



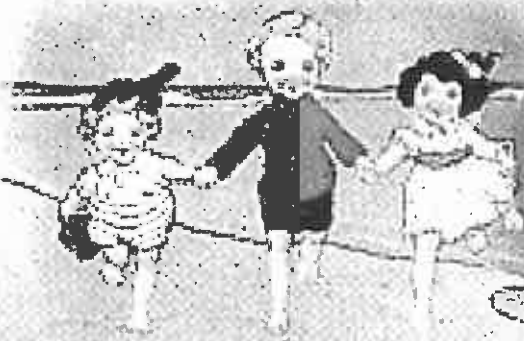
Royal Bayreuth  
Collectors Club



Volume 5, Issue 3

June 2000

# Summer 2000



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## R.B.C.C. 2000 Convention

October 12, 13, 14 • Indianapolis, Indiana

*Pre-register A.S.A.P.!*

## *Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club*

RBCC Officers:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| President:<br><b>BOB McCASLIN</b><br>6887 Black Oak Court East<br>Avon, IN 46123<br>317-272-7776 | Vice President:<br><b>BOB GOLLMAR</b><br>Box 337<br>Rochester, WI 53167<br>414-534-2440         |
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### Executive Board of Directors:

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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 Bob McCaslin, RBCC, Inc. President

## "2000 Convention Plans at Indy"

Summer has arrived with the lovely things that nature produces for us to enjoy, flowers, vacations to many beautiful areas that the U.S. and Canada have to offer. We have about 3½ months until our 2000 Convention gets under way at the Marriott in Indianapolis. The people at the Marriott are really looking forward to making it one to remember. We hope that you can make it part of your yearly vacation plans. It is our goal to make a good experience for all of our Royal Bayreuth Collectors. You will find probably 25-30 of the foremost RB Dealers from various parts of the U.S.A. all in one place and ready to deal or trade.

Some of the details that are completed in preparation for this year include:

- (1) Hospitality Rooms will be on the first floor.
- (2) Auction check-in Room also assigned to the first floor.
- (3) Tentative

Convention agenda included in this newsletter.

- (4) The Marriott has promised us a "block-out" of rooms on the first and second floors, over October 12, 13, and 14. Please identify yourselves (RBCC) when you call for reservations, thereby getting a room on first or second floor. Phone: 317-352-1231 (any problems, ask for Lisa Howe, Sales Director)
- (5) We have worked with the hotel to have an inexpensive lunch for the members between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (These are busy days). These will be offered in the Hospitality Room area.
- (6) Need enthusiastic Royal Bayreuth Collectors!!!

We hope the effort by the Marriott to keep us blocked will make room shopping more convenient this year. PLEASE get your pre-registration choices to Mary as EARLY as you can. Thank you for your support in ordering the mugs, and it is not too late to let Mary know.

Hope you enjoy the Newsletter. Our new printer, Images In Ink, is doing a great job. Read it carefully, it should not keep you away from E-Bay for more than 20 minutes. Looking forward to seeing you in Indy and learning more about the E-Bay finds!

*BoB*



## In Memory of One of Our Royal Bayreuth Family Members

Once again I have the misfortune of announcing the death of one of our dear members, John Upjohn. He died very suddenly on May 9, 2000 at his home in Kalamazoo. John had a long lingering illness, but his death was very unexpected. I know that some of you did not know John because he did not partake in some of the activities due to his poor health. He did attend most of the lunches and was always at the auctions. Many of you did stop and chat with John from time to time, and I know that this was greatly appreciated. He will be greatly missed by all of our Royal Bayreuth members, especially by his wife, Judy White.

Let us not forget to remember John in our prayers, and our greatest sympathy goes out to his wife, Judy, and their family.

*Your Editor,  
Alma Biddlecome*

*I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone that has sent flowers, cards, and phone calls to express to me their sorrow over the passing of my husband, John. Again with much gratitude I pass along my thanks to such wonderful friends.*

