



# ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

VOLUME TWENTY NINE ISSUE ONE

WINTER 2024



## True Love Always



# ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

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3-29-2023

## Editor's Message

By Kat Thacker

Greetings RB friends.

Hard to believe another new year has begun. Wishing all our members a 2024 of peace, joy and good health!

There have been several auctions and sales which included some nice RB in recent months. Founding club members Harold & Joeleen Passow are selling off a lifetime's collection of antiques (including some beautiful RB) at an upcoming Woody's Auction on March 2, link below. Some interesting pieces are also popping up on eBay lately. The Toby Jug Museum is selling off some of their pieces including some nice RB on eBay. The seller is: <https://www.ebay.com/usr/britishcollectibles-chicago> Hoping we can all get out there and find some great treasures once the warmer weather makes outdoor sales more enjoyable.

Sadly, the last several months have been tough for many of us. We are heartbroken to share the passing of 3 of our earliest club members: Mary Anderson, Mary McCaslin and Chuck Heerhold. All three were SO important to the RBCC over the years, serving as Board Members, an Editor, an Auction Chair, AND Club Presidents & VPs. Their "lesser" contributions include volunteering for many different duties, as well as hard work on most of our conventions. Adding to that, their extensive knowledge about our favorite porcelain that they were always enthusiastic to share with fellow members! We shall miss them...

*Our Winter cover is a Valentine's Day treat with a vignette of RB in sweet pastels. Enjoy a sugar-free taste!*



# WANTED

- STORIES
- PHOTOS
- FINDS
- MEMORIES

## FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE!

RBCC founding members Harold & Joeleen Passow are selling some of their amazing collections with several beautiful RB pieces on March 2, 2024 at the link below!

[https://www.liveauctioneers.com/catalog/318611\\_3-2-2024-harold-and-joeleen-passow-collection/](https://www.liveauctioneers.com/catalog/318611_3-2-2024-harold-and-joeleen-passow-collection/)

## From Our President

*By Wib Beachy*

Hello Fellow RBCC Members,

Hopefully, you're staying warm this Winter Season and are not yet in any doldrums. While it has been cold at times to start the season, it also has been unusually warm at other times. I've already begun the countdown to Spring, whether or not Punxsutawney Phil, our celebrity groundhog, agrees with me in doing so.

December was a rough month for my wife and me. After avoiding Covid for over three years, we had our good fortune end after visiting our second granddaughter for several hours at our son's home near Harrisburg. Unknown to us and her parents, she had contracted the trifecta of Covid, RSV, and the flu, all of which landed her in the hospital for nearly two weeks after we returned home. Linda and I contracted only the Covid from her, but that was bad enough, given our age and health conditions.

Christmas came and went without any real celebration by us, as we convalesced at home. I'm happy to report we're now back to normal and very glad that experience is behind us.

As you know from Gregg and Kat's email blast, December also was rough with the passing of Mary McCaslin, who along with Bob was instrumental in the club's founding, later becoming its Secretary. She spearheaded the writing and publishing of the two reference books primarily used by those who collect Royal Bayreuth. My full remembrance of her appears later in this Issue.

In transitioning from 2023 to 2024, I was able to add a number of pieces to my collection, as you will see. They include a further Patriotic cup and saucer with a bold blue background, three more Kunst Abteilung pieces, a striking Heliosine vase, several Santa Claus and Devil vessels, another discovery item (Lady Clown pipe rest), the full-bodied Lady in Flowing Gown vase, and other oddities if not rarities. The Santa Claus and Devil pieces largely came from a culling of excess inventory by the Toby Museum outside Chicago. Coming on the heels of Woody's auction of Mary's collection, because of their number, they attracted substantially lower amounts than their true worth. I doubt that 2024 will see the number of great offerings 2023 had for Royal Bayreuth.

## My Memory of Mary McCaslin

*By Wib Beachy*

Mary was the perfect counterpart to Bob. She had the eye of an artist and an ability to design and decorate few others possess. Coupled with his ability to organize and plan endeavors and events, they were the perfect pair to compile and publish not one, but two, reference books on Royal Bayreuth as well as a leading book on R.S. Prussia. More than twenty years later these works are recognized as the among the best, if not the best, ever done in their respective fields.

Mary was gracious and unassuming in all my interactions with both her and Bob and later just her. She would telephone periodically and talk with my wife Linda as much as she talked with me. She, Bob, and I all shared the same passion for Royal Bayreuth, and it showed.

