront heritage with ship tours and maritime

Below: Two Chesapeake Bay buyboats berthed in Smithfield for tours - the Mildred Belle and the FD Crockett.



Above: Among the replicas of America's most historic vessels was the Dove, recreating the ship that landed in Maryland in 1634.

programming. Visiting vessels included the Pride of Baltimore II, the Schooner Virginia, and the Oosterschelde of Rotterdam, the last remaining Dutch three-masted topsail schooner. The Del-taville Maritime Museum brought their replica of Captain John Smith’s shallop Explorer, used in the earliest exploration of the Chesapeake Bay. Visitors also enjoyed living-history demonstrations, museum and art exhibits, and live music, including 19th-century sea shanties.

East of Richmond, on the York River, the Sail Yorktown Festival was spread between the riverfront and the historic area managed by the National Park Service. The setting carried special significance: Yorktown was the site of the 1781 battle where General George Washington and French forces defeated Cornwallis and the British army, helping secure American independence.

The ships were the main draw. “We have four tall ships and a few military ships,” explained York County Economic & Tourism Development Marketing and Communications Manager Deirdre Roesch. Regional artisans added to the atmosphere, and Roesch called the response “very positive,” estimating turnout at roughly 30,000 visitors over the weekend. Historic craftspeople included seven blacksmiths demonstrating their trade and selling pieces like fireplace hardware. Among the artists was painter Robert Shuler, whose work was Chesapeake rooted. “I’ve been painting for over 50 years. Been doing watercolors for over 45 years,” he said. “I grew up around the Chesapeake Bay. I appreciate the watermen and the working boats.”

In Yorktown’s historic district, the National Park Service and other interpretive groups explored the town’s past. The Swan Tavern, rarely open to the public, held docent-led tours. Operating from 1722 to 1863, it served Yorktown’s early port. Nearby, a living-history encampment highlighted the often-overlooked role of Spanish forces in the Revolutionary War. Participants portraying Spanish and Irish military officers discussed the strengths of Spanish weaponry compared with French and British arms, adding rich historical detail.

Southeast of Yorktown, along the Pagan River, Sail250 continued with the Smithfield Maritime Rendezvous in one of Virginia’s oldest communities. Founded in 1634 as part of one of the original English shires in North America, Smithfield is best known today for its charming downtown and ham-packing industry. Its riverfront again took center stage, with assistant tourism director Stephanie Kensicki noting the town was eager to join the celebration and showcase its maritime heritage. Programming combined ship history with a pickers market, historic walking tours, and maritime crafts. Enactors included a portrayal of privateer John Sinclair, who described using his sloop to carry dispatches for the French and run goods through British blockades during the Revolution.

On the waterfront, visitors could tour the Skipjack Sigsbee, built in 1901 at Deal Island, Maryland, and restored in 1990 by the Living Classrooms Foundation. The group also brought the Chesapeake Bay buyboat Mildred Belle, berthed alongside the buyboat FD Crockett,



Above: The restored Skipjack Sigsbee, one of the Chesapeake Bay’s iconic oyster dredging boats, berthed in Smithfield.

ett, offering a look at a vessel type once central to Bay commerce. According to Living Classrooms staff, “buyboats were an important part of the Bay economy,” serving as middlemen who purchased fish, crabs, and oysters directly from fishing vessels under sail and transported the catch to major markets.

Sail250 was a memorable celebration of Virginia’s maritime heritage, giving visitors a chance to step aboard historic vessels, explore waterfront communities, and discover the stories behind the ships and people that shaped the state’s maritime legacy.

Below: The Pride of Baltimore II, a replica of a War of 1812-era Baltimore clipper, docked in Richmond.



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THE POP CULTURE COLLECTIVE

BY BRETT WEISS



A tour of the Brady Bunch home brings back childhood memories

Few homes in American pop culture are as instantly recognizable as the Brady Bunch house. Even people who never watched the classic sitcom can probably identify that iconic mid-century ranch with its distinctive roofline and suburban charm. Recently, while Charis and I were on a trip to California, we had the opportunity to tour the famous residence, and despite the hefty admission price, it turned out to be one of the highlights of our vacation.

