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January 14, 2025

Vol. 48 No.06

ACROSS THE AUCTION BLOCK

Bronze rabbit by Fredericks hopped to \$75,000 bid

BY NANCY KELLY

Schmidt's Antiques Inc. welcomed the new year with their annual New Year's Day gallery auction of fine and decorative art. It was held both

auctioneers hosted a YPSILANTI, Mich. - relaxed, well organized event with much bantering, teasing the regulars by name, and numerous thank yous. Additionally, listening to the narrative provided extra informa-



Above: This is one of a pair of beautiful 18th century Italian Neoclassical commodes constructed in walnut with elaborate veneer and inlay decoration that was rehomed with a high bid of \$8,500

online and in person. The tion on the items being offered. Prices here do not include the buyer's premium.

> Marshall M. Fredericks from Birmingham, Mich., was known for his monumental figurative sculptures, public memorials, portraits, and animal figures. The highest selling lot in this auction consisted of his bronze sculpture "The Rabbit". It originally was designed for a memorial on Belle Isle, Detroit, Mich., and including the limestone pedestal it measured an impressive 55 inches tall. The patina had experienced some natural weathering, but there was no noted damage. A dedicated art devotee took it home with a high bid of \$75,000, vastly surpassing its preauction estimate. A handsome early 20th century 10 inch tall bronze figure



Above: A Hamilton model 941 14k multi gold railroad grade pocket watch housed in this elaborate case was claimed with a final bid of \$2,000.

of a bison by the Lopienski Brothers also did well, drawing a final bid of \$1,800.

Wall art proved to be popular and there were outstanding several examples to choose from. Leading this area was the 1970s untitled surrealist



Above: The massive Marshall M. Fredericks bronze sculpture "The Rabbit" was claimed with a high bid of \$75,000, vastly surpassing its preauction esti-

mate See Rabbit Page 4

FEATURE

Gay Fad Studios added color to blank glassware BY LARRY LEMASTERS

Gay Fad Studios, of Lancaster, Ohio, was a world-renowned cocktail and barware glassware Taylor (Fran Taylor)



design company. Gay Fad Studios only decorated glassware produced by other companies

Frances Habrat Burn

decorated and painted glassware from her home beginning in 1938. She worked from her home for the first seven years, and then, in 1945, she founded Gay Fad Studios in Lancaster, Ohio. Taylor and her artistic staff designed a potpourri of different patterns, and then they painted these patterns onto blank glassware that Taylor purchased from glass companies such as Hazel Atlas, Federal Glass, and Anchor Hocking. All three of these glassware manufacturers were located in Ohio with Anchor Hocking located



Above: Absolutely stunning eight-piece set of frosted highball glasses. Gay Fad Studios offered these glasses in the 1950s, and the set is valued at \$135 just down the street and cocktail glasses, mid-1950s, All Gav Fad



Left: These two photos show what the blank cocktail shaker looked like prior to being decorated by Gay Fad Studios.

Taylor from in Lancaster, so she relied on Anchor Hocking glassware most.

newly, The hand-painted glassware was sold under the Gay Fad Studios label, and it sold for a very nice prof-

it. Fran Taylor's most successful items were pitcher and glass sets, cookie jars, frosted barware, such as tumblers

and her Christmas angels line that depicted beautifully imagined angels with Christmas themed motifs (bells, harps, stars, snow, candle, etc.). These angels were painted on highball glasses so they could be used for entertaining at Christmas dinner parties, and Gay Fad Studios "Angel" glasses made perfect wedding gifts in the

glassware is still popular with collectors, and there has been a noticeable resurgence in collectors seeking Gay Fad barware.

Taylor has been called, "an innovative spirit, trail blazer, and domestic diva long before it was ever in vogue." She, in fact,

See Gay Fad Page 11



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

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THE LIFETIME AMERICAN CERAMICS COLLECTION OF CAROLE CARPENTER WAHLER COLLECTOR • CURATOR • DEALER • SCHOLAR



Offering over 300 lots of 19th century stoneware and redware without reserve, this landmark auction will feature iconic works spanning the American South. Mark your calendars for this once-in-a-generation opportunity.

