

January 26, 2021

Vol. 44, No. 07

ACROSS THE AUCTION BLOCK

Hot Wheels definitely hot with bidders at Kraft

BY WILLIAM Flood

VALPARAISO, Ind. -Kraft Auction service ran and antiques. its New Year's Day sale fully online via HiBid. The 2,400 lot auction included consignments and collec-

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tions from multiple states, encompassing everything from die-cast and pedal cars to advertising, clocks, This year, out of caution, military items, glassware,

> The auction high of \$1,100 went to a 1969 Hot Wheels carrying case filled with 27 Hot Wheels

redlines. That was just one of hundreds of lots of toy cars in the sale. Virtually every popular name was represented, from Buddy L and Nylint to Burago and Franklin Mint. They came boxed and unboxed, in all scales, modern and antique.

Offerings ranged from high-demand individual vehicles to lots containing dozens of commonplace cars and trucks.

Picking up \$325 was a circa 1930s Cor-Cor 24-inch red metal bus. For \$225, another buyer took home a shadow box filled with 16 Interstate Battery and Goodvear race cars ranging in size from 1:64 to 1:18 scale. A 1950s Roy Cox Thimble Drome Champion tether car grabbed \$170. On the low end, a lot containing a boxed modern 1:24 scale Maisto Mercedes CLK convertible and Mini Cooper hardtop went for just \$3.

For those drawn to pedal vehicles, 19 were See Kraft page 4



Above: Filled with 27 Hot Wheels redlines, this 60s-era Hot Wheels carrying case took the auction's high bid at \$1,100

FEATURE

Lincoln born in a log cabin, but his family was not poor

BY LARRY LEMASTERS

Presidents' Day is Monday, Feb. 15 and it George

showed its value, selling for \$325.

celebrates all U.S. presidents, past and present. The day was originally celebrated as President Washington's

Above: There were plenty of popular collectible toy cars from names like Buddy L, Marx,

and Nylint. This Cor-Cor (Corcoran Manufacturing, Washington) pressed steel bus



birthday, but in 1971, in order to create more three-day weekends, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act passed, creating just one day in February to celebrate all presidents, including a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's birthday with that of Abraham Lincoln, which fell on Feb. 12. Many Americans supported joining the two days as a way of giving equal recognition to America's two most famous presidents.



The earliest known celebration of Lincoln's birthday occurred in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1873 when Julius Francis, a Buffalo druggist, made it his lifelong mission to honor his idol, President Lincoln. The U.S. mint, to honor

Left: Lincoln Logs were first produced in 1916. This spectacular Lincoln Log set was made in the 1930s and includes a 16-page log cabin design book.



Above: A rare, tourist postcard from Lincoln's Birthplace Memorial, circa 1930 - 1945, courtesy of Boston Public Library.

Lincoln, released four reverse sides, showing new Lincoln pennies to stages in Lincoln's life. celebrate his bicentennial And while all four are birthday. While the stanfound in nearly all Lindard portrait of Lincoln's coln collections, one of the head remained on the coins is found in collecfront, each of these comtions that are limited to memorative coins have Lincoln's log cabin new engravings on their upbringing. This coin

shows a log cabin that is representative of the cabin Lincoln was born in. And, collectors, who appreciate and collect Lincoln's Log Cabin col-

