



ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

VOLUME TWENTY FIVE ISSUE TWO

July 2020



Some Bluebird Joy

ROYAL BAYREUTH COLLECTORS CLUB

www.royalbayreuth.org

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Bluebirds of Happiness

By Susan Szymanski

Editor's Note: Our beautiful cover shot of a grouping of bluebirds was sent in from Susan Szymanski.

The other photos (with descriptions) from her collection here are to share some “happiness” with fellow members. We all are needing some of that right about now!



OVAL VASE bluebird & floral motif w/matte blue finish on lower half, #9 blue mark, signed “Betty” measures 8” tall.



ROUND VASE #15 blue mark w/ signature “A. E. Ward” (we believe from the collection of Art Ward) measures 8” tall.



SUGAR & CREAMER Not quite a Bluebird, more an Indigo Bunting, but it still makes me happy. Creamer measures 3.5” tall #15 gold mark, signed “L.J.” Covered Sugar measure 4.75” tall.

From Our President

By Wib Beachy

Hello again Club Members. Well, the past four months have been memorable, to say the least! First, there has been a global pandemic of a size and severity not seen in more than 100 years. While the first wave has crested, it is still ongoing with a second wave predicted to follow in the fall.

As if that were not enough in its own right, with it came the nationwide shutdown in mid-March thru the end of May. While that shutdown has ended for most of the country, it continues in part for other sections of the country.

There are signs the national economy will rebound. However, some businesses will not return and those that do will be changed in their daily operations. The damage done by the shutdown not just in dollars and cents but also to the raw psyche of many in their outlook for what lies ahead has been profound.

My hope is that we emerge as a better nation in the days ahead if only we can survive as a nation until then.

With all that being said, the hiatus for any national club events will continue thru the end of the year. With the worldwide travel restrictions in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there cannot be any meaningful planning for an overseas trip to the Tettau

Saying Goodbye

We have lost two beloved club members recently and offer information on their obituaries below:

Founding member Al Friedrich passed on June 12, 2020 at the age of 92 joining Wanda who passed in January 2018. The Friedrichs were avid collectors and frequent contributors to our newsletter (an example in this issue). Their Daughter, Jan Davis is also a member of RBCC and can be reached at 504 Autumn Run Ct, Wentzville MO 63385 (636-798-2039) or jandavis.realtor@yahoo.com.

Al's obituary is available online at this link: <https://www.pitmanfuneralhome.com/obituary/Albert-Friedrich>

Longtime member Carol Edwards passed on May 11, 2020 at the age of 91 joining Husband Harold (H.L.) who passed in August 2017. We miss Carol's smile, her work on the RBCC board and contributions to the hospitality rooms over the years. Her obituary, and video of her service can be found at this link: <https://www.ilesfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Carol-L.-Edwards/Des-Moines-Iowa/1873432>

Factory this year as well. Both will be reconsidered as changes in the current circumstances permit. I continue to welcome any feedback from you on either's score.

I also encourage you to become more active in the submission of articles and other items of interest for the Club's Newsletter. The Newsletter offers you a perfect forum for displaying and discussing Show and Tell as well as Wannabe RB pieces you have for the benefit of the Club's other members. If you have pieces for sale, they also can be listed and made known to the Club as a whole. Properly supported, the Newsletter can address many aspects covered by the agenda of past Conventions. The key is for you to provide such support.

In closing, I want to give a shoutout to Bob Mazza, who was both kind and considerate enough to personally call and check on both my wife's and my well-being at the outset of the pandemic. Neither one of us is the proverbial spring chicken at this point in our respective lives, even though we are younger and perhaps healthier than many of you. To all of you, please stay safe. I continue to wish you well.

Secretary's Message

By Janet Belcher

Summer greetings to all! Hope that everyone is well and adapting to the "new normal", however that may look for you. We've all seen dramatic changes in our lives during the last few months and have had to adjust to a new routine and practices.

