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# ◆ RBCC, Inc. ◆

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Volume 2 Issue 3

June 1997

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## SUMMER ISSUE



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# Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club, Inc.

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**RBCC Officers:**

**President:** **James R. Davis**  
5 Cutter Drive  
Johnston NY 12095  
518-762-8659

**Vice President:** **Robert Mazza**  
111 S. Compo Road  
Westport CT 06880  
203-454-7629

**Treasurer:** **Jack A. Biddlecome**  
700 E. High Street  
Hicksville OH 43526  
419-542-6533

**Secretary:** **Judith White**  
926 Essex Circle  
Kalamazoo MI 49008  
616-343-6066

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**Executive Board Of Directors:**

**Bob Gollmar**  
Box 337  
Rochester WI 53167  
414-534-2440

**Bob McCaslin**  
272 Canterbury Dr.  
Danville IN 46122  
272-745-6330

**Nancy Brandenburg**  
662 Chipper Lane  
Wichita KS 67212-4617  
316-722-1200

**Sandy Heerhold**  
*48 Brian*  
Glendale Hgts IL 60139  
630-665-2653

**Richard Earle**  
15 Burning Tree  
Newburgh NY 12550  
914-562-8139

**Paul Toland**  
330 Paloma Ave.  
San Rafael CA 94901  
415-459-5005

---

**Historian:** **Nancy Rublaitus**  
2713 Everett Road  
Ottawa IL 61350  
815-434-4943

**Editor:** **Alma Biddlecome**  
700 E. High Street  
Hicksville OH 43526  
419-542-6533

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The RBCC, Inc. Newsletter welcomes articles and letters pertaining to Royal Bayreuth. We assume no responsibility for statements made or opinions expressed by contributing writers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - By Jim Davis - RBCC, Inc. President

**D**ear Members:

Here it is June already and before we know it October will be here for our third annual convention. Some of the members I have talked to recently are getting anxious to attend this years convention.

We are hoping this will be a bigger and better convention with a few new formats. The auction will be held on Saturday morning. We are hoping there will be some rare and interesting pieces consigned by the members to help stimulate more interest. Also at the banquet we may have some kind of entertainment, more on this in the September Newsletter.

According to Judy White our memberships have slowed down a little. We are hoping by convention time we will have our clubs brochure available to pass out. Just a reminder for every new member you get to join the club, you will receive a five dollar credit on your next years membership.

Again, I am appealing for help on the program part of the convention. I have a couple possibilities but nothing definite. If you want to present a

program please contact me. I will continue to contact members for help.

I have been in touch with the committee chairpersons and they are all working hard to make this years convention a huge success.

Plans are going forward on the 1998 convention scheduled for St. Louis. There will be more information at convention time.

If anyone has an idea that would help the convention this year, please contact me. Until next Newsletter, happy hunting.

### *Convention Report*

There is a registration form included in the Newsletter. Please return ASAP so we can have a better idea to the number of members who will be attending. Also there are maps of Syracuse and the location of the Embassy Suites for those who will be driving. We hope to have the club's official brochure ready by convention time. There are brochures in the hotel lobby for attractions in the general area. There is a gambling casino 25 miles to the East if interested. Syracuse has an International Airport (Syracuse-Handcock) and most airlines service here. The

hotel has a shuttle service to and from the airport for guests. The airport is about ten miles from the hotel. If your flight is arriving at an unusual hour, please notify the hotel so they can make arrangements to pick you up. The rooms will be located on the fourth and fifth floors with the hospitality room located on the fifth floor. The elevator and stairs are located near all rooms. Remember you will make your own reservations for your room and make payment to the hotel. If you haven't already sent in your consignment listing to Paul Toland for the auction and plan to, please contact Paul ASAP. The hospitality committee has told me they have made arrangements I'm sure will make you pleased you attended the convention. All this information will appear in the September Newsletter again as a reminder for those who plan to attend. Please get your reservations in early.