Rabbit FROM PAGE 1

drawing depicting a grotesque clergyman floating above a dystopian landscape with bones. Created by Polish artist Zdzisław Beksiński, the signed image measured 22 inches by 30 inches, consisted of graphite and charcoal on heavy paper, and was displayed in a large. molded wood frame. Despite some damage, it still drew a respectable final bid of \$30,000.

There was a lot of detail in an unsigned 18th century Flemish Baroque painting showing the fourth station of III, Belgian, (1607-1667). the cross in the style of artist Frans Francken



Above: An early 20th century Pairpoint Arts & Crafts table lamp in subtle shades of orange and green including a reverse painted domed glass shade was taken with a final bid of \$1,700



Above: This unusual jewelry item, a 1980 South African 1 oz gold Krugerrand pendant, went to an internet buyer for a final bid of \$3,000.

\$4,000.

A lovely pendant neck-

lace supported 3 graduat-

ed diamonds measuring

approximately 17mm

together. The full cut

round diamonds each

with SI2 clarity were held

in a platinum prong set

on an 18 inch long 14k

gold foxtail chain. This

elegant piece was taken

with a final bid of \$3,750.

A 1980 South African 1 oz

gold Krugerrand had

been mounted in a 14k

gold frame featuring a

foliate design and a 28

long rope chain. This

unusual jewelry item

went to an internet buyer

for a final bid of \$3,000.

Four U. S. Liberty dou-

ble-eagle gold coins left

An incredibly detailed

19th century Chinese

Coromandel screen pre-

sented an exotic and

eye-catching picture. The

set of six panels together

measured 108 inches by

85 inches, and each con-

sisted of hand-carved

vine and floral decora-

tions in jade, hardstone,

wood, cast bronze and

cloisonne on black lac-

quer panels housed in

molded rosewood frames.

The panels also featured

adding to the brilliance of

this set. With only minor

wear to the original fin-

ish, this incredible set

closed with a high bid of

scenes.

hand-painted

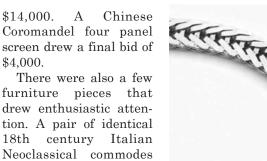
with \$2,400-2,700 bids.

This massive 49 inch long by 36 inch tall oil on canvas mounted to a board was restored and placed in an ornate contemporary frame. It was taken home with a high bid of \$4,000.

Gold in several forms was available, starting with a 1979 18k gold Rolex Oyster perpetual day/date gentleman's automatic wind wristwatch on an 18k president bracelet. The black dial nicely highlighted the diamond markers. In working condition, this treasure was claimed with a high bid of \$16,000. A vintage 18k Gold Patek Philippe "Golden Ellipse" model lady's wristwatch with Roman numerals on a white dial finished at



Above: An unsigned 18th century Flemish Baroque painting depicting the fourth station of the cross was taken home with a high bid of \$4,000.



were beautifully constructed in walnut with elaborate veneer and inlay decoration. Kingwood, rosewood, boxwood, and ebony provided the decorative appearance, each skillfully applied, and topped off by a Carrara marble top. Measuring 53 inches long by 39 inches tall each, the pair was rehomed with a high bid of \$8,500. Two incredible 19th century Horner Brothers sideboards were offered, the larger one measuring 58 inches tall. It featured extensive hand-carved detail in the quartersawn oak, a mirrored back, upper shelf, and appealing images throughout. This lavish piece was claimed with a high bid of \$2,500. A similar, less elaborate sideboard standing 44 inches tall finished at \$2,400. A massive Horner Brothers oak dining table with

griffin masks, scrolled



Above: A handsome early 20th century bronze figure of a bison on a marble base by the Lopienski Brothers drew a final bid of \$1,800.

