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SEPTEMBER 3-8, 2024



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hree times a year, the Brimfield shows attract thousands of dealers and shoppers from around the world looking to stroll down Memory Lane, add to their collection, find that perfect piece for that special spot or discover a new DIY project. Unique and eclectic old and vintage finds share the fields with antiques from all eras, repurposed projects, and decorative embellishments. A photo gallery of Brimfield finds can be found on our Instagram page @journal_of_antiques, a great way to experience Brimfield if you can't get here to do it in person – as is our Facebook page.

With 19 show fields and venues, some open daily and others only open for a few select days during the show week, it is hard to know where to start. Our best advice is to consult with the Show Schedule (page 3) to see what shows will be open while you are here, consult our Map (page 5) to see where each show is located along Route 20, and then start walking until something catches your eye. Our bet is you won't have to walk too far! Each show field has a community of professional dealers with a dazzling array of merchandise waiting to welcome you and answer your questions. For more information on what's offered on each show field, see page 7.

We hope you find this *Brimfield Show Guide* useful, here at the Brimfield shows for local places to stay, dine, and shop, and for learning about other upcoming antique and collectibles shows taking place around the country. You will also find a Shop Finder Guide for places to stop and antique shop along the way. For more information on upcoming shows and articles of interest, please visit our website at www.JournalofAntiques.com.

Maxine Carter-Lome, Publisher Journal of Antiques & Collectibles



Brimfield Show Guide

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Dealer	Opening Day	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	C
Black Swan Meadows, 212-300-5999 www.brimfieldantiqueshows.com	Tues. 8 am	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans, 781-420-3375, www.brimfieldliveonline.com	Wed. 12 pm		*	*	*	*	*	
Brimfield Auction Acres, 413-245-3436 www.brimfieldauctionacres.com	Fri. 8 am, Sat. 9 am				*	*		
Brimfield Barn, 727-415-2081	Tues. 7 am	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Central Park Antique Shows, 413-455-4655, www.brimfieldcentralpark.co	Tues. 6 a.m. m	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Collins Apple Barn Antique Show, 413-237-6659, Showtime No. 413-245-4575	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	E
Crystal Brook, 413-245-7647	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Dealer's Choice, 508-347-3929 www.brimfieldantiquescenter.net	Tues. 11 am	*						
Grand Trunk Antique Shows, 866-858-0789 413-519-3321	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Green Acres, 413-245-6118	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
Heart-O-The-Mart, 413-245-9556	Wed. 9 am		*	*	*	*	*	
Mahogany Ridge, 413-245-7220	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
May's Antique Market, 413-245-9271 www.maysbrimfield.com	Thurs. 9 am			*	*	*		
Midway, 508-347-3929 www.brimfieldantiquescenter.net	Tues. 6 am	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
N.E. Motel Antique Shows, 508-347-2179	Wed. 6 am		*	*	*	*	*	
Quaker Acres Antique Shows, 413-245-6185	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Shelton Antique Shows, 413-245-3591 www.brimfieldsheltonshows.com	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Stephen's Place, 413-245-3185	Tues. 6 am	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Sturtevant's Antique Shows, 413-245-7458 www.sturtevantantiqueshows.com	Tues. Daybreak	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Treasure Trunk Tuesday, 413-245-3436 Held at Brimfield Auction Acres	Tues. 8 am	*						
Weekend Warrior Show, 781-420-3375 Held at Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans	Sat. 8 am					*	*	9

Here Before Brimfield Week? Check Out These Nearby Shows:

Marier's Antique Flea Market, Rte 20, Palmer, MA Thursday, August 29 through Monday, September 2, Open 7am

The Sturbridge Show Sturbridge Host Hotel, Rte 20, Sturbridge, MA *Monday, September 2*, Early Bird at 8 am, General Admission at 10 am



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BRIMFIELD ANTIQUE SHOWS-HERTANS September 4-8

Hertans Show Field, 6 Mill Lane Road, Brimfield, MA

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Hospitality Tent, 6 Mill Lane Road, Brimfield, MA

