

## American History July Anniversaries

## July 8

Liberty Bell tolls to announce Declaration of Independence (1776)

July 16
76th Anniversary of the first atomic test at Trinity, New
Mexico (1945)
July 20
Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong takes historic first steps on the moon (1969)

## July 26

Congress establishes U.S.
Post Office (1775)
Fappy Fourth of Jufy!

## The Conference on Women and the Civil War

http: //www.swcw.org A LIVE ZOOM EVENT!

## Resilient Women of the Civil War

July 24-25, 2021

- Steve Magnusen discusses the Cutler, Dawes, and Gates women of Marietta, Ohio.

Registration fee: $\$ 25$. Zoom log-in information plus an electronic "conference notebook" will be emailed to participants in advance of the event.

More information: 2021 Virtual Conference Details - Society for Women and the Civil War (swcw.org)

Registration: SWCW 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM Society for Women and the Civil War

Registration Deadline is July 22!
nurses and their Protestant soldier patients.


Image courtesy of the Library of Virginia

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## FROM DENVER'S LARGEST ANTIQUE MALL

Summer is officially here, and it's a great time to visit the Gallery. As everyone is enjoying more social time, why not add some sizzle to your next summer gathering? Our inventory of antique, vintage and mid-century modern entertaining pieces is phenomenal.

Glassware, bar accessories, serving pieces, platters, trays, bowls, and the list goes on. Find fun party conversation starters like vintage $B B Q$ tools, a classic cocktail shaker, bottle opener or colorful serving bowl. Whether your gathering is inside or outside, there are hundreds of ideas in our Miles of Aisles of fabulous finds to get your soirée started in style.

There's room to shop in our 50,000 square foot air-conditioned showroom. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

## What's Moppening

## The Red, illitise \& Blue Sale Continues!

Many dealers continue the July 4th Sale through the month. Look for the red and white sale tags to snag fantastic buys.


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## Golden



## Organization Announces Venue Change to Colorado Springs for 2021

# Collectors and Bibliophiles Look Forward to an In-Person Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair this Summer in Colorado Springs 

Following a Covid-19 pandemic year that featured a move to online, virtual book fairs, the Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association (RMABA) is pleased to announce it will hold an in-person event this summer. The 36th edition of the deep-rooted and well-respected Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair (RMBPF), the region's largest such event, is set for August 6 \& 7 (Friday \& Saturday) at the Colorado Springs Event Center. With the exhibition traditionally held at the Denver Mart, this represents a venue change for 2021.
"Our customers are telling us how much they are looking forward to being able to physically shop our aisles of rare books, ephemera, antiquarian maps all the interesting and unusual finds we have at our annual event," said Carol Mobley, chairwoman and organizer of the Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair. "Once again they will be able to get the tactile experience of holding bits of history in their hands; become immersed in row after row of fine bindings, paper and treasures; and easily chat with those in the trade, other collectors and bibliophiles. It will be a grand reunion, for sure.
"We are excited for our 2021 venue in Colorado Springs and hope to attract attendees from the Denver metro area and Colorado Springs, as well as reach a larger audience from southern Colorado and northern New Mexico," said Mobley. "We traditionally have held the Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair at the Denver Mart, but with that venue having closed and competition for other exhibit space high, we elected to head to Colorado's second-most populous city for 2021, home to many RMABA-member bookstores and a strong trade presence. Our slate of exhibitors as usual will represent booksellers and companies from across the United States. And several new exhibitors are joining us this year."

The exhibitor list, which continues to grow weekly, is available at http://www.rmbpf.org/.

## Event Details:

Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair
Friday, August 6 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 7
$10 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. to $5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.
Colorado Springs Event Center 3960 Palmer Park Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Tickets:
\$5, good for both days
Available at the door or online: http://www.rmbpf.org/ Parking is FREE

Attendees bringing any books or bags will be asked to check them at the door. Outside books, other materials and bags will not be allowed in for security reasons. Handbags will be checked at entry and exit.

The Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper Fair will follow all Covid-19 safety measures required at the time of the event to protect our exhibitors, customers and staff.

About Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association
RMABA is an organization of used and rare book, map and ephemera dealers in the Rocky Mountain West and other states who are dedicated to stimulat-

ing book and paper collecting, promoting ethical trade in all areas of the business, and providing educational opportunities and outreach to the public in the field of collecting.