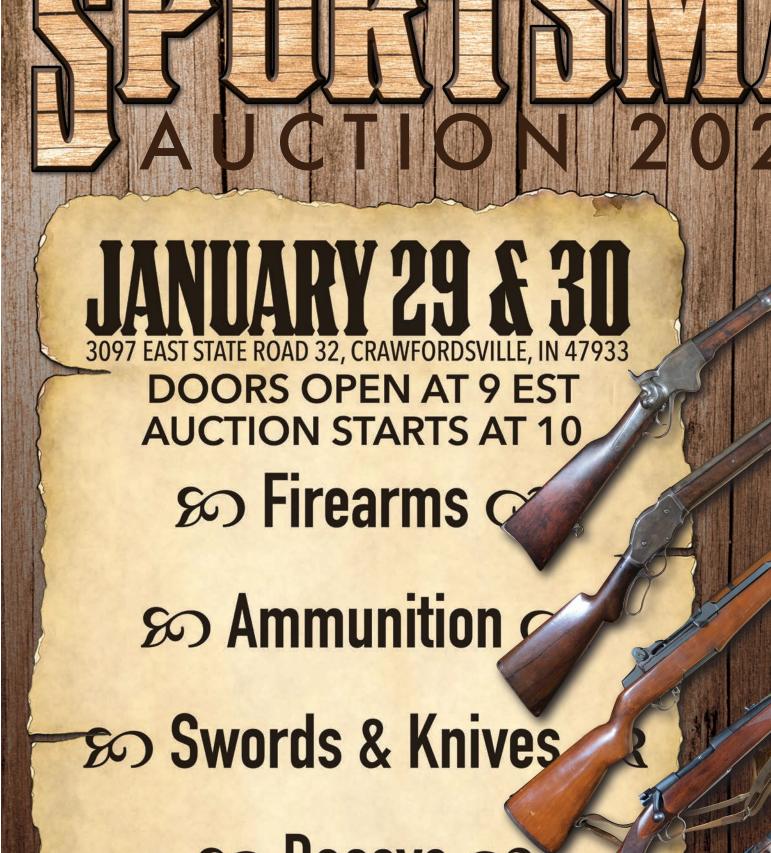
See Lincoln page 10

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QUALITY ANTIQUES: Collection of 13 burl bowls; several painted pantry boxes and firkins of all sizes; early scoop collection including some with carvings; paint decorated boxes some with advertising; 19th to early 20th century toys; over 20 quilts and quilt tops; rare finch sewing birds; several early 19th century samplers; 19th C oil paintings and other artwork; glass flask collection; 1940-50s Christmas houses and other; several good butter prints including eagles; stoneware; scrimshaw powder horns; tin trains; painted keelers and pails including Shaker; so much more than listed here.

From 2 Estates - COINS, PAPER MONEY, COMIC BOOKS and STAMP COLLECTIONS.

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Above: There were many impressive pedal vehicles offered. But, the most eye-catching was this Oscar Mayer Weiner Mobile that fetched \$150.

Kraft FROM FRONT PAGE

available, including cars, tractors, planes, and even a miniature Oscar Mayer Weiner mobile. The top bid in this category at \$750 went for a Murray U.S. Army metal pedal plane with some slight paint chipping. The Weiner Mobile, also a bit scuffed, got snagged by a lucky buyer for just \$150. The other 17 pedal vehicles went from \$65 for a vintage AMF Go Trac chain-drive pedal tractor with some usage damage and non-working steering, to \$225 for an Ertl John Deere model D-63 tractor also showing some wear and tear.

The auction transitioned from toy vehicles to fast food and advertising collectibles, with a bent towards McDonald's. In that segment was everything from a 34 by 30 inch wood and metal McDonald's logo (\$140) to six lots containing unopened boxes of McDonald's Peanuts glasses (selling for 50-95), and even an egg cooker used for making for Egg McMuffins, which sold for \$50.

After the fast food and advertising pieces came nearly 100 lots of military and firearms items. The lots contained plenty of the usual sportsman pieces like gun scopes, ammo



boxes, and guns, although the firearms in this case tended to be air rifles and bb guns. Realized prices for those hovered around \$12-\$25 but went as high as \$110 for the famed mid-century Red Ryder BB gun. Historical militaria was plentiful, including five wartime hard helmets, among them a World War I Brodie-type helmet (\$45), a white early-1940s U.S. Marine Corp helmet (\$45), and a Vietnam War-era helmet with

straps (\$35). Midway through the auction were three dozen lots of very ornate British table china along with about 100 additional lots featuring everything from German bisque statues (selling for \$17-\$50) to a Fostoria pink opalescent epergne (\$50). The most ornate pieces were in the dozen lots of English Royal Winton china that picked up anywhere from \$15 for a teacup/saucer to \$170 for a set of stackable teapots. Other British names were Adderly (12.50 for a single cup/ saucer), Lord Nelson (individual pieces ran \$8-\$25), and Regal Pottery (\$25 for a cream & sugar set). A standout item in the glassware offerings was a set of three matching Bohemian Moser blown glass port sipping pipes, sold for \$75.

