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Vol. 1 No. 3 ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS' CLUB SEPTEMBER 1996

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#### Letter From The Editor.....

The time is now! Convention time is near. Starting to receive phone calls from all over - everyone is getting excited as well as yours truly. We had such a great time last year, I can't wait to see you all again. Looking forward to seeing a lot of new faces, a lot of new ideas, and a lot of new findings.

We have enjoyed working with you folks and all your help in making this newsletter possible. All the information printed here was the result of members who wanted to be part of the RBCC. In order for this newsletter and the RBCC to be successful, we need your continued support. This is your club. The board and its board members, as well as this newsletter, are directed by the membership.

Registrations are still being taken by the Embassy Suites (1-800-Embassy). Rooms are being let to the public and will be on a first come first serve basis. Please find enclosed a map for your convenience. There is also a tentative schedule for our 2nd annual convention. Don't forget your auction items.

The 1996 annual financial report will be available at the convention.

At this point we have quadrupled our membership from the 1995 convention. This growth is strong and must continue. Remember "every member gets a member".

Thanks again for your strong support and we are looking forward to seeing you.

Chuck Heerhold, Editor

#### President's Corner.....

Dear Members:

Here in the east, we have had a wet summer and it has been difficult for outside antique shows. I recently slushed through one such event. Much to my disappointment, I wasn't able to find anything in RB except a couple tomato pieces. Hope you members have better luck than I have finding RB.

Again, I am appealing to all members who plan to attend our convention - get your reservations in ASAP. They have been coming in slowly and we want to have a bigger and better convention this year. It can only be done with our member support. This will be the last newsletter before our convention in October.

An advertising campaign was started to help draw interest in both memberships and convention information. Again, our membership list is growing as new people continue to sign up. A note to all members, help our club grow, sign up a friend or someone you know who is collecting RB.

If anyone has had a good experience this summer shopping for RB, we want to know. Send your story into our editor. Articles can always be used to help make our newsletter interesting.

Hope all is well with everyone and hope to see many of you at the convention in October.

Jim Davis, President

## How I Got Started.....

In 1952, my father became interested in Royal Bayreuth for the likeness each piece depicted. We were working on construction projects and did a lot of traveling. On rainy days we would go to all the antique shops in the area we were working. We were able to find a number of pieces as it was more plentiful at that time. My mother who was an antique dealer at the time was doing many shows in the New England area and had access to many pieces also. So in a matter of a few short years we had amassed quite a good collection what with the whole family involved.

My father became very ill in the mid sixties and no longer was interested in collecting. I continued to collect and add to the collection. Up to around six years ago the collection was in the eight hundred piece area. I decided to break up the collection and started selling off. Of course I kept a few choice pieces. Now I have limited my collecting to the hand painted ivory which is a very beautiful china that was all hand painted.

I have enjoyed many years of collecting and met many nice people and made many friends. For the coming years, I hope to meet more people who share my interest through the Royal Bayreuth Club and I want to wish them "Happy Hunting".

Jim Davis

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## How I Got Started.....

Several years ago on a lovely summer day in Charlevoix, Mi., I stopped at a small antique shop located in the basement of a young couple's home. Most of their stock was mission or primitive, but one glass front Victorian oak cabinet held china and glass pieces. On the top shelf, near the back, sat a funny looking orange creamer in a rather unidentifiable shape. I asked to see it.... and fell in love. The thin porcelain wrinkled object was delicately molded into a lobster. Asking the price, I was surprised at how dear he was, but I had to take him home. My husband was not as impressed as I,

but was tolerant of my new passion. Little did we both know how absorbing this passion would become. This year, because the shelves in our home could take no more, I decided that I must begin to be more selective about my collecting. The little lobster sold quickly, hopefully to someone who will also discover that the little guy has a multitude of friends who are at least as appealing as he. Perhaps in the near future the Royal Bayreuth Club will have another new member.

Judy White

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From Mary McCaslin.....

Dear Collector Friends:

I know you are all getting anxious for the 1996 October Royal Bayreuth Convention to arrive. I know we are! According to Judy's reports, our membership is really growing. Those that can't attend the convention this year can maybe plan to do so at another time. This newsletter will keep all in touch and be a big plus to our hobby....

