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JUNE 2021

ESTABLISHED IN 1972

Volume 49, Number 6



La Cache Finds Upside to Lockdown

By Marcia Ragonetti

“Where there’s a will, there’s a way.” And in La Cache’s case, that means a new doorway and new spatial configuration for this well-loved consignment shop. Pivoting successfully after two different closures in 2020 due to Covid-19, La Cache had its Grand Reopening — in grand style! — on May 14, 2021.

From the kernel of a idea by Lenore Stoddart in 1982 — helping people with estate sales find more buyers and also benefit Children’s Hospital — La Cache has grown in reputation and loyal following. And now, by lucky circumstance, it has grown in size as well. Nearly 2,000 square feet to be exact.

“Covid-19 gave us the rare chance to expand and refresh our shop, something which would have been almost impossible under normal circumstances,” said Janelle Mabie, one of

in November.

A long-time member of La Cache’s 75+ volunteer corps, Anne Coughlin stepped up with her expertise in interior design/space planning and coordinated all demolition, painting, carpet installation and finish carpentry.

“A doorway connecting our old space with the new had to be created and reinforced with a steel I-beam. Once completed, we could begin unloading our many, many boxes of safely stored merchandise,” said Coughlin. “Thanks to our fantastic volunteers, that was accomplished quickly and artfully.”

La Cache is legendary for its high-end consigned items featuring fine china, crystal, sterling, jewelry, art glass, small rugs, framed artwork and furniture. Consignments will again be received starting in June — by appointment only. As a result of its 39-year history, Lenore’s little idea has grown to over \$5.2 million donated to Children’s Hospital Colorado in support of its critical programs and services. And now Lenore’s legacy enters its next and newest generation of giving.

As to ongoing Covid-19 concerns, La Cache will continue to monitor the pandemic and follow City of Denver’s safety protocols with enhanced hygiene practices implemented by CHC. Mask wearing will be required at this time, and social distancing will also be strongly encouraged.

La Cache is located at 400 N. Downing St, Denver. Sales hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone 303-871-9605.



Festive balloons, a nod to Children’s Hospital’s iconic logo, greeted shoppers throughout the store.



A trio of La Cache volunteers, (l. to r.) Janelle Mabie, Anne Coughlin and Kim Moore, celebrated the Grand Reopening on May 14.

the key volunteers leading the renovation. “It is a game changer, and we are sure our customers will enjoy our wider, brighter spaces.”

The former “404 Annex,” which required shoppers to exit and return to the main shop, has now been moved into contiguous retail space and rebranded the “Blue Rooms.” That is where RDF (Red Door Fund) donated goods will be housed. It is also where La Cache’s ever-popular RDF half-price clearance sales will take place on a periodic basis.

Undaunted by the construction process and the difficulty in obtaining permits during a pandemic, plans proceeded quickly after the shop’s second closure



“Breaking some eggs!” From old brick wall to new passageway.



The first 39 to enter the shop were treated to CHC gift bags commemorating the shop’s 39-year history. Tracey Greider (right) of Fountaintown, IN, and her sister Toni Smith of Aurora, CO, were happy customers #1 and #2.



AMERICAN HISTORY June Anniversaries

June 10

John Adams proposes
Continental Army (1775)

June 14

Congress establishes U.S.
Army (1775)

Flag Day

June 17

Battle of Bunker Hill begins
(1775)

June 20

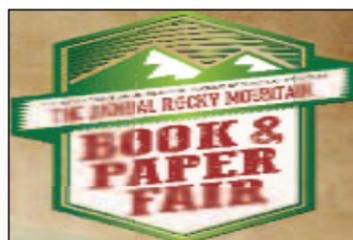
Congress adopts The Great
Seal of the U.S. (1782)

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Fathers’ Day!

