



VOLUME TWENTY EIGHT ISSUE TWO

AUTUMN 2023



ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

www.royalbayreuth.org

PRESIDENT

Wib Beachy
251 Hickory Hollow Road
Somerset PA 15501
814-443-2796

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Stratman
7814 East Mackenzie Drive
Scottsdale AZ 85251
602-499-3234

TREASURER

Steve Bartlett
1320 Waterford Drive
East Greenwich RI 02818
401-885-5889
dufferdoggri@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Chris Bartlett
1320 Waterford Drive
East Greenwich RI 02818
401-885-5889
chrisbartletttri@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Bartlett
1320 Waterford Drive
East Greenwich RI 02818
401-885-5889

Sandy Heerhold
2011 Eagle View Road
Hendersonville, TN 37075
630-466-7601

Bob Mazza
111 South Compo Road
Westport CT 06880
203-981-0920

Karen Rublatus
48 Jerry Circle
Atoka TN 38004
901-233-3945

Myra Sustae
2613 Springmill Rd
Findlay OH 45840
419-424-0178

EDITOR

Kat Thacker
311 West Drayton
Ferndale MI 48220
editor@royalbayreuth.org
248-545-0392

HISTORIAN

Bob Mazza
111 South Compo Road
Westport CT 06880
203-981-0920

3-29-2023

Editor's Message

By Kat Thacker

Warm greetings to all our RB friends!

Hoping everyone is doing well, enjoying some nice weather and finding some great RB treasures out there, wherever you're looking! And lucky you, if you were a winning bidder on any of the beautiful RB offered at Mary's sale at Woody's.



So many wonderful pieces were offered from Bob & Mary's lifetime of collecting. The Royal Bayreuth was ALL noteworthy due to the provenance of coming from their personal collection, but there were several pieces that truly stood out for me...

All those fantastic mice, squirrels, rabbits, turtles, kangaroos and a tiger too. The gorgeous big purple butterfly water pitcher. The miniature parlor set in white with tiny pink rosebuds was so sweet. Those unusual white satin pearly-purple lobster items. The orchids, magenta pansies, I could go on and on with all the fantastic figural pieces in this sale!

In the spirit of the upcoming season, how about those 24 fabulous SANTAS!!! 2 full-body wallpockets, a lemonade in classic red, several humidors, unusual covered boxes, chambersticks, and multiple waters, milks, creamers, & pitchers. Red, brown & green-coated Santas. This sale was truly once in a lifetime!



In addition to the stellar RB, the McCaslins shared their passion for so many other antiques. My favorites included quite a few pocket-sized salesman's samples; a doll-sized oak dining table w/5 legs, and a wooden washstand complete w/tiny porcelain bowl, pitcher and chamber pot! The standout on my list was a blue enamel cookstove w/cast iron cookware. Just precious.



It was exciting just to see this diverse collection from such a knowledgeable and lovely couple. They were all once-in-a-lifetime items, and will now be undoubtedly cherished by new collectors...

PS. You may have noticed, we are running a bit behind on this Autumn Issue, but feel the wait should be worth it with all these great photos! Our next Issue (Winter 2024) is now coming out in February. Please get any articles, photos or news in by mid-January for inclusion at that time.

Take care of yourselves, and have a peaceful holiday season & healthy new year!

From Our President

By Wib Beachy

Hello again fellow RBCC members,

Two important Royal Bayreuth events have happened since the last Club Newsletter published in the spring. First, after short notice, in mid-June Mary McCaslin's collection went to auction at Woody's.

Never have I seen as many fine pieces sold at one time than was true for her collection. I purchased a number of her pieces for my collection, as can be seen from the one group photograph appearing in this Issue. The fact that they were hers makes them even more special to me as their new caretaker.

Then, in early September, RBCC held its Get-Together at Valley Forge. A detailed article providing a recap of the Get-Together follows. All who attended found it to be fun, educational, and rewarding.