*Judy White*

## Recent Auction Sale Prices on Ebay ~ by Dotty Earle

|                               |                     |   |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| Orange Water Pitcher .....    | \$1,225             | Poppy Hat Pin (Red) .....                 | \$1,225             |
| Pansey Sugar Bowl .....       | \$760               | Elk Toddy cup .....                       | \$483               |
| Radish Salt & Pepper .....    | \$312               | Oyster & Pearl Powder Box                 | \$315               |
| Green Alligator Cr. ....      | \$455               | Pink Rose Cr. ....                        | \$585               |
| Devil/Card Toothpick .....    | \$510               | Platypus Cr. ....                         | \$1,250             |
| Rooster Cr. (Multi-Color) ... | \$595               | Corn Demi-Saucer .....                    | \$37 <sup>50</sup>  |
| Oak Leaf Celery .....         | \$130               | Tapestry Bell .....                       | \$360               |
| Squirrel Cr. ....             | \$5,850             | Pelican Water .....                       | \$646               |
| Flounder Cr. ....             | \$415               | Tomato Celery .....                       | \$380               |
| Old Ivory Hat Pin .....       | \$617               | Brown Bear Scenic                         |                     |
| Shell Tea Pot .....           | \$225               | Creamer .....                             | \$917               |
| Plum Shaker .....             | \$305               | Devil/Cards Dresser                       |                     |
| Gazelle Creamer .....         | \$4,305             | Tray .....                                | \$647               |
| Clover Cr. ....               | \$525               | Hunt Scene Humidore .....                 | \$815               |
| Corn Salt & Pepper .....      | \$550               | Polar Bear 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Pitcher .... | \$2,000             |
| Crow Cr. ....                 | \$227 <sup>50</sup> | Shell Mustard & Spoon ....                | \$151 <sup>50</sup> |
| Oak Leaf Cup/Saucer .....     | \$317               | Orange Mustard & Spoon ..                 | \$535               |
| Snake Cr. ....                | \$900               | Mini Oil Lamp                             |                     |
| Black Bear Cr. ....           | \$1,101             | (Arab Scene) .....                        | \$152 <sup>50</sup> |

## Items Being Brought to the 2000 Convention

One of the favorite activities at each year's Convention is the opportunity to go Room to Room searching for that piece of RB that is needed to fill out a set, etc., for our collections. What a find when it is located, buy it, and hustle back to our rooms to admire it, and carefully pack it away to take home. Do we stop then? No way! Back to the next room looking for more treasures to add to the "not for sale" pieces in our cabinets at home.

Let's not keep these items a secret from our members, but, take advantage of the RBCC September Newsletter, by listing some of the pieces that you plan to have in your room at the Convention at Indy. Send your list to our Editor, Alma Biddlecome, 700 East High St., Hicksville, Ohio 43526.

The three or four days that you spend at the 2000 Convention will be your best opportunity to shop until the next Convention in 2001 at Harrisburg, PA. So, you also have a chance to put in the same Newsletter "what you are looking for". This will increase the interest among members, who without this knowledge, may stay at home and miss the fun we have looking room to room. Buying and Selling!!!

*Bob*

# Secretary's Report ~

By Mary McCaslin, RBCC, Inc. Secretary

Hello Friends,

It won't be long now (only four months) until the 2000 Convention, so start packing! Ha! I usually pack the day or night before we leave. I work better under pressure, but it is sort of stressful. Anyway, start thinking seriously as to what you are going to bring and share with us. Every year we see something different and it is a good learning experience. That is what conventions are for. Especially seeing all of our 'old' friends, and expecting to meet new ones. What a good time always takes place in the Hospitality Room... good snacks with good company, and exchange stories of things that have happened this past year.

Now to business...As of April, we have 173 paid memberships and an additional 28 that I hope will have paid their dues by the time you receive this Newsletter, which will put us over 200 family memberships. I am enjoying my job as your Secretary, which brings me more in contact with you personally.

I would like to thank you for your response on the number of Convention Mugs that you will want to purchase. It gives me a better idea as how many to order from Tettau. As I said before, our order number will be very small to what they are used to, and I have told them how much we really appreciate them doing this for us. I will order some extra to

be sure we have enough and some may decide to buy one later, too.

Bob and I have been in the process of planning a trip for the year 2001 to Europe. Our response has been wonderful as to people that want to go. After deciding on places that we want to visit, it has been turned over to a local Tour company. It is their job to plan the trip with transportation, hotels, and meals. We have used this Company before on another trip to Europe with an RS Prussia group and were very satisfied. In fact, we hope to get our same "tour guide" that we had before. He was super and went way out of his way to show us a good time. Knowing that we were collectors of German porcelain, he found several places of interest that we would not have thought of or known of. We will have a representative from the tour company at the convention to discuss the trip. Hope some of you will decide to go with us.

I hope that you will all think about contributing an article or short story of an experience that you have had in your collecting. We are all interested in our members and our hobby.