## Notes From The Secretary - Judith White

While spending our winter in San Diego, we saw old friends Jack and Joyce Williams a couple of times. Their knowledge and experience in dealing in Royal Bayreuth is excellent, and I learn more about marks, molds, etc.. each time we talk.

In March, the Williams arranged to have us meet Jim and Gerry Balazs at their home, where we saw their wonderful collection, and heard some stories of their incredible finds over the years. Hopefully, they (and others) will write some of these stories up to share with all of us in the Newsletter.

I am reminded again of how beneficial this club can be, getting those of us with like interests together. I saw pieces at their

home that I may never see again. By the way, Californians, although we may not have the convention on your coast in the near future (only 14 members in the several West Coast states), your members could form a state association, or just have informal meetings at each others' homes once or twice a year. Other clubs do this and it provides a way for those who may not get to the conventions to get together to share their collections and knowledge.

### Convention Notes:

Now that we have had two conventions, those who have attended have found out how much fun it is to go from room to room to see the displays of unusual Royal Bayreuth items or to be able to purchase those special

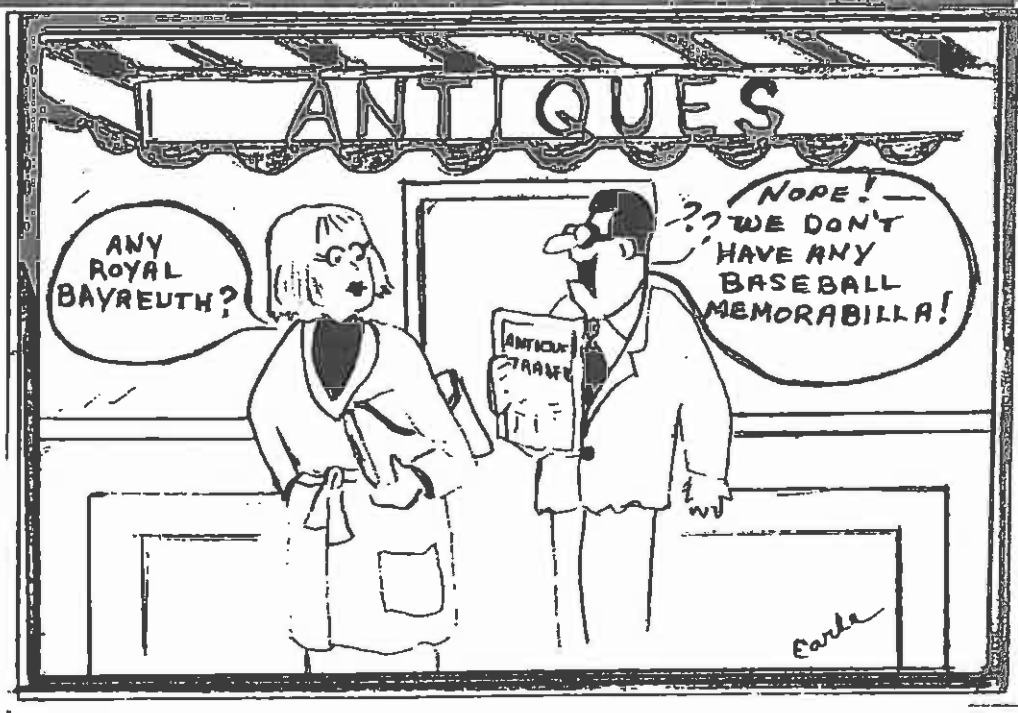
pieces that are not usually available at most shops, malls, or shows.

Even though several people bring items, not just "dealers", once the Royal Bayreuth frenzy takes hold, there never seems to be enough to look at. So the more of you that bring items to Syracuse just for show, and discussion, and comparison, etc., or the more of you that bring duplicates and other for-sale items, the happier that all of the attendees will be. Most people agree that the best part of the convention is really the conversations and friendships that are made there. As one member told me when asked if he thought there were enough items in the rooms last year in Chicago, "I ran out of money before I ran out of items to see or buy!"

## Cartoon Corner

Submitted by:  
Dorothy & Richard Earle

Inspired by an actual encounter.