In this Issue, I continue to present and discuss new finds in the Kunst Abteilung, Show and Tell, as well as Wannabe Categories. The photographs accompanying these pieces, while great as always, provide only a partial picture of how truly wonderful they are. Finding them, let alone acquiring them, has been as pleasing an experience as I've ever had – the thrill of the hunt, indeed! What further trophies await their appearance in the Winter Newsletter?

2024 Dues Announcement

By Wib Beachy

After talking with a majority of the Board members, I can now say there again will be a waiver of dues for current Club Members for 2024. Dues for new Club Members will remain at \$30 for the year.

In times where nothing else is going down in price or even staying the same, it's nice to be the exception than the rule.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Newsletter Submission Deadlines:

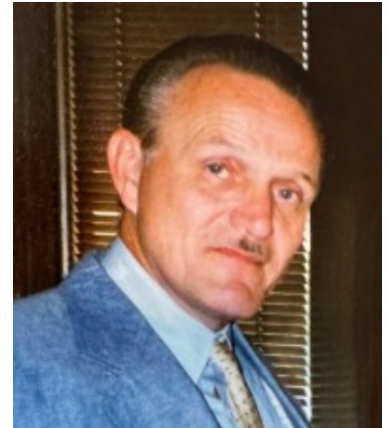
- Jan 15 for Winter Issue
- May 1 for Spring Issue
- Sept 1 for Autumn Issue

In Memorium

By Wib Beachy

Yesterday I was informed that Delbert C. Highlands had passed away on July 24th of this year.

Many of you probably do not recognize his name and, therefore, cannot associate a face with his name, since he was by nature a quiet and unassuming man. That is your loss; I was privileged to know him and interact with him over the years because of our mutual passion for Royal Bayreuth.



He became not only a Club member but also a close personal friend of mine, a fellow Pennsylvanian. While he enjoyed collecting figural pieces, primarily animals, made by Royal Bayreuth, the scenic stag and doe series pieces were favorites of his to acquire. I believe it was because he enjoyed watching the deer on his and his wife's property in the country, as I and my wife do. You may recall his detailed article in a past Club Newsletter on the exact species of deer featured by Royal Bayreuth on its wares.

He was a highly educated, intelligent man – a Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University until his formal retirement in 2007, then a planning consultant for both the Indiana County Office of Planning and Development and Parks Board, while holding his card as a Registered Architect until his death. He was witty and had a sarcastic sense of humor both shared with and enjoyed by me. I already miss and will continue to miss him greatly.

Editor's Note: Delbert joined the RBCC in late 2009. He wrote a wonderful article about how he got started collecting RB with a focus on deer, elk and moose figurals in the March 2011 newsletter which is well worth revisiting. Our condolences to his friends and family.

Obituary: <https://www.bauerfuneral.com/viewObit.php?oID=2955>

Article: https://www.royalbayreuth.org/member/Newsletters/NL_2011_03.PDF

Secretary's Message

By Chris Bartlett

Fall greetings to all our Royal Bayreuth Club members and happy collecting to everyone!

The fall leaves have nearly all blown away and we are getting ready for Winter. Last year in Rhode Island we had a very mild winter but our snow shovels are ready for anything that comes our way.

We hope you are enjoying the digital newsletter with its informative articles and beautiful photographs. Kat and Gregg have done a fantastic job as we continue with this format. A huge thank you to Wib Beachy for all his pictures and the information he has obtained on so many unusual pieces. Kat and Gregg would welcome your articles too so think of what you might share about your collection.

The newsletter is the perfect way to keep in contact with the club as we increase our knowledge of collecting Royal Bayreuth.

Currently we have 71 memberships in 29 states. Hopefully by now you have read the news (Pg 3) that dues have been waived for 2024! If your address, phone, or email has changed please notify me so that I can keep our club records up to date.

Enjoy this newsletter and happy collecting everyone!