\$14,000. A Chinese Coromandel four panel screen drew a final bid of \$4.000.

> Above: Three graduated full cut round diamonds measuring approximately 17mm together were supported on an 18 inch long 14k gold foxtail chain. This elegant piece was taken with a final bid of \$3,750. legs and paw feet cleverly expanded from a 54 inch diameter circular top to a total of 120 inches with six leaves. This stately table breezed past the estimates with a final bid of \$2,900.

Only a few lamps were available. An early 20th century Pairpoint Arts & Crafts 25 inch tall table lamp led the field. Finished in subtle shades of orange and green, it displayed a reverse painted domed glass shade. The textured glass base with brass mounts completed the appealing package and it was taken with a final bid of \$1,700.

More information on upcoming events for

Schmidt's Antiques Inc. can be found at https:// schmidtsantiques.com/



Above: Polish artist Zdzisław Beksiński created this untitled surrealist drawing in the 1970s. Despite some damage, it still drew a respectable final bid of \$30,000.



Above: Here is just a small sample of the brilliant, hand-carved decorations featured on this 19th century Chinese Coromandel screen. This incredible work of art drew a final bid of \$14,000.



Above: Here is one of two 19th century Horner Brothers sideboards that featured extensive hand-carved detail, a mirrored back, upper shelf, and appealing images throughout. This lavish piece was claimed with a high bid of \$2,500.

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| Sat., Jan. 18 9:30am | Stantons Auctioneers | Hastings, MI | Miscellaneous | 8 | • | • | Maxbid.com | Online | Equipment | 10 |
| | | 0 | | | • | • | Pioneer | Online | Gun, Ammo, Mis | c. 10 |
| Sat., Jan. 18 12:30pm | Stantons Auctioneers | Hastings, MI | Real Estate | 8 | Tue., Jan. 21 | • | Rangerbid | Online | Equipment | 7 |
| Fri., Feb. 28 8am | Stantons Auctioneers | Hastings, MI | Firearm | 8 | Wed., Jan. 22 | • | Orbitbid | Online | Equipment | 8 |
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| Sat., Jan. 18 11am | Kraft Auction Service | Syracuse, IN | Gun, Knives, Toy | 9 | Every Wed. | 9am | Shipshewana | Shipshewana, IN | I Antique., Misc. | 8 |

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We are presently accepting collections and consignments of antique, modern, and collectible firearms for this upcoming auction. Stanton's offer free pickups of col-



lections throughout Michigan, adjoining states and around the country. Whether you have one piece or an entire collection, we would like to speak with you regarding our upcoming event.

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LOCATION: 5075 RUSSCHER ROAD.



ANTIQUE FURNITURE: Victorian marble top dressers; marble top parlor tables; pump organ; secretary (no glass door); Oak ice chest/cabinet; SLIGH grandfather clock; HOWARD MILLER grandfather clock; inlay drop front writers desk; curved corner display cabinet; oak curio cabinet; oak table w/6 chairs; buffet/side board; sofa table; parlor tables turned legs; Victorian chairs; sewing cabinet; inlay flower dumb water table; large gold vein mirrors; Lladro 6915; Several signed pictures; gingerbread mantel clock; No. 2 York cast dinner bell with frame; vintage tricycle;

GLASSWARE: Crystal Legends by Godinger cobalt blue decanter & stemware; Bill & Vive Aladdin lamp; Pfaltzgraff canister set; Shannon Crystal stemware; Waterford stemware; RETRPMEI 5 PC FLATWARE (2); TOWLE Steak knives (2 sets of 4); several

CHRISTMAS: Christmas is past...but NOW is the time to pick up on some NEW items!! Grandeur Noel - Rocking Santa Sculpture; 37 Pc Fiber Optic Victorian Village Set; 31" Santa Claus sitting in chair display; several other Santa figurines; Captain Clause 1995 22/100; WATERFORD fine silver ornaments; Large Nutcrackers (2); rib-

