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January 13, 2026

Vol. 49 No.06

SHOW NEWS

Collectors turned the page to 2026 at the Columbus Paper, Postcard, & Book Show

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

HILLIARD, Ohio — Ephemera collectors wel-

comed 2026 at the Columbus Paper, Postcard, and Book Show on Sunday, January 4. Now situated in a new

home at the Franklin County Fairgrounds, the biannual event is celebrating over 20 years, with dealers showcasing everything from vintage postcards and antique photography to advertising and autographed memorabilia.

Its early January timing makes the show a post-holiday highlight for collectors. Promoter Terry Bigler said, "People are going a bit stir crazy from the holidays and

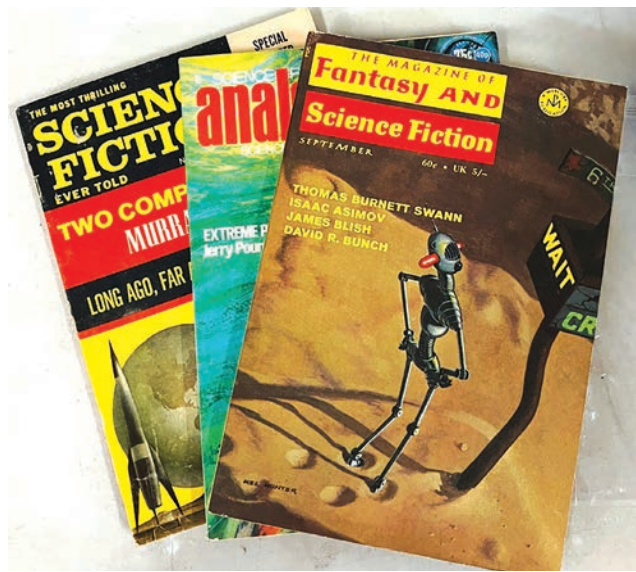
See Columbus Page 4

Left: Collectible magazines spanned the late 1800s through the 1990s, often available for \$5 or less each.



Above: Historic photographs drew plenty of interest, such as this portrait of Buffalo Bill, priced \$795.

Right: Posters like this 1970 MGM Captain Nemo movie poster were available for \$20 to several hundred dollars.



FEATURE

Wedgwood Liberty china offers history lessons

BY LARRY LEMASTERS

Wedgwood Liberty Blue china captures the imagination of collectors better than any other existing china. Part of the allure is its fun-filled trip through American history, starting with Wedgwood butter pat coasters featuring the image of Benjamin Franklin.

Enoch Wedgwood founded Wedgwood & Company of Stoke-on-

Trent, England, in 1860. Enoch was a distant cousin of famous potter Josiah Wedgwood. The pottery lasted until 1980 when Josiah Wedgwood & Sons took over Enoch Wedgwood & Company, renaming it Unicorn Pottery.

Collectors usually focus on ceramic pieces made by Enoch Wedgwood or his two sons, Edmund and Alfred. While all of Wedgwood ware is collectible, many collectors enjoy focusing on one line

Right: Governor's House in Williamsburg, Va., on small Liberty Blue platter. This oval platter is valued at \$28.

of Wedgwood's long career — Liberty Blue China.

Liberty Blue was created in the mid-1970s to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Bank, located in Portland, Oregon. The bank had originally been founded in 1925. As its 50th anniversary approached, the Savings and Loan commissioned Enoch Wedgwood & Co. to create an exclusive, limited edition set with the bank's logo and markings. Specifically, the bank wanted a set of dishes to use as customer premiums and for other marketing purposes. The color selected for this limited-edition dinnerware was Liberty Blue. In 1977, the bank commis-

sioned a special 20-inch turkey platter that was quite popular then and is still popular with collectors today. This special

set of dinnerware used patriotic depictions and significant historic scenes in American history. Each piece of Liberty

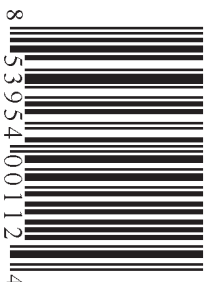
Blue showcases a different moment in history.