Website News

By Gregg Thacker

Greetings Royal Bayreuth Fans!

The website continues to perform well and serve as the source for all things RB. We have seen increasing traffic on the Facebook page and have been directing people to free resources on the web page to answer their questions.

As seasoned RB collectors, we would welcome your input and added topics for our "Frequently Asked Questions" website available at the link below:

<https://www.royalbayreuth.org/FAQ.html>

Our hope is that we can intrigue new collectors with the extensive history of Royal Bayreuth and inspire them to collect and explore all that is available.

Warm wishes for a cozy Winter & healthy holiday season!

Newsletter News

By Gregg Thacker

Due to unavoidable delays in preparing this issue, the Winter issue will be published in February 2024.

Of course RBCC news & updates can always be shared via eMail blast or on the Facebook page. As a reminder, you can read all 100+ past newsletters on our club website here:

http://www.royalbayreuth.org/member/NL_ARCHIVE.html

RBCC Treasurer's Report (3/31/2023- 10/31/2023)

By Steve Bartlett

Checkbook Balance as of 3/31/2022:.....\$5,391.02

RECEIPTS

Total Receipts.....\$0.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Expenses incurred for RBCC gathering.....\$529.47

Annual expenses incurred for web hosting and support.....\$520.00

Annual CNA Surety Insurance.....\$187.00

Total Disbursements.....\$1,236.47

Checkbook Balance as of 10/31/2023:.....\$4,154.55

Mary's Historic Sale

By Gregg Thacker

In June of this year we were all treated to a truly historic auction of Royal Bayreuth pieces. Mary McCaslin sold the collection she and Bob had lovingly gathered over many decades. Much of the collection appeared in the collectors books she and Bob authored as well as numerous articles in these newsletter pages.

It was unfortunate that the sale was only online. Our imaginations ran wild a few years ago when we heard Mary would have such a sale. Imagine the event we all could have had attending the sale and meeting old friends (human & porcelain).

The good news about an online sale was that we could all "attend" from the comfort of home. And that the sale images and data would be available for future enjoyment.

You can view the sale now at the link below, and see prices if you sign-up for a free

https://www.liveauctioneers.com/catalog/289911_6-10-23-online-only-royal-bayreuth-and-more/

LiveAuctioneers account. I was able to save an image and sell price for each lot as archived files for future research if the LiveAuctioneers site ever disappears.

There were over 740 lots in the sale with 200+ containing RB. That was nearly 400 pieces of RB, including some of the finest examples in the world. Prices in my opinion were strong, with the average hammer price per piece (not lot) being about \$350, and that does **not** include the 20% Buyers Fee or shipping/taxes. But these were the best of the best plus included the McCaslin provenance. Be sure to read Wib's report of the sale later in this issue.

We bid on 10 pieces, but sadly came away empty-handed. It just means that we will treasure the pieces we previously purchased from Mary all the more! Kat gathered a few favorite images from the sale on the cover. But some cold night, treat yourself to exploring the entire collection again, with several views of each piece still online, at the link below!

Kunst Abteilung Additions

By Wib Beachy

Two more Art Department pieces have been added in my collection. They share a similar size and motif with a figural beetle on the top of their lids. I believe they were to serve as small covered pin or jewelry boxes. They complement the large pieces with the same motif I have as well.



By Wib Beachy

While the turnout was limited, those who attended said it ranked among the best of the events held by the Club over the years. After a meet and greet on Thursday night, most of Friday was spent antiquing in Adamstown, the Antique Capital of Pennsylvania. Three malls featuring literally hundreds of dealers were scoured for treasures to take home. Supper at Maggiano's Little Italy followed – a delightful experience in its own right. The food was superb!

