



the mountain states collector

DEVOTED TO
ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES,
FURNITURE,
ART, DESIGN
AND HISTORY.

51ST ANNIVERSARY — ESTABLISHED IN 1972
Volume 51, Number 12 DECEMBER 2023



Inside this Issue



SHOW CALENDAR
DECEMBER '23 & JANUARY '24
PAGE 5



DEALER FEATURE
WELCOME M.E.O.
PAGE 9

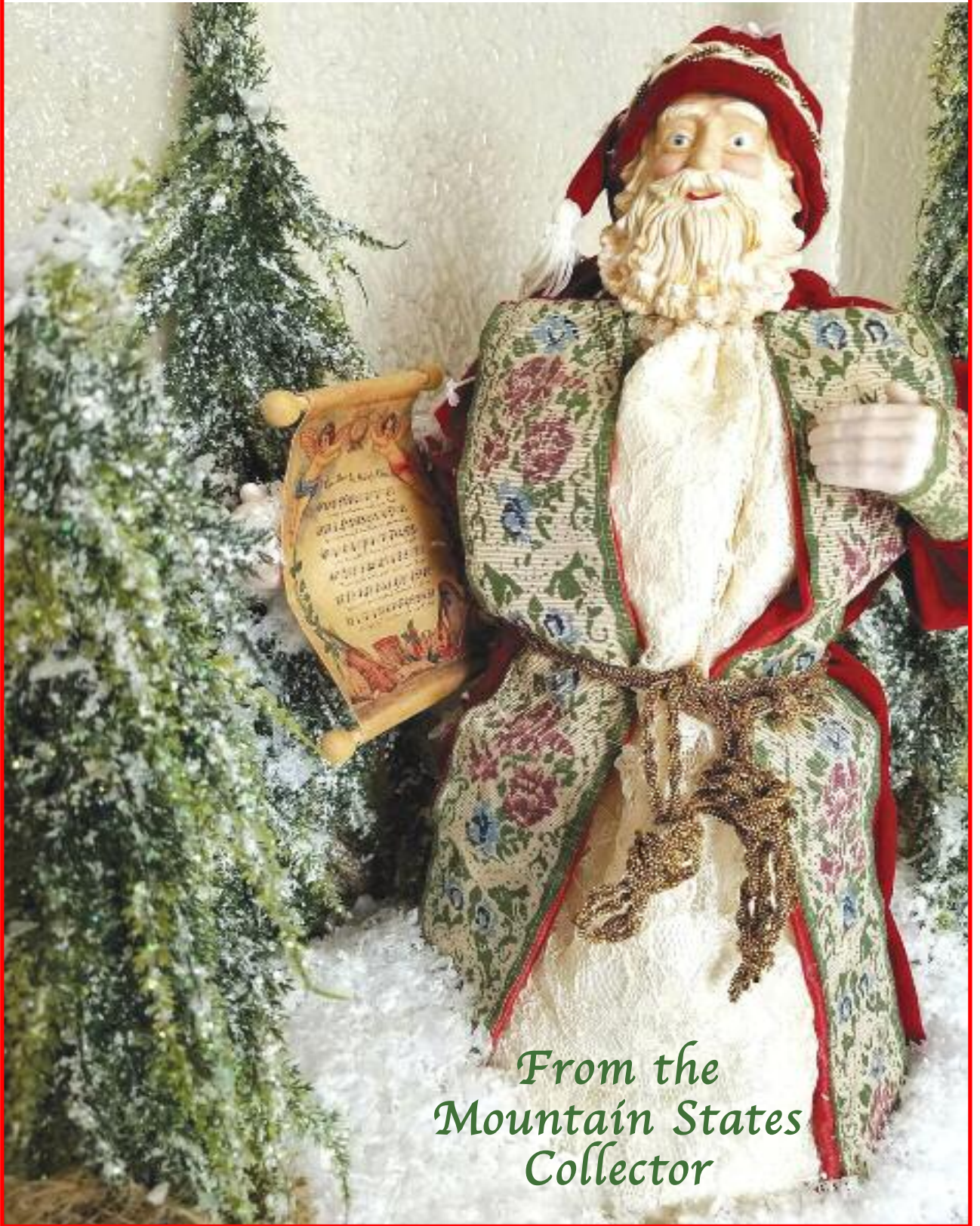


CHRISTMAS ALBUMS & RECORDS
SWEET SOUNDING
PAGE 11



HISTORIC TOYS OF HUBLEY
STAND THE TEST OF TIME
PAGE 13

Best Wishes for A Festive and Joyous Holiday Season



*From the
Mountain States
Collector*

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Bailey, CO 80421
Permit #45

Mountain States Collector
Spruce Enterprises, Inc.
Box 1003
Bailey, CO 80421-1003

\$1.00 off admission with this ad

DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW
Fri-Sat January 19-20, 2024
 Friday 11am-6pm, Saturday 9:30am-4pm
General Admission \$5
Early-bird Admission \$20 Friday 10am
Holiday Inn Lakewood, CO
 7390 W Hampden Ave. Lakewood, CO 80227
www.denverpostcardshow.com



•C•O•L•O•R•A•D•O• ANTIQUe GALLERY

coloradoantiquegallery.com
5501 S. Broadway • Littleton, CO 80121

Happy Holiday Shopping!

We are your one-stop shop for all your holiday needs. 285 dealers in a warm and welcoming 50,000 square-foot showroom.

Whether gift giving or glamorizing your home for the holidays, shop early and use our great LAYAWAY plan. From sparkling jewelry to collectibles to Mantiques, furniture to fine art — Colorado Antique Gallery is a treasure trove of unusual and memorable gifts.

Entertain with style and pizzazz — beautiful crystal, china, silver, trays and serving pieces, linens, barware — retro or antique, we've got it all.

Wishing you happy holidays from The Gallery staff and dealers.



HOLIDAY SALE! UP TO **50% OFF!**

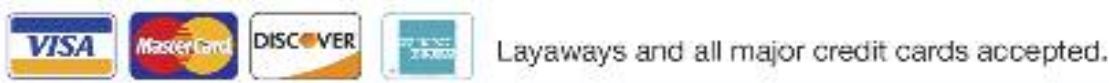
Find something for everyone on your holiday list!



Don't know what to give?
Give a Colorado Antique Gallery Gift Card and let them choose from thousands of unique items.



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Monday–Saturday: 10am–6pm
Sunday: Noon–6pm
303-794-8100



5501 S. Broadway • Littleton, CO 80121
coloradoantiquegallery.com



Old Crows Antique Mall & Root Beer Bar

10081 West Bowles Avenue Littleton, Colorado
303-973-8648

The Antique Brothers, Timmy & Joseph Crawford, Welcome You

World's Largest Root Beer Bar serving ice cream floats, coffee —
New Root Beers Weekly - We are continually expanding our variety!