FURNITURE: Leather sofa/chair/ottoman; HOOKER marble top dresser; HOOKER console table; cedar chests; large china cabinet; SAMICK MCMLVIII baby grand piano (in shipping crate - piano pictured is an "IMAGE" picture of the piano to be sold); Maitland Smith Large Glass top faux tortoise shell glass top coffee table swan legs; "Noguchi style" cocktail glass top table; BAKER Furniture dressers (2); King size poster bed; queen poster bed; queen metal frame bed; many lamps; Vintage HUGER West Germany Mechanical clock/weather stations; 16" lighted globe Heirloom Replogle; Magneplanar Ribbon Tweeter speakers (2); night stands

TOOLS: MACMILLAN Royal Scot motor oil (17 qts); vintage band saw; Werner ladders; aluminum ramps; StableMate Professional work station; hand & power tools; wood braces; planer; portable air tank; heaters; Crosman BB/pellet gun; battle spear & axe; small 115 volt welder; Many metal clothing racks; 3 Totes of stained glass pieces. AUCTION NOTES: Some of the finest furniture made coming from a beautiful Victorian home. Bring your trucks and trailers, they won't go home empty. Check web site for



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Gay Fad FROM PAGE 1

made the simplest things of housekeeping, such as a cocktail glass sitting on a home bar, chic and vogue with a few strokes of paint and an eye for the whimsical and charming.

Taylor's business plan was to use Gay Fad Studios to create elegant items for the home, entertain and enjoy life

Taylor's paintings on glassware moved from charming to elegant to whimsical to downright kitschy at times, but all of her work was in high demand because she took the ordinary glassware found in a woman's home and turned it into useable works of art.

at affordable prices.

At an early age, Taylor found an interest and love for art, and she attended art school in allowing women to Detroit, Michigan. She took classes in fashion

design and painting. While at art school, she came up with the idea of buying items and decoratively painting them. Her first endeavor was buying 12 wastepaper baskets and dustbins and hand painting them with oil paint. All of these items sold, and an artist, of sorts, was born. Taylor switched her canvas to glassware, and Gay Fad Studios came into existence.

Taylor's creativeness knew no bounds, so she





Above: Fran Taylor while head of Gay Fad Studios, circa 1958.

soon took a page from Henry Ford's playbook and started her own assembly line. This assembly line became, in essence, her special secret for mass-producing artistic glassware. Each piece of glassware passed through а silk-screening machine that silk-screened an image on the glass. Then the glass was placed on a rotating tray or lazy-Susan-type round table where women sat at different places and each glass piece was rotated around in front of a woman who then applied a single color of paint to the glass. In this manner, all of the beautifully different colors were applied in a fast but efficient manner

Gay Fad closed in 1962. Those wishing to know more about Fran Taylor



Above: Three Gay Fad Studios 24k gold embossed liquor decanters that were offered on eBay for \$100.

or her Gay Fad Studios may contact the Gay Fad Studios Glass Museum in Lancaster, Ohio. This museum has the largest comprehensive collection

of Gay Fad glassware, advertising, photos, artwork, and packaging in the world. Its website is www.gayfadstudios. com.

Red Wing MidWinter Weekend will feature Ohrt and an auction

DES MOINES, Iowa — The opportunity to buy and sell Red Wing is always top of mind for collectors and dealers, and the Red Wing Collectors Society MidWinter (RWCS) Weekend never disappoints. Hundreds of stoneware and pottery collectors will look to add to their collections at the event, which will take place Jan. 30-Feb. 1, at Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites on Merle Hay Road in Des Moines.

The event will officially kick off with a formal Show & Sale featuring fresh inventory from about a dozen dealers from 3-5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 30. Around 40 additional attendees will sell stoneware and pottery from their hotel rooms - many starting earlier in the week and extending through Saturday.