Antique furniture came up shortly after the glassware. Lovers of fine woodworking had around 130 lots featuring 18th through 20th-century pieces. Yet, realized prices reflected the market's disinterest in antique furniture not of the mid-centurv modern varietv. no matter how finely crafted. Brodie-type hard helmet was While a Victorian-era one of a half-dozen offered. burl walnut bed featuring gingerbread trim reached



Above: There was plenty of collectible advertising available. Items like this metal Dr. Pepper sign (\$120) often reach three figures.



Above: Among over 100 lots of antique furniture was this beautiful gingerbread-laced Victorian burl walnut bed that sold for \$900.



auction came dozens of lots of glassware and ceramics. The most ornate were the Royal Winton pieces like this stacked teapot set (\$170).

Above: Bidding for this Stradivarius copy violin reached \$700 in the last quarter of the auction.



Above: Nearly two-dozen lots of McDonalds collectibles were on the block. The highest amount in that category (\$140) went for this 3-foot wood and metal McDonald's sign

\$900, and a high-Victorian carved wood cabinet with a marble front and claw feet went to \$500, most pieces hovered in the \$100 or under range - like a good-condition 31-inch circular mahogany vitrine tea table which sold for just \$120 and an ornate, 37-inch two-drawer carved



Above: Much of the antique furniture went for bargain prices, like this ornate late-Victorian file cabinet that fetched just \$70.





Above: This World War I-era It sold for \$45



Above: Standing out among the many pieces of glassware, pottery, and ceramics was this set of three port sipping pipes made by Bohemian Moser (Czech Republic) selling for \$75.

wood French nightstand that only garnered \$60.

After the furniture came hundreds of additional collectibles across numerous categories from lunch boxes and cap guns to dizzy churns, samurai swords, and even artifacts like primitive stone axes. Realized prices in the last quarter of the auction spanned \$2.00 for a 1970s Kodamatic instant camera, to \$700 for a 1920 Stradivarius copy German violin. In all, with nearly 2,500 lots, there was something for everyone and every type of budget.

For more information visit kraftauctions.com or call (219) 973-9240

Above: The auction was rife with collectibles like this framed Beatles gold-plated record (\$70).

January 26, 2021

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MARCH 16	WED., MARCH 10
MARCH 23	WED., MARCH 17



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POSTAL REPORT

Without fail for 42 years, The Auction Exchange & Collectors News has been delivered to the USPS by 5 pm every Friday.

Currently we are delivering the newspaper to the USPS by midnight Thursday. Despite this early entry into the postal stream and our vociferous lobbying at all levels of the USPS, we are experiencing delivery problems in the following areas:

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Collectors becoming avid fans of these fans

BY DOUG GRAVES

Shake them in hand and a cool breeze will embrace you. Prior to air conditioning, one of the best ways to beat the summer heat was with a folding fan. However, today's fans which still pop up wherever a breeze is needed are nothing compared to the fashion statements of days gone by.

According to the Fan Circle International (England), the earliest fans were probably used to quicken the burning of a fire or to keep bothersome insects at bay, but they eventually took on a prestigious role. For centuries, large, long-handled fans were ceremonial symbols of power, the privilege of pharaohs, priests and kings.

Orient between the 7th and 10th centuries. These fans, as well as the European fans they eventually inspired, were of two types. Pleated fans have a leaf, or mount, of pleated fabric, paper or leather. The leaf is supported on a series of sticks that are joined at one end by a rivet. Brise fans are folding fans that have no leaf. The sticks themselves widen toward their outer ends and overlap to form the body of a fan. The sticks are artfully strung with ribbon or string.

to have originated in the

China and Japan were making fans by the 1500s. By the mid-1500s, Europe had begun to make its own fans and Paris soon became the center of fan production. By the 1700s, the art of the European fashion fan had reached its height. Gold, sil-Folding fans are thought ver, ivory, silk and precious

gems were used in making fans, as were simpler materials such as wood and leather.

