



Rocky Mountain Stamp Show May 27 - 29, 2022



After being shut down for the last two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (RMSS) will resume its annual Denver area show for 2022 on Memorial Day weekend, 27-29 May. The show is organized and operated by Rocky Mountain Philatelic Exhibitions, Inc. (ROMPEX).

The World Series of Philately Champion of Champions competition show will be held in new spacious and well-lighted facilities of the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds at 25690 E. Quincy Avenue, Aurora, Colorado. The show hours are Friday & Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM; Sunday, 10 AM to 3 PM. There will be 35+ dealers from around the country and 375+ frames of exhibits for judging including the George Brett Cup competition. Show admission is free.

The official show hotel is the DoubleTree Hotel at 13696 E. Iliff Place, Aurora, Colorado. The guest room rate for show attendees is \$129 per night when booked before 12 May 2022. Shuttle service is available to and from the fairgrounds for RMSS attendees staying at the DoubleTree.

The show will host Women Exhibitors (WE), the Rossica Society of Russian Philately, the Polonus Polish Philatelic Society, the Armenian Philatelic Association and the annual meeting of the Colorado Postal History Society. WE will hold their biannual WE Fest for the first time since 2018 with free seminars open to all on Thursday from 8 AM to 5 PM in the Amphitheater Room at the DoubleTree Hotel before the show opens on Friday.

The awards banquet will be at 7 PM on Saturday evening at the DoubleTree Hotel.

In a first for RMSS, this will be a joint event with the Denver Postcard & Paper Show, which will be held over two days, Friday & Saturday, 27-28 May.

For further information, to volunteer help set up & take down exhibit frames, work during the show or to become a ROMPEX organizing committee member, visit our website at rockymountainstampshow.com or contact RMSS chairman and ROMPEX president, Ron Lampo, at chairman@rockymountainstampshow.com or 720-771-0841.

Customers, Vendors Thrive at Sugar Mill Antiques & Vintage Depot

By Jon DeStefano

Sugar Mill Antiques and Vintage Depot didn't just suddenly happen. Antiquing has been a way of life for the Sugar Mill family for a very long time. Nancy and Jon Miller have been avid collectors for many years. For Nancy, her love of antiques started when she was in high school working at an antique shop. Ever since Sarah Morgan was a little kid she remembers antiquing with her parents. "My mom and I would spend time wandering antique shops and we'd get in the car and hit all of the garage sales in our station wagon. Her earliest memories include their Victorian home filled with antiques. Sarah's first antiquing job began in elementary school. She was the runner for an antique auction her parents would attend on Friday nights. She would run bid papers back and forth during the auction. Later on, Nancy and Jon maintained a variety of booths in different malls and later opened a brick-and-mortar antique store they ran for many years.

"Time passed," Sarah recollects, "the family was thinking of opening another antique store and talked it through. Together with my parents, we decided to do something different. Something more unique that would appeal to a variety of people of all ages. We knew we wanted to have antiques, but also include vintage, collectibles, works of local artisans and really make it a collective that appeals to everybody. We decided we wanted to build a new place, no old, musty buildings would do for our new store. A place of our own. The whole family is involved in the store, Mom and Dad, (Nancy and Jon Miller), June Bug, (Nancy's mom and Sarah's Grandma), Sarah, her husband Van and their kids who work at the store.

"We put my husband — a local Realtor—on it. We wanted something close to the highway, and Van



came through in a big way. He found the perfect piece of land right off I-25." Sarah smiles and spreads her arms as if to embrace all of Sugar Mill Antiques and says, "He found this, it was literally just dirt when we bought it, but we could see the potential of what it could be."

She continues, "The design was also my husband's handiwork. We were at dinner talking about how we wanted it to look like an old barn. He literally drew a sketch on a napkin," she smiles. He said, "You mean something like this?" And that was it. We all loved it! Together with my parents, my husband, brother-in-law, kids and some amazing friends, all of us worked on it from the ground up to make it what it is today."

She concludes, "Sugar Mill. Family-owned and Family-operated. Unique. So much more than your typical antique store. All of us were all in from the beginning. We have 4 generations of family here at Sugar Mill, June Bug (my Grandma), my Mom Nancy, myself and my kids."

Sugar Mill Antiques is different from most traditional antique malls. It appeals to people looking for traditional antiques, to people looking for mid-century modern, or those looking for farmhouse style and those looking for a little bit of everything in between. It's not just one genre. They really go all out to provide everything in one location.

Sugar Mill opened their doors in January 2020 just two and a half months before Covid hit and the world shut down.

"It was a little scary because we had just opened and everything was closing," said Sarah, "we knew we had to get creative to survive these unprecedented times. From offering free delivery, curbside pickup, we posted videos, offered personal shopping for

Continued on page 7



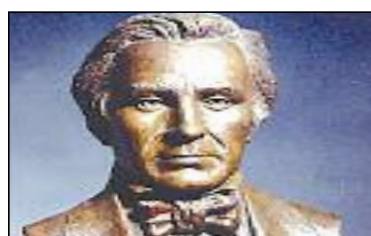
Inside this Issue



**MAY - AUGUST
SHOW DATES
PAGE 5**



**ODD FELLOWS
NOT SO ODD
PAGE 9**



**LOST PRESIDENT
DEBATE
PAGE 11**



**COFFEE BY THE
POUND
PAGE 13**

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Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

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Friday-Saturday
May 27-28,
2022

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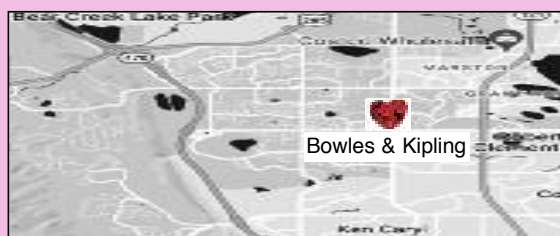
Flowers for Mom on Mother's Day May 8th



