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November 21, 2023

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AUCTION

Ohio blanket chest leads Meander Auctions' fall sale

BY SUSAN EMERSON NUTTER

WHIPPLE, Ohio -Husband and wife duo, Hollie Davis, are a force to be reckoned with. This

power couple are a unique decades. entity in the often perceived to be "for old people only" business of finding, researching, acquir-Andrew Richmond and ing and selling antiques. This has been their passion for the past two



"This summer, we hit the 20th-anniversary milestone of our work in the auction business," Hollie Davis notes, "and in one way or another, auctions have been what we've spent almost all of that time doing."

Recently, the couple went old school and purchased a building in Whipple, Ohio, creating Meander Auctions (formerly Ohio Company Antiques) where they do live, in-person auctions, but also host online only sales.

So why open up a brick and mortar at this stage in the game? Davis explains, "One of the reasons we wanted to have a building and do auctions in a more consistent way was that we think what people are always looking for is good service and flexibility. With a building, we can be a lot more



Above: This Ohio decorated blanket chest by Jacob Werrey, German Township, Fulton County, Ohio, dated 1882, was made of poplar and featured its original black over red stylized paint as well as green trim and feet. The poplar chest was dovetailed and retained a stenciled basket of flower as well as the initials "MB" and "1882." The chest sold for \$11,800.

flexible in offering options for both in-person preview, which people still seem to appreciate, and for picking up.

email out to buyers in the Auerbach sale [Meander's live/in-person, on-line, absentee and phone bidding event held October "In fact, we sent an 28 and told them to wait

a bit to come pick up; that they might find something in our November sale they'd like. We were

See Meander on page 4

FEATURE

These bowls may cost a lot of dough to take them home

BY LARRY LEMASTERS

least once in your life, a a striking, nostalgic certain antique or understanding of family collectible, found in the back of a flea market or laid out upon a table at

an auction house, reminds you of a family piece that Grandma had in her If you are lucky, at home. When this happens, or familial love envelops you. I recently felt such while an epiphany

shaping a dough bowl from a pine beam left over from the construction of two friends' post-andbeam home. The beam yielded a crude but beautiful 6 by 4 inch dough bowl that is 20 inches long. Left: Large, round,

dough bowl from about 1900.

Below: A 22-inch dough

Of all antiques, dough bowls (also called dough troughs) seem to embrace the spirit of their owner or maker. Walk through any antique shop and you will find many dough bowls. Pick one up and shut your eyes and you might envision the firm, callused hands of a weathered farmer shaping the bowl for his wife to use in their



Above: This large, antique, green French dough bowl was offered on the Internet for \$1,600.



bowl with great patina. Seen at the Antique Tobacco Barn in Asheville, N.C., for \$200. kitchen.

in every home in America, from the rich New



Nearly every kitchen England clapboards to the prairie shoddy of Oklahoma, had one or two dough bowls sitting around. Americans have always enjoyed bread as a diet staple, so these bowls were needed to mix and proof the dough before baking. Dough bowls served a functional purpose in preindustrialized America. In the 1800s, most

dough bowls were entirely shaped from a single log or beam, using ax, adz, or chisel and mallet. A more prosperous man might have used an inshave to carve out the bottom, giving the bowl a more gentle rounded effect. Some dough bowls were crafted in two pieces. The top, usually 1 to 2 inches

See dough bowls page 10



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



Japanese type 30 Bayonet for Arisaka rifle, US M4 bayonet with US M8A1 scabbard, British No.9 MK1 bayonet, No. 4 MKII bayonet for Enfield rifle, .303 Jungle carbine bayonet

KNIVES

Schrade-Walden hatchet, Cutco hunting knife, Schrade commemorative knife, Browning folding knife, (3) Kabar knives, fishing knife and hunting knife, Western hunting knife and Huntmaster knife, (2) Camillus folding knives, (3) Schrade knives - Uncle Henry with case, 1 Old Timer with case and 1 Uncle Henry no case, (2) Buck knives and (1) Case knife, (6) assorted pocket knives, Assorted knife holders, Case Hunter FX Bld 5 knife, Camillus American Wildlife series folding knife, (2) Buck Collector's edition folding knives, Vintage Buck 'Muskrat' folding knife, Western 'Boy Scouts of America' hunting knife in sheath, Camillus 'Cub Scouts' folding pocket knife, Case 6254 Trapper folding pocket knife, Buck 112 folding knife with sheath, Case 'Baby Butterbean' folding knife, Buck 110 folding knife with scabbard, Winchester 125th anniversary pocket knife, Case 'Tiny Trapper' folding pocket knife, Buck folding knife with scabbard, man model 288, Coleman model 200A green 1980, (3) Coleman model 228, Coleman model 295 1989, Coleman 200A green 198, Bernz-O-Matic Propane gas, Coleman model 288, (2) Coleman Quicklite, Coleman model 335 1972, (2)U.S. smp 1986 military, Coleman dual fuel 2 mantle 1995, Coleman model 275, Cole-man model 502 heater, Sears and Roebuck model 72325-1 1976, Coleman model 288 in box 1985, Coleman Air-O-Lantern model QL, (3) Ash Flash, Coleman dual fuel 2 mantle 1994, (2) Kamplite (2) Jumphrey gas Light Co. Gas, Hipo-lite lantern, J.C. Higgins model 710, (2) Kamplite KL2, Pre Way L 46 S, Coleman dual fuel 2 mantle 2000, Coleman model 286, Kamplite LRL-2 in box, Coleman Powermax quick pack, Coleman model no. 2 gas iron

FARM TOYS

Ertl 1997 Michigan FFA Farmall H, Ertl 1994 Michigan FFA Massey Harris 44 Special, Ertl 1997 Michigan FFA Farmall H, Ertl 1993 Michigan FFA Farmall 350, Ertl 1994 Ohio FFA Farmall F-20, Ertl 1992 Fred Ertl signature edition, 1913 Ford T van, 1931 Hawkeye flatbed and Farmall 350 tractor, (2) Ertl John Deere models, Ertl John Deere skidsteer, Ertl Ford NAA and New Holland spreader, Schilling wind up tractor and trailer, Ertl Ford 8n 1995 Michigan FFA tractor **ANTIQUES**

