



ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

VOLUME SEVENTEEN ISSUE ONE

MARCH 2012



Fools for April

ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

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A Matter of Three

By Jim Lapp



I present here another example of the ever-possible surprises that I have come to expect since becoming a collector of Royal Bayreuth.

Included in the devil and card pieces I inherited upon my stepfather's death was the covered sugar bowl. As I have said, I often search eBay auctions to see what devil and cards pieces are offered to monitor pricing and of course in hopes of discovering pieces not yet in my collection.

In 2009 I noticed a covered sugar bowl listed by a seller from Japan (this piece remains unsold) whose cover had a devil with a head obviously not the same as mine. Through communication with fellow collectors and sharing photos, I saw more of this alternate mold. I was finally able to get one of these at the right price

in 2010. This month, August 2011, I discovered yet another version I hadn't seen elsewhere, and now have this third cover form. Through subsequent research and discussions with knowledgeable collectors this last found example might be what some have speculated to be pre-production "test" pieces, having no marking except incised mold numbers, and not meant for distribution. As well as the devil cover difference, the overall scale of this piece is smaller and the cards forming the bowl of the base have a more pronounced curve to them than the commonly known version.

The accompanying photos I submit for your consideration and enjoyment. Your thoughts on these molds or other devil and cards mold variations would be welcomed.



President's Message

By Alvin Cappel

March 2012, certainly came in like a lion. Seems like we've been glued to the weather channel for days! We sincerely hope none of our members were affected by the outbreak of tornados. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people in those towns that were devastated.

It is hard to believe it is six months until our next convention; September 20-22, 2012. We will be revisiting the Pittsburgh PA Embassy Suites. You may have attended the 2007 convention there. Some of us recall our travels by the food we eat—perhaps Primanti's coleslaw and french fries rolled into your sandwich will jog your memory. Or, the Embassy Suites free breakfast and evening Manager's special. If that doesn't wet your appetite to attend the 2012 convention perhaps some of the nearby attractions will!

They say that almost everyone who goes to Pittsburgh ends up on Mt. Washington to take in the breathtaking view. Mt. Washington can be reached by the Monongahela Incline (also known as FUNiculars). Roberta says that is debatable, the Duquesne incline still utilizes the two original 1877 wooden cable cars! Unique shopping can be reached by taking the Monongahela Incline, but Roberta says she would rather do her shopping at the nearby Tanger Outlets where their motto is, "we're committed to taking your shopping experience to the *next level*."

Andrew Carnegie's gift to Pittsburgh is the Carnegie Museum, which includes the Carnegie Library and Music Hall, the Hall of Sculpture and Architecture, the Museum of Art, and the Museum of Natural History.

There are more publicly displayed dinosaur skeletons here than anywhere else in the world. They're the genuine article, too, actual dinosaur fossils – unlike most museum dinosaurs which are cast, constructed out of plastic, or metal. If you don't want to walk around Western Pennsylvania, you can see it in less than an hour at the Miniature Railroad and Village at the Carnegie Science Center. There are hundreds of intricate replica buildings and animated scenes that bring Pittsburgh and the surrounding counties to life as they were at the turn of the 20th century.

If Pop Art is your thing, the Andy Warhol Museum has everything from the famous paintings of cans of Campbell's Soup to colorful Marilyn Monroe. If you'd rather pop quarters in the slots, the Meadows Racetrack and Casino is nearby! About an hour away is Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, (weekend home of Pittsburgh department store owner from 1937 to 1963). The key to the setting of the house is the waterfall over which it is built.

I enjoy getting the emails from our Secretary, Chris Bartlett, with

the news that "we have another new member." My hope is that **all these new members** will join us in Pittsburgh.

Roberta and I revisited the Embassy Suites in Pittsburgh recently. The Sales Manager was extremely helpful and nice to work with. They have redecorated since we were there in 2007 and it looks great. The trout are gone, but the Koi are still swimming—did you know that Koi symbolizes happiness?