RMABA hosts the Rocky Mountain Book \& Paper fair annually. It did not have an in-person book fair in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but instead had an online virtual fair in January 2021.

Contact for more information:
Carol Mobley
Phone: (720) 308-1516
Email: BookFair2021@rmaba.org
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## A Celebration of 150 Years for the McAllister House July 23



Visit The McAllister House Museum for a celebration of Colorado Springs and enjoy sipping wine on the historic grounds of the McAllister House Museum July 23rd, 2021, 6-8pm.

The McAllister House Museum is located to the south of Colorado College on the wide, tree-shaded Cascade Avenue. This small, English-style cottage built in 1873 was the home of the Henry McAllister family that was influential in the establishment of Colorado Springs. It was opened to the public as a museum in 1961 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Its address is 423 N. Cascade Ave. in Colorado Springs. To learn more about this great museum call 719-635-7925 or go to mcallister.curator@gmail.com.

## The History of the McAllister House

When most of the houses of the some 240 residents of Fountain Colony, later known as Colorado Springs, were little more than temporary timber shelters, Major Henry McAllister and his wife Elizabeth Couper McAllister built a house of bricks.

The house plans were prepared by the Philadelphia architect, George Summers, who also designed General Palmer's Glen Eyrie residence and Grace Episcopal Church.

Henry McAllister took great interest and care in the construction of this house for his family who was so far from their long-estab-
lished community of Darby, Pennsylvania. After a high wind destroyed some houses in the new colony, he decided to add another layer of bricks to the building. It is commonly thought that these bricks were transported by train from Philadelphia. It is known that he did import the three marble fireplaces that exist in the house. Some of the interior finish work and the porch rails were constructed by Winfield Scott Stratton, who later became a mining millionaire after discovering the Independence Mine in Cripple Creek, CO. The unique truncated gables
seem to anchor the house to the open prairie. Major McAllister made his home in this small house until his death in 1921. For the next 30 plus years the house was rented by the family to Mrs. Fanny Robbins who used the house for a candy and "wedding gift" shop. Upon her death in 1958, the family sold the house.

In 1961 a historic preservation group, the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Colorado, with the help of the El Pomar Foundation and Shepard's Citations, was able to buy and restore the house.


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## DEPRESSION Glass

## What is Moroccan Amethyst?

## By Les Stewart

I struggled with the name for this article. I wanted to call it "When is Moroccan Amethyst really Moroccan Amethyst?" That is because collecting Moroccan Amethyst can be quite frustrating. Amethyst means purple in color, but, not all purple glass is Moroccan Amethyst. A lot of the glass listed for sale on web sites such as EBAY as being Moroccan Amethyst are really some other glass entirely!

Moroccan Amethyst glass was made in the early sixties by the

Continental Can Company. I have never found when it stopped being made, but believe it ended production in early 70s. The trade name was Hazel Ware. The Continental Can Company and Hazel Ware names are both usually on original boxes of Moroccan Amethyst. Hazel Atlas seems to have become Hazel Ware when merged into the Continental Can Company. Experts use the Hazel Atlas and Hazel Ware names interchangeably when talking on Moroccan Amethyst. Some sides of boxes will only have Hazel Atlas so this may have been a gradual change in name.

The color is almost everything for Moroccan Amethyst collec-
tors. People collect Moroccan Amethyst for the shapes and for it's beautiful purple color. The Moroccan Amethyst pattern or shape of glass is found in other colors and not always considered to be Moroccan Amethyst. Most Moroccan Amethyst shaped pieces can also be found in a beautiful light blue color that was sold under the Capri name. Similar shaped glass from the same molds are also found in solid white milk glass, crystal, opaque green, and opaque amber. When the Amethyst and Milk Glass are used together the box will be labeled Alpine.

