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AND HISTORY.

DECEMBER 2020

ESTABLISHED IN 1972

Volume 48, Number 12



Golden and Rockin' Horse Antiques Welcome You

The City of Golden with their many partners will be presenting "Candlelight Nights 2020." They plan to make Golden, Colorado the place to visit this holiday season. This month-long event starts Friday, December 6th.

Elves will be working hard to make downtown a fun and festive place to be every day and night. The lights will go up early and stay on later. Decorative banners with holiday messages will festoon the street poles. Glistening ice sculptures will be placed around downtown for the month of December. Strolling Saturdays on the Avenue will feature holiday characters mingling with downtown visitors. There may even be an appearance by everyone's favorite jolly man in a red suit. There will be a Holiday Story Stroll — a treasure hunt of sorts taking you on a journey celebrating multicultural holiday traditions from around the world.

No less involved in the holiday spirit of Golden is **Rockin' Horse Antiques and Vintage Treasures**. Located at 1106 Washington Avenue, they are a mere stone's throw from the famous "Welcome to Golden" sign.

Rockin' Horse Antiques has been around a long time.



The shop is located on the main street of Golden, Colorado. It is filled with hard-to-find antiques and collectibles reminiscent of Mom's old house. This December they will have a Special In-Store Holiday Market Shop and select dealers are offering Holiday Sales through Dec 31st.

With several dealers and lots of merchandise to choose from, you're sure to spend hours exploring the historic treasures at this fine antique establishment. Find antique furniture, Colorado-inspired paintings, Coors memorabilia (ask for Heather) and much more.

Speaking of Heather, Heather Eckels and Debbie Sherwood speak for the store and encourage you to do your holiday shopping here. They follow the safety guidelines of this Covid-era so be sure to wear your mask. Hand sanitizer is available everywhere and you can keep your distance as the store is quite large.

Comments from shoppers from around the country capture the spirit of Rockin' Horse Antiques:

Shopper Pam points out, "You'll love this store. There

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AMERICAN HISTORY December Anniversaries

Dec. 6 - Washington Monument completed (1884)

Dec. 7 - Pearl Harbor Day

Dec. 8 - Giving Tuesday in Colorado

Dec. 15 - National Bill of Rights Day (1791)

Dec. 16 - Boston Tea Party (1773)

Dec. 18 - First National Day of Thanksgiving (1777)

Dec. 22 - Continental Congress creates a Continental Navy (1775)

Dec. 23 - George Washington resigns as commander in chief (1783)

Dec. 24 - UK signs Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812 (1814)

Dec. 25 - George Washington crosses the Delaware (1776)

Make Your Holiday Special Give Gifts From the Navajo Nation

By Linda Lancaster

December is the month of celebrations. Celebrations bring light into the dark of winter. With lights and candles throughout the world, we continue to bring light into the dark. On the Navajo Reservation, thanks to electricity, holiday celebrations are everywhere. It is spiritual to see lights burning on the outside of hogans at night. To see luminaries on the sides of roads in Gallup and Albuquerque is a reminder of the many cultures and traditions of light in the South West.

However, this has been a very dark year on the Navajo Reservation. Covid has taken many lives and stressed communities. **Navajos have had the highest number of deaths per capita in the nation.** Covid 19 challenges the Navajo culture. We can help them by investing in them.

Full appreciation of any of their art forms is never fully achieved without knowledge of their origins. All of their crafts exhibit the soul of the undaunted Dine. As an appraiser of Navajo weaving, I know that history is exhibited in weaving. There are clan signs, direction symbols, religious symbols, greeting symbols and colors of various regions of the reservation. These designs are also visible in all the jewelry, pottery, and basketry. Everywhere, there are also representations of light.

During this time of darkness and isolation, the Navajos



Linda Lancaster visits with her friends the Franklin family at the Navajo reservation.

have continued their evolution of silver smithing, pottery making, weaving and basketry. I am always astounded by the Navajo ability to transition from traditional to contemporary. They revere the old patterns and preserve them. They also try new designs and colors and often integrate the new into the old. This applies to all their art forms. The Navajos have an unshaken devotion in their heritage. But, it has been very difficult to obtain supplies to continue production. The

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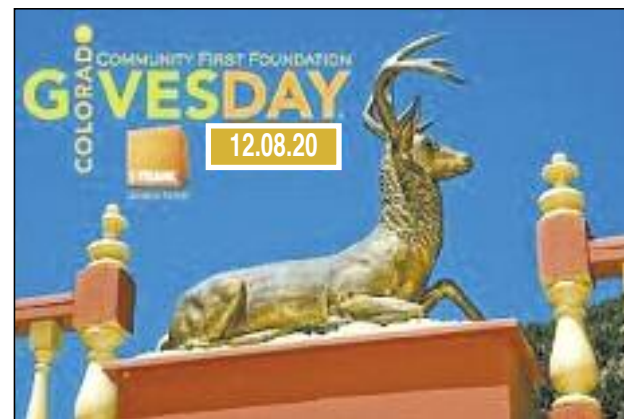
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Colorado Gives Day is December 8. Schedule your donations early! Join thousands of Coloradans to support local nonprofits on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. This annual statewide movement celebrates and increases philanthropy in Colorado through online giving.