WEEKEND WARRIOR SHOW September 7-8

Free Admission • Hertans Show Field, 6 Mill Lane Road, Brimfield, MA

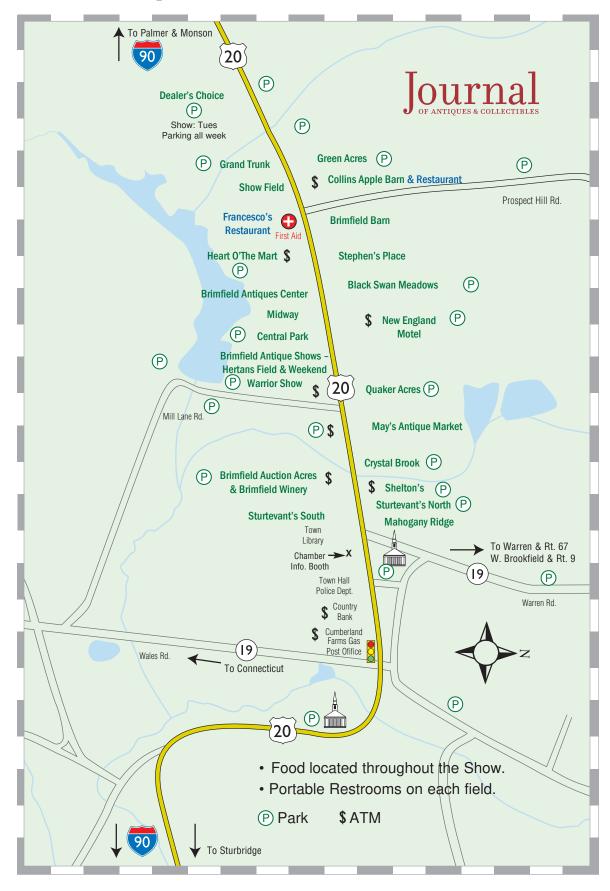
NEW HAMPSHIRE'S LARGEST ANTIQUE FLEA MARKET October 12 & 13

Deerfield Fairgrounds, 34 Stage Road, Deerfield, NH

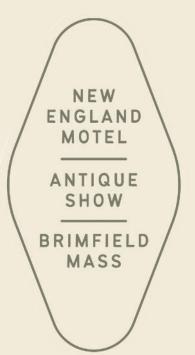
For more information visit www.brimfieldlive.com • follow us on follow us on call 781-324-4400

2024 SCHEDULE OF SHOWS

Map to Brimfield Show Fields



30 Palmer Rd • Route 20





THE SHOPPING STARTS HERE...

3 Dealer Pavilions! Over 400 Booths

2024 DATES September 4-8

Wednesday–SundayOpens Wednesday at 6 am

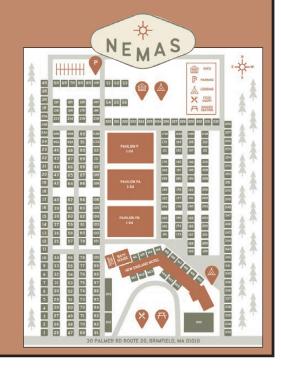
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Showfield Features Information subject to change. Check showfield websites for up-to-date information.	Day Admission	(addl. lots on map)	Trucks & More	Dealer Spaces	Friendly on leash
Black Swan Meadows	*	*	*	250	*
Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans	*	*	*	200+	*
Brimfield Auction Acres	*	*	*	450+	
Brimfield Barn				12	*
Central Park Antique Shows		*	*	130+	*
Collins Apple Barn Antique Show		*	*	20+	
Crystal Brook			*	35+	*
Dealer's Choice	*	*	*	400+	*
Grand Trunk Antique Shows		*	*	50+	
Green Acres		*		75+	*
Heart-O-The-Mart	*	*	*	450+	
Mahogany Ridge			*	150+	*
May's Antique Market	*		*	300+	*
Midway Antique Shows			*	30+	*
N.E. Motel Antique Shows	*	*	*	400+	*
Quaker Acres Antique Shows		*	*	150+	*
Shelton Antique Shows		*	*	100+	*
Stephen's Place			*	20+	*
Sturtevant's Antique Shows		*	*	75+	*

Handled by Dealers –

Restrooms:

Every showfield has porta-potties and wash stations.

