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AUGUST 2018

ESTABLISHED IN 1972

Volume 46, Number 8



## Now's the Time to Buy Antique & Repro Furniture

By Anne Gilbert

I never thought I'd suggest buying reproductions of antique furniture.

There was a time when buying reproduction 18th and 19th century furniture was considered a bad idea. However during the last decades times and tastes have changed. These days with fiberboard furniture selling for as much as 18th and 19th century wood pieces calls for rethinking. Antique pieces have lasted for centuries. How long do you think the costly fiberboard pieces will last?

Ever watch the TV show "Flea Market Flips?" The current generation furnishing apartments and houses pays hundreds of dollars for rusty file drawers and damaged cabinets and chests, refurbished and turned into useable furnishings. A clever idea but what is the lasting value? Or does it matter?

These days a couple of hundred dollars could buy an authentic antique chest or quality reproduction.



Reproduction Centennial chest on chest.  
Photo Credit: HarpGallery.com

Continued on page 10

## Furniture Made Just For Collections

By Anne Gilbert

Whether your collection is large or small, over the centuries furniture was made just to display it. It began in ancient Rome with royalty and the wealthy who used table tops to show off small treasures. However, it was more common for them to use an entire room devoted to their collections. Wealthy Greeks built rooms to house their treasured books that were then placed in small cupboards. Not too different than today when rooms of corporate offices often display collection related to their businesses or just because the CEO collects them. During the Middle Ages open-shelved cupboards were designed to hold family silver. Before this time such valued objects were hidden away for their own security.

Collections became status symbols during the Italian Renaissance that lasted from the middle of the fourteenth century till the end of the sixteenth. For the first time special types of furniture were designed to show them off. Among them, the credenza that later evolved into the sideboard. Sometimes it used the base topped with an open cupboard to show off more collections.

Sixteenth century Spaniards used a drop front writing desk, the "Vargueno" that sat on either a trestle type base or cupboard base. The box itself was heavily gilded or polychromed.

King Louis IV owned the first display showcase for his diverse collections of everything from porcelains to silver. The showcases usually rested on stands. The most elegant bases were in the form of gilded figures. By mid 17th century Oriental designs and lacquered pieces were imported from the Far East.

In England Thomas Chippendale designed massive, library breakfront bookcases in the Gothic style. With varying designs it has been used to display favorite things since the mid-18th century.

Victorian collectors in England and America collected on a more humble scale, though their collections often covered every visible space. By the mid-



Antique Louis XV style vitrine. Photo Credit: 1stdibs

19th century a curio cabinet was apt to be a towering, heavily carved "Etagere," combining upper and base mirrors with shelving. Rosewood was the favored wood during the Rococo revival period. Smaller hanging "what-not" shelves were also popular.

The "vitrine" originally a French, small cabinet on legs, with three sides of glass was revived during the Art Nouveau period, with exaggerated, curving lines.

CLUES: The painted, French vitrine, Victorian etageres and court cupboards are still being reproduced. Those made in the early part of the 20th century have some age on them by now and can confuse beginning collectors. More recent reproductions are showing up from Far East countries.

Always check the construction and don't forget to "sniff" the wood. New wood has a fresh smell.

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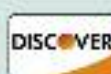
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# SHOWS

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Sale Coordinator

Contact: Lorella 303-988-8591

Appraisals and doll stringing available



## About the 9th Annual Tri State Doll Sale 2018

Doll collectors and enthusiasts who are dedicated to the history and preservation of antique and collectible dolls will enjoy this Doll Sale. A very successful annual doll show for over 8 years.

Lorella Farmer, Show Coordinator, is a member of the National United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. She thanks everyone for their attendance in prior years and looks forward to seeing familiar as well as new faces this year.

Vendors at the show, (see ad to the left) will have diverse and exciting merchandise including antique bisque, china, and cloth dolls, modern dolls, collectible dolls, doll and doll house accessories, doll clothing, books, and miscellaneous doll and toy related items.

The show will appeal to everyone, from the most devoted collectors to new collectors with a developing interest in dolls. For more information, call Lorella at 303-988-8591.

# SHOW CALENDAR

## August Events

AUG. 3 & 4: **THE 34TH ROCKY MOUNTAIN BOOK & PAPER FAIR**, Denver Mart, 451 East 58th Avenue - just East of I-25, Friday 2-8, Saturday 10 - 5. Exhibitors from across the nation present their finest Antiquarian & Rare Books, First Editions, Signed Books, Maps, Western Americana, Posters, Art Prints, Brochures, Postcards, Americana, Illustrated Books, Explorations, Children's Books and more! RMBPF.ORG \$7 admission, good both days.

AUG. 4: **A PARIS STREET MARKET**, an open-air, vintage, antique and artisan market, 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton, CO 80120, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine. Future dates: Sept. 1, Oct. 6.

AUG. 8: **HISTORY OF SCRAP BOOKS** Discussion led by Cheryl Miller at 2:00 p.m. at Brass Armadillo, 11301 West I-70, Wheat Ridge, CO. More info, or if you would be interested in doing a presentation in your area of expertise, call Dixie or Charlotte at 303-403-1677.