I have enjoyed and appreciated the personal contacts by phone, text messages and even personal notes and cards. It is so meaningful to remain in touch with family and friends and such a blessing to those involved so don't hesitate to send a kind word to club members. The newsletter could be a welcome source to let others know how you are doing and how you are spending the extra time at home. And have you been introduced to Zoom like I have been by family?

Please welcome our newest member Sam Pimm of Alexandria, Virginia!

Welcome New Member

Sam Pimm
501 Slaters Lane
Alexandria, VA 22314
parkerandseavers@outlook.com

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

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

Editor's Message

By Kat Thacker

Hello fellow RB friends!

It's been rather a pistol of a year, and looking like more stress is most likely coming. Gregg and I have been hunkered down here in Ferndale since the first week of March (when I had my knee replacement). I'd only gone out twice weekly for my physical therapy sessions, with G driving, running the household, doing the shopping and taking care of all the business, including RBCC responsibilities. After many LONG months, I'm finally getting a bit more done. I'd like to thank him for ALL he's done (and continues to do) for all of us with the website and the newsletter duties as you will soon see!

Odd how things work out about us canceling convention – then the fates canceling everything! When the Board decided to cut our newsletter issues down to three (once the conventions were off the table) we felt it was a positive thing. The bigger gaps between issues should allow

members more time to submit articles, and we could really fill each one with more informative RB info (instead of just upcoming convention details). Even with the COVID-19 shutdowns happening across the country, and people being stuck at home, we didn't get much in the way of submissions. So we're doing our best to pull items of interest from past issues (hopefully WITH updating!) as well as featuring some other "sister porcelain companies" like Mitchell Woodbury and old vintage advertising featuring RB (and several others) from way back when.

At our last convention in 2019, the stellar presentation on RB/the Lost Years piqued our interest in some of the other companies producing both fine art pieces AND the more whimsical souvenir wares during the same period. Back at our 2013 convention in Dearborn, Bev and Bobby Jo Brumbaugh (with contributions from the Heerholds

and the Andersons, as well as several others), shared an interesting talk on Schafer & Vater's distinctive novelty works. I was personally so taken with this fun noveltyware, I purchased several pieces in the room sales! We shall do our best to continue to educate on other interesting antiques that our fellow club members collect. On that note, please tell us what YOU would enjoy seeing in upcoming issues!

Many thanks for the submissions for this month from Steve and Chris Bartlett (photos of their Mitchell Woodbury pieces). Susan Szymanski sent the beautiful "Bluebirds of Happiness" scenics she's excited to be hunting, and Jim Lapp shared his oddity in Show & Tell, plus he promised some more MW pics in the next issue from their collection. We truly appreciate their pulling these treasures together and sending them in!

Stay safe and healthy everyone!

RBCC Lookback – Friedrich's Holy Grail Pieces

By Wanda & Al Friedrich

Editor's Note: With the recent loss of Al (and Wanda's passing in 2018), we thought this article about their favorite pieces from our June 2005 newsletter would be enjoyable to share.

Could this 15 ¾ inch vase be the "Holy Grail" of the Scenic Royal Bayreuth Polar Bear collection, or could this two inch Scenic Polar Bear Shaving Mug be the one? Both are pictured here.

It's truly 15 ¾ inches tall (Blue marked) Royal Bayreuth Polar Bear Vase with a reticulated top surrounded with extremely large gold decorations, including embossed hanging grape clusters, vines and grape leaves.

Even the base of the vase is surrounded with decorations of embossed gold grapes, vines and grape leaves. Naturally the Polar Bear scene is in full detail in the center.



This was bought from a lady's collection, who lived to be 100 years old in Mankato, Minnesota. From the knowledge I was told, this vase could either be a promotional piece, or one custom made for an individual. If so, this particular vase could be the only one made, and is very rare. The appearance surely shows that the factory went to extremes to make it very beautiful, and attractive according to its giant size, and the fabulous amount of gold decorations.

