

# SHOW & TELL

A Quarterly Newsletter from Hanes & Ruskin

Joy Ruskin Hanes & Lee Hanes



## shows

The final quarter of 2006 began with a bang in the lovely village of Weston, Vermont. This is a well-established and popular venue expertly managed by Patti Prairie. We applaud her tireless efforts and her creativity. We sold several pieces of furniture, ceramics, metalware, and two silk embroideries.



We added a new show to our busy schedule in October at the Greenwich CT Civic Center, managed twice annually by B & D Johnson. Our "neighbors" at the show were a fun and interesting group and we look forward to returning next fall.

## UP FOR ADOPTION

It's difficult for us to keep a good Windsor chair in stock. This beauty, from Rhode Island, is in old paint and has the distinctive pipe stem spindles, mahogany arms and pinched-in legs found only on Rhode Island Chairs. Circa 1785.



We also have a comb-back armchair from Pennsylvania, as well as a set of six painted tablet-back side chairs with original decoration.

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## S P E A K E R S   O F   T H E   H O U S E

At the Alexandria, VA show in November, Joy was the featured guest speaker on a subject dear to her heart: "A Garden Tour Through the Decorative Arts." Originally developed as a talk for garden clubs, she tweaked it with more specific information on the antique pieces,

and showed comparisons between floral motifs on objects and images of the actual flowers. It all proves how fanciful the decorators of 18th and early 19th century items were!

In April, Lee is slated to give his talk on "A Dealer's Col-

lection of Windsor Chairs" for the Antique Collector's Club in Cleveland.

*"Of all types of decoration found on antique objects, the use of flowers is by far the most typical."*  
J. Hanes

## M A N   ( o r   w o m a n )   B I T E S   D O G

*I know that some glazes on ceramics don't show restoration under a black light. How else can you tell if a dish has been repaired?*  
Mrs. A.K., Portland, Oregon

Try biting it. Really! Gently tap your teeth on it. If it feels "hard" with no snags, it is probably OK. If it feels "soft" like a piece of hard candy that's been in the

sun, it has probably been repaired.

If you don't like the idea of biting your pottery and porcelain, you can also use a common pin. Run it along the surface. If it makes a small scratch or if it "pulls" there is some over-glazing or overpainting.

Another method is to take a strong magnifying glass and go over every inch of the surface of the piece. With good light and strong magnification, you will see a difference on the surface.

And one last trick—try taking a digital photograph of the object in strong light and looking at it on the computer. Certain restorations might show up that the naked eye wouldn't necessarily pick up.



## N E W   ( O L D )   A C Q U I S I T I O N S



Lighting has always been one of our specialties. Recently we discovered this charming 19th century wood and iron eight light chandelier in old blue over the original red. This kind of accessory makes a room, especially all lit up like a Christmas tree. We believe this to be Scandinavian.

More New old acquisitions

THE REAL W

EARLY IN DECEMBER, WE WERE PLEASED TO FIND THIS RARE PRINTED LINEN HANDKERCHIEF. IT WAS MADE IN GERMANTOWN, PA CIRCA 1806. TITLED "THE EFFECT OF PRINCIPLE / BEHOLD THE MAN"

The quote on the left side is worth reading.

According to the text on the right side of Washington's figure, it is the conclusion of a speech in which he voluntarily resigned from office as president after serving two terms.

The speech was written with the assistance of Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, and discusses the importance of national unity, warns against party conflicts, emphasizes the value of religion, morality and education, and advises against "entangling alliances" with foreign governments.

Doesn't it sound like

good advice!

Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration I am unconscious of intentional error. I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think that I may have committed many errors whatever they may be. I fervently beseech the Almighty to avert or mitigate the evils to which they may tend. I shall also carry with me the hope that my country will never cease to

view them with indulgence and that after forty five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivious, as myself must soon be to the mansion of rest.



# Living with antiques



We have a small collection of taper sticks—mostly brass but also bronze, ceramic, silver, iron and bell metal. We have been told that they were used for sealing wax, but we have also heard them called “tea lights” and may have been used on tea tables. We think that they were the early equivalent of a forty watt light bulb—convenient when only a small amount of light was needed.

The earliest example, British, c. 1350, (pictured on the right) came to us from our faithful French picker. Lee: “I’d like to be buried with it.” Joy: “That and the pair of swirl-base brass sticks?”

## 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.



## A PRESENT FROM THE PAST

England celebrated Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1887. During that festive year, sets of "Diamond" candlesticks were made to commemorate the event.

This pair, an unmarked King of Diamonds, is just \$195—generally priced at hundreds more.

This is a "gift" to the first person calling.

We also have in stock a pair of marked "Aces," the rarest of the set and hardest to find.



# C a t

At the Peabody Museum Antiques show over Thanksgiving weekend, we met a delightful couple from Massachusetts who have a houseful of feline friends.

We showed them a photo of our Mickey Mouse. They liked our cat, but LOVED our 18th century agateware salt-glaze kitty, which they promptly "adopted."



# c h a t

Let us know if you have any collections you'd like us to find things for, or if you have any cat items you'd like to dispose of for our new friends.



## ABOUT US



Investment quality antique American furniture of the 18th and 19th centuries, and appropriate accessories with an emphasis on English ceramics, needlework, silhouettes, paintings, lighting 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.

*We Wish everyone a  
very healthy and  
happy 2007.*

## The Roadrunners

See us year round at Willington Antiques and at these upcoming shows:

WASHINGTON DC 1/4—1/7

HUDSON, OHIO 1/13—1/14

YORK, PA 2/2—2/4

HUNT VALLEY, MD 2/22—2/25

CHESTER COUNTY, PA 3/2—3/4

HARTFORD, CT 3/10—3/11

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