Education is also an important focus of RWCS events. Dave Ohrt of "American Pickers" fame will give the keynote presentation at 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31. Dave has made a living buying, selling and collecting antiques for nearly 50 years and he was always fun to watch when he appeared on the popular History Channel show. He's sure to share lots of stories and answer questions from the crowd. Earlier in the day, at 1:30 p.m., longtime RWCS Member Dave Kuffel will speak about the Pottery Museum of Red Wing, which is celebrating its 25th birthday this year. Then, a 25th birthday party for the Pottery Museum will follow Ohrt's keynote at 6:30 p.m., where registered attendees will be org. treated to a generous

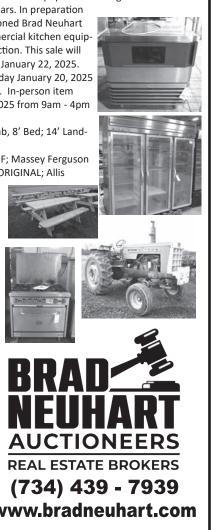
spread of food, birthday cake, and a cash bar.

MidWinter will close out on Saturday with the RWCS auction called by Harry Lahr Auctions. Approximately 200 items will cross the auction block and several high-quality items have been consigned for the sale, including Red Wing salt glaze crocks and water coolers, Elephant Ear-decorated stoneware, art pottery and a rare Grayline "spongeband" cake plate. New this year, the auction will be open to the public. Nonmembers will pay a 20 percent buyers premium (BP). But, there won't be a BP for RWCS members registered for MidWinter, and they'll be able to enter the preview earlier than the public.

Visit the "Events" page at www.redwingcollectors.org to register or learn more about the MidWinter GetTogether. You can also follow the RWCS on Facebook.

Annual membership in the Red Wing Collectors Society is \$45 and









liabilities or guarantees. 10% Buyers Premium in effect. See website for any other terms.

includes five full-color newsletters mailed to your home throughout the year. Associate membership for members in the same household costs \$15 annually. (Primary membership will increase to \$55 starting on March 15, so join before that date to take advantage of the cost savings.) The RWCS was founded in 1977 in Red Wing and there are more than 2,000 members worldwide. For more information or to become a member, call the RWCS business office at 651-388-4004, e-mail membership@redwingcollectors.org or log on to www.redwingcollectors.





Vintage road maps steering collectors in right direction

BY DOUG GRAVES

There was a time when the paper map was an essential item to carry in any vehicle. And many cars had multiple state maps and atlases crowding the glovebox. But, as GPS devices became standard in most vehicles, the paper map has been relegated to the back seat or out of the vehicle altogether. Collectors, however, are still looking for them.

The first known road map was created by Ehrhard Etzlaub around 1495 showing various paths leading to Rome. Beginning in the 17th century, European postal routes and other major roads started appearing on maps, though most publications omitted streets until the printing of Ogilby's Brittania in 1675.

Maps of America's biggest cities date to the 18th century, as does the first successful road atlas, "The Survey of the Roads of the United States of America," printed by Christopher Colles of New York in 1789. The company printed 83 plates over three years, with two or three maps on each plate. The guide ran from Williamsburg. Virginia to Albany, New York. It was subscription-based, with subscribers expected to bind the different plates together into an atlas. These were referred to as guidebooks.

Despite such distinguished customers as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, the effort faltered because there was little use for road maps in the U.S. Most trips were short, made by locals who already knew where they were going.

It wasn't until after the great westward expansion in the U.S. that road maps came into their own. The first maps designed for traveling by





Above: Road map makers knew they'd have a larger audience if they put more than one state on their map. This 1941 Gulf Oil Info Map highlighted the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. (photo courtesy AAA)

car appeared at the very end of the 19th century. These maps were generally included in larger guidebooks featuring information on sightseeing and regional destinations.