The two-inch Royal Bayreuth Scenic Polar Bear Shaving Mug is also very unique, because of its extreme small size and shade with the Polar Bear scene in the center. It is shown to compare the height of both pieces. Both have a very special place in our Royal Bayreuth Polar Bear Collection - but always looking for more rare and unusual pieces!

Ruby

By Janet Belcher

Royal Bayreuth is more than just German porcelain. It is friendship with individuals of varying talents and interests as in the case of Ruby.

While gathered in the hospitality room at the September convention in Pittsburgh, I overheard a guy-talk conversation between Gregg Thacker and Jay Rublaitus discussing Jay's Mustang that was looking for a new home. I innocently entered the conversation asking some questions but mainly interested in proudly sharing the journey that our son and grandson experienced while restoring a vintage Mustang. Through this conversation contact information was shared and several months later I learned that Ruby had joined the corral in Indiana with the intent to be on the road again by summer. So recently Alan and I were able to enjoy the fun and beauty of this well cared for car. So, follow your passion as there is beauty all around in many forms and interests.



Recent LiveAuctioneer Sales

By Gregg Thacker



Sold March-June 2020. Rounded to nearest whole dollar. Final sale price does not include fees or shipping.

Nice Group of Royal Bayreuth – 10 Pieces (May 3 2020)	\$150
Group of 4 Pitchers/Creamers Poodle, Crow, Chimpanzee, Open Butterfly (Apr 24, 2020)	\$190
Art Nouveau Pitcher 6 1/2" High (Apr 24, 2020)	\$325
Dice Cube – Playing Cards / Table Tennis (Mar 28, 2020)	\$500
Group of Porcelain Creamers Including Royal Bayreuth (Apr 20, 2020)	\$80
Five Piece Grape Set (Apr 5, 2020)	\$10
Three Piece Set: Elk, Eagle, & Basset Hound 4" High (Mar 29, 2020)	\$40



RBCC Treasurer's Report (1/31/2020 - 5/31/2020)

By Steve Bartlett

Checkbook Balance as of	
1/31/2020:.....	\$7,720.43
RECEIPTS	
Membership Renewals/Extensions	
.....	\$420.00
Total Receipts	\$420.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
Images In Ink Additional	
Newsletter Copies.....	\$17.00
Images In Ink 2020 March	
Newsletter & Roster Printing/	
Mailing	\$960.79
Total Disbursements	\$977.79
Checkbook Balance as of	
5/31/2020:.....	\$7,162.64

Website News

By Gregg Thacker

I hope everyone is well and taking full advantage of the downtime. Whether that means reading your backlog of books, binge-watching movies/TV, cataloging your RB, or buying RB online. Summer is here and we are hopeful for better days!

One of the articles in this issue included many more images than we could print in the newsletter. So those have been added to a file in our member's area for you to read, save, or print. It will remain in the member's area, along with all past newsletters, scans of club scrapbooks, convention photos, and other materials for your enjoyment. If you have any trouble accessing the member area please let me know.

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.

**2020 Member User Name
& Password (All small letters):**

Mitchell Woodbury & Royal Bayreuth

By Gregg Thacker



Editor's Note: In the March 2020 RBCC newsletter, Judy White shared an unmarked steer and asked "is it or isn't it?". Steve Bartlett recognized it and replied that they have had one in their collection for awhile. It is unmarked but the bottom is glazed like RB usually is. They have never considered it to be RB and felt it was actually MW. They've seen a handful of them for sale over the years. Here are some highlights of Bartlett's MW collection.

Over the years we have occasionally heard the phrase "Mitchell & Woodbury" or seen the "MW" mark on RB. With generous input from Steve Bartlett and others, I offer a review of what MW stands for. Contrary to popular belief (as far as porcelain goes), "MW" does not refer to Montgomery Ward!

Mitchell Woodbury was an importer of "French & German Fancy China". They sold domestic and Asian dinnerware and china primarily to the commercial market (hotels, hospitals, state facilities, ship lines, etc). They also had a huge store in Boston where they sold wholesale to the general public.

