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January 31, 2023

Vol. 46 No. 08

## ACROSS THE AUCTION BLOCK

### Stained glass window beamed with \$7,500 bid at Braun & Helmer

BY WILLIAM  
FLOOD

YPSILANTI, Mich. — Braun & Helmer Auction Service is known for its spectacular auctions, and their first sale of 2023 offered plenty of excitement. January 12 featured the first of two auc-

tions to liquidate the inventory of architectural salvage company Materials Unlimited.

Founded 50 years ago, Materials Unlimited has become a highly-regarded seller of architectural artifacts. Founder Reynold Lowe had an eye for architectural details

even before his college days. He graduated in 1972 from the University of Michigan. With a Master's in Fine Arts in hand, he soon found himself involved in salvaging elements from an old Ann Arbor Michigan house slated for demolition. That experience led him to form a demolition company which evolved into the architectural salvage business.

Eventually, the company moved into a three-story, 15,000-square-foot Art Deco building in downtown Ypsilanti that formerly served as a Studebaker Packard dealership and USO Hall. Over the years, Materials Unlimited became a regional "go-to" for historic architectural elements and unique antiques from around the world. Additionally, they offered restoration of antique furniture and architectural elements and ran a U.L.-listed lighting repair shop.



Above: This carousel horse (\$1,250) was made for Detroit's Electric Amusement Park which operated from 1906 to 1928.

In September, Lowe announced his retirement and the closure of the beloved company. At first, on-premises discounts were offered which drew plenty of loyal customers. The January 12 auction began the next step in closing things down.

In the first auction installment, 183 lots were offered online via HiBid. The items included architectural salvage, stained



Above: German stained glass artist Karl J. Mueller was known for his church windows. This Mueller European window from the 1930s reached the auction high of \$7,500.

glass, fireplace mirrors, antique furniture, lamps, lighting accessories, and a few pieces of

See Braun page 4



Above: Indiana's Lamb Brothers & Greene made ornate lamps like this one (\$925) often designed by artisans working in Chicago.

## FEATURE

### Collecting Jimmy Stewart movie posters

BY LARRY LEMASTERS

The movie Harvey, starring Jimmy Stewart, gave all of us invitations to see a six-foot, three-and-a-half-inch tall white rabbit, who is referred to as a "pooka".

Each of us has stood in a movie lobby, waiting for a show to start, studying the posters of upcoming movies. And, at one time or another, all of us have seen a movie poster that we wish we could take home with us. A Harvey poster, one from It's a Wonderful Life, or even Winchester 73 posters can be purchased online for around \$40. Most of Jimmy Stewart's movie posters can be purchased online, some are original and some are reprints, but they have one thing in common—they are invitations to see beyond reality, which is the number one reason people go to the movies.

James Maitland "Jimmy" Stewart (May 20, 1908 – July 2, 1997) was an American actor who was known for his distinctive drawl and everyman screen persona. Stewart's film career spanned 80 films from 1935 to 1991. With the strong morality he portrayed both on and off the screen, he epitomized the "American ideal" in the mid-20th century. In 1999, the American Film Institute ranked him third on its list of the greatest American male actors, living or dead.

Left: Original Harvey (1950) movie poster that was sold at Sotheby's for \$1,375.

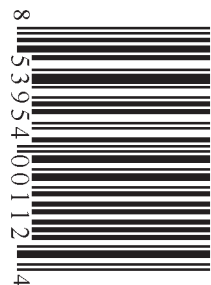
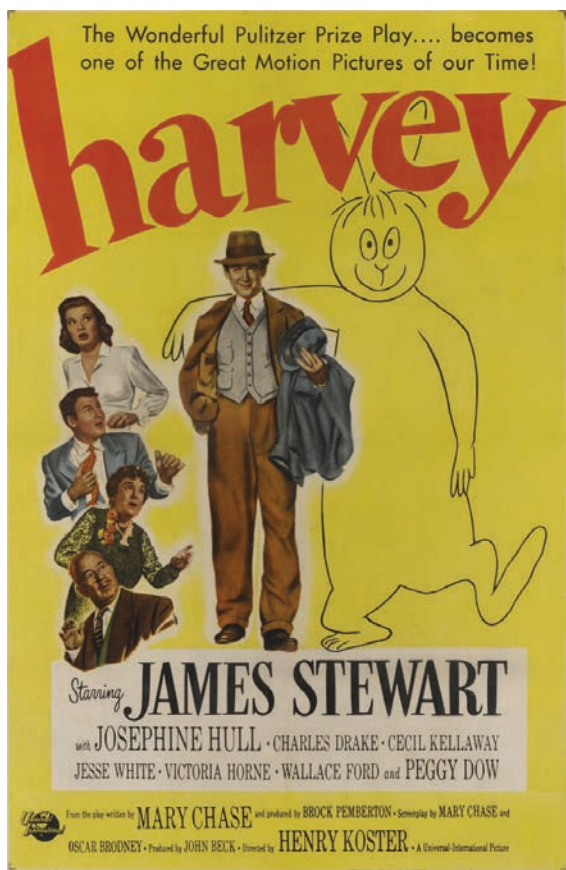


Above: Original Belgium movie poster for Night Passage, starring Stewart and Audie Murphy. From 1957, this poster is valued at \$100.