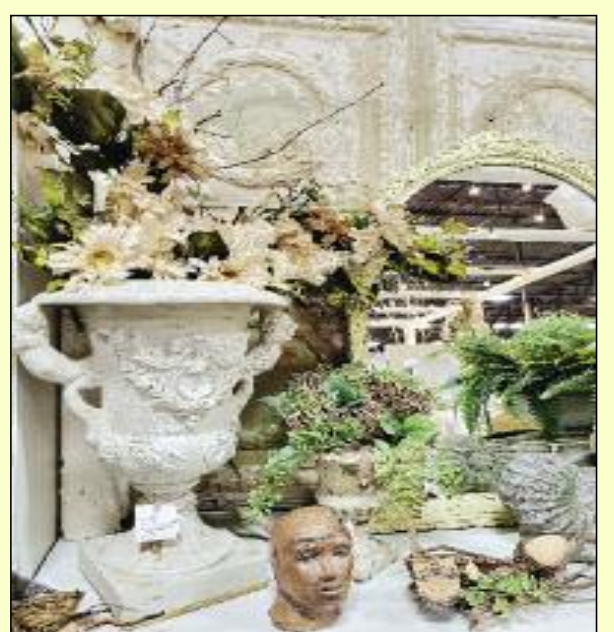
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Show Calendar May - Aug. '22

May 1st: **MAY DAY** at **Sugar Mill Antiques** in Mead, Colorado Receive a free May Day bag with purchase and on May 8th: **MOTHERS DAY TEA and Cookies** all day at Sugar Mill. Plus a special gift for all the moms. More info, call 720-899-5570.

MAY 8: **FLOWERS FOR MOM FOR MOTHER'S DAY** at Old Crows Antique Mall, 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. 303-973-8648

MAY 13-15: **JUNKTQUE AND CAR SHOW.** For more info contact www.finditinflorence.com. Blocks of antique vendors on Friday and Saturday and blocks of vintage vehicles on Sunday.

MAY 14: **LITTLETON CAR SHOW** 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., weather permitting, at Old Crows Antique Mall, 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Featuring vintage and collectible vehicles. Last month there were over 70 vehicles. An event that

is fun for the whole family. Call 303-973-8648 for more info.

MAY 14: **HOMESTEAD ANTIQUE MALL SPRING OUTDOOR SALE**, Come by for a great day of shopping, starting at 8 a.m. and going to 3 p.m., 6530 Wadsworth Blvd. in the parking lot. 720-484-3644.

MAY 21-22: **STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL VINTAGE & ANTIQUE MARKET**, 50th Anniversary Celebration! Sat., 10-5, Sun. 11-4, sponsored by St. Vrain Historical Society. Members get early entry on Sat. at 9:30 a.m., Boulder Country Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building, 9595 Nelson Rd., Longmont, CO 80501. Admission \$5 per person (Children under 12 free), 303-776-1870 for more info.

MAY 27-28: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER EPHEMERA SHOW**, Friday and Saturday, New May Location: Arapahoe County Fairgrounds, 25690 East Quincy Avenue, Aurora, Colorado **ROCKY MNTN. STAMP SHOW** is also part of this event. To find out more about this show, go to DenverPostcardShow.com or to camobley@ephemeranet.com.

JULY 8 & 9: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW**, Friday 11-6, Saturday 9:30 to 4. at the Holiday Inn Lakewood, 7390 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood, Colorado, \$5 admission - good for both days. More info, www.denverpostcardshow.com or camobley@ephemeranet.com.

AUG. 5-6: **ON THE ROAD San Luis Valley**, Colorado, sponsored by Colorado Preservation, Inc., attendees will have access to unique behind-the-scenes ongoing preservation sites in the area. Early reservations recommended. 303-893-4260 x230.

DENVER



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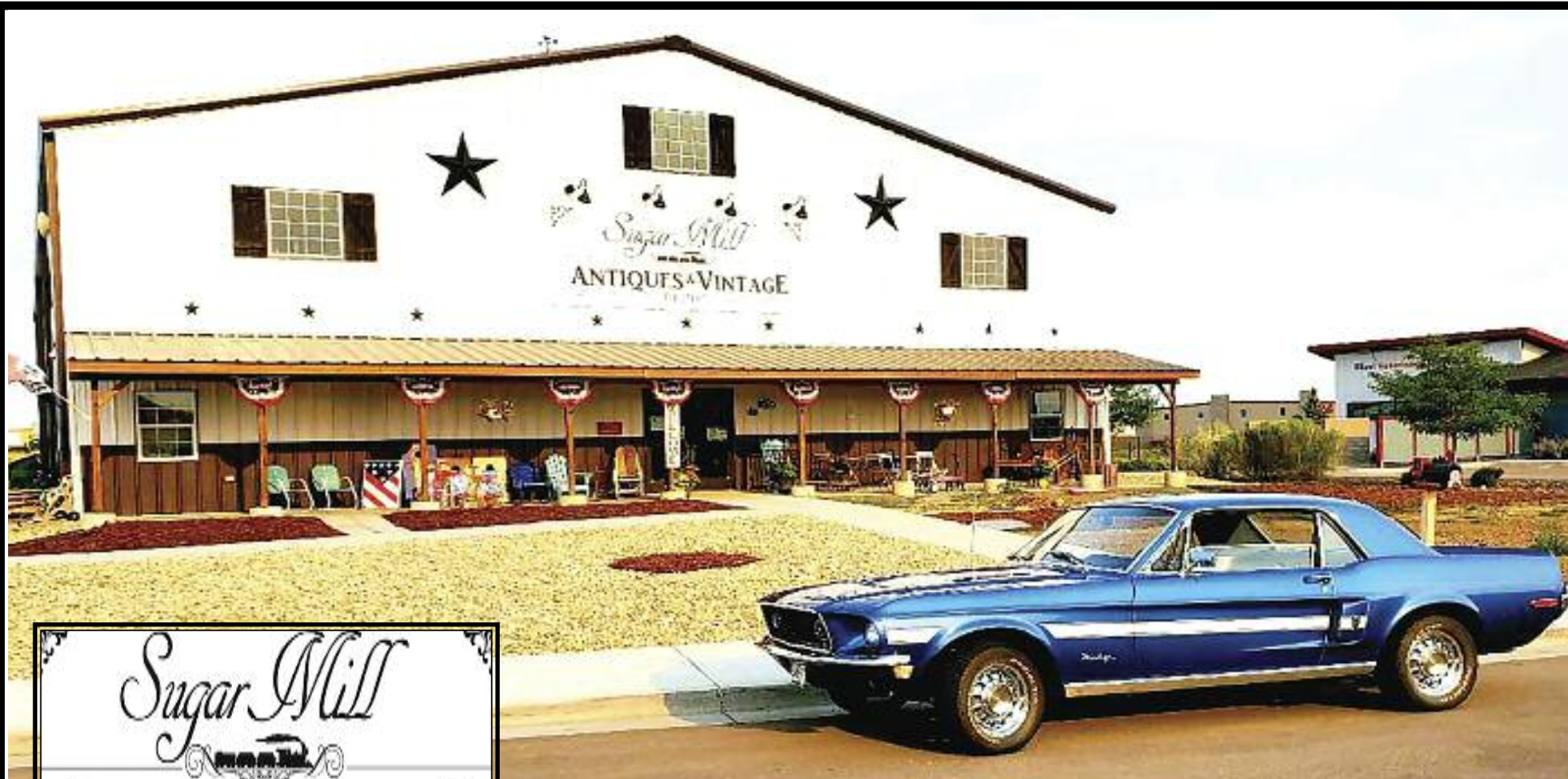


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Sugar Mill Antiques and Vintage Depot is Northern Colorado's premier shopping destination featuring over 80 merchants. A curated collective unlike anything you've seen before filled with antiques, vintage, mantiques, mid-century modern, shabby chic, home decor, unique gifts and more!