Bob and I had a very wonderful experience recently that I would like to share with you. First, to prove a point that I have always tried to express (not only in Royal Bayreuth, but in any collecting), is that collecting your favorite antiques is a wonderful and rewarding experience; but, the people that we meet and fellowship in our collecting is the most rewarding of all. The lasting friendships are unbelievable! We just returned from a six week trip to New Zealand and Australia. We had dreamed of going there for years, thought we had better do it now if we were ever going to. It was a "working" vacation also, as I am doing research there for my second book on Royal Bayreuth. Our New Zealand collectors and dear friends, Des and Kath Wicks encouraged us to go as they kept telling me that they had scenes, etc. on Royal Bayreuth that were not seen in the USA. They took four weeks out of their busy schedule and devoted it to taking us all over New Zealand. And I do mean all over, as we traveled from the Northern tip of the North Island to the Southern tip of the South Island, and from east

to west coast which border the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea. Truly, some of the most beautiful country I have ever seen. Appointments with collectors were made previous to our arriving. They allowed us to view and photograph the pieces that I needed for my book. Their hospitality was overwhelming - tea and scones or other delicious sweets were served in every home that we entered. We also visited many antique shops. There were virtually no figurals to be found. I think Des and Kath have all of them in NZ as they have a beautiful collection. The scenic that we did see in shops and collections were mostly small pieces. A lot was imported to NZ by way of England. They did indeed have some different scenes and colors that I have not seen in the US. I hope to display more in this second book. We were also invited to be guests in the home of one of our RS Prussia collectors (and member of the International RS Prussia Club). We learned that RS Prussia is not known in NZ, but RS Poland is very sought after there. It too was probably imported by way of England. It is always exciting to put a face with the name of people that you have corresponded with over the years. People are the same all over the world, especially when you can set down and talk about and share your hobby of collecting your favorite antique. I would highly recommend New Zealand to visit for its outstanding beauty, also so many different scenes for such a small country. We also visited Australia for two weeks, a beautiful country with different scenery. We visited Cairns, on the northeast coast with the beautiful Great Coral Reef Barrier, rode their antiquated train into the mountains and tunnels and returning on their magnificent "sky lift". Then on to the famous "outback" of the Great Northern Territory. Alice Springs and Ayres Rock amid the outback "bush" was a great experience - even rode a camel. Ha! Flying back to Sydney over the vast desert for three days of touring this huge city and cruising their beautiful harbor and of course antiquing in the shops and malls. Found one piece of Royal Bayreuth there. Anyway, a good time was had by Bob and I during our "dream" vacation. Six weeks is a long time to be gone from home and your loved ones. I kept the telephone busy and postcards coming. I hope this hasn't bored you too much, but I did want to share it with you.

Des will be presenting a program at the convention on his beautiful New Zealand for all to enjoy.

I know our club will be a huge success as we already have good management with our exceptional and efficient officers. Each year, as in the RSP Club, we will see more and more growth and interest with our hobby. I hope most or all of you bring pieces to the convention to display. This is the best way for you and others to learn about the porcelain and what is out there. Buying, selling, trading, etc. is part of it, but seeing and visiting with old friends and meeting new ones is truly the real joy of getting together each year (my opinion).

Well, guess I had better start to get packed and hope to see you all in Schaumburg in October!!!

Mary McCaslin

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#### How I Got Started.....

Richard & I caught the Royal Bayreuth fever one day while window shopping in one of the antique districts in southern Florida. I spotted a sugar & creamer decorated with cards with the devil as handles in a shop window.. I thought they would be nice to have for my weekly bridge group and came up with a quick estimation of what I would allow myself to pay. The shocked expression on my face when given the price prompted the dealer to say, "Well,.....that's Royal Bayreuth!!! Royal Bay-what??? We spent the next couple of hours being educated on this fine porcelain and not only purchased the Devil and Card pieces, but also a pretty purple pansy sugar, creamer and waste bowl set. We were pleased with our purchases, as was the dealer who had an even bigger smile on his face!

Now, whenever we stop by his shop, we always blame HIM for getting us happily hooked on Royal Bayreuth!