So Moroccan Amethyst is like Royal Ruby in that the color

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## CIVIL WAR Book Now at Barnes and Noble, T00

| 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: <br> "I take up the spiritual content of our worst national crisis to date in an attempt to inspire us to ask and answer old within ourselves." <br> 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 re search of Joshua Wolf Shenk, James McPherson, and Ibran X. Kendi, are interfused with extractions of The Old Testament, and of other ancient works, and with poetry, oratory and song of more modern authors and actors - interfused, tha is, with inspiration available to all our current creeds. <br> Answering old questons anew, himself, DeStefano is obvi ously 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." <br> 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. <br> You can order your copy of The Book of Abraham through Amazon. You can use this link: <br> Now available through Barnes and Noble and Amazon. ISBN 13: 9781087898285 |
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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.)

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Bailey, CO 80421 spreepub@mac.com
Executive Director
Managing Editor

## Margaret (Peg) DeStefano NSCDA/Colorado, D.A.R.,

FFHC (hcgs), Ohio-USD1812

Webmaster
Production

Printing

Sam DeStefano sam@mbrealestatepros.com Shaleen Moore, Shaleen @blackbirdmediainc.com Spree Enterprises, Inc. Peg DeStefano Jon Patrick DeStefano Sam DeStefano Signature Offset

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.

## From the Archives, Sept. 2008

identifies the collectible pattern name as much as the shape. But, to be Moroccan Amethyst it must have both the correct shape with the purple color or it just some other glass and made by Hazel Atlas. Where sellers get in trouble to me is calling all Amethyst Moroccan shapes Moroccan Amethyst. To me, the crystal and non-Amethyst colors are just Hazel Ware and are not Moroccan Amethyst. I will leave that up to you, but I would never list a milk glass eggnog set as Moroccan Amethyst. Especially will not because in the original box it is called Colonial Milk-White Hostess Service by Hazel Ware and not Moroccan Amethyst.

There are different shaped patterns within Moroccan Amethyst with variations. The square and round items are part of a shape called Colony by authors. Colony was the company reselling for Hazel Atlas and probably not the pattern name. Simplicity is on many of the boxes containing the round $\&$ square Moroccan Amethyst. So I am guessing the pattern name may have been really Simplicity

The rounded items frequently have a swirl running from top to bottom like in the tumblers. This is the largest grouping of Moroccan Amethyst including serving items like the vase, cocktail shaker, ice tub, and two sizes of candy dishes.

The more often thought of shape is the other 8-sided, Octagon shape. The tumblers that go with this shape do not have the swirl and have either a stemmed or flat bottom. There are also 3 -sided ash trays. Collectors find it neat that the 3 -sided ash trays have both rounded corner (goes with Colony shaped items best) and pointed corner (goes with the Octagon shaped items best). There are no large serving pieces in this shape.

I'm sure that people mix and match Moroccan by the Amethyst color. However, some pieces have to be interchangeable because only one shape exists. The coffee cup seems to be the only piece that was shipped from the factory with both round and square Colony shapes and the 8 -sided Octagon shape. It has a rounded cup which seems to fit better with Colony. The sharp lines and edges of the handle seem to fit better with the Octagon shaped items. This seems to be an effort to design a cup that went with both lines

There are two more shapes for cups and both have a very strong swirled design. Both the snack set and punch set cups have a swirl continue into the base of the cup. This ends up with a cup that is almost footed that fits perfectly on the snack plate. Of the many snack sets I have seen, the Hazel Ware ones are the only ones that have the plate and cup molded to almost snap together. You can tilt the snack plate substantially and the cup just sets in place as designed. The snack set cups have a closed handle and punch sets have an open hooked handle to allow them to hang on the punch or eggnog bowl. Snack sets are found in amethyst, Alpine color combination, milk glass, crystal, and when in blue they become Capri sets. The punch sets I had only seen until recently were in the Alpine milk glass with amethyst colors. This is because the only base I had seen was amethyst and the punch bowl was in milk glass or crystal. The punch bowl was seen in photos recently in amethyst, but it arrived broken. The crystal and milk glass bowls are also seen in boxed Eggnog sets without a base. A crystal punch base was seen recently so it appears an all crystal punch set was also sold

Another cross over item is the dinner plate. The only dinner sized plate was made just in the 8 -sided Octagon shape. So you must use different shapes together to set a table. The square Colony plates are too small and I contend they were meant to be luncheon plates. They are the same size as ones from the snack set without the cup indentation in the snack plate. Be care with those square ones because the snack version seems much less expensive and way more available then the luncheon plates

Tumblers are found in three different shapes. The tall swirl ones were thought to only go with the Colony round/square shape. The footed style was thought to only go with 8 -sided Octagon shape. The footed goblet shape can also be found in flat footed tumblers.