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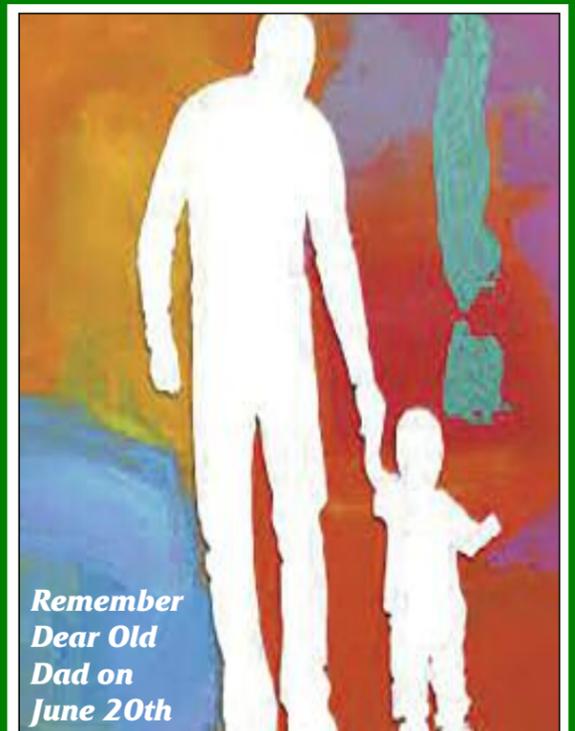
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RAINY DAYS
TIMING MIRACULOUS
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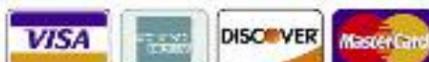
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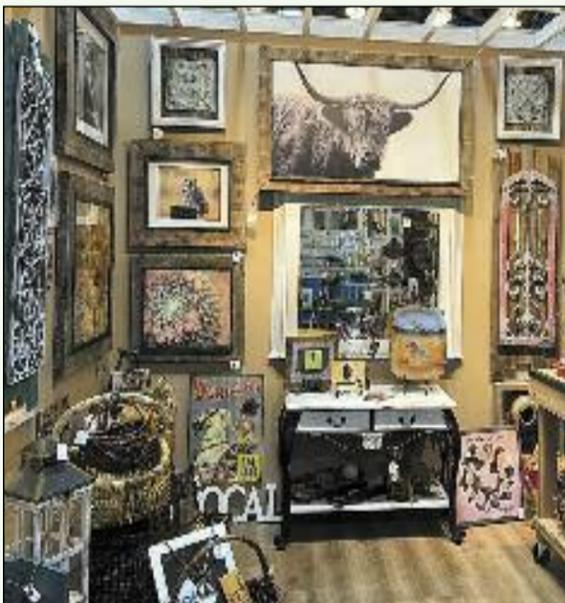
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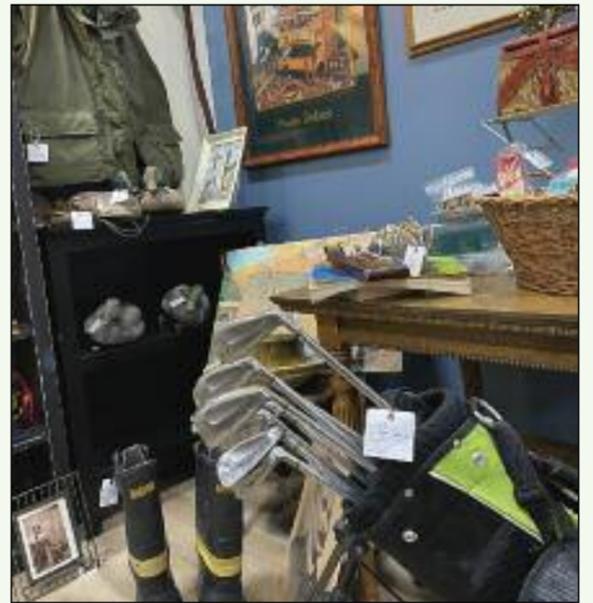
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SHOW CALENDAR

Upcoming Shows 2021

AUG. 6 & 7: THE ANNUAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN BOOK & PAPER FAIR, Friday 2 - 7pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm. New Venue: Colorado Springs Event Center, 3960 Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80909. The largest Antiquarian Book & Paper Fair in the Rocky Mountain Region. Dozens of vendors from across the nation. RMBPF.ORG for event information, Ticket Presales, Exhibitor List & Inquiries, Rare Books, Ephemera, First Editions, Signed Books, Maps, Americana, Posters, Art Prints, Brochures, Postcards, Children's Books, Photography, and more. Admission \$5, good for both days!