Dorothy & Richard Earle

## THE VARIETY OF ROYAL BAYREUTH - PART 3

Story by Eric Sidman

### FIGURALS

Royal Bayreuth's line of Figural pieces have been the "hottest" and most widely collected of all the Royal Bayreuth offerings. The Figural series is just that, china pieces made in the molded forms of animals, fruits and flowers, and even people.

Bayreuth Figurals came in a maze of sizes, forms, colors and purposes. Common to the line, and obviously popular when introduced, are tomatoes, shells and lobster figurals in most any form imaginable: salt and peppers, water pitchers, creamers, hanging wall pockets and teapots. The list goes on and on.

When one finds a Santa Claus Figural garbed in brown rather than the more traditional red or a Tiger Figural not previously noted in any collection, it is easy to see how that would not only excite the collector, but also entice the community of collectors to seek out their own "one of a kind".

Fruits like lemons, melons, oranges, apples, strawberries, grapes, pineapples, peaches and pears adorn Royal Bayreuth collectors' shelves. Interest is not so much to do with the type of fruit, but rather the maze of forms they took on; and when the collector again has "seen it all", up pops a most unusual shape.

Adding to the delightful array of fruits is the multicolor decor. Most of the fruits are decorated to look as natural as possible, something again which Bayreuth was noted for. Whether a piece of orange or a figural of an animal, the coloration and shape is most real and lifelike.

The more common among the fruit figurals is the apple and orange, with the plum, peach and pineapple harder to find. While all stress realistic color, very often one finds a most unusual shade used. For example, an all gold figural Grape

Creamer; not pretty, but unusual. It is with the relatively common grape line that one finds the widest range of color. The typical purple grape is complimented by yellow, green, and pearl colors.

Regarding this most unusual Pearl color, which in and of itself has a variety of shadings, not only grapes but many other varieties of Royal Bayreuth are lavishly finished with it and has developed into a category of Bayreuth collecting all to its own, referred to generally as "Mother of Pearl Bayreuth".

Most common to this pearl finish are the grapes, some shells, leaf figurals, pansy and poppy flowers, some roses and even some figural people; particularly the well known Art Nouveau Lady series, a combination of color, rarity and form.

The figural Floral series, consists of Roses, Pansies, Poppies, Sunflowers, Chrysanthemums, Tulips and Irises. Pansies and Poppies are by far the most common. There is a great deal of the bright red Poppy, and a good deal of the lavender Pansy, both of which have the most variety of forms.

More desirable is the Rose figural, which came in yellow, pearl, pink, white and occasionally in bright red. This red is most rare, and along with a monochromatic all gold rose, difficult to find. One would think all red to be popular with rose collectors, but it evidently was not. This is probably due to the fact that the white, pink and yellow roses carried with them highlights of green and pearl which made them warmer to the eye. Now, however, it is the red or gold which is rare.

More rare than the rose and actually in very small supply are the Iris, Tulip, Chrysanthemum and Sunflower. Although the Sunflower and Chrysanthemum are slightly more "available" than the others, all five flowers are rare.

A fascinating array of People are selected by the makers of Bayreuth figurals as representations, probably the most collected line offered by Bayreuth, along with its Animal Figures.

Common to the People series are the Toby

Coachman, the Lamplighter, the Red Devil, the Clown, and the Bellringer, although some of those listed are not so easy to find. More rare are the figures of the Art Nouveau Lady, the Milkmaid, the Girl with Pitcher, the Monk and Santa Claus. The real rarity in the "People" series results from a unique combination of factors.

In accounting for people rarity, obviously numbers are important, with a clown relatively easy to find but Santa next to impossible. In fact Santa has become "The Rarity" among the avid collectors.

We must note here that there are figurals, animal and people, which are actually rarer by numbers than Santa, however he seems to have captured the highest spot on the collector's lists.

The next factor in the "rarity equation" is color. The Clown, as common as he is, predominantly comes in red. To find one in green, yellow or pearl is a challenge, and could therefore place some clowns in a rare category, with a female clown in an unusual form making the rarity equation more complex.

As just mentioned, regarding rarity, form is as important as color: the vast majority of figurals came in the shape of creamers. So much so that many Royal Bayreuth figural collectors just keep creamers.

