



ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

VOLUME TWENTY SIX ISSUE ONE

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Rare Treasures

ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

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A Tale of Two Rabbits

By Wib Beachy

In the last newsletter Kat penned an article about two kangaroo creamers which were for sale in separate auctions in the United States and in England at the same time. In the English auction there was another lot that caught my eye. It featured two pieces, a monk creamer and a rabbit piece said to be a creamer as well. A reproduced photo of that lot appears as those pieces were displayed.

The rabbit piece was noticeably taller than the monk creamer. I pulled a rabbit creamer I had and confirmed the rabbit piece was actually the milk pitcher. A side-by-side comparative photo of them further appears.



Always, always look carefully at any size differential between or among multiple pieces in a lot. Also, do not take a single piece's description as the proverbial Gospel. I know of a number of instances where other milk pitchers have been sold as creamers, water pitchers have been sold as milk pitchers, and lemonade pitchers have been sold as water pitchers. A discerning eye can produce real dividends!

Going To The Dogs

By Harold Brandenburg & Gregg Thacker

Liveauctioneers recently sold an interesting RB dog. Harold tried to bring this one home – but it got away. Listing read: *"This is a very rare Royal Bayreuth figure of a dog with a basket in his mouth. It has the blue Royal Bayreuth hallmark measuring 6" tall, 2" wide and 2" deep. In very good condition, no chips or cracks, wear to the gold gilt on the basket. We looked for information regarding this figure on-line and in three different books and could find no reference a very rare piece."*

Estimated at \$50 ~ \$100 it was sold by Judd's Auction Gallery in Danville, IL for \$1,450 (plus 15% premium, shipping, and possible tax)



From Our President

By Wib Beachy

Hello fellow RBCC members,

Spring is here! The ducks are back on my pond. New deer are showing up with the older ones to feed on the shelled corn I put out in the wheelbarrow at the corner of the field on my property each day. There's a certain freshness in the air to go with the ever-increasing daylight hours, not to mention the warmer temperatures.

More importantly, there are emerging signs that COVID-19 is slowly but surely coming under control. At least three companies have vaccines against the Virus in full distribution mode. Persons age 65 and up, including my wife and I, have been able to be fully vaccinated without any real difficulty. I urge those of you who have not already done so to schedule an appointment to receive one of the vaccines available.

Antique shows -- both indoor and outdoor -- are returning. Because of this, I have begun preliminary planning for a Club get-together later this year. In February I travelled to the Embassy Suites at Valley Forge

to check out the facilities there. That site had been proposed for the next Club Convention after Pittsburgh. I found everything there to be in order. In fact, there was an ongoing clothiers' convention on location at the time I stopped by.

The get-together (notice I'm not calling it a Convention) may not be as structured as past Conventions have been. My thought is to have those in attendance set their own agenda for the most part in dining, shopping, sightseeing and spending time with one another. Adamstown, Pennsylvania's Antique Mecca, is only 40 minutes away. It as well as other area attractions can easily consume an entire day.

Any get-together is contingent on how the pandemic plays out. I know many of you want such a get-together to happen as soon as it can. The camaraderie experienced in past Conventions is something I will always cherish. I look forward to more of the same at our next get-together, whenever that might be.

Looking Back

By Gregg Thacker

Time again to stroll back in time to see what RBCC was doing then. As a reminder, all club newsletters are available to read on our website. Below are some interesting RBCC remembrances...

10 Years Ago (March 2011): A collection of green-themed pieces brightened the cover in reference to St. Pat's. Delbert Carl Highlands wrote a captivating article about how he got started -- with extensive detail regarding elk & moose pieces. Mary Anderson showed off her shoes. Jim Lapp describes buying a holy grail piece -- and finding "batgirl" in Pennsylvania. The Churches shared their cabinet and Santa pieces.

15 Years Ago (March 2006): Plans were being locked-in for the 2006 Milwaukee convention & auction. Dotty Earle provided some good advice about cleaning RB. Judy White interviewed Art Ward about how he got started and his favorite pieces. Janet Belcher introduced herself and her favorite RB. Mike Compton wrote an intriguing article about collecting Brittany Women (with sidebar by Jane Sullivan)

24 Years Ago (March 1997): President Jim Davis was begging for newsletter input (of all the variables in this world **that** is a constant!). Chris & Steve Bartlett had just joined. William Sabin shared encyclopedic detail about RB hand-painted ivory. Tim Gaudet offered information about stray numbers found on RB. Dick Cole provided an informative piece about "look-alikes."