Remington 'Offi cial Boy Scout' knife with sheath, Remington Boy Scouts 'Be prepared' knife, Buck 120 hunting knife with scabbard, Case 59L 'Hunting Heritage' folding knife, Case 'Leather Hunter' hunting knife with sheath

MAGAZINES/FIREARM PARTS

(2) M1 magazines in U.S. holder, (2) AK47 magazines, (5) Ruger Mark II magazines, (2) M1 carbine magazines and (10) .30 carbine magazines, (2) New Savage Arms rifle stock, Lot of assorted gun stocks, (2)AR magazines, Pro Mag mini 30 magazine

AMMUNITION

(3) Winchester 125th anniversary shotgun shells, (2) Winchester 5.56mm 200 round range pack M855 green tip, unopened, (3) boxes of 12 ga. Shotgun shells, (2) boxes PPU 7.62 Nagant, (4) boxes Remington 30-06, (5) boxes PPU 32 auto, (5) full boxes Remington .22 WRF, Lot of .35 Remington ammunition, British 303 ammunition, (2) full boxes Norma 7x64 rifle ammo, (4) full boxes Hornady 450 Bushmaster ammo, 5 full bandoleers of .30 carbine ammo, 5 bandoleers 5.56 NATO, (2) boxes 16 ga. Slugs and 1 box 28 ga. 8 shot, (70) rounds of 1943 8mm, Vintage empty ammo boxes, (147) rounds of 30-06 ammunition in ammo box, (500) rounds of CCI .22 WMR ammunition, (334) rounds of .22 WMR ammunition. 12 ga. Buckshot 2

3/4, 12 ga. Slug 2 3/4", (2) Evans Sports wooden ammo boxes, Low profile ammo box, (3) ammunition boxes, (3) ammunition boxes, (2) plastic ammunition boxes

LANTERN COLLECTION

Coleman red 200A with box 1973, (15) Coleman 200A red - '52, '55, '56, '59, '65, '66, 67, 68, '70, '77 and 1979, Cole-man model 512w LP gas 1971, (4) Coleman model 220F, Sears and Roebuck model 476 1965, Coleman 242c, (2) Coleman model 288 Coleman model 275, Cole-

Auctioneer's note: Bob VanBeek has been an enthuiast and collector for over 30 years. He has decided to liquidate his collection, it will be off ered at public auction.

Terms: Cash, Credit Card or good check with proper I.D. 10% buyers premium applied to all purchases with an additional 5% added for online bids. Additiona; 4% charge for credit card payment. Not responsible for accidents. Auction conducted regardless of weather. This is a partial listing, please see our website for updates. Please see our website for complete Terms and Conditions.

License plates, Glass oil bottles in crate, Bulk oil dispenser, Vintage Anco windshield wiper display, Anchors, Michigan 1970 license plate (unused), (6) 1 gallon glass milk bottles in crate, 4 gallon Mason's glass jar with lantern 'top', Seyfert's pretzel jar with Coleman parts & mantles, Glass dispensing jar and 1 gallon jug, Superior cream separator top and a cream can, Galvanized washtub, Ballantine's whisky crate, 48 star United States Flag with fringe, Framed Co-ca-Cola mirror, Winchester framed mirror, Conibear trap, Zebco Lp burner, (2) bottle cappers, Vintage trunk, Wagner Ware cast iron shallow skillet, Wagner Ware 1053P cast iron skillet, Wagner's 13 3/8" cast iron skillet, Griswold No. 10 cast iron muffin pan, Griswold 'Heart Star' cast iron waffle maker, Griswold square fry skillet cast iron, Griswold cast iron ashtray, Libbey vintage large clear glass piggy bank, Libbey vintage large clear glass automobile bank, 1976 Libbey Bicentennial amber glass bank, 4 gallon Mason patent pickle jar clear, Libbey vintage amber glass large piggy bank

MISC. ITEMS

Briggs and Stratton Storm Responder generator 5500 watts, Wilton 5" bench vise with anvil, Hoyt Tec Lite compound bow



Vander Kolk Auction & Appraisal Scott Vander Kolk Jr. (616) 437-1047 Scott Vander Kolk Sr. - (616) 292-4085

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CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS SURPLUS ASSETS ONLINE AUCTION zone web Tuesday, November 28 | Grand Rapids, Michigan

- 2013 Holder C4.74 DB Tractor with Spreader and Sweeper
- 2009 John Deere 310J 4WD **Backhoe Loader**
- 2001 Old Dominion LCT650 Leaf Vacuum
 - (2) 2021 Ford Explorer Sport Police
 - (3) 2018 Ford Explorer Sport Police
- (3) 2017 Ford Explorer Sport Police
- 2016 Ford Explorer Sport Police

- 2015 Dodge Ram 2500 with Western 8'6" MVP3 Plow
- (2) 2014 Eglin Pelican Sweeper
 - 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrid • 2013 Mack LEU613
 - 2013 Ford C-Max Hybrid
- 2012 Ford F-250 Super Duty
- (2) 2008 International 4400 SBA 4x2 Bucket / Boom Truck
 - 2007 Ford Focus ZX4 S
 - (2) Lots of Roll Around Tool Boxes • Plow Attchments
 - Tires Vehicle Parts





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- 2012 John Deere CX
- 2012 Kubota BX2370V Compact Utility Tractor
- 2006 John Deere 3720
- Ford 3600 CA213C Tractor
- New Holland 7740 Tractor
- Daewoo GC20E Forklift
- Erickson E250 Forklift
- 2012 GMC 1500 WT
- 2011 Dodge Ram 1500
- Volvo G720B Motor Grader
- 2012 R.M.V. Spaulding Road Saver Hot Patch
- 2007 Crafco E-Z 1000 Crack Sealer





- 2015 Ford Explorer Sport Police
 - (6) 2014 Ford Explorer Sport Police
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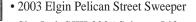