Types of Antiques/Vintage Goods:

Each dealer buys and sells the types of goods they specialize in with some special finds and good stories. Have something in mind you hope to find? Ask the dealer. Usually there are more boxes of items still to be unpacked and displayed or a dealer has nearby access to their inventory. If they don't have it, or don't deal in that type of antique, ask if they know someone who does.

How To Pay

Cash is king, as they say, but many dealers will accept credit/debit cards, Venmo, PayPal, ApplePay, and more. ATMs are available at some fields. Dealers will likely hold what you wish to purchase while you get money or retrieve your checkbook. Many take checks if they are local and have your contact information.

Return Policies

Most of the time during a show like this it is a matter of buying "as is, where is" and no returns are allowed. However, if you are making a larger purchase, be sure to talk with the dealer about their return policy and how that would be handled.

Buying After the Show

If you spot something you really like but are not ready to make a purchase, ask for the dealer's information and about the chance to purchase later if you change your mind. You may wish to take a picture of the item to refer to later.

Delivery

If you are visiting from far away, you may want to get your purchases delivered. It is not up to the Dealer to manage that, but some may. Otherwise, you can reach out to area offices for FedEx, UPS, USPS, etc. to see what they are offering for Brimfield Shows – some have on-site pickup.



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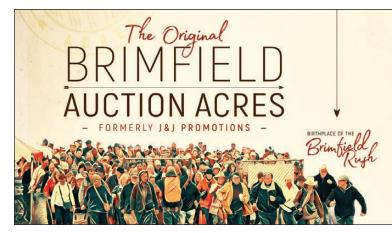


September 5,6,7

Admission Opening Day Only - Opens 9am

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2024 SHOW DATES

SEPT. 6+7

OPEN FRI 8-4 \$5 ADMISSION SAT 9-3 FREE ADMISSION brimfieldauctionacres.com 35 Main St. Brimfield, MA 01010





September 3-8

Opening Day, Tuesday 8am \$5 Admission

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2024 SHOWS

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P.O. Box 468, Brimfield, MA 01010 413-245-7458



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SEPT. 3-8

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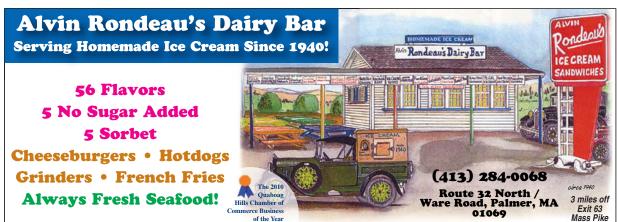


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Get the Lead Out

ometimes a headline writes itself. "Get the Lead Out." If only we could. The vast majority of die-cast toys and models made over the past 90-plus years will never suffer from what's often called metal fatigue, but for those that do, it's the end of the road. Although it's been known to happen on rare occasions to models made in the last

20 years, to my knowledge most victims are pre-World War II toys made by such manufacturers as Tootsietoy (Dowst) here in the U.S. and Dinky Toys (Meccano) in Great Britain.

We're not talking here about the heavier cast iron toys made by manufacturers like Arcade or Kenton. The condition is limited to toys made using this diecasting process: the injection of molten metal, under high pressure, into steel molds. The metal alloys used in this process varied in composition depending on the manufacturer, but generally speaking, by the 1930s,

Tootsietoy and Dinky had left alloys composed of tin and lead behind. Both companies introduced zinc alloys to their processes during the Depression, and they contained various percentages of copper, iron, cadmium, nickel, magnesium, aluminum, and even tin and lead. But the zinc alloys, known by names such as mazac and zamak, had greater purity than the old tin and lead mixtures, offered better strength and durability to the product.

Trace Impurities

But problems cropped up when one of two things happened. Either impurities were introduced to the alloy mixture (trace amounts of other metals) or the percentage of metals such as cadmium or lead was varied, even if only slightly. In either scenario, the resulting castings were ticking time bombs: although it would have been hard to see when the toy was new, cracks and corrosion would eventually begin to afflict the toy as it slowly lost structural stability.