There are over 30

See Liberty Blue Page 10



Above: Wedgwood Liberty Blue creamer and tea-cup, showing Paul Revere's famous ride. These two pieces are valued at \$31.



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Columbus

FROM PAGE 1

want to get out and do something different.”

The show’s relatively new location has also proven to be a draw. The former venue, at the Ohio Expo Center in downtown Columbus, was slated for demolition and redevelopment; attendees also bemoaned its \$7 parking fee. By contrast, the Franklin County Fairgrounds offers a more accessible and pleasant setting. Bigler said, “The new location at the Franklin County Fairgrounds seems to be working out a lot better than our previous one, with easier parking, and of course, no charge.” He added, “The move has brought new people here.”

The current building is smaller than the former site, which Bigler says contributes to a close-knit feel. While past shows hosted as many as 45 dealers, 27 vendors this time packed the space. “We’ve never had a show without a full house,” Bigler noted. The majority were repeat sellers, from Ohio and nearby states, joined by a few newcomers.

A new face, with an interesting story, was Mary Ann Kimbro, a Columbus antiques dealer seen last month at the



Above: Transportation ephemera is a popular category. This 1928 broadsheet for the “City of Buffalo” steamer was a good catch at \$50.

Scott Antique Show, laden with paper collectibles — not her usual specialty. She inherited a massive, historically-significant collection from longtime ephemera collector Doug Swisher, whose father had been an airline pilot and wartime photographer. Over the years, Kimbro befriended Swisher, served as an informal caretaker, and discussed helping him liquidate his huge collection. Swisher ultimately bequeathed everything to Kimbro because, “He knew I would make sure to get this stuff into the right hands,” adding, “Little did I know that our conversations would mean I’d end up with everything!”

The show drew enthu-

siastic shoppers, with well over 100 collectors of all experience levels and interests exploring the aisles. And while the audience generally skewed older, younger collectors were clearly represented and buying.

The turnout underscored ephemera’s wide appeal. Collecting ephemera (paper collectibles) is a varied field spanning categories like old photographs, vintage advertising, magazines, calendars and the inarguable staple postcards. Shows like this one make it easy to see it all in one place, examine items firsthand, and score something unusual. Ephemera remains highly accessible, with many pieces priced under \$5.

Postcards are perennial favorites, with enthusiasts often spending hours browsing through thousands of cards. The most popular remain real photo postcards (RPPCs), typically from before the 1930s. Nearly every dealer had some postcards, while many devoted entire tables to them, organized by topic or geography. Most cards sold for \$3–\$6; bargains were often available for \$1, while rarer, higher-value cards were displayed in binders.

Photographic material formed another strong presence, with everything from daguerreotypes and stereoviews to nostalgic prints, all prized for capturing authentic moments in time. Images spanned from portraits to battle-field scenes, with prices running from \$2 to over

MAF debuts indoor-only event in Kalamazoo, Mich.

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — The Michigan Antique Festival (MAF), a Midwest tradition since 1968, announces its expansion to the west side of Michigan with a brand new, indoor-only antique market at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center on November 14-15, 2026.

This inaugural two-day event marks MAF’s first fully indoor show, offering a climate-controlled treasure hunt experience featuring hundreds of dealers showcasing antiques, vintage décor, collectibles, and rare finds. Hours are Saturday, November 14 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shopper admission is \$10.

The new Kalamazoo event builds on MAF’s strong momentum that

featured record-breaking attendance across all four seasonal events in 2025. Organizers aim to continue this growth in 2026 by bringing the festival’s proven draw to west Michigan and nearby markets, including the greater Chicagoland area.

Amid a nationwide resurgence in antique and vintage markets — driven by younger buyers seeking sustainable, one-of-a-kind alternatives to mass-produced goods — MAF’s expansion positions the Kalamazoo show to attract enthusiastic crowds eager for nostalgic, story-rich items that add character to homes.