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- 2010 International School Bus
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- · Lawncare and Tree Removal Equipment







MIEDEMA'S

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Meander From Page 1

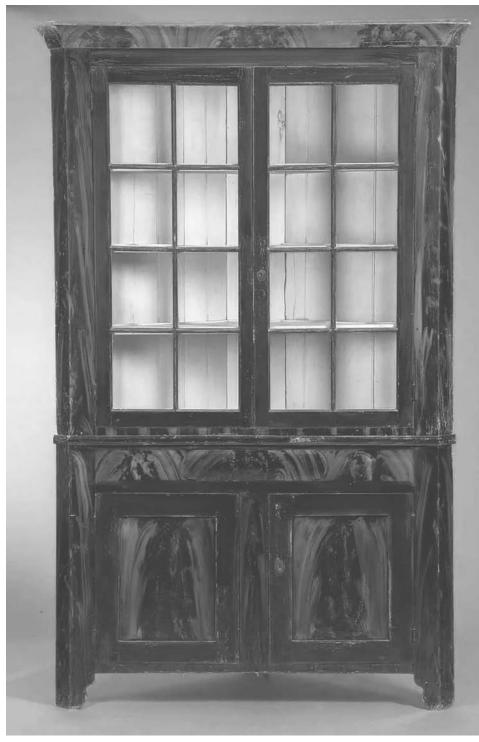
able to say we were happy to hold onto things for a couple weeks. And, in the same vein, we're committed to in-house shipping. It just keeps costs down, which keeps prices up and leaves more money in the consignor's pocket and helps buyers be more competitive - if you can only spend \$200 on something, you have to factor in shipping, and by keeping shipping affordable, we let more of your budget go toward bidding." Meander Auctions'

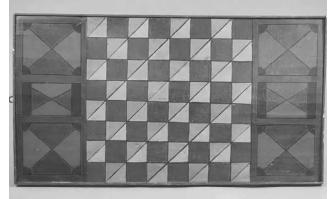
November 8 online/absentee bid event "consisted of material from a variety of consignors - a Columbus, Ohio estate, some lots from a couple in New York who were downsizing, and things from Delaware, Tennessee and of course all around Ohio," Davis noted.

The top lot of the day was a Jacob Werrey (German Township, Fulton County) Ohio decorated blanket chest dated 1882. Made of poplar and having a dovetailed box on turned legs, the chest retained its original black over red stylized paint decoration with green trim and feet.



Above: This oil on canvas portrait of a gentleman by John Brewster, Jr. (Connecticut/Maine, 1766-1854) sold for \$5,842.50.





Above: This American painted gameboard wore wonderful original polychrome paint and was bid to \$922.50 during the November 8 Fall Antiques and Art sale hosted by Meander Auctions of Whipple, Ohio.

the interior.

Meander's auction list-

ing for this cupboard

said, "The collector's

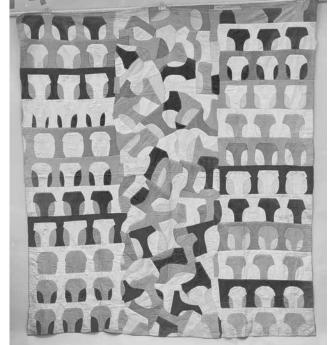
receipt for this cupboard

The chest also featured a stenciled basket of flowers over "MB" and "1882". The box is signed on the underside, and though it is illegible, it matches the signatures on other Werrey chests. This 28 inch high by 28 inch wide and 23 inch deep beauty realized \$11,800. Prices include a buyer's premium.

An Ohio or Pennsylvania decorated corner cupboard signed John Spitler and Henry Bahl (?) and dated either 1851 or 1857 made \$2,714. Of two-piece construction, the upper portion boasted two eightpane doors with the lower having two paneled doors. Overall, the $85\frac{1}{2}$ inch tall cupboard retained its original faux mahogany grain paint with old cream paint on identifies Spitler as working in Adams County, Pennsylvania. Other equally vibrant faux mahogany grained cupboards are known from that area, including corner cupboard а attributed to Mount Pleasant that sold at Keno Auctions (New York), May 2010, lot 70. Genealogical research has identified a single John Spitler (1819-1898) that is the right age in Adams County. He was the son of Jacob (1782-1874) and Mary Diehl (1793-1884), and the family lived in Mount Pleasant. Interestingly, however, the entire family, including John, moved west, settling in western Montgomery County, Ohio by 1840. If this is the John Spitler who signed this cupboard, it would mean that the cupboard was made in Montgomery County, Ohio. Spitler is listed in all censuses as a farmer, which is typical of rural furniture makers during the 19th century. Research could not firmly identify a Henry Bahl[?] in either location. The best candidate is Henry Buhl (b. 1820),

who was a Prussian-born day laborer in Dayton in the 1860 census. By 1870, he was working in the iron business." Primitive decorative pieces solling out of this

pieces selling out of this event included an oil on canvas signed portrait of a gentleman by John Brewster, Jr. (Connecticut/Maine, 1766-1854) which was won with a bid of \$5,842. The half-length portrait of a gentleman with dark hair wearing a white shirt, white waistcoat and black coat with one hand inside the front closure measured 29 inches high by 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide (sight); in a period frame, $35 \frac{1}{2}$ inches high by $30 \frac{3}{4}$ inches wide. Meander Auctions noted in their listing, "This portrait was included in a 1961 exhibition of Brewster's work that originated atthe Connecticut Historical Society, and then trav-



Above: Possibly African American, this early 20th century, cotton quilt had an unusual graphic pattern in various colors and a flannel backing. It sold for \$1,476.

eled to Colby College, and finally to the Addison Gallery Phillips Academy in Andover. MA. It was discussed in Nina Fletcher Little, "John Brewster, Jr. 1766-1854. Deaf-Mute Portrait Painter of Connecticut Maine," which and appeared in the October 1960issue of the Connecticut Historical Society Bulletin in advance of the exhibition.