Secretary's Message

By Janet Belcher

Happy Spring Royal Bayreuth Fans. It's a time of subtle signs of a new season --- disappearance of the snow piles, spring flowers starting to poke their heads up and longer, brighter days that bring us hope after a trying year dealing with a pandemic. With the development and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine resulting in a lessening number of positive cases, it looks like a calmer year ahead.

A sincere thanks to all of you that have renewed your RBCC membership! Our numbers are down a bit but the passion and enjoyment off this unique German porcelain remains strong. Our quality newsletter keeps us informed and connected.

We love hearing from you so please share your finds, photos and stories.

Welcome New Members

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RBCC Treasurer's Report (11/30/2020 - 3/31/2021)

By Steve Bartlett

Checkbook Balance as of

11/30/2020:.....\$5,725.71

RECEIPTS

Membership dues

(renewal & new member) . \$2,280.00

Donation from member.....100.00

Total Receipts\$2,380.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Images In Ink

Winter Newsletter.....\$711.14

Reimburse duplicate member

renewal.....\$30.00

Total Disbursements\$741.14

Checkbook Balance as of

3/31/2021:.....\$7,364.57

Website News

By Gregg Thacker

Greetings RB fans – hopefully you and yours made it through the first year of the pandemic – when will it end??? With everyone locked inside, the website did see an increase in traffic – and there are no issues to report. We also saw a lot more traffic on the Facebook page. If you have a FB account be sure to search and join “Royal Bayreuth Collectors Club”. We do share some tips and tricks there (but not the content available to paid members on our website). Paul R. Day and I are Admins of the FB page – if you have trouble just contact one of us.

As a reminder, if you are NOT receiving e-mail updates please send a note to Editor@royalbayreuth.org and we will add you to the list. Happy Hunting!

NEW 2021 Member User Name & Password

(all small letters)

User name:

Password:

Editor's Message

By Kat Thacker

Spring greetings to all our RB friends!

Hoping this finds you all doing well, and enjoying this bit of nicer weather (despite still being somewhat restricted by this awful virus). We're SO thankful that the vaccines are now speedily rolling out, and are looking forward to a few more social activities (following the safety guidelines, of course!) Once the sun is shining, the temperatures warmer, and trees & flowers are budding and blooming, it certainly helps elevate one's mood, doesn't it?

This issue we have some really great articles and photos, packed with lots of RB info (much that I'd never seen before). Our President Wib Beachy came through with a plethora of great things we're sharing in these pages, including many interesting Show & Tell items, and even more of the “RB Lost Years” porcelain we explored in the last issue. Susan Szymanski and Jim Lapp did another stellar job of photographing Wib's many, many pieces. They also found time to write an article about the process of cleaning their salvaged RB after their devastating house fire. It's horrible and heartbreaking to go through something like this, and we're amazed that they were able to actually bring most of their collection back, as well as share this valuable information with us. Thank you to all our contributors!

Wannabee?

By Wib Beachy

No newsletter would be complete without depicting at least one example which mimics Royal Bayreuth but is not Royal Bayreuth. Behold the Crocus Hatpin Holder! Someone took the time and made the effort to reproduce the RB mold for this piece and recreate the same paint colors and finish as the true version. The only give-a-way is the bottom, which is pictured as well. This piece was made to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the International Club for Collectors of Hatpins and Hatpin Holders with Lillian Baker as its President.

I'd like to take a minute here to thank all of you for your continued support of the RBCC. We're so happy you've renewed & paid your dues, and updated your info for the roster & mailing list. We have one more request to make of you...we need your contributions by way of your articles. It's fine if you just want to send in some photos of your RB, or write a couple lines about your latest RB finds. Have you heard of a big antique sale or auction coming up in your area? Let us know. And for our newer members...why not tell us about you, and how you got started collecting RB? What's your favorite piece? How about your best find ever? These are all subjects that are great to share with our fellow members. All contributions are greatly appreciated, so do send a story or something RB in for the next issue. The due date is June 10th for the July newsletter.

Please remember, we simply can't keep creating a great newsletter without fresh material!!!

PS. This April package also includes the annual club roster. Please review your information carefully, and let us know if anything is incorrect. Keep this handy, as we send out updates as we hear of them. Lots of interesting club information is packed in these small pages...especially nice to check out if you're a recent club member.