While I miss her, I know that she and Bob are in a better place – reunited and enjoying each other's company as they had in this world.



## 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>

Think Spring!

## Secretary's Message

By Chris Bartlett

Welcome to the online Winter Newsletter!

Brrrr.....with the frigid weather gripping much of the country, the Royal Bayreuth Polar Bear scenic pieces would feel right at home. Right now, I am hoping that spring is just around the corner and I can think about the Butterfly, Ladybug, and Pansy pieces instead!

We are delighted to welcome a new member to the club.

Polly Ellsweig  
4600 Beechcroft Dr.  
Greensboro, NC 27407  
Phone 336-508-7032  
Email [Ellsweigp@gmail.com](mailto:Ellsweigp@gmail.com)

Since we are no longer publishing new rosters, please be sure to add her information to the one you have. Currently we have 71 memberships, representing 30 states.

Once again, we were delighted to waive the dues for 2024. I want to keep our club records up to date so if your address, phone, or email has changed please notify me at [Chrisbartlettri@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisbartlettri@gmail.com) or 401-885-5889. Thank you.

Enjoy this newsletter and happy collecting to everyone!

### Newsletter Submission Deadlines:

- May 1 for Spring Issue
- Sept 1 for Autumn Issue

## My Remembrances of Mary Anderson and Chuck Heerhold

By Wib Beachy

Two memories of Mary Anderson stand out for me.

One is her and Terry's willingness to help me in any way they could, when I needed their help. They were the go-to people for the entertainment program following the banquet dinner on the final night of the Club's Convention for several years. They were witty and charming in providing everyone in attendance with smiles and laughter over their games and presentations.

The second is the sharing of her and Terry's knowledge of what they had learned about Royal Bayreuth over time. They were valuable authorities to consult over any authenticity concerns one might have about a given piece. She and he had seen it all.

What I remember most about Chuck Heerhold is his vast knowledge about Royal Bayreuth as well. We had many, many conversations about what led up to the founding of the Club, the extraordinary pieces he had encountered, and what the future held for both the Club and continued interest in Royal Bayreuth. Several of my finer pieces are ones I acquired from Sandy and him.

My sincere condolences go out to Terry and Sandy. With Mary McCaslin's passing, the Club has lost not only three members but also pillars of its past existence.

It will not be the same without them in going forward.

### RBCC Treasurer's Report (10/31/2023- 1/31/2024)

By Steve Bartlett

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

#### RECEIPTS

New Member .....\$30.00  
Total Receipts .....\$30.00

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Expenses for mailing plaques .....\$15.20  
Total Disbursements .....\$15.20

Checkbook Balance as of 1/31/2024:.....\$4,169.35



# Remembrances of Mary McCaslin

By Kat & Gregg Thacker

We were so saddened to hear of Mary's passing on December 21, 2023. Mary was our guru, mascot, and the heart of the RBCC. She and her husband Bob were the "go to" couple on RB, having spent many years collecting and researching; amassing information from trips to the Tettau Factory on maker's marks, mould varieties and the many details on the production of our RB. They were founding Club members, Truly, without them there would be no club.

Her books are a timeless resource on RB's variety, and reflection of how much she loved RB, RS Prussia and other porcelain. She and Bob were also authorities on Antique Glassware, Salesman's Samples and many other antiques. Mary was always fun, informative, inquisitive and generous with her time at club events. We were always SO impressed by her stamina (& continued enthusiasm) in later years. This lady was enjoying trips riding recumbent bikes w/her son past her 80's! Plus, her birthday was on Valentine's Day!

After the sad news had been shared by email in December, several members shared how much they will miss Mary and Bob. May they rest in peace.

To view Mary's obituary and guest book visit: <https://www.conklefuneralhome.com/obituary/mary-j-mccaslin>





# Remembering Mary Anderson

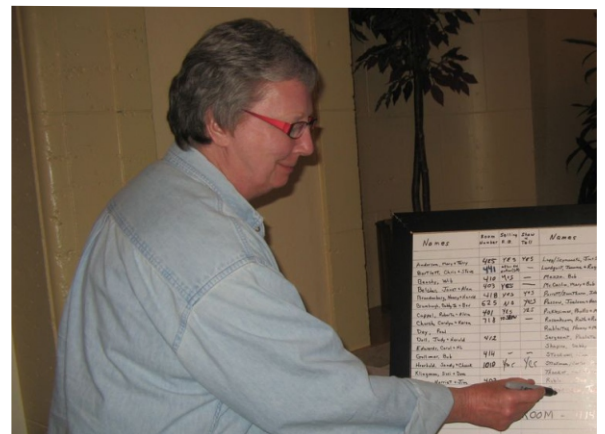
By Kat & Gregg Thacker

In December we also learned that Mary Anderson passed August 18, 2023. We are so sorry that we heard about it so late.