They used a variety of marks and colors – featuring the intermingled

French and German Fancy China.

OUR stock for the Fall and Holiday trade is now complete, and we invite all buyers to inspect same before placing orders. **EXCLUSIVE DECORATIONS.**

PRICES AS LOW AS THE LOWEST.

Samples can be seen at our main office in Boston, or at our branches.

French, Mitchell, Woodbury Co.,

76-92 Pearl St., Boston.

Chicago, 132 Lake Street.
W. A. WIGLEY in charge.

New York, 25 West Broadway.
HENRY MEYER in charge

San Francisco, 35 New Montgomery St.
C. B. CRITCHLOW in charge.



Three lab pitchers: black is unmarked, red is marked "MW Co" and tan is marked "Made in Germany"

"M" and "W". A very good summary of marks is available on the PM&M website at this link: <https://www.porcelainmarksandmore.com/related/usa/boston-01/index.php>

Based on the book "Souvenir China" by Laurence W. Williams (pg. 31) and related advertising, Mitchell Woodbury Co was based in Boston with offices in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco. They were a major importer of china from the port of Hamburg to Boston prior to WWI. It seems that they slowed or stopped importing from Germany in 1917 due to the war. Their advertising rarely mentions Germany or Bavarian wares after that point for obvious reasons.

They were a rapidly growing operation from 1896 thru 1930 when they became a subsidiary of Jones, McDuffee & Stratton who were in the same business. The last advertisement



Brown and red gorilla often considered to be RB. Steve recalls seeing these marked MW Co. Brown is unmarked and red is marked Made in Germany.

I could find for MW was in Dec 1933. I created an extended version of this article, including about 20 advertisements and background article about MW, at this link (member password required): <http://www.royalbayreuth.org/member/MWandCO.pdf>



Three mountain goat pitchers not considered RB. Red is unmarked, yellow is marked "MW Co, hand painted made in Germany". The smaller white and brown goat is unmarked but is a souvenir of Hampton Beach, NH.



Example marking from yellow mountain goat.



Crows – very common to find marked RB. The one here with the white beak is unmarked. One of the orange beaked birds is marked RB while the other is marked "Made in Germany, MW Co Handpainted".



Orange creamer with green leaves and green creamer with butterfly. Both marked "MW Co, Handpainted Made in Germany".



Tan pig marked "4610 Made in Germany".



Devil dice sometimes considered RB but marked "MW Co".



Two black cows with horns up. Both marked "MW Co, Handpainted and Made in Germany".



Orange cow with short horns marked "MW Co, Hand painted, Made in Germany". Black cow marked RB.



Black and white monkey "From Nantucket" stamped number 138. Impressed number unreadable and stamped "Made in Germany".



Continued...



Yellow witch and orange witch with cards. Both marked "MW Co, handpainted and stamped Made in Germany".



Dog, lion and cat all with monocles and all with unglazed flat bottoms. All marked "Made in Germany". The lion is also marked "MW Co, handpainted" while the cat shows "Souvenir of Bass Point Nahant".



Black crow with the monocle in tuxedo marked "MW Co, handpainted and Made in Germany". Owl with an monocle marked "Made in Germany". Small purple/white crow with monocle marked "Made in Germany".




Happy hounds, which Steve never considered to be RB. Both with flat unglazed bottoms unmarked.

