



HISTORIC TOY MAKERS SEE PAGE 10

the mountain states collector

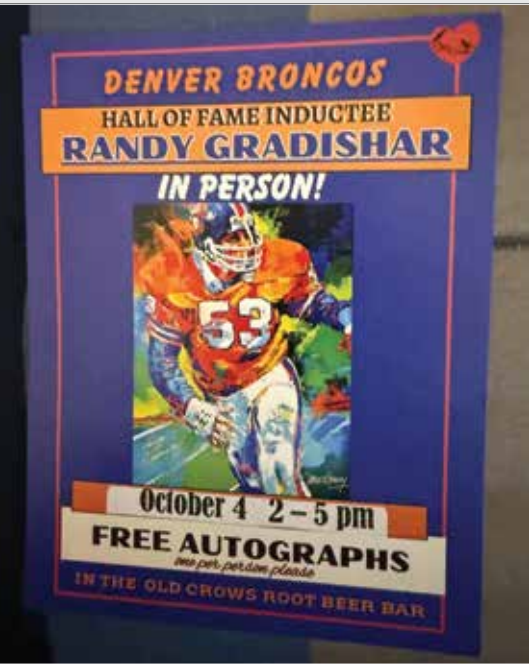
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53RD ANNIVERSARY — ESTABLISHED IN 1972

Volume 53, Number 10 OCTOBER 2025



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PROVED AMERICA'S METTLE
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Timber Dan Toy Show – October 4th

The Spring Timber Dan Toy Show and sale of collectible, vintage & antique toys will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, from 9:00 to 3:00. Early entry is from 7:00 to 9:00 am.

Over 95 Dealers from 7 States Displaying 270+ Tables Farm toys, die-cast racing, Star Wars + Star Trek, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Tonka, large pressed steel, tin litho, windup, pedals, GI Joe, cast iron, airplanes, construction, games, models, advertising, promos, dolls. Thousands of toys and other good stuff!

The show will be held in both the North and South halls of the First National Bank Exhibition Building, Larimer County Fairgrounds (The Ranch), 5820 Arena Circle, Loveland CO 80538.

You can enter at either hall.
Admission is \$5.00 with children 12 and under free.



Early entry admission from 7:00am to 9:00am is \$10.00.

For more information please contact: Sherlyn Sampson, Chair of the Timber Dan Toy Show e-mail: sk80538@gmail.com phone: 970-663-9392.



Vendor Information
Check-In Times:
FRI. October 3 1:00 PM-7:00 PM,
SAT. April 5 6:30 AM-8:30 AM

Early Floor Rights:
EARLY ENTRY SAT, October 4
7:00 AM – 9:00 AM



THE LOVELAND LIONS CLUB PRESENTS COLORADO'S LARGEST TOY SHOW



TIMBER DAN
FALL TOY SHOW

of Collectible, Vintage & Antique Toys

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

9am - 3pm

PEDERSEN TOYOTA CENTER
NORTH & SOUTH HALLS
THE RANCH EVENTS COMPLEX

5280 Arena Circle, Loveland CO



Over 95 Dealers from 7 States Displaying 270+ Tables
Farm toys, die-cast racing, Star Wars + Star Trek, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Tonka, large pressed steel, tin litho, windup, pedals, GI Joe, cast iron, airplanes, construction, games, models, advertising, promos, dolls.

Thousands of toys and other good stuff!

Admission: Adults \$5 - Children 12 and under FREE
Early Bird Floor Rights \$10, 7am-9pm, Sat

CONTACT SHERLYN SAMPSON
970-663-9392
SK80538@GMAIL.COM
WWW.LOVELANDLIONSCLUB.COM



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ANTIQUE GALLERY

Festive Fall Shopping!

The Gallery is ready for the fall season with vintage Halloween and autumn decorations added to our *Miles of Aisles*. And, don't miss our **Spooktacular Pop-up Sale** starting Friday, October 3 – 6. Savings storewide of 10% with additional dealer markdowns.

If you're throwing a Halloween bash or hosting holiday dinners, check out the Gallery for barware, silver, and serving pieces plus dining room and living room furniture. With 285 dealers, you're sure to come across a great find.

It's never too early to start your holiday shopping — especially with our great lay-away plan. See you soon!



**SPOOKTACTULAR
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**10%
 OFF!**

Starts FRIDAY, OCT 3- 6



Birthdays, hostess gifts or any special occasion — a Colorado Antique Gallery gift card is the perfect gift.



Layaways and all major credit cards accepted.