Well, see you in October, those that are planning on attending the Convention. For those of you that cannot attend, I hope that you do enjoy the coverage of it via the Newsletter.

Mary

# Letter To The Editor

Dear Alma,

We feel that it is time to write to express our appreciation for your efforts in producing the Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club Newsletter.

From this distance we do seem a very long way from the action, but the quarterly arrival of the Newsletter keeps us up to date with the news of like minded collectors, prices, and articles on all aspects of this exciting hobby.

We only collect Sunbonnets and Nursery Ware and find very little here in Austrailia, so the Newsletter is an interesting way of keeping informed.

We especially would like to say that the last Newsletter was the best yet, what a delight to read about the Ping Pong Designs, what a fabulous and worthwhile collection.

Good Luck with the 2000 Convention in October, who knows maybe one year we may be able to attend!!

Kindest Regards from Down Under.

*Barry and Robyn Cox*



# Letter From The Editor ~ Alma Biddiscombe

Here we are only two more newsletters before the convention. I don't know about the rest of you, but I know I always start to get impatient around this time. I want the time to hurry by, so we can get to the convention and meet some of our old friends again, and maybe meet some of the new members. I always find the convention to be so much fun and so educational. There is always someone there who has something neat to show, that I have not seen before. I want to thank everyone who has put an article in the newsletter. I have some really good ones this time. I know it seems intimidating to try and write something but usually if you have an idea just start

writing and the words will come to you. There are several members that want colored photos in the newsletter but it is rather difficult to do unless I have some help with them. Jack and I have some nice items of our own but nothing that rare to show. I am going to put some photos of some of our collection in the newsletter this time but please if someone has some special find or something take a moment to take a picture of it and send it along, believe me, it will be greatly appreciated.

Read the newsletter carefully and also all the inserts. There is some important news that needs to get back to our Secretary in regards to what you want to eat,

if you need any tables, and your \$10.00 registration fee.

Also, Paul Toland needs any information you might have if there are any items you wish to put in the auction, or if you are not able to make the convention maybe you would like to leave an absentee bid.

Enclosed with the newsletter you will find a map to the Marriot that the Hotel has sent me so everyone can find their way. Don't forget to read the newsletter very well. Lots of important information.

**ALSO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT REJOINED, PLEASE DO SO IMMEDIATELY.**

*Till next time,  
Alma*



# Error Figurals ~ by Art Ward

## Misspaints and Inappropriate Decorations

This is a listing of a few error pieces from my collection -- there are likely many more.

We have all probably seen the common, but beautiful, tomato salad service with its nine inch serving bowl and 5½ inch individual bowls with its red tomatoes, green foliage and white flowers, sometimes yellowish in the center. The error that occurs in this service is that the obverse surfaces of both sizes are painted all red, producing the scarce but well-known "All Red Error".

A second less well-known error in tomatoes occurs in the gravy boat underplate which is painted all green rather than having the flowers painted yellow.

Then there is the small lemon underplate which ordinarily shades from a Lincoln green at the stem to a virtual sky blue with lemon flowers painted white with yellow centers. Error pieces are all over olive green and used as underplates for the tomato custard or perhaps master salt.

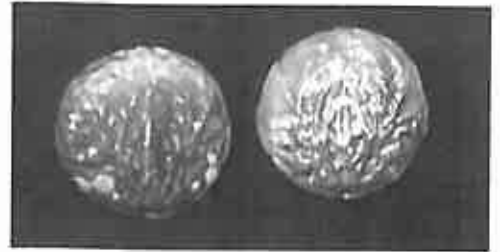
Errors occur in pitchers, as well. First shown is a regular pear milk pitcher and another pitcher in which the pear milk

blank was painted white with gold veins and covered all over with decals of various flowers. The reason for this error-variant is not apparent to me.

Finally I have a tomato creamer, the blank for which was painted as if it were apple! I have photographed the normal tomato and apple creamers with the error piece in the middle for comparison.

I know of several other error pieces and there surely are additional ones. For example, there is a melon painted as apple and a lemon painted as orange.

We must always bear in mind that "hand-painted" means "human-painted", and we are all subject to error on occasion -- for me this creates a very interesting sidelight to my figural collecting.



Lemon Series - Left - Normal small lemon underplate; Right - Error plate painted all (tomato) green.



Pear Series - Left - Normal pear milk pitcher; Right - Pear milk blank painted gold & white; covered with flowers.