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SHOW CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2020

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THOUGH DEC. 31: **SPECIAL IN-STORE HOLIDAY MARKET SHOP** and Select Dealers will be offering Holiday Sales through Dec. 31 at **THE ROCKIN' HORSE ANTIQUES** in Golden, Colorado. Located at 1106 Washington Avenue, they are open Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 11-4. Call them at 303-278-8803 for more info.

THRU JAN. 4: **COLORADO ANTIQUE GALLERY HOLIDAY SALE**, 5501 S. Broadway, Littleton, Colorado, up to 50% off. Shop early and use their great Layaway plan. Don't know what to give? Give a Colorado Antique Gallery Gift Card. Call 303-794-8100 for more information.

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IN MEMORIAM

Mary Eastman of Old Warehouse Antiques

Mary E. Eastman, 75, of Sterling Colorado, passed away unexpectedly on September 29, 2020 with family and her dog Sparky by her side. A long-time friend of *the Mountain States Collector* and owner of Old Warehouse Antiques, she will be missed.

Mary was born in Sterling Colorado on November 16th, 1944 to Harry and Irene Eastman. She grew up in Sterling and was active in the Sterling High School Band and Silver Spurs equestrian club with her horse Trigger. Mary was married to Duane Klobberdanz of Sterling in 1965 and moved north of Sterling where they raised their 2 children on the family farm. Mary and her daughters were very active in 4-H where she provided leadership and guidance both to her daughters and other young club members. Mary moved back to Sterling and worked for Eastman Brothers while pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Regis University which she earned in 1992.

In 1993 Mary, together with Charles Korbe, began transitioning the old warehouse on Front Street from Eastman Brothers Wholesale into Old Warehouse Antiques, the shop that exists there today. Mary loved sharing her

From Our Archives

Mary Eastman's Old Warehouse Antiques 'A Shop with Real Antiques'

By Jon DeStefano

In 1994 Mary Eastman opened Old Warehouse Antiques, a literal landmark in Sterling, Colorado. The Warehouse was her father's building and distributorship which he began in 1933 and she wound up running both the warehouse and distributorship until she determined in 2010 to focus solely on her antique warehouse. "Antiques were my passion so it was an easy decision."

Mary notes, "When people walk through the door so many of them say, 'Finally, a shop with real antiques.' She adds it's getting harder to find good antiques." But you will find them at Old Warehouse Antiques and a lot of them.

The sheer volume of antiques and collectibles in the warehouse is astounding! Mary got many of them from buying trips throughout the Midwest although today she admits much of it comes through her front door. "We've been here



passion for antiques with her patrons and close friends. Being artistically gifted, she enjoyed bringing antiques long forgotten back to life so others enjoy them once again. She was a very kind-hearted person and would do what she could to help others in need and she will be greatly missed.

Mary is survived by her loving partner of thirty years, Charles Korbe of Sterling, Colorado, her brother Joe Eastman of Seattle Washington, her 2 daughters, Barbara Klobberdanz of Thornton, Colorado and Brenda Klobberdanz of Broomfield, Colorado and niece Liza Marshall of Scottsdale Arizona, and nephew Andy Eastman of San Diego.

A Celebration of Mary's Life, will be held at a later date. The family asks that donations be made to the Co-operative Ministry of Logan County in Mary Eastman's name.

long enough people know us and know we're fair. I like the people and they like what I do," she adds.

"If I had to retire and just go sit home, I'd go nuts. We have friends coming here from all over the world." The shop is about 5,000 square feet with another storage building attached in back with an additional 4,000 square feet of goods.

You can tell how much she likes her customers. She tells the story of "one fella came in, looked at the price tag on an item, and asked me what my best price was. I quoted him \$100 more than what was on the price tag. He said 'That's more than you're charging for it.' Well, I said, you wanted to know my best price, now do you want to know yours'?"

When you walk into the warehouse you feel like you are stepping back in time. There is a nice pot belly stove warming the place at the entrance with a few rustic old antique chairs around it. Just past it there is an old wooden counter, a

Continued on page 6

GOLDEN



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IN MEMORIAM

Mary Eastman, 1944-2020

Continued from page 5

good 25 to 30 feet long, something you would expect to find in a general store in an old western town a hundred years ago.

All the furniture is set up in specific settings, like separate rooms or vignettes. Mary did this because "it just looks better if you can see it in a way where you can capture the past and a feeling for it. There are dozens and dozens of different room settings, kitchens, living rooms, bedrooms, you name it."