For both of us, *The Brady Bunch* was a staple of childhood. Like countless kids growing up in the 1970s and 1980s, we watched the show endlessly in reruns. Originally airing on ABC from 1969 to 1974, the series followed the blending of two families: architect Mike Brady (Robert Reed), who had three sons—Greg (Barry Williams), Peter (Christopher Knight), and Bobby (Mike Lookinland)—and Carol Brady (Florence Henderson), who brought three “lovely” daughters into the marriage: Marcia (Maureen McCormick), Jan (Eve Plumb), and Cindy (Susan Olsen). Rounding out the household were the family’s wisecracking housekeeper Alice Nelson (Ann B. Davis) and, during the early episodes, the family dog Tiger.

The show’s creator, Sherwood Schwartz, reportedly came up with the idea after reading about the growing number of blended families in America. While *The Brady Bunch* was only a modest success during its original network run, it exploded in popularity through syndication and eventually became one of the most beloved family sitcoms of all time. Memorable characters, catchphrases (“Marcia, Marcia, Marcia!”), and storylines (“that great Grand Canyon rescue episode,” Neil Young once sang) became part of American pop culture, helping the



Above: Me exploring the boys’ bedroom, complete with the classic bunk beds that help make the room instantly recognizable.

Below: All six actors who played the Brady Bunch kids helped redesign the home. They are seen here posing on the iconic floating steps with creators of HGTV’s *A Very Brady Renovation* miniseries.



Above: My wife Charis and I posing in front of the famous Brady Bunch house in Studio City, California.

series remain popular for more than five decades.

For Charis especially, the show held a special appeal. As an only child, she was fascinated by the idea of living in a bustling house filled with brothers and sisters. The Brady household represented a kind of fantasy: a lively home where there was always someone around to talk to, play with, or occasionally argue with before everything was neatly resolved by the end of the episode. She had a great childhood and wonderful parents, but three was hardly a crowd.

We had actually visited the Brady house several times years prior, just to see the famous exterior and the surrounding neighborhood, and even that was surreal. Located in Studio City, Calif., the home was built in 1959 and has become one of the most photographed residences in America. But stepping inside was something else entirely. It felt like walking into a piece of television history.

In true Hollywood fashion, the original series never filmed its interior scenes inside the house. During the show’s run, the property was used only for exterior shots, while the interior rooms were built on sound stages at Paramount Studios. For decades, fans could admire the famous façade, but the floating staircase, colorful kitchen, and sunken living room existed only on a studio set.

That changed when HGTV purchased the property in 2018. In an amusing twist, the network famously outbid **NSYNC’s*

Lance Bass to acquire it. HGTV then embarked on a painstaking renovation project, documenting the process in the 2019 miniseries *A Very Brady Renovation*. The six actors who played the Brady children — Barry Williams, Maureen McCormick, Christopher Knight, Eve Plumb, Mike Lookinland, and Susan Olsen — all participated in the restoration. Charis enjoys HGTV, but I had never watched anything on it before and probably never will again, but I have to admit I found the miniseries fascinating.

The project was far more ambitious than a simple remodel. Because the original house was much smaller than the television set it was supposed to represent, HGTV expanded the structure significantly, adding a split-level second story and creating a home of more than 5,000 square feet, while also restoring and tweaking the familiar exterior appearance. The result was a remarkably accurate recreation of the Brady home fans remembered from the show. The renovation proved enormously popular, drawing tens of millions of viewers and becoming one of HGTV’s most successful projects.

Later, the property was acquired by historic home enthusiast Tina Trahan, who continued the labor of love by adding more memorabilia, furnishings, and period-correct details to make the recreated Brady home feel even more authentic.