Along with a prominent movie career, Stewart was a true American hero. When World War II broke out, he enlisted in the Air Corps and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1942. Throughout his movie career, he remained in the Air Force, retiring in 1968 as a Brigadier General, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

Following World War II, in the early 1950s, his movie career had started to fade, so Stewart re-invented himself

See Jimmy page 14



SINCE 1978 THE WEEKLY AUCTION & COLLECTORS  
GUIDE FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION





**SATURDAY • FEB 18**



## Cat TH255 Telehandler



## John Deere 640

## FRIDAY • FEB. 17



## EZ Boardwalk

## FRIDAY • FEB. 17



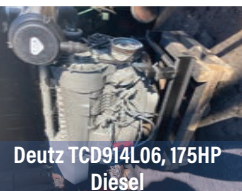
Wadkin

**SATURDAY • FEB 18**



## Triple Head Drill Press

**FRI, SAT • FEB. 17, 18**



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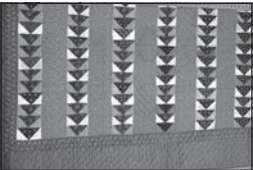
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**FEATURES:** Awesome ONLINE ONLY antique auction - country items; primitives; toys include tin wind-ups, teddy bears, cast iron and more; firkins & painted pantry boxes; early lighting includes whale oil lamps, betty lamps, Gone w/the Wind lamps and others; pewter collection; 19th C. Christening gowns; 17 quilts including several 19th C.; holiday includes Christmas and Halloween; rare set of 19th C black vaudeville performer framed prints; early baskets mostly miniature; large coin collection includes George Washington 1783 coin and several Civil War coins, most selling in groups; large postage stamp collection, mid-1800s to 1980s, all identified and cataloged SELLING IN ONE LARGE LOT, (email [jane@stonyridgeauction.com](mailto:jane@stonyridgeauction.com) for a copy of the catalog) large 19th C painting of mother and children, watercolor portraits and silhouettes, much more than listed.



Spun Cotton Skiers Christmas Ornaments - Large Christmas & Halloween Collections



Early 1900s Red, Navy, Green Flying Geese Quilt - 17 Others in this sale



Sample Pantry Boxes, Firkins, and Other Primitives Including Painted

**PERSONAL PICK-UP:** Winning bidders may pick-up their lots by appointment only. Note: We do not accept credit card payments during pick-up (credit card payments available only to online bidders). Pick-up payments accepted are cash, checks or PayPal.

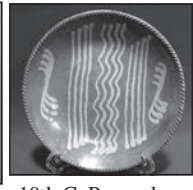
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**AUCTION HOUSE OWNERS:**

**Dan & Jane Wilson**  
**AUCTIONEERS:**  
**Dan Limber & Greg Wilson**



Antique 18th-19th C Heart Maple Sugar Mold - Others



19th C. Pennsylvania Redware Charger - Sample Stoneware and Redware



1930s Strauss Mechanical Toys Porter & Dog - Sample Large Toy Collection



Whale Oil Lamps The Victor - Several Others, GWTW & Early Iron Lighting



25 Bust Silver Half Dollars 1807 -1839 - Several Others Including 1873 G. Washington



Santa Claus Riding Stick Leg Sheep - Several Putz Animals & Miniature Noah's Ark

CONSTRUCTION/HEAVY EQUIPMENT  
& SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT  
ONLINE AUCTION | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7



- 2014 Manitou Telehandler
- 1998 Komatsu D32P-1 Dozer
- 1997 Volvo L50C Wheel Loader
- 1996 Case 580K Ace Extend-a-hoe/Loader
- Caterpillar 277C Skid Steer



- 2011 Western Star 4900SA Semi Truck
- 2009 International DuraStar 4300 14' Dump Truck



- 2006 Hino 338 Truck with Plow and Salt Spreader
- 2005 Sterling SC-8000 Elgin Whirlwind Street Sweeper Truck



- 2004 International 4400 Sweeper Vac Truck
- 2003 GMC C6500 Cable Roll-off Truck w/ 3 Beds



- 2000 Sterling L-Line Salt and Plow Truck
- Ventrac 4500Z Tractor with Snowblower, Bucket, V-Blade, Sweeper, and Drop Salt Spreader Attachment



