

SHOW & TELL

A Newsletter from Hanes & Ruskin

Joy Ruskin Hanes & Lee Hanes

SHOWS



The Brandywine River Museum Show is one of our favorites, and we have exhibited there longer than anyone else—thirty years! (not that we're that old....) This year was one of our best, and included sales of ceramics, watercolors, silhouettes, fireplace equipment, portrait miniatures, and three major pieces of American furniture. One piece was a wonderful Pembroke table that went home with a young couple (which totally delighted us).



In June Lee was at the Litchfield County show (also successful) while Joy attended "Dish Camp" which is a yearly seminar on the history of ceramics, and meets at Eastfield Village for three days. Intense and fun. This year the focus was on production, including molding, firing, applying handles & spouts, methods of decoration, etc.

We have a full schedule of shows coming up—check our website for details.

Investment quality antique American furniture of the 18th and 19th centuries, and appropriate accessories, including English ceramics, needlework, lighting, silhouettes, paintings and metalware.

WHAT IS IT???



We offer for sale this whimsical and useful "turtle" grater in cast brass—a true early 19th century Continental rarity. Not your typical kitchen accessory. And only \$295.

Speaker of the house

Last April, Lee spoke to the American Furniture Collector's Club in Cleveland. The subject was "Sweet Sixteen—Windsor Chairs a Dealer Couldn't Part With." The power point *almost* decided not to function, but the hour long presentation—a little late in starting—nevertheless was well received by the group of both new and advanced collectors.

We regret that the Western Reserve Antiques Show has gone the way of so many once thriving venues.

We are always interested in speaking to local historical societies and clubs interested in antiques.

A treasure chest of nautical items

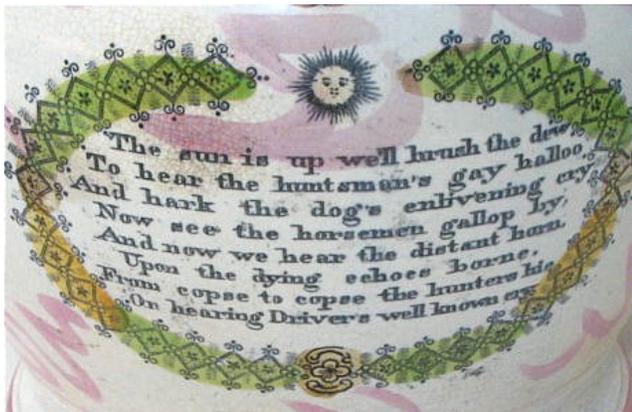
We have always enjoyed buying and selling items related to sailors and the sea. Sometimes we have nothing to offer, and at other times (like now) we have quite a few interesting items, primarily in ceramics.

The first thing is a little molded pearlware plaque with a cherub riding a dolphin across a yellow (!) ocean.



He is pictured in the book on Prattware by Griselda Lewis, although she doesn't identify who the little guy is.

Next we have two examples of Sunderland Lustre, both of which date from the 1830s. The first one, a 7" jug, is curious because of the variety of transfers. On one side is the typical iron bridge transfer, on the other side a transfer of a group of sailors with the inscription: "THE FLAG THAT'S BRAVED A THOUSAND YEARS THE BATTLE AND THE BREEZE." But under the spout is a verse all about hunting! We have never before seen this combination of sailing and hunting all on one pot!



Our second Sunderland jug can be dated more precisely than the first one. This is a smaller size, just under 5" tall, with a ship transfer only, beneath which is written: "WILLIAM IV." We assume that this was made for the coronation of William in 1831. We've never seen another like it, nor is it pictured in any of our reference books.



A child's plate from about the same era has a charming transfer of a sailor about to go off to sea, with the popular saying, "WHEN THIS YOU SEE REMEMBER ME."

Our last object is an English enamel box dating from the late 18th century. It's top reads: "HIS SHIP IS MOOR'D / HIS WAGES PAID / WELCOME THE SAILOR / TO HIS MAID." This delightful little trinket has obviously lived a hard life, but was cherished by some maid nonetheless.