Walking through the front door felt magical. Every room seemed to trigger a

memory. There was the famous floating staircase. The orange-and-avocado kitchen. The sunken living room where countless family meetings took place. The boys’ bedroom with its familiar bunk beds and sports memorabilia. The girls’ bedroom that looked exactly as generations of viewers remembered it. The attention to detail was astonishing. Even though I knew intellectually that this wasn’t the actual set used during filming, it certainly felt like it was.

Charis was absolutely thrilled. Watching her react to room after room was almost as enjoyable as seeing the house itself. She toured the home several times and took selfies in each room, smiling from ear to ear. It was essentially a chance to step inside one of her favorite television shows and experience a place she had imagined countless times as a child. She even teared up as she entered the girls’ bedroom.

For me, the visit underscored the remarkable power of television and nostalgia. The Brady Bunch has endured because it represents a comforting vision of family life. The show’s problems were simple, its lessons were straightforward, and its world felt warm and welcoming. Whether it was Marcia’s latest dilemma (“Oh my nose!”), Jan feeling overshadowed by her older sister, Greg’s attempts to be cool (Johnny Bravo, anyone?), or one of Bobby’s misadventures, viewers knew everything would work out by the closing credits.

Was the experience expensive? Absolutely. There’s no getting around that. But some attractions aren’t about practical value; they’re about the memories they create. As we wandered through the rooms, snapped photos, shot video (you can watch my full walkthrough on YouTube — just search “Brett Weiss Brady Bunch”), giggled like school girls, and soaked in the atmosphere, neither of us was thinking about the ticket price.

We were simply enjoying the rare opportunity to walk through a place that had existed in our imaginations since childhood.

By the time we left, we readily agreed it had been worth the almost \$300 per ticket. There are plenty of famous homes you can visit, and most are much cheaper to do so, but few carry the emotional connection of the Brady Bunch house. For a couple who grew up watching the show—and especially for Charis, who once dreamed of having six siblings under one roof—it was a genuinely unforgettable experience.

Below: Much like the rest of the home’s interior, which was never featured in the show, the kitchen was redesigned to match the iconic look of the Brady Bunch kitchen.



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EVENT FINDER			
Georgia			Bloomington Antique Quilt Auction Jul 24.....12
Atlanta Scott Antique Markets Aug 061			Farmland Antique & Collectible Auction Jul 1113
Illinois			Shipshewana Antique & Miscellaneous Auction Aug 0511
Chrisman Pure Country Antique Show Jul 111			
Indiana			Kentucky
Anderson Estate Auction Jul 25 11			Burlington Antique Show Jul 1913
			Tennessee
			Lawrenceburg Summer Antique Auction Jul 1111
			Old Hickory Dealers Choice Auction Jul 2620
			Wisconsin
			Luxemburg Railroad Artifact Auction Jul 2510
			Waterloo Estate Auction Jul 3013



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 AntiqueWeek. 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.