Dealer spaces are now available for this debut event. As a new venue, early signups will secure prime locations, with priority options to lock in pre-

ferred spots for future MAF events at the Expo Center.

“We’re excited to extend the Michigan Antique Festival’s legacy to Kalamazoo, tapping into the growing demand for authentic vintage experiences while opening access to west-side collectors and dealers from across the region, including Chicago,” said Matthew Edens, Event Director, Michigan Antique Festival. “With record crowds in 2025 and this innovative indoor format, we’re poised for another standout year — dealers who join early will benefit most from the packed venue and loyal attendee base we’ve built over decades.”

For more information visit <https://miantiquefestival.com>



Above: This 1920s playbill promoted a high school concert conducted by famed band leader John Philip Sousa (\$55).



Above: Long prized for their affordability and historical detail, vintage postcards dominated the show. Prices ranged from \$1 to over \$50 for rare examples.

\$50 or more for exceptional subjects.

Vintage advertising filled many tables, including broadsides, coasters, crate labels, matchbooks, and even old catalogs. Prices ranged from \$1 for loose pieces in rummage boxes to over \$75 for century-old items.

Transportation-related material from airlines, steamships, railroads, and auto manufacturers drew plenty of attention. Options included automobile dealer catalogs, old maps, travel brochures, garage calendars, and railroad timetables, often priced under \$10.

Correspondence and documents offered another glimpse into history, with material like old government papers, bank ledgers, and even soldiers’ letters home. Most sold for \$5–\$20. One Ohio dealer, Bill Knadler, had tables filled with stock certificates and commercial documents spanning everything from mining companies to early com-

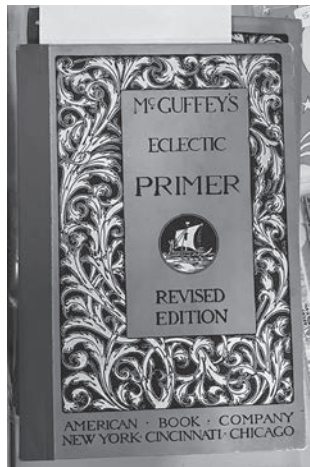
puter firms, with selections from \$1 to over \$100, depending on rarity.

As the show got underway, attendees partook of two popular events: the door prize and the silent auction. The door prize was a \$10 certificate redeemable at any vendor, while the silent auction featured roughly two dozen lots with various collections of ephemera. Some lots rose over \$50, while others stayed close to their opening \$5, making for some good scores.

With the wide variety available, the show holds something for everyone. Newcomers easily find inspiration, while experienced collectors can expand collections or branch into new areas of interest. The next Columbus Paper, Postcard, and Book Show

takes place Sunday, September 6, at the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

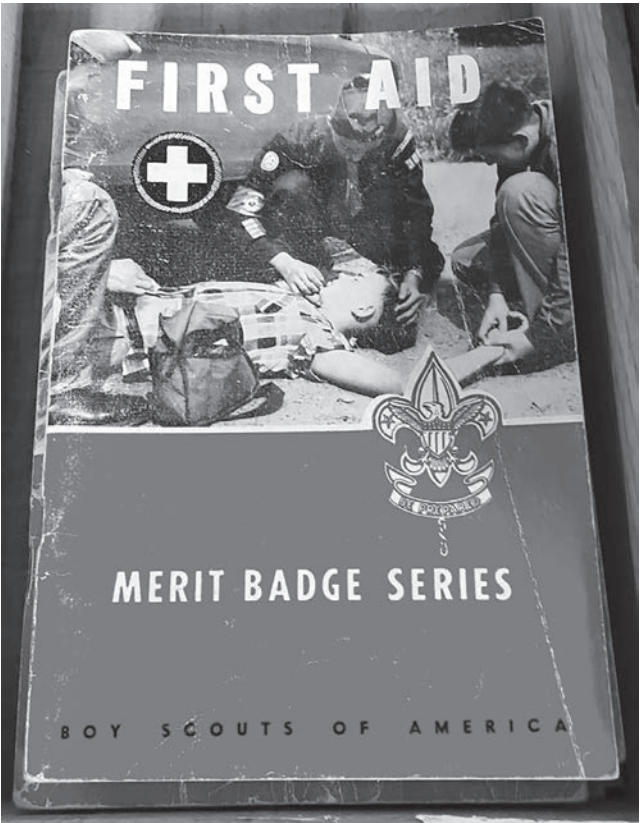
For more information, email: Columbuspapershow@gmail.com