Vintage RB Advertising

By Gregg Thacker

Bric-a-Brac Reduced 25%

Throughout our entire china and bric-a-brac department we start a sale in which reductions are 25 per cent. In order to convey a correct idea of the price reductions made in this department we quote below those prices we formerly asked as well as those to be in force Monday. Our prices, as is well known, are always lower than others', and **This Reduction of 25 per cent. Means Most Extraordinary Bargains.**

	Royal Bayreuth Vases— Hand-painted landscape decorations; coin gold traced. Regular \$5.00 kinds, reduced to \$3.75 Royal Bayreuth Urn Vases— Coin gold tracing and hand-painted landscape decorations. Real worth \$4.00—reduced to \$3.00 An Italian Faience Mantel Vase— Floral decorations in relief; maroon hand-painted panel. Regular \$3.00 kinds—reduced sale price \$2.22 Carlsbad China Flower Vases— Art Nouveau style; exquisite floral designs in relief. Regular \$2.50 kinds, reduced to \$1.88 Roseville Art Pottery Tankard— Hand-painted underglaze decorations. Reduced from \$3.00, to \$2.22
Carlsbad China Flower Vases— Cobalt blue and coin decorations. \$6.00 kinds, reduced to \$4.50 A Royal Sevres Urn— Ormolu mountings. Regular \$5.00—now reduced to \$3.75	A Piece of Royal Dux— Figure modeled in relief; metallic lustre border. Reduced from \$10.00, to \$7.50 Royal Dux Piece— Art Nouveau style. Reduced from \$10.12 to \$7.50

HATS TRIMMED FREE OF CHARGE

LIT BROTHERS

MARKET AND FILBERT EIGHTH AND SEVENTH

Philadelphia_Inquirer_Sun_Feb_1_1903.jpg

I have always been curious about old Royal Bayreuth advertising. There have been a few snippets in the various books and in our scrapbooks – but I knew there must be more. During the Covid shutdown, I subscribed to Newspapers.Com. It takes a little getting used to, but there is a wealth of information hiding there on all topics. One of the things I wanted to learn more about was RB, so after a week of research I saved over 250 RB news clips! Kat and I will be mining these for future newsletter articles, but here is an introduction to the early days of RB advertising.

Naturally, RB advertising follows the history of RB timing and distribution pretty closely. Lots of advertising on the east & west coasts. Western Canada and Pennsylvania are well represented! Scattered ads across all of the USA. The first ad I found was from Feb 1, 1903 for Lit Brothers Dept store in Philadelphia shown below. RB was often referred to in advertising as "bric-a-brac", "china", and "glassware".

RB was advertised in top-line department stores as gifts for every event; Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, weddings, and even as

The Midas-Like Beauty of Royal Bayreuth Wins Favor

Somewhere up in the German mountains goes our buyer each year to secure a supply of this beautiful ware.

Our collection to meet the demands of the gift shopping season includes in great variety new styles and novelties—delicate translucent ware, thickly encrusted with gold in border designs.

For single gift pieces of china Royal Bayreuth is always shown marked preference.

Dinner Plates—Each 75c.	A. D. Coffee Cups and Saucers—35c.	Comb and Brush Trays—\$1.50.
Breakfast Plates—50c.	Cream and Sugar Sets—75c, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.00.	Puff Box—50c.
Tea Plates—45c.	Teapots—Each \$1.25 and \$1.50.	Berry Bowls—Each \$1.00.
Bread and Butter Plates—25c.	Spoon Trays—Each 75c.	Fruit Nappies—Each 20c.
Tea Cups and Saucers—75c.	Hair Receivers—Each 75c.	Comports—75c.
Chocolate Cups and Saucers—65c.	Pin Trays—Each 35c.	Cake Plates—\$1.00.

THE T. EATON CO LIMITED

The_Winnipeg_Tribune_Sat_Nov_25_1911_(1).jpg

China Yell.

THE NEWEST AND BRIGHTEST IN ELKS' SOUVENIRS

WE HAVE just received a big new importation of Royal Bayreuth Austrian Novelties. There are over a thousand different novelties all useful and every one highly ornamental. In this lot are some of the catchiest Elk Souvenirs we have yet seen. No better or more inexpensive remembrance of the Elk's reunion could possibly be found than one of these artistic little pieces. They come at 15 cents each up to \$2.00, and are in the natural Elk color with head and antler decoration. We name a few below:—

Ash Tray, with Elk head.... 25c	Tobacco Jar..... \$1.50
Hanging Watch Safe..... 25c	Stein, with antlers..... 50c
Ink Well..... 50c	Candlesticks, large..... 90c

Walk in and Look Around."