OCT. 2 & 3: FRONT RANGE GLASS SHOW & SALE. Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4, To be held at the Ranch Event Center Complex in the McKee Building, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538, Exit 259 off I25 Crossroads Blvd. \$6 admission, kids 17 and under are Free, Free Parking. Featuring American-made Glassware, pottery and dinnerware from 1880 to 1980. Quality dealers from across the U.S., Hourly Door Prizes. More info, call Jodi Mauthe at 319-939-3837 or go to www.frontranglasshow.com.

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La Cache Reopens

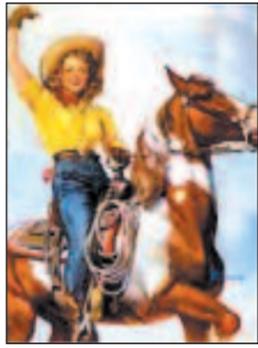
Renovation is complete and La Cache would love for you to come by and see their new look. Located at 400 Downing Street, Denver, Colorado, it is still "Denver's little best-kept secret." It is fully volunteer-run with all net proceeds going to Children's Hospital Colorado. La Cache is a very special shop offering antiques and fine consignments. Sterling, crystal, china, jewelry, art, rugs, furnishings and more can be found there. To know more, call 303-871-9605 or go to childrenscolorado.org/lacache. Consignments by appointment only. Donations accepted.



**Bastille Day at Hotel de Paris in Georgetown
Saturday, July 10th from 10 am to 6 pm.**

There is an opportunity to bid on items on site anytime during the day or online throughout the day or through their web site hoteldeparismuseum.org.

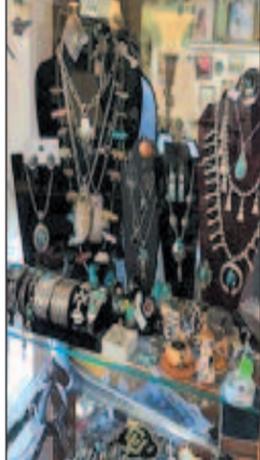
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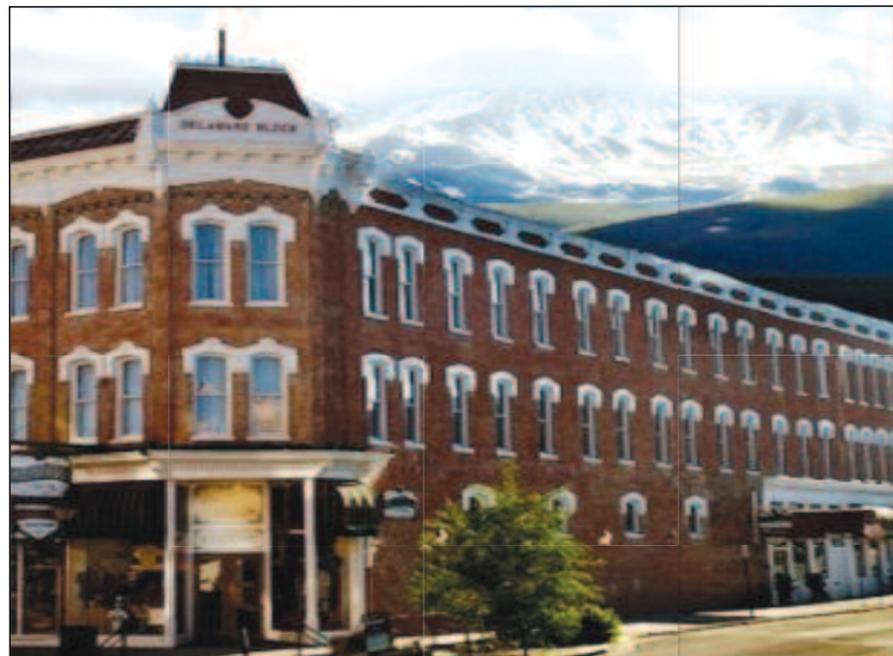
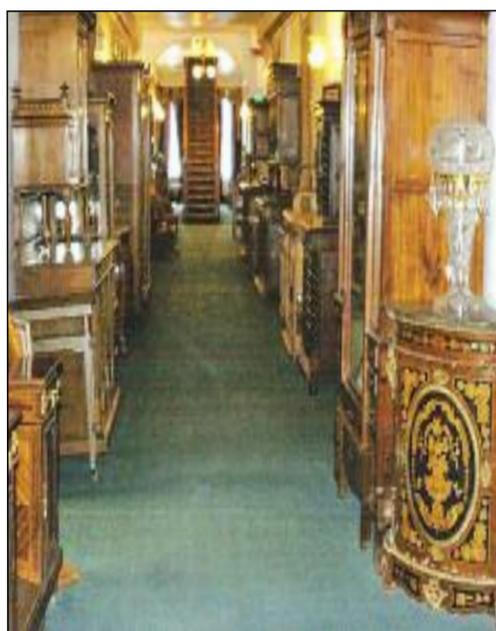
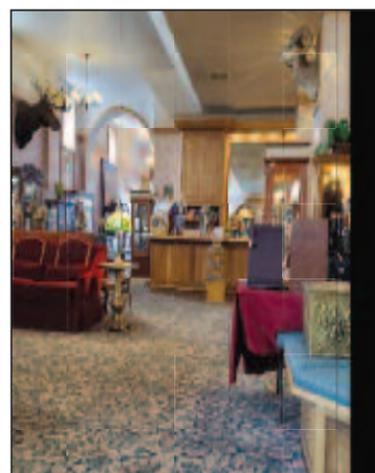