Above: Though less abundant this year, antique books were still available, like this set of McGuffey readers for \$45.



Above: Popular with collectors, antique stereoviews ranged from \$2 for ordinary topics to over \$50 for depictions of historic figures and moments.



Above: The silent auction included everything from boxes of vintage advertising to a collection of Boy Scout merit badge books, won for \$10.

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FEB. 10.....	TUES., FEB. 3
FEB. 17.....	TUES., FEB 10
FEB. 24.....	TUES., FEB 17
MAR. 3	TUES., FEB 24
MAR. 10	TUES., MAR. 3
MAR. 17	TUES., MAR. 10




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.



UPCOMING AUCTION CALENDAR

JANUARYFEBRUARYMARCHAPRILMAYJUNEJULY

AUGUSTSEPTEMBER

OCTOBERNOVEMBERDECEMBER

The Upcoming Auction Calendar is a listing of future Auctions beyond the current week.

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For our Readership: For more thorough listings contact the Auctioneer personally and tell them where you saw their ad!

ZONE 5

Sat., Jan. 17, Holler & Hammer LLC, Gas, Oil, Misc., Jackson, MI

Sat., Jan. 17, Mel White Auctioneer, HH, Coll., Misc., Williamston, MI

Thu., Jan. 22, Braun & Helmer Auction Service, Estate, Tipton, MI

Fri., Jan. 23, Stantons Auctioneers, Firearm, Hastings, MI

ZONE 6

Wed., Jan. 21, American Eagle Auction Co., Audio, Video, Whitmore Lake, MI

ZONE 8

Wed., Jan. 28, Chupp Auctions & Real Estate LLC, Toy, Shipshewana, IN

Thu., Feb. 12, Polk Auction Co., Ag, Construction, New Paris, IN

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DATE TIME AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY TYPE PAGE/SEC.

ZONE 4 MICHIGAN

Sat., Jan. 17 9:30am Stantons Auctioneers Hastings, MI Estate 9

ZONE 5 MICHIGAN

Sat., Jan. 17 10am Holler & Hammer LLC Jackson, MI Miscellaenous 12

Sat., Jan. 17 10am Mel White Auctioneer Williamston, MI HH, Coll., Misc. 8

Thu., Jan. 22 10am Braun & Helmer Auct. Tipton, MI Estate 2

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

DATE TIME AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY TYPE PAGE/SEC.