Veteran Discounts Every Day

Dec. 7 Ladies' Night open at 8 p.m. Shopping, Snacks & Holiday Giveaway

Hanukkah Evening of Thursday, Dec. 7 thru Evening of Dec. 15

Christmas Dec. 24 Special Hours: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Dec. 31st open 12-6 p.m., New Year's Day regular hours

**Dec. 25
CLOSED ALL DAY**



Old Crows' Antiques Road Show

Get estimates on your favorite treasures. Talk to experts about your antiques, art, vintage and collectibles.

Limit 1 item per person

Saturday, Dec. 2

12 - 3 p.m. (First Saturday Every Month)



Saturday, Dec. 9

12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

LITTLETON CAR SHOW

"Be There or Be Square"

Saturday, December 16

Live at the Crows: featuring
The Vindicators performing in the
Root Beer Bar, 2-5 p.m.



Saturday, December 23

Celebrate the Arts

Numerous Demonstrations with
Local Artists and Craftsmen



Colorado's Best Antique Destination

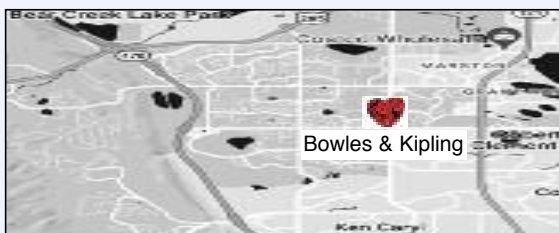
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9am-6pm
Fri.-Sat. 9am-7pm Sun. 12pm-6pm

Escape Inflation

Your Dollars Go Further
at Old Crows

Only 4.93% Sales Tax

Resales Welcome



www.OldCrowsAntiques.com



Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas — May God Bless You & Yours This Holiday Season

ARVADA



Homestead Antiques

6530 Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 130, Arvada, CO 80003

2 Miles North of I-70 on Wadsworth, N.E. Corner of 64th and Wadsworth


www.homesteadantiquemall.net 

720-484-3644 Open 7 Days a Week, 10am - 6pm



*Homestead
Antique Mall
wishes all of you
a Merry
Christmas and a
Happy New Year!*



Over 70 dealers with a wide variety of antiques, vintage furnishings, glassware, jewelry, collectibles, primitives, shabby chic, Western, Native American, home decor & more... 

Best
of Arvada
Best Antique Mall
in Arvada

Show Calendar December '23 & January '24

DEC. 2 & 3 & DEC. 9 & 10: **HOTEL de PARIS, Georgetown** See Hotel de Paris Museum™ decked in festive Victorian style decorations December 2-3 and 9-10 during Historic Georgetown, Incorporated's annual outdoor European Christmas Market. Self-guided tours of the museum run continuously from 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Allow 30 minutes (however, you can take as much time as you like). Take holiday photos in front of our themed Christmas trees, which reflect the history of Louis Dupuy's Hotel de Paris. Shop for antiques and collectibles during our museum shop sale. Enjoy complimentary refreshments (while supplies last) in our charming kitchen. You'll like Georgetown, Colorado and Hotel de Paris, "The Showplace of the Rockies." Admission \$10. Discounts available. For more information, go to www.hoteldeparismuseum.org or call 303-569-2311.

DEC. 2: **OLD CROWS' ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW** 12-3 p.m. (First Saturday of Every Month) 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Get estimates on your favorite treasures. Talk to experts about your antiques, art, vintage and collectibles. Limit 1 item per person. Call 303-973-8648

Mines Green Center

JSO HOLIDAY CONCERT
SUNDAY, DEC 10
Arturo Gonzalez conductor

3:00 PM

Guest Artists:
Christie Conover and James Baumgardner

FREE for Jeffco K-12 students!

DEC. 8 - 26: **BRASS ARMADILLO** events: Dec. 8: Preferred Customer Sale; Dec. 16 - 17: Antique Army Double Points Weekend!, Christmas Eve Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; CLOSED ON CHRISTMAS DAY, Dec. 26th -OPEN! 11301 W. Frontage Rd., Wheat Ridge, Colorado, For more info, call 303-403-1677

DEC. 9 & 10: **CHRISTMAS AT THE HAMILL HOUSE**, 6 to 9 p.m., Historic Georgetown, Inc. invites you to an evening of Victorian holiday traditions at the historic Hamill House, home of Georgetown's silver baron, William Arthur Hamill. Celebrate the Yule time with your hosts and friends. Your evening admission includes hearty food, wassail, caroling with the Silver Plume Singers, and the traditional lighting of the Christmas tree. Cash bar available throughout the evening.

DEC. 9: **LITTLETON CAR SHOW** 3 to 6 p.m., weather permitting, at Old Crows Antique Mall, 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Featuring vintage and collectible vehicles. An event that is fun for the whole family. 303-973-8648.

DEC. 15 - 17: **VINTAGE MARKETPLACE ANNIVERSARY WHOLE STORE SALE**, 6520 S. College Ave. in Ft. Collins, Colorado, This Boutique Style Market is located along Fort Collins's Antique Alley, explore the over 85 vendors who feature vintage finds, furniture, clothing, home decor, gifts and artisan creations. More info, go to www.vintagemarketplace.com

DEC. 23: **LIVE AT THE CROWS** at the Old Crows Antique Mall & Root Beer Bar, live performance by Warren Floyd, 2-5 p.m., 303-973-8648.

DEC. 30: **CELEBRATE THE ARTS** at Old Crows Antiques Mall, special prices on all artwork. Demonstrations by numerous local artists and craftsmen. Call 303-973-6648 for more information.

THROUGH JAN. 7: **BLOSSOMS OF LIGHT** — **Denver Botanic Gardens**, A stroll through the Denver Botanic Gardens is a delightful way to celebrate the holiday season. Enjoy warm drinks and holiday treats amongst the most festive lights, blossoms and pathways in Colorado.

JAN. 19 & 20: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW**, Fri., 11 am-6pm and Sat. 9:30 am-4pm. General Admission \$5, Holiday Inn, Lakewood, CO, 7390 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood, Colorado More info www.denverpostcardshow.com

DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW
Fri-Sat January 19-20, 2024
Friday 11am-6pm, Saturday 9:30am-4pm
General Admission \$5
Early-bird Admission \$20 Friday 10am
Holiday Inn Lakewood, CO
7390 W Hampden Ave. Lakewood, CO 80227
www.denverpostcardshow.com

\$1.00 off admission with this ad

Holiday Tea
at the
McAllister House Museum

Enjoy a delicious afternoon cream tea and a tour of the oldest house in Colorado Springs!

Seatings on Dec. 2nd and 9th

11 a.m. or 2 p.m.
\$45 per person
Reservations required

McAllister House Museum • 425 N. Cascade Ave.
719-655-7925

COLORADO ANTIQUE GALLERY
coloradoantiquegallery.com
1501 S. Broadway • Littleton, CO 80120

HOLIDAY SALE! UP TO 50% OFF!

Find something for everyone on your holiday list!

Don't know what to give?
Give a Colorado Antique Gallery Gift Card and let them choose from thousands of unique items.