Saturday saw a trolley tour of the Valley Forge encampment site within Valley Forge National Park. The tour guides were as knowledgeable as any I've ever encountered. They were able to paint a picture of how challenging the conditions were for those

Show and Tell

By Wib Beachy

Leading off Show and Tell for this Issue, as promised in the Spring Issue, are not one, but two, Oyster & Pearl salt and pepper sets in the green and caramel color variations.

Quite rare, they are the shorter versions of the hat pin holder in this series, as shown. There is also a magenta color variation, as evident from the one hat pin holder pictured.

Room hopping after the tour produced an ostrich creamer for me. As pictured, there were some other great pieces which surfaced. Among them were a

black squirrel milk pitcher, two flounder milk pitchers of different color variations and a moose milk pitcher as well as creamer.

Saturday's supper found us at the nearby Black Powder Inn. Again , the food did not disappoint. By the end of the day, I was ready for bed to get recharged for the return home Sunday. The staff at the Embassy Suites was very accommodating. Check in and check out were without any

problems whatsoever. The morning buffets and the evening happy hours were what I've come to expect from Hilton.

All in all, the get-together went as smoothly as any I've overseen in the past. Those of you who did not attend really missed out. Hopefully, you'll attend the next Club event, whenever that opportunity presents itself.



Continued on next page

Show and Tell (Continued)

Next are two different scenic series utilizing the same larger vase. One is the steamship with other ships in the background, without mark. The other is the sunset by water, with the green mark indicating it was for export. Each displays quite nicely.



A wonderful Art Nouveau scenic poppy tall cylinder follows. The colors are both warm and vibrant. It makes a perfect companion for the Tulip vase featured in the Spring Issue. Like the Tulip vase, it is the first of its kind I have encountered in this style.



Next is a discovery piece, thought to exist, but never seen before – The Art Nouveau Lady hanging match holder. Of the full color variation it has the early blue mark. It joins my permanent collection.



From Australia come two predominantly single-color pieces, which catch the eye because of precisely that. The first is a green small candleholder set; the second is a blue (with yellow interior accent) standing match holder with striker. Both have the early blue mark. I have seen the same blue color of the match holder used for outrageous versions of the Poodle and Water Buffalo creamers known to exist.



Continued on next page

Show and Tell (Continued)

Another Heliosine vase has been acquired by me. It is extremely small in size but still able to accommodate both a blue mark and identifying button on its bottom. Unlike Austrian wares of this type, Royal Bayreuth examples display a delicacy in style and weight unique to Royal Bayreuth.



Just as small is the Art Deco miniature vase in light green with gold and cream colors. If the design of this piece seems familiar, its gargantuan cousin appeared in an earlier issue of the Newsletter. Viewed side by side they are the proverbial Mutt and Jeff of my collection.

Blending both Art Deco and Art Nouveau Styles together resulted in an unusual flask-shaped vase on pedestal base featuring the silhouette of a woman in both dress and headdress dancing. It is a perfect example of the transitional period involved. The Golden (in Germany) and Roaring 20s (in the United States) were about to unfold.



Last but not least are two cup and saucer sets, chosen as examples made by the Tettau Factory before and after the time frame associated with the wares known as Royal Bayreuth. The first is the demitasse cup and saucer set in the blue swirl over white pattern with gold accents. It has the older Tettau mark. The second is the limited production Picasso series cup and saucer set from 1994-6. That series included candleholders, as can be seen in the group photo of the pieces I acquired from Mary's collection.



Mary's Auction -- My Take

By Wib Beachy

On June 10, 2023 Woody Auction sold Mary's Royal Bayreuth collection. As you know, short notice of the auction was given, after Gregg and Kat “stumbled” across it. Their email blast was the first I was aware of it.

Needless to say, I (and I'm sure many of you) scrambled to garner whatever monies were available for use as a war chest in battling for pieces that may never be available for purchase again in our respective lifetimes. I was successful in acquiring the pieces shown in the group photograph. They were ones I wanted for my permanent collection.