- 2021 Brazos Pit Viper Half Round Dump Trailer
- 2019 Big Tex 22GN HD Gooseneck Trailer Tandem Axle



- 2017 Continental Aluminum 20' Tandem Axle Landscape Trailer
- 2015 United Unk Enclosed Trailer



- 2000 Supreme Tri-Axle Landscape Trailer 26'
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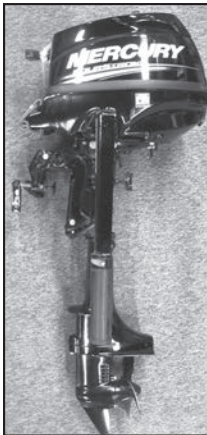


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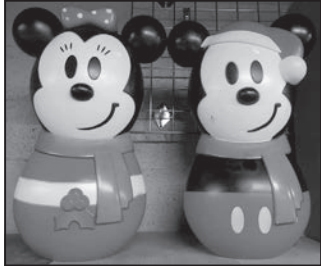
Items Located At: Rowley's Auction Service, 124 S. Lk. Pleasant Rd., ATTICA, MI 48412



**DIRECTIONS:** From I-69 and Lake Pleasant Rd. (Exit # 163) head north on Lake Pleasant Rd., go approx. 1½ miles to auction location.

Preview is Open Monday thru Friday @ 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Evenings by Appt.).

Closing process begins Wed., Feb. 1, Starting @ 8:00 PM



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Braun

FROM PAGE 1

Bidders were certainly drawn to 17 lots containing eye-catching stained, leaded, and beveled-glass windows. The auction's high of \$7,500 went to one of them - a circa 1930 European antique stained-glass window attributed to German stained-glass artist Karl J. Mueller. This one depicted the marriage of Henry V of England to Catherine de Valois of France, symbolizing the relations between France and England in the 1420s.

A circa 1910 Arts & Crafts stained-glass window salvaged from the former Haab's Restaurant in Ypsilanti sold nicely at \$950. The 41-inch window featured a red, green, brown, and amber glass botanical design mounted in a mahogany frame. Another Arts & Crafts



Above: Sherle Wagner International has been making luxury bath hardware since 1945. Two lots of their 80s-era gold faucets sold for \$350 and \$375.

stained glass window reached \$825, even with a few breaks in the glass. The pine-sashed window which hailed from Chicago featured a geometric floral design.

Beyond windows, nearly two dozen other lots of architectural salvage were available. One piece, a 35-inch "S" shaped corbel, that came from the exterior of the 1924 Italian Renaissance Book Hotel in Detroit, went for \$1,200. Ironically, its mate did not sell.

Two lots with 1980s Sherle Wagner

International gold faucet sets sold for \$375 and \$350 respectively. Each spout was a large full swan figure paired with levers depicting the head and neck of smaller swans.

Even relatively commonplace salvage got healthy bids - like a 1920s exterior wrought-iron sconce that went to \$475 or the batch of 27 brass door knobs that pulled \$400.

Most abundant were lamps and lighting. Well over half the lots contained chandeliers, table lamps, sconces, and glass shades. Early in the auction, a 1910 Lamb Brothers & Greene table lamp hit \$925. It featured a green, caramel, and pink leaded stained-glass shade and a brass-plated cast-iron base. Coming close at \$900 was an Art Nouveau four-arm pan



Above: This cast bronze plaque (\$110) commemorated the destroyer USS James C Owens launched in 1944 and decommissioned in 1950.

Right: Craftsman-era items like this leaded/stained glass pendant lantern (\$160) were prevalent in this auction.

light fixture from around 1920. The brass hanging light featured oak leaf overlays on the body and Teplitz Bohemian glass shades. A collection of five antique hand-blown lamp shades beat both at \$1,050. The 1890s shades were blue opal swirl and included one by Fenton.

While architectural salvage was the order of the day, a few pieces of antique furniture were also offered. A circa 1900 quarter-sawn oak map case reached an impressive \$3,600. The 55-inch case had 13 drawers of various heights - some still containing maps!

A bid of \$1,700 won a mid-19th-century coastal Chinese monastery altar. The 102-inch wide, 60-inch high heavily carved piece bore large carvings depicting dragons and allegorical animals. One side featured polychrome carvings of military victories while the other was decked with polychrome floral and animal figures. Garnering \$650 was a 19th-century Central European Biedermeier-style cabinet. The 70-inch two-piece cabinet was veneered in Carpathian elm and featured two glass doors and adjustable shelves.

Other interesting antiques included a carousel horse made by the Herschell-Spillman Company for the former Electric Amusement Park in Detroit. The circa 1920 carved wood figure bore its original painted finish and horsehair tail and was mounted on a steel and brass



stand. It rode out for \$1,250. Also selling for \$1,250 was a salesman's sample cast-iron stove.