Every December, the sleepy town of Georgetown, Colorado transforms into a sparkling Christmas wonderland. For two weekends Georgetown hosts their annual Christmas Market, now in its 63rd year. USA Today recently named it as part of its 10 Best Holiday Markets in the country.

It's a bustling time of year in Georgetown, host to old-time holiday traditions. Roasted chestnuts, festive shopping, and horse-drawn wagon rides all in historic Georgetown.

Shop traveling artisans and food purveyors in an outdoor marketplaces in Strousse Park, 6th & Rose Streets, and the Rue de Noel, 6th & Taos Streets, which features an Alpine Biergarten.

**Merry Christmas
and Happy New
Year from the
Sugar Mill!**



**13788 Pacific Circle
Mead, Colorado
303-532-6496**

Located right off I-25 at Hwy 66

Open 7 Days a week
Sunday, 10:30 am to 5 pm
Monday - Thursday 10:30 am to 6 pm
Friday & Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm

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!

**Save the Earth,
Buy More Vintage**

www.sugarmillmead.com
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
@Sugarmillmead for our latest arrivals and upcoming events.



**Do your holiday shopping
at the Sugar Mill. Your friends
and family will be thrilled.**



**Like our
Facebook
page**



Vintage Marketplace

6520 S. COLLEGE AVE. FT. COLLINS, CO

Boutique style market located along Fort Collin's Antique Alley. Explore a collection of over 85 vendors featuring vintage finds, furniture, clothing, home decor, gifts, and artisan creations.

  @VintageMarketplaceFTC | VINTAGEMARKETPLACEFC.COM



Special Sale
**VINTAGE MARKETPLACE
ANNIVERSARY
WHOLE STORE SALE**
December 15 to 17
Whole store sale, giveaways and refreshments.
Drinks and treats provided.



Check out our new website:
www.vintagemarketplacefc.com



MEO



My Essential Objects

Art • Mid-Mod • Vintage • Antiques

Offering Art and Vintage, Mid Century Furniture and Decor

The original art, giclées and prints are the work of our in-house, local artists.

Open Fridays 12 to 4

Saturdays 12 to 6

Sundays 12 to 4

& First Fridays 4 to 8

445 S. Saulsbury St. Units E & F
Lakewood CO 80226

Follow/contact us on social media.



Please scan our QR code with your cell phone to find additional items.

Follow MEO on
Instagram:
@olivasmorris and on
Facebook: **@morrisolivas**.

Find Your Essential Objects at MEO

Offering Art and Vintage, Mid Century Furniture and Decor

By Jon DeStefano

Morris Olivas started his business with a small booth at Colorado Antique Gallery about seven years ago where he curated with the owner Chris Rodriguez and assisted him with his marketing and Instagram. He did very well there selling mostly vintage and vintage mid-modern furniture and furnishings.

He originally named the business MEO his initials, Morris Edward Olivas. He changed the name to My Essential Objects which he decided would be a better fit for a store front business.

He realized he had the right product and services which would allow him to be successful on his own. He thought if I go on my own with what I know works I can attract customers in greater numbers who were interested in mid-mod sectionals, vintage couches and coffee tables.

He looked into purchasing a commercial store front on South Broadway but came to the conclusion that it would be smarter to rent a store front in a place with a strong residential base of higher income residents as well as in a commercial store front. Then he found the perfect space at 445 S. Saulsbury St. Units E and F in Belmar in the art block. Here they offer original art as well as Vintage, Mid Century Furniture and decor.

Morris focuses on quality objects which he finds on his treasure hunts from numerous different locations. Everything must be in very good condition or reconditioned. He says, "I curate very well and coordinate the staging at all locations. I have a unique eye. It allows me to brand the items and stylize them so people can visually see how they can use it in their space."

With his advertising and marketing skills Morris has, from the beginning in the midst of

Covid, been very successful. He admits he has a knack for doing this work which he feels he has actually been doing most of his life. "I've spent a lot of time helping not just customers but also different friends bring vintage decor into their homes and at a much better price and quality than they can get in the big box stores."

Morris says you can follow him on Instagram: @olivas_morris and on Facebook: @morrisolivas.

Morris and his partner Danyl Cook adopted a homeless family and helped them fix up their home, raising donations and getting appropriate furniture and furnishings, making it not only functional but also very special for them. The program is sponsored by Bonfils and The Giving Tree. Art becomes a part of it. Danyl, a very accomplished and successful artist in his own right, creates or finds the art.

The art is always a part of it and has become a part of their brand. They use it to stylize the staging and it provides a special context that relates much more to customers and helps them visualize the furniture and/or art in their dwellings in a much more realistic way. Most of the art is provided by Danyl but they also use a lot of art from other well known local artists. You can follow Danyl on Instagram @danylcookart.

MEO customers are spread out. Many people shop for their home or personal work places. They have many business customers and even hotels. "People want to make the places they spend a lot of their time a Happy Zone and businesses want that happy zone for their customers.

Doing staging is not magic but to do it well takes something special and not everyone can do it. People want an environment that fits them, that they want to be in.

Morris is quick to note that he is not a designer. He has no formal education in it, but he has a knack of pulling things together very quickly and people trust him. He credits Chris at The Antique Gallery and Slavica at Art District Antiques for helping him find his way in the business. "They have been a great inspiration for me and believed in me and my work," he says. "When Dan and I first opened they were there to support us. A lot of our initial customer base came from Chris and Slavica."



Danyl Cook and Morris Olivas, owners of My Essential Objects, take a break while enjoying some of their inventory.

A lot of their customers are a younger crowd who understand the difference in good quality and the big box stores. Too old for college but they are a younger crowd in their 30's and 40's. A lot of their customers are also seniors who live in or near Belmar. A good mix.

Morris says, Danyl Cook and I have been business partners for a long time but we've been partners in life a lot longer. We've been together for 23 years.

Dan states, "The furniture and art together was Morris' idea. He had a vision that staging art and furniture together help people figure out their space. People love it."

MEO is open on Fridays, noon to 4, Saturdays from noon to 6, Sundays noon to 4, and also first Fridays 4 to 8. They bring in new stuff regularly so it always feels fresh. During Covid they learned people wanted to come in, to see it in person and to touch it. They figured out their purpose then. They want to make people happy, to provide an authentic service, to make their experience very personal and to make their work joyous.

There is no doubt that they are succeeding. Because they fulfill their purpose regularly and are truly an exceptional business which makes sense because they are each exceptional people. They use furniture and art together to create a context for each other. That is their brand. You can find them through, Facebook, Instagram or their QR code. You can also find them in Belmar. Any way you find them, you'll be glad you did.



Please scan this QR code with your cell phone to find additional items at MEO.