AUG. 11: **SOUTH BROADWAY BLOCK PARTY**, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Local Merchants present this FREE event. 1200-1800 South Broadway, Denver, Colorado, Bring the whole family! Shopping, Face Painter, Music. For more info, go to [www.antique-row.com](http://www.antique-row.com)

AUG. 16: **THIRD THURSDAYS EVENING EVENT First Day of Summer, FOUND ANTIQUE & ARTISAN MALL**. Enjoy some refreshments on us. Special Sales by Various Dealers, 6-9 p.m. This is a special shopping night featuring many discounts. Located at 4501 Wadsworth Blvd., Wheat Ridge, 303-463-7796.

AUG. 22: **LUNCH BOXES** Discussion led by Doc Endres at 2:00 p.m. at Brass Armadillo, 11301 West I-70, Wheat Ridge, CO. More info, or if you would be interested in doing a presentation in your area of expertise, call Dixie or Charlotte at 303-403-1677.

AUG. 24: **HOTEL de PARIS WINE TOUR**, Guests will explore the site in a quiet setting with a knowledgeable guide to see where culinary history was made. 409 6th St., Georgetown, CO 80444. Reservations in advance required, 303-569-2311. Future Wine tour and Sept. 28.

## Upcoming Events

SEPT. 9: **THE LAST EMPEROR** Discussion led by C. Yves at 2:00 p.m. at Brass Armadillo, 11301 West I-70, Wheat Ridge, CO. More info, or if you would be interested in doing a presentation in your area of expertise, call Dixie or Charlotte at 303-403-1677.

SEPT. 17-22: **RDF SALE at LA CACHE**, sale items located at our annex at 404 Downing Street in Denver, Monday through Saturday, Rake up some autumn savings with our 50% off RDF prices, Call 303-871-9605 for more information.

SEPT. 19: **SEED PACKET ART** Discussion led by Suzanne Wingfield at 2:00 p.m. at Brass Armadillo, 11301 West I-70, Wheat Ridge, CO. More info, or if you would be interested in doing a presentation in your area of expertise, call Dixie or Charlotte at 303-403-1677.

SEPT. 21 & 22: **9TH ANNUAL TRI STATE DOLL SALE**, Fri., 12 to 6, Sat. 10-4, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 West 6th Avenue, Golden. The sale will feature antique and modern dolls, doll accessories, high-end collectibles, miniatures, bears and much more. Appraisals and doll stringing available. Contact Lorella at 303-988-8591 for more information.

OCT. 6: **TIMBER DAN FALL ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLE TOY SHOW AND SALE**, Loveland, Colorado, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Larimer County Fairgrounds ("The Ranch"), First National Bank Exhibition Bldg., North Hall. Take I-25 Exit 259 east to Fairgrounds Ave., then north 1/2 mile. More than 180 tables with thousands of antique and collectible toys on display and for sale. Admission \$4. Sponsored by the Loveland Lions Club. For more info, contact Doug Larson, 970-214-1035 or email [douglas@comcast.net](mailto:douglas@comcast.net) or visit website at <http://www.lovelandlionsclubs.org/sites/ToyShow.htm>.


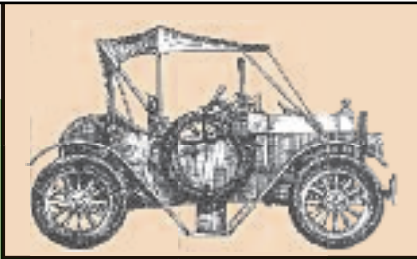

OCT. 19-21: **WORLD WIDE ANTIQUE and VINTAGE SHOW**, Denver Mart - Expo Building - I-25 & 58th Ave., Fri.-Sat.. 10am-6pm, Sunday 11-4pm. Get tickets at [FindYourAntique.com](http://FindYourAntique.com).

NOV. 2-11: **CORKSCREW AUCTION**, this is a twice yearly on-line auction by volunteer collectors worldwide, Over 800 plus quantity of corkscrews with total sales of over 10,000. Also, this is an excellent method for obtaining a value estimate of most corkscrews in a personal collection New buyers and sellers may register at time to participate in the upcoming November auction. Between auction sales, there is always a good range of lower cost corkscrews available for immediate purchase in the BUY NOW section of [www.CollectorCorkscrews.com](http://www.CollectorCorkscrews.com).

NOV. 17 & 18: **ANTIQUES AT WINGS**, at the Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum, Sat. 10-6, Sunday, 10-5, Free Parking, 7711 E. Academy Blvd., Denver. A fixture on the Denver scene since 2003, returning with traditional Antiques, Art, Furniture, Jewelry & Collectibles. Also includes two additional shows Books at Wings and Vintage at the Hangar. More info, go to [www.AntiquesAtWings.com](http://www.AntiquesAtWings.com).

## Auctions

SEPT. 15 & 16: **FALL ANTIQUE ESTATE AUCTION**, Allenspark, Colorado. Exhibition Friday Sept. 14. Vintage cars, tractors, 6 windmills, old water tank from the Stanley Hotel, old farm engines, 1950s snow cats, petroliana and antique furniture — over 5000 pieces to choose from — all on site of this truly unique and exciting auction. Call 303-744-6505 or email Tom at [Bruhnsauction@aol.com](mailto:Bruhnsauction@aol.com).