We're working on sites for the 2013 convention. I would ask that members check their areas or a nearby location. We need to make a decision at our next convention; we will also discuss the 2014 site. Our last newsletter had a list of what to look for in a site. If you have any questions, please contact me.

We are always looking for ideas for programs. If you are willing to present a program or have an idea of what would be interesting to our group, let me know.

Hope with this mild winter, you are able to get out and antique, finding something unique to bring to show and tell. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Pittsburgh in September.

R.B.C.C. Treasurer's Report

By Steve Bartlett

Checkbook Balance as of 10/31/2011.....\$10,860.37

Receipts

Membership dues \$1095.00
Hospitality 10.00
Total Receipts.....\$1,105.00

Disbursements

Postage (Secretary)..... \$15.80
December Newsletter 1,499.30
Total Disbursements.....\$1,515.10

Checkbook Balance as of 10/31/2011.....\$10,450.27

Welcome to Our New Member

By Chris Bartlett

Margaret Ronan
14 Summit Drive
Cream Ridge NJ 08514
609-758-0075
margaretta45@aol.com

In Memoriam

By Kat Thacker



Longtime club member Don Townsend (who joined in 2000) has passed away. His wife Jane informed us he had fought brain cancer bravely for 20 months in their native Canada. His RB specialty was collecting Corinthian, in fact he sent us a wonderful and informative article back in the March 2010 issue. He also shared several beautiful shots of their china cabinets FULL of Corinthian in all its many colorful forms. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family at this sad time.

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

- May 10 for June Issue
- August 1 for September Issue
- November 10 for December Issue
- February 10 for March Issue

Editor's Message

By Kat Thacker

Our fellow RBCC friends... hope this finds you in good spirits and good health! Here is our first newsletter of 2012, complete with your NEW club roster and website passwords. Now that every single issue of our club newsletter is online, you'll definitely want to keep your password information close by your computers for revisiting them. Also, please DO make sure to check over your personal info in the roster. We strive for accuracy every year, but at times it's almost impossible to keep up with everyone's constantly changing phone numbers and emails. Please let club secretary Chris Bartlett or myself know of any errors so we can make immediate corrections to our club database.

I would also like to remind you to continue to send in interesting articles or photos to share with your fellow club members. We need ideas for potential stories as well. This issue we got a very informative article from longtime contributor Jim Lapp on Devil and Card covered sugars. Our wonderful photos of the jesters were submitted by the Heerholds, Andersons and Churches. Sandy even let me "art direct" her long-distance on her photography (out in the cold and snow, mind you) to get just the right shot of our "coverboys"! Thanks to all for their submissions. We couldn't do it every issue without your help!

Snag with My Next Book

By Mary McCaslin

A "Note" to my Collector Friends, who have been so encouraging and helpful by sending their beautiful photos for my new book. The response has been wonderful and you will never know how much I have appreciated it. Not only do I love writing about the subject that we all enjoy so much, but meeting you, the people that share this passion with me. I know it would still take a good while, as I know what was involved in my three other books on R.S. Prussia and Royal Bayreuth. Not only is it important that you have a good subject to write about, but it is so VERY important to have a good antique publisher, which I had with "Collector Books" of Paducah KY. The publisher, Billy Schroeder and his staff were all so helpful to "make it all happen"! I have been anxious to do this again, so I hate to announce that it will not happen now. Mr. Schroeder told me some time ago that the Internet and eBooks have caused several good antique publishers to quit or suspend publishing. Hoping that it would not affect Collector Books, I continued on. However, they have since decided to stop publishing so, I am without a publisher...

Thank you all so much! I will be in touch with each of you about returning your photos. I hope to write some educational articles along the way and might include some of your rare and unusual pieces that I have now seen.

I still have my website but am now in the process of completely re-building it at www.mccaslinantiques.com. You are most welcome to visit it soon (if it is still not finished please check back often). Feel free to call or write any time about RB – I will be glad to help when I can!

Secretary's Message

By Chris Bartlett

A big thank you to all of you who renewed your club membership for 2012 and beyond. We now have a total of 121 members. Only 7 members chose not to renew. Our goal is not only to keep our existing members but to continue to add new members. Last year 8 new people joined the RBCC!