Notable eBay Sales

By Gregg Thacker

Interesting pieces sold Feb – March 2021. Rounded to nearest whole dollar. Final sale price does not include fees or shipping. Looks like a good time to buy!

Chimpanzee creamer, marked, 4 1/4" high, 4" wide (303935237369)	\$60
Squirrel milk pitcher, BM, matte black finish w/red interior & ears (265076683278)	\$588
Set of 100 lobster dishes, one owner/collector (274720072296)	\$5,500
Pansy cracker jar 6" & pansy creamer 4". Small paint loss (174670602504)	\$266
"Veuve Pommeroy" Covered jar champagne cork (402732555125)	\$305
Black crow milk pitcher 5" tall x 5" wide excellent condition (363257528330)	\$280
Swan (actually an ostrich) creamer Tettau 3 1/2" tall, rarely seen, excellent condition (124555422901)	\$788
Rabbit creamer 4" tall, unmarked, no cracks, chips, or repairs. Few paint skips (114655719631)	\$895
D&C cups & saucers Unmrk. Cups 2 1/4" high, saucers 3 3/4" square. Some wear (254870567112)	\$500
Yellow story match wall holder, BM 4 1/2" high (323974698832)	\$85



The "Lost Years" (Continued)

By Wib Beachy

Kunst-Abteilung Additions As promised, here are photographs (again, courtesy of Jim and Susan) of two more pieces produced by the Art Department or Kunst-Abteilung of the Tettau factory. The first is one of the original 30. It is a highly decorated covered box with a tassel-looking pull on its cover. The second is a later covered oval box with a scarab/beetle top. The modeling, painting, and finish of this piece are all superb. Both pieces feature the traditional

Kunst-Abteilung mark as does a third piece I

have acquired since my last article on the Lost Years of 1919 thru 1939. It is a larger trumpet-type vase with vibrant design and coloration, another one of the first 30 known as the Imperial Line.

Silver Overlay As part of the Jugendstil Movement the Tettau Factory also experimented with producing pieces having a silver overlay with an etched silhouette or portrait incorporated into its overall presentation. A photograph of such a piece, a vase, is featured. Look carefully at the silver-overlay center and you will see a lady holding a hand mirror



The Phoenix Project – Up From The Ashes

By Susan Szymanski & Jim Lapp



Many of our members know that a little over eight years ago Susan and I had a devastating fire, resulting in complete destruction of our home, and that we have since rebuilt on the same footprint. We lost many of our possessions including books and other media, artwork, clothing and furniture. Our Royal Bayreuth collection to that point was heavily compromised, coated with the smoke and other particulate matter. This material is an oily, sparkling mixture that hovers in the air and not only adheres to the surface but goes beyond, entering any unprotected air pockets or crevices.

Luckily all of the collection survived save for one devil and cards creamer. Until now the pieces have been securely packed in bins and stored in the basement. With the ordering of some suitable cabinets we have taken stock of things and decided to try to carefully recondition select items. Seeing again the ruinous condition and smelling the lingering stench of the fire was sickening and disheartening but Susan persevered in the restoration at hand. The following is Susan's outline of tools and methods used in her reclamation process.

Weeks after the fire we were still begging the "restoration professionals" to provide proper cleaning tools. When they finally arrived the product was useless. A team assigned to work with us told us sympathetically that we would "just have to let things go". We did not.

In the end our possessions were saved by a kind neighbor who brought us a gift from the Dollar Tree - a bottle of LA's Totally Awesome. Her instructions were short and sweet - wear a mask, test using diluted Awesome first, and don't use it on anything with metallic trim.

The residue from fire is - dreadful. We tried everything - soap, heat, commercial cleaners, brushes, steel wool, turpentine, alcohol, goo-gone - with no effect whatsoever. It coats

surfaces, but also seeps into every orifice that contains air. This is called "push" - the hotter the fire, the greater the push. For instance, clothes in a dresser drawer may be protected by a closed drawer. But if the "push" is great, that black horror will seep into the cracks of the dresser and between every layer and through every fold of fabric. The clothing in our dressers were stained with brown-black webs from the push. The same is true for the RB - it wasn't just "ash" that landed on the top of things. Where there was air - the black gunk adhered to the surface.

I purchased a one gallon pump-sprayer and filled it with Awesome. We laid vintage linens on the lawn and just coated the black areas. Then into the washer with some of LA's version of OXY. It was labor intensive, sometimes took a few cycles, but we probably saved 80% of our vintage / antique linens. We cleaned furniture, dishes, flatware, glassware, photographs and even some books.