Two National Cash Registers also drew solid bids. A circa 1900 neo-classical-style register in bronze finish rang up \$300. A circa 1910 nickel-plated brass unit with a wood cash drawer came close at \$290.

Braun & Helmer has a full slate of enticing auctions scheduled for late January and early February, including the second installment of the Materials Unlimited Liquidation. For more information: [braunand-helmer.com](http://braunand-helmer.com)



Above: Bidding went high for a salesman's sample stove, reaching \$1,250.



Above: This ornate National Cash Register Model 313 (\$300) was built of nickel-plated brass and featured a marble plate above the cash drawer.



Above: Two matching circa 1925 carved stone building ornaments from the Hamtramck State Bank in Michigan sold for \$180 and \$325.



Above: This copper corbel (\$1,200) once graced the exterior of the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit before one of its later 20th-century renovations.



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Without fail for 42 years, The Auction Exchange & Collectors News  
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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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FEBRUARY 7 . . . . .	WED., FEB. 1
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FEBRUARY 21 . . . . .	WED., FEB. 15
FEBRUARY 28 . . . . .	WED., FEB. 22
MARCH 7 . . . . .	WED., MAR. 1
MARCH 14 . . . . .	WED., MAR. 8
MARCH 21 . . . . .	WED., MAR. 15




THE AUCTION EXCHANGE  
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ZONE MAP

This zone map is a feature of *The Auction Exchange & Collectors News* and is designed to make it easier for you to locate events throughout the region.

You will find the Zone symbol following the city and state in the heading of each ad.

This symbol will correspond to the zone map shown here.









WEEKLY Auction Calendar

The Weekly Auction Calendar is provided as a service for our Advertisers and Readers. We make every effort to ensure accuracy of the calendar but always refer to the complete Ad to verify the Calendar information. Unless specified by the Auctioneer in writing we reserve the right to designate the 'Type' of Auction listing. © INDICATES THE AD APPEARS IN SECTION 2 OF THE PAPER

DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV.CITY		TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE 3 MICHIGAN					
Sat., Feb. 4	10am	A Yoder Auction	Beaverton, MI	Antq., Coll., Tool	8
ZONE 4 MICHIGAN					
Fri., Mar. 17	•	Stantons Auct.	Hastings, MI	Firearm	9
ZONE 5 MICHIGAN					
Sat., Feb. 4	10am	Mel White Auct.	Mason, MI	Farm Primitives	8
Sat., Feb. 4	8:30am	White Star Auction	Bronson, MI	Snowmobile, ATV	8
ZONE 12 OHIO					
Feb. 16-18	•	Air Works	Millersburg, OH	Consignment	2
ZONE PENNSYLVANIA					
Feb. 9 & 10	9am	Pook & Pook, Inc.	Downingtown, PA	Miscellaneous	16

CATEGORIES	• Computer	• Firearm	• Industrial	• Office Equip.	• Sports
• Antique	• Consignment	• Food	• Jewelry	• Personal Prop.	• Tag Sale
• Business/Commercial	• Doll	• Furniture	• Lamp	• Pottery	• Tool
• Clock	• Equipment	• Glass	• Livestock	• Primitive	• Toy
• Coin	• Estate	• Government	• Musical	• Quilt	• Vehicles
• Collectible	• Farm	• Household	• New Merchandise	• Real Estate	

DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY		TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE WISCONSIN					
Feb. 10 & 11	9am	Millers Auction	Tomah, WI	Miscellaneous	7
ZONE WEB					
•	•	Bid Now	Online	Farm, Equip.	3
•	•	Rowley	Online	Estate, Consignment	3
Tue., Feb. 2	•	Orbitbid	Online	Brewing	6
Sun., Feb. 5	5pm	Currie	Online	Estate	8
Sun., Feb. 5	•	Stony Ridge	Online	Miscellaneous	3
Tue., Feb. 7	•	Rangerbid	Online	Equipment	6
Tue., Feb. 7	•	Repocast	Online	Construction, Equip.	3

ZONE CALENDAR					
Ev. Wed.	9am	Trading Place	Shipshewana, IN	Antq., Misc.	9

PHONE NUMBER: 888-339-3795



Above: Ginny and Brent Wilber are ready to retire after fulfilling the family's 104-year legacy within Michigan's auction rings

# After 75 years White Star Auctions will conduct final sale

BY ERIC C. RODENBERG

BRONSON, Mich. – After nearly 75 years White Star Auctions will be silencing its gavel. The firm is the largest public auction company of recreational vehicles in North America. February 4 will mark

the final auction of recreational vehicles. On Feb. 18 business assets will be sold. Founded in 1948, White Star Auction came into its own in the mid-1970s when the company began selling snowmobiles, all-terrain-vehicles, trailers, watercraft and recreational vehicles.

