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COLLECTOR'S NEWS

SPRING 2005

Editorial

After my brave words in the December Newsletter that we could get out a Newsletter a month because we were going online did not take into account that it is almost just as much work and time involved producing any Newsletter - paper or online. Which is my way of trying to explain the delay in getting out a new edition of the Collector's News and here it is April already. I do have a bit of an excuse on this so read on.

We had a 'Sale' on for a couple of months to clear out the shop of excess inventory so that we can get on with our project of revamping the store. Some people, seeing the 'Sale' signs thought we might be going out of business but, no, we are trying to change our merchandise mix to be current with fashion. This means featuring less small items especially china and silverplate and concentrating on more furniture, paintings and unusual or decorative items. Collectors are still collecting but apart from fashionable items like Moorcroft are seeking the rare and fine in any category. This is where the action is today with very deep pockets for the right addition to a collection. The hardest part of this naturally is finding the right antiques and art to supply these collectors but I am confident that we will as I am travelling more to search them out. Interestingly, there has been a small revival in antique furniture but again, because virtually every piece that we buy needs some restoration, it takes time to accumulate new showroom ready inventory.

It rather looks like our renovation plans will take much longer to materialise because of a couple of unexpected happenings. The City of Vancouver has risen property taxes on Granville St. by huge amounts this year in the region of 20% plus. Most landlords and businesses are appealing and we will not know the outcome of this process until mid summer. Our landlord does not want to discuss extending our lease until he knows what his expenses will be even though all city property taxes are paid by tenants anyway. Consequently, we do not want to sink money into a building that might, in the future, become unaffordable for our needs. Sanity does seem to be prevailing somewhat in that we have heard that the new development across the street up to 15th Avenue will not be anywhere near as pricey as originally thought and, better still for the look of the street, all the units have been taken even though it has a while to go before completion.

Taxes have risen so much because of property prices rising so much. This is a lose-lose situation for retailers as they are having to pay more overhead at a time when their customers have much less disposable income because of the huge mortgages now required to purchase houses and condos. These mortgages are sucking billions out of the retail sector. And should these real estate prices keep high, there won't be much spending money around for a while. It's hard to see how our main target group, the 30-40 year old home buyers will have much in the way of disposable income for at least 20 years. This is why our shift to rare and unusual collectors items will be a win-win situation for us as there seems to be no upper limit for the truly rare and unusual given current prices being posted in London and New York.

Panache Antiques

Joan Bilchik of Panache Antiques who was displaced by the demolition of the stores across the street has found a new location at 2229 Granville Street between 6th & 7th Avenues. Readers with long memories will remember that is where we first started out in 1981 and were there just for a few months until we moved up the street between 15th & 16th Avenues. Joan, as usual, has done a great job with her new location and the store looks terrific.



A 1940s Repogle 12" Starlight Globe from the USA.
Can.\$325 USD\$260



A 1948 Weber Costello Globe with original tag.
Can.\$275 USD\$220



A Victorian Mahogany Oval shaped TABLE.
57" X 41". Terrific base. Can. \$2,200
USD\$1,760



An Art Deco Globe 12"
Peerless by Weber Costello.
Can.\$350 USD\$280



An ANEROID BAROMETER in an oak 'ropetwist' case. English. c.1910. 9" approx. diameter CAD\$375 USD\$300



A set of SIX AYNLSEY 'fruit' DEMI-TASSE CUPS & SAUCERS. Signed. In original box. England. c.1960+ \$595 USD\$476



Pair of Sterling Candlesticks. SOLD



Pair of Sterling Silver CANDLE-STICKS. Made in the USA. c.1920-40 approx. 9" high. \$325 USD259



Beswick 'Huntsman on a Horse' #1501. 8.2" high. Late 20th century. Note restored. Can.\$225 USD\$180



Pair of Brass Lamps with glass shades. Prob. N. American & c.1940 13.8" high Can.\$495 USD\$396



Pair of old Brass CARRIAGE LAMPS with Prince of Wales feathers etched on the glass. 22" high. Early 20th century. Can.\$695 USD\$556



Sterling Silver Candleholders mostly from the USA starting at around \$75 and up.



A Pair of unusual Victorian Glass VASES for single stem flowers. There is enamel work on the three coloured containers. Possibly English and late 19th century. approx. 10" high. \$850 pair USD\$680.



Mahogany Desk Cigar Humidifier with sterling top. Early 20th century American.. 10.5" long & 5" high. Can.\$450 USD\$360



Two Cranberry Glass Jugs with enamel floral decoration. Probably English and late 19th Century. Height 4" & 6". Can.\$225 each USD\$180.



Pair of Bronze Dog BOOKENDS from the early 20th century. Unmarked but probably USA. 5.5" high. Can.450 USD\$360



Two Victorian Cranberry Glass VASES. Probably English and late 19th century. 6" & 4" high. \$295 & \$225.



A Burr Walnut CREDENZA with scrolling inlay and three mirrored doors. English. c. 1870s Approx 60" wide and 16" high. Can.\$4,750 USD \$3,800



A Mahogany BOOKSHELF from the USA. Approx. 50" high. c.1930-40. Just arrived so needs a little TLC - price to be determined.



A Burr Walnut small flattop DESK with new inset green tooled leather top. 36" wide. English. & circa. 1920s Can.\$2,200 USD\$1,760.



A Walnut Sofa Table. c.1940s. USA Refinished. 60" wide. CAD\$650 USD\$520



This is a fine quality Victorian mahogany Footstool with carving and an old beaded top. 13.5" diameter Can.\$750 USD\$600.



This is one of a PAIR of fabulous burr walnut inlaid SIDE TABLES. They have just arrived and will need some restoration. We will feature them, fully restored, in an upcoming edition of our online Newsletter. They are English and circa. 1860s and are most unusual and extremely hard-to-find making these quite a coup for us to sell. Can.\$15,000 USD\$12,000



A boxed set of four Sterling Silver 'Ship' Place Card Holders from England. Hallmarked: B'ham 1909 Maker W.N. \$595 USD\$476



TIFFANY Bronze & Glass DESK ACCESSORY. 10" LONG.. Stamped Tiffany Studios, New York #1004. Can.\$495 USD\$396



'Man with Pipe' by Bernard Funke (1912-) An OIL PAINTING on board by this talented German painter. c.1930-40 Measures 9" x 12" excluding gilt frame. Signed upper right. Can.\$1,250 USD\$1002



'Man in Tavern' by Max Schulze. (20th century German) c.1930-40 Oil Painting on board. Signed lower right. CAD \$950 USD\$760.



A Sterling Silver small Tray embossed with a scene of children playing hoops. Hallmarked: London 1894 Maker JA.JS. This is really cute! Can.\$295 USD236



A late 18th/early 19th century Elm Box with swan neck brass carrying handles. 19" x 13". Undoubtedly English. An interesting piece. Can. \$850 USD\$680