GEO. V. MILLAR & CO.
212-15 WASHINGTON AVENUE.

Scranton_Republican_Tue_May_12_1908.jpg

novelties for Elks meetings in 1908!

Ad copy was imaginative and evoked Artists toiling away in the German mountains to create the "Midas-Like Beauty" of Royal Bayreuth.

In 1912 there was a flurry of advertising across the country for the new line of encrusted gold dinnerware. Advertising shifted almost entirely to dinnerware by 1916. In fact, the last ad I found for non-dinnerware was Aug 10 1916 at a deep discount.

During the war terms like "German" and "Bavarian" disappeared from advertising as would be expected. The focus shifted to Asian china and dinnerware after WWI. RB dinnerware ads were common until 1942 where they end – no doubt due to WWII. The first mention of an auction including RB was in 1914, and stock reduction auction ads were common from 1920 through the Depression.

After WWII, I found a wide variety of RB appraisals, research articles, collectors proudly showing

Encrusted Gold Dinnerware

We are opening our first import of Encrusted Gold Edge Dinnerware. It is in the popular Derby Shape, the encrusted edge executed in the rich Vintage Design and has been received with the greatest favor all over the country on account of its richness and the popular price. While you could not detect the fact without turning a piece over, it is not Haviland, but the Royal Bayreuth China.

It is sold in open stock.
Come in and see it.

SCHAFFNER'S DEPENDABLE FURNITURE HOUSE
206 and 212 S. Main St.

The_Marion_Star_Wed_Oct_30_1912.jpg

their pieces, and human interest stories. It was pretty quiet until the mid 60's when it started to become collectable. Articles appeared in the 70s about the rapidly rising value. As books were introduced by Raines, Salley, and our own Mary McCaslin, interest and articles perked up! By the 2000s articles faded as the memory of RB in Mom or Grandma's china cabinet faded from public memory. But decorators and artists are rediscovering RB by the 2010s. You can look forward to seeing some of these interesting stories in future newsletters!

Bulldog Clearance

Fancy China 1/2

- Cups and saucers 8c, 25c, 50c and 75c a pair.
- Plates 25c, 38c and 50c each.
- Nut sets 75c.
- Black coffee sets \$2.50 and \$5.
- Syrup pitcher and plate 75c.
- Hair receivers 8c and 18c.
- Hat pin holders 13c, 25c, 38c.
- Puff boxes in heart shape, with legs, 38c.
- Celery trays 25c and 38c.
- Tea pot, sugar and creamer, 75c.
- Salts and peppers 5c each.
- Mustard pots 18c, 25c.
- Toothpick holders 5c, 13c, 18c.
- Royal Bayreuth pitchers 18c.

Evening_Express_Thu_Aug_10_1916.jpg

AUCTION SALES

JOHN A. FINIGAN, Auctioneer,
Concord, Mass.; tel 252-4.

\$4000—AUCTION SALE—\$4000

I WILL SELL for G. W. Stevens, Concord, Mass., in the old Bank Building, 63 Main st., on WEDNESDAY, beginning at 2 p m and in the evening at 7 p m and continuing every day at the same hour till sold \$4000 worth of the following described goods: Mr. Stevens, successor to John M. Keyes, is making a change in his store, the following will be sold to the highest bidders for cash—Deldare ware, Buffalo pottery, underglaze brassware, several pieces of royal Bayreuth from Bavaria, souvenir mugs, agateware, paints, oils, varnishes and floor stains, sweaters, asbestos irons, lanterns, middy blouses and skirts, gloves, moccasins, sporting goods of every description, skates, toys, vases, mirrors, pictures, knives, forks, spoons, dishes of all kinds, aluminum ware, cups and saucers, hammocks and stationery of every description, lamps, bicycles and a great many things too numerous to mention: the above mentioned are all new goods and are not shop-worn, they were bought only a short time before Mr Stevens purchased the store and it is only because he is making a change in the store that they are offered to the public at auction prices regardless of cost; positive sale; every article put up will be sold and all the above mentioned are to be sold; terms cash. Per order G. W. STEVENS, Concord, Mass.; tel.