Since 1974, the company has sold more than 200,000 items within in this niche market, seeing well over 700,000 bidders pass through their auction gallery, according to co-owner Brent Wilber. "It's not just an auction, it is a mortorsport event," Wilber said.

Over those past 49 years, buyers and sellers came from Canada, Austria, Norway, Russia and throughout the United States, according to Wilber. Brent and his wife, Ginny, who own White Star bought the company from Wilber's father, Garth, in 1968. They both threw themselves fully into the business, Brent working as an auctioneer and Ginny taking care of the myriad of administrative duties. Although White Star has been operating for almost 75 years, the auction gene has been in the Wilber family much longer. Brent's grandfather Henry Wilber founded the Wilber Auction Service in 1919 shortly after graduating from Jones College of Auctioneering in Chicago. Henry was a successful, hard-working auctioneer who conducted three or four auctions a week throughout the 1930s, 40s and 50s. Selling household goods,



Above: The final auction, conducted by a Wilber family member during a run of 104 years, is scheduled Feb. 4 in Bronson, Michigan. Besides snowmobiles and recreational vehicles, the auction will include several bear mounts and hundreds of firearms.

estates, guns, sporting goods and whatever consignors brought, he was well known and liked throughout the community.

In 1949, his son Garth

See White Star page 9



Above: Nearly all conveyances over snow will be available at the Feb. 4 final auction at White Star. An old sleigh and dozens of snowmobile trailers will be among items sold.

LARGE TWO DAY

AUCTION

February 10 & 11, 2023

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SAT., FEB. 11<sup>TH</sup>

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AUCTION

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2023

TWO AUCTION RINGS RUNNING MOST OF THE DAY.

After 49 years of our family owned motorsport auctions, this will be the last motorsport auction. We have sold the real estate and buildings. THANK YOU ALL for 49 years of business and friendship, from all the White Star auction crew !!! We will miss you !

\$50 cash buyer drawing at 8:30 am. 8:30 am auction starts INSIDE on motorsport accessories & parts-tools-sports items and more. At 10 am a second auction starts OUTSIDE on trailers, watercraft, lawn equipment, cars, trucks, and more. DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Then selling INSIDE heated building after outside items are sold: (Between 11am & noon start) on snowmobiles, atv's, utv's, go carts, golf carts, bikes, and more!

DIRECTIONS: One mile east of Bronson, Michigan on US 12 — 671 West Chicago Road.

BRONSON, MICHIGAN 

zone 5

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PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 3331 M-18

BEAVERTON, MI 48612 

zone 3

LOCATED: From the spotlight in Beaverton, ¾ north on M-18 to auction site (Yoder Woodworking). Watch for A Yoder Auction signs.

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TORINO 1889 ITALIAN VETTERLI-VITALI

DANZIG 1890 7.9MM GERMAN MAUSER

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WINCHESTER MODEL 63 - 22 SEMI-  
AUTOMATIC

WINCHESTER MODEL 12 - 20 GAUGE

WINCHESTER MODEL 12 - 16 GAUGE

REMINGTON SCORE MASTER MODEL 511

REMINGTON NYLON MODEL 66

REMINGTON MODEL 11-48 .410 SHOTGUN

REMINGTON MODEL 11-48 28-GAUGE SHOT-  
GUN

SAVAGE MODEL 99EG 300-SAVAGE

RUGER MODEL 10/22

THOMPSON CENTER HAWKENS 50-CALIBER

STEVEN'S ARMS SPRINGFIELD MODEL 87A 22-  
SEMI-AUTOMATIC

HARRINGTON RICHARDSON "BAY STATE" .410  
SINGLE SHOT

SPRINGFIELD .22 SINGLE SHOT

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FEBRUARY 5, 2023 @ 5:00PM

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BROWNING SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLE  
(B.A.R.) 30-06

SAVAGE A17 17-CALIBER HMR

SMITH & WESSON 38 MODEL 14

SMITH & WESSON 22 MODEL 17

SAVAGE 32- SEMI-AUTOMATIC

BROWNING 22- SEMI-AUTOMATIC  
CHALLENGER II

STEVENS .22 SINGLE SHOT MODLE 35

HARRINGTON RICHARDSON 38 RE-  
VOLVER

IVER JOHNSON 22 REVOLVER 8-SHOT

DIKER 50-CALIBER PHILIDELPHIA DER-  
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GERALDINE (GERRY) FELLOWS

AUCTION FARM PRIMITIVES & COLLECTIBLES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 1146 S MERIDIAN RD.

DIRECTIONS: Take M36 5 miles east of Mason or 8 Miles west of M52 to Meridian Rd, then south ¼ mile.