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May 8th - Mothers Day Tea and Cookies all day at Sugar Mill. Plus a special gift for all the moms.

www.sugarmillmead.com
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
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Customers, Vendors Thrive at Sugar Mill Antiques & Vintage Depot

Continued from page 1

customers, created gift baskets, and offering no contact delivering around town. Our customers were amazing and supported us through the craziness of the COVID closures. It was a ton of work, but it all worked out."

Sarah, her family, and Sugar Mill did more than survive, they thrived. They adjusted and today they still offer some of the practices that helped then, like doing Facebook live sales. On Facebook there is a live piece which is almost like a TV show. It's a live video which is also recorded. It's a sale, not an auction. People buy the item then choose to have it shipped, picked up at the store, or have it delivered.

Sugar Mill Antiques has over 80 merchants in the store. They have a long waiting list. The vendors have to apply, submit pictures of what their booth will look like and they also submit a booth design plan. They want each space to be unique. There are a lot of different booth types and that's by design to ensure variety for our customers.

"The large variety makes a great difference for our vendors. They do well because they're not competing with each other to sell the same items. It has to fit with our curated concept of being well-designed and appealing, because we want to create a unique feeling. We don't want it to feel like the monotonous pegboard booths or rows of stalls you see in other malls. Each space is different; we want every



AMERICAN HISTORY May Anniversaries

May 8

V-E Day; Victory in Europe (1945)

Mother's Day

May 10

225th Anniversary of the first ship of the United States Navy, the frigate USS United States, being commissioned (1797)

May 19

Nineteenth Amendment, to give women the right to vote, proposed (1919)

May 20

Abraham Lincoln signs Homestead Act (1862)

May 21

Armed Forces Day

May 30

100th Anniversary of the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial (1922)

Memorial Day

**Don't forget
Cinco de Mayo**



vendor to be able to showcase their own style and have a boutique showcasing their own charm."

"When we started the business, one of our focuses was to be involved in the local community and help give back through our store. One of the things we promote at Sugar Mill is our "BE THE CHANGE" program. To accomplish that we partner with a local non-profit every month. You will always see a place for customers to throw in their loose change to donate for a specific charity each month and then we match that donation. We also do charitable events throughout the year including pictures with Santa, car shows for a cause etc. The charity is onsite during the events and set up a table to raise money and awareness for their organization.

Vendors like being at Sugar Mill Antiques not only because they do very well, but because they're part of the Sugar Mill family. They hold vendor-work-nights where vendors come in to redecorate, set up things differently or restock after hours. It's the vendors night and it gives them a chance to connect with each other regularly.

Sarah, a longtime sales and marketing executive, explains, "Sugar Mill uses technology to keep vendors always up-to-date on their sales. This also ensures the store is always restocked timely and has a constant stream of new merchandise arriving.

One of the things the vendors appreciate is that they do many events and activities to draw customers into the store. In addition to extensive showcasing of their merchants on social media. They showcase their booths, highlighting different vendor items on Facebook and Instagram and they even do videos touring vendor booths on social media. Sugar Mill merchants have a great sense of camaraderie. You will often find the vendors working and supporting each other, many even go to auctions together.

There are some very unique features at Sugar Mill. One is Joan the Mannequin. She has been there since Sugar Mill started. One of merchants decks her out for every holiday. She changes her wardrobe. For example, on Saint Pat's Day, Joan was decked out in full green and loaded with dozens of St Patrick's Day buttons and numerous shamrocks. Her outfits and jewelry change regularly.

Gnome-vember features a month long scavenger hunt as well as having the famous Gnome, Naughty Norman getting into a little mischief daily as he roams through the store causing havoc. Norman con-

stantly turns things upside down, hides clues. He is a naughty little gnome and it's a fun scavenger hunt, changing every week. Kids love it because they find the gnomes hiding all over the store and every week, Sugar Mill gives out little prizes and gifts when the Gnomes are found.

Another fun feature for kids of all ages is the putting green out front of Sugar Mill, a sweet distraction for those not as interested in shopping.

Customers will also enjoy the life-size Volkswagen bus that serves as a retro candy-counter. It has everything from candy cigarettes to pop rocks and tons of old-fashioned candies, vintage pop flavors and nostalgic favorites of all kinds.

Sugar Mill is a special antique and vintage shopping experience. The Mall is bright, clean and fresh. It's eclectic, and spacious and friendly. You may come in a stranger, but you'll leave a friend. The Sugar Mill family has taken the time to develop relationships with their customers and vendors, making it a special place. They have created a different ambiance, a place where you experience adventure, kindness and charm. As Sarah says, "It is more than just shopping, it's an experience. You can easily spend the afternoon getting lost in true living history as you wander the isles.

There is something to be said about a family-owned business that makes their customers, vendors and community all agree that they feel like part of the family.

Sugar Mill Antiques is located at the Mead exit just off I-25. Sugar Mill not surprisingly has won several important awards since they opened. Including the prestigious Broncos Business Boost award given to just three outstanding Colorado small businesses as well as numerous Times-Call, Readers' Choice Awards for Best Antique Store, Best Vintage Store, Best Home Décor, Best Mead Business and Best New Business. Being called "A Unicorn of a store" and "Best antiquing in Colorado" by Only in Colorado.

Sugar Mill is open seven days a week: Sunday - Thursday 10:30 to 5 and Friday and Saturday 10 to 6. For more information, go to www.sugarmillmead.com. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram @Sugarmillmead for their latest arrivals and upcoming events. Their phone number is 720-899-5570. Stop by, you will enjoy the experience. Tell them *the Mountain States Collector* sent you.

Why I Wake Early

By Mary Oliver

Hello, sun in my face.