303-794-8100



**Mon-Sat
 10am-6pm**
**Sunday
 Noon-6pm**

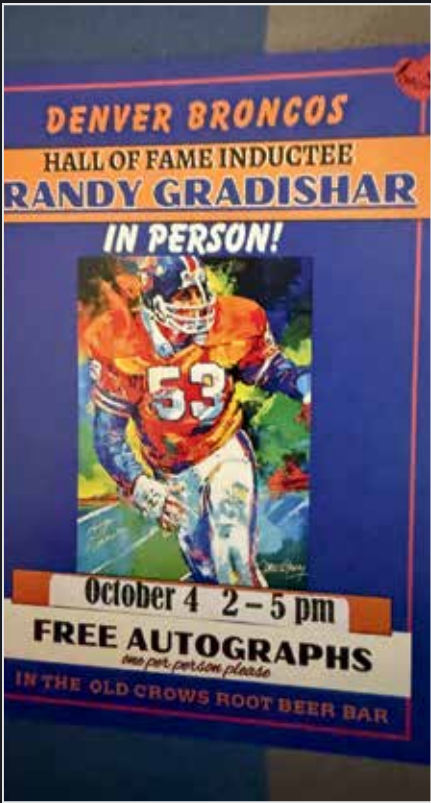
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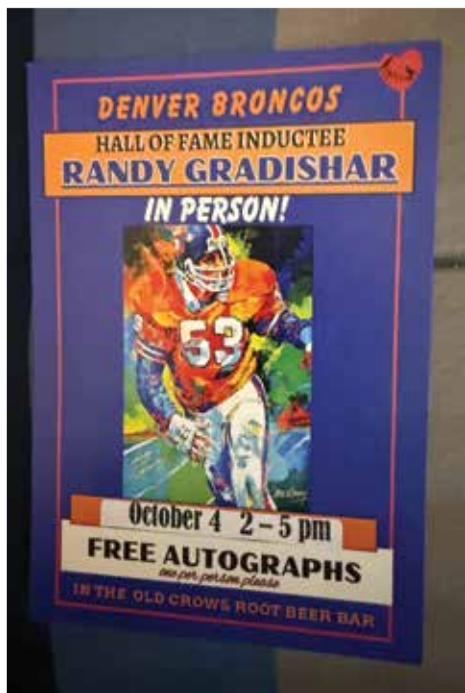
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Show Calendar: October 2025

OCT. 4: A PARIS STREET MARKET at the Aspen Grove, 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton, CO 80120, Open-Air • Vintage • Boutique • Artisan, 8 am to 2 pm For more information, Call 303-877-9457.

OCT. 4: OLD CROWS' ANTIQUES ROADSHOW 12-3 p.m. (First Saturday of Every Month) 17120 W. Colfax Ave. Ste 106, Golden, CO. Get estimates on your favorite treasures. Talk to experts about your antiques, art, vintage and collectibles. Limit 1 item per person, 11 to 3. Call 303-973-8648 for more info.



OCT. 4: Hall of Famer RANDY GRADISHAR FREE AUTOGRAPHS 2 to 5 PM at Old CROWS ANTIQUE MaLL, 17120 W. Colfax Ave. Ste 106, Golden, CO, Call 303-973-8648 for more info.

OCT. 3-6: SPOOKTACULAR Pop-UP Sale at the COLORADO ANTIQUE GALLERY, The Gallery is located at 5501 S. Broadway, Littleton, Colorado. Call 303-794-8100 for more information.



OCT. 4: TIMBER DAN FALL TOY SHOW, Colorado's Largest Toy Show presented by The Loveland Lions Club, thousands of toys and other good Stuff at The Ranch, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, Colorado, Over 95 Dealers from 7 States Displaying 270+ Tables. Farm toys, die-cast racing, Star Wars + Star Trek, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Tonka, large pressed steel, tin litho, windup, pedals, GI Joe, cast iron, airplanes, construction, games, models, advertising, games, models, dolls. Contact Sherlyn Sampson for more information at 970-663-9392. Admission: Adults \$5 – Children 12 and under FREE- Early Bird Floor Rights \$10, 7 a.m. -9 pm., Saturday. More information: www.lovelandlionsclub.com

OCT. 6-11: LACACHE Blue Room RDF SALE Tagged Items Only, 400N. Downing St. Denver, CO 303-871-9605

OCT. 18: 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.

OCT. 11 & 12: PUMPKIN PIE DAYS VINTAGE AND ANTIQUE MARKET SHOW is held at the Boulder County Fairgrounds in Longmont. On October 11–12 sponsored by the St. Vrain Historical Society for Historical Society's Mission of Historical Preservation & Education in the Community. Admission \$11/ person, \$10 if paying in cash. Children under 12 FREE. 303-776-1870. www.stvrainhistory.org

ROUND TOP, TEXAS, ANTIQUE SHOWS FALL: October 15 and Oct. 16-21 9 am to 6pm, Opening Day 9 am to 6 pm. - 21. 9am - 6pm | Opening Day. 9am - 5pm

OCT. 25: CELEBRATE THE ARTS at Old Crows Antiques Mall, with ROCKY's ROCKS Interactive Mineral Demo and Display. Custom creations and Unique gifts 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Interactive special prices on all artwork and Unique Gifts. Call 303-973-8648 for more information.

The St. Vrain Historical Society Presents the 55th Annual

Pumpkin Pie Days

Vintage & Antique Market

Saturday, October 11, 2025 10 a.m.~5 p.m.

Sunday, October 12, 2025 11 a.m.~4 p.m.

Current St. Vrain Historical Society Members, Receive Early Entry on Saturday at 9:30 a.m.!

Boulder County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building
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Admission: \$11.00 per person
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(children under 12 are free)

Admission & Cafe Sales Support
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(303) 776-1870
www.stvrainhistory.org

 THE LOVELAND LIONS CLUB PRESENTS
COLORADO'S LARGEST TOY SHOW

TIMBER DAN FALL TOY SHOW

of Collectible, Vintage & Antique Toys

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

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PEDERSEN TOYOTA CENTER
NORTH & SOUTH HALLS
THE RANCH EVENTS COMPLEX

 **The Ranch**
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5280 Arena Circle, Loveland CO

Over 95 Dealers from 7 States Displaying 270+ Tables
Farm toys, die-cast racing, Star Wars + Star Trek, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Tonka, large pressed steel, tin litho, windup, pedals, GI Joe, cast iron, airplanes, construction, games, models, advertising, promos, dolls.