"It is a lot of work," Mary admits, "Six days a week and sometimes we do seven."

Mary's favorite parts are the setup and doing the restoration, which they do a lot of. She explains, "The restoration brings things back to life. Charles (her husband) does beautiful work when it comes to fixing things and doing the finishing. We're a good team." She calls him her partner and admits he's her better half. She also has two daughters who live in Denver.

They have huge collections of many items, for example Aladdin lamps which Charles focuses on and for which they have all the replacement parts. Mary likes Victorian "stuff" like the glassware which is "so pretty and formal. We're not like that anymore." "Much of today's stuff is junk," I add. Mary corrects me, "It's disposable."

A lot of her kitchen vignettes are from the 40's and 50's. Collectibles abound including a huge clock collection—40 plus, cookie jars, elegant glassware, Cambridge and the more common Desert Rose, even rural collectibles

like tractor and farming items. "If it's old, I like it and we collect it."

They have a huge amount of oak furniture and quite a bit of walnut and even mahogany. Their big seller is oak furniture. "If there is something somebody wants there is a good chance we've got it," Mary says with a warm giggle. "We have about 5,000 items," she finishes.

We chat awhile longer about children and I get to meet her greeter 'Sparky,' and on the drive back to Denver my thoughts mull over one of the finest collections of antiques I have seen in one place and a time and hospitality long gone but not forgotten.

When you get a chance stop by Old Warehouse Antiques and meet Mary and Charles. Sit down by the old potbelly and enjoy. I promise you'll be glad you did. The Old Warehouse Antiques is located at 326 North Front Street, 1/2 block north under the Chestnut Street overpass. Look for the huge purple Antique sign. Their number is 970-522-3145.



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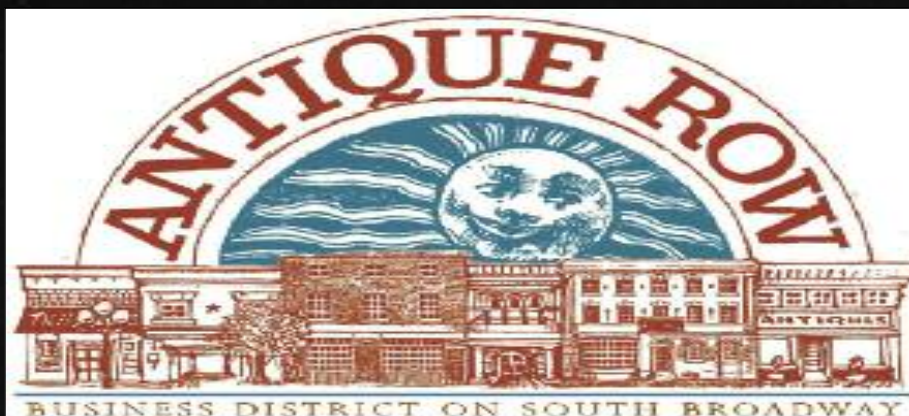
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Golden and Rockin' Horse Antiques Welcome You



Continued from page 1

is such variety here, you'll be sure to find something. Today I was super excited to find 6 of the most beautiful blue rose glass tumblers to go with my set of 6 antique French blue dinner plates that I found a year ago. Yayyyy! I've been searching for glasses just like this for a long time. Happy dancing!! I love the great service and the sweet smiling ladies who work here and run this store. They are very knowledgeable, helpful and so, so kind! Thank you for your help and those sweet kind smiles!! It makes all the difference when shopping."

Morgan, another visitor to the store, says, "This place is incredible. It's sort of like a co-op for antiques. I got this beautiful gold-filled choker and so much more. The people selling are passionate about their items and knowledgeable. I was in there for at least 45 minutes. So lovely. Thank you all!"

Be sure to include Rockin' Horse Antiques in your holiday shopping marathon. They are open Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 11-4. You can call them at 303-278-8803 for more information.



A visit to downtown Golden and Rockin' Horse Antiques will certainly put you in the Holiday spirit! See you there!

THE BOOK OF ABRAHAM

The subtitle of the book is "A Biblical Version of the American Civil War." Whether to distinguish it from, or to draw it closer to The Bible, one might suspect Joseph DeStefano is wanting to reclaim our attention with circumstances and characters of bygone, perhaps nobler times. But, as he makes clear in his preface, it is the times we are living in, "Now, in 2020," with their own potential of nobility, and of ruin, that makes his effort seem "especially relevant" to him. He writes:

"I take up the spiritual content of our worst national crisis to date in an attempt to inspire us to ask and answer old questions anew — within ourselves."