A wonderfully graphic pieced quilt; possibly African American, early 20th century was made of cotton and boasted an unusual pattern in a variety of colors complete with a flannel backing. Measuring 73 inches by 84 inches, this quilt sold for \$1,476.

A colorful early 20th century painted pine gameboard made of a single board with an applied border did well bringing \$922.50. The 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch high by 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide board retained its original polychrome paint, while an English, early 19th century pearlware, mocha ware mug with a tapered body, square handle, and marbleized decoration sold for \$584.25.

Decorative items without the primitive aspect selling strong included a large four-branch coral carving of deities, birds, and flowers; early to mid 20th century Chinese, was taken to \$4,425. The total weight of this piece

came in at 1316 grams, and it stood 15 ½ inches high. A similar twobranch 12-inch-high coral example, but this having a carving of a goddess and flowers realized \$3,068. It weighted 754 grams

"It was gratifying to see the coral pieces get the attention they deserved," Davis said.

Standing 18 inches high, a late 19th century French Galle cameo vase sold for \$2,952. The vase wore acid etched crimson flowers against a butterscotch-yellow background, and a 1903-S \$20 Double Eagle Coronet gold sold strong bringing \$1,968.

Richmond and Davis felt the auction was a success, but by no means do they sit upon such laurels. "We're always looking at what we can do to streamline things, how we can offer better service. How do we strike the balance in lotting things between making them attractive to collectors but making shipping practical for dealers," Davis explains. "When someone asks us for something, we like to say the answer is yes - what's the question? And where we are now is figuring out how to say yes as much as possible, which is the best kind of prob-

Above: Still dressed in its original faux mahogany grain paint, this two-piece corner cupboard signed John Spitler and Hery Bahl[?] was bid to \$2,714.

lem to have." Contact: www.meanderauctions.com 740-760-0012



Above: This 4 ¼ inch high mocha ware mug made \$584.25

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DEC. 26	TUES., DEC. 19
****JAN. 2ND N	IO PAPER****
JAN. 9	WED., JAN. 3



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:

Leipsic, OH, Gaines, MI, Whittemore, MI, Mecosea, MI, Pinconning, MI, Byron Center, MI, Kalamazoo, MI, Royal Oak, MI

If you don't receive a paper by Tuesday's mail, you may call us to have a paper sent first class.

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Page 6



with Freeland Auction Services with questions. Shipping and delivery are possible on buyers dime! is an incredible opportunity to add some amazing items to your collection.

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times but expect to be able to pickup items with flexibility within 2 weeks after the close of the auction. Please contact Barry with Freeland Auction Services with questions.

with 2 items each minute closing. This private estate is located near **South Dease Lake near Hale, Michigan.** All items can be picked up at the estate by appointment only. Registered bidders will receive more information weekly on pickug

Shipping and delivery are possible on buyers dime! Registered bidders will be able to attend a preview of items on Tuesday, November 21st or possibly by appointment as needed. You MUST be a registered bidder in order to participate in the auction and preview. This is an incredible opportunity to add some amazing items to your collection.

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Items to be Shipped/Transported or Picked Up at: Estate Near South Dease Lake in Hale, MI WINNING BIDDERS WILL RECEIVE PICKUP DETAILS! Contact: Barry Huckeby (989) 878-3308\ Freeland Auction Services, LLC Owner

THIEF RIVER FAL

November 21, 2023		THE	AUCTION EXCH	ANC	GE – www.eau	ctiones	cchange.com			Page
WE		B Residay	5 Sesday 26	3 <u>.</u> 7	CATEGOR • Antique • Business/Com • Clock • Coin • Collectible		Computer Consignment Doll Equipment Estate Farm Farm Farm Houset State	 Jewelry re Lamp Livestock ment Musical 	Personal Prop. Pottery Primitive Quilt	Sports Tag Sale Tool Toy Vehicles
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Sat., Nov. 25 10am	Lets Talk Auction	Mio, MI	Firearm, Coin, Sport	11	•	•	Pook & Pook	Online	Deco Art	
	HIGAN				•	•	Rowley	Online	Estate	1
Fri., Nov. 24 10am	Dales Auctioneering	Holland, MI	Antq., Coll., Misc.	8	•	•	Strawser	Online	Root Beer	
Fri., Nov. 24 10am	Vander Kolk's	Dorr, MI	Gun, Sporting, Ammo	2	•	•	Stefeks	Online	Arrowhead, Artifac	ct 1
Sat., Nov. 25 10am	Kendall Tobias Auct.	Hastings, MI	Estate	13	•	•	Wegner	Online	Retirement	1
Sat., Nov. 25 9:30am	Stantons Auctioneers	Hastings, MI	Antique	8	Tue., Nov. 21	•	Rangerbid	Online	Consignment	
Fri., Jan. 12 8am	Stantons Auctioneers	Hastings, MI	Firearm	8	Tue., Nov. 28	•	Orbitbid	Online	Truck, Misc.	1
ZONE 6 MIC		-			Tue., Nov. 28	•	Orbitbid	Online	Miscellaneous	1
Nov. 24 & 25 •	Brad Neuhart	Milan, MI	Consignment	14	Tue., Nov. 28	•	Rangerbid	Online	Equipment	
Sat., Dec. 2 10am	American Eagle	Brighton, MI	Estate	12	Tue., Nov. 28	•	Repocast	Online	Equipment	1
					Tue., Nov. 28	•	Vanderkolk	Online	Antq., Tool, Misc.	1
Sat., Dec. 2 9:37am	Bonnigson & Assoc.	Fremont, OH	Farm Equipment	10	ZONE C		NDAR			
Dec. 30 & Jan. 1 9:30am	Aaron Mast	Middlefield, OH	2 Day Antq., Coll.	10	Ev. Wed.	9am	Trading Place	Shipshewana, IN	Antq., Misc.	1

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November 21, 2023

Bowls From Page 1

in depth, was sawed with handles or other ornamentation to meet the creativity of the craftsman. The bottom



Above: Old dough bowl with two handles, showing bleached wood patina.

chipshewan

•TradingPlace•

out. The top and bottom pieces were then joined using wood dowels and whatever type of glue the farmer might have handy. Then a plane, rasp, or spokeshave smoothed the sides and top.

was then cut and carved

Nearly every type of wood imaginable has been used to create dough bowls. While pine was the favorite wood used for dough bowls, due to its easy workability and abundant accessibility, many dough bowls were carved from fir, spruce, poplar, walnut, birch, and

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even a few from oak, but only a few due to oak's density. I once saw a dough bowl made from birdseye maple. It is possible to collect a potpourri of wooden dough bowls that, with a little oil and elbow grease, will radiate the warmth and beauty of the woods, making an eye-catching collection.