Hello, you who make the morning
and spread it over the fields
and into the faces of the tulips
and the nodding morning glories,
and into the windows of, even, the
miserable and the crotchety—

best preacher that ever was,
dear star, that just happens
to be where you are in the universe
to keep us from ever-darkness,
to ease us with warm touching,
to hold us in the great hands of light—
good morning, good morning, good morning.

Watch, now, how I start the day
in happiness, in kindness.



From Longmont Museum & Cultural Center

Photo by Charles W. Boynton

*This Studebaker Bros. Mfg. Co. sprinkler wagon
was a familiar sight in Longmont, Colorado.
It was probably used to wet down the streets
to control dust.*

Postcard provided by Sue Hackett of Longmont, Colorado

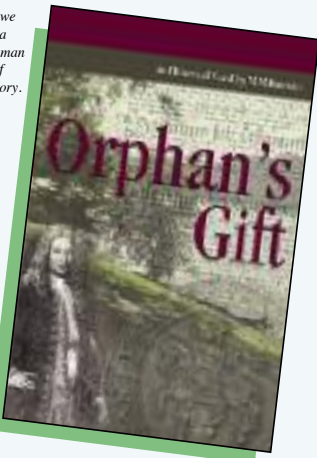
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*Not to know what happened before we
were born is to remain perpetually a
child. For what is the worth of a human
life unless it is woven into the life of
our ancestors by the records of history.*
—Cicero

*This journey of lifetimes fol-
lows Englishman Thomas
Prater (later becoming
Prather), young and without
property, as he emigrates to
Virginia in 1622 to seek his
fortune in the New World,
and ends in 20th century
Ohio. When Thomas's son
Jonathan dies in mysteri-
ous circumstances, the fam-
ily emerges to become
slaveholders, then ulti-
mately abolitionists. They
go from being planters, to farm-
ers to participants in the industrialization of America.*

*They participate in the American Revolution, the Civil War and the Sec-
ond World War. Their story is the story of many American families who
grew and changed as America grew and changed, never forgetting their
land-loving roots.*

*Orphan's Gift is a fascinating story of an American family, a ge-
nealogical quest, written by three sisters with a passion for history and
writing. M.M. Knowles is the pen name for sisters Mary Elizabeth Sikora,
Margaret Rose DeStefano and Sally Ruth Gronauer.*



Orphan's Gift is co-written by Margaret (Peggy) DeStefano, Mountain States Collector's Managing Editor. She and her sisters Mary Sikora and Sally Gronauer have captured the spirit of their Prather line of ancestors. The past has come to life in this historical novel. The book is a great example of taking your family genealogical research to a new level.

"Writing this book has been a fun and often surprising journey. Now that we have finished our first project together, my sisters and I are already fast at work on our second book in what we hope will be a series of historical novels," Peggy DeStefano explains.

You can order your copy of *Orphan's Gift* through Spree Publishing. Send your check or money order for \$19.95 to:

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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 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, 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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Odd Fellows Not So Odd

By Peggy DeStefano

Is it “odd” to want to help other people when they are in need? Or, was it “odd” to pursue projects for the betterment of mankind? People in 1730 in London, England thought so. So, when the original group was called “odd” they decided they were proud to be odd and hence they officially took the name: Odd Fellows.

A fellow from Maryland began the organization of Odd Fellows in America. Thomas Wildey and four members of the Order from England instituted Washington Lodge No. 1 and received its charter from Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows in England in 1819.

My first awareness of the Odd Fellows happened when two of my sisters and I went to visit the graves of our grandparents and great grandparents. I noticed the graveyards were “Odd Fellow” cemeteries.

We were excited to visit graves of our ancestors. We discovered the beautiful grave sculpture devoted to our long-ago cousins, three beautiful girls who died within a year of each other from cholera. We found the grave of our War of 1812 soldier (whose own father fought in the American Revolution) and the grave of our Civil War soldier, who had died of starvation shortly after his release in 1865 from Andersonville prison following the Civil War. He was 28 years old. My great grandfather (a favorite of mine), who died at the ripe old age of 92 in 1955, is there, too. So are my grandparents who were not just Odd Fellow members but were Masons/Eastern Star members.

As a result of this excursion, I have found that cemeteries are the keepers of our history.

The Odd Fellows and their female counterparts the Rebekahs were the first organizations to establish homes for widows and orphaned children. And with the different fevers (now Covid, then the plague) and the wars being fought, there were many of them. Another important responsibility they took upon themselves was to bury the dead; hence, many cemeteries in the world have been created by the Odd Fellows.

Since 1730 the fraternity has remained religiously and politically independent. The Independent Order of the Odd Fellows (IOOF) is one of the earliest fraternal societies. Odd Fellowship is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and welcoming of all people without regard to religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, and national origin. They believe in improving the quality of people's lives



The Odd Fellows purchase cemetery plots, so one will often see deceased members of this association buried near each other. Their primary symbol is three joined chain links. Sometimes the chain links encircle the letters F (friendship), L (love) and T (truth).

The Daughters of Rebekah (DR) is a female auxiliary of the IOOF. This example shows the Odd Fellows three chain links symbol intertwined with the letter “R,” and a dove, representing peace, inside the letter “D.” The circular part of the “D” is often depicted as a crescent moon.

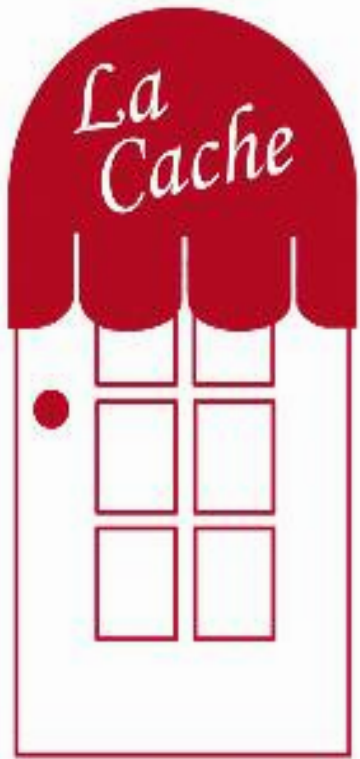
Gravestones below are of some of our ancestors all buried in Odd Fellow Cemeteries.



through friendship, care and charitable support.

Current status: The IOOF continues in the 21st century with lodges around the world, and is claimed to be the "largest united international fraternal order in the world under one head," with every lodge working with the Sovereign Grand Lodge located in the United States.

DENVER



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Consignments by appointment only. Donations accepted.