ZONE 6 MICHIGAN

Wed., Jan. 21 10am American Eagle Auct. Whitmore Lake, MI Audio, Video 6

ZONE WEB

• • EBTH Online Miscellaneous 3

• • My Place Online HH, Tool, Equip. 9

• • Rangerbid Online Truck, Equip., Misc. 7

• • RJM Online Equip., Misc. 8

Tue., Jan. 24 10am Epic Auction Online Art, Antique 7

ZONE CALENDAR

Every Wed. 9am Shipshewana Shipshewana, IN Antique, Miscellaneous 8

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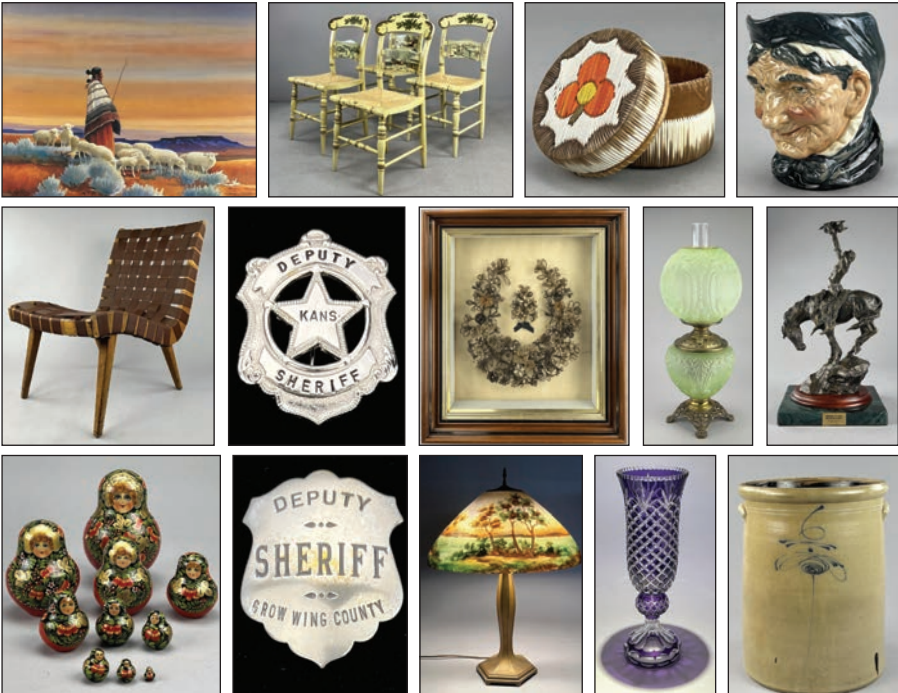
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AUTO: 2017 Buick LaCrosse Essence 4D w/22K miles,

HOUSEHOLD: Ass't men's and women's clothing, 2 Brass & plate glass end tables, 4 Stiffel table lamps, Plate glass carousel coffee table, 2 La-Z-Boy rocker recliners, J.E. Ekornes Stressless leather reclining chair w/ottoman, Thomasville plate glass dining table, 6 chairs, china hutch, Assorted kitchen wares, Kitchen Aid stand mixer, IBM Selectric typewriter,

OLD THINGS & COLLECTIBLES: E.R. Co. cedar chest, Oberkirch Designs Native American Designs in copper picture, Donald Vann "The High Country Winter Native American Images" picture, 13 Gnome figurines, Roger M. Bishop Burlap Sculpture, 2000,01,2-03 Silver American Eagle dollars, UNC, 20 Bossons plaques, Grundig Satellit radio, Squirt pop case, Wagon wheel, Curved top trunk, Assorted old Christmas bulbs, Assorted old toys, puzzles, games, books, Child's electric washing machine, Lobster trap, Marble top parlor table, Marbles, Roseville White Rose vase #653-4, Roseville Magnolia center bowl #5-1o, 14K White gold ring, Michigan State Police finger print kit, first aid kit, Cast iron light fixtures, Pepsi Cola metal menu sign, Texas steer horns, Pepsi pop crate w/bottles,

ELECTRONICS: Sony STR-AV 970 stereo receiver, Mitsubishi stereo VCR HS-413UR, Kenwood stereo tuner KT-8300, Kenwood DC stereo integrated amplifier KA-9100, Sony Reel-to-reel tape recorder TC-630, 2 McIntosh ML-1D speakers,

GARAGE: Ex-Cell 2100 power wash machine, Troy-Bilt chipper-vac, Craftsman bench grinder, Craftsman 15: floor drill press, Craftsman rolling tool cabinet w/machinist chest, Ass't hand & power tools, Combination extension ladder,

MISCELLANEOUS: 10 Wire dog crates, 10 Pc patio set, Schwinn man's & ladies' 10spd bicycles.