MEO



My Essential Objects
Art • Mid-Mod • Vintage • Antiques

Dept. 56 Village Inventory for SALE

Dept. 56 Village Inventory						
ITEM	PRICE PAID	YEAR ISSUED	YEAR SERIES	RETIRED		ITEM NUMBER
Apple Valley School House	35	1996	2008	New England Village Series		56.56172
Christmas Bazaar Homemade Quilts (set of 2)	25	1996	1999	New England Village Series		56.56594
Christmas Pudding Costermonger (set of 3)	32.50	1997	2001	Dicken's Village Accessories		56.58408
Dursley Manor	50	1995	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58329
East Indies Trading Company	65	1997	1998	Dicken's Village		56.58302
Gingerbread Vendor	22.5	1996	2001	Dicken's Village		56.58402
Hather Harness	48	1994	1997	Dicken's Village		56.58238
King's Road set of 2						
C. H. Watt Physician	36	1990	1996	Dicken's Village		56.55689
Tutbury Printer	36	1990	1996	Dicken's Village		56.55689
Leacock Poulterer	48	1997	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58303
Over the River and Through the Woods	35	1994	1998	Heritage Village		56.56545
Quilly's Antiques	46	1996	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58348
Seton Morris Spice Merchant (set of 10)	65	1998	1998	Dicken's Village		
Seton Morris Spice Merchant						
Christmas Apples Accessory (set of 3)						
cobblestone road						
4 sisal trees						
The Christmas Carol Cottage w/smoking chimney and Magic Smoke liquid	60	1996	2000	Dicken's Village		56.58339
The Spirit of Giving (Dickens' Village Start A Tradition (Set of 13)	100	1997	1998	Dicken's Village		56.58322
Sudbury Church						
Old East Rectory						
11 Accessories (only 9 - not included 1 bag plastic snow, 1 cobblestone road)						
3 figurines - mother, father, daughter						
6 sisal evergreens (1 lg, 1 med, 4 sm)						
Village Frosted Bare Branch Tree (*see below)	18					56.52426
Village Jack Pines (set of 3; 9", 12", 15")	18					56.52622
Village Jack Pines (set of 3; 9", 12", 15")	18					56.52622
Village Wrought Iron Park Bench	5	1993	current	General Village Accessories		56.52302
Wrenbury Shops (set of 3)						
Wrenbury Baker	35	1995	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58331
The Chop Shop	35	1995	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58331
T. Puddlewick Spectacle Shop	35	1995	1999	Dicken's Village		56.58331
Ye Olde Lamplighter Dickens Village Sign		1995	2001	Dicken's Village		56.58393
TOTAL ORIGINALLY PAID	868.00					



Department 56 Collectors:

I would like to sell the Dept. 56 inventory (see to the left) ideally as a single lot. I am only asking the original price I paid. All items are in their original boxes and sleeves.

While the boxes show some wear since I have owned them for 25-30 years, the porcelain houses and figures are in prime condition and I have been the only owner.

Interested dealers or readers may contact Fran at 720-448-3939. Please be sure to leave your name and number as I do not answer unknown callers and I will return your call.



NORTHGLENN



Old Wagon Antique Mall

Come Shop With Us —Up to 100 Dealers To Choose From
Toys, Clocks, Glass, Furniture, Collectibles, Books
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily, Saturday 10:30 to 5, 12 to 4 Sundays, Closed Tuesdays

10685 Melody Dr.
 Northglenn, Colorado

I-25/104th

Check for Available Space
 303-280-8114

<https://oldwagon.wixsite.com/antique>



STOREWIDE SALES

Like us on Facebook



Christmas Records & Albums: Sweet Sounding Holiday Collectible

By Robert Reed

Part of the enduring Christmas season has always been the music. For decades much of it was captured on phonograph records and colorful long playing albums. Today many of those well-packaged Yule tunes are sounding very collectible.

"In the past few years the growth of Christmas music has been obvious," wrote author Tim Neely in the 1997 edition of the Goldmine Christmas Record Guide. "Many used record stores never remove their holiday offerings from sight; many collectors' catalogs offer Christmas records all year, not just in November and December."

By most measures the golden era of Christmas records and albums lasted from the late 1940s until well into the 1970s. During that time recordings offered a wide range of Christmas fare. Shoppers could choose from western singer's Gene Autry's Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer all the way to Yogi Yorgesson's comic I Just Go Nuts At Christmas. Additionally scores of memorable singers and entertainers donned Santa suits for more traditional holiday fare.

Typically the recordings were short-lived marketed only during the Christmas season and then discontinued. Many were based on a single 'breakout' hit which later headlined a full album. Other albums were simply based on the already broad appeal of a particular singer whose fans logically followed their work into the Yuletide season.

Christmas records and subsequent albums were a part of a major change in the record industry during the latter 1940s. First was the boom in demand. By 1945 record sales had surpassed the 100 million mark, more than double what they had been just five years earlier. Next was the technology. At the time most records were in the 78 rpm form which meant each side could contain only about four minutes of music. Eventually Columbia Records developed a method of producing a long playing (33 rpm) record which provided 30



minutes of music on each side. Rather than group three or four 78s into one cumbersome (and heavy) album, all the songs could be contained on a single long-playing album.

Columbia Records first introduced the LP to the music-minded masses in 1948, but the reaction was mild. Instead of following the same course, RCA Victor instead responded with the smaller 45 rpm record. All this led to what author Eric Kohler describes in the fine book *In The Groove*, Vintage Record Graphics, as the "war of speeds."

By the Christmas of 1949 customers could find seasonal music in heavy 78 rpm albums and in the lighter long playing form. Christmas Music with Ethel Smith at the organ, for example, was in a three-record 78 album. Decca also used the same form for Bing Crosby's Merry Christmas album. LP choices included Christmas Music by Morton Gould, and Mario Lanza's Christmas Songs.

As the decade of the 1950s developed, the LP became the

overwhelming choice for albums including Christmas albums, and the 45 became the dominant form for singles. After some bad experiences with 78-like paper sleeves, the record industry turned to cardboard with paper covering for albums. The cardboard not only protected the records but it was immediately graphic.

"Trends notwithstanding," according to Kohler, "the 1950s still produced some of the best cover designs in the illustrative and typographic genre." Artists defined that period "in cover graphics and carried on the concept of highly stylized, instantly recognizable cover art." The LP album and the graphic cover became a perfect combination for the Christmas season.

Holiday albums early in that decade included Patti Page's Christmas, Burl Ives' Christmas in the Morning, Liberace's Christmas at Liberace's; and Eddie Fisher's Christmas With Fisher. There were also long-expected album offerings from likes of

Rosemary Clooney, Perry Como and Bing Crosby. Later in the 1950s were the Christmas renditions and holidays albums of Nat King Cole, Connie Francis, Jimmy Rodgers, the Four Aces, Mitch Miller, and old blue eyes himself Frank Sinatra.

In 1957 RCA issued an Elvis Presley Christmas album in a variety of forms. The Elvis Christmas Album was sometime printed with a gold title and sometimes with a silver title. Some albums had a gatefold, and some included a bound booklet. Some had a prominent sticker, while others did not. Experts generally agree however that the most collectible of the Elvis Christmas album varieties was the red vinyl issue of that year, produced in very limited numbers. The album itself, as were many others, was later reissued for still other Christmas seasons.