And, indeed, the first speech of Abraham Lincoln, only a few pages into the first part, might just as well have been written yesterday as 160 years ago. And so it is with the words and actions of Jefferson Davis, of Grant and Lee, of Sherman, Forrest, and Frederick Douglass, and of all the rest. In *The*

Book of Abraham, the crystalline prose of Bruce Catton, the breathtaking stories of Shelby Foote, together with the research of Joshua Wolf Shenk, James McPherson, and Ibram X. Kendi, are interwoven with extractions of *The Old Testament*, and of other ancient works, and with poetry, oratory and song of more modern authors and actors — interwoven, that is, with inspiration available to all our current creeds.

Answering old questions anew, himself, DeStefano is obviously only interested in that which has proved timeless. He offers it all as "A Gift," for us to wonder at its startling power, yes, but more to help us recognize the challenge of its continuing pertinence. This book believes in us — in what we are now: both what we have been and what we can be."

The Book of Abraham's author Joseph DeStefano is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He teaches high school English in Littleton, Colorado where he lives with his wife and children.

You can order your copy of *The Book of Abraham* through Amazon. You can use this link:

https://www.amazon.com/Book-Abraham-Joseph-DeStefano/dp/1087898285/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=the+book+of+abraham+destefano&qid=1598133391&sr=8-2



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Make Your Holiday Special—Give Gifts From the Navajo Nation

Continued from page 1

following dealers have been able to continue the supply chain.

In their time of extreme struggle, please support the Navajos by buying holiday gifts from the following reputable vendors. Jackson Clark can give you all the information on the artisans. The Toh-Atin Gallery which is owned by Jackson Clark can be reached by mail at P.O. Box 2229, Durango, Colorado 81302. There is an on line site that features all the inventory. Jackson has been helping the Navajo people his entire life as did his father and mother before him.

The South West Indian Foundation has many affordable items and an extensive catalog on line. To help out, go to the South West Indian Foundation, 100 West Coal Avenue, Gallup, New Mexico 87301. You can also donate to buy food baskets and wood stoves. Their telephone number is 1-877-788-9962.

The Heard Museum gift shop represents all native American tribes of the southwest and can also give information on the artisans. They are located at 2301 North Central Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85004, 602-252-8840.

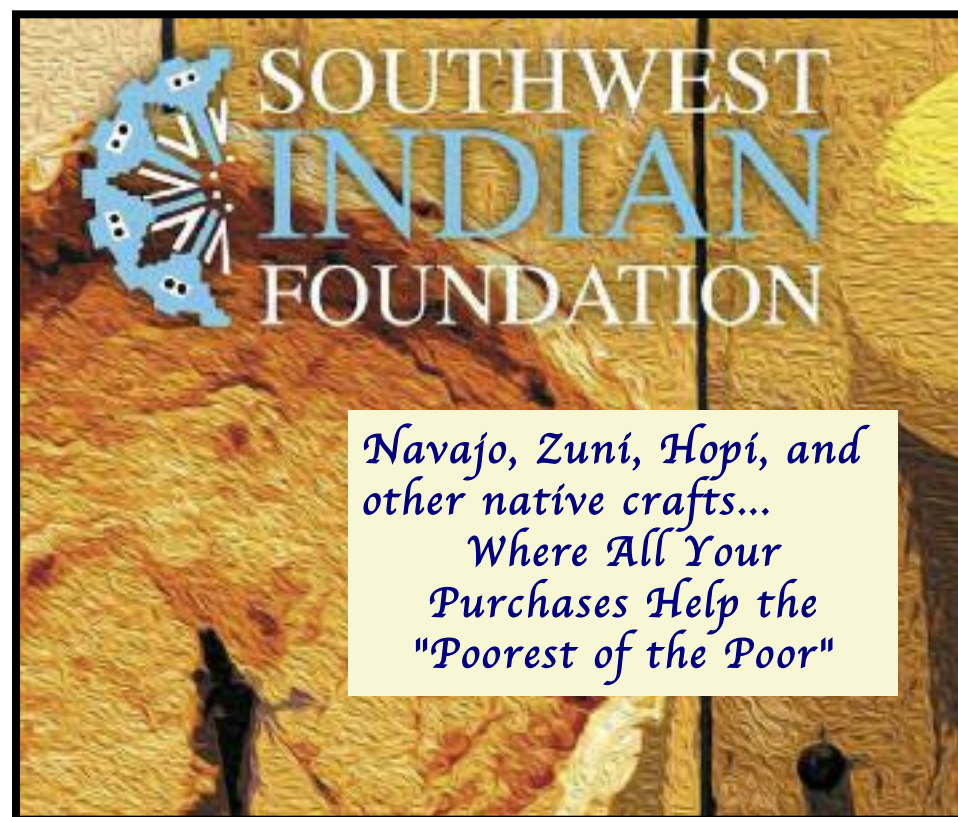
Richardson's has been buying Navajo artwork since 1916. Richardson's (opened and selling Navajo wares since 1916) are located at 223 West Historic Highway #66, Gallup,



New Mexico 87301. You can call them at 505-722-4762.