The_Boston_Globe_Sun_Jun_7_1914.jpg

Special Holiday Stock REDUCTION Sale For 10 Days Only

WE OFFER

<p>20 PER CENT REDUCTION ON HAVILAND CHINA</p> <p>Eight beautiful patterns from which to select. Every piece included in this special Discount Sale.</p> <p>A wonderful opportunity to complete your Haviland sets and to supply your needs for months to come.</p> <p>Many items below present import cost.</p>	<p>10 PER CENT REDUCTION ON CHINA, CUT GLASS</p> <p>Glassware in etched and gold-crested effect, Royal Bayreuth China, Brass and Copper Novelties, Electric Lamps, Dinner Chimes, Vases, China sets of various kinds, Crockery, Art Bric-a-Brac, etc.</p>
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THIS SALE AFFORDS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY.

For Christmas shoppers. Our Stock is perhaps the largest of its kind in West Virginia and includes hundreds of items suitable for gift-giving.

NOYES CHINA STORE
814 QUARRIER STREET. Opposite RIALTO THEATRE

Charleston_Daily_Mail_Wed_Dec_1_1920.jpg

Looking Back

By Gregg Thacker

Our first installment of “Looking Back” in the Spring newsletter was well received – so we will look back again. All club newsletters are available to read on our website. Below are some interesting RBCC remembrances:

10 Years Ago (July 2010):

Harold B. offered a good summary of Queen Wilhelmina pieces as well as top hat pieces. Convention plans were being finalized to be held at the historic Pere Marquette in Peoria with a corn theme. Ken Russell provided a detailed review of hunt scene designs with great images including his full china cabinet!

15 Years Ago (June 2005): Plans were in place for the Warwick RI convention in this “pre-convention” issue. Bev Brumbaugh thanked all the volunteers contributing to the club. Becky Conrad provided many eBay sales – with some robust prices! Chris & Steve Bartlett were interviewed in “Collector’s Corner”. Al & Wanda Friedrich describe two very rare Scenic Polar bear pieces that held a very special place in their collection (article included elsewhere in this issue).

24 Years Ago (June 1996): The second club newsletter was issued! The club had “blossomed” to 76 memberships - doubling in size over 6 months! Richard Stockwell shared detail from a visit to the RB factory (repeated on this page). Tim Gaudet, the Hooks, & the Heeleys each described how they became intrigued with RB. Larry Brenner shared his fun from Brimfield.

RBCC Lookback – Richard Stockwell’s Factory Visit

By Richard Stockwell

Editor’s Note: We contacted Rich to see if he could update this story he’d sent in for the June 1996 newsletter. His response back below was so touching. We wish Rich and his husband Curt much happiness in their research, travels, and collecting!

“I am so touched that you want to reprint my memories of our trip to Germany. It will be a nice tribute to my Dad. He loved Royal Bayreuth and the Collectors Club.

As I reread the text, I can hear the excitement in my voice as I am freshly recounting a great vacation. Although I still have never found that spades dish with the devil, I have expanded my collection to include many other factories throughout Bavaria and other countries in Europe. It is my hope that when I retire from work in a few years, I will compile and publish a collectors guide to the porcelain devil. I have 30 years of collecting and cataloging. I have even succeeded in identifying some rare pieces mistakenly attributed to Royal Bayreuth.” My best regards, Rich.

Fellow Collectors, In March, my parents (Ken & Judy Stockwell), Curtis Herr and I went on a one week vacation to Germany. We started out in Munich, drove through the Alps to Innsbruck and Salzburg, Austria, then up to Bamberg, and finally to Tettau where the Royal Bayreuth factory is located.