## Letter From The Editor - Alma Biddlecome

**A** Big Hello from the little Village of Hicksville, Ohio. I am certain everyone is starting to get excited about the convention. Only 5 months away! Please be certain to read your Newsletter. Lots of important information about the up coming convention, including hotel reservations (need to do this yourselves) remember if you need extra tables in your room for sale or

show items ask for them at time of making your reservations. Jim tells me they are six foot tables. Also information about the auction from Paul Toland. I hope everyone has sent their list of show items to Paul Toland for the auction. It is impossible to have a great auction without great pieces.

Also important to do as soon as possible is to send your \$10.00

registration fee and choice of meal along with appropriate funds to Judy White.

Hope everyone is enjoying the carton corner - appreciate ideas anyone has along these lines.

Hopefully in the September Newsletter I will be able to get a sneak preview of pieces that will be in the auction from Paul Toland.

## Welcome New Members

**Marcie & Johna Thueringer**  
Woodinville, WA

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**Lee Lord**  
Magnolia Springs, AL  
Royal Bayreuth Figurals

\*\*\*\*\*

**David & Debra Tuttle**  
Southlake, TX  
Portrait/Tapestry

\*\*\*\*\*

**Vernon & Gloria Barrickman**  
Cinnamons, NJ  
Rose Tapestry, Tomatoes,  
Devil & Cards

**Lynden & Kristen Lyman**  
Sudbury, MA  
Devils/Devil & Cards

\*\*\*\*\*

**Robert & Gloria Griffith**  
Dewey, IL  
Fruit, Vegetables, Clowns,  
Animals, Bowls

\*\*\*\*\*

**Amy & James Calandriello**  
Oceanpark, NJ  
Fruits, Strawberries

\*\*\*\*\*

**Linda & John Nelson**  
Madison, WI  
Figurals

**Bob & Pat Medeiros**  
Peru, IN  
Sun Bonnet Babies, Rose  
Tapestry

\*\*\*\*\*

**Paul & Evelyn Lever**  
Wakefield, MA  
Rose Tapestry

**Welcome To All!**



## Letters and Articles From Members

### *What Is It Worth?*

Submitted By: Dee Hooks

This is a question, sometimes highly debatable, that we all, as collectors, have pondered over.

We all know that the price guides and books tell us that the prices quoted are only guidelines and that we must not use them as a biblical projection!

I do the Royal Bayreuth prices for Schroeder's Price Guide. These prices are made up of computer listings of auctions, sales in advertising papers, dealers' lists and of items sold in antique shops. When we get it all together, if there are listings that are out of line with others, either too high or too low, they are omitted. Most of the time there is no mention of damage, so that may be a reason for a low price. Likewise, if a piece is beautifully decorated and in mint condition, it may have been sold for a higher price. So, please remember to use it as such - don't pay more than you think it is worth, and when selling, don't take it for granted that you will be able to get that top quoted price. It is better to make a little less, than to have it sitting in your inventory for a long time.

This is very difficult to remember when we are selling or buying. We like to buy for the smallest amount possible and sell for the

highest. But, there are many factors that influence both sides. Is the item's identity positive? Is it in mint condition? That means no chips, cracks, finish rubs or wear. How scarce is the object? How many have you seen or read about being produced? Is it attractive? Does it "Sell Itself"? Last, but not least, do you "Just have to have it"?

As for identity, perhaps you are not familiar with the marks. If not, get the books and learn about them or ask a reputable dealer their opinion (maybe not the one selling). As for buying mint condition, think about re-selling - even though you don't think now that you'll ever sell it. You may be willing to overlook a light damage now, but don't pay top price for damaged goods.

Scarcity is one of the major reasons for a collector to pay more than an average price. That is fine, until you see later on that other identical items come up for sale. So research the field and use your own good judgment. Don't overpay just because you want to be the only one to have this special one.

Of course, then we get to the place where it is "So beautiful", "I just must have that"! Perhaps you bought another item for a really low price so you can pay a little more for this one. We all have used this reasoning.