While these guide books were essential, they were soon joined by something new: the oil company paper road map. The first ones are attributed to Gulf Oil, which was formed by Pittsburg's Mellon family in 1901. In 1913, Gulf opened the first drive-in gas station in Pittsburgh's east end and began handing out free road maps. Within a decade, most major oil companies had some form of promotional map program.

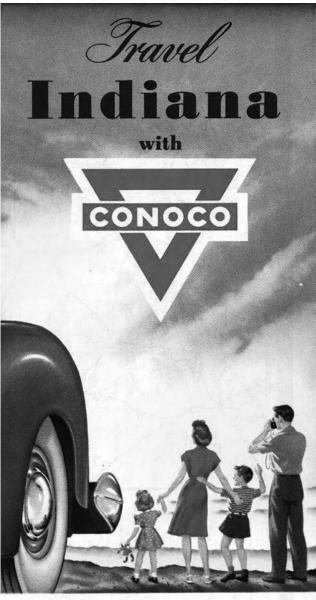
Mapmaking giant Rand McNally, established in 1868, initially focused on railroad routes and timetables, but in 1904 the company published its first automobile had been formed by motoring enthusiasts across the country. Nine of those clubs joined together to create a national motoring organization and on March 4, 1901, in Chicago, founded the American Automobile Association (AAA).

AAA produced its first road map in 1905, a humble hand-drawn route on linen, depicting roads in Staten Island, New York. Little did the cartographer know that this project would become a full-time position. AAA expanded its horizons a year later, becoming the official sponsor of "The Official Automobile Blue Book." The book was the first collection of generalized road maps spanning Boston, New York, Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia. It was created by AAA Secretary Charles Howard Gillette.

AAA then established a Bureau of Touring InFederal Highway Act of 1921, the single most important piece of legislation in the creation of national roads. Until its passage, America had no plan for road building. Under the new law, states would plan highways, and the federal government would manage design, construction and stipulate maintenance standards.

When finished in 1923, the new system totaled 168,881 miles, about 5.9 percent of all roads. Yet they reached 90 percent of the nation's population. Principal highways had one- or two-digit numbers. Secondary roads used a three-digit number that connected to the main highway. Important east-west routes had numbers ending in zero, while prominent north-south highways would end in 1.

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For Long Trips Ask Your Conoco Mileage Merchant about **TOURAIDE**

Above: Road maps were called many other things, such as tour aids, map guides, info maps and more. Shown is a 1952 Conoco touraide for Indiana. (photo courtesy AAA)





Above: General Drafting was among the top three map makers in the country. Shown is a 1956 Standard Oil road map for Florida, issued by General Drafting. Notice landmarks were more vital than state routes at the time. (photo submitted)



Above: Shown is a 1959 Texaco road map for Montreal. (photo courtesy AAA) map covering the New York City region. Other mapmakers like General Drafting and H.M. Gousha published a variety of atlases and individual maps for states and cities across the U.S.

These three map companies grew to dominate the industry, each designing its own series of distinct maps along with smaller folding road maps tailored for oil companies and other businesses. The maps often included notable sights or historic facts to make them more appealing to travelers.

In 1902, only 23,000 cars were in operation in this country compared with 17 million horses. Yet, 50 small motor clubs formation in 1906 to supply its members with all available data on roads, hotels, service facilities and motor vehicle laws. The drawback was information was scarce and the maps were general in nature.

It wasn't until 1911 that the Club produced its first interstate map "Trail to Sunset," a booklet of strip maps detailing a route from New York to Jacksonville, Florida.

In 1918, Wisconsin's state legislature debuted the numbered highway system as we know it today, which was eventually adopted throughout the United States in 1926.

Congress passed The

er to adopt the system, which it also helped promote by installing numbered signs along these national roadways.