Our club has so much to offer anyone interested in Royal Bayreuth and our website is a great way to connect with these people. The opportunity to sell and buy pieces at the convention or through advertising in the newsletter is certainly a bonus.

Judy Stockwell, our new Publicity Chair, is working hard to create a comprehensive list of antique papers who then might publish our club information. Let her know of any papers you might find so that she can add them to her list.

Please check the enclosed club roster to be sure your information is correct. Let me know at any time of changes of address, phone numbers, email, etc. Thanks again for renewing and happy collecting!

Chris Bartlett
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East Greenwich, RI 02818
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401-884-1695

Harold B's First BIG RB Auction

By Kat Thacker

We received the catalog from the 1993 Woody auction that Harold attended - his FIRST big one for RB!!! Here are some of the more interesting items:

- Platypus \$900.
- Pair/gorgeous 7" matte finish vases w/peacocks & gold \$1200.
- Fox hunting scene humidor \$375.
- Black bear creamer, BM \$700.
- Girl w/basket creamer \$850.
- Pelican hatpin \$700.
- Ladybug creamer \$675.
- Santa Claus creamer, BM \$2900.
- Art Nouveau covered box \$2750.
- Red Clown (lady) split-leg candlestick \$1900.
- Figural Elk mug, BM \$440.
- Rose Tapestry hatpin, BM \$400.
- Rose Tapestry footed chocolate pot, BM \$2000.

Check out the full results in our member's only area of the website at http://www.royalbayreuth.org/member/AUCTION_1993.pdf and why don't you consider sending in your own results from past memorable RB sales. It's always informative to see what was considered "rare" and how prices have changed over the years.

Website News

By Gregg Thacker

Greetings RB Fans. We are thankful for the renewal of Spring and the renewal of so many RBCC Members! The member password for the club website has also been renewed as shown below. The old password will expire March 31 – so be sure to keep that new password handy.

New members will find a wealth of information on our website – with more added each month. Be sure to visit the archive of all past newsletters, conventions photos, links to our Facebook and Twitter feeds, and other RB info. In the past few months we have tweaked the website to behave well on iPads and iPhones for our mobile fans too.

As always, we continue to send out an e-mail blast monthly (or so) with RB news and info – if you are NOT receiving that please send an email to editor@royalbayreuth.org. Enjoy the Spring!

**New 2012
Member Password Is:**

Get Well Wishes

By Kat Thacker

We recently learned that Roberta Cappel is suffering from thyroid related problems. Bob Larsen has also been ill. Our healing thoughts and prayers go out all our members who are dealing with illness. Be well soon!

Publicity 2012

By Judy Stockwell

It's just me your Publicity Gal writing to remind all of you that I am still waiting for antique and collectible newspapers and magazines that you find in some antique and collectible shops near the checkout area of the store, or the names and addresses of some of those papers that you may see at flea markets, etc. You can hold them until the convention but would like to know about them before hand if possible. **Keep your eyes out for them.**

Also, here is some news for you: For the second time in recent months Kovel.com has had something about Royal Bayreuth in their articles. The most recent one lists the TOP 20 antiques and collectible searches and they are as follows:

1. Occupied Japan
2. Cookie Jars
3. Coca-Cola
4. ROYAL BAYREUTH
(How do you like that?)
5. Royal Doulton
6. Doll
7. Clocks
8. Lamps
9. Amber Glass
10. Royal Copley
11. Red Wing
12. Stove
13. Copeland Spode
14. Milk Glass
15. Lighters
16. Carnival Glass
17. Depression Glass
18. Bavaria
19. Capo-di-monte
20. Records

There was also a picture of a Royal Bayreuth Saint Bernard dog pitcher and it said that it was auctioned off for \$266 at DuMouchelles in Detroit. (It didn't say what size). Keep your eyes open for newspapers, etc. for me and I do look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh in September.