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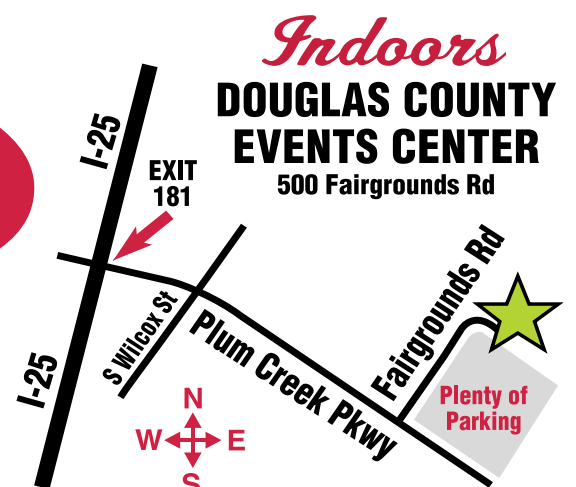
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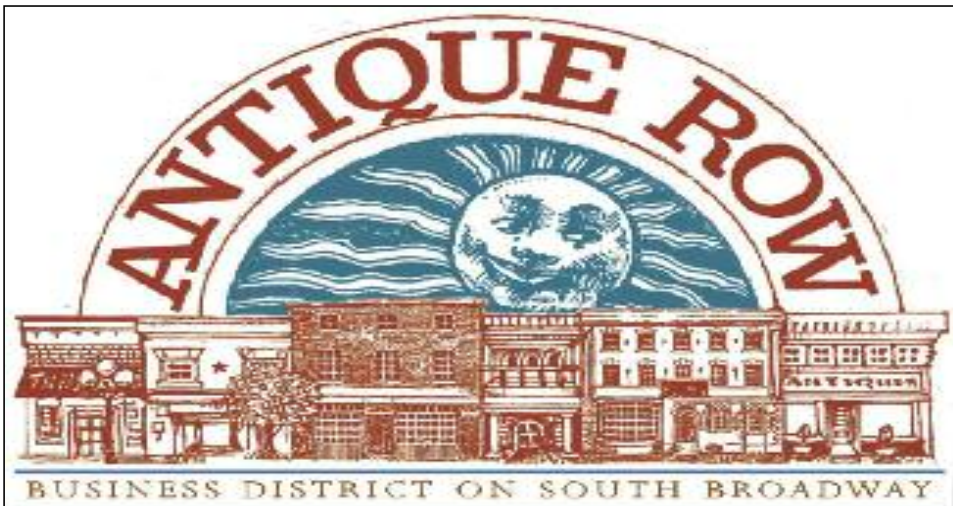
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# Denver's Antique Row Summer Block Party

By Rachel Hoffman

One of my favorite events of the summer is the annual Antique Row Block Party. This year the event is slated for Saturday, August 11th from 10AM-5PM. It is a chance to get out and explore some of Denver's unique shopping and dining opportunities. It really is a wonderful family event for summer.

My mothership is Turn of the Century Antiques which is located on 1475 South Broadway. We have been in our current location for 28 years, and one of the things I love most about our shop is that it looks like a giant pink cupcake from the street. Have you been inside? There are many stores like mine who have been faithful local merchants on Antique Row for more than 30 years, but with that, Antique Row has been ex-



Rachel Hoffman

panding. Within the last year, we have welcomed several new shops including bookstores, a fantastic flower shop, new restaurants, and a hip clothing store. These local businesses are on the 1200-1800 (ish) blocks of South Broadway. One of the most important ways you can serve your community is supporting local businesses and artisans.

The only place for a vintage and antique lover to be next month is the 9th Annual Antique Row Summer Block Party. The whole stretch of Antique Row will be alive with energy, sales, and entertainment. Named the top place for antiquing, Denver's Antique Row is a cultural destination that serves everyone's interests. From shopping opportunities in every niche of collecting to the hip (and delicious) restaurant and bar scene, Antique Row is a hidden gem in Colorado. The block parties have evolved over the years, and the 2018 block party is gearing up to be an event you do not want to miss. Activities will include a live rockabilly band,



face painting and balloon twisting for the kids, vintage cars, restaurant with food and drink specials, cute girls serving free hot dogs, and open houses of all the antique and vintage shops.

To stay up to date on the event, RSVP under the 'events' section of Denver's Antique Row's Facebook page and visit [www.antique-row.com](http://www.antique-row.com) for additional upcoming events.



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## FURNITURE

# Buying Antique & Repro Furniture

*Continued from page 1*

I may sound like a snob but whatever happened to good taste? To think I used to complain about fakes and reproductions, now I am taking on buying “do-over pieces.”

Be wary of candle stands made from pole screens or butterfly tables that were once plain tavern tables. Other problem pieces are piecrust table tops made from English tables and put on American tri-pod bases.