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. 10% Buyers premium.

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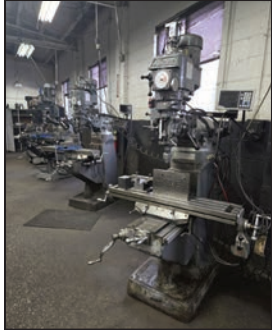






LOTS BEGIN ENDING: JANUARY 20TH @ 11:00 AM

OAKLAND MACHINE

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INSPECTION: JANUARY 19TH, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- 2) 2015 MITSUBISHI LITZ MODEL DIAMOND CUT DV-1000 CNC VERTICAL MACHINING CENTERS
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- 2011 HAAS MODEL TL-3 CNC TOOL ROOM LATHE
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- POWERMATIC MODEL 87 VERTICAL BAND SAW
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- MILLER MODEL SYNCROWAVE 351 TIG WELDER
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Charles Samuels - Household Goods/Tools, Equipment

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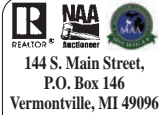
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, AT 9:30 AM
LOCATION: THE BARRY COUNTY EXPO CENTER, 1350 N. M-37
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Selling another large sale of items coming from this Northern Michigan huge collection. We anticipate approximately 500 items to be sold including all types of Primitives, Furniture, Tools, Tintypes, Paintings, Sculpture, Glassware, Indian Baskets, Cast Iron Ware, Folk Art, glassware, Wood Carvings, a good group of Fish Spearing Decoys and so much more. This is an excellent collection with the majority items having been collected over 40 years ago, and been sitting in a barn and storage ever since. Also, there will be a large group of items sold to the onsite crowd only. Over 400 lots are posted on LiveAuctioneers.com to allow for bidding if you are unable to attend. Please note there will be a 10% buyer's premium charged on all items sold.



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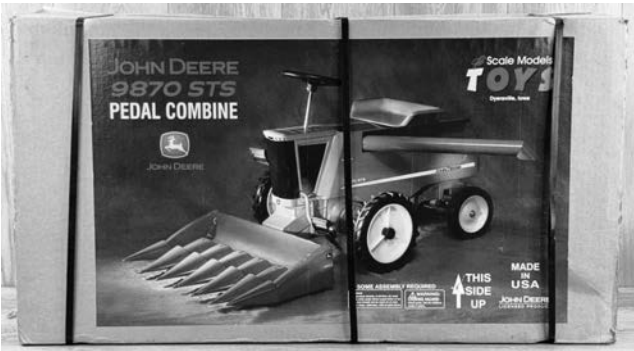
International 4586 replica pulled \$1,850 at toy tractor auction

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

EDGERTON, Ohio – Farm toy collectors were treated to a two-day farm toy and agricultural collectibles auction Dec. 5-6, where more than 600 lots crossed the block in a live/online event hosted by United Edge Real Estate and Auction Co. The line-up represented a broad sweep of equipment brands, including Case, Farmall, International, John Deere and New Holland.

Things kicked off the first day with 276 lots. Over 150 of them were model tractors – most made by Ertl or its affiliated brands. Overall, bidding was modest throughout the day. The day’s high of \$190 went for a 1/16-scale Ertl Precision Classics John Deere 4440 wide front, complete with its box and all original contents. Close behind at \$180 was another Precision Classics entry – a 1/16-scale Deere 8020 diesel, also with the box and original materials.

Fans of early tractor history had several gems to chase. A 1/16 Precision Classics Waterloo Boy kerosene tractor (circa 1918) sold for \$90 even with a missing belt. Then, a boxed 1/16 Millennium Farm Classics 1892 Froelich gasoline traction engine – often recognized as the first true tractor – sold respectably at \$60. And a



Above: A new-in-box John Deere 9870 STS pedal combine by Scale Model Toys fetched an impressive \$1,100.