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Collecting Edgar Rice Burroughs

By Tom Billings

Tarzan, John Carter, Pellucidar! From books to movies and beyond, the fantastic characters and exotic places created by this master storyteller offer the collector many unique items.

Edgar Rice Burroughs (1875-1950) introduced the world to his most famous creation, Tarzan, via the pages of All-Story Magazine in 1912. After piling failure upon failure, Burroughs (often referred to by his initials, ERB) at age 36 took pen in hand, applying the imagination he developed as a boy riding the Western ranges, and soon became one of the most popular writers in history!

His novels have been printed in over 40 languages, with artwork by the greatest illustrators. Dozens of movies have been made from his Tarzan stories alone. Comics, toys, games, literally any object that could carry the ERB copyright has been sold over the last 80 years...and is now waiting for the collector!

Even before Tarzan appeared in print, Burroughs established himself as a writer of the fantastic with the introduction of his first hero, John Carter, "Warlord of Mars." This series follows the adventures of an Earthman translated to Mars, where he meets and marries a princess. ERB has been credited with coining the term "science fiction," and many later writers give



him the nod for stimulating their own careers.

Pulp magazines are some of the more prized examples of Burroughsiana, since many of his works first appeared between their often lurid covers. Depending upon age, contents, condition and scarcity, these fragile magazines can still be found at a good used bookstore starting at a modest \$20, to well over \$7,000 for the most prized, Tarzan of the Apes.