CLUES: Why buy somebody’s mistakes that have been badly stripped and re-finished or settees cut down from large sofas? Furniture with painted or stenciled

decorations and pieces with fancy inlays should be carefully studied. These days authentic 19th century Hitchcock side chairs with original painted and stenciled designs are selling for under \$100 at auction if they sell at all.

Wonderful chests made of mahogany and pine are being passed up at auctions. This is a golden age for buying quality antique furniture and reproductions. Beautifully grained wood and handmade brass hardware can’t be duplicated. If you are just furnishing an apartment or house spend some time at some of the antique shops. Talk to the dealers. Do some research.



*Now that the kids are back in school why not explore your favorite antique shops?*



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# Souvenirs of Baseball

By Robert Reed

Ever since baseball began there has been bit by bit collecting of it, and as the great American pastime has grown so have the bits and the numbers of collectors.

Fans seek out everything from key chains to bleacher seats, from buttons to Wheaties cereal boxes, from ticket stubs to Jim Bouton's book, *Ball Four*.

In 1988, for the first time in history, the glitzy New York City auction house Christie's conducted a gallery sale devoted entirely to sports memorabilia. Among other things, a 1969 New York Mets championship ring brought over \$8,000.

For the first hundred years or so of baseball's existence collecting memorabilia was a relatively modest affair. In 1979 a national magazine noted that former St. Louis Browns player Roy Sievers had been offered \$5,000 for his 1950s uniform. He declined, saying he still sometimes wore it to old-timers games.

In 1990, Mickey Mantle's playing jacket from the 1950s sold for several thousand dollars. A letter of authenticity with it noted the Mick had worn it during spring training with the New York Yankees in 1954. It was eventually given to his high school coach and later sold as part of his estate.

Things directly from the game, like uniforms, caps, and jackets are especially treasured in the field. "Hundreds of thousands of different baseball collectibles have been issued during the past century," says Dr. James Beckett author of *The Sport Americana Price Guide to Baseball Collectibles*. "Such increasing interest in such memorabilia is naturally reflected in the values of these items. As more collectors compete for available supplies, prices rise."

Balls, bats, gloves, spikes, and even uniform patches qualify. In recent years Guernsey's sporting auction in New York has sold George Selkirk's ca. 1936 New York Yankees cap for \$1,500, and a 1988 Keith Hernandez Mets home jersey, with a letter of authenticity, for \$500.

Leland's, another leading sports memorabilia mail auction, sold a wood-slatted stadium seat from Commiskey Park (Chicago). The seat dated to 1910 and was removed in the late 1940s and sent to the minor league Waterloo Diamonds.



Table top punchboard, ca. 1938, featuring baseball greats from Alexander to Ruth, 15x13 display. (Leland's Auction photo)

The seat sold with a letter from an official of the Waterloo baseball club.

It is always a good idea to have proof regarding 'from the game' baseball memorabilia. In Collector's Guide to Baseball Memorabilia author Don Raycraft relates a deal he made as a youngster in the early 1950s. He traded 385 Topps baseball cards from the 1953 season for a ball fouled off by Jim Rivera.

"When he came home from work that night," admits Raycraft, "my father pointed out to me that American League teams did not normally buy their baseballs at Montgomery Ward."

Much baseball memorabilia is simply down on paper.

The Christie's auction of 1988 saw a handwritten letter by famed shortstop Honus Wagner. Today, instead of his playing, he is much more famous for one of his baseball cards which brought \$500,000.

Wagner's letter to one of his fans described a difficult play:

"Batter hits a low line hit to my right. I dove for the ball and caught it with my bare hand about three inches from the ground. My jump took me head first into the ground and I came up with the ball and made a double play."

The letter brought over \$1,000. At a similar auction a Hall of Fame postcard signed by Cy Young with his image on the from brought \$750.

These Hall of Fame postcards with photographs of an individual player's plaque with yellow background have been available since 1964. They were issued by the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Earlier cards by Albertype and Artvue Company were issued in black and white.

Also on paper are stock certificates, one from the 1940s St. Louis Browns went for \$350; signed checks, one from Walter Johnson on a Germantown bank in Maryland dated 1942 brought \$800 at a Leland sale; programs, tickets, magazines with baseball-related covers' and guide books issued as premiums by liquor companies.

During much of the 20th century a great deal of memorabilia connected to the game was sold right over the counter.



Reach advertising sign, tin in full color, 14x18. Official baseball patented 1909, lithographed art. (Leland's Auction photo)



Mickey Mantle jersey, 1967 MacGregor, road uniform. (Leland's auction photo)