The depressed economy of the 1930s spurred a flood of flashy road map giveaways as companies attempted to stand out in the quickly expanding automobile industry. Oil producers like Socony-Vacuum (later known as Mobil), Esso, Standard, Chevron, Gulf, Shell and Texaco all joined in the mapmaking game. In addition to oil company handouts, road maps were provided free of charge by tourist

agencies, banks and auto

clubs. During World War

II, the production of free



Above: Pictured is a 1941 Sinclair road map of Ohio. Years later Sinclair adopted a dinosaur logo and mascot, an Apatosaurus. (photo submitted)

maps dropped significantly, and even state-issued maps were put on hold as resources were conserved for the war effort.

Beginning in the baby-boom years of the 1950s, road map production soared once again, and advertising maps were given out by everyone from hotels to car dealerships. Paper maps often intentionally contained mistakes, known as "map traps." They are planted by mapmakers to prove copyright infringement when their maps get copied.

As time went on maps became more detail oriented showing points of interest, accommodation options, fuel availability, border details and other relevant local details.

These days, state governments print road maps, although Rand Mc-Nally still publishes its Road Atlas.

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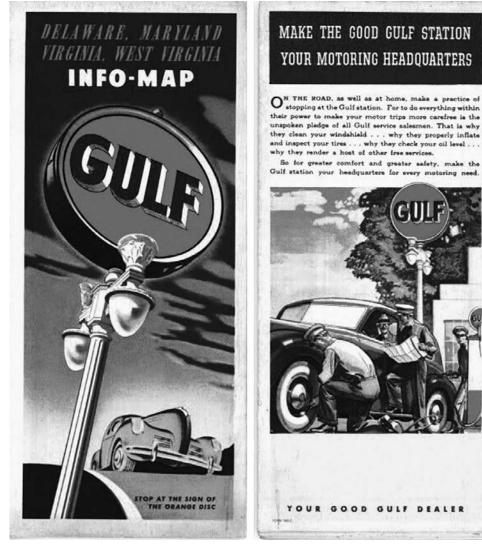
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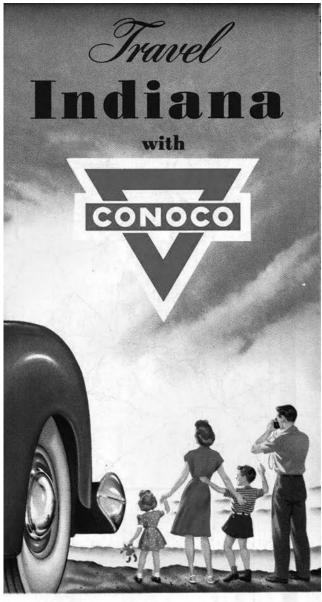
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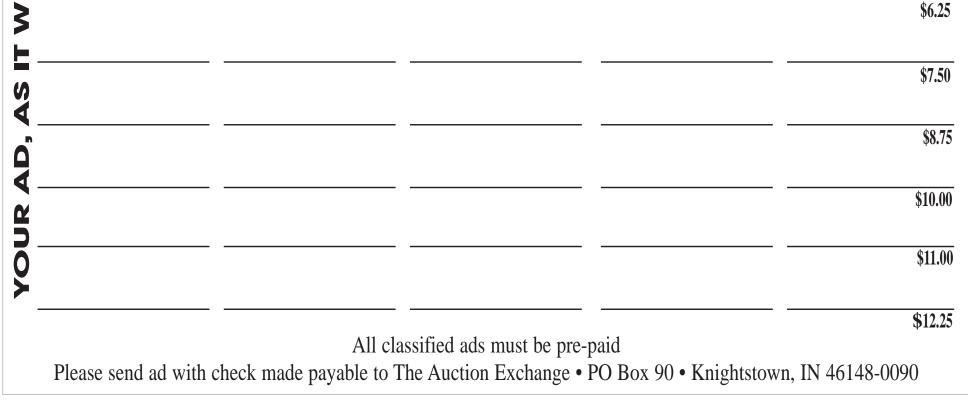
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