Then there are the square footed one. I believe these go with the square colony items best

You can make a whole collection out of searching for Moroccan Amethyst still in original boxes. There are many to watch for in Moroccan Amethyst

- Punch sets in alpine color. Note the box clearly shows there should be a plastic ladle with the set. There needs to be 12 amethyst cups, one amethyst base, one milk glass swirled punch bowl, and one plastic ladle to be complete.
- The salad set consists of the large and small round bowls in the Colony shape along with a plastic fork and spoon.
- There is a 7-piece "Bartender's Set" combining the chrome top cocktail shaker with 6 of the next to smallest drink glasses.
- There is a 4-piece "The Magic Hour" cocktail set combining the cocktail stirrer with metal stir spoon and 2 of the smallest drink glasses.
- There is chip \& dip set. Or at least I have a box that says that is the contents. The box has never been opened so I will not know the shape of the metal clip to link the bowls together until I see another set.

A favorite of mine is the 4-place setting box. A favorite because it has the 8 -side Octagon shaped items with the common cup and the back of this box shows Colony shaped items to buy to go with the Octagon shaped place setting. If you think back to my comments on the three tumbler shapes you probably need to toss out those theories. This set in 8 -side Octagon shape has both the footed and swirl tumblers as pieces to add to the 8 -side set

- There is a boxed set of Hazel Ware with the tall swirled ice teas and milk glass coasters. I may be wrong, but the only box I have seen was years ago and believe it said Alpine on it. This set went at huge price for the time so I passed and have regretted ever since, as I have not seen a second boxed set after years
- Snack sets are available in all amethyst or as Alpine sets with amethyst plates and milk glass cup. They are available with the seashell shaped plates and also in square shape. The square shaped snack box has the company Colony name on it. I do not consider the crystal sets Moroccan Amethyst. To me they are just a Hazel Ware crystal snack set as is the blue version found with the Capri name.

There is a 12 place setting box. That would be 4 plates, 4 saucers, and 4 small bowls in Octagon shape with 4 cups

- The last one I can talk about is the most recent and precious find. This is the tall candy in a box for just it. This of course begs the question of what other individual Moroccan Amethyst items had their own box. I am betting the large serving items like the small candy, ice tub, and vase at a minimum had their own box. I scan this category over whole Internet multiple times weekly so if there are more boxed sets then hopefully I find them.
- REMEMBER, to collectors of sets the box is frequently as much or more important than the glass. So PLEASE do NOT mark on the boxes. There is a rapidly growing group of collectors looking for items in original boxes and sadly dealers are not making sales because they've damaged the boxes or even worse thrown them away.

There are many oddities to watch for in Moroccan Amethyst:

- The Alpine sets with the combined purple and milk glass colors make them very desirable to collectors, which in turn makes them more difficult to find.

They really are not complete without the correct plastic ladle

- There is no cream/sugar to use with Moroccan Amethyst Seems so hard to believe they would make three shape versions of Moroccan Amethyst and none have cream/sugar. Hazel Atlas made amethyst colored cream/sugars in other patterns and have seen more then one design. Neither of those shapes or designs seemed to fit the Moroccan theme so I have not added a cream/sugar go-with yet.

Same for pitchers. One sold recently in the amethyst color in some other Hazel Atlas shape and it went high so am sure it will be used within a Moroccan Amethyst collector's home.

- Same for candles. The star shaped ones I have are go-with items. Books show them with Moroccan Amethyst and we will use with it, but doubt sincerely they were marketed as Moroccan Amethyst. Look at the bottom of the candles to see the same rays with dot feet as on the coaster.

Same for a butter dish. It is worse because I have not seen another shape from Hazel Atlas in the amethyst color at all.

- Coasters are maybe one of the rarest of go-with items. Hazel Atlas made other coasters with the same knobs so be careful. The ones sold with Moroccan have the swirl like a pin wheel. I have seen other styles of Hazel Atlas coaster with flowers so they may
 have made
many similar, but not correct coasters with the same knob design.
- There are both bowls and ash trays with flowers or apples in the mold.