Mary & Terry were RBCC members from the earliest days. They served on the Board and were past Presidents and Vice Presidents (creating the title of “Co-President” when they shared those duties). A creative pair, they had a knack for beautifully displaying their many pieces.

Mary loved collecting, especially her beloved RB shoes and hats (which she had stellar knowledge of). The wall pockets. The Jesters. Vintage costume jewelry. The two of them shared their many, many antique treasures with us over the years, in presentations at our conventions, as well as great articles for our newsletter.

We wish Terry, their family and all who knew Mary, peace and comfort.





# Unforgettable Chuck Heerhold

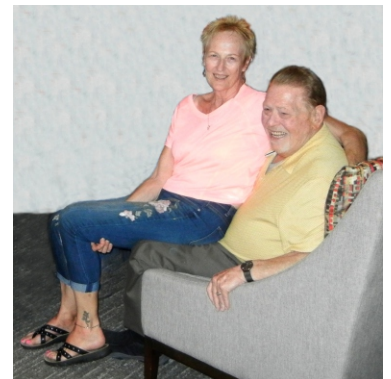
*By Kat & Gregg Thacker*

We learned of Chuck's passing on January 16th. It's hard to imagine not seeing/hearing our friend Chuck at another club event or auction. Chuck & Sandy Heerhold are amongst the founding members of the RBCC. Chuck was the first Editor of this newsletter and an auction chairman. He also helped Sandy take on her many RBCC club duties. Chuck was the spark that lit up a room, with a fascinating story, joke and hearty laugh! He was eager to share their latest RB discoveries during show & tell and offer ideas to move the club forward.

In addition to their extensive variety of RB, he and Sandy had amazing collections of Schafer-Vater and Ernst Bohne porcelain that we were lucky enough to have seen on a visit to their beautiful home outside Chicago.

I will always remember him sharing his "rule at auctions" with me many years ago. He told me to go ahead and bid "just one more time" once reaching my set limit. It worked out many a time, with me coming home with that special piece that almost got away!

A celebration of Chuck's life is planned on May 17th near Chicago. To view the event or photos follow Chuck's page on Facebook (his Son John is keeping it active). Everyone who knew Chuck misses him, and we all wish Sandy and her family comfort & peace.





## Patriotic and Kunst Abteilung Additions

*By Wib Beachy*

Leading off this Issue is another Patriotic cup and saucer set with a bold blue background. With the Iron Cross and gold wreath as well as banding, this set is my favorite one of the series.



Next are three more Kunst Abteilung or Art Department pieces. Two are of the original Imperial Line – the decorative vase and the circular covered box. Note their similarity in floral design and colors.

The third piece is a later scenic landscape covered box. All have the same early mark of the Art Department of the Tettau Factory.



## Show and Tell

*By Wib Beachy*

As mentioned in My Message, there was a large culling of excess inventory by the Toby Museum outside Chicago and the listing of those pieces on eBay to close out 2023. They included both the Santa Claus and Devil series. Most of the larger pieces of the Santa Claus series in all three color variations plus the so-called breakfast creamer (not the same one in Mary's collection) are shown in the one group photograph.

The Devil series was the complete water, milk pitcher, and creamer set in the red coloration. In addition, there was a back Devil creamer, as shown. It has the early blue mark.



*Continued on next page*



## Show and Tell (Continued)

Next is a larger Heliosine vase in the varied coloration for this series. Its swirled design has an Art Nouveau flavor. It has both the blue mark and attached “seal”.



The Lady in Flowing Gown follows. This extremely rare piece came from the West Coast. Having the early blue mark, she joins her sister (who has a more colorful gown) in my permanent collection.



Sticking with the ladies leads to the discovery piece for this Issue – the Lady Clown pipe rest. While unmarked, the design, color and weight or “feel” of this piece are unmistakably Royal Bayreuth.



The same can be said for the Lady Golfer heart-shaped trinket dish. It is the second of its type I've ever encountered.



I have a fondness for the Nymph or Fairy series as well. I picked up three pieces, two of which are a matched pair and one of a different coloration. They are all shown in the group photograph below.