Calendars can also be searched online at www.antiqueweek.com

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SHOW CALENDAR

E-MAIL: ADVERTISING@ANTIQUEWEEK.COM					
SUNDAY, JULY 05 INDIANA, Lawrenceburg, Tri State Antique Market 7am-3pm LawrenceburgAntiqueShow.com	WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 PENNSYLVANIA, Morgantown, AAAA Annual Convention No Time Given PastTimes.org Day 1 of 4	THURSDAY, AUGUST 06 GEORGIA, Atlanta, Scott Antique Markets No Time Given Scottantiquemarkets.com Day 1 of 4	SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Day 2 of 3	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 PENNSYLVANIA, Gettysburg, Antique & Vintage Outdoor Market No Time Given tel: (717) 479-5524	RHODE ISLAND, Providence, Antique And Vintage Jewelry Convention Day 2 of 3
SATURDAY, JULY 11 ILLINOIS, Chrisman, Pure Country Antique Show 9am-2pm Purecountryantiqueshow.com	THURSDAY, JULY 23 PENNSYLVANIA, Morgantown, AAAA Annual Convention Day 2 of 4	FRIDAY, AUGUST 07 GEORGIA, Atlanta, Scott Antique Markets Day 2 of 4	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Day 3 of 3	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 CALIFORNIA, Pasadena, Rose Bowl Flea Market 9am-3pm RGCshows.com	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 RHODE ISLAND, Providence, Antique And Vintage Jewelry Convention Day 3 of 3
SUNDAY, JULY 12 CALIFORNIA, Pasadena, Rose Bowl Flea Market 9am-3pm RGCshows.com	FRIDAY, JULY 24 PENNSYLVANIA, Morgantown, AAAA Annual Convention Day 3 of 4	SATURDAY, AUGUST 08 GEORGIA, Atlanta, Scott Antique Markets Day 3 of 4	SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 OHIO, Lakeside, Lakeside Chautauqua Antique Show 9am-5pm John Wanat tel: (248) 425-2868	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 CALIFORNIA, Canoga Park, Political Memorabilia Show & Sale 10am-3pm Tom Morton tel: (818) 644-9231	SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 08 CALIFORNIA, Pasadena, Rose Bowl Flea Market 9am-3pm RGCshows.com
FRIDAY, JULY 17 OHIO, Crooksville, Hull Pottery Show & Sale Fri. 10am-3pm; Sat. 10am-2pm Hullpotterassociation.org Day 1 of 2	SATURDAY, JULY 25 PENNSYLVANIA, Gettysburg, Antique & Vintage Outdoor Market No Time Given tel: (717) 479-5524	FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 MINNESOTA, Rochester, Gold Rush Fri. & Sat. 8am-6pm; Sun. 8am-2pm Townsendshows.com Day 1 of 3	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 05 ILLINOIS, Strasburg, Flea Market at the Farm 7am Patsy Lenz tel: (217) 644-2667	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 RHODE ISLAND, Providence, Antique And Vintage Jewelry Convention No Time Given KimLovesVintage.com Day 1 of 3	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 CALIFORNIA, Pasadena, Rose Bowl Flea Market 9am-3pm RGCshows.com
SATURDAY, JULY 18 OHIO, Crooksville, Hull Pottery Show & Sale Day 2 of 2	PENNSYLVANIA, Morgantown, AAAA Annual Convention Day 4 of 4		SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 CALIFORNIA, Pasadena, Rose Bowl Flea Market 9am-3pm RGCshows.com	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 PENNSYLVANIA, Gettysburg, Antique & Vintage Outdoor Market No Time Given tel: (717) 479-5524	