The 1960s were grand times for the big high Christmas record and the accompanying Christmas album. Bobby Darin did *The 25th Day of December*, Nat King Cole did *The Christmas Song*, and Bobby Helms continued to offer versions of the immortal *Jingle Bell Rock*. The Osmonds provided, *We Sing You A Merry Christmas*, and Christmas With The Chipmunks starred a character named Alvin repeating a smash hit known plainly as *The Chipmunk Song*.

As the 60s continued so did the entertainers and their Christmas music. Roy Rogers and Dale Evans did *Christmas Is Always* album, Paul Revere and The Raiders did *Christmas Past and Present*, and Brenda Lee not surprisingly did an album called *Merry Christmas From Brenda Lee*. Then, too, there was Jim Nabors, Wayne Newton, Loretta Lynn, and Ferlin Husky. There was *Christmas With the Platters*, the *Led Zepplin Show for Christmas Seals*, and Stevie Wonder's *Somebody at Christmas*.

In 1970 the Jackson Five did a special Christmas album based on their rocking rendition of the single, *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*. The follow year, another 'family', the Partridge Family offered *A Partridge Family Christmas Card* album. Some of the albums included an actual Christmas card while others had the image of a card printed on them. Even Flintstones family members got into the Christmas album act when Pebbles and Bam Bam did a second release of their extended play recording featuring *The Little Drummer Boy*.

In addition to all the general interest Christmas records and albums, there were those offered to a special market. A particular album would be only available at a specific service station chain, or tire store, or television set dealer. Other Christmas albums were available only by catalog, or with as mail-in premiums for a purchased product.

Among collectors today there is a great deal of emphasis on the condition of Christmas albums of the past. Beyond the direct pull of nostalgia, such albums are sought mainly for their graphic appeal. They can make a very profound display for the holiday season by filling a wall or the corner of a room.

DENVER



La Cache

An Extraordinary Consignment Store

High Quality Classics Reinvented.

- Jewelry
- Crystal
- Artwork
- Antique Furniture
- Home Decor
- Fine China & Silver

Even Santa Shops at La Cache



Proceeds from the sale of these consigned and donated items benefit Children's Hospital Colorado.



Visit us
 Mon-Sat 10 to 4
 400 N. Downing St.
 Denver, CO 80218
 (303) 871-9605

La Cache is staffed fully by volunteers.

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Calendar Listing Information

Promoters: send us your calendar information. We will publish it free (and in bold-face type) with your display ad. Otherwise the cost is \$35 per issue. Calendar entries are published on a three-month basis (month of show and two months previous). So send in your info as soon as possible. It's never too early. Stories and features about shows are provided free with your display ad.

Dates of Show: _____
 City, State: _____
 Name of Show or Event: _____
 Hours: _____
 Other Info: _____
 Phone: _____

Send information about advertising.

For more information,
call 720-276-2777.

Mail coupon and check to: **Spree Enterprises, Inc.,**
 P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421-1003
 Deadline: The 20th of the month before the next issue.

**Shows, Auctions,
 Estate Sales and Event
 Calendar listings are
 FREE with your
 display ad. Club News
 and Museum News
 also welcome.**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COLLECTOR

1 year (12 issues)	\$18.00
2 years (24 issues)	\$32.00
3 years (36 issues)	\$45.00

Canada and Mexico \$35.00 per year. Outside North America \$70.00 per year.
No refunds.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

Return to: **Spree Enterprises, Inc.**
 Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421-1003

AMERICAN HISTORY

December Anniversaries



December 2

200th Anniversary of James Monroe introducing the Monroe Doctrine in his State of the Union address (1823)

December 7

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 15

National Bill of Rights Day (1791)

December 16

250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party (1773)

December 18

First National Day of Thanksgiving (1777)

December 22

Continental Congress creates a Continental Navy (1775)

December 23

George Washington resigns as Commander in Chief (1783)

December 24

UK signs Treaty of Ghent, ending War of 1812 (1814)

December 25

George Washington crosses the Delaware (1776)



Taylor C. Kirkpatrick Prize
for young book collectors

Enter today!

KirkpatrickPrize.com

Open to Colorado residents, age 30 & younger
Seeking thoughtful, creative collections of books, manuscripts, & ephemera (any subject, any value)
\$1k cash prize & other rewards!
Deadline: March 31

Blue Star Museums like Hotel de Paris in Georgetown, Colorado, give special discounts to veterans.

NEBRASKA

CJ's ANTIQUES

General Line of Antiques and Primitives

Catch us in or by appointment, call ahead.

16710 Hwy 30
Chappell NE

308-874-3045
I-80 Exit 85

CASTLE ROCK

Castle Rock HOME & GARDEN consignment

Furniture, Antiques, Home Decor, Garden & Gifts

303-688-1207 807 Wilcox Street
www.castlerockconsignment.com Castle Rock, CO 80104

PINE

Pine Emporium

16714 Pine Valley Rd.
Pine, Colorado 80470
303-838-5150
bobaaac@aol.com

Antiques, Gifts, Art Gallery, Tom Clark Gnomes, Jewelry, Furniture, Vintage Fabric, Clothes, Books, Glassware, Collectibles.

OPEN: Friday, Saturday and Sunday



The Mountain States Collector, a tabloid newspaper dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of antiques and collecting in the Rocky Mountain region, is distributed the first weekend of every month through shops, auctions, flea markets and antique shows, and is mailed to subscribers. (Opinions of the writers contained herein are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers.)
Advertising information: call or text Jon DeStefano at 720-276-2777 or for any other information, call Peg DeStefano at 303-910-2604 or email us at spreepub@mac.com

Publisher	Spree Enterprises, Inc. P.O. Box 1003 Bailey, CO 80421 spreepub@mac.com	Webmaster	Sam DeStefano sam@mbrealestatepros.com Shaleen Moore, Shaleen @blackbirdmediainc.com
Executive Director	Jon DeStefano	Production	Spree Enterprises, Inc. Peg DeStefano Jon Patrick DeStefano Sam DeStefano
Managing Editor	Margaret (Peg) DeStefano, NSCDA/Colorado, D.A.R., FFHC (hcgs), Ohio-USD1812	Printing	Wyoming News

Historic Toys of Hubley

By Robert Reed

From coal dump trucks to cap pistols the toys of Hubley Manufacturing Company were an historic part of the 20th century.

Their colorful catalogs assured, "Hubley toys are made to sell." And sell they did. The Lancaster, Pennsylvania enterprise was at one point among the largest makers of cast iron toys in the world.

At Hubley the emphasis was on brightly colored and detailed toys with what they called "play" features. Moreover their rugged and durable line was remarkably varied. Their 1933 catalog, for example, despite the Great Depression offered hundreds of choices from the Avery tractor to the Lindy airplane.

Bank teller John Hubley launched the company late in the 19th century after first making toys for his own children. Early pieces included everything from toy versions of various horse-drawn carriages to the clock movement Elevated Railway.

While some Hubley toys of that era were motionless, lots of others were steam powered or electric power. Some were amazingly "motorized" with simple key wind springs.