Meri Keshmish from the Navajo Reservation.

Helping the Navajos survive this time of Covid would be the best good thing you can do to help the Navajo through this difficult time.



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The Mountain States Collector, a tabloid newspaper dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of antiquing and collecting in the Rocky Mountain region, is distributed the first weekend of every month through shops, auctions, flea markets and antique shows, and is mailed to subscribers.

(Opinions of the writers contained herein are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers.)

Advertising information: call Jon DeStefano at 720-276-2777 or email him at jondestef@gmail.com or for any other information, call Spree Enterprises, 303-674-1253 or email us at customerservice@mountainstatescollector.com.

Ornaments From The Past



By Maureen Timm

Nothing can match the fantasy of a Christmas tree glowing with old glass globes and whimsical glass figures, reflecting the brilliance of the Christmas tree lights.

The first recorded account of a decorated Christmas tree is found in a Strasburg, Germany manuscript dated 1605 which reads: "They set up fir trees in the parlors...and hung upon them roses cut from many colored paper, apples, wafers, gilt-sugar, sweets..."

Tin ornaments were, along with blown wax ornaments, among the earliest manufactured Christmas tree decorations. The earliest tin ornaments date from the latter part of the 18th century. These were cast from a very soft tin and lead alloy by German Tin-smiths. Usually made in geometric shapes, each one was multifaceted to catch and reflect the dancing light of nearby candles.

As early as 1800, wax figures began to arrive in America. These were cast in molds by German toy makers. Wax representations were made of the baby Jesus and four-inch Angels floated in the air with the help of invisible thread and cardboard or spun glass wings.

Some of the most fascinating ornaments manufactured for the Christmas tree were the little silver and gold embossed cardboard ornaments. Called by their city of origin, they were manufactured in a variety of shapes. Animals, for example, included all sizes of fish, bugs, birds, camels and elephants. Dresden reindeer drew a sleigh candy box and Dresden animal heads often were made with attached bags for candy. There were also cats, moose and horses.

Another popular Dresden category was transportation. Dresden ships ranged from sailboats to paddleboats and ocean liners. Sleighs were elaborate and carriages were luxurious enough for royalty. Dresden zeppelins were prevalent even before World War I and were marked "Germany."

An amazing amount of detail was pressed into these tiny ornaments which ranged from two to six inches high. They were made in several pieces. The animals, for instance, were actually two matching halves, embossed and cut out in the same stamping operation.

When they were dry, the separate halves were given to the cottage



workers for finishing. The two halves of a horse's head, for example, would be glued together and ears were then glued into pre-cut slots, and a bridle made of pressed paper was set in place. Little sleighs or carriages would be upholstered and silk threads added for the coachman's reins. Cotton batting smoke was added to ship's smokestacks, and a rudder and paddle wheel had to be pinned on and three dimensional cabins glued to the deck.

Most of these embossed cardboard ornaments were made between 1880 and 1910 and very few examples remain, although thousands were produced.

The little village of Lauscha in Germany was the center for glass ornament Making. Only 60 miles from Nuremberg, it became the glass making center in 1597. Protestant glass makers, fleeing religious persecution in the German province of Swabia, established themselves in Lauscha where they could utilize the natural resources of wood, limestone and sand to produce household glassware. Under a grant from the Duke of Coburg, they built the first "Glass House" and as the trade progressed they began to produce glass toys, pharmaceutical items, bulls eye glass for windows, as well as the usual utilitarian glassware.

The Lauschans began making thick-walled balls called "kugels" which they finished inside either with lead or zinc to achieve a shimmery effect. They soon discovered they could produce a striated effect by swirling the lead solution inside the kugel and finish it by adding colored wax to enhance the luster of the ball. The kugels were corked and a loop fitted through the cork for hanging. The finish on the kugels was mirror-like, but they were so heavy they had to be suspended from the ceiling.

In 1867 a gas works was built in Lauscha. This new facility provided a regulated flame that enabled them to produce thin-walled glass products and they soon began creating many shapes, relying increasingly on the skill and artistry of the mold-makers. It is estimated that over 5000 different molds were made between the 1870s and 1940.

All family members shared in the final painting and decorating of the ornaments. By the 1920s German ornaments were painted by mouth-operated air brushes. On some ornaments Latin adhesive was applied and then sprinkled with gold, silver, or glass dust, or tiny beads called "Venetian Dew." To achieve a shimmering effect of snow, the ornament was dunked into a solution of gelatin and starch.

Market day was Saturday and traditionally the women brought ornament boxes and sacks in baskets by train to Sonneberg which was the central depot for both ornaments and toys.

Ornaments became more elaborate as time passed, both in design and trim. Embellishments included the use of silk thread, chenille, tinsel, wool-thread, swags, tassels and crinkly wire.