The Royal Bayreuth Jester

By Kat Thacker

We're showcasing our own "April Fool" the RB Jester for this Spring issue. You are probably surprised to see that I (a jester novice) have written this article. I felt compelled to discover as much information as possible once we decided on this theme for April. Not much on the internet. There were some interesting phone conversations between our club experts the Heerholds/Andersons and myself on this subject. Quite a lot is still unknown about this area of collecting, so feel free to give us feedback or share your own experience to illuminate us on this subject!

A wide variety of forms and designs are to be found in the jester pattern: ashtrays, candlesticks, clip/pen holder, covered boxes, creamer, milk, water and lemonade pitchers, hanging match holder, inkwell, paperweight, pipe humidors, stickpin holder and wall pockets.

These are the different sayings found combined with the jester image on each piece:

- Penny in pocket is a merry companion
- Come and welcome, pass by no offence
- Many kiss the child for the nurses sake
- Never say die, up man and try
- More than enough is too much
- Welcome is the best cheer
- A kindly word cools the anger
- Think twice speak but once

It is acknowledged that the original signed drawings were created by renowned porcelain designer Charles



Noke (of Royal Doulton fame) in the late 1890's, early 1900's. Since the Royal Bayreuth factory was somewhat arbitrary in it's markings, positive

dating on these pieces is next to impossible. We have attempted to figure out when the work was actually done for RB. According to Mary's research, he was never on record as an employee of RB, nor was there any known connection between the RB and Doulton factories. Did Noke create these images BEFORE he went to work for Doulton (did they showcase his abilities/help him get the job in 1889???), or was he simply freelancing WHILE he was working for Doulton? His employer must have known about him working with the RB factory. He also created jesters for Doulton. Would there have been no conflict of interest back then? If any of our members have additional information about this - we'd certainly



appreciate their sharing it with us all!

It appears Noke's several different drawings were made into multiple sizes of sepia-colored transfers which were hand-applied to each piece. The diversity in expressions/positions of the figures appears to be from the compression or stretching of the decals to fit the convex vs. concave contours of porcelain shapes. They can look SO different, I originally thought they were each hand-drawn! Resourceful Terry got out his loupe to confirm the actual printing dot patterns in these areas. So we know these transfers were used on the jesters.

We're guessing here as to the order of application, so here goes... The porcelain blank was first airbrushed in a pale yellow/bright green background color then decals affixed. The jester w/his wand, mask vignette (on the backsides of some pcs), typography/sayings and bells are all transfers. The



sayings were designed in a distinctive calligraphical style of writing. It looks like they were individually cut out and applied word-by-word, since they vary in placement on each piece. The images were then hand-colored with the red, black, yellow and flesh-toned glazes. Decorative line/

brush work was applied (string the bells were hanging from, black and yellow stripy details, etc). Only some of the pieces were marked - our experts have found only the blue mark in their years of collecting experience. One thing our experts feel quite certain of, there are more than likely STILL other varieties of the jester out there yet to be discovered!



Many thanks to the

Heerholds, Andersons, and Churchs for sharing their expertise (and photos) with me. I learned a great deal about these particular Royal Bayreuth gems and we've hopefully opened up dialog among our members to perhaps solve the mysteries found here.



Convention 2012 Planning Ahead

By Judy Stockwell

A little information about the upcoming Convention in Pittsburgh PA in September.



Once again we will be having a "Yankee Swap" or "White Elephant" or whatever you want to call it! Seems that everyone has enjoyed it as entertainment at the Banquet over the past few years.

Everyone attending the banquet will be asked to bring a gift with a value of \$10 - \$12. It should be something that will be enjoyed/used by a man or a woman. We all must remember that some of us fly to the Convention so ... it shouldn't be wine or something very delicate that won't be very good to travel on an airplane with. Each person is to put the gift in some type of bag or wrapping and no names on this gift, it should be unmarked so no one will know who brought the gift or what the gift is. The rest of the banquet games will be in another newsletter as the Convention gets closer. This notice is to get all of you "Convention Goers" thinking of a **great** gift to bring for the swap. Try to find something that **everyone** would want ... and that's when the swapping fun begins! **Looking forward to seeing everyone in Pittsburgh !**

Questions? Contact Judy at email: buckhill1@comcast.net or phone: 603-924-3539 or Harriet at email: harrietlavine@yahoo.com or phone: 781-821-1202.