Tomato & Leaves - Left - All red error small bowl; R - Normal bowl (5½")



Tomato & Leaves - Left - All red error large salad bowl; Right - Normal bowl (9¼")



Tomato - Top - All green error gravy underplate; Bottom - Normal plate.



Left - Normal tall tomato creamer; Center - Tomato creamer blank misspainted apple; Right - Normal apple creamer

# Let's Go To The 2000 RBCC Auction!!!!

We will try to list below a few of the several reasons that make this trip advantageous for you. This is especially directed to our members who truly enjoy attending the best auctions available in their field of collecting. We feel that RBCC has come a long way in the effort to improve our yearly auction. This effort has not happened by accident, but, by the hard work and dedication of our Auction Committee. They seek items that are of interest to beginning collectors, as well as to the long time RB collectors. Hopefully, this year's auction will offer a varied selection with something for everyone. Please help with your 2000 auction by contacting Paul Toland (707-823-6890) with your auction pieces.

At your club auction, you may buy with assurance that each item has been inspected for any imperfections, be small or large. You may buy, knowing that they have been looked at several times for condition and authenticity. Each imperfection and restoration will be marked, for your attention upon your inspection. What an opportunity to use the knowledge of the old time "experts" as our buyers insurance. We give you the best of opportunities to satisfy your search for authenticity, as verified by some 120 fellow club

members that have looked at the pieces also. So, buy with assurance and total confidence.

Another reason for attending the RBCC auction is the openness of the Club Policies. You will not find any "shills", buy-bidders, or be bidding against empty chairs, etc.

RBCC allows owners to put reserves on the items that they consign for our auction. We hope that said owners will be fair in placing their reserves. RBCC is up front with this policy, announcing it before the start of every auction. Reserves are made known only to the auction committee on the evening of the sale. These bids are kept in the strictest confidence and being revealed to no one except members of the auction committee, who will place these bids in their bidding order during the sale. These bids will be handled by Chuck Heerold or Craig Heeley, who will be seated in the front row seats, directly in front of the auctioneer. This way, the members are fully aware that reserves are being placed on some of the items.

The commission charged by the RBCC is 8 percent with a \$150 as a top limit on each item. It's this money that enables RBCC to operate through the year, print our newsletter, and to sponsor

our Hospitality Room. We thank you for your help and encourage you to be in attendance on October 13 at Indianapolis. The end results will be only as good as your willingness to contribute.

In the March newsletter it was stated that there is a standard above "buyer beware", and you will find this higher standard used at our RBCC auction. This may be your first auction, you will find over 120 members willing to lend you a hand, trying to answer your questions, or helping you with the inspection of items that you might be interested in owning.

There is no "buyers premium" used at our RBCC auction, so the purchase price is the "hammer price". Our club should not find any need for a buyers premium of any kind based on the current attitude and willingness of our members to participate in consigning the really great items similar to the last couple of years.

Thanks and continued help is appreciated!!!

*Happy Hunting!*

*Bob*





# "Royal Bayreuth is Music to Our Ears" - by Roberta Cappel

## (How we started this compulsive behavior)

Seven years ago, my dear old friend, Mrs. Williams, asked me repeatedly what possessions of hers I would like to have when she passed away. I finally told her that I had always admired the three pieces of china (with the two little girls on them) which sat on the shelf in her kitchen. I told Mrs. Williams that they would always be a reminder of her since she had been our babysitter for our two little girls.

Sadly, the day came shortly after that conversation when those pieces (plate, bowl and pitcher) were ours. Neither Alvin nor I had ever heard of Royal Bayreuth until we saw the marking on the back of each piece. Since these little girls were washing, mending and fishing, we felt sure there were other pieces with the little girls doing other things through the week. We decided to go to an antique store and buy another piece.

As one enters a grocery store to buy bread and milk, we entered an antique store with "Royal Bayreuth" written on our "antiquing list." The dealer laughed, said he was "...all out of Royal Bayreuth today" and gave us a RB history lesson—told us (1) "Those little girls are Sunbonnet Babies and (2) they are expensive and (3) they are hard to find." It was then he showed us a BROKEN tomato box which Alvin bought for \$1.00 because he "liked the color." I could not believe the company that made those sweet little girls made that ugly tomato.