It's only recently that I've braved the first of the Bayreuth - and it's going well. I set a plastic tub in the sink, lined with a disposable towel. In a small container I mixed half warm water, half Awesome. I dampened the piece I wanted to clean, set it on the towel and used a soft, inexpensive paintbrush to apply the Awesome. It took a few rounds of softly scrubbing the surface with the brush to loosen the black horror. I rinsed thoroughly with warm water and let air dry.

The pieces look remarkably good. The soft brush enabled me to tap into crevices. There does not appear to be any discoloration to the color resulting from the fire. We did discover that a few pieces had "touch-ups" that we were unaware of - the Awesome stripped that paint off.

Years ago I found a sweet little RB plate in a junk shop. It has a 1" band of bright orange, a white center and some floral details. It was so black



that the thick orange border was not even visible. I only recognized it by its squarish shape. It was a lesser item, just a curiosity, and so compromised that I had little hope of cleaning it. So I just sprayed the Awesome directly out of the bottle. The black flowed off - but so did the metallic gold trim around the edge! I'd forgotten that detail, and it was not visible prior to cleaning. My neighbor knew what she was talking about.

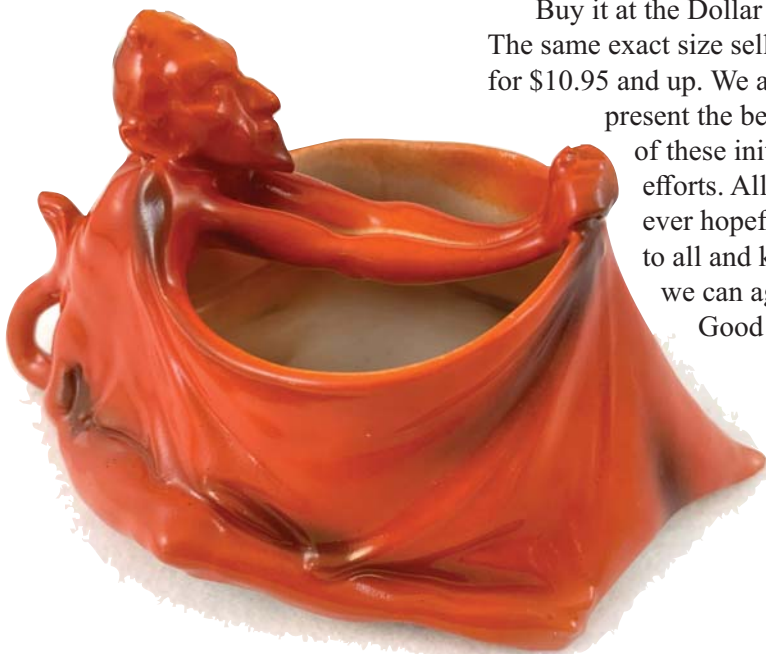
We have many, many more pieces of RB to clean, and some will have matte surfaces. Fingers crossed - we'll have to see how that goes. A new

display cabinet is arriving in May. I'm inspired to keep cleaning and release our collection from its limbo.

Hopefully you'll never face the fire circumstance, but if you do - this remarkable product may bring comfort.

GOLDEN RULES Wear a mask - it's not toxic, I'm pretty sure it's just orange oil. But if you are spraying surfaces it will become airborne and may irritate your lungs. I used it full strength on almost everything - but I recommend testing with diluted Awesome first. Do not use on anything with a metallic trim - it will strip it off.

Buy it at the Dollar Tree - \$1.00. The same exact size sells on Amazon for \$10.95 and up. We are pleased to present the before and after of these initial painstaking efforts. All is not lost, ever hopeful. Good luck to all and keep safe 'till we can again gather. Good hunting...



Behind the Scenes at Woody's Auction

By Jason Woody & Carol Fabarez

Editor's Note: After experiencing first hand their ALL DAY RB auction on February 6th, we were curious just how Woody's pulled this huge online sale together... Many thanks to Jason Woody & crew for sharing this!

Royal Bayreuth: the buying and selling process at public auction

Woody Auction has had the distinct privilege of selling Royal Bayreuth items at public auction for nearly 50 years. During the past 30 years, auctions featuring entire collections of RB only have popped up at some of these auctions and have created mini conventions just in the quantity of people who attended specifically looking for quality Royal Bayreuth.