More about the Odd Fellows—

Their Creed – Odd Fellows believe in the universal brotherhood of Man and the fatherhood of God. Odd Fellowship is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and welcoming of all people without regard to religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, and national origin.

One tidbit: There are “Skeletons in their Closets.” Part of their initiation involved coming face-to-face with a skeleton. It is a symbol of mortality for the order. There are skeletons in the former homes of Odd Fellows all over America. The practice of using skeletons for their initiation no longer occurs.



We stand with Ukraine!

Here's how you can help:

Click on the website for [CARE](#), the international humanitarian juggernaut, and a pop-up window appears. “UKRAINE EMERGENCY,” the alert says, with a photo of a woman holding a child. “Families in Ukraine are fleeing violence and urgently need emergency aid. CARE is providing food, water, and more,” the homepage says. The group has partnered with People in Need and hopes to build a fund that can reach 4 million people, especially women, girls and the elderly.

[Doctors Without Borders](#), which works in conflict zones, is partnering with volunteers in Ukraine to help people travel to health-care facilities and working to ensure that people have access to health care and medicine.

[GlobalGiving](#), a U.S.-based nonprofit crowdfunding platform for grass-roots charitable projects, launched its Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund page, stating that all donations to the fund will support humanitarian assistance in affected communities in Ukraine and surrounding regions where Ukrainian refugees have fled.

[The International Rescue Committee](#), founded in 1933, helps those affected by humanitarian crises and works in more than 40 affected countries, as well as communities in Europe and the Americas. According to its website, the IRC is on the ground in Poland and working to help displaced families. The site offers suggestions on how you can assist Ukraine, such as welcoming refugees and social media activism.

Geneva-based [International Committee of the Red Cross](#) provides assistance for victims of armed conflict and has been working in Ukraine since 2014 to supply emergency assistance and support hospitals with medical equipment.

[Journalists with the Kyiv Independent](#) have done tremendous work covering the war, offering the world constant updates as they fear for themselves, their families and their homes. The Independent has started a GoFundMe asking for support, but they’ve also promoted a separate GoFundMe — “Keep Ukraine’s media going” — for journalists around the country who have received less international attention. “[Ukraine’s reporters] have shown extraordinary courage, but the reality on the ground is that most operations cannot continue from Ukraine alone,” one organizer wrote. “This fundraiser is aimed at helping media relocate, set-up back offices and continue their operations from neighboring countries.”

[Project Hope](#), an international health-care organization founded in the United States in 1958, works to empower health-care workers facing health crises, according to its website. For the Ukraine invasion, the organization says its emergency teams in Europe are sending medical supplies and standing by to provide health screening and care for refugees. You can donate here.

[Razom for Ukraine](#) was founded in 2014 and has since launched efforts to build a stronger democracy in the country. Now, according to its website, the nonprofit is “focused on purchasing medical supplies for critical situations like blood loss and other tactical medicine items. We have a large procurement team of volunteers that tracks down and purchases supplies and a logistics team that then gets them to Ukraine.” Razom — which means “together” in Ukrainian — posted a list of the lifesaving supplies it has already purchased and is asking for more support.

[Save the Children](#), founded more than a century ago, is blunt about the grueling nature of its work: “We work in the hardest-to-reach places, where it’s toughest to be a child,” its homepage says. The organization says it is “gravely concerned” for the children of Ukraine and Afghanistan. Its donation page says that \$50 can prevent three children from going hungry for a month, \$150 can provide warm blankets for 30 children, and \$300 can furnish masks to refugee health workers on the front lines.

[Sunflower of Peace](#) is a small nonprofit with ambitions to help Ukrainian orphans and internally displaced people. A post on its Facebook page in mid-February said it had launched a fundraiser for first-aid medical tactical backpacks. Each backpack, it says, can save up to 10 people. They’re packed with bandages and anti-hemorrhagic medicines, among other critical items. The group has worked mostly off its Facebook page, where it’s accepting donations.

The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs oversees [U.N. Crisis Relief](#), with donations going toward U.N. efforts to fund work in humanitarian crises. Primary goals include supporting lifesaving activities, filling funding gaps and expanding assistance in hard-to-reach areas, according to its website.

[The World Food Programme](#), the U.N.’s anti-hunger humanitarian organization, has launched emergency relief operations in Ukraine and surrounding border countries. WFP says it is scaling up to provide food assistance to 3.1 million Ukrainians affected by the conflict and has deployed 400 tons of food to the Ukrainian border this week.

[Voices of Children](#), a charitable foundation based in Ukraine, has been serving the psychological needs of children affected by the war in the country’s east since 2015, according to its website. The group’s psychologists specialize in art therapy and provide general psychosocial support with group classes or individual sessions. Many of its psychologists are based in the regions of Luhansk and Donetsk, areas that have long been controlled by Russian-backed separatists and that are on the front lines of the current, wider conflict. Now, Voices of Children is providing assistance to children and families all over Ukraine, even helping with evacuations.

A ‘Lost President’ Debate Continues

By Grover Brinkman

We have lost civilizations, lost children and lost (underground) rivers, but a lost President? Bizarre thought!

Yet it seems that some unusual statistic at executive level surfaces in the headlines for a limited time, then is unceremoniously shoved under the rug. Perhaps senior citizens, jogging their memories, will remember, but only a minority. Let's cite a few statistics, relative to things lost.

At one time Tower Rock, a large upthrust in the channel of the Mississippi river opposite the town of Grand Tower, Illinois, was headlined as "The Smallest National Park in America." Today it is forgotten except by the riverboat men who try to avoid it as they pilot their boats.

Another image of "lost identity" is the short limelight tenure of David Rice Atchison, now an unremembered name. Yet he was President of these United States for the brief span of 24 hours. Or at least historians so persist.

When Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr. took the oath of office, he was listed as the 46th President of the nation. But wasn't he actually the 47th? Writers and historians have turned out reams of copy regarding this question, and the debate still goes merrily on.

This particular case has been bothering researchers for a half century or more. Once a forgotten quirk in American history was unearthed, it changed the thinking of all writers who presumed all of our Presidents were accounted for in the archives of national history. Living or dead, each President had his niche in history. Or did they?

In 1908, an eastern daily newspaper exploded a bombshell with a statement that a Senator named David Rice Atchison had been President for the span of 24 hours, back in 1849. So, the editor contended, he was entitled to a place on the register of national chief executives.

How did it happen?