In October of 1994, a meeting was held in New Philadelphia, Ohio,

for "collectors" of that "stuff". Alvin wanted to go; I wanted to go camping! (With three "inherited" sunbonnet babies and one broken tomato, we hardly qualified as collectors.) We compromised and camped at Atwood State Park in the evenings and "Royal Bayreuth clubbed" during the day. I was truly astonished at the array of items, including, of all things, a devil. I sat, open-mouthed, as people around the room professed, "I love Royal Bayreuth because..." I thought the people there were just too nice to have this affliction. To this day, I can still see Jim Davis standing in front of the group, explaining that a piece of Royal Bayreuth doesn't have to be "signed." He closed his eyes, reverently caressed an imaginary piece of porcelain in his hands, and said, "You will get a feel for Royal Bayreuth; you can pick up a piece, hold it in your hands, and it will sing to you." I whispered to Alvin, "This is some kind of cult."

Alvin became one of "them", had Mary McCaslin autograph his Royal-Bayreuth-Take-It-With-You-Everywhere-Bible, and from that day on, vowed to give up golfing, fishing, camping, and start a new life of antiquing and "raising Royal Bayreuth tomatoes." Leaving the convention that Sunday afternoon, we stopped at—yes—an antique store. With the image of those beautiful blue and white "Tettau" dishes still in my mind from Jim's slide presentation, I spotted four plates in a stack. When I turned

them over and saw that old green Lion mark, I was ecstatic and felt "Royal" blood coursing through my veins! We bought them for next to nothing. Alvin was so proud of me for finding them -- I saw more love and admiration in his eyes for me that day than he had shown after I spent hours in labor delivering our two daughters!

When Jim Davis became RBCC President, I told him my impressions of that first meeting and said, "I completely understand what you meant! I, too, can hear Royal Bayreuth sing!" He never said hello to me after that -- only wanted to know what songs I'd heard lately -- we still miss that dear man with his shiny, rosy cheeks.

We have a regular Royal Bayreuth "choir" now and I feel we've reached the status of "collectors". I've developed a taste for Alvin's crop of tomatoes (even though they have replaced our children's and grandchildren's pictures on the mantle), and we've also "grown" some other fruits and vegetables along the way. By the light of our Royal Bayreuth lamp, we eat on our blue and white Tettau dishes. When we are gone, those dishes will be on E-Bay described as "being well-used and having the gold worn." I've only raised 14 sunbonnet babies -- but family planning says THERE WILL BE MORE!

Well, Tettau! Alvin is calling -- says they are "playing our song!" (That means he wants to go antiquing--he used to be romantic!)

## Who Are We - by Jack & Alma Biddlecome

We are Jack & Alma Biddlecome. We have been members of the Royal Bayreuth Club since it started way back in "95". Jack, Judy White, Sandy Heerhold, Nancy Rublaitus, Arvena Pearson, and the McCaslins all met in South Bend, Indiana to talk about starting a club. I was not there, so I hope I did not miss anyone.

We have attended every convention since. When we started collecting Bayreuth we were not sure what it was. The first piece we bought was at an auction in 1992.

We had always wanted a portrait piece, but could never seem to afford one. This ewer with a picture on it came up for sale, so I told Jack to buy it. When we got it, it was a piece of Bayreuth with the picture of a lady with a large hat. I loved her, but we still had not been bit by the bug.

A couple of months later we were at a farm auction and there was a terrible looking vase with a big chunk out of the lip and a few chips on the rim. Jack bought it for \$2.00. When we got home we called some friends that knew Royal Bayreuth and told them what

we had. They came right over and wanted to buy it from us. We got out the old books (Mary's was not out yet), and after measuring it found out we had an apple water picture. We had it fixed and put it in our closet where it still sits. End of story. This time we were bit by the bug. Now we have several pieces in our cabinets.

Our personal life, Jack is retired and I work in a Supermarket in the deli, which I like very much (after being a retired nurse), and not as stressful as my other job.

We have raised seven children and have 18 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren with two more great-grandchildren on the way.

We live in an old Victorian home we bought in 1986 and did some remodeling. It is located in a small village called Hicksville, Ohio, which is in the North Western part of the state.

If anyone is ever in the area, please stop in and we will be happy to show you our collection.

So ends the Story of the Biddlecomes.

## 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, and other pertinent information would be greatly appreciated.

Submit articles and pictures to the following address:

Nancy Rublaitus  
2713 Everett Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350



Are you getting ready for the convention?  
It's October 12-15 I hasten to mention.  
Indianapolis is the city and The Marriott is the place.  
If your reservations aren't in, you'll need to race.  
Many old friends will be there to greet,  
And lots of RB to make your collection complete.  
Now hurry, hurry, hurry, get ready to go,  
You will have a great time and attend a fun show.