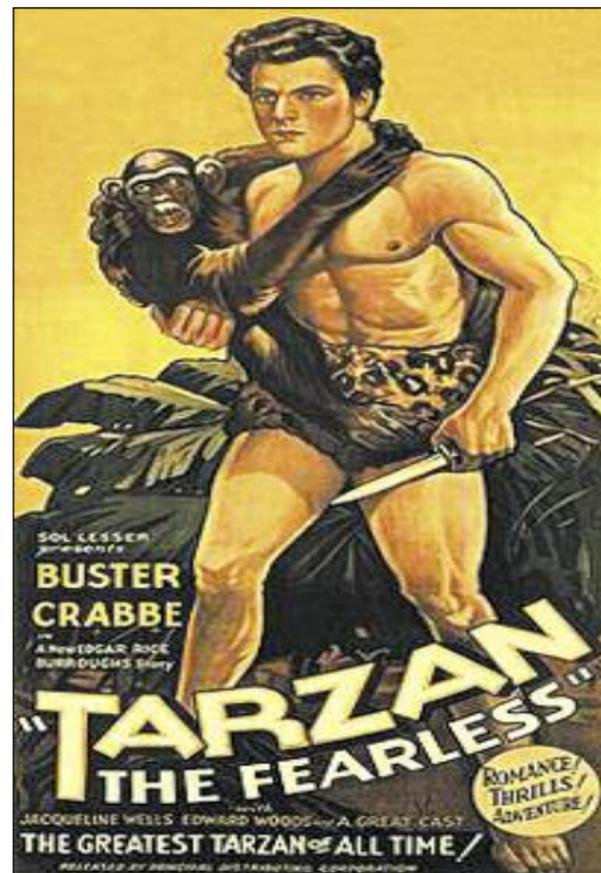
McClurg Publishing of Chicago (Burroughs' hometown) brought out ERB's first hardbound editions, many of them with dust jackets and illustrations by J. Allen St. John, who would become the first famous artist associated with ERB. A McClurg first of At the Earth's Core can go for over \$1,500; while a later reprint by Grosset & Dunlap or A.L. Burt, offering practically the same artwork, is readily available for a mere \$40.

If you're interested in a good investment, many of the Ace paperback editions with art by Frank Frazetta that came out in the early 1960s would only set you back \$5 or \$6. Frazetta is considered the ultimate science fiction and fantasy artist of his generation, and these covers are some of his best work.

The comic format lent itself quite admirably to both John Carter and Tarzan; in fact, Tarzan was the first syndicated newspaper comic. Both Hal Foster (originator of Prince Valiant) and Burne Hogarth represent perhaps the best of the earliest artists to do the Tarzan strip. A nice Sunday Tarzan from the late '30s, done by Hogarth, with bright, crisp colors and uncontained action within its panels, should cost only \$10. These wonderful remnants of an American artform make great conversation pieces when framed and hung on a wall.

Dell, Marvel, DC, Sparkler and Jeep are some of the comic book companies that have featured Tarzan and his son, Korak, "The Killer" (not Boy!). Dell used photo covers with the film Tarzan of the moment, Lex Barker or Gordon Scott. Don't be surprised if you find a nice 1951 Dell at a yard sale for a few bucks! But then again, don't be surprised if you see the same issue at a store specializing in old comics, wearing a price tag of one or two hundred dollars! Remember, it's condition that often determines the value of an object. The better the condition, the greater the value. The newer DC and Marvel comics dating from the 1970s (John Carter, Korak, Tarzan, and even some Pellucidar titles) may only cost a dollar or two and have marvelous painted covers, but they are pretty ubiquitous; any comic store has a set or two of these.

Foreign comic books (many of them reprints of American issues, but some with original art) with exotic lettering can make a fun addition to a collection for a few dollars a book. Don't forget the movie memorabilia also produced in those countries. Posters, lobby card sets, stills; practically all the items associated with the movies, at a price less than those produced in Hollywood!



A high end Tarzan one-sheet (27x41) poster can cost several thousand (especially rare are those from the silent movie era), with the record being around \$30,000! But many other movie related items go for much less. Greystoke (1984) lobby cards and posters still only cost about \$15-\$20, while the British-produced The People That Time Forgot and The Land That Time Forgot, both from the 1970s, require even less of an investment. Many of the actors who portrayed Tarzan, from Gordon Scott in the late 1950s to Greystoke's Christopher Lambert, are still around to autograph memorabilia. Not only does this add value to your poster or movie still, but it adds a new and different slant to your collection.

Autographs of either ERB or one of the many actors and actresses from the equally as many Tarzan films are highly collectible. A signed photo of Johnny Weissmuller posed as Tarzan

Continued on page 8



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Collecting Edgar Rice Burroughs

Continued from page 7

can be valued at around \$150, and Maureen O'Sullivan (Mia Farrow's mom and the most memorable screen Jane), dressed in her costume, sells for \$50. During his lifetime, Burroughs often answered some of the many letters that he received each day from fans. His signature commands one of the highest prices for an American author, with \$200 to \$400 the average. If it's on a first edition or beneath one of his drawings (an amateur artist, he often sketched some of his many alien creatures for fans), then the value is sometimes doubled or even tripled!