The apple ones get pricey very fast.
Another area that can be it's own collection are the many gowith items that contain added metal. Tidbits, center handles, holders, and many more are out there. The stacking tidbits can be found in many different shapes of glass. Same for the handles being added to most all pieces of glass. Some of the neatest are twisted wire holders that contain Moroccan Amethyst glass. One example is a jam dish with two of the 8 -sided bowls and I find it exceptionally well done.

Salt \& Peppers are a whole other area. There are at least 3 amethyst colored shakers sets that can be found with the HA Hazel Atlas trade mark. There is one pair in a reference book. I think this set fits the Moroccan Amethyst shape or style best.

Moroccan Amethyst is indeed becoming more difficult to find. I attribute that to the large interest in Mid-Century or Modernism items that this pattern fits into nicely.

Reference questions on Moroccan Amethyst are best referred to in the books; 'Collectible Glassware of the 40s - 50s - 60s' by Gene Florence and Mauzy's 'Depression Glass.' Treasures Antiques \& Collectibles

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## Great Book for Schuco Toy Collectors

## By Bill Siuru

I can spend hours in toy stores in Germany. They are always filled with toys that are meant to last a lifetime, not the TV-hyped toys found in Toy's R Us that are often broken and discarded after a few hours of play. Pick up a highly crafted car, truck, construction equipment or aircraft and you are likely to see the name Schuco inscribed underneath. Schuco toys are highly collectible, indeed many are investment quality. Just, type in "Schuco" on Ebay and you will see nine or ten pages of items up on auction for serious money. "Schuco Classic Tin Toys: The Collector's Guide" (ISBN 0-87349-545-4) by Chris Knox is a must for any Schuco collector, or just anyone who likes high-quality toys.

The hardbound book starts with a brief history of Schuco, which dates back to before World War I. One of its first products was the Pick-Pick Bird with over 20 million sold worldwide. In the mid1930s it brought out its clockwork-powered Schuco Patent Motor Car. While production ceased during World War II, it was back in business by 1946 and its best years occurred in the late 1940s and 1950s. Unfortunately, Schuco was slow to transition from tin toys to plastic ones and thus the original Schuco was out of business by 1976. Today, the Schuco brand is offered by Dickie-Schuco GmbH \& Co.

Most of the 128 -page book covers Schuco's cars and motorcycles. These include the early tin ones as well as later die-cast and plastic models. Incidentally, Schuco's penchant for perfection was carried over to its plastic toys, perhaps even more so. Many pages are devoted to Schuco's Varianto models, the company's unique answer to slot cars. Each description includes information on technical features, dimensions, colors available, rarity and current price.

While the book is mainly devoted to Schuco's transportation toys - cars, trucks and motorcycles several pages covers its other toys. These include boats, submarines, airplanes, its impressive Disney-

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OPEN: Friday, Saturday and Sunday land Monorail, figures and animals, and of course its the PickPick Bird.
The book is lavishly illustrated with several hundred large, color photos of the toys. Besides being a life-long collector of Schuco toys, Knox is a talented advertising and editorial photographer. His photos alone are worth the price of the book. The book includes an index, suggested further reading and "links" to Web sites. It is available from Krause Publications, Book Department PR03, P.O. Box 5009, Iola, WI 549455009. For more information, visit www.krausebooks.com or

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## CONTEST

## June's What Is It?



William McLaren of Anchorage, Alaska correctly identified the June's What Is It pictured to the left. He tells us it is "a German-made, 1950's Schuco Elektro Ingenico 5311 battery-operated, remote-controlled, tin maroon sedan with chrome accents. The sedan was modeled from the Buick V-8 of that period.

Schuco began in Nuremberg, Germany in 1912, as Schreyer \& Co. In 1921 it became known simply as Schuco. The Company's first miniature tin cars were introduced in the mid-1930's, as the Schuco Patent Motor Cars. Since its inception the company has sold more than a million toys, many of which are now valuable collectibles."

Amazing! William McLaren is one of our most avid What Is It participants! Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us. You, of course, have won another year's subscription to the Mountain States Collector! Congratulations!

## July's

What Is

Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by July 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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