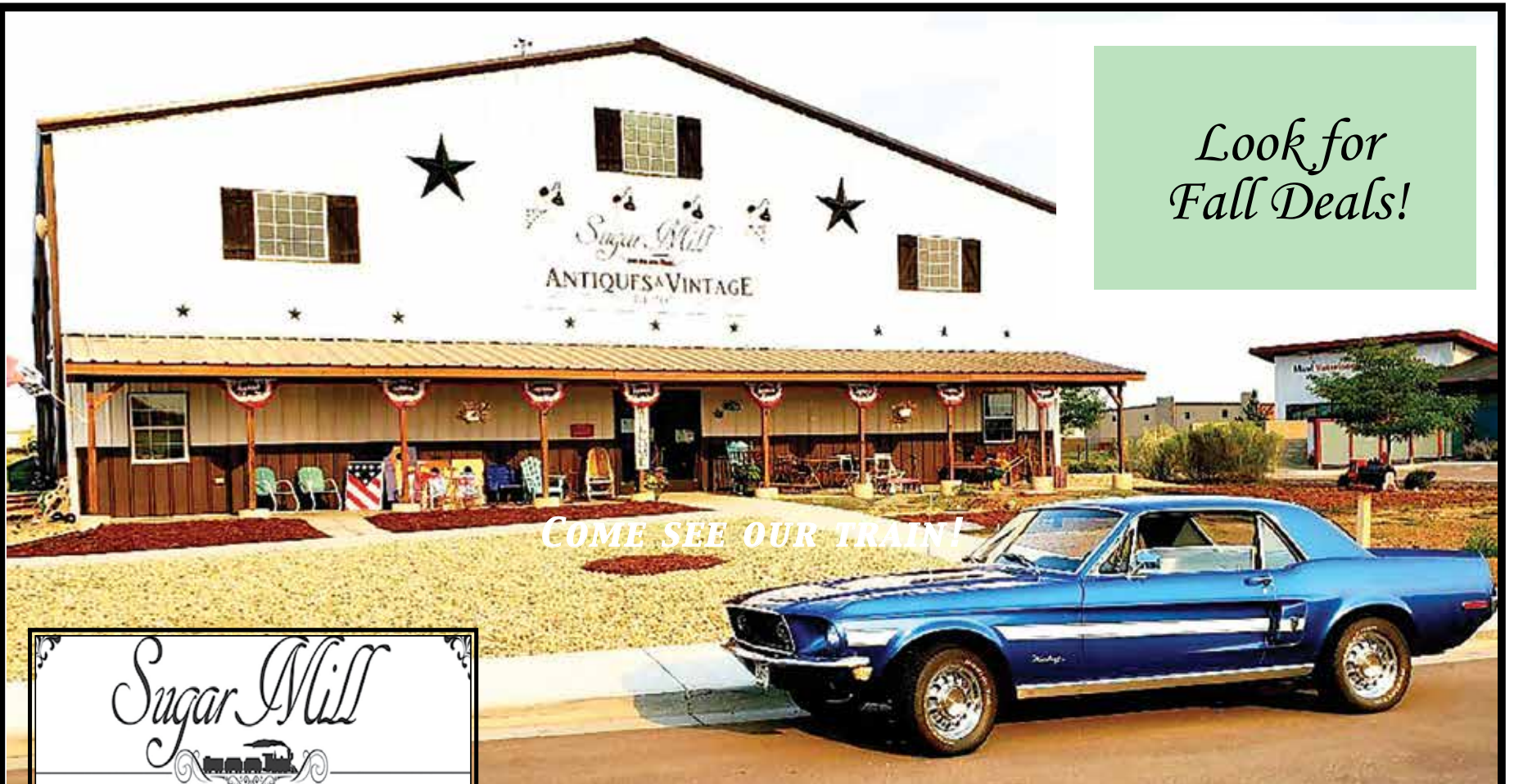
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Aug. 2 • Sept. 6 • Oct. 4

BOOKMARKS . . . Require Much Less Space

By Joan I. Huegel

Home from an auction one night, my husband grumbled as he struggled with three big boxes of books I bought. I bid on the books without knowing what they were, but I figured if I ended up with only two or three books that I liked and would keep, my dollar would have been well spent. My weakness has always been books, so much so that they've practically taken over the house. I had run out of shelf space long ago, and I hated to admit it to him, but I, too, wondered just what I would do with these.

Excited, I sat on the floor, rummaged through the boxes, and was disappointed since most of the books were in terrible condition. In one book, though, I found an old bookmark, and I was hooked immediately. Leather, this one was quite different from any

bookmark I had seen, or rather, paid attention to. Obviously, I'd been around many bookmarks in my time.

Since then, though, I do pay attention to them and am now a bookmark collector.

Bookmarks have undoubtedly been in existence since the first books were published, and we can imagine why they were made. At that time, books were extremely expensive, rare and delicate. It was bad for a book to turn down the corner of its page to hold or mark one's place. Even today we know we shouldn't treat a book that way. Book publishers, authors and collectors all cringe at the thought of someone doing that to a book. Unfortunately, many did, and do, and so the term "dog-eared" pages. So I'm sure it was the very first book owners, wishing to preserve their precious commodities, who devised the first bookmark.

In museums, I've seen some early ones made from thin sheets of gold with jeweled tops (supposedly for royalty), and some made from silver. As books became more available to more people, bookmarks did, too, and thin strips of fabric, leather and finally paper were used. A few publishers, mostly of Bibles, built bookmarks right into the book—long, narrow strips of ribbon.

Then, as now, some bookmarks were real works of art. About the mid-1800s,



artist Thomas Stevens, who made woven pictures, made a limited number of his exquisite designs on ribbon for use as bookmarks. It was about 1862 when these became popular, and they are rare today, eagerly sought after and bring high prices. They are called Steven-graphs.

It wasn't long before businessmen and manufacturers saw the bookmark as a good means of advertising, and paper bookmarks

Continued to page 14



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Sun	Closed



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Antique Attic – Where History Finds a Home

By Jon DeStefano

“We are a cadre of antique and history lovers who love to see the flow of antiques in and out of our store. Whether we buy, sell, or consign we are always interested in the history, reminiscing and stories that come with each item,” says Antique Attic owner Lynn Highland and she means it. Working with antiques and the people who love them brings history to life.