Hubley himself died in the early 1900s but the company continued to produce a vast assortment of toy treasures which came to include circus wagons, still banks, trains, Ferris wheels, and miniature stoves for dollhouses.

By the 1920s one of Hubley's most appealing toy offerings was the horse-drawn wagons of the Roy Circus. Writing in *The Story of American Toys* author Richard O'Brien notes of the Roy Circus, "They were beautifully done, with much decorative detail, and included such esoterica as bandwagons, calliopes, monkey trapeze, mirror van, and more."

A crowning achievement by Hubley followed the crowning achievement by Charles Lindbergh in 1927. Lindbergh shocked the world with his solo air-

plane flight from New York to Paris. Hubley had a cast iron version of Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis the following year. The copyrighted and clearly marked Lindy was a big hit for Hubley. Later they included the Lindy Lockheed-Sirius and the Lindy Glider in their winged lineup.

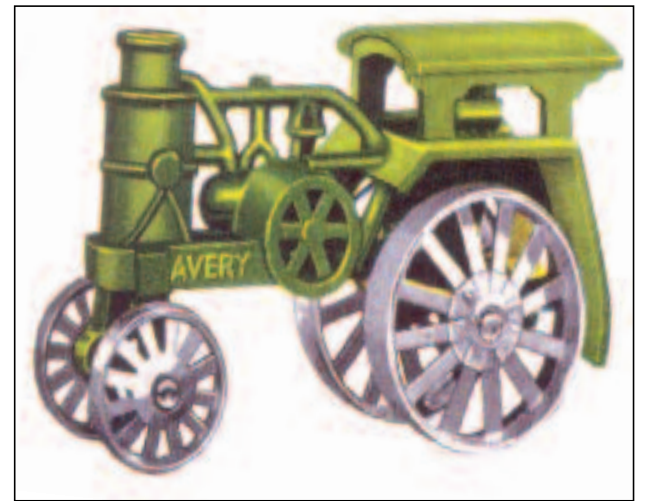
The Hubley company continued to roll during the 1930s with a grand array of toys. Mainstays continued to be automobiles, trucks and motorcycles. Many of them were "motorized" with key-wind springs and thus propelled the toy vehicles for some distance. Among the wind-up sections were two sizes of dump trucks, racers, road rollers, and a van.

Hubley was also a pioneer in the relatively widespread incorporation of name brands into solid toys. In many cases the company obtained exclusive rights to reproduce the brands thus giving them an added emphasis in the marketplace. Brands appearing on Hubley toys during that era include Borden's Milk, Bell Telephone, Old Dutch Cleanser, Maytag washer, G.B. refrigerator, Huber Road Roller, Ingersoll-Rand Compressor, Harley-Davidson motorcycle, Eagle ranges, and U.S. Mail.

The nimble firm also ventured into the comic strip world of Popeye, too. The Popeye Spinach Patrol featured the sailor on a cast iron motorcycle. Additionally there was a full range of so-called midget line Hubley vehicles. From boat to zeppelin they were similar to the full-sized models but about four to five inches in length.

"One way of staying in business during the Depression was to make everything you could think of that might sell and then hold your breath," observes O'Brien.

Automated banks produced by Hubley in that decade included the trick elephant bank, the trick dog, and the trick monkey. Still banks featured appliances, bears, lions, dogs, Indians, elephants, and even a copyrighted Fido dog bank.



Avery toy tractor by Hubley. Cast iron, ca. 1930s, five inches

As 1940 rolled around the Hubley firm had emerged from its humble beginnings to become a world leader in toy manufacturing. Success notwithstanding, the company gradually began shifting from cast iron to die-cast zinc. Heavy metals, more expensive to ship, were also increasingly in short supply. Some toys, like the Texan cap pistol, bore both cast iron and zinc parts. Ultimately all zinc materials were used.

Like most other American toy makers, Hubley switch to military devices during World War II. Full toy production resumed in 1946.

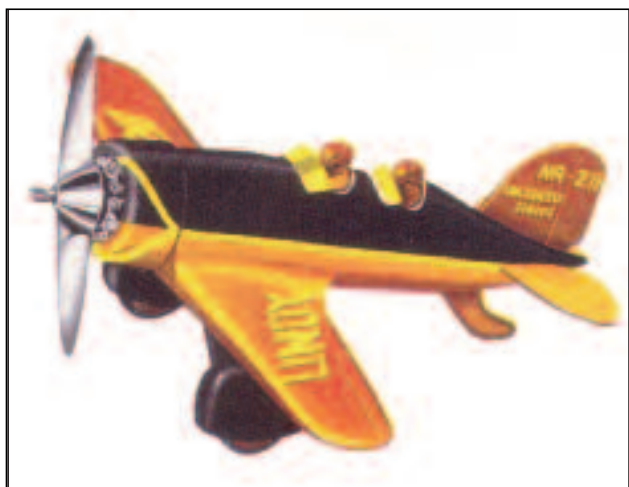
Early in the 1950s Hubley underwent still another material transition—this time from zinc metal to mostly plastic. Again, some toys were made with parts of both materials.

Their dandy Frontier Rifle had a metal barrel and magazine but a plastic stock. In 1952 it retailed for \$3.98. The early 1950s version of the Hubley hook and ladder truck had a metal chassis but a plastic cab and trailer. The 'modem' Bell telephone truck was nearly all metal with aluminum trim, but the Motor Express Truck was nearly all plastic except for metal springs and axis.

A big seller for Hubley starting in the 1950s and continuing well into the next decade was their aircraft with folding. Basically crafted of die-cast metal with sliding plastic canopy and retractable landing gear, they packaged in brightly colored boxes. Each was clearly marked, "A Hubley Metal Toy."

The storied Hubley company was acquired by Gabriel Industries in 1965. A mixture of die-cast and plastic toys were produced. However the new emphasis was on hobby kits. Boxed and Hubley branded kits included the Model A Roadster and the Model A Station Wagon.

Late in the 1970s Gabriel Industries including the Hubley brand became a division of CBS. However the glory days of Hubley's magnificent toys would remain in the past.



Lindy Lockheed-Sirius toy airplane. Made by Hubley, ca. 1930s, 10.5 inches long.



Truk-Mixer from the 1930s. Cast iron toy made by Hubley Co.

WHEAT RIDGE

COLLECTIBLES

TREASURES

Unique Treasures
Antiques & Collectibles

7341 W. 44th Avenue,
Wheat Ridge, Colorado

1 Block East of Wadsworth on 44th

OPEN Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

303-993-3868

Over 20 Dealers to Shop From *Rental Space Available
Vintage Decor, Furniture, Toys, Linens, Jewelry and More

WESTMINSTER

ANTIQUES

720.557.2563

Connie's
Antiques
and
Treasures

6080 W. 92ND AVE.



Enduring And Charming Murano Glass

By Robert Reed

In terms of geography it is only a small island near Venice, Italy. But in terms of artistry Murano glass is one of the marvels of the civilized world.

Clearly Murano glass of old represented the highest achievement in the glass blowing craft. For centuries its fragile and delicate beauty was unequalled and unrivaled. Later its spiraling colors truly astonished its beholders and continued its reign as a world class art glass.