AUCTION CALENDAR

E-MAIL: ADVERTISING@ANTIQUEWEEK.COM					
TUESDAY, JULY 07 INDIANA, Corydon, Online Gun No Time Given BeckortAuctions.com Day 1 of 2	OHIO, Nespoleis, Lamp & Lamp Parts Auction No Time Given WhalenAuction.com	TENNESSEE, Lawrenceburg, Summer Antique Auction 10am Lawrenceburg Antiques tel: (931) 762-6695	SUNDAY, JULY 19 MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction No Time Given Simmons Auctioneering tel: (816) 776-2936 Day 1 of 8	THURSDAY, JULY 23 MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 5 of 8	TENNESSEE, Old Hickory, Dealers Choice Auction 12:30pm DealersChoiceAuction.com
WEDNESDAY, JULY 08 INDIANA, Corydon, Online Gun Day 2 of 2	SATURDAY, JULY 11 INDIANA, Danville, Indiana Art & Collectibles Auction 10am LawsonandCo.com	MONDAY, JULY 13 OHIO, Cedarville, Public Auction 10am SheridanTeam.com	NORTH CAROLINA, Ramseur, 3 Day Auction Day 3 of 3	FRIDAY, JULY 24 INDIANA, Bloomington, Coverlet & Antique Quilt Auction 10am EDSauctions.com	THURSDAY, JULY 30 WISCONSIN, Waterloo, Estate Auction No Time Given bid.matthewsauctions.com Day 1 of 3
INDIANA, Shipshewana, Antique & Miscellaneous Auction 9am Shipshewana Auction tel: (260) 768-4129	INDIANA, Farmland, Antique & Collectible Auction 10am WagnerAuctioneering.com	FRIDAY, JULY 17 NORTH CAROLINA, Ramseur, 3 Day Auction No Time Given Caauction.hibid.com Day 1 of 3	MONDAY, JULY 20 MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 2 of 8	MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 6 of 8	FRIDAY, JULY 31 WISCONSIN, Waterloo, Estate Auction Day 2 of 3
THURSDAY, JULY 09 PENNSYLVANIA, Meadville, Absolute Antique Auction 4pm Nicolls & Auctions tel: (814) 333-1988	MICHIGAN, Dimondale, Art, Antique & Design Auction 10am EpicAuctions.com	SATURDAY, JULY 18 NORTH CAROLINA, Ramseur, 3 Day Auction Day 2 of 3	TUESDAY, JULY 21 MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 3 of 8	SATURDAY, JULY 25 INDIANA, Anderson, Estate Auction 10am Richard Symmes tel: (765) 749-1825	SATURDAY, AUGUST 01 WISCONSIN, Waterloo, Estate Auction Day 3 of 3
FRIDAY, JULY 10 INDIANA, Bloomington, Furniture Auction 10am EDSauctions.com	MICHIGAN, Flint, Estate Auction 10am MelWhiteAuctioneer.com	VIRGINIA, Victoria, Cataloged Auction 9am Victoria-auction.com	WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 4 of 8	MISSOURI, Richmond, Collection Auction Day 7 of 8	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 05 INDIANA, Shipshewana, Antique & Miscellaneous Auction 9am ShipshewanaTradingPlace.com

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They're fun to send and fun to receive. Perfect for jotting just a few lines to stay in touch. Inexpensive and readily available for purchase, as well as less expensive to mail than a first class letter. Best of all, these small wonders, measuring 4 by 6 inches, lend themselves to vintage style. What's not to love about postcards?

Although some parents eagerly await weekends as an opportunity to go antiquing, such is not always the case for their kids. I speak from experience. Back in the day, with a young daughter in tow, we came to view a fledgling postcard collection as the obvious answer for keeping her occupied. With careful handling, postcards are not breakable. And for beginners, they won't break the bank.

Under a watchful eye, our daughter learned to thumb carefully through postcards picturing a favorite vacation destination, Colonial Williamsburg. New to collecting, she also learned how to organize and take care of what she bought. For the record, years later, this collection is one thing that continues to survive a number of her subsequent moves.

Just as postcards are ideal for introducing a young person to a lifelong hobby, at the same time, they can satisfy the urges of the seasoned collector. Again, I speak from experience. Even though my living quarters no longer include an attic or a basement, there's still nothing more relaxing for me than a stroll through the aisles of a flea market or antique mall. But how do you break a lifelong habit of filling up a large house with multiple collections? Once again, postcards, which take up little room, are a sensible alternative.

Not surprisingly, I'm not alone, as a general interest in postcards appears to be, er, mounting. Increasingly, serious stamp collectors are viewing postcards as a "niche" category. In addition to be-

VINTAGE STYLE



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ing interested in the affixed stamps, they also focus on the postmarks.

And then there's "Postcrossing," which combines the wonders of the internet with sending and receiving postcards.

Since it was opened to everyone on July 14, 2005, nearly one million people from more than 200 countries have sent millions and millions of postcards to strangers who share their love of connecting through the mails. Check out postcrossing.com.

Other guilty pleasures are satisfied with a collection of old postcards. Quite simply, many of us enjoy reading someone else's mail. Handwritten messages, often sentimental in nature, can give us a peek into everyday life from a century ago. Without ready access to telephones, much less emails or text messages, postcards were the perfect way to tell a family member or dear friend, "See you tomorrow." All of this, just when you thought there was no reason for knowing how to read cursive writing.