Seemingly the terms of James K. Polk and his Vice President, George M. Dallas, expired at noon on March 4. General Zachary Taylor, elected to the presidency the year before, was to be sworn in at that hour. But inauguration day fell on Sunday, and President-to-be Taylor, very religious, refused to take the oath until the following day.

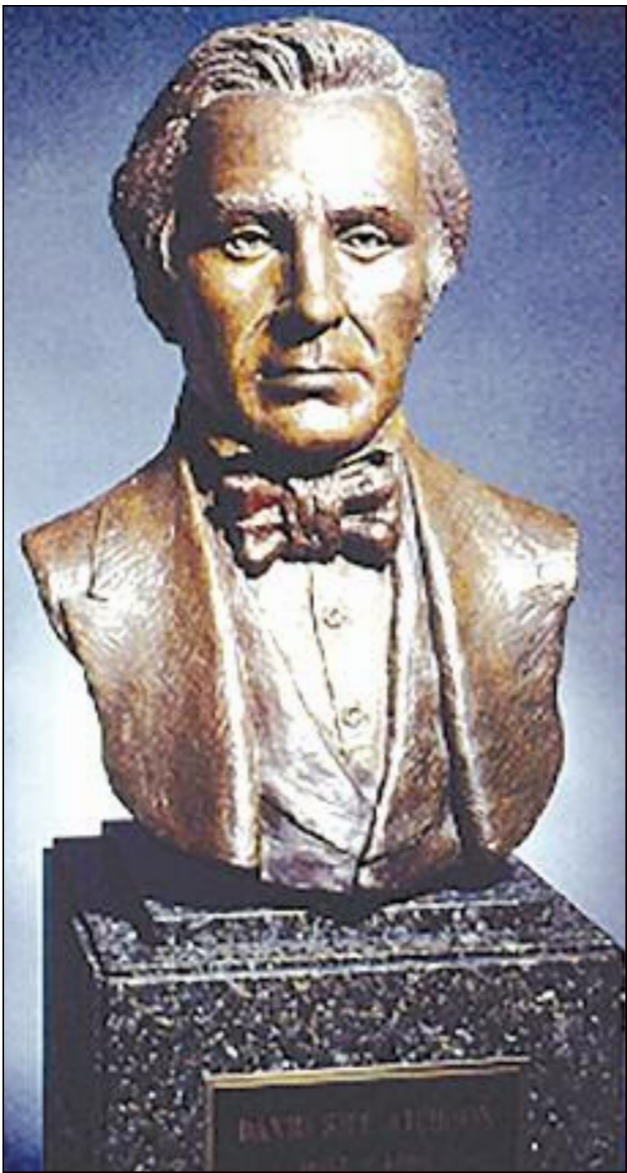
So the office of U.S. President was vacant for one full day. The Vice President had also officially ended his term. So, abiding by the Succession Act of 1792, officially in effect, the Senate's temporary head was next in line. So, historians say, David Rice Atchison became our 12th President, for a term of one day only.

The claim seemed irrefutable until a nationally known historian and scholar, G.H. Haynes, said "Not so!" Haynes claimed that Atchison's term as Senator expired with the expiration of the 30th Congress on March 4. Although re-elected, his next term did not begin until noon of March 5. If Haynes' theory is to be accepted, the nation was without a President for a full day. But other researchers argued. The issue has not been settled even today, a century and more ago.

With all of this argument, at least Atchison's immortality is still secure. He gave his name to the city of Atchison, Kansas, and the county of Atchison in Missouri. A pioneer railroad, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe also used his name.

Now to Tower Rock, in the Mississippi. Old records still on file say it is the smallest National Park in the nation. That came about in Civil War days, when the rock was supposed to support a bridge, built across the river here. But the bridge was never built, and today the National Park Service no longer recognizes the famous rock, site of many a river tragedy.

So David Rice Atchison and Tower Rock have one thing in common. Both made the headlines and then slipped into obscurity. Such is the tick of an impartial time-clock.



President-for-a-day David Rice Atchison

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



The Significance of Memorial Day

Memorial Day 2022 formally known as Decoration Day, is a federal holiday observed yearly on the last Monday of May. Memorial Day 2022 is a day that commemorates all men and women who have died while serving in the military for the United States of America.

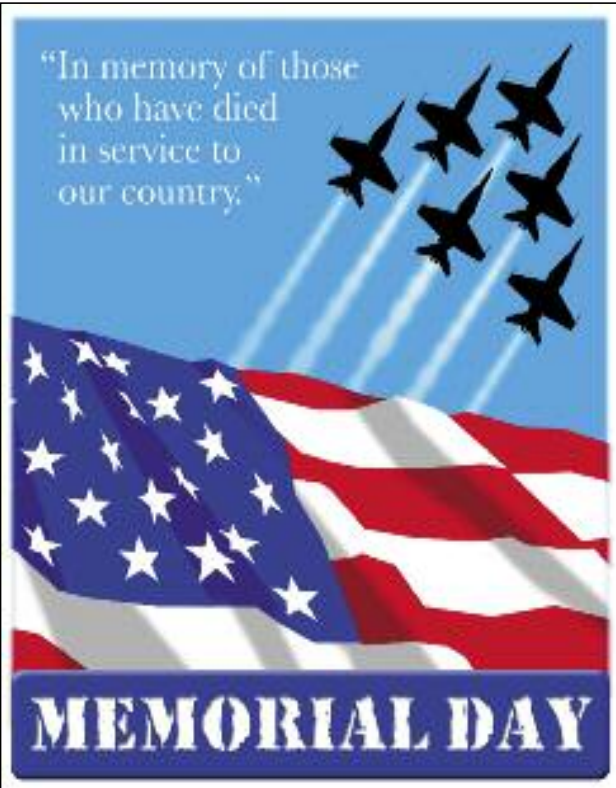
The history of Memorial Day 2022 dates back to the American Civil War. It started as an event to honour soldiers who had died during the war. It is said to be inspired by the way people in the Southern states honoured the dead. The original national celebration of Decoration Day took place on 30 May 1868. There was over twenty four cities and towns across the United States that claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. Waterloo (New York) was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966. In the late 19th century, the holiday (previously known as Decoration Day) became known as Memorial Day and was expanded to include the deceased veterans of all the wars fought by American forces. Originally, the holiday used to be celebrated on May 30, regardless of the day of the week that it fell on. In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed and as a result the day changed.

Traditionally Memorial Day is viewed as a time of honor

and remembrance. Throughout the United States it is common to visit cemeteries, particularly military ones, and decorate graves of the deceased with flowers, small flags and wreathes.