As early as the 1940s antiques historian Harold Bond was referring to Murano glass as "the most wonderful achievement of the glass-blowers art, with a design of perfect poise and balance."

The island of Murano became one of the earliest glass making centers of the world in part because neighboring Venetian artists felt the threat of spreading fires from glass-making furnaces would be better confined on an island. Then, too, those in power also thought the island was a good place for confining workers, and thus preserving the secrets of the process.

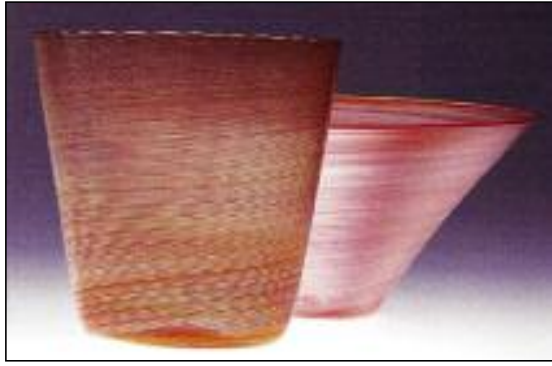
In the year 1268 glass makers of Venice had formed what would today be defined more or less as a corporation, and moved the entire operation to the nearby island of Murano.

Rigid laws were enacted by the early craftsmen to prevent trained workers from accepting any tempting offers made by foreign countries. Up until that time Venetian crystal glass enjoyed a monopoly all over the world, and the secrets of manufacture were closely guarded.

Some accounts suggest glass workers faced the penalty of death if they left the island. Other accounts suggest "they were virtually imprisoned" while trade with other European countries and the Far East prospered.

Apparently the glass workers were not as troubled with the conditions as one might expect. Writing in the book, *Old European And American Glass*, author Hudson Moore notes that by 1540 they sought more time at labor not less. Reportedly the workers grew unhappy with the reduced hours caused by observances of church and state, and sought longer work weeks.

For a long time production at Murano excelled in the manufacturer of various flat and shallow bowls which were sometimes mounted on stems and decorated with powdered gold. They also made distinguished slender and long-necked bottles of remarkable beauty. However their most treasured product was the soda-alkali incorporated cristallo glass which was the envy of all those who saw it.



As it was slow in cooling, it allowed craftsman the time to shape it into classic forms.

Bowls, jugs, and bottles grew more and more elaborate and were not only formed into heavier and more massive shapes, but were artfully colored as well.

"By the end of the 15th century Murano glass workers could produce blue,

green, purple and opaque white glass," according to *Discovering Antiques* author Sylvia Coppen-Gardner. The author attributes the latter white glass as probably being used in the first recorded experiment in the making of European porcelain.

Toward the end of the 17th century however two things were working against the fortunes of Murano glass. For one thing, despite restrictions, enough "guarded" glass workers had slipped away either by escaping or under the guise of commercial visits to allow for competition in other countries. Surprisingly, for example, glass workers had been permitted to make 'good will' trips over the years to France and England where their labors and their wares were warmly welcomed. Secondly world markets were developing a fascination for Bohemian style glass and anything in the Bohemian style was forbidden on the island of Murano.

Thus, by the middle of the 18th century the once mighty Murano glass-making empire was on a clear decline. Their light and brilliantly clear glass cups and beakers were still highly prized. However a great majority of their other wares had difficulty finding their once proud status in the world markets.

All was not lost on the island of Murano historically speaking.

During the middle of the 19th century, glass artist Antonio Salviati lead a revival of sorts by establishing his own glasshouse on Murano. Salviati stressed the old-school of earlier Venetian glass forms, and soon offered an abundance of glassware in the tradition of the earlier classics.

Among other things Salviati in the 1860s opened a showroom in London, England and did a thriving business in old-style glass. The experts disagree as to whether Salviati's efforts truly duplicated the grand Murano glass of the past or merely imitated it.

The 19th century movement was "sufficiently good enough" to be mistaken for early wares according to Geoffrey Willis in *A Concise Encyclopedia of Antiques*. However Willis concludes that was not Salviati's intention. Other sources suggest the enameled bowls, serpent

stemmed bowls, and over all latticino were at least very similar to the pieces of centuries earlier because the glass recipes for such glass, while intricate, had changed little in actual practice over the years.

Bond went even further proclaiming that the Murano glass industry was not only fully revived but "even into the early 20th century it was again the foremost artistic craft in the world."

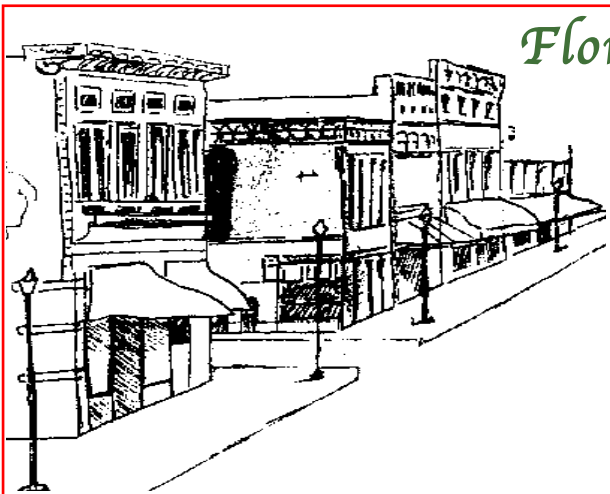
What some would refer to as a third resurgence began in the 1920s when glass artist Paulo Venini began crafting drinking glasses and latticino patterns in the classic tradition of earlier Murano glass. After his own studio prospered Venini added Carlo Scarpa to his staff in the early 1930s. Soon afterwards the two did remarkably well by combining pre-existing techniques with more modern applications of color.

In the years that immediately followed colors grew even more breathtakingly bright in mosaic and other forms. During the 1940s Venini employed the genius of Fulvio Bianconi to expand the majestic forms already offered. One stunning result was the so-called handkerchief vases which were described "as handkerchiefs softly parachuting down." The technique involved processing a square of pattern glass which was heated and then draped over a post. As it was allowed to cool in the shape of a bowl or vase the rich colors took on the appearance of a silk handkerchief.

Together Venini and Bianconi nearly invented new colors for their new handkerchief vases. Typically they crafted in latticino and adding intricate ornamentation with metal expanding the traditional style of original Murano glass. Other vases were created from the using together blocks of colors much like a patchwork quilt.