Antique Attic was founded by a few stalwart dealers who were refugees from the now-closed Rockin’ Horse Antiques, which had been a beloved antique and collectibles store on main-street Golden. “We called our time at Rockin’ Horse, ‘Camelot’ - we had endless tourists, students, and townspeople traipsing through on a regular basis, and as a result, a really profitable enterprise and a very special one!

“When we closed in 2022, it was the end of Camelot - Poof!! An investment company bought our building and raised the rent to astronomical heights. All of us dispersed in dif-



ferent directions hoping to find a Camelot of our own,” Lynn continued.

Three years later some of them found an opportunity to open their own store - much smaller than the antique malls in the area, without the grandeur of Camelot, but very compact and manageable - and best of all, a sales tax of 5%.

Antique Attic is owned by two people, one a retired Geographer, and veteran of buying and selling antiques, the other a person who knows the inside-out of wiring, carpentry, interior design, and has a budding interest in antiques.

“We are small but mighty! We have a wide variety of genuine antiques and vintage items together with popular and rare collectibles,” Lynn concludes.

So if you’re looking for a place to showcase and sell your antiques and col-

lectibles, Antique Attic offers great consigning opportunities and rental spaces for dealers who want to display their unique items in their shop. They’re happy to help you find the perfect space for your treasures.

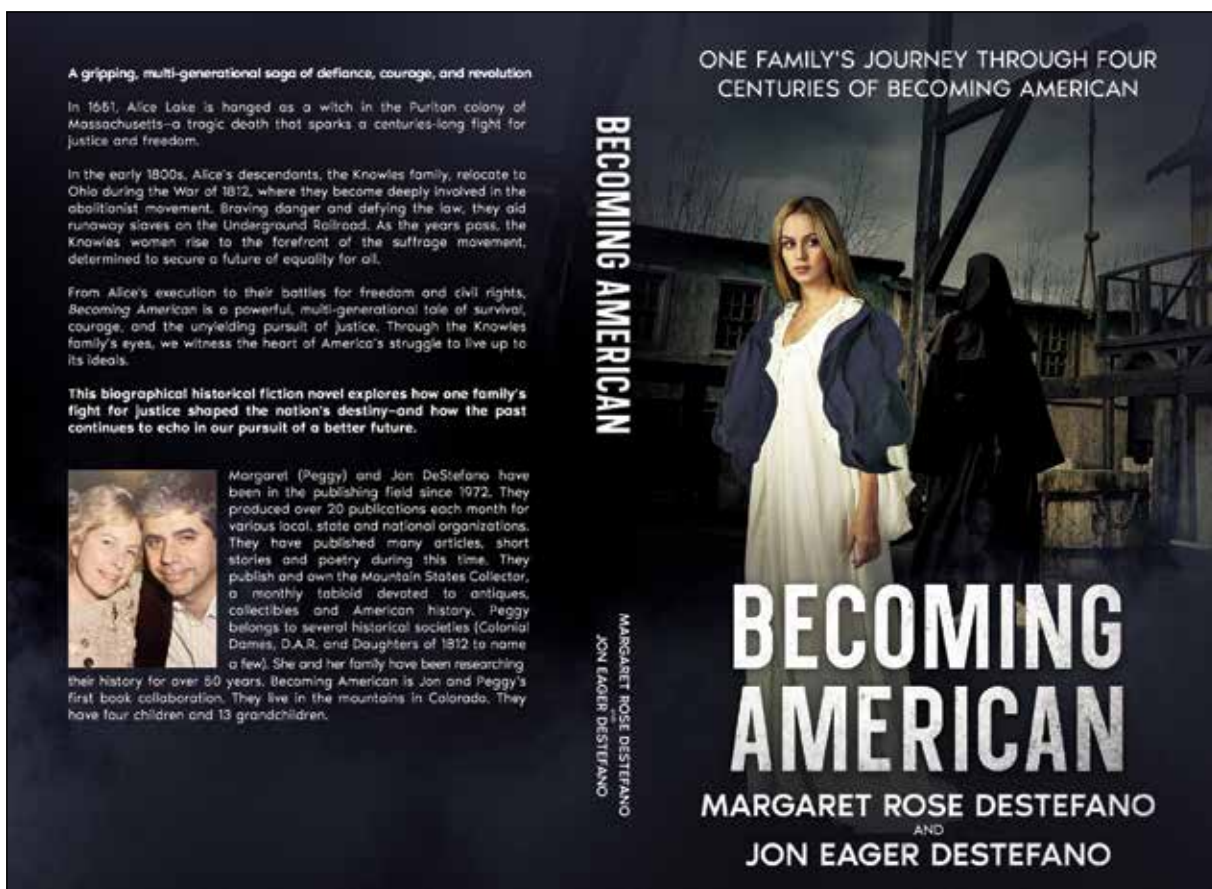
If you’re interested, they will provide you with a detailed copy of their guidelines and contract for both renting and consigning. Feel free to reach out to them by phone. Call 720-512-2167 for more information, or stop by our shop to discuss your options in person. They’re located at 5500 S. Simms Street in Littleton Colorado 80127. Their website is www.AntiquesAttics.com and their open 7 days a week, Tuesday through Saturday 11:00 am to 8:00 pm, Sunday and Monday 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

One thing is certain about Antique Attic and their dealers they are passionate about antiques, collectibles and history and their selections are unique and you will incredible treasures their.

I love their shop. Stop by. You’ll be glad you did.