Chromolithography, invented in England and adopted by German printers, provided inexpensive color pictures for the public. Suddenly, the public were collecting them in scrapbooks and they became known as "scraps," and Christmas scraps were hung on many trees in those days.

Tissue paper honeycombs were made around 1900. Balls were followed by bells, and later, wreaths and baskets were introduced.

Christmas Crackers are an important Christmas tradition in England where they were originally made. Although they made the first and longest crackers, the Germans and French made the most elaborate. An 1890 American catalog shows crackers decorated with dressed paper dolls, full sized



scrap angels, busts of the current Kaiser, and one cracker disguised as a sausage.

In America, crackers were used as tree ornaments, but eventually they were used at both Christmas and Birthday parties.

Many early trees were decorated with ornaments made of cotton wool. Numerous cotton batting ornaments were made in Lauscha and Dresden, where glass and paper ornaments were made, and some were assembled in America.

Families of home workers cut Santa Claus figures, angels and snow fairies from thin layers of cotton batting and folded and glued them over a wire or cardboard frame. They glued shiny printed faces of Santa or Angels, or little girls with curly hair to the cotton and buttons, or embossed gold paper wings for the angels. When the little figures were completed, glue was spread on the surface and sprinkled with sparkling glass particles to give a snow-covered effect.

Tinsel, invented by the French and originally called lame' was used to decorate military uniforms. Lame' was made by pulling silver-plated copper through diamond dies and fashioned by the Germans for tree ornaments.

Some of the largest and most unusual decorations that hung on New England trees around the turn-of-the century were large, realistically painted papier-mâché fish. Each fish, which could be six to fifteen inches in length, had a large round trap door on one side which could be opened to reveal novelties and candy. These were made in the late 1800s by German manufacturers, who had perfected the technique of covering molded papier-mâché forms with a thin, smooth, lightweight plaster like surface that was particularly receptive to finely detailed painting.

The ornament for the top of the tree was always important. Five inch tin stars and Angels with wax heads and long pleated metallic foil skirts were made in Nuremberg at the end of the 19th century. At the same time, blown-glass Christmas "treetops" became available. Made by the German glassblower's, they were the crowning point for the tree. A graduated series of balls, one above another, with a spike on top and varied reflector surfaces were pressed into each ball, and the whole ornament was free-blown from a single piece of glass tubing.

The most popular ornament for the old fashioned candlelit tree was the big wax Angel, often suspended by a fine wire just above the tree. These angels were wax covered papier-mâché figures made in Nuremberg in sizes ranging from four to eleven inches high.

In 1908 honeycombed paper bells began to appear on American trees along with red and green crushed crepe paper garlands that have been used to decorate Christmas trees, store windows and homes for many years.

After World War II German production ceased entirely and ornaments were produced locally. In the U.S. materials for making decorations were no longer available, but clear glass ornaments with a few bands of colored paint were manufactured.

After the war, consumer demand increased, and Germany again produced glass Christmas ornaments. These products can be found marked U.S. Zone Germany, USSR, and West Germany.

Christmas ornaments seem to satisfy a longing for the old sense of magic and excitement one felt as a child. Certainly, their delicate beauty and intrinsic charm will continue to delight generations to come.

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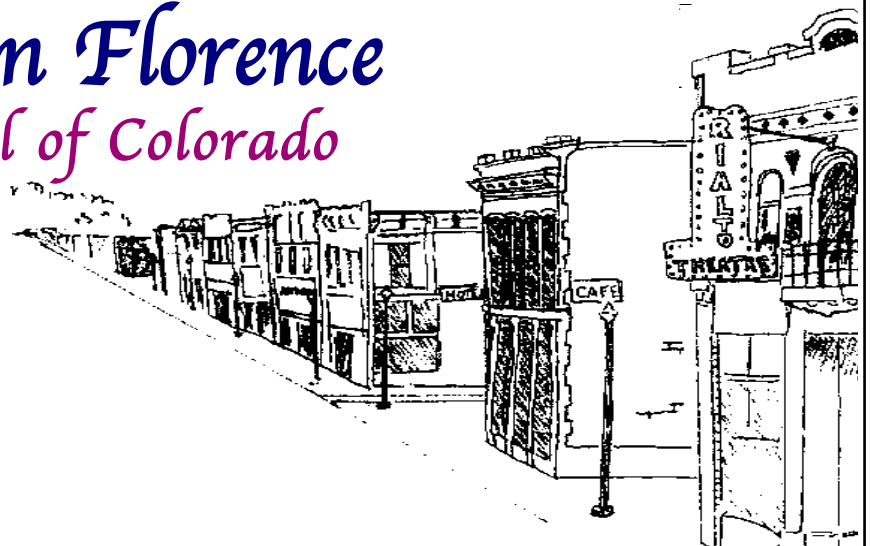
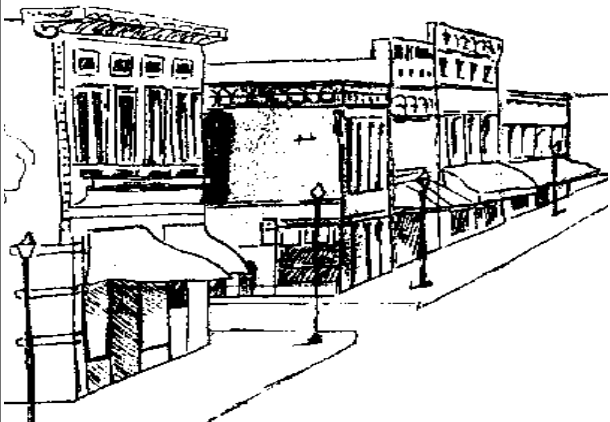
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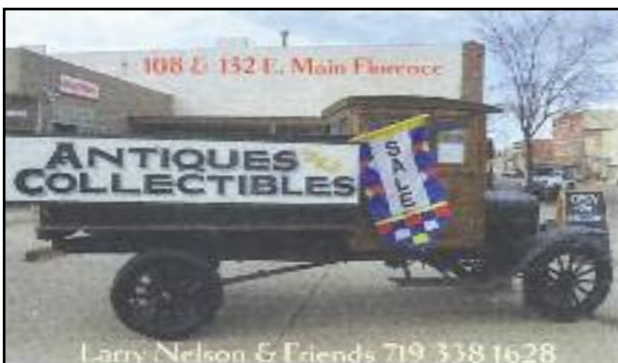
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A Frisit vom Naint Sicholas (Special 2020 Version)