Today, collectors pay top dollar for wellpreserved, authentic dough bowls. In fact, at first glance, one might think dough bowls acquired their name because of their cost in any antique store. But that's the wrong kind of dough! But cost they do. While there is no average price for dough bowls since each is unique, it is fair to state that a midsize hand-hewn dough bowl in good or repaired condition will cost at least \$150 and some cost much more. I've seen authentic, 1800s American-made dough bowls on eBay offered for \$1,500 \$2,000.



Above: Today, primitive dough bowls are often used as decorative pieces, especially in the autumn around Thanksgiving.

For a fascinating read on wooden bowls in general, try The Wooden

hating read Bowl by Robin Wood bowls in (Stobart Davies Limited he Wooden 2005).

Farm & Agricultural Equipment Online Auction Tuesday, November 28 | Multiple Locations, MI

- 2000 John Deere 4300 Compact Utility Tractor
 John Deere 8350 Grain Drill
 2005 J & M Double Roller Basket
- JBM 24'L x 7'W feeder wagon
- 1995 BRUSH HOG LILLISTON 6200

Massey Ferguson Model MF620 Disc

- Crows Foot Cultipacker
 Generac 30KW Towable PTO
 Generator
 Several lots of tires
 - Miscellaneous farm tools, equipment and parts Plus Much More

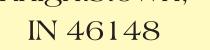
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December 2nd @ 9:37am

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Monday, January 1 (@ 9:30 AM 9:30 AM Ring 1: Signs, Advertising, Local Advertising 11:30 AM Ring 2: Primitives, Coffee Grinders, Coffee Crates, Coffee Misc. and Misc. Antiques Lunch Stand Provided Terms and Conditions: Payment by Cash, Check, and Credit Card. 10% Buyer's Premium Charged on All Sale Watch for more information in upcoming ads!! This Auction Will Be Cataloged or More Details and Photos go to www.auctionzip.com Auction ID: 41976

Aaron Mast Auctioneers and Appraisals 440-321-8812 LLC amauctioneersandappraisals@aol.com

Bond

Collecting antique nibs makes writing history

By Larry LeMasters

A nib is the small part of a quill, fountain pen, or dip pen that comes into contact with the ink and writing surface. There are dozens of different types of nibs, varying in shape and size and the material from which they are made.

Collectors primarily search for metal nibs, which originated in ancient Egypt some 2,500 years ago. In ancient times, writing nibs were made of bronze or copper. Metallic nibs competed with reed pens for hundreds of years with reed pens being the more reliable pen for achieving quality writing. Metallic nibs continued to be made as one-off, handmade luxury items until approximately 1800.

Prior to the Industrial Revolution, two companies, Peregrine Williamson in the United States and Wise in Britain, began manufacturing steel pens and nibs. However, John Mitchell and Josiah Mason established a steel nib manufacturing plant in Birmingham, England, in the 1820s,



Above: This nib, made by W. Curtis of London, has the image of Napoleon Bonaparte embossed onto it.

with reed pens for hundreds of years with reed in pens rapidly gained pens being the more repopularity.

Modern fountain pen nibs, which always interest collectors, may be traced back to a gold nib which had a tiny ruby chip attached at the point. Other old nibs of interest are ones made of platinum, including nibs made of iridium and osmium. Iridium tipped nibs were popular in the 1830s. Today's nibs are mostly made of stainless steel or alloyed gold with some nibs made of 14 or 18 carat gold.

Steel nibs retain sharp points much better than old-fashioned bird quills, bronze, or copper nibs, and steel nibs can be attached to and removed from pen holders, allowing a collector to remove nibs easily for his or her collection. Finally, metal nibs are easily mass produced, making them available for collections. Collectors usually



Above: This 14-carat gold nib is found in an External fountain pen, circa 1910, that was made by Mabie Todd & Company of New York. The pen is valued at \$1,250.

divide nibs into three shapes — the broad nib, the snub nib, and the pointed nib, but when searching for nibs to collect, collectors enjoy searching for historic nibs, which are nibs that

Right: This box of vintage B-3 nibs, manufactured by Hunt Manufacturing, was offered on the Internet for \$13. were actually used for a historic document.





Above: This Art Deco fountain pen, circa 1931, holds a 14-carat nib. The pen was offered on eBay for \$2,250.

STAT Emergency Medical Services, Inc. Online Auction

-2012 Ford E-150 Handicap Van -2012 Ford E-250 Extended Handicap Van -2011 Ford E-250 Extended Handicap Van (4) 2009 Ford E-250 Extended Handicap Vans -2006 Freightliner 3500 Sprinter Ambulance -2006 Ford E-350D Extended Handicap Van -2011 Ford E350S0 Extended Ambulance -2010 Ford E450SD Ambulance -2010 Ford E-350D Ambulance -2009 Ford E350SO Ambulance -2009 Ford E450D Ambulance -(3) 2009 Ford E450SD Ambulances -2009 Ford E-350D Ambulance -(2) 2009 Ford E350S0 Ambulances -2008 Chevrolet G3500 Express Ambulance -2007 Ford E350S0 Ambulance -1999 Chevrolet C6500 Ambulance