Advances in 18th century printing technology brought the fan within reach of the masses. During the early years of the Victorian era, fan types from the 1700s and earlier returned to dominate the market. Lithographed, hand-colored fans imitated hand-drawn versions of earlier eras.

Americans who had imported European fans from the late 1600s to the mid-1800s, joined the fan-making fray soon after the Civil War. In 1867, Hunt Fan Company opened in Massachusetts and made-in-America fans began to acquire a following.

Hand fans were a frequent accessory carried by Victorian ladies. Hand fans were a thing of beauty, not just function. Made of silk. lace, feathers or wood, they went through an evolution from the Victorian 1840s to 1900. Each 19th century decade had its trends complimenting the fashions of the day. For modern Victorian ladies, purchasing a hand fan was a must for hot days and warm evening dancing. Thankfully, there were many Victorian style hand fans to choose from. The fans of the early 19th century were generally fairly small and plain, with leaves of thin silk spangled and lightly painted. They first appeared in the 1840s. The fans had sticks of ivory or mother-of-pearl elaborately carded or gilded, with leaves of vellum, each a small-scale, beautifully exe-



Above: This fan by Alexandre (circa 1880), sold in December of 2018 for \$2,516. It is believed to have belonged to the Infanta Maria de la Paz, daughter of Queen Isabella II of Spain and her husband Francisco (photo submitted)





Above: Intricate detail, for sure. This 1880 fan, in the style of Louis XV period, includes a leaf of "cabretille" (skin), hand-painted in oil. The mother of pearl sticks are engraved and encrusted with gold and silver. It measures 10.6 inches closed and 10.47 inches in diameter. The asking price is \$950. (photo submitted)

Above: This English fan from the mid-1800s is hand carved mother of pearl with hand-painted silk panels. The size is 29 inches wide, 22.5 inches tall. (photo submitted)

cuted painting. Most of the fans in the U.S. at the time were imported from France, China or Japan.

The 1860s have their characteristic spangles of steel cut in star or flower shapes, and often fretted. The sticks are often rather broad, made of wood, bone

or ivory, with coarse geometric piercing and fretted designs. Fans with leaves entirely of bobbin or needlepoint became fashionable in the 1860s and remained fashionable until the end of the century. At the Paris Exhibition of 1878, lace fans were by far the most

numerous among the fans exhibited.

Fans which have a small oval leaf at the top of each stick are also a style of this decade. Fans of plain or watered silk were painted with

See Fans page 7

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Fans

From Page 6

wreaths of flowers or with figures. There was a good deal of amateur fan-painting during the second half of the 19th century. The famous firms of Duvelleroy and Rimmel sold plain fans of white-enameled wood. Small brise fans of sandalwood, which were the fans of outdoor use, were also painted. Flowers and birds were the usual subjects for their decoration. Fans if the 1860s often sported images of dogs or race horses and were small to medium in size, usually between six and 10 inches in length.

Fans of this decade were composed of good quality lace, and most included black silk bobbin lace of Chantilly.

Fans of the 1870s sported a broad and heavy stick with varied shaping. Their leaves were normally silk or satin, and were often lacetrimmed, embroidered or painted. Some of them were trimmed with a light feather-edging.

Feather fans were popular in the 1870s. Feathers of many different kinds appeared at this time and included peacocks, pheasant and pigeon. They were even at times adorned with a small bird.

Many of the fans described as "point lace" fans in the 1870s were worked in a popular technique of this time, in which a readymade braid was mounted on net or linked with embroidery stitches. A characteristic style of the 1870s was the parasol fan. This was a silk fan, usually plain, whose pleated leaf spread out into a circle at the top of a handle. In the 1870s, fans were sometimes worn suspended from a cord around the waist, and many of the surviving fans of this time have a short cord and tassel. (A bow of ribbon eventually replaced the cord and tassel in the 1800s.)

Fans of the 1880s are distinguished by their very large size, being usually between 14 and 16 inches long. The sticks are slim and light. The large gauze or satin leaves were painted with naturalistic sprays of flowers or birds and sometimes with figures. Fans of this decade were very elaborate as at times full-blown silk flowers were sometimes added to a painted leaf, or the leaves themselves might be made of layers of silk petals.