MASON, MICHIGAN 48854 

zone 5

I have no further use for the following items:



OLD THINGS-PIMITIVES-COLLECTIBLES:

US Postage Com-memorative Stamp collection 1972-93; Texas mixing bowl; Oriental In-dian throw rug; Indian animal hair rug; Cap collection (over 500); Cos-tume jewelry; Autographed picture of Bill Freehand; 1960 “Dinner with Ike” medallion; Bowling & Postage lapel pins; Die cast truck banks; 2 Wagner fry pans; Cast iron bi-centennial plaque; L.C. Smith typewriter; Windmill candy jar; U.S. granite ware cup; Brass horse bookends; Fair-banks 100# cap. Scale; 2 Open Road bicycles; FARM PRIMITIVES: One & two man crosscut saws; Assorted old wrenches, hand tools, levels, picks, hammers; Apple crates; Hand garden cultivator; 1884 New Model hand planter; Garden cultivator w/chest push bar; Ox & calf yolks; Peddle grinding stones; Hand corn sheller; Ohio Silver & Demming bean sorter; Horse drawn prairie breaking plow; 1914 Midget garden planter; Horse drawn 3 bottom walk behind plow; Horse drawn walk behind corn planter; Horse drawn walk behind beam plow; Horse drawn cultivator; Hand small grain planter; One man crosscut mechanical saw; Horse drawn ditching scraper; Wood planes; Wood tool boxes; Harness makers vise; HOUSE-HOLD: Craftsman stainless cookware; Jewelry chest; Floor jewelry chest; 2 Comfort-Air room 12,000btu air conditioners; POLEBARN: Craftsman rolling tool chest; Assorted hand & power tools; Pro-Force 20gallon vertical air compressor; Dy-nacharge 140amp battery charger; Eco-Flo 1/2hp submersible sump pump; Barracuda 3/4hp 2” pump w/hose; Combination utility hand cart; Hay rope; Tack cart; Craftsman 6.5XSP shop vac; Briggs & Stratton 1800psi electric power washer; LAWN EQUIPMENT: 2008 Simplicity Prestige Model 2690 27hp PS hydro, 54” deck; Stihl BG55 leaf blower; Stihl 031AV chain-saw; Stihl FS80 line trimmer; Assorted garden tools; Can’t hook; Yard tools; Fimco lawn sprayer; Lawn roller; Agri-Fab tow lawn spreader; Cub Cadet ST100 wheeled string trimmer; Husqvarna 725EX AWD lawn mower; Other items. TERMS: Cash, check, credit cards. All items will be sold as is. The seller nor the auctioneer will be responsible for accidents day of sale or items after sold. Sale held inside unheated barns.

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#### ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS FOR THE FRIDAY MARCH 17TH AUCTION

We presently are accepting consignments, & Estate accumulations of modern and antique long and handguns of all types. Whether you have one piece, or an entire collection feel free to contact us to discuss including your items in our next sales scheduled for **Friday, March 17, 2023**. To be held at the Barry County Fairgrounds, Hastings, Michigan. In addition to the firearms our auctions begin with the sale of ammunition, & related Sporting items. There is also a strong market for swords, Civil War memorabilia, Nazi items, Military, Indian artifacts, and more. Our ATF license allows us to handle the sales of all types of firearms (long & handguns). Call Steven E. Stanton, 517-331-8150, Email - [stevenEstanton@gmail.com](mailto:stevenEstanton@gmail.com) or Michael C. Bleisch, 517-231-0868, Email - [mcbleisch@gmail.com](mailto:mcbleisch@gmail.com). Free pickup on collections we travel across Michigan the country gathering collections for our auctions.



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## White Star

FROM PAGE 7

and his wife, June, bought the auction company from Henry, christening it White Star. For the next six decades, White Star Auctions held weekly events selling everything from live-stock to estate property.

It was a truly a Wilber-family operation, with grandparents, moms, dads, in-laws, uncles, daughters, sons, cousins, brothers and family friends, all pitching in and working together.

After Brent and Ginny bought the auction in 1968, little changed. Grandfather, father, son, brother and sister all took to the auction block and sold. Friends and neighbors came together to help.

Then, in 1974, the Wilbers began the White Star Motorsports/ Snowmobile Auctions. By the 1990s, the motorsports, including recreational vehicles, division of White Star had exploded and big crowds were storming the gates. Out of necessity, Brent and Ginny had to drop the weekly household auctions and concentrate on the niche they had created.

Throughout the 1980s, 90s and the 2000s, it wasn't unusual to have 1,000-1,500 prospective bidders show up for their monthly auctions, only a few miles north of the Indiana-Michigan stateline.

Many of those customers became close friends with the Wilbers.

"The hardest part of ending the auctions is we will miss our friends, our working associates and our customers we've seen for decades," Wilber said. This was a very hard decision ... it is bittersweet for us.