-(2) 2011 Ford Transit Connect Vans -2000 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE Pickup Truck -2006 Ford F-ISOSD XLT Pickup -2007 Chevrolet 1500 Suburban LS -2008 Chevrolet C4500 Bus -2003 Chevrolet Tahoe LS -(2) EZ-GO 36-Volt Golf Carts -Ingersoll Rand Compressor -Kohler 30RZGB Generator -Miller Millermatic 211 Welder -large assortment of Stryker Stretchers, wheelchairs, rotary lifts, etc. -Coats 1150-2D Tire Balancer -2011 Boscah Tire Changer -large assortment of office furniture, support equipment, shop equipment, etc. **Plus Much More**



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59 FIREARMS TO INCLUDE: Winchester 94 carbines, model 1907 Self Loading 351 cal, models 77 & 190 22cal rifles; Springfield Armory M1 30cal carbine; Rock Island Arsenal M1903 30cal rifle; Norinco SKS 7.62x39 carbines; Mosin Nagant M1891 7.62x54R rifles; Russian Tokarev SVT 40 7.62x54R rifle; Ishapore 2A 7.62x51nato w/matching serial #s & 800mm sight; Yugo M24/47 8mm Mauser; Remington Bar 300 win mag rifle; Marlin, Remington & other 22cal rifles; Remington model 12 slide action 12ga; Lefever Nitro Special side by side 12ga shotguns; other 12, 16 & 20ga shotguns; Taurus 357 6 shot revolver; Smith Wesson 38 special 6 shot revolver; Ruger Standard 22cal pistol; Smith Wesson 38cal 5 shot revolver; F.I.E. B. Scout 22cal 6 shot revolver; Dan Wesson 357cal 6 shot revolver; Ruger New Model Super Blackhawk 44mag single action revolver; Smith & Wesson DA45 6 shot revolver; Ruger GP100 357mag 6 shot revolver; + others; OTHER: assorted calibers & gauges of ammunition; Hornady loading press; assorted dies, casings & related; gun cases; sheath & pocket knives; 2 old violins; Mendini trumpet; COINS TO INCLUDE: 1897 US \$10 Gold; 1881 US \$5 Gold; 1945 Dos Pesos 22Kt Gold; 1945 Dos Pesos Gold coin men's ring; 1988 Chinese Gold coins lady's ring; 1865 Mexican Gold coin lady's ring; 2005 1 kg Chinese Silver Panda coin; 2018 American The Beautiful 5oz. Silver coin; 1883 Carson City Morgan; American Eagle, Morgan



















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Oyster plates were elegance on the half-shell

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

In October, Antique Week acquainted readers with the popularity of oysters during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the fascination with collecting vintage oyster cans today. Another popular collectible from oysters' epicurean heyday is oyster plates, which were fixtures on the tables of gracious hosts for nearly a century.

As oysters became fashionable in the late 1800s, tableware manufacturers began creating beautiful specialized plates to serve the shellfish. As the oyster craze grew, so did the market for the serving plates. No fashionable Victorian or Edwardian table was complete without a set. Their adoption even spawned accompanying two or threepronged silver forks for skewering the delicacies.

The handsomely-crafted plates were made by the finest porcelain and ceramics makers, most commonly in Europe. Early designs reflected the lavishness of the Victorian and Edwardian eras; they were highly ornate, embellished with details like gilded edges, and were typically hand-painted. Brightly colored Majolica and renowned French Limoges pieces were particularly popular.

As the 20th century

Right: This Haviland Limoges porcelain plate is unusual in that it featured 3 wells.



Above: These plates were spotted in an antique shop window in Annapolis, Maryland. Oyster plate prices in the store ranged from under \$100 to over \$3,000.

progressed, oysters became more widely available. Simultaneously, mass-production of tableware made the unique serving dishes available to the public. Production factories were able to emulate the ornate designs that only the wealthy could previously afford. Given their newfound availability, ovster plates became popular gifts at weddings and other important events.

Although shipping and other advances made both the plates and seafood available to a wide geography, fresh seafood like oysters remained tied to coastal regions. As a result, oyster plates sold most heavily in states along the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts. Not surprisingly, that's where collectors tend to find them today.

Oyster plates are often confused with similar-looking deviled egg plates because they have several recessed wells to hold their contents. Oyster plates differ because their wells usually emulate a seafood shell rather than resembling oblong egg-shaped divots.

The circumference of the wells varied by the size or grade of the ovsters a plate was intended to hold. Specifics also varied by geography, since different regions have different sizes of oysters. The wells' depth tells a different story. Oyster plates with deep recesses were used to serve oysters on the half shell, usually over ice. Unfortunately, the shells commonly scratched or damaged the delicate plates. The problem gave rise to plates with shallow wells used to serve shucked oysters. The potential for damage also spawned plates made of more durable materials like ceramic, glass, pewter, and even silver. Oyster plates are found in a variety of shapes and configurations both utilitarian and to spark visual appeal. The number of compartments varies from one to over a dozen. A popular format is the "turkey plate" which has five wells in a pattern resembling a

turkey silhouette. There

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are kidney-shaped plates that hold five to seven oysters along with cocktail sauce. Round or geometric patterns have as many as two dozen divots and a center space for sauce. Those with four wells are known as "ladies' plates" while those that hold individual oysters are known as "shooters."

Plate design reflected the prevailing styles of their era. Those predating the 1920s tended to be more intricate, often having scalloped edges, gilding, inlays, and hand-painted sea or floral themes. Later ones, drawing aesthetics from the Bauhaus and other functional movements, were typically more streamlined and geometric.

Most oyster plates made before World War II were made in Europe. Some of the most popular came from French companies like Haviland, and Quimper - the latter is among the oldest oyster plate manufacturers. In England, Wedgwood and Minton were prolific oyster plate makers. A couple of U.S. companies got into



Above: Not as dainty as an antique, and evidenced by the website address on the bottom, this blue crab plate is modern. Yet, it still sells for about \$50.

the game, notably Moser and Union Porcelain Works.

Particularly on plates mass-produced made after the 1890s, maker's marks and artist's signatures were relatively common. So, it's generally easy to identify a plate's manufacturer. Plus, many oyster plates reflected identifiable styles - like Haviland and Company's Limoges which help pinpoint origins even in the absence of a manufacturer's identification.