Fans were often made using ostrich feathers and were normally black or white, with the black being mounted on tortoiseshell sticks and the white on mother-of-pearl sticks.

Fans retained their favored position until well in into the 1930s. But as fashion catapulted into the modern age, the fan suddenly seemed out of place – to all except the avid collector of these fans.

"People sometimes want to collect fans from different countries or that are defined by their time period," says Abbey Block Cash, president of the Fan Association of North America. "Fans are also desirable based on their materials, the sticks may be constructed of lacquer, carved ivory, resin, tortoise, bone, wood, silver, gold, metal or mother of pearl. The fan leave may be of silk, cotton, stating, lace, decoupage or feathers.

"The subject matter of

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Mary Cooper, a longtime dealer in antique costume/ textiles and publicity officer for the Fan Circle International, started her passion for fans after searching for an antique lace veil to wear for her wedding and finding a lacy fan.

"Fans ultimately became fashion accessories, able to be folded up and hung from a lady's belt or carried in a handbag," Cooper said. "They were practical, pretty and fit in a bag. But by the early 1900s, when women began smoking cigarettes, that started the demise of the fan. Holding a cigarette in one hand and a drink in the other, women didn't have a spare hand to hold a fan."



Above: This Victorian-era, mother of pearl cream Brussels lace folding fan sold at an estate auction recently for \$150. A fan such as this in excellent condition might fetch close to \$500, but this particular fan was in need of repairs. It measures 9.5 inches long, 18 inches wide. (photo submitted)

Below: By the early 20th Century, fans were losing their appeal. Spain attempted to introduce Cockade fans such as this one, made of wood, paper and parchment. When opened to its circular form it measured 18.5 inches across. Bullfight scenes adorned this fan, which offered wooden sticks. (photo submitted)



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John Stobart oil on canvas of the packet ship Margaret Evans



Swell bodied copper pig weathervane, 19th c.

English delft bowls, ca. 1806, with portraits of

Admiral Horatio Nelson (1758-1805)

Large Collection of

redware and stoneware.

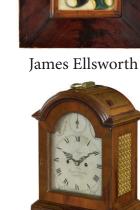


Isabel Cartwright still life with flowers











DE Chippendale tall case clock

Baltimore Federal bracket clock



George II giltwood

mirror, ca. 1760

Pennsylvania watercolor folk portrait, dated 1824



South Carolina Southern landscape



English canvaswork panel, late 18th c., depicting Jesus and the Samaritan woman



John C. Traynor (American b. 1961), oil on canvas landscape of Waterville Golf Links, Ireland



Painted counter top tobacconist figure





A half dozen lots of Liverpool Herculaneum

Group of Wilhelm Schimmel carvings



Large Pennsylvania collection of mocha

Russian silver enamel pieces



Heriz carpet, ca. 1930, 19'6" x 11'

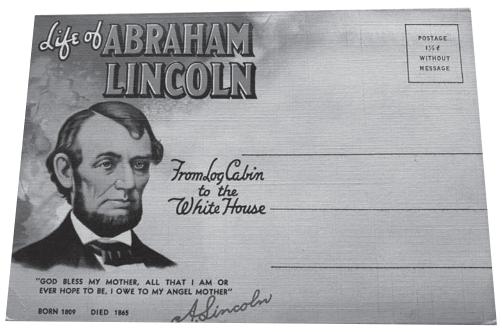




Burlington County, New Jersey sampler

Jane Peterso oil on canvas, Incoming Tide, Jersey Shore

Collection of maps from the 1600's & 1700's



Above: "Life of Abraham Lincoln - From Log Cabin to the White House" postcard. This card was a souvenir from Springfield, IL, in the 1960s and is valued at \$5.

Lincoln FROM FRONT PAGE

lectibles, value this coin along with all things related to Lincoln and log cabins.

School children across America, for nearly 160 vears, have learned that Lincoln was born in a log cabin.