The Stag and Doe series is represented by the Hat Pin Holder, as pictured. It, also, is a very rare piece. I know that Delbert Highlands, if he were still alive, would want it for his collection.

*Continued on next page*



## Show and Tell (Continued)

Two scenic peacock pieces further appear. One is a two-hole mini-vase and the other is the hair receiver. They are the first of this series I've encountered.



The scenic Sunset pitcher and large steamship jug follow. While I have a number of other pieces for these series, the two shapes are unique. The scene on the Sunset vase is the first of its kind for me as well.



Last, but not least, is the error piece: the orange painted lemon covered mustard with spoon. Error pieces by definition are uncommon.



## Wannabes (Maybees)

*By Wib Beachy*

As usual, the Wannabe category closes out my contributions to this Issue. The unmarked scenic bird series depicted by the open sugar shown is usually attributed to Royal Bayreuth. I have a number of pieces for this series because of its design and colors.



A purple luster candleholder because of its boldness in both color and glaze qualified for Inclusion in this Issue. It joins the two all green vases, misidentified as candlesticks, found in the last Issue.

*Continued on next page*



## Wannabes (Continued)

The earliest piece featured in this Issue is the unmarked blue and white cat-handled creamer believed to have made in Germany. Because of its heavier weight I do not believe it to have been made by the Tettau Factory which produced Royal Bayreuth.



That does not mean its design, however, was not used by Royal Bayreuth in creating what it did for its later cat-handled wares.

Finally, in contradistinction to one another, are two scenic hunting salt and pepper shaker sets. The one set is clearly Royal Bayreuth. Just as clearly, the other set is not. It was made in Japan. While it has similarity to the Royal Bayreuth version not shown, it is lacking in the detail, colors, and finish of Royal Bayreuth.

That's all for now. Keep well. God willing, I'll return with more in the Spring Issue.



## Fun eBay Finds

*By Kat Thacker*

Of the many items we have seen recently, these are a few of our favorites since the last issue! You can search eBay using the item number provided (for about 3 months after the auction ends). Titles and descriptions are verbatim from eBay listings....

### **Royal Bayreuth Rare Green Triple Penguin Match Holder.**

Asking \$125  
Royal Bayreuth  
Three penguin  
green match  
holder with  
striker. This  
piece is in  
excellent  
condition with  
no damages of  
any kind. It  
measures 4 1/2  
inches tall and  
has strikers on  
both sides.



Thank you. Item 275079574555

### **Beautiful Royal Bayreuth Pansy Tea Set!**

Asking \$529 These colors pop and truly chase away the winter blahs! Fantastic condition- no chips, no cracks, no repairs! 7 great pieces: Tea pot, Tea cup and saucer, Plate, Nappy, Creamer, Covered sugar All are marked. Item 225932393286



*Continued on next page*



## Fun eBay Finds (Continued)



### **Royal Bayreuth Rare Polar Bear Scene, Small Double-Handled Vase. 6" tall**

Asking \$225 Pre-Owned, has a small manufacturers flaw on the bottom rim and a scuff and very small paint chip at the bottom front of the vase. If you have any questions, please ask. Item 185964755775

### **Beautiful Royal Bayreuth Lemon Salt and Pepper Shaker Set.**

Sold \$56.72 They are 3" tall and 3" long. There is damage to the foot of the salt shaker. Happy Bidding Item 225980175033



### **Royal Bayreuth Brown Bunny Cream Pitcher 4 1/4" Handle**

Sold \$450 This Royal Bayreuth Brown Bunny Cream Pitcher is a vintage piece that'll add a touch of sweetness to your collection. Made of pottery, it features a cute bunny handle that'll surely catch your eye. The pitcher is brown in color and has a printed backstamp. It's perfect for serving cream or milk during tea time or for displaying as a decorative item. Few minor wear spots but overall great piece and well worth the money. Item 395012482447



### **Rare Royal Bayreuth Devil and Cards Side Plate / Candy Dish. Green Mark.**

Sold \$430 Was a gift 30 years ago and has been in my possession and not been used even once in that entire time period. Perfect for lovers of German porcelain, collectors, artists, or gamblers ;) No chips, cracks, or repairs. Item 375183050727



### **Rare Antique Christmas Royal Bayreuth Porcelain Candlestick "Santa Claus"**

Asking \$1,950, sold for unlisted amount. Manufactured by ROYAL BAYREUTH Germany Height of the item 20.5 cm We ship worldwide! If you have any questions, please contact us! Item 225979985166