"But, at 75-years-old, we decided it was time to retire while our health is good. I love the live auctions and sincerely appreciate the thousands of our customers, many of whom have become friends. Our auction staff is great to work with, most of them being with us for years."

The Wilber's' children, Missy, Angela and Scott, also grew up working for White Star.

"Our family members already have other very successful careers in their lives – in the business field, in education and in emergency services career, Wilber said.

The Wilbers initially wanted to sell the business as a turn-key operation, ensuring the White Star legacy continued. There was much interest and "lookers," Brent said, "but that just didn't come together."

The real estate and buildings were sold to a local family that owns a landscaping company which, Wilber says, has grown by "leaps and bounds" during the past 20 years. "They employ 20 to 30 local people. ... They are a great asset to

the community."

As the Wilbers leave the auction ring, they leave behind a legacy within the Michigan Auctioneers Association: Patriarch Henry Wilber served on the board of the Association and was president in 1955, Garth Wilber served on the board as Treasurer for decades and President in 1961 and Brent Wilber served on the board and was President in 1978.

White Star will also be conducting an auction on Feb. 18 to liquidate its business assets, including forklifts, trailers, a truck, auctioneering equipment, tables, bleachers and more.

"As with all stories, there is always an ending," Wilber said, "but there are always new beginnings as well. As we retire, there are many new adventures in our plans. More time with our three children and six grandchildren, more trips to our special up-north cabin in northern Michigan ... maybe an Alaskan cruise. And more times with friends. We'll also have time to attend other auctioneers' live auctions to enjoy the excitement and intrigue of a great auction sale."

"And, of course, there's the immense joy of all the memories that have been a part of the Wilber's 104-year history of auction history and community public service."

Contact: (517) 369-1153  
[www.snowmobileauction.com](http://www.snowmobileauction.com)

# Indoor Antique Advertising Show

## March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Shop from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### General Admission \$5.00 - Plus Parking

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E-mail: gwayne@netusa1.net  
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Hrs.: Mon. - Sat. 10AM to 5PM; Sun. 12PM to 5PM.  
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**ZONE 10**  
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Ph.: (317) 916-8125  
Web: www.antiques-squared.com  
E-mail: jinx@antiques-squared.com  
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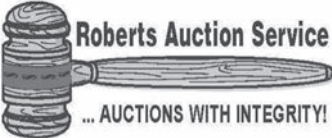
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# David Boudon plied his trade as a portrait painter

BY DAVID MCCORMICK

Born in Geneva, Switzerland, David Boudon (circa 1748-1817) came to the United States around 1794. Boudon, began his career as a draftsman and engraver in his native coutry. He was at midlife when he Immigrated to America. He found his skills as engraver helpful in the detail work involved in in miniature portraiture. His miniature portraits were laid down on vellum or paper to which he added color using a transparent wash. Boudon preferred sitting his clients in profile while a lesser number were posed in three-quarter or full-frontal views. He took advantage of the aspects of their dress, such as collars, bows, pleats and ruffles to enhance his detailed linear representation.

Post American Revolution found more ambitious and prosperous American families

anxious to highlight their successes. They often chose portraiture as a way to highlight their achievement. These up-and-coming Americans provided an eager market for a miniaturist such as Boudon. Taking advantage of this trend Boudon plied his trade along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States.

His extensive eastern seaboard route included stops in Charleston, Savannah, Philadelphia, Alexandria, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Washington among others. A newspaper advertisement dated Dec. 22, 1801 said Boudon also painted portraits for which he charged \$15 for each. He charged \$6 for a watercolor miniature profile or three-quarter or full-frontal view. At that time \$6 for a miniature portrait was quite a heady sum.

The facts of Boudon's life are hard to pin down. Even though he peddled his portraits for over two decades in America, the



Above: Portrait of a Lady, attributed to David Boudon Swiss,

particulars of his life are delegated to the legends found on his portraits that have endured to this day. Other than that, only a few advertisements in national era newspapers tell the tale of David Boudon. Over fifty portraits serve as documentation of his work. On the reverse of

each portrait Boudon penned his name in French or English, along with his place of origin, the provenance of the portrait and its date.

His work can carry a hefty price tag. One contains the profile portrait of a woman. It is a watercolor and pencil on paper, housed in an



Above: Portrait of John Bayly, Jr. (1750s-1806) by David Boudon, watercolor and silverpoint on card. Yale University Art Gallery.

eglomisé frame, unsigned, Switzerland / In Frankfurt Kentucky / 15 February 1817. It sold for over \$4,000 at Cowen's Auctions.