Some figural people, as well as fruit, flowers and animals, come in a vast variety of unique forms: dresser trays, pin trays, match holders, candlesticks, milk pitchers, water pitchers, some lemonades (huge), boxes, jars, ashtrays, salt and peppers, egg cups, toothpicks, demitasse cups, humidors, and list goes on.

To get into the ultimate rarity, one must search for a rare category of people (ex. Santa), with rare color (ex. candlestick).

The most vast of the figural lines are the Animal Figures. As with the people, all shapes and sizes appear. The most common among the Animal line is the Elk series. While the series has not created excitement of collecting and with it a growing

financial reward, it remains very collectible. Elks were made in all four pitcher sizes, egg cups, steins, toothpicks, match holders, salt and peppers, sugars, humidors, dresser sets, and footed bowls among others. Lobster figurals, if included among animals, would be the only one with more forms.

Other more common animal forms include: the Eagle, Robin, Bass, Frog, Rooster, St. Bernard, Dachshund, Goat, Bull, Cow, Cat, Water Buffalo, Duck, Alligator, Crow, Poodle and Parrot. Harder to find are the Turtle, Pig, Cockatoo, Monkey, Gorilla, Chimp, Seal, Pelican, Butterfly, Perch, Trout and Owl.

Rarer and most difficult to come by would be: The Penguin, Bear, Kangaroo, Platypus, Mouse, Chick, Basset, Swan, Ladybug, Beetle, Snake, Horse, Rabbit and Tiger. One must assume, with its penchant for detail and completeness, forms yet to be reported, a giraffe perhaps, exist out there somewhere.

Also of note, as with the other figurals, odd shapes, unique sizes and strange coloration would cause greater degrees of rarity. As with a green Santa match holder, a mouse in the form of a humidor or an oddly colored pig (I've seen one in red!) Would be most desirable.

The figural line continued into a few other notable areas, neither comfortably fitting into people line, animal line or floral line.

Chief among these is the very popular Devil and Card series. A grouping of playing cards would comprise a particular molded form (ex. a mug) adorned with a full bodied Red Devil handle. It was most popular then and is now, profusely made and highly collectible; so much so that the company reissued a few forms of the Devil and Card series in the 1970's as an advertising medium. They also did this with a few Sunbonnet Babies forms.

Those reissued forms of Devil and Cards are clearly marked as such, along with the reissued Sunbonnets. Neither sold that well, nor did the reissuing continue into other lines of Royal Bayreuth.

There is a multitude of shapes in the Devil and Card series, and while a creamer would best be included among common figurals, items like dresser trays and humidors would most certainly be rare.

It's difficult to estimate the number of collectors filling their shelves with the great variety of Royal Bayreuth on the market today. Most important when beginning a collection is that you purchase those pieces most appealing to you. Good condition is, of course, essential and it would be worthwhile to do some research into current market prices before dipping into your savings.

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#### How I Got Started.....

Saw a tomato tea set and a lobster salad at an antique show - thought the tomatoes were pumpkins at first. Purchased the lobster salad and celery. The dealer then showed me the Raines book and I was gone.

Bea Massey

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#### TOPS & BOTTOMS - BITS & PIECES

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Coachman humidor lid, looking for base - Bea Massey

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#### Parts needed

1. Red poppy mustard lid.
2. Purple pansy teapot lid.
3. Sunbonnet ruffled edge hair receiver lid - any scene.
4. Base to square ring box - 2 inch measurement, colors of greens or browns.

Tim Gaudet  
c/o Brick Store Antiques  
143 Front St.  
Bath, Maine 04530  
207-443-2790

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Elk syrup, McCaslin #782, seeking lid  
Low elk inkwell, McCaslin #777, need insert & lid

Ron Wastowski

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Seen at Wheeler's Antiques - 317-855-3400  
Hair receiver top with pink roses, \$95.00

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Looking for single shakers: sunflower, coachman, plum, perch, lemon, tall shell, alligator.