Due to the small size of the town, it is not hard to see the factory as you approach the village from the south. Up on the hill it sits with the big yellow lion on the side of the building. As collectors, it was an exciting sight! We didn’t know what to expect.

When we entered the sales floor, we could immediately tell this was Royal Bayreuth from the beautiful workmanship that still goes on today. Although they predominately make dinnerware and tea sets, they still produce those small porcelain ladies’ shoes and scenic plates. There were limited amounts of figurals, and the ones they had were very expensive. Needless to say, we still brought some pieces back with us.

After shopping, we were led upstairs to the main display room where we met one of the directors, Lurgen Laackmann (page 133 in the McCaslin book) who allowed us to tour the Antique Room. They had a very small collection of older pieces, but of particular interest were the pre-1900’s section.

The highlight for me was an ashtray with “spades” around the rim and a golden devil crawling toward the center of the dish. I wanted it badly! As a devil and cards collector, it was like seeing the Holy Grail and knowing it will be a long time before I will see one again. I think this will be my new search, although surely it is rare.

Mr. Laackmann suggested we might like to see another factory that was just purchased by Royal Bayreuth in the village of Plaue about one hour north of Tettau. Yes, we did go, and thanks to his phoning ahead, we were welcomed with a brief tour of that factory. The porcelain there is even more incredible.

I have to say thanks to Mary McCaslin for corresponding with my mother, and helping us to get there. The people in Germany were very nice, especially at the porcelain factories. I highly recommend a trip there for all collectors. Everyone spoke a little English and the food is absolutely fabulous!

Until next time, Richard Stockwell Ferndale, Pa

Notable eBay Sales

By Gregg Thacker

Sold March-June 2020. Rounded to nearest whole dollar.

Final sale price does not include fees or shipping

Devil And Cards 4 Piece Set (2 Repro Pieces) 333577180018 — \$1,960

Rabbit "Creamer" 324117488163 — \$1,641

Tomato Creamer & Sugar Bowl Set 293567385672 — \$500

Clown Humidor 9" tall 233336964033 — \$425

Devil and Cards Tray ,size 10" x 7" excellent 193456476467 \$399

Iridescent Lavender Purple Pearl Lobster Master Salad Bowl 143296230676 \$399

Figural Turtle Creamer 124170999957 \$325

Vase from Don Dukeman Collection Polar Bear Scene 8.5" high 223981824156 \$305

Sunflower Creamer - Blue Mark 333583720663 \$305

Monkey Water / Lemonade Pitcher 283860843297 \$300

Lot Of 5 Animals 324115117723 \$275

Pink & Yellow Rose-Stunning 6" Bowl 324135911158 \$225

Parakeet 3 3/4" high 333396178988 \$70

Man's Shoe with Original Lace 254576065960 \$37

Sontag & Sons Mustache Cup 254551022085 \$18

Cigarette Dish Floral Pattern 324160309074 \$15

Ink Blotter, No Pad, No Chips or Cracks 362992950966 \$12

Blue Mark Boy with Donkey Square Ashtray 274348663392 \$12

Purple Iris Flower Blossom Creamer 353097432924 \$10

Stirrup Cup 3 Handles Fox Hunters & Dogs 202976678233. \$9



256 Pinkerton Court
Marion, IN 46952



Scranton_Republican_Tue__May_12_1908.jpg

Show & Tell

By Jim Lapp

Mr. Hobbs takes a vocation; a remote show-and-tell presentation.

As we are all keeping safe inside, I bring from the outside for your consideration, another oddity that has come to me. This unknown gnome ashtray came available in the recent months signed with the name E. H. Hobbs. I searched for more information on the artist but none was to be found. I'll have to be satisfied with enjoying this piece in the collection until someone is able to bring more to the story. I send my best to all and wish you to be well, good hunting.