BECOMING AMERICAN NOW AVAILABLE



Becoming American Is Now Available For Purchase

Peg and Jon DeStefano have recently completed their first book collaboration. *Becoming American* has been a labor of love for the couple as they wanted their children to know their ancestors. This book covers four centuries of the Knowles’ family experience in America which began in the early 1600s. This side of the family stems from Peggy’s maternal grandmother’s side.

The book is based on the genealogical research that Peggy’s sister Mary Sikora spent a lifetime recording. All the ancestors are real people. Their place in history helps bring to life America’s path up to this time. The book is an historical novel that captures history in a three-dimensional way that old-time history books never could capture.

It is now available through Kindle as a paper back. The electronic version is now available.

Toys And Toy Makers –

By Robert Reed

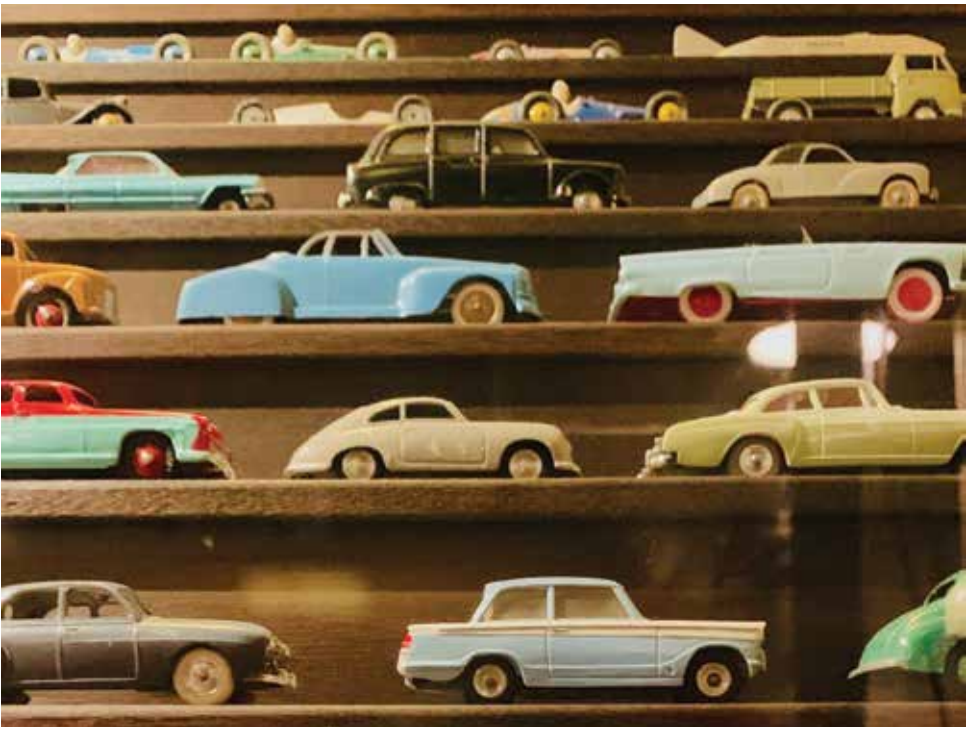
Toys have come and gone over the decades just as have the children that once delighted with. However some toys, both famous and not so famous, remain a delightful and enduring part of history.

They may have been as memorable as Arcade’s fleet of 20th century toy vehicles or as obscure as Britain’s moving picture toy Zeotrope of the 19th century. They could have been as flashy as the Buck Rogers pistol made by Daisy during the 1930s or as intriguing as the Johnny West series made by Marx during the 1970s.

Included here are some examples that have somehow made a mark:

Arcade Manufacturing Company: Extensive producer of quality toy vehicles, farm toys, and other related toys during the 1920s and 1930s. The toys were advertised as “they look real,” and the company was headquartered at Freepoint, Illinois.

Auburn Rubber Company: Maker of quality rubber toys starting in the 1930s. Originally based in Auburn, Indiana, the operation produced toy automobiles, race cars, farm tractors, and sports figures. It was relocated to Mexico



in the early 1960s and closed during the same decade.

Barclay Manufacturing Company: A major producer of toy soldiers during the 1930s and early 1930s. Based in New Jersey, the firm ceased operations in the early 1970s.

Billy and Ruth: Two idealized and fictional children who starred in toy industry and companion catalogs of the 1930s through the early 1950s. Their catalogs were filled with the choicest of toys from Fisher-Price, Lionel, Mattel, Hubley, Gilbert, Structo, and Wolverine.

Buck Rogers Pistol: Buck was a science fic-

tion spaceman who grabbed national attention in the 1930s as a comic strip, radio show, and movie serial. The most famous related artifact was probably the rocket pistol and holster from Daisy in 1934, although there were many other treasures from buttons to wind-up toys.

Chein and Company: An early 20th century toy firm based in New York City. Chein enchanted the public with lithographed tinsplate toys and later steel toys. Colorfully illustrated and well marked, the toys included banks, drums, tops, and tea sets. They also incorporated images of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Pop-eye.

Daisy Air Rifles: Daisy was a very famous maker of toy pistols and air rifles during the 20th century. Most notable among them was the Buck Rogers Pistol and the Red Ryder Cowboy Carbine.

Dowst: Two brothers, Charles and Samuel, organized the original Dowst Brothers Company which developed into a maker of toy cars, trains, and planes early in the 20th century. In the 1920s their diecast toys were renamed Tootsietoy after a granddaughter.

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That Made Toy History

making firm which also expanded to include toys in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Eventually they made a specialty of pull-type bell toys. Gong Bell was based in East Hampton, Connecticut.