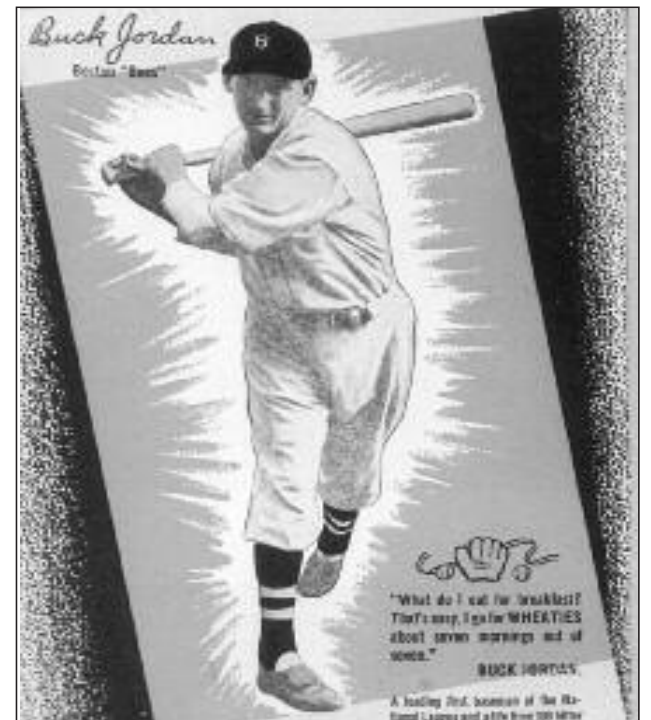
An attractive box from the 1930s that once packaged Babe Ruth's All-American Athletic Underwear complete with the great star's image on front would bring several hundred dollars today. Then there is a Joe Dimaggio advertising wall calendar from the 1950s, or the great Gillette Razor Company merchandise and premiums from the 1930s through the 1960s – including World Series specialty items.

During the 1950s and early 1960s the Hartland Plastic Company of Hartland, Wisconsin, issued 18 different statues of major league baseball stars. From 1958 to 1963 they sold at dime stores for \$2 to \$3 each. Now they are quite collectible.

Different baseball fans usually collect different things. But the field's most accomplished collector has a bit of everything these days. Barry Halper, a New Jersey businessman, at one time had 900 player uniforms, 3,000 autographed baseballs, every all-star game program, world series programs going back nearly 80 years, and even the autograph of the person many say invented the game itself at Cooperstown in 1839, Abner Doubleday.

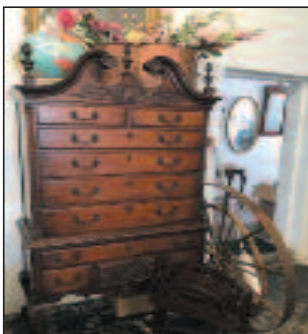
Most collectors of such things have far less of it but enjoy what they have tremendously.

"In collecting baseball memorabilia," notes Stew Salowitz in his collector's guide co-authored with Raycraft, "people are surrounding themselves with history – with at bats, hits, runs, errors, diving catches, chewing tobacco, bubble gum and the illustrious characters who played the game for our enjoyment."



Wheaties cereal box back, Buck Jordan, 1937. (Hake's Americana, York, Pa.)

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# The Collectibles of Labor Day

By Robert Reed

Then hail to labor! everywhere, Honor to those who do their share.

Labor Day poem by Clara Denton, 1928

Long unnoticed, the collectibles of the Labor Day holiday are gradually gaining in recognition. After all it is an event that has been celebrated nationally since the latter part of the 19th century.

Some true treasures of the American labor movement actually predate the establishment of Labor Day itself. In the Marion Carson Collection of the Library of Congress is a hat ribbon worn for a labor organization parade in the 1820s. The parade was staged in Philadelphia by the Brotherly Union Society. During that decade the journeymen house-carpenters of that city made the first attempt to get the hours of work reduced to ten a day. The effort was unsuccessful.

Historians generally agree that the first actual Labor Day parade was held in New York City's Union Square on September 5, 1882. Interestingly while the holiday has traditionally been thought of as always being observed on a Monday, the first parade was actually on a Tuesday according to records of the United States Department of Labor. It was held under the direction of the Central Labor Union in that city.

Possibly one of the first Labor Day parade collectibles appeared just one week later in the form of the news magazine Frank Leslie's Illustrated. The September 16, 1882 issue featured drawings of the event. Marchers were depicted in the artist's rendering as carrying banners and signs with such slogans as "Vote for the Labor Ticket," "Labor Creates All Wealth," and "8 Hours Constitute a Day's Work."

Published images of American worker in the 1880s, according to a study done by the Smithsonian Institution a century later was a "stereotype of a lone, white, male craftsman in a mechanic's paper hat, carrying dinner pail." Such characterizations appeared in magazines and on product labels.

In the years that immediately followed the first parade,



Labor organization moved the event to a Monday thus providing one of the 19th century's first three-day weekends for workers. The "working men's holiday" idea also spread to other major cities where unionization was fairly well established.

Some accounts say the first Monday in September was favored because it came at the "most pleasant season of the year" midway between the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving, and thus would fill a gap in the chronology of legal holidays. Most research indicates that the general idea in New York, Philadelphia, and other industrial centers was to provide for parade to show strength and solidarity, to be followed by a festive family picnic.

Little by little such labor union related events spread to other cities and came to the attention of individual state legislatures. States such as Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Nebraska and Pennsylvania jointed the 'parade' by establishing Labor Day as an official holiday.

Eventually the American Federation of Labor forecast "it

shall be as uncommon for a man to work on that day (Labor Day) as on Independence Day." That prediction became a reality in 1894 when the U.S. Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and all U.S. territories.