There has been an increase in the number of trading cards pic-

turing either Tarzan or another of Burroughs' characters. Done by Richard Hescoc, David Burroughs Mattingly (his parents named him after ERB), Barclay Shaw and Joe Jusko, to name a few, the art on these cards is among some of the finest from today's illustrators. Earlier card sets (Topps, Banner) sell for \$3-\$6 per card and although the art is not as realized as it is on the current cards, they still make for a nice, colorful collection.

Toys were among some of the first collectibles that were spun off from ERB's books. Games, dolls, puzzles, radio (again, Tarzan was the first program to be syndicated) and cereal premiums were introduced on an almost weekly basis from the '30s

to the '60s. An original 1950 Tarzan flasher ring is a bargain at \$25, or one of the newer "Princess of Mars" picture puzzles by Frazetta, should cost the same.

Finally, don't forget today's books, toys, etc. are tomorrows collectibles...at half the price! The 2-1/2 dollars spent on the latest Dark Horse Tarzan comic may be worth twice as much in the near future, or a Joe Jusko ERB card set bought last year for \$15 can inflate to a greater amount...given enough time! There's no guarantee that values always go up, but there is no price placed on the enjoyment and fascination a varied and interesting collection brings to the collector.

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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:

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

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America's Romance With The Armchair

By Robert Reed

It might be difficult to determine the fairest armchair of all in historical America. There were many styles with many origins.

According to one expert writing many decades ago it could have been the Windsor armchair. Initially such chairs, with and without arms, were made in small villages in a certain region of England. However the American cousin of such chairs was, in the opinion of Harold Bond author of the distinguished Encyclopedia of Antiques, much more attractive.

In 1937, Bond maintained the American Windsor armchair crafted throughout the 18th century was "more graceful and more harmonious in proportion and design," than the British version or practically any other kind.



Certainly America's romance with the armchair developed long before that time.

There is evidence that some basic examples were in use in early colonial America. During the middle 1600s the few available armchairs were basically square with carved oak panel backs.

Some armchair backs, toward the latter 1600s, were fairly elaborate with punched out stars or other symbols.

However even by the dawn of the 18th century chairs in general and armchairs in particular were not all that plentiful among the majority of colonial families. A survey would likely have found them only in the more prosperous homes. When in use the large armchair "functioned as both a place to sit and as a symbol of patriarchal power...and would have been used by the head of

the household," notes author Charles Venable in the volume American Furniture in The Bybee Collection. "His wife may have had a lesser version of the same chair, while children probably sat on benches, stools, or even tree stumps."

A majority of existing armchairs in America during this period were basically rather square with plain or carved oak backs. Certainly many in New England were characteristic of the so-called Wainscot chair with broad, solid back panels and a boxed bottom. In some cases the backs of such chairs were given elaborate gothic designs. Such chairs were to have been derived from 'wain' the German word for wagon and 'schot' or crossbow. Eventually the term applied to this European style chair that came to be crafted frequently in the colonies.

There was also the banister-back chair seen in the early 1700s with upright spindles. They appeared both with and without arms, and traditionally had four back spindles for support. Such spindles could be entirely flat or half round in appearance. Similarly there were basically slat-back chairs of that era, often made of ash or maple, which followed a very simple form.

Additionally there was, as Bond had noted with favor, the American style Windsor chair that was a favorite in colonial homes from the early 18-century on for many decades. Distinctive and durable, most of the early American examples bore relatively thick turnings in their crafting. An adaptation of the Windsor armchair was the desk chair, which expanded to include a widened arm for writing, sometimes such chairs also had a drawer directly beneath the arm for books or writing materials. Others had a drawer instead at the bottom of the chair.