Hasbro Industries: Remarkable maker of dolls and toys during the 20th century including the legendary G.I. Joe figures and related memorabilia. The original Hassenfeld Brothers operation was located in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Hubley Manufacturing: Highly regarded maker of cast iron toys early in the 20th century. The company featured a grand parade of automobiles, banks, trucks, and motorcycles. They also produced diecast cap pistols for a time. Based in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the firm was sold to Gabriel Industries in the 1960s.

Ives & Company: Once a major maker of cast iron and tinplate toys including quality trains and accessories. The firm was founded by E. R. Ives in the 1860s in Plymouth, Connecticut. At the zenith of their operation they made both wind-up and electric toy trains early in the 20th century.



Lionel Manufacturing: Took over Ives production in the 1930s.

Kenner Products Company: Maker of cloth dolls and other toys beginning during the late 1940s in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Kenton Hardware: Noted for a wide variety of metal toys eventually including cap pistols. Based in Kenton, Ohio the firm functioned from the early 1900s into the 1950s.

Lionel Manufacturing: A major maker of electric trains and related accessories during the first half of the 20th century. Later known as Lionel Corporation, it acquired rivals Ives and American Flyer before ending production in the late 1960s.

Little Country Doctor Kit: The kit was a popular item made by Transogram during the early 1950s. Originally the kits were made of cardboard with all plastic items. Tansogram also made similar Little Play Nurse kits for children complete with simulated alligator carry case.

Manoil Company: One a leading manufacturer of toy soldiers and other lead figures plus accessories during the 1930s. Originally based in New York City, it was later relocated. During the 1940s composition replaced metal as the main ingredient of toy figures and toy vehicles, later plastic was used. Manoil closed during the middle 1950s.

Meccano: This was the trade name of a British maker of construction toys. The firm was founded by Frank Hornby in Liverpool, England. Meccano was also the maker of Dinky Toys, and some vehicles. Various 20th century markings on their toys included Meccano, Hornby, and M. Ld. L.

Milton Bradley Company: Legendary maker of educational toys and games. The firm was established during the 1860s in Springfield, Massachusetts. Their line included building blocks, Game of Life, Wheel of Fortune, construction toys, puzzles, lithographed buildings, paint sets, and much more.

Moline Pressed Steel: Distinguished 20th century maker of steel toy cars, trucks, fire engines, and other toy vehicles. Based in Moline, Illinois, the founder was Fred Lundahl. One of the company's most famous brands was Buddy L which based on the name of the founder's son.

Parker Brothers: Launched during the 1880s



in Salem, Massachusetts, the firm when on to be one of the nation's most prolific maker's of children's games. An early best-seller was Monopoly, however during the 20th century the firm produced hundreds of colorful and educational board games.

Union Products: Mid-20th century maker of plastic holiday-related toys and candy containers. Firm was based in Leominster, Massachusetts.

View-Master: Popular viewing device which used a vast variety of round reels. Early in the 1970s the Montgomery Ward catalog still offered the standard viewers as well as lighted talking viewers, and a View-Master projector.

The above definitions are from The Antique and Collectible Dictionary by Robert and Claudette Reed (Collector Books).



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AMERICAN HISTORY
October Anniversaries

October 1
100th Anniversary South Dakota's Mount Rushmore was dedicated as a National Memorial (1935)

October 7
Frances Xavier Cabrini Day (Colorado)



October 10
Battle of Point Pleasant, Virginia (1774)

October 13
Columbus Day, Indegenous Peoples' Day Congress establishes the U.S. Navy (1775)

October 14
Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 19
Victory at Yorktown (1781)

October 20
250th anniversary of the Articles of Association, a universal prohibition of trade with Great Britain (1774)

October 21
250th anniversary of the word Liberty, first displayed on a flag raised by colonists in Taunton, Massachusetts, in defiance of British rule in Colonial America (1774)

October 25
250th Anniversary: King George III spoke before the British Parliament announcing the uprising in the American colonies and urging the quick suppression of the revolt (1775)

October 26
200th Anniversary The Erie Canal opened in New York, traversing 363 miles from Albany to Buffalo (1825)

250th anniversary of the Edenton Tea Party takes place in North Carolina, marking the first major gathering of women in support of the American cause (1774)

INSPIRATION

October's
Quote of Month

All things on earth point home in old October; sailors to sea, travellers to walls and fences, hunters to field and hollow and the long voice of the hounds, the lover to the love he has forsaken.

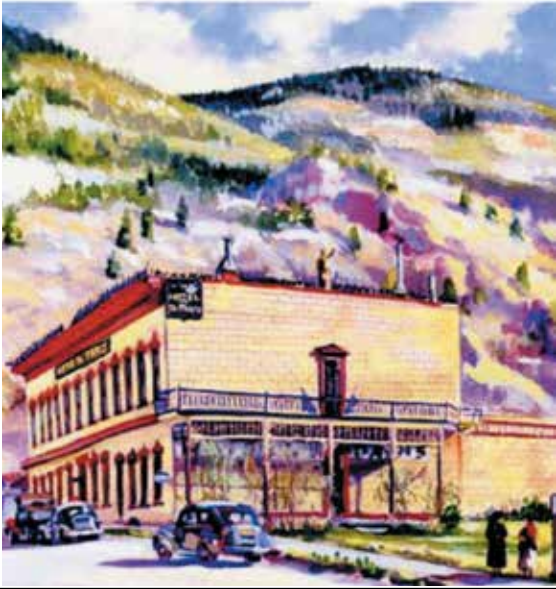
— Thomas Wolfe —





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

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.

Louis Dupuy's legendary Hotel de Paris dates to the silver mining boom, when it served as a first-class French restaurant, showroom for traveling salesmen, and luxurious hotel during the Gilded Age.

Their Mission:

To collect, preserve, and share history associated with Louis Dupuy's Hotel De Paris, and serve as a catalyst for heritage tourism in Georgetown, Colorado.