As the 19th century came to a close Labor Day celebrations, especially parades and similar outings, became widespread. Likewise there were numerous decorative items produced to be wore on such occasions. Striking multi-color celluloid pinback buttons were manufactured by the Whitehead & Hoag Company and others. Typically they included a slogan, ie. "The Union Is Strength", and symbol of patriotism including the U.S. flag or an eagle along with a symbol of unity such as a



handshake. There were multi-colored ribbons too which could be attached to the lapel of a jacket or the front of a shirt. The wording on the ribbons might be as basic as simply the words Labor Day or elaborate enough to show a worker with the America flag and a hammer—all in red, white and blue.

Early in the 20th century, in addition to pinback buttons, lapel ribbons and various badges, citizens could also celebrate the holiday with postcards. Nash Publishing Company produced a set of two embossed fully illustrated Labor Day Souvenir postcards. One proclaimed, "labor shall refresh itself with hope," while second declared, "Labor Conquers Everything." (Indeed the image of the laborer on postcard number two was much as image Smithsonian had earlier described, "a lone, white, male craftsman in a mechanic's hat..." Lounsbury Publishing did a set of four Labor Day postcards similar in style to those by Nash. The Lounsbury titles included Makers of Prosperity, Man in Overalls, Labor Taking a Day Off, and Our Latest Holiday.

According to Susan Nicholson author of The Encyclopedia of Antique Postcards, the Lounsbury set was published in more limited numbers. The fourth card of the series, Our Latest Holiday, featuring a Labor Day parade which also included Santa and Uncle Sam is the most highly sought of the four. Meanwhile numerous other publishers also issued postcards of actual Labor Days parades during the early 1900s including one in Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

Labor Day buttons and ribbons had taken decidedly more patriotic tone by 1917 and 1918 within the shadow of World War One red, white and blue Labor Day ribbon dated 1918 proclaimed, "We're Behind the Man Behind the Gun." It bore the illustration of a worker rolling up his shirt sleeves with factory smoke stacks in the background.

Later Labor Day parades and events also produced memorabilia ranging from photographs of parade floats to booklets and programs. In 1945 Victory Labor Day Rally celebrated both the efforts of organized labor and efforts of U.S. troops in World War II. Noted the multi-paged program issued by the Baltimore, Maryland Congress of Industrial Unions:

"One this day, labor's traditional holiday, we salute our fellow trade unionists in the armed forces and merchant marine who, scattered over the four corners of the earth, cannot be here to share in the celebration of Labor Day."

In 1982 Carolrhoda Books Inc. published one of the few books devoted entirely to this particular holiday. Labor Day by Geoffery Scott, was illustrated by Cherie Wyman and described the origins of Labor Day including a "monster labor festival" held in New York City a century earlier.

While still a major American holiday, observance of Labor Day has changed from earlier decades according to the U.S. Department of Labor, and elaborate displays and massive parades are no longer as prevalent as they were in the heart of the 20th century.

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Debra Van Wyhe has put together a great new shop in Pine, Colorado. It is on 285 just one block South of Shaffers Crossing. (The actual address is 13028 S. Parker Ave. in Pine.)

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# Who Was Toby Fillpot?

By Maureen Timm

There are many theories in regard to how Toby Fillpot was brought into the world as a character. The name "Toby" was used originally to describe jugs which were made in the form of a seated male figure in a tri cornered hat. He usually held a beer jug on his knee and sometimes held a pipe or glass in his hand. The hat was made so that each corner formed a convenient spout.

Toby was dressed in the style of the 1700s, which consisted of a full length coat with low set pockets, waistcoat, cravat, knee breeches, stockings and buckled shoes. An interesting feature of the early jugs is the hollow cap which fitted into the top of the hat and was used as a cup.

He has been associated with the fat boisterous Sir Toby Belch in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," and "My Uncle Toby" from Laurence Sterne's "Tristram Shandy." This book did appear about the same time as the earliest Tobies, around 1700.

Other characters who may have helped bring Toby into existence include Harry Elwes, a Yorkshireman who is alleged to have drunk two thousand gallons of strong ale from a brown jug, and who bore the nickname of Toby Fillpot. He died in 1761.

Another character was Paul Parnell, also a Yorkshireman. His obituary was in Gentleman's Magazine dated December 1910.

"At the Ewes Farmhouse, Yorkshire, aged 76, Mr. Paul Parnell, fanner, grazier and maltser, who during his lifetime drank out of one silver pint cup upwards of 2,000 pounds sterling worth of Yorkshire

stingo, being remarkably attached to stingo tipples of the home brewed best quality. This calculation is taken at 2 pence per cupful. He was the bon vivant whom O'Keefe celebrated in more than one of his Bacchanalian songs, under the appellation of Toby Fillpot."

The name Toby Fillpot occurred, probably for the first time in print in the song "The Brown Jug," published in 1761 in a volume of "Original Poems and Translations" by the Reverend Francis Fawkes.

Although entirely original in conception, Toby was the descendant of a long line of jugs in human form fashioned by potters in earlier years.