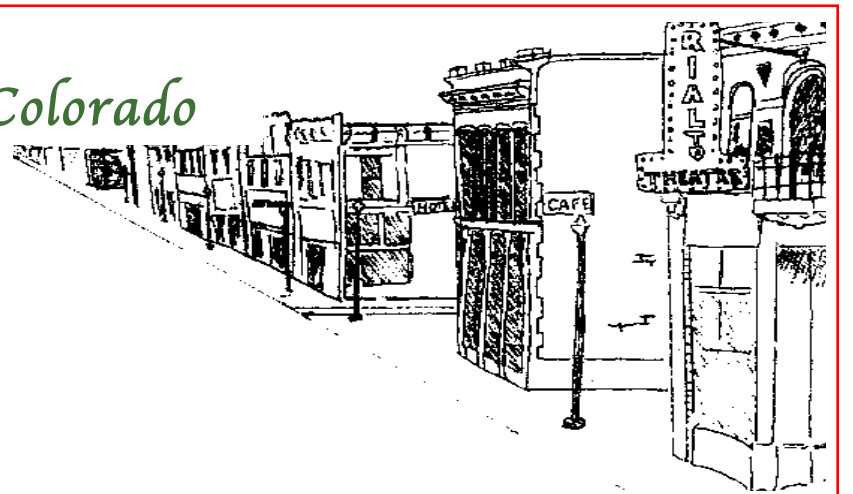
"Other patterns were woven together out of strips of colored glass," notes John Sandon in the volume, *Antique Glass*. "Tall bottles known as Morandi, were made from concentric bands of primary colors and these were seen as sculptural art objects and not merely liquor decanters."

Today there are still over 100 small glass-making firms and individual glass artisans still active on Murano.



Florence— Antique Capital of Colorado

We take great pride in being a "great little town" where you're a stranger only once!



Rena Pryor

The Loralie
Antique Mall
103 W. Main St.
Florence, Colorado 81226
719-784-3797

Antique Warehouse

Vintage Lighting & Western Accoutrements

124 E. Main Street,
Florence, CO 81226
719-372-1016

Blue Spruce Gallery
Art and Antiques

"The Best of Both Worlds"

Fine Arts & Crafts, Select Antiques in a Victorian Setting

205 West Main, Florence, CO
719-784-1339 bluespruceart.com

Bell Tower
Cultural Center

Event info, call 719-784-2038

CONTEST

November's What Is It?



We're sorry to report that we had no correct guesses for our November What Is It. This beautiful item is a samovar. What is a samovar? Webster's defines it as a metal urn used by Russians for heating water for tea. The samovar often was decorative in design and included a dispenser for the hot water. Depression-era glass companies took the idea and incorporated it in making liquor dispensers.

The biggest unanswered question concerning glass samovars is who made them? Speculation is the name of the game when it comes to samovars. The Paden City Glass Company and Cambridge Glass Company both produced identical samovars and the only way to tell them apart was by the etching placed on them. Paden City etched theirs with Cupid and Cambridge used several different etches. Some collectors believe companies actually shared the same mold. This would help explain why different company's samovars look the same. We may never know the companies that made many of them. Cupid samovars are rare and very expensive.

Samovars were produced in many different shapes. Examples have been made in a variety of forms such as: barrels, kegs, oval space ships, octagons, windmills, airplanes, etc.

One of the most well known samovars is the Cambridge keg set. We know that this set was made by Cambridge because it is shown in a Cambridge catalog. The set includes the keg, stopper, log stand and black tray. All Cambridge keg sets will have a black log stand and tray no matter what color the keg is. The keg was produced in several colors: green, pink, amber, crystal, blue, topaz and mulberry. Topaz and mulberry are the rarest colors in this pattern. The black glass stopper for the keg is difficult to find.

Cambridge also produced a two other styles: a short squatty one and a taller slim samovar. They made these in several colors: pink, green, blue, topaz, ivory and perhaps other colors. The company also had a tendency to frost or sanitizes their samovars. Cambridge samovars are sometimes etched with Martha (grape pattern) or one of their numbered etches #710 or #695.

December's What Is It?



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

The best holiday gifts can be found in antique stores and at antique shows! Help Santa out!



LAFAYETTE		VISIT: 409 So. Public Rd. Lafayette, CO 80026
	NOBLE Treasures	CONTACT: 303-926-4060 nobletreasures@hotmail.com HOURS: Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm Sun. 12 pm-5pm

GEORGETOWN



See Hotel de Paris Museum™ decked in festive Victorian style decorations December 2-3 and 9-10 during Historic Georgetown, Incorporated's annual outdoor European Christmas Market. Self-guided tours of the museum run continuously from 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Allow 30 minutes (however, you can take as much time as you like). Take holiday photos in front of our themed Christmas trees, which reflect the history of Louis Dupuy's Hotel de Paris. Shop for antiques and collectibles during our museum shop sale. Enjoy complimentary refreshments (while supplies last) in our charming kitchen. You'll like Georgetown, Colorado and Hotel de Paris, "The Showplace of the Rockies." Admission \$10. Discounts available. For more information, go to www.hoteldeparismuseum.org or call 303-569-2311.



Dear Friend of Hotel de Paris Museum:

Now through midnight December 5, Hotel de Paris Museum is accepting Colorado Gives Day donations. This fundraiser serves as our year-end appeal and membership drive. Please go to hoteldeparismuseum.org, click the menu icon (☰) in the upper right corner, then click the SUPPORT US button at the bottom of the page. If you prefer, you may mail a check made out to Hotel de Paris Museum. Our postal address is PO BOX 746, Georgetown, CO 80444.

Accomplishments This Year:

- **Outdoor security increased** After the unfortunate theft of a statue from the exterior of the hotel, additional security measures were installed to help safeguard the property.
- **Indoor security upgraded** Advances in technology encouraged us to replace all the motion sensors in the hotel for the protection of our artifacts. In addition, fire and burglary calls are now directed to cell phone towers instead of over telephone lines (which can be unreliable due to high winds locally).
- **Glass viewing panel and frame designed** Initial site preparation for the installation of a pedestrian grade glass panel in the commercial kitchen floor is complete. Engineer-designed drawings are in possession of the manufacturer. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for May 24, 2024. Save the date!

Needs Next Year:

- Repair balustrades located on West Courtyard wall; estimated cost \$10,000.
- Repair commercial kitchen skylight; estimated cost \$750.
- Repair exterior cellar door; estimated cost \$1,000.
- Reproduce Boy With Pav statue (stolen March 2023); cost to be determined.
- Reproduce iron roof finials (missing since the 1940s); cost to be determined.
- Fund a clothing condition assessment by Pacific Coast Conservation; cost to be determined.

Thank you for your consideration of this appeal. Our best to you.

Sincerely,

 Mary Riddle Clark
 Chairman

Kevin Kufalic
 Executive Director

Hotel de Paris Museum supports the efforts of our sister property McAlister House Museum (Colorado Springs, CO). If you are interested in contributing to their separate fundraising effort, click "Featured Campaigns-Fundraiser-McAlister Foundation Endowment Fund" at <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/Hoteldeparismuseum>.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

THE Brass Armadillo® antique mall

**11301 W. I-70 Frontage Rd.
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033**

**303-403-1677
877-403-1677**

**Open 7 Days a Week
9 am - 9 pm**

The Brass Armadillo is a professionally operated business that takes antiques and collectibles seriously. We work to have quality items at good prices.

The mall is open from 9am to 9pm. every day, except Christmas. We host seminars, workshops and training events.