Of course, the Polar Bear pitcher and scuttle mug as well as Lady Bug covered sugar were must haves. So were the two humidors: the large Bassett, which I had never seen before, and small Santa Claus, which I had sold to Mary and Bob years ago. All of the kangaroo pieces were bought for my wife, since that is her favorite animal. The Chimp and remaining pieces were sought for their style and/or whimsy. While I was not successful in getting all that I wanted, I'm very happy with what I did get.



The Auction realized prices that, in my opinion, were as good, if not better, than one would expect in today's market. While I know parting with these pieces may have been difficult for Mary, as I told both Bob and her in the past, we are only caretakers and not forever owners of them. The time always will come for a caretaker (like a runner) to pass them (like a torch) to another for caretaking. I know the monies realized from the auction couldn't be going for a better purpose than Mary's usage as she sees fit at this stage of her life.

Wannabes (Maybes)

By Wib Beachy

Closing out my contributions to this issue are three pieces I have selected for this category. First, as a definite Wannabe, is the Elk ashtray manufactured by Gerold Porzellan. As the mark indicates by the designation of W. Germany, it is a later piece which was made between 1949 and 1989. Gerold Porzellan was the successor to Neu Tettau.



Second is a piece which may or may not be a Wannabe. It is a covered Rabbit dish that could be a covered sugar. The design, weight, colors and finish all suggest Royal Bayreuth, while the specific mold used for the Rabbit vessels does not. It has an impressed number on its bottom, which Royal Bayreuth was known to use for experimental pieces. If only this piece could talk and resolve the question!



Finally, I have a Pumpkin cracker jar, which I believe was made by Royal Bayreuth. Again, the design, weight, colors and finish are right. It almost passes as a twin for its Tomato counterpart. It is marked Bavaria on its bottom.

Fun eBay Finds

By Kat Thacker

Of the many items we have seen recently, these are a few of our favorite oddities since the last issue....

Just a tomato, but with provenance. The funny writeup on eBay is shown below. Anyone recognize this piece?

"This Antique Royal Bayreuth porcelain tomato with lid is a must-have for any collector of decorative pottery. The red and green color scheme is eye-catching and adds a lovely touch to any room. This covered bowl with underplate stands at a height of 3.5 inches and has a length and width of 4.25 inches, making it the perfect size for a decorative centerpiece."

The item is an antique original and features the brand Royal Bayreuth. It was purchased at SAKS FIFTH AVE and is made of high-quality porcelain. The material and features of the item truly make it a special piece. Get your hands on this unique and decorative box, perfect for any collector or lover of antique pottery. Listed for \$16.95" <https://www.ebay.com/itm/335026364084>



The next piece sure seems to be molded after the RB parrot/parakeet. But is not marked RB, instead it is marked "Monterey Pottery California" and described as "Mid Century Modern." Listed as a ceramic parrot creamer 3.5 in tall with no chips or cracks for \$20 (not sold as of press-time). <https://www.ebay.com/itm/295929135356>



Continued on next page

Fun eBay Finds (Continued)

Finally we have an odd-colored geranium pitcher. The eBay listing says it all:

Royal Bayreuth Geranium Pitcher Beige and Pale Green Luster with Gold Accents and Blue Flowers. A gorgeous vintage Bavarian Royal Bayreuth porcelain water pitcher in the form of geranium flowers in a soft, light green and beige color with blue flowers at handle. Luster finish with gold detail highlights. Decorated with a curved stem handle. Stamp Marked in blue: Royal Bayreuth Bavaria, Depose (Registered) Circa: the early 20th century.

Measurements: (Approximately) Height: 6 1/3 inches Width: 7 inches with handle Diameter at rim: 3 1/2 inches Capacity: 1 Quart Weight: 1.2 pounds. Well cared for pitcher. There is a crack at the handle on the top narrow "branch" which connects the handle and the pitcher. Please see last photo for condition, circled. <https://www.ebay.com/itm/155809745384>