Since the dawn of history, long before man began to record his ideas and life experiences in writing, potters have made images of living beings. Some may have been used in religious rituals and some were created for fun

Ancient Greece provides numerous examples of jugs, cups, perfume pots and wine vessels made in the likeness of human beings, satyrs, sphinxes and other mythical creatures.

It is interesting to note that a Roman potter in Staffordshire was making face urns some fifteen hundred years before Toby made his first appearance.

In the early eighteenth century some small earth-



enware figures and jugs were made in Staffordshire, England. They depicted midshipmen, soldiers, musicians and other characters of that century.

These were probably made by several different potters living in and around Stoke, England. These figures appear to have been the immediate forerunners of the Toby Jug. Some of them have tri cornered hats pinched out in the front to facilitate pouring and hollow seated figures are holding jugs, pipes and beakers. They were rather crudely modeled and glazed with black blobs for eyes and buttons. However, the potters were learning to depict the everyday humor of life in rural England.

Around the 1770s an entirely new creation ap-

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peared. This was a figure jug depicting plain faced, squat bodied Toby Fillpot. The modeling and coloring far surpassed the previous earthenware figures.

The first Toby Jug was probably made between 1760 and 1770. In 1750 there were many small thatched pot works in the district of North Staffordshire which is known all over the world as "The Potteries."

Ralph Wood I and his son, Ralph Wood II, both made figures and Toby Jugs in their factory in Burslem, the mother town of the Staffordshire potteries. They were among the first English potters to use their names, or a rebus mark of trees (i.e.wood) to identify their pottery.

The beautiful effect of the early Ralph Wood Tobies was due to the painting of colors with translucent glazes. The colors shone clear and luminous

from the opaque white ground. This process was superseded by painting enamels over the glaze in opaque colors, which, though brilliant were not as delicate as the older technique.

Enoch Wood produced many figures and figure jugs from existing models including standing Tobies.

By the end of the 18th century there were many makers of Toby Jugs. Some were good, some were bad and some of indifferent quality. The art of making these jugs was introduced into the United States, probably by potters from Stoke, England who emigrated in the late 18th century.

The earliest Toby Jugs were not marked with the potter's name and there are no written records. One potter often copied the designs of another. Because of this it is impossible to find the exact truth as to Toby's "onlie begetter." To this day the Toby legend remains a never ending story.

Some of the famous names associated with the early development of Toby Jugs are as follows:



John Astbury (1678 1743)  
Ralph Wood I (1715 1772)  
Josiah Wedgwood (1730 1795)  
Enoch Wood (1759 1840)  
Thomas Whieldon (1719 1795)  
Aaron Wood (1717 1785)  
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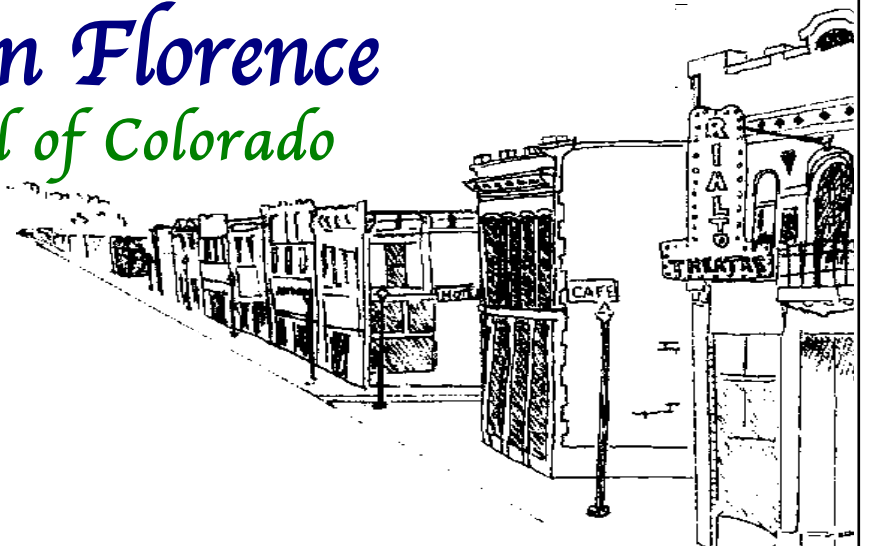
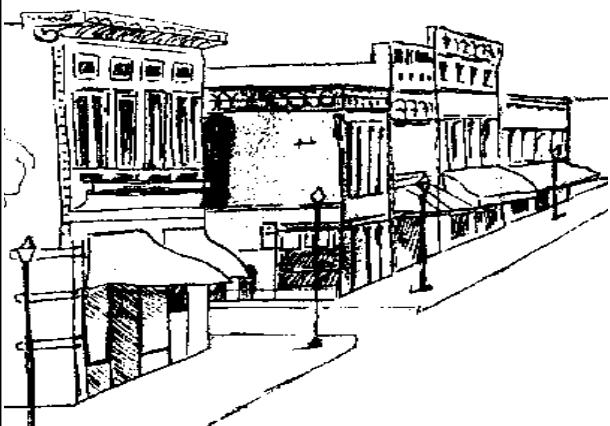
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### Fabulous Fashion Finds in Florence