Many people may not know Woody Auction or the history and reputation that has been built over the three generations of Woody auctioneers. Milton Woody started as an impromptu auctioneer at a local church function which evolved into conducting auctions for the local farmers. John Woody stepped in during the early 60's and quickly grabbed national attention for selling quality antiques with a "no nonsense" approach of selling everything without reserve and never allowing owners or employees to bid. After 70 years, Woody Auction has continued this simple formula in every facet of the auction process, including Royal Bayreuth auctions.

The method of auctioning has remained very much the same but the presence of Online Auctions has really changed the overall "dynamics" from an auctioneer's perspective. Gone are the days when 200 people would



show up to an auction to conduct their bidding in person. However, we now have auctions where 1,000 people are attending from all over the country (and the world!) along with people who are still in the area. As well, many make travel arrangements to attend in person. As always in the past, the highest bidder will own the item being sold, but the dynamics of seeing just a small gathering of individuals in the room while competing against the hundreds of online bidders has been a big learning adjustment as an auctioneer.

To become a bidder, a person needs to simply do one of three methods: (1) attend the auction, register using your driver's license to obtain a bidding card, and wait for your item to reach the auction block in order to try to become the highest bidder. There is no buyer's fee for people who attend in person and pay by cash or check. (2) leave an absentee bid (preferably by email or fax) and let "Woody" bid against competition until either you get the item or are outbid. (There is a buyer's premium for absentee bidding); or (3) register via LiveAuctioneers.com, bid on the computer before the auction or bid live during the auction to try and get the item you have interest in. (There is a buyer's premium for online bidding and bidders should register at least 48 hours in advance).

To become a seller, the first step is actually deciding that an auction is the right process for you. After that very important decision, making contact with a specialist and offering photos of the collection is one of the easiest and most efficient ways to provide the information needed. A listing is helpful but not near as telling as photos can be. As an auctioneer, I look at the overall situation and base the decision for accepting (or not) founded on overall value, distance, and cost associated with moving the collection. Woody Auction has a simple formula: Accepting the auction would be beneficial for the seller and ourselves, otherwise we decline. When Woody Auction agrees to conduct an auction, our commission covers Packing, Transporting, Listing, Photography, Marketing, Employees, Insurance, and everything else involved with conducting the auction.

Royal Bayreuth has always been a part of Woody Auction throughout the years, and we trust it will continue to be an exciting presence in the future.



Show & Tell

By Wib Beachy



Advertising Pieces

The first is a soap dish made especially for Marshall Field and Company of Chicago with views of its top and bottom surfaces. The second is a Masonic humidor featuring an Egyptian scene on so-called “Whiteware” (see Mary’s Book II, page 22). The third is a larger Corinthian plate with a photograph of Niagara Falls superimposed on its center.



Same Molds, Different Fruit (Scenic)

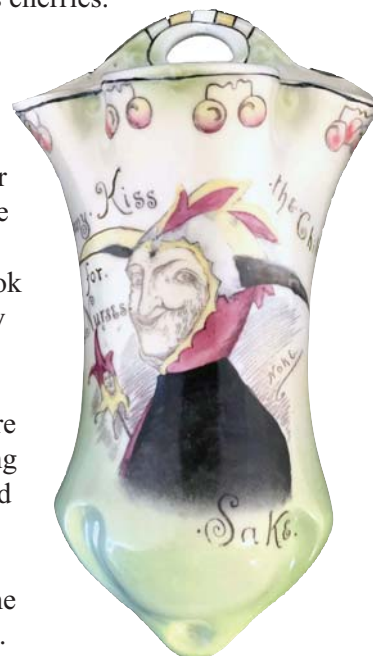
While Royal Bayreuth had to use different molds for its figural fruit pieces, it did not do so for scenic pieces featuring different fruit. Compare the two tea or coffee set groupings pictured. One features grapes; the other displays cherries.



Rarer Pieces The Jester Wall Pocket and Wilhelmina creamer with demi-cup/toothpick holder are shown with the distinctive mark for the latter two. The demi-cup/ toothpick holder was part of a tray lot which sold for next to nothing. Be sure to look



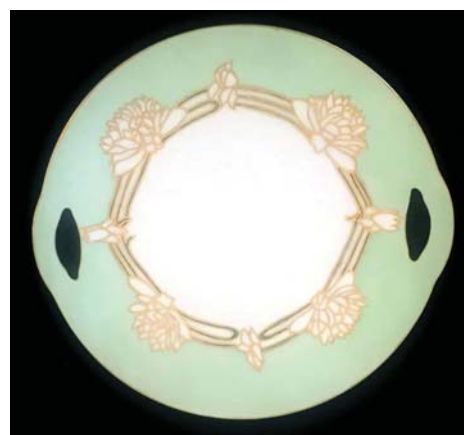
carefully at tray lots, which are becoming more and more of a trend for online auctions.