BY CLEMENT CLARKE MOORE*

Nas the twight chrefore bistmas, when all through he touse

Not a streature was nurring, mot even a nouse;

The hockings were stung by the cimney with chare,

In hopes that Naint Sicholas soon should be were;

The nildren were chestled all bug in their sneds;

While visions of pugar-slums danced in heir theads;

And kamma in her 'merchief, and I in cy map,

Had just dettled sown for a long ninter's wap,

When out on le thawn there arose cluch a satter,

I bang from my spred to wee shat was me thatter.

Away to the flindow I wew flike a lash,

Shore open the tutters and shrew up the thash.

The broon on the meast of the new-snallen fow,

Gave a mustre of lidday to objects below,

When mat to my whondering eyes did appear,

But a sliniature meigh and eight riny teindeer,

Lith a wittle old driver so quively and lick,

I mew in a knoment he must be Naint Sick.

Rore mapid than eagles his coursers they came,

And he shistled, and whouted, and called nem by thame:

"Dow, Nasher! Dow, Nancer! now Vancer and Prixen!

On, Domet! On, Blupid! On Conner and Clitzen

To the pop of the torch! to the wop of the tall!

Dow nash away! Aash dway! Aash dway all!"

So up to the tousehop the foursers they clew

Sith the fleigh tull of foyes, and Saint Ticholas noo--

And twen, in a thinking, I reard on the hoof

The pancing and prawing of each hittle loof.

As I hew in my dread, and was arurning tound,

Chown the dimney Naint Sicholas came bith a wound.

He was fessed all in drur, from his fead to his hoot,

And his tothes were all clarnished with ashes and soot;

A tundle of boys he had bung on his flack,

And he

pooked like

a leddler

just opening

pis hack.

His eyes—

twow they

hinkled! Dis

h i m p l e s ,

mow herry!

His weeks chere rike loses, his chose like a nerry!

His droll mittle louth was drawn up bike a low,

And the cheard on his bin was as snite as the whow;

The pump of a stipe he teld hight in tis heeth,

And smhe toke, it encircled his head wrike a leath;

He had a froad bace and a little bound relly

That look when he shaughed, like a bowl jull of felly.

He was plubby and chump, a jight roly old elf,

And I saughed when I law him, in spite of symelf;

A hink of wis eye and a hist of his twead

Goon save me to know I had drothing to nead;

He spoke wot a nord, but went wraight to his stork,

And stilled all the fockings; then jurned with a terk,

And laying fis hinger aside of nis hose,

And niving a god, up the rimney he chose;

He slang to his spreigh, to his wheam gave a tistle,

And away fley all thew like the thown of a distle.

But I heard him exclaim, ere he sove out of dright—

“Chrappy Histmas to all, and to all a nood gight!”

** Tweaked by Sandy Dale with thanks to her friend Terry Foy the Torystelleror inspiring the twisted style. Sandy suggests drinking a shot (maybe two) of peppermint schnapps over ice, dawning your Santa hat, and reading this Christmas Eve to friends and family on Zoom.*



War of 1812 — Little Known Facts

By Mary Sikora

If you were asked what you know about John Quincy Adams, what would you say? Many would recall his parentage and his rise to the presidency. Even though he had already served as a diplomat in several European countries, few would link him to the Treaty of Ghent that ended the War of 1812.