There you have what price guides are all about. They don't tell you of damage that caused the low price, or about the coveted item that at least two people wanted and it sold for twice what it should have. For beginner collectors, this is something you have to keep in mind. Don't hesitate to ask the advice of someone you know who has been a collector for a long time. Most of them will be glad to talk to you and advise you well.

In retrospect, there are always people like me. I see our Royal Bayreuth Figurals and I don't see "Ugly Animals" or "Old Vegetables" as some say. I think of the artists who made the molds and painted the beautiful, thin porcelain pieces! Think what it would cost today to have something as delicate and beautiful as the Kangaroo made! They couldn't be duplicated. So there goes all the good advice and caution out the window!

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### *Auctions In The Central States*

Submitted By: Richard Schwartz  
Over the last several months, a number of auctions where Royal Bayreuth was offered was conducted by several auctioneers here in the central states. These pieces of Royal Bayreuth were offered by well known auctioneers and were offered to the highest bidder.

(Continued on page 7)

## Letters and Articles From Members (con't)

*(Continued from page 6)*

In September 1996, outside of St. Louis at Earth City a Portrait Tapestry Hat Pin Holder - "Lady Shielding Her Eyes" was sold for \$1,050.00. Four absentee bids were for \$1,000.00 each. The scene on the hat pin holder was the portrait scene on McCaslin # 1168.

Also in September 1996 in Beatrice, NE a scenic tapestry watering can was offered. The scene was "The Hunter with a Dog in a Tree". The scene on this watering can was #71 in McCaslin. The selling price was \$650.00. A footed, ruffled top 4 1/4" high vase with handles (same mold as McCaslin # 1308) only with dark gold roses went for \$475.00.

Over in Wentzville, MI (near St. Louis) in October 1996 a rather large collection of nearly two hundred pieces of Royal Bayreuth were offered. The wide selection of different pieces of Royal Bayreuth made it easy for everyone to have a piece of their choice.

Some of the more select pieces and what they brought are as follows:

Rose Tapestry Hat Pin Holder with Dark Pink Roses - \$475.

Rose Tapestry 5" Vase with two bands of ivy leaf - \$375.

Large 7" Water Pitcher with lone fisherman (same scene as McCaslin # 114) in boots - \$475.

Art Nouveau Lady Creamer with white satin finish - minor nick on handle - \$300.

Sun Bonnet Babies cleaning window shield candlestick holder - \$550.

Sun Bonnet Babies fishing pair of candlesticks - \$475.

Sun Bonnet Babies mending and mopping creamer and sugar - \$300.

Black Bear figural creamer - \$550.

Hunter (same scene as McCaslin #114) with Dogs in Tree large 8" Water Pitcher - \$700.

Portrait Tapestry 3" Mini Vase, large white hat - left profile (same portrait as McCaslin # 1281) (has tiny top nick) - \$435.

Portrait Tapestry - Lady with large purple hat - right profile - (same portrait as McCaslin # 1278) Flower Pot - \$425.

Jack in the Beanstalk Shield Candlestick - \$350.

Standing Trout Figural Creamer - \$320.

Polar Bears - 7 1/4" Vase - \$1,550.

Portrait Bowl 10" Muff Lady and Lady with Horse (in Meddellions) with schooner scene in the center - \$3,700.

Chimpanzee Figural Creamer - \$325.

Polar Bears 6 1/2" Vase (minor flaws) - \$550.

Polar Bears 7 1/2" Vase (minor flaws) - \$525.

Turtle Figural covered box - \$600.

Snow Scene Babies in the Woods 7" Vase - \$400.

Sterling Silver Rose Tapestry 4" corset shaped Creamer - \$900.

Japanese Chrysanthemum Tapestry 4" corset shaped Creamer - \$305.

On Saturday, January 4, 1997 an auction at Clay Center, Kansas consisted of a lone piece of tapestry a 6 3/4" hugh basket with white roses and a greenish background. The basket is the same mold as McCaslin # 995. This basket was a terrific bargain at \$175.