Other common traditions of Memorial Day 2022 that are still practiced today include the raising the U.S. flag quickly to the tops of flagpoles, slowly lowered to half-mast, and then it is raised again to full height at noon. The lowering of the flag at half-mast is meant to honour the fallen soldiers who have died for their country over the years. While re-raising the flag is meant to symbolize the resolve of the living to carry on the fight for freedom so that the nation's heroes will not have died in vain.

On the United States Capitol Building's West Lawn, a Memorial Day concert is held annually and is broadcasted live around the country. Additionally, there are thousands of Memorial Day 2022 parades all across the country in cities small and large. Many will wear or put on a display of red poppies on this day as a symbol of fallen soldiers. This tradition grew out of the famous poem by Canadian John McCrae known as 'In Flanders Fields,' where Moina Michael conceived an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honour of those who died serving the nation during war.



GEORGETOWN



The Hotel De Paris Museum™, a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is owned and operated by The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Colorado. The Museum is located in Georgetown, Colorado, just west of Denver off Interstate 70.

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COLORADO SPRINGS

McAllister House Museum A Great Place to Visit

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 of 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 this Colorado Springs (Fountain Colony) house. Why not visit this lovely house and enjoy the historically true restorations?

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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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Coffee By the Pound

By Carol Mobley

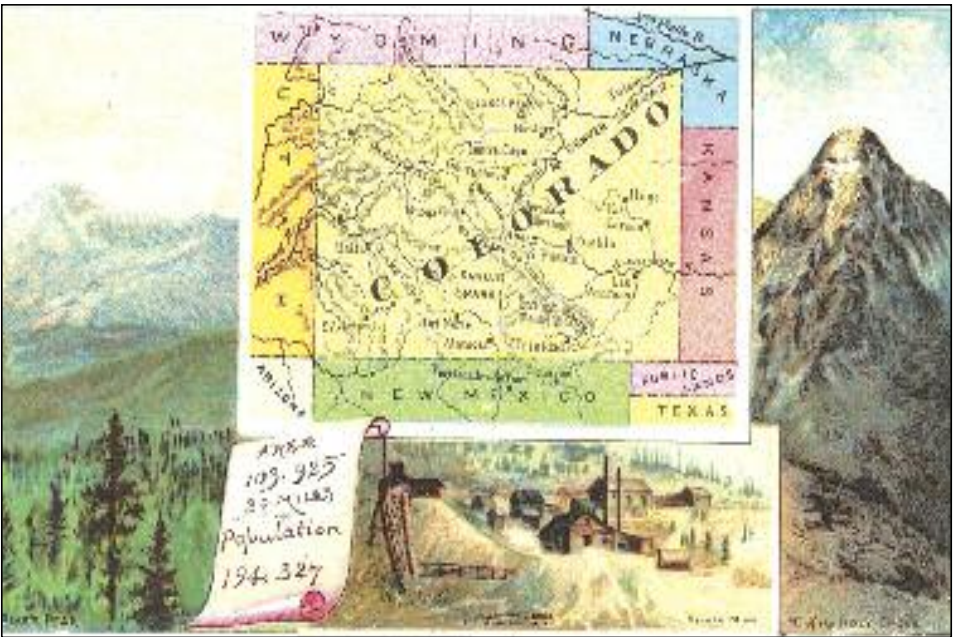
I enjoy a cup of coffee every morning along with approximately 150 million Americans. Coffee wasn't always an easy drink to prepare. It wasn't until the mid-1800's that coffee was easily accessible to households as well as miners and cowboys out in the wild. Two companies, both still in business today, revolutionized coffee. James Folger was the first to start with roasted and ground coffee in 1850 and soon to follow was John Arbuckle in 1860.

Prior to 1850 coffee was purchased as unroasted beans. When it was time to make coffee, the beans were roasted in a skillet or pot, ground and then boiled in water for coffee. This method of making coffee produced a wide range of tastes. The beans could be under-cooked, burned or just right. Roasted coffee beans weighed 20% less than green coffee beans so it made more sense to travel with roasted beans. The big drawback was that roasted beans don't retain their flavor like unroasted beans do.

So, Arbuckle came up with a glaze coating applied to the roasted coffee beans for "the purpose of retaining the aroma of the coffee" (Arbuckle's The Coffee That Won the West by Francis Fugate). The glaze was a mixture of sugar and egg, the egg to help settle the coffee grounds and the sugar to eliminate the bitterness of coffee.

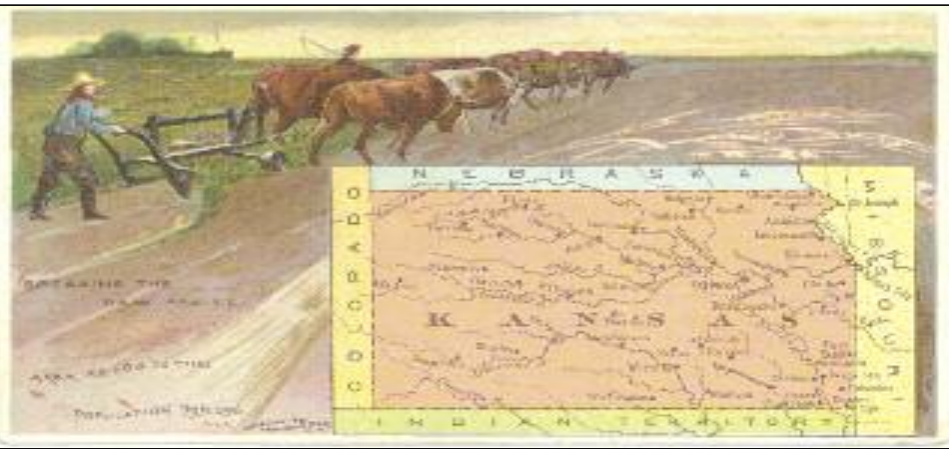
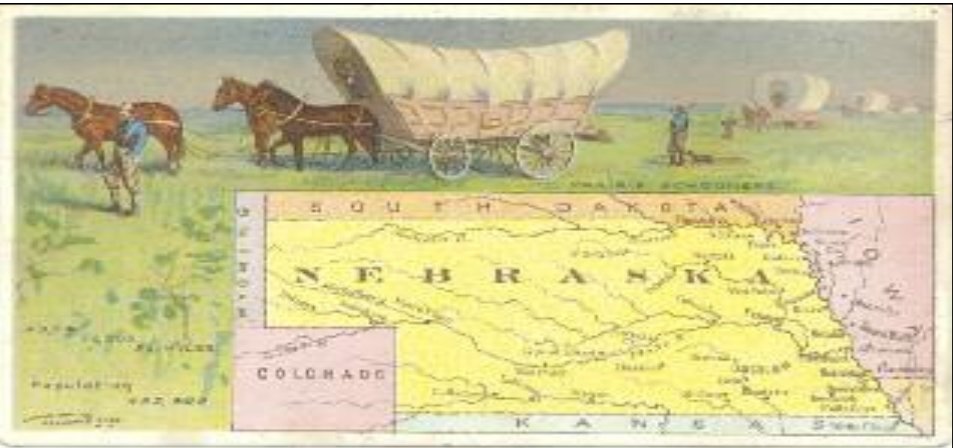
But it wasn't enough that Arbuckle invented a way to keep roasted coffee beans fresh longer. He was "undaunted by the ridicule of others in the coffee trade who derided him for selling roasted coffee in little paper bags like peanuts." (Arbuckle's The Coffee That Won the West by Francis Fugate) Cowboys liked the paper bags when out in the field – the paper filled a necessary need. And starting in the mid 1880's, included with each one-pound bag of coffee, Arbuckle included an advertising trade card.