1/16-scale Ertl replica of a 1910s-era British Overtime hammered at just \$15, a steal for anyone wanting to round out an early-era display.

For collectors drawn to implements, nearly three dozen lots came forward. Prices ranged from \$45 for an Ertl 1/16 John Deere 452 grain drill to \$100 for a 1/16 John Deere 4020 with a 237 corn picker by Precision Classics.

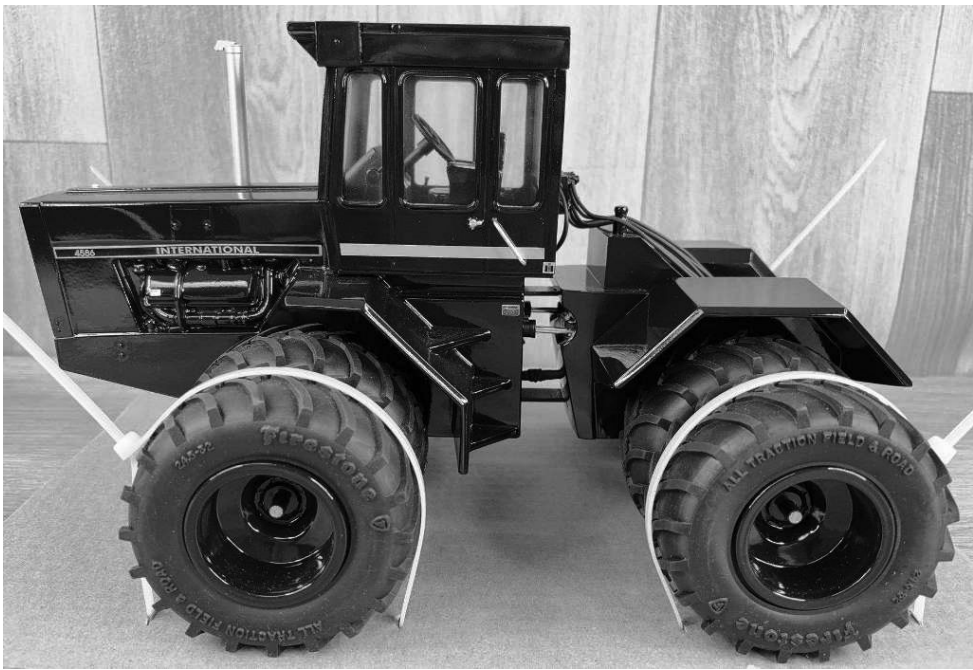
In addition to farm equipment, almost two dozen Deere-branded die-cast airplanes were available, providing some interesting variety. Bidding on those was surprisingly strong, ranging from \$20 for a 7-inch bank depicting a 1927 Lockheed Vega to \$85 for a 7-inch model of a World War II-era Lockheed P-38 Lightning.

Advertising items closed the day on a quiet note. A dozen lots of vintage tractor magazines, some bound and some loose, each moved for \$2. Nine batches of reproduction Deere

signs, sold in sets of two or three, each brought \$25 or less. A few vintage advertising premiums were also available, including a Sunoco gas-pump novelty transistor radio and a John Deere pencil holder complete with branded pencils and pens, sold at \$20 apiece.

The second day brought more energy, with 383 lots that included additional model makers, more manufacturers represented, and the highlight category for many: pedal tractors. The bidding intensity jumped, producing multiple four-figure results. Among them was a black-on-black Precision Engineering 1/16-scale International 4586 with front/rear duals, which soared to \$1,850. A more traditional red 4586, also by Precision Engineering, came close at \$1,750. A third Precision Engineering entry – an International 4786 – rolled right behind at \$1,650.

Less meteoric bids



Above: Several farm toys got four-figure bids, including this Precision Engineering black-on-black International 4586 that brought \$1,850.

picked up pieces like an Ertl 1/16-scale Allis-Chalmers 190 XT Landhandler wide front with ROPS that went home for \$160. Later, an Ertl Precision Series 1/16 Oliver Super 77 narrow front with its box scored \$140, and an unopened 2002 SpecCast 1/16 Lafayette Farm Toy Show edition IH/Farmall 450 was grabbed for a modest \$45.