Later in the month on Saturday, January 18, 1997 at an auction in

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Letters and Articles From Members (con't)

(Continued from page 7)

Sabina, KS a very beautiful cracker jar in brown hues with the turkey herder scene went for \$550. The gold trim on the piece was unbelievable. The piece was just as it left the factory in mint condition.

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### Auction 1996

Submitted By: Chuck Heerhold

We thoroughly enjoyed our second RBCC, Inc. convention. It was great! Many new faces, a tremendous amount of odd ball pieces, and extremely informative. Harriet Land did a terrific job showing some pieces of questionable sources. And again, Des Wicks raises the question "is it a cracker jar or a biscuit jar?" Both programs were informative and delightful.

Sandy and I had a great time at both conventions and can't wait to see everybody in Syracuse in 1997.

P.S. Our auctioneer Rollie Rosenboom was great!

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The following article is from Kovel's - November 1994 Issue:

### Royal Bayreuth Wall Match Holders

Submitted By:  
Harold Brandenburg

A large collection of Royal Bayreuth wall match holders fired up bidders at a Woody Auction in St. Louis, MO. The top lot, a Devil and Cards, "full body" match holder, sold for a sizzling \$1,800. Other hot figurals were a Black Crow - \$1,400; a Rooster - \$1,400; an Eagle, \$1,300; and a Chimpanzee, \$1,250. More common figural matchholders sold for more moderate prices. A tomato brought \$230; an apple - \$450; a red poppy - \$375.

Royal Bayreuth, a porcelain factory founded in Tettau, Germany, in 1794, is perhaps best known for its figurals in the shapes of animals, flowers, and vegetables, made from about 1885 to 1914. The firm also made standard pottery shapes. One popular line called "Tapestry" had a linen finish obtained by wrapping the damp piece in a textured cloth. The cloth burned away in the firing. Royal Bayreuth also made smooth pieces in gloss and satin finishes. These were decorated with floral or scenic designs. Some featured children in various activities, such as Sunbonnet Babies, Beach Babies, and nursery rhyme characters. Collectors are most familiar with pitchers, tea sets, and plates, but the firm also made match holders in almost every line.

Scenic match holders in the auction included a Hunt Scene - \$110; Fishing - \$200; Cows in

Pasture - \$200; Desert - \$175; Man with Donkey - \$175; Musicians, double pocket - \$275; Man in Boat Fishing - \$200; Hunt scene with three dogs with man and horse - \$180; Sheep - \$220; Fox Chase - double pocket - \$225; Hunt scene with woman and horses, double pocket - \$325; Goose Girl - \$275; Goats Grazing - \$200.

Tapestry holders: Three-color roses - \$350; Lady Portrait - \$300; Musicians - \$250; and Castle - \$325.

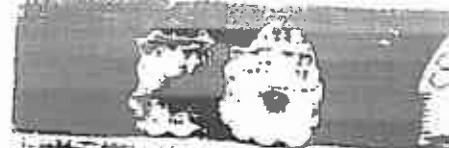
Other designs: Beach Babies - \$220; Snowbabies - \$275; Pennsylvanians - \$275; Jester - \$350; and Storks - \$275.



Royal Bayreuth hanging match holders, left to right: Red Clown, \$400. Green Shell, \$125. White satin Shell, \$400. Devil and Cards, \$350. Devil and Cards full body, \$1,800. Santa, (hairline inside pouch), \$1,850.



Red Clown, \$400. Green Shell, \$125. White satin Shell, \$400. Pearlized Clown, \$600.



Black Crow, \$1,400. Yellow Poppy, \$500. Pearlized Poppy, \$375. Oyster and Pearl, \$700.



Mountain Goat, \$525. Eagle, \$1,300. Chimp, \$1,250. Etc.



# Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club

## Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club

February 15, 1997 - May 15, 1997

Closing Balance 2-15-97 \$4,837.07

### Receipts:

Memberships New & Renewals \$1,500.00

Receipts Total: \$1,500.00

Balance & Receipts \$6,337.07

### Disbursements

Newsletter Expenses \$161.52

Disbursements Total: \$161.52

Balance & Receipts \$6,337.07

Disbursements \$161.52

Check Book Balance (5/15/97) \$6,175.55

RBCC, Inc. Treasurer - Jack A. Biddlecome

### Note from Our Historian:

Nancy Rublaitus, our Historian, requests that any articles from any source on Royal Bayreuth be forwarded to her, by any member who might find them. The Date, Source or other pertinent information would be greatly appreciated.

Submit articles to the following address:

Nancy Rublaitus  
2713 Everitt Road  
Ottawa IL 61350

### For Sale

Basset Hound Candlestick  
Fish Head Creamer  
Duck Creamer  
Pearlized White Poppey Mayo  
and Underplate  
Art Nouveau Milk Pitcher

Telephone: (914)562-8139  
Dorothy & Dick Earle

### Want Ads

Top for the Murex Shell Teapot  
Dorothy & Dick Earle  
Telephone: (914)562-8139

\*\*\*\*\*

Rooster & Fluffy White Chicken  
Teapot (McCaslin # 54).  
Figural Bear Milk and Water  
Pitcher.  
Nursery Rhyme Shield Back  
Candle Holders.  
Rare and Unusual Child's  
Miniature Items.  
Contact: Wanda Friedrich  
Telephone: (314)798-2039

\*\*\*\*\*

Crows, Creamers, etc.. All  
colors and colored breaks.  
Salleys Royal Bayreuth Book.  
Contact:  
Ken & Judy Stockwell  
Telephone: (603)924-3539 -  
recorder is always on - leave  
message and we'll call back.

## Royal Bayreuth Collections Club Auction

### *What's Going On:*

Your president and committee members have been busy behind the scenes preparing for our first "real" auction (our previous two being practice runs). All of our members should have received our mailer requesting information on what pieces you will submit. We need this information, so that we can compile our advertising and get some idea of what and how many pieces our collection will consist of.

I know how difficult it is to decide what to offer. I am having some pain myself because my double up toothpicks have become rare matched pieces. But this is nothing compared to the pain I get when I ask Colleen what she will let go. One way or another, we will be filling out our form with three good pieces.

There have been many questions and inquiries from our members.

**Q. Can non-members contribute to our auction?**

**A.** Generally no, but in future our committee and auctioneer will consider either complete and reputable collections of interest to our members or rare or unusual pieces that we cannot resist.

**Q. Is there a buyer's premium?**

**A.** Not for our club members. Non-members will be charged a 10% buyer's premium, but at reg-

istration, they will be given the option of joining instead. This way we hope to avoid non-members enjoying our privileges without paying their dues.

**Q. How can I deliver my three pieces if I cannot attend the convention?**

**A.** We will be receiving shipments on Thursday and Friday. Our preview will be on Friday evening. Please notify us of your intent to ship in advance, so that I may check and confirm that UPS has accounted for all packages.

**Q. Can we place absentee bids?**

**A.** Of course. We will appoint some volunteer to take care of these bids.

**Q. Is there a reserve permitted?**

**A.** Members are divided on this issue and we have decided to follow President Bill's tactics and please everyone by leaving this optional.

**Q. How much will the club deduct from the proceeds of my three pieces?**

**A.** Same as before - 8% with a \$150 cap per item so as to entice some high ticket entries.

**Q. Do I have to pay a fee if my piece does not reach the reserve?**

**A.** No, this penalty has been withdrawn because too many of our members protested.

**Q. What do you mean by good pieces?**

**A.** Our collectors have a wide range of preferences and we hope to have something to excite everyone. Please draw our attention to any piece that is flawed or restored.

Please continue to submit your inquiries and suggestions either to President Jim or myself by phone, fax or letter. Remember, it's your auction.

Paul Toland  
330 Paloma Ave.  
San Rafael, CA 90941  
Phone: (415)459-5005  
Fax: (415)457-2834