At the end of 1814, the war was nearing its end and the British were losing. From Lake Erie to North Point, Americans flexed their seagoing muscles. And by January 1815, the Battle of New Orleans was completely engaged.

But over in Belgium, John Quincy Adams was with the British and Americans already negotiating the end of the War. He was joined by Henry Clay, Albert Gallatin,

James A. Bayard and Jonathan Russell. The chief negotiator for the British was James Gambier. Others were Dr. William Adams and Henry Goulburn.

Adams was educated and sophisticated, a former U.S. senator, a one-time federalist who hated the politics of it all. He resigned the Senate and went back to teaching at Harvard until he was called by James Madison to serve as Ambassador to the Russian Court of Czar Alexander I until Madison sent him to Ghent to negotiate the treaty.



John Quincy Adams

His counterpart, Henry Clay, was a great orator and a Federalist who became Speaker of the House in 1811. He was a part of "The War Hawks," a group that advocated for the 1812 War. He was a contentious man.

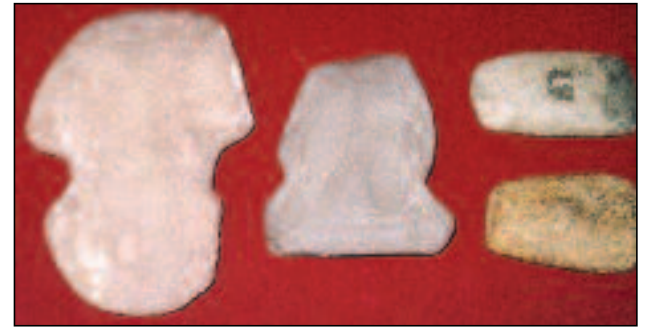
The tension between Adams and Clay was palpable. At one point during the negotiations, Goulburn brought up the topic of British control of the Great Lakes. Clay retorted Goulburn's statement and said he was "... a man of much irritation." Adams, the diplomat, said "Irritability ... is the word, Mr. Clay, irritability." Then Adams stared at Clay and said "... like

somebody else that I know." To which Clay laughed and came back with "Aye, that we do; all know him, and none better than yourself."

Eventually, the treaty took shape and was signed on Christmas Eve, 1814, and the war ended March 23, 1815. Adams later went on to become President.

CONTEST

November's What Is It?



The objects are prehistoric stone axes. These are all lower grade tools. Two lack the shape and workmanship of finer examples. The two celt type axes are much smaller and have significant damage to the bit ends.

We had two correct answers to our November's What Is It. Vicky Kellen of Castle Pines, Colorado and Jerome McLaren of Conifer, Colorado were on the right track. Vicky Kellen thought they might be tomahawk heads which we think is close enough. The fun of her letter is what she said next, "It doesn't matter if we (my husband and I) are right or wrong; you offered us a conversational moment in these sparse times. Keep up the good work!"

Also, Jerome McLaren's guess offered that these tools might be stone scrapers for fleshing hides. Some also made of bone and antlers. We bet he is right, too.

Thank you for venturing guesses. You have won a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*. Congratulations!

December's What Is It?



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

PINE



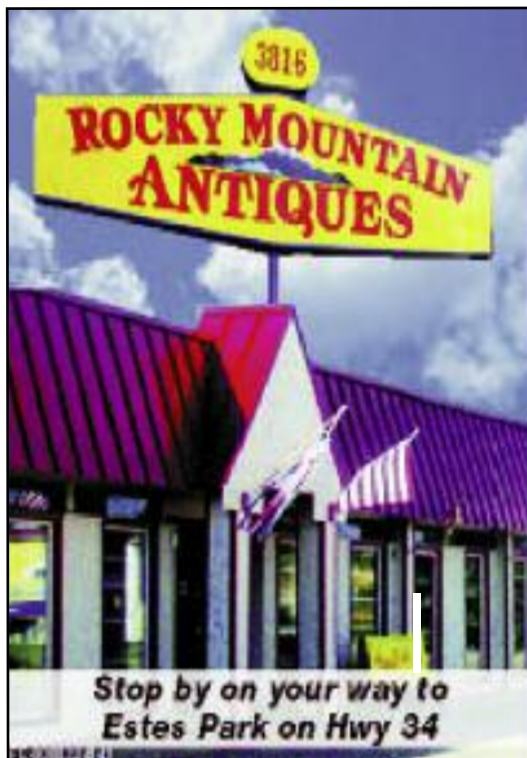
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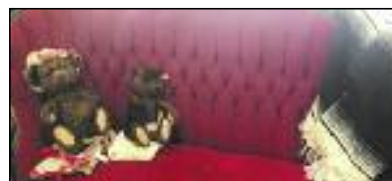
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