Toward the middle of the 18th century colonial America was enriched with beautifully crafted armchairs following highly admired Queen Anne and Chippendale styles. A prime example was Philadelphia cabinetmaker Solomon Fussell whose slat-back maple armchairs were

Talented craftsmen of Philadelphia tended to make a wide variety of chairs for a wide range of customers in the 1750s and beyond. Relatively inexpensive turned chairs were available for use in the lower and middleclass homes, as well as for



service areas of the finer residences. The most costly and fashionable of all the Philadelphia chairs were the armchairs made of fine woods such as mahogany or walnut.

Some of the most striking of the Philadelphia chairs of the 1760s and 1770s offered wide balloon seats, richly carved shell motifs, and solid urn-shaped backs. Among the elite were those with claw and ball feet, and stumped back legs.

Meanwhile in New York armchairs in the Chippendale tradition were in some favor with a tendency toward more solid splats in tapered backs. New York during that era was also witness to a number of Queen Anne style armchairs with vase-shaped splats, often a combination of walnut and walnut veneer over pine as well.

Historians note of a distinguished armchair made by Philadelphia chair maker Ephraim Haines early in the 19th century. Ephraim included the armchair with high rising French elbows in a set of black ebony furniture sold to financier Stephen Giard. For such work Haines charged the then staggering sum of \$500, which was acceptable to Giard who was one of Philadelphia's wealthiest citizens.

Back in New York City during the early 1800s arguably the nation's most famous cabinetmaker, Duncan Phyfe, was busy making armchairs among other things.

In fact Phyfe and his shop of nearly 100 workers made a range of armchairs in the course of providing furnishings to the wealthy class of New York. However one of the most notable examples was fashioned after the ancient Greek klismos chair. This classic form reappeared in the Empire period at the start of the 19-century. In keeping with its popularity Phyfe's workshop crafted a stylish scroll-back armchair in the enduring Greek tradition.

Still another armchair which attracted wide attention early in the 19th century was the type that would later been referred to as the Martha Washington chair. This upholstered armchair had a distinctive American appearance with tall back and slim tapered arms and legs. At the zenith of its popularity in New England, was sometimes known as a lolling chair meaning one for relaxing or reclining. While it was clearly a product of the Federal Period in America, the connection with the nation's First Lady have never really been fully explained.

Whatever the reasons Americans maintained a sustained romance with beloved armchair, both foreign and domestic, for generation after generation.

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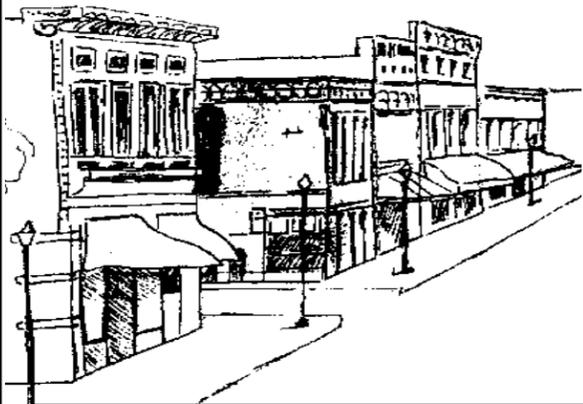
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Rainy Days

By Sandy Dale

It's pouring rain here in Florence today. Overcast and gray. Perhaps we should be building an ark. It started raining at 3:30 on Sunday afternoon and has been raining off and on ever since. (It is now Tuesday afternoon.) I know the exact time because our fabulous Merchants' Car Show ended at 3:00 on Sunday, then the sky opened up at 3:30. It is not the first time this has happened. A miracle, I would say.

I used to participate in themed outdoor events and I hated dark, rainy days. No one came to the events if it even looked like rain. Today I sit on my front porch and look at the beautiful, shiny dark streets and the bright green leaves. The birds, still chirping, splash about in the huge puddles. I know that many places in Colorado

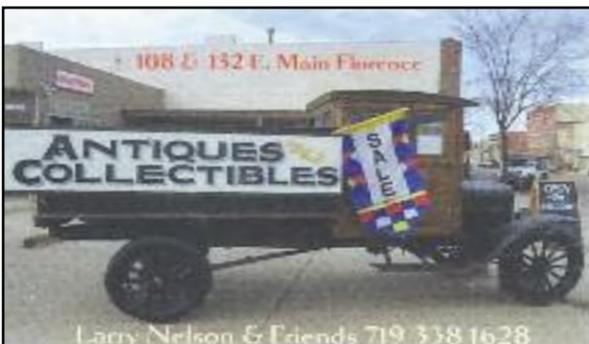
would do anything to have just a drop of rain. It's almost tropical here today. I am thankful for the beauty of this sloppy, wet day. I will go inside and clean...no, wait...