Implement collectors had another solid round on day two. A Coble 1/16 John Deere 42 pull-type combine drew an attention-getting \$625. A boxed Die-Cast Promotions 1/16 Bush Hog 2615 flex-wing rotary cutter reached \$150, and a Precision

Classics 1/16 John Deere 494-A four-row planter closed at \$130.

As on the first day, the early decades of farm horsepower were well represented. Examples included a Precision Series rendition of a McCormick-Deering No. 8 Little Genius plow that sold for \$40; an Ertl 1920s steel wheeled McCormick-Deering Farmall Regular that pulled \$35; and a 1920s Ertl Case L that changed hands for \$25.

With the holidays approaching, eight pedal tractors and four pedal-trailers saw plenty of interest. The tractors sold from \$170 for a used and worn 1967 International 856 to a hefty \$1,100 for an

unopened John Deere 9870 STS pedal combine. Trailers saw softer bidding, ranging from \$50 for a repainted Ford by Ertl to \$130 for a used and rusty vintage JD trailer by Eska.

Things wrapped up with a final set of premiums and advertising collectibles. Six lots with multi-year collections of vintage calendars brought only their minimum bid of \$1. A trio of lots featuring Ertl 4-inch ag-company snow globes fared better: \$35 for a pair of Deere varieties and \$45 for a single Case IH globe. A John Deere lamp closed out the category at \$25, a fitting finish to a weekend that clearly pleased farm toy and memorabilia fans.

Liberty Blue

FROM PAGE 1

Liberty Blue dinnerware pieces, including pieces with images of Old North Church, Boston Tea Party, Governor’s House at Williamsburg, Fraunces Tavern showing Washington’s farewell speech to his troops, Minutemen Answering the First Call to Arms, Lafayette Landing at West Point, Paul Revere’s Ride, Betsy Ross sewing the first US flag, American eagle, and Mt. Vernon, just to name a few. The release of the dinnerware coincided with the American Bicentennial in 1976.

The list of pieces includes soup tureens, teapots, covered vegetable bowls, platters, pitchers, creamer, sugar bowl, gravy boat with stand, soup ladle, dinner plates, cereal bowls, coffee mugs, and several other pieces.

Liberty Blue China is a striking blue and white ironstone ceramic that. Following Liberty Blue’s initial run for Benjamin Franklin Savings and Loan, there was a large, unmet, demand for this beautiful dinnerware. The bank ended its promotional run in 1977, and



Above: Liberty Blue plate, showing Independence Hall, that was offered on Etsy for \$94.

grocery stores throughout the United States started offering the coveted pattern to their customers as promotions within the stores. Grocery shoppers were allowed to purchase individual pieces of Liberty Blue China to start and expand collections.

Today, collectors enjoy Liberty Blue both for its artistry and its fine craftsmanship. Each piece of this fine china shows the meticulous attention to detail and form that Wedgwood & Company is known for.

Collectors often compare collecting Liberty

Blue China to a treasure hunt where rare pieces, small caches of Liberty Blue, and full, complete sets all aid in the fun and nostalgia of these fine pieces.

Liberty Blue is not considered just another set of promotional china that came and went. Liberty Blue is a visual piece of our history and heritage.

For more information on Liberty Blue dinnerware, look for Liberty Blue Dinnerware by Debbie & Randy Coe. Published in 2006 by Schiffer Publishing Ltd, this book sells for around \$15.



Above: Circa 1976, Liberty Blue gravy boat with saucer. Lafayette’s historic landing is depicted on gravy boat. This pair was offered on the Internet for \$52.



Above: Liberty Blue bowl, depicting Fraunces Tavern. This 8 ½ inch diameter bowl is valued at \$20.

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