These days, my personal postcard pursuits are primarily centered around tracking down ones for the purpose of making greeting cards, with album corners used to mount postcards onto cardstock. During the year, I enjoy looking for cards that might have a special connection to their potential recipients. Among those that I pick up are all cat-themed postcards for my young adult granddaughter, who has loved cats since she was a wee tacker. As an aside, not that long ago, she shared with me that she's saved every one of them. (Yesss!)

Sometimes, though, postcards are simply a gift to myself. I enjoy looking for vintage postcards from favorite vacation spots (not just the aforementioned Williamsburg). I can't resist those from "Pennsylvania Dutch" country (it's in my genes), the kitschier the better. When I find cards picturing the grand hotels that once graced Eagles Mere, it's hard to pass them up. Ditto anything showcasing Mohonk Mountain House. Finally, turn-of-the-last-century postcards from Baltimore, my hometown, are particular favorites, especially those photographed by Henry Rinn, Jr.

What to do with them? Framed, propped up on bookshelves, or stored in a vintage box, postcards not only serve as remembrances of times past, they also provide the perfect five-minute vacation, even if it's only a virtual one. All without leaving the comforts of home.

Now if I only had a penny for every time someone put pen (or pencil) to postcard to write "Having a wonderful time. Wish you were here."

So what about you? Have you tried Postcrossing? Let me know at VintageStyleAW@gmail.com. Or drop me a line!



Above: A fun collection of so-called "Pennsylvania Dutch" postcards is kept in a vintage box that was manufactured in nearby Allentown.

Below: Appreciating messages on vintage postcards is another reason for knowing how to read cursive.



Above: The search for the perfect Christmas postcards is a year-round quest.

Below: Photographer Henry Rinn, Jr., captured romantic turn-of-the-last-century views of his hometown, Baltimore.



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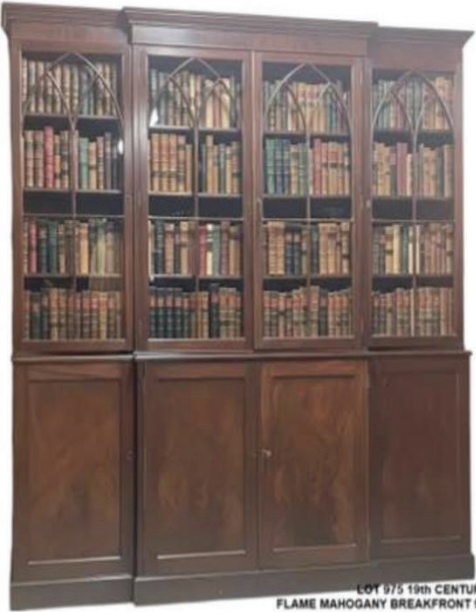
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Meissen, Nuremburg, Wedgwood and
Heinrich Selb Bavaria China, Eickholt,
Bohemian, Loetz & Uranium Glass.

Friday, July 10

10AM Livestream & Online
at EDSAuctions.com

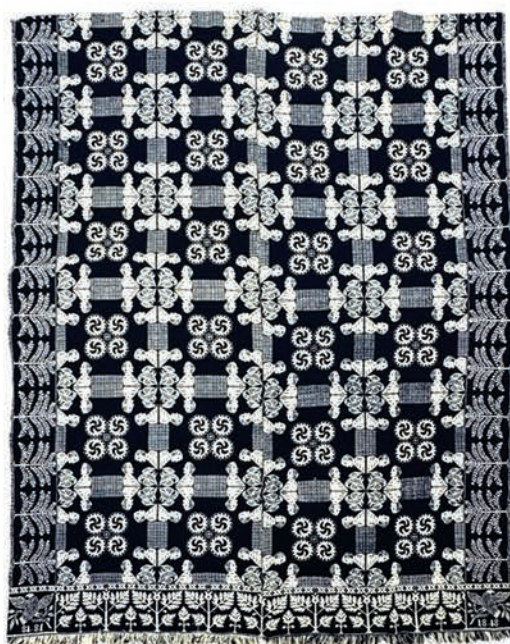


Details & Bidding at EDSAuctions.com

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1888 Signed Thousand Pyramid Quilt