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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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The War of 1812 Proved America’s Mettle

By Mary Sikora

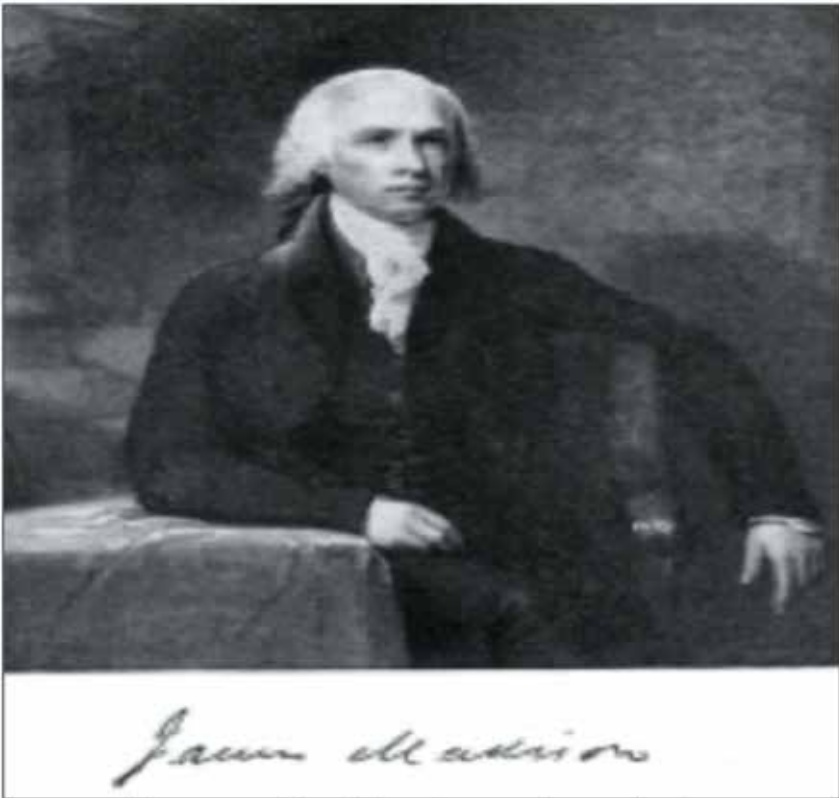
From the early 1600s our ancestors lived under british rule. they fought with the French. they fought with the Indians. And they fought the same fights all over again. During all that time, they owed their allegiance to Great Britain . . . until the American revolution, that is. then the ties frayed quickly.

In 1804, our young nation was faced with a crisis. Great Britain, fighting with the French, declared an illegal naval blockade of French ports. the move was intended to cripple the French trade, but the French retaliated with a sweeping blockade of their own. America was a consequence, as the blockades led to the seizure of American ships, their cargo and, eventually, their seamen. the embargo Act of 1807 sought to keep American ships away, but it had an opposite effect on the new country as the overseas commerce quickly dropped. It was repealed in 1809.

On June 18th, 1812, President James Madison and the United States and Congress declared war on Great Britain.

The fighting was spread across a wide area from Lake Champlain in upstate New York to Detroit, Baltimore, Washington and New Orleans. It ended with the treaty of Ghent in 1815.

It was this war that gave us the Star Spangled banner, Dolly Madison and the burning



Picture courtesy of: <http://ushistoryimages.com/james-madison.shtml>

of Washington, as well as the battle of New Orleans. It was this war that proved America’s mettle.

This part of American history is a significant part of the continuum connecting the present day to our colonial heritage.

Interesting Facts about the War of 1812

Did you know that the 15-star flag that flew at Fort McHenry was way out of date? by that time, we had three more states (Ohio, Tennessee and Louisiana). It wasn’t until 1818 that a new flag was authorized and by then we had two more: Mississippi and Indiana.

Other Names for The War of 1812

The United States Congress declared war on Great Britain on June

18, 1812. thus was the official beginning of a war sometimes referred to as the War of 1812, sometimes as Mr. Madison’s war, sometimes the Second War of Independence, and by author Alan Taylor, a Civil War. In his book, the Civil War of 1812, Taylor describes the conflict among American citizens, British subjects, Irish rebels and Indian Allies.

The site for the Daughters of 1812 provides historical background on this war and information about exhibits, events, activities and books commemorating the war.

Websites which may be of interest include: the Official War of 1812 bicentennial website at www.visit1812.com, the National Society United States Daughters of 1812 at www.usdaughters1812.org/home.html, the General Society of the War of 1812 at www.societyofthewarof1812.org/contact.php and the Free Pension records

War of 1812.

Old Ironsides

Less than a month—July 12—after the official declaration of war, Captain Isaac Hull, commander of the USS Constitution, sailed from Chesapeake Bay. The British Captain Philip Broke, whose squadron was in New York Harbor gave chase five days later. But the Constitution was able to evade the British after just two days. However, on August 19, 1812 the Constitution found the opportunity to engage in battle with the British frigate HMS Guerrier. In a little more than a half-hour, Hull and the Constitution managed to capture and destroy the Guerrier.