Prices for oyster plates can vary considerably. Numerous factors including age, condition, manufacturer, and impressiveness of design influence value. For today's collectors, the condition of a plate is paramount, and serious collectors avoid plates with even minor damage. Old plates with chips or cracks (even scratches created by

shells) are not considered collector grade. However, those with flaws are great for beginners as they can run under \$30.

Plates with intricate patterns or embellishments are more desirable than plain, albeit functional. examples. Good-condition pieces from sought-after manufacturers like Minton, Wedgewood, or France's Sarreguemines Pottery typically run from \$100-\$500. Pristine rare or otherwise exemplary plates can run into the thousands. There is some contradiction as to whether plates found in sets are more valuable than singles since fans are usually hunting for individual examples to add to their collections.

As tableware, oyster plates fell out of popularity about five to six decades ago. Concurrently, the

See Oyster Plates page 14







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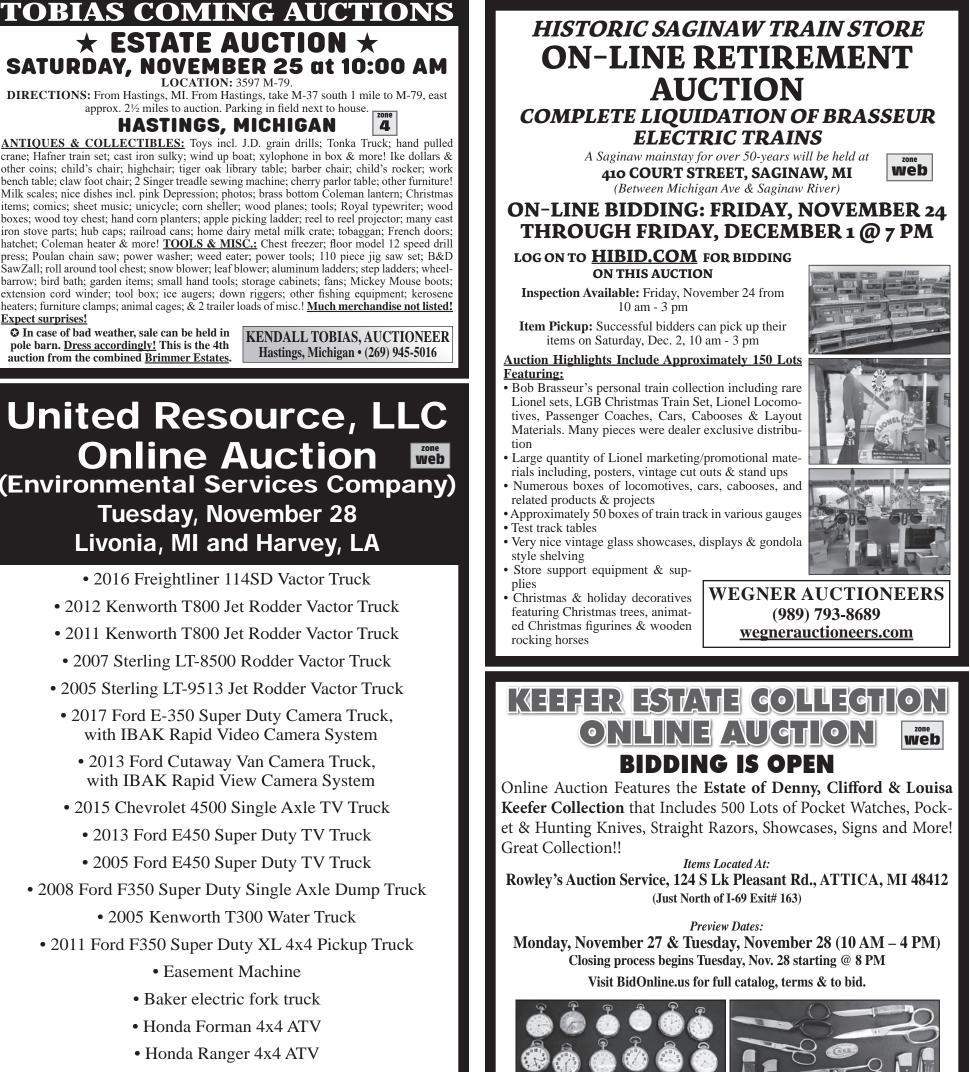
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Thanksgiving, and we'll see you soon.



other coins; child's chair; highchair; tiger oak library table; barber chair; child's rocker; work bench table; claw foot chair; 2 Singer treadle sewing machine; cherry parlor table; other furniture! Milk scales; nice dishes incl. pink Depression; photos; brass bottom Coleman lantern; Christmas items; comics; sheet music; unicycle; corn sheller; wood planes; tools; Royal typewriter; wood boxes; wood toy chest; hand corn planters; apple picking ladder; reel to reel projector; many cast iron stove parts; hub caps; railroad cans; home dairy metal milk crate; tobaggan; French doors; hatchet; Coleman heater & more! TOOLS & MISC .: Chest freezer; floor model 12 speed drill press; Poulan chain saw; power washer; weed eater; power tools; 110 piece jig saw set; B&D SawZall; roll around tool chest; snow blower; leaf blower; aluminum ladders; step ladders; wheelbarrow; bird bath; garden items; small hand tools; storage cabinets; fans; Mickey Mouse boots; extension cord winder; tool box; ice augers; down riggers; other fishing equipment; kerosene heaters; furniture clamps; animal cages; & 2 trailer loads of misc.! Much merchandise not listed! Expect surprises!