All of these items, with more detailed pictures and prices, can be seen on our website: www.hanesandruskin.com



New old acquisitions

We have recently acquired a wonderful paper filigree tea caddy. Also known as quill-work, this craft consisted of rolling thin strips of paper into decorative designs, and applying it to boxes, picture frames, sconces, as well as working entire pictures with it. Some years ago our friend Bob Thayer had a dollhouse-sized house covered in paper



filigree. As we recall, the piece was probably American.

Our tea caddy is no doubt English, worked by a young lady. These boxes are scarce, and hard to find in good condition. We like the six sided design, and the floral inserts on the short sides.

See more detailed pictures at www.hanesandruskin.com.

You get what you pay for ?

Silhouettes from the Peale Museum in Philadelphia are much sought after by collectors. They were either stamped PEALE or MUSEUM beneath the bustline of the subject. They were always hollowcut (the white paper was cut out and laid over a black background—usually fabric of some sort). This example is in an unusually ornate pressed brass frame (silhouette artists loved these frames, because they imitated fancy gold frames, and were light and stackable for transportation). We bought this many years ago, and have enjoyed looking at it. Now it's time to pass it along to its next owner. Because we purchased this at a very good

price, we are happy to offer it for only \$295.



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Feathers and foliage

We are pleased to offer "Feathers and Foliage," the new book about peafowl decorated pearlware by George and Mickey Deike. The book has a comprehensive history of the manufacturing process of British pottery in the late 18th century (starting with the geologic formation of the earth to form the clay!). It then de-

scribes the decorating process particular to this type of ware, followed by the aviary, where the Deikes have named the variations of peafowl after either particular characteris-



tics or various friends and acquaintances. We are pleased that there is a bird called "Joyce" after yours truly, and a newly discovered bird that flew in from Holland is to be named Bucky in honor of our recently deceased cat.

One of the outstanding features of this book is the use of "roll-outs" which show a jug or mug spread out flat so you can see the entire design. The book is \$95 includ-

ing postage (to the US) and there are more images of its contents at <http://www.hanesandruskin.com/mp.asp?qrs=783>

Mail bag

Question: In your last newsletter, I noticed your collection of plates with eagles. I inherited one like it from my great aunt but a friend said the plate was old but the eagle was not. How do you tell?
M.B. Toledo, Ohio

Answer: It's impossible to tell without actually seeing your plate. Sometimes old plates were embellished later with eagles and other desirable motifs. What you need to do is examine your plate closely with a strong magnifying glass. Old plates were usually used, and will have telltale knife

marks or scratch marks. If the painting fills in the knife marks, the eagle is not original, but if the knife marks go through the painting of the eagle, you're in probably real luck; you have the thing.



1875 firemark, 1975 price!

This cast iron firemark was issued by the United Firemens Insurance Company in Philadelphia around 1875. If your property caught on fire the fire company would only help if they could see their insurance marker displayed on your home.

If you don't like paying \$450-600 (today's average price) for one of these relics, pick up the phone now. We only have one, and it's only \$395!

The Cat's Eye

This handy portable black light lets you see things in the dark you never knew existed, like restorations on paintings and ceramics. Just 4" long, it fits in your pocket or purse, and runs on three AAA batteries (included). Just \$29.50 plus \$3.50 S & H. A thoughtful stocking stuffer for your favorite antiques hunter.



ABOUT US



We sell investment quality antique American furniture of the 18th and 19th centuries, and appropriate accessories with an emphasis on English ceramics, needlework, silhouettes, paintings, and metalware. Our logo is a symbol of good faith and integrity dating to the 18th century or before. We stand behind everything we sell, backed by a money-back guarantee.

The Roadrunners

See us at these upcoming shows:

Weston, VT Oct. 5-7

Greenwich, CT Oct. 13-14

Hartford, CT Oct. 20-21

Alexandria, VA Nov. 24-25

Salem, MA Nov. 24-25

Wilton, CT Dec 2

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