By Sandy Dale

Let me alliterate and, perhaps, reiterate. I believe I might have mentioned back in May there were a few shops in Florence with some fun clothing. I had NO IDEA. On my walk this morning (and the better part of the afternoon), I investigated the Fashion World of Florence. Admittedly, I am a clothes junky. Contemporary, ethnic, vintage, and pieces that are falling apart but still look great on the wall. I am listing below the shops along a little over four blocks of Main Street that have, tucked in with their fine collections of antiques, little corners and tiny boutique stalls of fun fashion finds. Walking east from the 200 West block, north side of the street to the corner of the 200 East block of Main Street, crossing Main and heading back west, this is what I found:

1. Salvage, Antiques, Vintage, Etc. – T-shirts, vintage aprons, military clothing
2. The Pour House Coffee Shop – T-shirts (get coffee here to sustain you for the journey)
3. Oil City Merchants – some military clothing, a little vintage clothing
4. Heartland Antiques – hats, accessories\*, vintage clothing
5. Florence Consignment Corner – military, vintage, retro clothing, hats, aprons, accessories\*
6. Crystal Emporium – accessories\*
7. Manna House Thrift Store – used clothing and accessory finds
8. Blue Heron – vintage military, retro, aprons, hand-painted jackets, T-shirts, sweat shirts, hand-woven vests and scarves, accessories\*
9. Florence Antiques – doll clothes, vintage wedding dresses, hand woven scarves, military and Western clothing, accessories\*
10. Heartland Boutique – classy contemporary clothing and accessories\*
11. Antique Warehouse – ethnic, vintage and retro couture fashions
12. Vintage Market – vintage clothing and accessories\*
13. Florence Flower Shop – a boutique corner featuring contemporary and vintage clothing
14. Main St. Gallery/Spirit Rider – lots of vintage, Western and Steampunk wear\*\*
15. Aspen Leaf Bakery – handmade aprons, bags, ethnic clothing
16. Barn and Barrel – retro, vintage and contemporary clothing and accessories\*
17. Autumn's Attic – resale boutique clothing and unique Colorado T-shirts
18. The Mezzanine – baby clothes, vintage military, wedding dresses, hats, and accessories\*
19. Legends and Lace – vintage lingerie, Victorian dresses, hats, military and Steampunk\*\*
20. Blue Spruce – vintage hats, clothing, children's clothing, cowboy boots, accessories\*
21. Willie's Antiques (just around the corner heading west on Main St.) – vintage clothing and accessories\*

So, next time you'd like something fabulous to wear or hang on the wall, I'd be willing to bet you can find it in Florence, Fashion Capital of Fremont County.

\*I have included under accessories, antique jewelry, vintage shoes, bags, and custom hand-made jewelry.

\*\*If you don't know what Steampunk is, google it. It could be the topic of a whole book, actually several books (and is). Florence is a virtual Steampunker's paradise. Come see for yourself.

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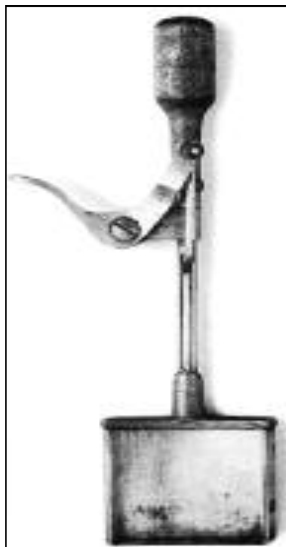
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## CONTEST

## July's What Is It?



We had two correct answers to our July's What Is It contest. Dottie Unruh of Lakewood, Colorado said, "It is an ice cream treat maker. I have one from the soda fountain in my dad's old drug store in North Denver, it says, 'Icy Pie' on it." She also added, "Thanks so much for your great paper; it's always so informative and has been very helpful in identifying some of my inherited things."

Thanks, Dottie, we enjoy doing the paper. We have so much fun learning about all these great collectibles, too.

Jacque Rutledge of Northglenn, Colorado added, "It surely looks like an ice cream sandwich maker to me."

Of course, both Dottie and Jacque are right. Thanks for venturing a guess. You have won a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

## August's What Is It?



Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by August 20, to *the Mountain States Collector*, P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421. Three winners will be drawn. Winners will receive a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

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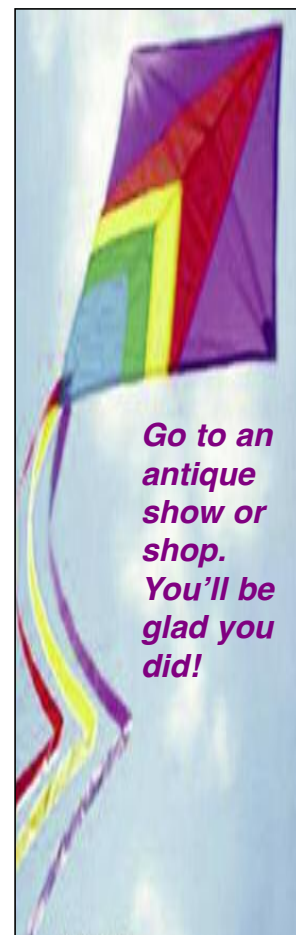
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