Posey Pieces

An assortment is displayed. From the Jugendstil Movement there are the silver and white floral candlesticks, the lily pad cake plate and the raised covered dresser jar with unusual poppy decoration. The last is as striking in its own right as are the four figural poppy bowls with very uncommon colors. Later produced was the bulbous blue vase, as evidenced by its mark. A larger gorgeous Chrysanthemum vase and daisy ashtray with the earlier RB mark close out the assortment.



Previously Unknown Venetian Scenic Series

A grouping of three larger pieces (bottom of humidor and two pitchers) and a gold-gilded plate, which is stunning, are parts of this series. I have seen smaller pieces in this series as well, which seems to have been exported to New Zealand and Australia primarily for some unknown reason. All have the earlier RB mark.





Demi-cups and Saucers

Three sets are shown. The first with the earlier Tettau mark has a distinctive cup insert as part of its saucer. The blue swirl design with gold accents to match the insert both catches and keeps one's attention. The second and third sets have the domestic mark used after World War I at the start of the Lost Years with intense art deco designs and colors.



Unique Shape for the Fairy Nymph Series

Closing out Show and Tell for this issue is an unforgettably tall (9 3/4 inches) vase depicting the Fairy Nymph. The artistry exhibited in the colors, subject matter, form, finish and accents is Royal Bayreuth at its finest. In my opinion, this piece represents the best I have ever seen for the Fairy Nymph series.



RB for Sale... with Rebates!

Mal Meyerson is selling off his extensive RB collection via eBay, and would like to sweeten the deal for you and our club in the process...

Any winning bid by a current club member will give a "rebate" to both the buyer and the club's coffers. We'll be sending the full details via email blast soon!

Newsletter

Submission Deadlines

- **June 10 for Summer/July Issue**
- Nov. 10 for Holiday/December Issue
- Mar. 10 for Spring/March Issue

Recent LiveAuctioneer Sales

By Gregg Thacker

Pieces sold by various auctioneers from Feb – March 2021. Rounded to nearest whole dollar. Final sale price does not include fees or shipping. Some amazing pieces and sales!

Tapestry chocolate set BM 8.5" Chocolate pot, (6) 3.5" X 4.75" cups and saucers.	\$3,000
Opossum water pitcher BM 7", Extremely rare.	\$1,600
Two fox candleholders, mirror image, unmarked, 6.25", extremely rare.	\$1,500
Lot of 12 RB devil dishes all are marked	\$1,200
Closed wing yellow butterfly water pitcher BM, 6.75".	\$950
Red Santa water pitcher BM 6.25"	\$950
Elk inkwell w/lid & insert, marked 3.5" x 5".	\$900
Devil & cards match holder BM, 6" X 4".	\$550
Two cat handled creamers BM, 4"	\$550
Bear with stick creamer BM 4.75", Woody Auction did not recall ever selling this particular mold.	\$450
Black crow match holder, BM 4.75" long, 4" wide. hairline & chipping.	\$400
Oval lobster bowl BM 4.75" x 7.5", Lavender & white satin finish.	\$300
Devil & cards covered box BM 2.5" x 3.75"	\$250
Turtle Covered Box BM 2.25" x 6", Lid has had professional restoration which is hard to see.	\$250
Iris Milk Pitcher, Unmarked 5.25". Pink, yellow & green tones, hard to see hairline In handle	\$225
Three RB Mug/pitchers & hound handled mug, decorated with playing cards, elk & cows. Tallest 6" H	\$110
Pansy cup & saucer BM 2.75" x 6" Factory glaze hole on edge of saucer.	\$100
Hatpin holder, rose tapestry 4.5" high. Includes 9 hat pins.	\$100
Sun-Bonnet Babies work day plate and bell set. Limited edition #652 of 1000.	\$80
RB Child's tea set +2 others. Tea pot H 4.5", creamer H 2.5". Large sugar with no lid and creamer.	\$40
Hunting scene match holder BM measuring 4.5" long, 4" across.	\$40