Our China Cabinets

By Chuck and Sandy Heerhold

Here are some more of our beautiful varieties of jesters. We've been collecting them for nearly 20 years, and are convinced there are still many different pieces yet to find!



More Jestors!

by Karen Church

My brother took a few pictures of my jesters for this issue. It's interesting to see the differences not only in the sayings, but the look of the jesters as well (clothes, hats, coloration, size of the jester). You'll see I have one creamer that has no saying on it at all. Some jesters are winking, some have

smirks on their face and some are smiling. I personally like the tray and match striker that I have (I'm missing the cigarette holder and other spent match receptacle). Also the large mug with the dragon handle. Enjoy!



A Request for YOUR feedback from the Auction Chair

MARCH INSERT

By Steve Bartlett

We have been doing our best to brainstorm/improve the annual club's auction. So far, we've received little input from members regarding the auction format they'd like to see for the upcoming convention in Pittsburgh. At the last couple of conventions, some attendees have suggested cutting down on the number of pieces so the auction is shorter and consists of more rare pieces. Another idea is to have one large room where members can display pieces for sale during a set period (in addition to room to room visits). This could be scheduled the day after the auction.

As most RBCC members know, our club auction is traditionally considered one of the highlights of the convention. Our next convention is coming in September. So if you have any other suggestions or thoughts, NOW would be the time to share them. Please email them to me soon at dufferdog@aol.com.

We felt the auction rules were working well this past year. If anyone has any questions, concerns or suggestions about these, please do let me know. Also, if you want to consign pieces for the 2012 auction, please contact me by email or call (401) 885-5889. We are ALWAYS looking for good RB to sell. If you know of a member (or any collector) who has decided to dispose of some (or all) of their collection, please refer them to me so we can pass their treasures on to fellow collectors.

The Club has made it much easier (and more cost-effective) the last couple of years for members to consign pieces. Here are the auction rules for 2012 in Pittsburgh:

2012 Auction Rules

1. Bidders must be current club members. A bidder number is required to bid and will be made available prior to the auction.
2. Absentee bids, mail bids, and e-mail bids are accepted but must be received by the Auction Chairman prior to the auction.
3. All auction items are offered on an "as is" basis. The RBCC encourages you or your representative to thoroughly inspect items before bidding.
4. The Auction Chair has final approval of all pieces in the auction and the pieces will be made available for inspection prior to the auction.
5. The auction is planned for Friday evening of the convention. Room and times will be provided in the Convention Agenda.
6. Changes to the items or descriptions may occur during the auction. Statements made by the Auctioneer take precedence over the catalog.
7. In the event of a dispute, the judgment of the Auctioneer is final.
8. Both the seller's fee and the no sale/did not meet reserve fee have been waived.
9. The RBCC buyer's premium is normally 5% but has been waived once again. THERE IS NO BUYERS PREMIUM FOR 2012!!!
10. Seller may set a minimum reserve on any piece and can bid his/her own reserves, have another club member bid the reserve or ask the auction committee to bid them. The club is not held responsible for any errors/misunderstandings if the Club is asked to bid the reserves.
11. All items must be paid for, picked up and taken home the evening of the club auction. Any delivery fee is the responsibility of the purchaser. Alternate pickup may be arranged through the Auction Chairman in advance of the auction. Items may not be removed from the auction table until paid for.
12. Payment in full either by check or cash is required at the close of the auction. Should the successful bidder not pay for the item at the close of the auction the item may be awarded to the next highest bidder at the discretion of the auction Chair.
13. Some photo images in the auction catalog may deviate slightly from the true color due to variance in monitors or printing.
14. Any items not sold at the auction must be picked immediately following the end of the auction. All shipping costs to return unsold items to absentee sellers are the responsibility of the owner.