1848 Zachary Taylor Coverlet

The Textile Collection of
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An extensive textile collection featuring
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Friday, July 24

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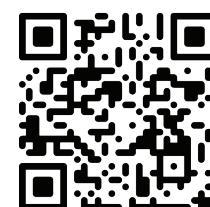


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Lockard Antique & Collectibles Auction



SAT, JULY 11TH @ 10:00 AM

LISTING HIGHLIGHTS

- Drop Front secretary
- Pie safes
- Vintage chest of drawers
- Glass Front Cabinet
- Marble Topped Dresser
- Glass Front Gun Cabinet
- Vintage Cabinets
- Lighting Rods
- Ice Cream Table & Chairs
- Table Lamp
- Floor Lamps
- Patio Table & Chairs
- Vintage Speed Queen Double Wash Tubs
- Wicker Furniture
- Drop Leaf Table
- Wing Backed Chairs
- End Tables

- Dear Chair
- Straight Chairs
- Parlor Tables
- Three Cushion Sofas
- Vintage Wooden Plant Stands
- Sentry Safe
- Infra Red Heater
- Wooden Filing Cabinets
- Woven Baskets
- Vintage Wooden Bassinet
- Wooden Wagon
- Sterling Jewelry
- Turquoise Jewelry
- Vintage Jewelry
- Crocks
- Crock Jugs
- Crock Face Bottles
- Crock Bottles
- Riggins Dairy Cottage Cheese Crock
- Vintage Kitchen Utensils

PREVIEW DATE:
Friday, July 10th • 9am - 5pm

- Milk Glass
- Pewter
- Vintage Dishes
- Porcelain Pitcher & Bowl Sets
- Brass Candlestick Holders
- Dolls- Vintage & Modern
- Pfaltzgraff Dish Set
- Clear Glass- Indiana Glass
- Crock Bowls
- Tiffany Style Lamps
- Vintage Clocks
- Oil Lamps
- Planters Peanut Jar
- Jewelry Boxes
- Many Other Items Not Listed



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July 19th

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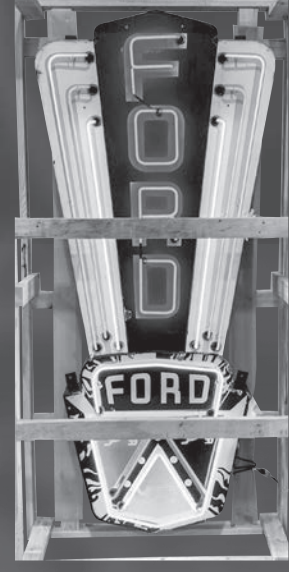
JULY 30, 31

Rick Bonenberger Estate Auction #3 & More This is the 3rd auction for the Rick Bonenberger Estate. More Details and full catalog to come late June.

Mobil Pegasus Mechanical Amusement Ride
One of only five made for the 1953 World's Fair in St. Louis that ended up being canceled. Instead of being destroyed the five rides were given to the top distributors in the five regions of Mobil. Of the five in existence, this is the only un-restored example surviving.

AUG 1

This will be an in-person only auction held at **N4510 County Hwy A Cambridge, WI. 53523** with no internet or phone bidding.



UPCOMING 2026 AUCTIONS
November 28 - After Thanksgiving Auction
December 28 & 29 - Holiday Auction

Mobiloil Globe Only example known to exist.