I will put on my trusty anorak and visit the shops along Main Street. They won't be crowded and we have two new ones: Trending on Main at the east end of town and The Artful Antiquarium at the west end of town. Then maybe I'll stop at the new ice cream shop, Two Scoops, next to Two Sisters' Restaurant...for two scoops. It seems good things come in twos.

You can find them in Florence, as we say...



Rena Pryor



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CONTEST

May's What Is It?



We had two correct answers for our May's What Is It. Jacque Rutledge of Northglenn, Colorado and Marjorie McLaren of Anchorage, Alaska both identified the object as a swan-shaped art glass piece.

Marjorie shared with us, "May's What Is It appears to be a beautiful Duncan and Miller pink opalescent glass spread-wing swan bowl. The swan pattern was perhaps their most popular. This pattern may be a variation on their Sylvan Leaves pattern. The wings appear to have "curved ribs" like leaf veins. The swan was likely made in the 1930s in Pennsylvania.

The bowl was made first from clear pink glass that becomes opalescent toward the rim. While still hot it was passed to another glass-maker, who added the clear pink glass blob that was pulled to become the swan's neck, head and eyes. Because of the handwork to form the neck and head, each swan is slightly different. These bowls are useful as well as ornamental, came in several sizes and could hold candy or other items.

The Duncan and Miller Glass Company was founded in 1865 in Pennsylvania by the Duncan family. After a factory fire, the company was moved to Washington, PA and Miller, a long-time designer became a shareholder. The company ceased operation in 1955." Thanks, Marjorie, for the great detail about our May's What Is it?

You both have won a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

More April's What Is It...

Dottie Unruh of Lakewood, Colorado guessed that April's What Is It is a man's hat box. She points out, "I would have guessed sooner but my paper didn't arrive until 4/22." (Sorry about that, Dottie. The post office isn't moving as fast these days. Of course, bulk mail takes more time, too.) She continues, "My Dad always wore hats. Enclosed is a picture of me and Dad in 1941 and the other is a picture of Dad with our car in 1935! Thanks for the memories!"

Thanks, Dottie, for sharing these pictures. We love them!



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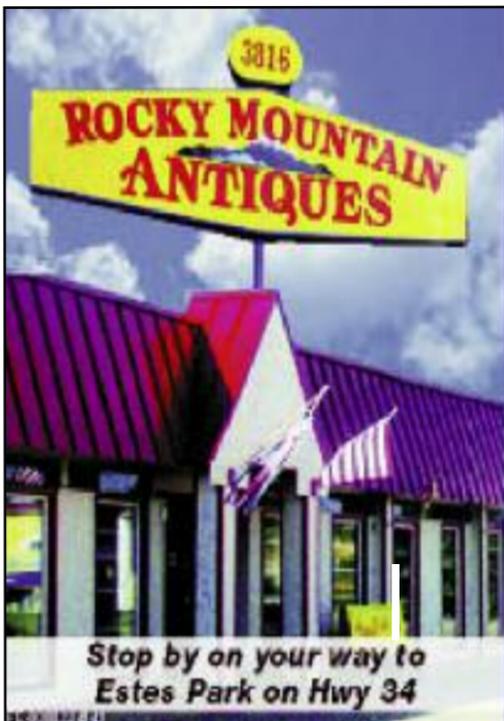


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Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by May 20, to *the Mountain States Collector*, P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421. At least three winners will be drawn. Winners will receive a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

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- We have increased the spacing of pillars, including between and behind counters.
- All tables, carts, counters, doors and walls are cleaned and disinfected frequently.

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