At the end of October, the Constitution was under the command of Captain William Bainbridge sailing south. On December 29, off the coast of Brazil, Bainbridge and the Constitution engaged the British frigate HMS Java for three

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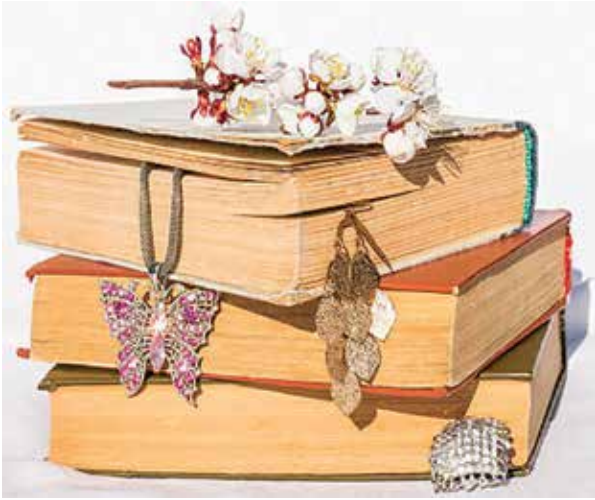
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BOOKMARKS . . . Require Much Less Space *continued . . .*



Continued from page 8

promoting anything from Edison's new talking machine to iron bitters were given away free. Generally they were about 5-1/2" to 6-1/2" long by about 2" wide, and the most popular illustrations seemed to be women, children and flowers. As bits of history, they sometimes show what goods and services were available at a certain period of time, and they often reflect the visual style of a time period.

Many are lovely and lend themselves perfectly to framing and displaying. Those from around the turn of the century are often flowery Art Nouveau, and you'll find many exam-

ples of Art Deco on the bookmarks of the '30s. Also during this period, bookmarks of celluloid were quite popular. Some advertising ones were given away, while others were for sale, and there was quite a wide variety. Some collectors specialize in these celluloids.

For generations people have been making their own bookmarks. Tatting and crocheting are old arts, and the tatted bookmark, usually a cross, was a very popular item for women to make. Although styles have changed, the creativity and industry of women hasn't, and they are still making beautiful handcrafted bookmarks today.

If you think you'd like to collect bookmarks, it's easy getting started and there's much available. it's a very inexpensive hobby. Although not as plentiful as before, some are still given away free by a few merchants. The best sources now are the book stores and libraries. Starting a collection is as easy as walking into one of the book shops or library and picking up the free one. The ones containing the name of the business or library, and its location, that is a city and state, are most preferred by collectors and go into the "advertising category." Be sure and let people know you are now collecting these gems, and you'll begin receiving them in your mail. Bookmarks are perfect for sending with cards,

notes and letters.

All kinds are available today, ranging from paper to sterling silver. And there are numerous styles sold as souvenirs from every state and country. Commemoratives are still being issued, so watch for these, usually free. Most collectors highly prize their antique bookmarks and add these jewels to collections whenever possible. And yet most of us don't limit our collecting to the old ones, either. We like them all. We realize that today's ephemera could be tomorrow's treasure.

The number of bookmark collectors is growing. I'm sure they would agree that collecting is interesting, challenging, and most of all, fun.

And bookmarks take up far less room than books!



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September's What Is It?

Jerry Michals of Aurora, Colorado tells us that September's What Is It is a Muffin Bell. "This bell was commonly used by volunteer 19th Century fire fighters. The torch boy or firefighter leading the hand pulled hose reel or hand pumper would ring this bell as he led the way to the fire. These bells usually have an 1850s patent date on the handle."



formation on the way volunteer companies operated in the old days."

Jerry is exactly right! Others who properly identified the September What Is It include Charles Pheasant, Centennial, Colorado (He adds, "I enjoy your contest a lot. Keep it up."); Fred Clark of Colorado Springs (He tells us "I love your monthly paper and appreciate having it sent as I've been ill for the last 12 months."); Ellen Chellevig of Boulder, Colorado guessed that the object was a auctioneers bell and because it is very possible that it has been used that way, we feel Ellen should also win a year's subscription to the Mountain States Collector. Congratulations, winners!

Collecting fire fighting related objects is a great hobby. One collector says, "The key to successful collecting is in books. They describe the history of fire fighting, help identify antique equipment and provide fascinating in-

formation on the way volunteer companies operated in the old days." More directly related to collecting are the histories' accounts of fire fighting methods, because these descriptions trace the development of equipment. The oldest piece of collectible equipment was used not by fire fighters but by guardians of the law. When the first police unit activated in America began to patrol the streets of New Amsterdam in 1658 each member carried, in addition to musket, bayonet and sword used for peace-keeping, a large wooden rattle. The patrolman was to twirl his rattle vigorously if he saw a fire or smelled one; at the first sound of that clatter, nearby householders would swarm out to fight the fire. The official designation of this volunteer outfit was The Rattle Watch, but the members were generally known as "The Prowlers."

October's What Is It?



Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by October 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 War of 1812 Proved America's Mettle *continued . . .*

Continued from page 9

hours. the Java was destroyed and eventually burned. but the Constitution was not damaged and it was that battle that earned her the name of "Old Ironsides."

The United States' meager Navy managed to win other victories at sea and the American prowess at sea was now considered formidable.

By June 1, 1813, the USS Chesapeake, now commanded by James Lawrence, was captured off Boston Harbor by the British frigate HMS Shannon under the command of Captain Sir Philip Broke, the same commander the USS Constitution eluded a year before. It was during this battle that Captain James Lawrence was mortally wounded, but managed to cry out,

"Don't give up the ship!"

"Don't give up the ship!"

Tradition has it that Captain James Lawrence said these heroic words after being mortally wounded in the engagement between his ship, the U.S. frigate Chesapeake, and HMS Shannon on 1 June 1813. As the wounded Lawrence was carried below, he ordered "tell the men to fire faster! Don't give up the ship!"

Although Chesapeake was forced to surrender, Captain Lawrence's words lived on as a rallying cry during the war. Oliver Hazard Perry honored his dead friend Lawrence when he had the motto sewn onto the private battle flag flown during the battle of Lake Erie, 10 September 1813.

Mary Sikora is a Daughter of the War of 1812 and was the Ohio chapter's webmaster.



USS Constitution
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy Art Collection [http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/...](http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/)

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