## Jimmy

FROM PAGE 1

by becoming a western actor, who starred in such



Above: Bend in the River movie poster from 1952. This movie starred Jimmy Stewart and Rock Hudson. In good condition, a Bend in the River poster is valued at \$250.

popular movies as Winchester 73 (1950), Broken Arrow (1950), Bend of the River (1952), The Naked Spur (1953), and The Far Country (1954). Later westerns, such as The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962), How the West was Won (1962), Cheyenne Autumn (1964), Firecreek (1968), and The Shootist (1976), which was John Wayne's last movie, helped cement his reputation as an outstanding western actor.

Stewart's movie career spanned seven decades, from Next Time We Love (1935) – An American Tail: Fievel Goes West (1991). In all, Stewart acted in 80 films, giving movie poster collectors a wide range of his poster to collect, including all of the

foreign posters. A collection of Jimmy Stewart movie posters could easily reach 200 or more posters, depending on a collector's choice

When Stewart started acting in the early 1930s, some movie posters were still nothing more than crudely drawn handbills with black ink and block type. It is extremely rare to find one of these early posters today; although, reprints are available. Most collectors begin their Jimmy Stewart movie poster collection with his films from 1939, including Mr. Smith Goes to Washington and Destry Rides Again, which have bright bold colors and elaborately drawn dramatic scenes. Artists were limited in technical ways when illustrating movie posters since dot patterns and line screens were still things of the future. But the artists were given free reign with their creativity, and their imaginations were allowed to "run wild." Once a poster had been painstaking and lavishly created, printers reproduced them for just pennies each. The National Screen Service handled distribution of the posters to theaters.

Like all rare, old, and desired items, Jimmy Stewart movie posters have become highly sought after in the secondary market as collectibles. And since the early 1990s, auction houses such as Sotheby's and Christie's

Left: Mr. Hobbs Takes a Vacation was, perhaps, Stewart's funniest movie. This poster from 1962 is valued at \$100.



Above: Winchester 73 (1950), starring Jimmy Stewart, original one-sheet movie poster that is valued at \$1,350.

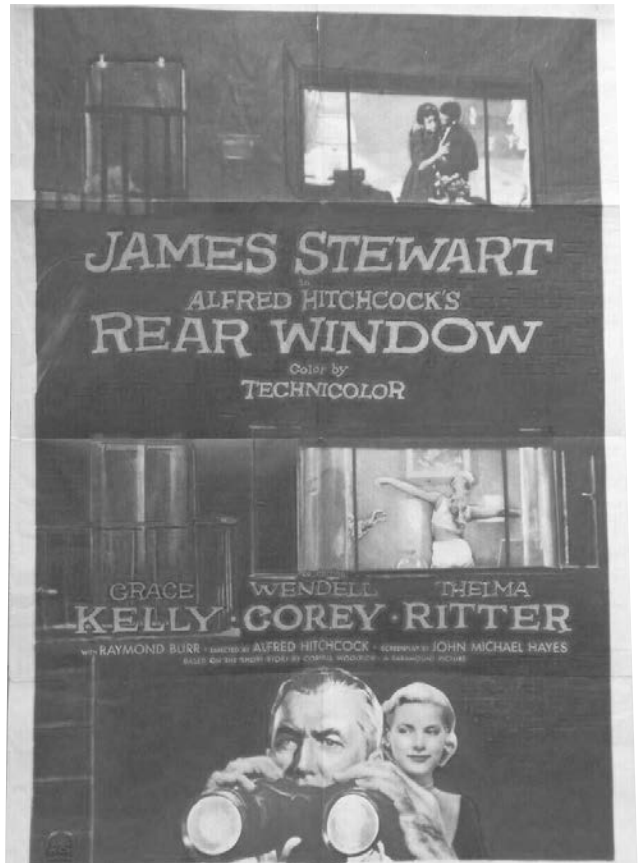
Right: Rear Window (1954) one-sheet movie poster offered on eBay for \$8,500.

have auctioned rare, old movie posters on a continuing and growing basis. Much of the demand for movie posters originated with restaurants, which began adorning walls with old posters as both an art form and to give patrons a feeling of nostalgia.

In an unusual twist for collectibles, the concept of restoring old movie posters is totally acceptable. Where many antiques are considered "worthless" if restored, movie posters are considered worthless if left in a torn and tattered condition. Restorers are paid thousands of dollars to restore old movie posters to their one-time brilliance.

As with all collectibles, condition of a Jimmy Stewart movie poster, along with rarity, determines price.

Right: Framed poster of It's a Wonderful Life (1950) that is valued at \$40.





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INFORMATION WANTED: The museum at Four Meadows, St. Joseph, MI has a two horse butcher's wagon with G.H. Mortimore lettered on it. We are trying to locate this person who may have had a shop in the mid-west or east from about 1885-1915. Anyone with information please call 269-519-4791. This was formerly in the Sut Marshal Museum before coming to Four Meadows. Richard McCoy curator. (0723)

WANTED: Electric typewriters with/out screens. Leave message with make, model, price. 260-768-3111 x2 (1423)

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