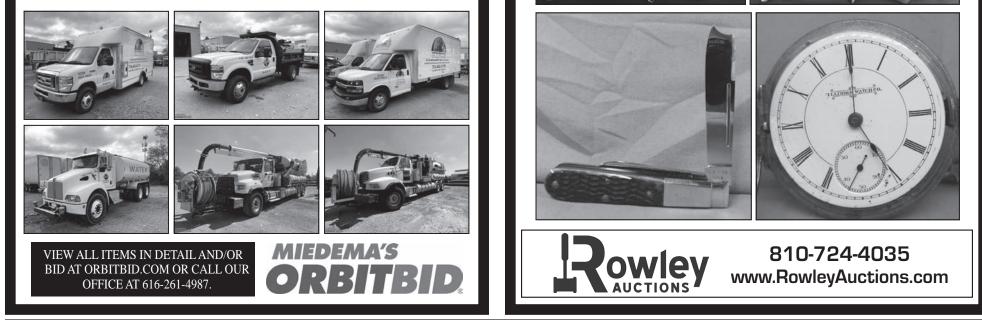
♦ In case of bad weather, sale can be held in pole barn. <u>Dress accordingly!</u> This is the 4th auction from the combined <u>Brimmer Estates</u>.

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- 2011 Kenworth T800 Jet Rodder Vactor Truck
- 2007 Sterling LT-8500 Rodder Vactor Truck
- 2005 Sterling LT-9513 Jet Rodder Vactor Truck
- 2017 Ford E-350 Super Duty Camera Truck, with IBAK Rapid Video Camera System
 - 2013 Ford Cutaway Van Camera Truck, with IBAK Rapid View Camera System
- 2015 Chevrolet 4500 Single Axle TV Truck
 - 2013 Ford E450 Super Duty TV Truck
 - 2005 Ford E450 Super Duty TV Truck
- 2008 Ford F350 Super Duty Single Axle Dump Truck
 - 2005 Kenworth T300 Water Truck
 - 2011 Ford F350 Super Duty XL 4x4 Pickup Truck
 - Baker electric fork truck
 - Honda Forman 4x4 ATV
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 - Water pump

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Oyster Plates FROM PAGE 12

oystering industry fell on hard times, and wistfulness helped drive interest in oyster industry-related remembrances. Folks in areas with a seafood heritage started amassing some pretty noteworthy collections. Betty Schulz, the late owner of Fisherman's Inn at Kent Narrows Maryland, started a collection at the restaurant in the 1970s. It is now considered the largest in the state, with over 300 plates. So important was the collection, that when the original building burned down in 1985, the plates were among the items the owners desperately tried to save. At the Kilmarnock (Virginia) Antiques Gallery, the self-proclaimed "Oyster Lady" has specialized in



Above: The Sarreguemines factory in France was one of the popular makers of oyster plates. The company opened in 1784 and closed in 2007

the plates for over 60 years and is reputed to be the largest seller of oyster plates in the country.

Oyster plates as serving trays enjoyed a revival in the early 2000s when television chef Paula Deen showcased her collection of oyster plates during episodes featuring her

Southern oyster recipes. Whether as tableware or collectibles, interest in oyster plates has spawned reproductions. On the positive side, modern retailers like Williams-Sonoma have commissioned new plates in response to the demand. Even some of the original

makers - most recently, Quimper - have released new editions.

On the flip side, given the prices for early plates, counterfeiting is now plaguing the industry, and experts suggest buying from a reputable dealer when prices warrant expertise. Reproductions

BRAD NEUHART AUCTIONEERS 2023 Annual Fall THREE Day Consignment AUCTION Friday November 24, 2023 @ 10 am Saturday November 25, 2023 @ 8:30 am Sunday November 26, 2023 TWO ONLINE ONLY AUCTIONS - 11:00am & 7:00 pm 12544 Carpenter Rd. Milan, MI 48160 AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: We are proud to announce Brad Neuhart Auctioneers 2023 Fall Consignment Auction dates are Friday 11/24/23 and Saturday 11/25/23. Due to overwhelming response of consignors the 2023 auction will be THREE DAYS. On FRIDAY 11/24 at 10am we will be selling Tools, Hardware, Building Materials and other Smalls LIVE, IN-PERSON and ON-SITE in Milan, MI. On Saturday 11/25 at 8:30 we will be selling 1-2 wagons of smalls, some tools and 1-2 wagons of FARM TOYS/Farm Memorabilia then we will be selling large equipment and vehicles (EXPECT 3 RINGS) LIVE, IN-PERSON and ON-SITE in Milan, MI with LIVE Online Bidding Available on



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hand-painted French Majolica porcelain oyster plate, circa 1900, was priced reasonably at \$130. and counterfeits, while not always easy to identify, are not made as exquisitely as the originals particularly when contrasted to the pre-1900s

originals. Both reproductions and fakes are typically heavier (using ceramic versus porcelain) and less ornate. Often, manufacturing perfection betrays a modern piece.

Good-faith reproductions will have obvious identification such as a company name and country of origin. Many sport small holes so the plates can be displayed on the wall. And, modern plates are a good thing for oyster enthusiasts. It's not advisable to serve from an antique oyster plate because of the risk of damaging the plate and because antique ceramics often contain high levels of lead. Contemporary plates can be employed as tableware while the

antiques stay safely displayed. On the subject of display, experts suggest not hanging authentic plates for fear of breakage and putting stress on fragile porcelain. Instead, place them on a stand or display them in a cabinet.

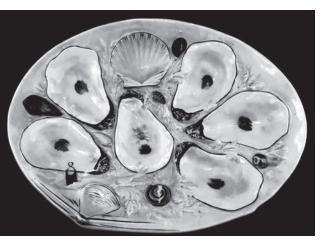
Above: This fine-condition, geometric pattern

If oyster plate collecting sounds appealing, don't be shy about purchasing what appeals to vou. Value should be a secondary concern. While one collector might appreciate a gilded Frenchmade plate from early Victorian times, worth hundreds of dollars. Another might just as readily appreciate a kitschy mass-produced piece that looks like shells mounted on a reef. Whatever the style or value, each oyster plate is a treasure reflecting a time when a well-hosted meal often included an oyster appetizer.

Below: Servers for single oysters were known as "shooters." This set of five hand-painted gilded porcelain ones was listed on eBay for \$575.



Below: This fine-condition oyster plate was made by New York's Union Porcelain Works in 1881. It was priced at \$475.



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