Chuck Heerhold

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# 1996 Royal Bayreuth Collectors' Club Convention

## Thursday, October 17

3:00 Hospitality room open - seventh floor  
Packets available - Early registration

## Friday, October 18

1:00-3:00 Hospitality room open  
Packets available  
Convention registration for non-preregistered

1:00-3:00 Executive board meeting

3:30-5:00 Welcome meeting, first floor

5:00-6:00 Auction items registered  
1997 dues can be paid

Evening Dinner on own  
Hospitality room open

## Saturday, October 19

9:00-11:30 Formal business meeting

Lunch Hospitality room open

1:00-2:00 Program

2:15-3:15 Program

3:30-6:00 Room visitation by floor

8:00-9:30 Banquet, main floor

9:30- Hospitality room open

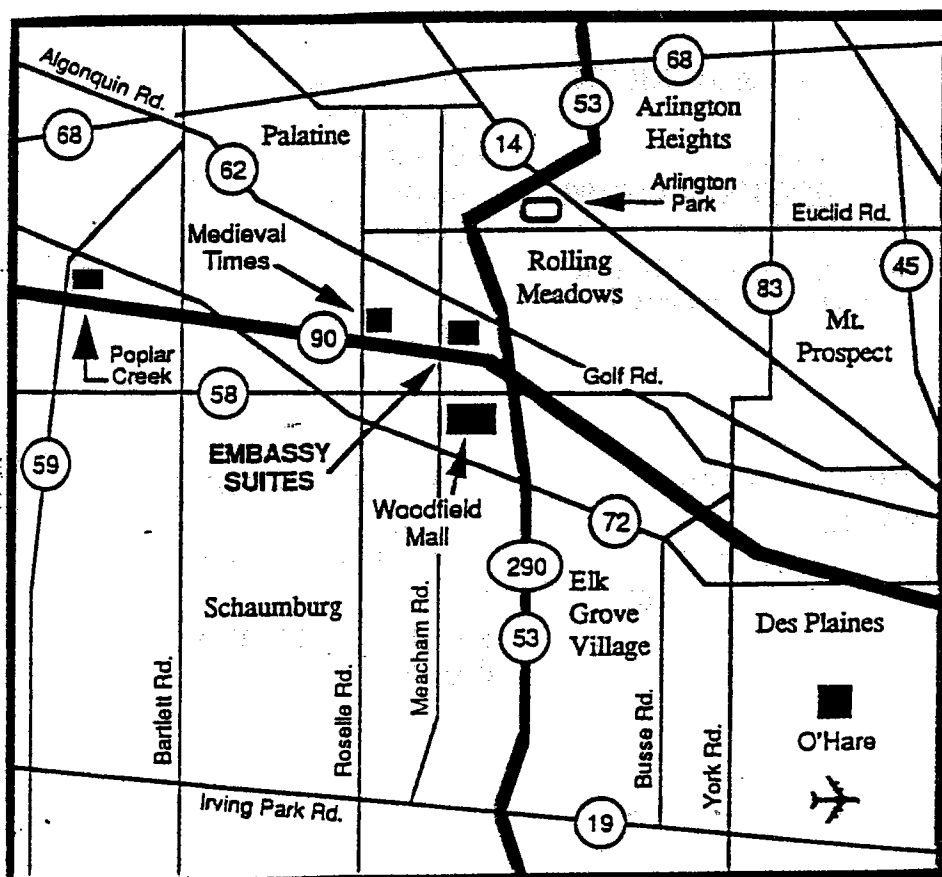
## Sunday, October 20

8:00-9:00 Auction viewing

9:00-11:00 Club member auction

11:00-11:30 Tie up meeting

11:30- Executive board meeting



## PLEASE NOTE DATE CORRECTIONS

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OCTOBER 18, 19, 20

### PRE REGISTRATION

EMBASSY SUITES  
SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS  
CALL 1-800-EMBASSY  
1-847-397-1313

Mention Royal Bayreuth Collectors' Club to receive special rate of \$93.00 per suite. Price includes full breakfast and a two hour evening cocktail hour, a great value for the price.

The night before and after are available at the same rate

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Family Registration (includes two per membership) \$10.00

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet dinners (\$25.00 per person) \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Angelica \_\_\_\_\_

Roasted Pork Loin \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check and this form for convention and banquet registration to:

Judy White  
926 Essex Circle  
Kalamazoo, Mi 49008