Anonymous

# Bids & Pieces ~ sent in by Craig Hazel

## ■ Royal Watching

Apparently, British royals Charles, William and Harry have some competition. OK, not exactly, but there is another kind of royal growing in popularity. Royal Bayreuth porcelain is hot. A men's horse head dresser tray went for \$5,122.95

Why the heavy interest in this line of German tableware first produced in the original Tetteau factory in 1799?

"Things like Royal Bayreuth sell well because they've been well-documented," said Kyle Husfloen, editor of *Antique Trader* and expert on glass and porcelain china. "It's much easier to conduct a sale when there are a good number of books available for buyers to use as reference materials."

What also makes Royal Bayreuth popular is the large variety of items and range of prices in the collection. And many items are small and easily shippable, Husfloen

said. The most popular items are the novelty character creamers, he said. They likely were made sometime between 1890 and 1910. The most expensive are pieces in the Rose Tapestry line, and items like the horse head dresser tray where the porcelain is molded into intricate shapes. To be authentic, a piece must carry the blue shield-shaped Royal Bayreuth marking generally found on the bottom of the piece.

Some other recent pieces sold:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Elk tray .....                             | \$2,212  |
| Milkmaid Creamer .....                     | \$645    |
| Monk Creamer .....                         | \$535    |
| Devil and Cards<br>Pitcher .....           | \$512.55 |
| Poppy Peach Iridescent<br>Sugar Bowl ..... | \$285.27 |
| "SonBonnet Babies"<br>Plate .....          | \$203.50 |



# Collecting Royal Bayreuth in New Zealand

~ by Ken Russell

Judy and I have been collecting this wonderful porcelain since 1967. One of our boys was given sixpence to spend at a church white elephant stall, and came back proudly with a tiny squat vase, on it a hunting scene. We praised it as any parents would do, but privately without too much enthusiasm. After all it had a very obvious Y crack at the rear, and we asked ourselves what possible use was a vase 1 ½ inches high with a neck so narrow that two dandelions would strain its capacity.

Our scepticism was dramatically tempered some six months later when some friends invited us to accompany them to a collectibles auction in a neighboring town. We noticed some 20 bizarre-shaped little vases selling for fifteen to twenty pounds, and Judy whispered to me - "I'm pretty sure those are the same make as that little vase the kids brought home from the Church fair."

"Oh yes," I said, a bit bored by it all.

She was right. We had our first piece of Royal Bayreuth, albeit cracked and "useless."

But that was the beginning. Within six months we had assembled something like a dozen pieces, and the collector in both of us took over. We moved twice in my Church job and went on collecting as spare cash permitted. It often didn't. Like every collector I regret now the treasures we saw in those years and decided we couldn't afford.

The "might-have beens" of collecting. Many of those pieces are now in the U.S. I guess.

We didn't meet another serious collector for another 25 years. But in 1996 it all changed. I was given the phone number of Des and Kath Wicks in Auckland, and invited to go and meet them and see his collection. Great people!! And their collection was a quantum leap for us in our appreciation of the scope of Royal Bayreuth porcelain. I could not believe what I saw in their cabinets, with a range of figurals and patterns I could not have believed were I not looking at them!

Later that year, Des and Kath brought Mary and Bob McCaslin to stay with us in our home in Wellington, and what a pleasure that was! Another quantum leap. A copy of Mary's book wetted my appetite for more.

Since then I've discovered the internet, E-bay, and the RBCC, in that order. I've found the very great pleasure of selling to buy, selling to buy, and so it goes. And I've made many a great RB friend in the U.S. without having actually met any of them face to face. Hopefully that will change at the Convention later this year.

New Zealand, it seems, is richer in Royal Bayreuth than I believed in my earlier years. There are shapes coming out of the woodwork here that seasoned collectors in America say they have never seen before. And occasionally too, rarities like santas, polar bears, mini cheese

dishes, emus, nice shapes in sunbonnet, and occasionally a highly priced figural or two for which demand well outstrips the supply.

Genuine Bayreuth collectors are still hard to find here, but the chances of getting a treasure cheap are much diminished compared with the halcyon days. But like all of us, we live in hopes.

Many readers remember Des Wicks with admiration and affection, and regret his death. If in some small way I can add another Down-Under influence to the RBCC I am honored to do so.



*Ken with his first piece from 1967*



*A great trio of stirrups. An ibex, a chamois, but can you name the one on the right? A gazelle or a bongo? Suggestions welcome.*