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Petroliana / Automobilia
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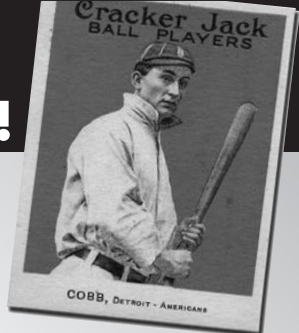
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While we agree that the physical copy of the paper is the top priority, we do want to remind everyone that in the event your paper does not arrive by the issue date, the current issue is available to view on the website www.AntiqueWeek.com. The online 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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Bicentennial Stamps

FROM FRONT PAGE

honoring Bicentennial-related anniversaries and events, beginning in 1971 and running through 1976. As for interest in these stamps, “It was a popular theme with American collectors as we got closer to the Bicentennial itself.”

As it happened, the celebration of America’s Bicentennial reached far beyond our borders, with other countries joining in the festivities, issuing their own stamps in support of America’s landmark birthday. Fortunato said that the majority of foreign commemorative stamps issued for the Bicentennial include a variety of images, including Revolutionary figures, flags, historic paintings, and familiar American landmarks.

The list of those countries issuing stamps in honor of the American Bicentennial is extensive. Those nearby included Mexico, Bermuda, and Jamaica. Argentina and Brazil, Venezuela and Chile were among the Central and South American participants. European countries issuing commemorative stamps included the United Kingdom, France, and Italy, as well as others. As for African countries, Morocco, Liberia, and Ghana (and others) similarly honored America. South Korea, Israel, Australia and New Zealand were also among those who participated.

As for any guidelines involved in the issuance of a commemorative stamp for a foreign country, it is entirely up to the stamp-issuing country to set the parameters. On the other hand, Fortunato said, some government officials might contact their local American embassy for advice or suggestions. Whereas larger countries, including the United States, have



Above: Generally recognized as the Spirit of ‘76, this image was taken from an 1876 painting entitled “Yankee Doodle.”



Above: Four first-class stamps, one iconic image.

Below: Stamps from America’s Bicentennial might be the perfect starting point for a fledgling philatelist.



Above: Not like the others: Germany issued a stamp for America’s Bicentennial that pictured German-born Carl Schurz, a German revolutionary, American statesman, and reformer.

mechanisms and policies in place for creating and issuing new stamps, smaller countries hire agencies to manage their stamp ideas and the production process. In the end, decisions that include the selection of artwork are left to the issuing nation or their agents, which typically have artists on their payroll to create designs as ordered.

What motivates one country to honor another? The obvious reason is, quite simply, to display friendship or comradery. On the other hand, Fortunato suggested that sometimes, it is a marketing decision designed to encourage American collectors to buy their stamps. There are agency-produced issues by some nations that “pump out tons of stamp issues yearly that rarely or never actually are used in the country of issuance.” They are purely for collectors’ consumption.

Affordable and accessible, stamps can be appreciated for both their historic and aesthetic value, leading to an increased appreciation of world geography. As Fortunato said, “Stamps are tiny ambassadors meant to spread favorable propaganda to their citizens and around the world.” He advised, “Look for items that draw attention to the theme or niche of your choice.”

Best of all, there are multiple sources of support for philatelists. Fortunato, a lifelong collector, recommended connecting with the American Topical Association, a major U.S. organization



Above: A “Bi-Centenary” stamp from Solomon Island. Note the image of “Lt. John F. Kennedy.”



Above: Two for the price of one: Washington and Lafayette appeared on adjoining stamps issued by Wallis and Futuna, a French island collectivity in the South Pacific.

for those who choose to collect specific subjects. The association offers checklists of hundreds of various topics that refer to Scott Catalogue numbers, the primary resource of identifying specific stamps used in the United States and Canada.

Finally, don’t overlook buying and saving the stamps now offered in conjunction with the country’s Semiquincentennial, sold at post offices at face value. But unlike the “lick-and-stick” first class stamp from a bygone era, expect to pay a bit more than 13 cents.

For more information visit americantopical.org



Above: A souvenir sheet of stamps issued by Ireland for America’s Bicentennial. Many commemorative stamps are issued with the collector in mind.



Above: A handsome stamp from Nepal, featuring an image of the Liberty Bell.

Below: To use or to keep: The decision to break up these four stamps depicting the Boston Tea Party might be a difficult one to make.





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