Saved, collected and traded, these advertising trade cards came in a variety of subjects from geography, religion, birds, maps both American and foreign, zoological, sports and views from around the world. Teachers used them for object lesson cards. Students loved them, which is evident in the number of cards that have survived since the 1890's. By the mid 1890's Arbuckle discontinued the practice of including a trade card in each



package. To date, 13 sets with 50 cards in each set have been identified as well as many other cards not included in sets. (<https://www.arbycards.info/arbmain.htm>)

Some of the most popular cards are the map cards from western states. To see Arbuckle trade cards and other interesting postcards, photos, advertising, stamps, and other small collectibles, come out to the Denver Postcard & Paper Show on May 27-28 at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds. The May show is being held in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show featuring award-winning world class exhibits. For more information contact visit www.denverpostcardshow.com or email Carol at camobley@ephemeranet.com.



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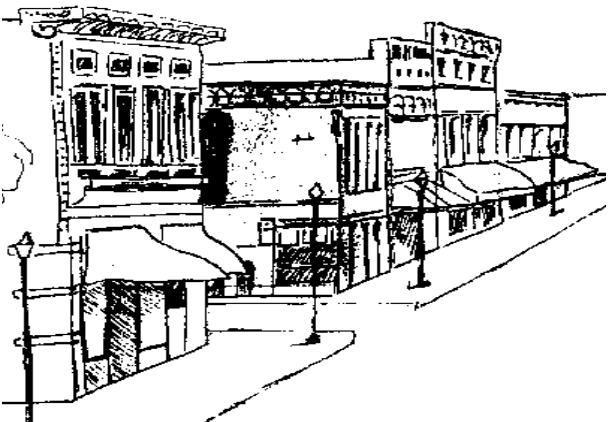
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CONTEST

April's What Is It?



This is a magic apparatus called "the Sliding Die Box." The die has a black open back side. Magicians reverse the die when placed into the box, close the doors and tip the box. Audience hears a clunk. Magician opens the elevated front door to reveal nothing. Door closes and magician tips box the other way (clunk). Audience thinks they know the secret until magician opens both doors and die has disappeared."

This die box is from the 19th century. This version was made in 1920 by the Thayer Magic Manufacturing Company of Los Angeles.

Byron Roderick of Broomfield, Colorado tells us, "I have this classic 'The Sliding Die' magic trick. Also known as 'The Sucker Die Box' as audiences think they know the secret, but are fooled. There are several "You Tube" videos of this trick. He defines his die box (pictured below and to the right) as a 1950 era trick. It is in a finely crafted box, with a solid 3" die and two metal die shells."

William McLaren of Anchorage, Alaska agrees that the April "What Is It" appears to be a mini miracle die box, usually called a Sucker Die Box. He says, "It is a classic magic trick device whereby a die is made to seemingly disappear. By the way, a Die is the singular form of Dice which applies to a pair (of Dies)."

Congratulations, Byron and William! You have both won a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.



May's What Is It?

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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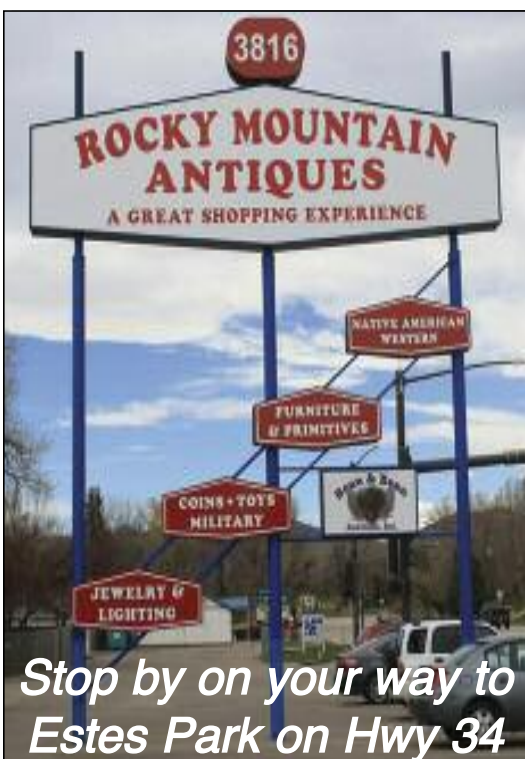
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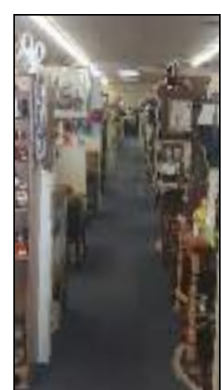
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We are learning day by day how small the world really is as the outbreak and spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) jumps from continent to continent, state to state and community to community. We at the Brass Armadillo Antique Malls are saddened for those directly affected by the pandemic, and we are resolved to follow guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control to "Plan, Prepare and Respond." We continue to be open daily from 9 to 9. Our No. 1 priority is the safety of our community of collectors, dealers and enthusiasts. We have put the following safeguards in place:

- Hand sanitizer is available at the front counter; employees are encouraged to disinfect after handling money.
- We have implemented the spacing of patrons, including antiques and collectibles.
- All surfaces, carts, counters, doors and handles are cleaned and disinfected frequently.

Visit BrassArmadillo.com for further updates.