According to the National Park Service, Lincoln was, "Born in a one-room log cabin on his father's Sinking Spring Farm on Sunday, February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln's early years on the Kentucky frontier helped to shape his character and prepare the boy who would grow up to become the 16th President of the United States to lead the nation through



Above: Lincoln Log Cabin Syrup, circa 1950s, color lithographed tin container that is valued at \$28.

the tragic and turbulent times of the Civil War. His legacy of liberty and



equality remains relevant today and continues to impact people around the world."

The original log cabin is long gone, but a "symbolic birth cabin is enshrined within a Neo-Classical Memorial Building on the traditional site of the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln." This symbolic log cabin has

Left: 2009 Lincoln Log Cabin penny that illustrates Abraham Lincoln's birthplace.

coln, "the greatest contributor to the log cabin myth." While Lincoln was actually born in a log cabin, Thomas Lincoln, at the time of his son's birth, owned two farms totally 1,200 acres and lots of livestock and horses. "Thomas Lincoln's wealth made him nearly the richest man in the area." Later, in 1860 after being elected president, Lincoln summed up his early life by stating, "all can be condensed into a single sentence and that sentence you will find in Gray's Elegy - 'the short and simple annals of the poor."' Lincoln believed the American public wanted to hear the myth of his birth more than the reality. Recently, two searches on eBay for "Abraham Lincoln's Log Cabins" revealed 145 possible collectibles on one search and 161 possible collectibles on a second search, proving that the myth of



Above: Pair of Abraham Lincoln's log cabin bookends, circa 1915, that are marked "J Co./JUDD/9678" on back and are valued at \$25.

been the inspiration for most of the Lincoln log cabins collected today. Included among collectibles obtained in the gift shop of the park are postcards featuring the log cabin. Some of the most collectible of these date to the 1930s and '40s and are highly prized today. One of the most sought-after log cabin collectibles is the log cabin bank that was sold in the Lincoln Birthplace Memorial's gift shop in the 1940s. This inexpensive log cabin bank has started many school age children dreaming about becoming president. Their shared motto seems to have been, "if Abe could do it, coming from this humble origin, I can do it too." Sadly, according to David Streitfeld, Lincoln's humble birth is a myth.

Streitfeld (Razing the Log Cabin Myth, 1984) said, "The 'log cabin myth,' has been around almost as long as presidents have, and the myth still persists today. This homespun bit of American folklore was first used as a political tool for the reelection of President William Henry Harrison. The Baltimore Republican newspaper wrote of Harrison, 'Give him a barrel of hard cider and settle a pension of 2,000 a year on him and he will sit the remainder of his days in his log cabin."

Streitfeld called Lin-



Above: Antique, sterling silver Abraham Lincoln "Salem Log Cabin" souvenir spoon, circa 1900 - 1940, that is valued at \$15.

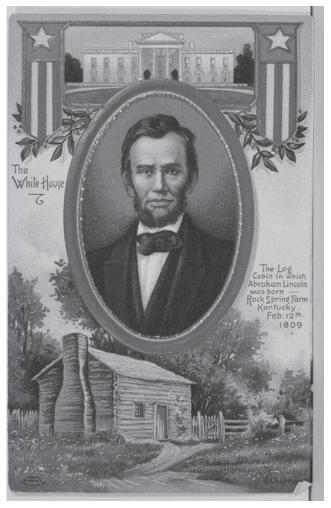
the humble birth of Abraham Lincoln is still believed and, based on collectible cabins, is ever growing.

This makes sense when you consider that Shinbone Star newspaper owner and editor said,

"This is America! "When the legend becomes fact, print the legend." Fact, myth, or legend, the story of Lincoln's birth has grown larger than his stove top hat. And collectors continue to add to the legend each year.



Above: Knob Creek, Kentucky, Abraham Lincoln log cabin plate, circa 1960s, that is valued at \$13.





Above: Abraham Lincoln birthplace souvenir "log cabin bank" from Hodgenville, Kentucky, circa 1940s, that is valued at \$12.

Above: Abraham Lincoln "The White House & the Log Cabin" postcard, circa 1910, that is valued at \$8.

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