Dinky Toys number 28 delivery van in "Maison De Bonneterie" livery. Photo courtesy Vectis Auctions

deterioration advances, causing warping of body panels and roofs. In the worst cases, the toy literally starts to crumble away. The rare Dinky Toys' number 28 delivery van, shown left, is well along the road to destruction. Despite this, and that it's the only example known to exist in the "Maison De Bonneterie"

Some toys actually grow in length as

livery, it sold for \$3,100 in a Vectis Auctions sale in the U.K. in 2008.

Unlike health concerns about lead in some newer toys, my experience has been that collectors of pre-World War II toys are more interested in how to repair the toy, or at least delay its demise, than they are in lead exposure. Some collectors try applying cyanoacrylate glue to the underside of an affected toy, along the crack lines, which I understand can help stabilize the toy, at least temporarily. But ultimately it's a losing battle as the process continues over time.

Several years ago, I was talking with Andrew Reed, a die-cast specialist at Vectis, and the subject of metal fatigue in pre-war toys came up. He told me that many collectors, both here in the U.S. and elsewhere, won't buy a pre-war Dinky if it means it'll have to be shipped by airmail. "When you send a pre-war that way—unless you've insulated it and really overpackaged it—as soon as it goes into the hold, it will expand in the cold, because of its lead content. When it [lands, naturally] it gets warmer. When we [ship] them out, we have to include special insulation to ensure they don't get cold."

The problem was largely eradicated after World War II, but there are exceptions. In 1968, a Mini Dinky series of 1:65 scale die-cast models made in Hong Kong. These beautiful little models were plagued by metal fatigue from the start. They can be found intact, however, and models like the Fiat station wagon and Ferrari 250 LM are worth the hunt.



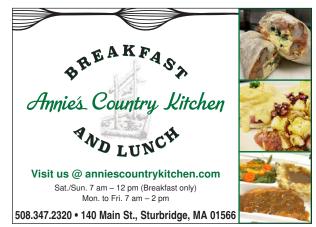
Meccano's Mini Dinky models often suffer from cracking and corrosion due to inferior metal alloys used in production.



The baseplate on this Mini Dinky Oldsmobile has expanded and distorted, resulting in parts of the body breaking off.

Douglas R. Kelly is the editor of Marine Technology magazine. His byline has appeared in Antiques Roadshow Insider; Back Issue; Diecast Collector; RetroFan; and Buildings magazines.









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Stoney Creek Antiques

881 Civic Center Drive, **Augusta**, ME Rt 27, 3 miles N of I-95 Exit 112 Phone: 207-626-9330 www.facebook.com/stoney.creek.antiques Open Year round. Tuesday - Saturday 10am-5pm

Cabot Mill Antiques

14 Maine Street, **Brunswick**, ME Phone: 207-725-2855 Email: cabot@waterfrontme.com Website: www.cabotiques.com Open: Daily 10am-5pm

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10 Water Street, **Waterville**, ME Phone: 207-877-0250 Email: info@hathawaymillantiques.com Website: www.hathawaymillantiques.com Open: Wednesday-Sunday 10am-5pm, Closed Monday & Tuesday

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1622 Post Road, **Wells**, ME Phone: 207-360-0943 Email: bonhep@hotmail.com Like Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Bo-Mar-Hall-Antiques-Collectibles Open daily, year-round, 10am-5pm

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Phone: 978-429-8322
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Website: www.greatroadvintage.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/greatroadvintage
Open: Wednesday-Saturday 11am-5pm,
Sun. Noon-5pm, CLOSED Monday & Tuesday

The MEWS at Brewster Antiques

2926 Rte. 6A (diag. across from Ocean Edge) **Brewster,** MA Phone: 508-896-4887, 508-776-9098

Email: bheapg7@comcast.net Website: www.the-mews-at-brewsterantiques.com

See website for seasonal hours

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28 Walden Street, **Concord,** MA Phone: 978-371-1442 Website: www.northbridgeantiques.com Open Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday Noon-5pm

Thoreauly Antiques

27 Walden Street, **Concord,** MA Phone: 978-371-0100 Email: bumpybeeler@yahoo.com Website: www.thoreaulyantiques.com Open Monday-Friday 10am-5:30pm, Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 11am-5pm

The Berkshire Galleries of Great Barrington

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346 Route 28 at 29/124, **Harwich Port,** MA Phone: 508-432-1797 Email: sandyhall1@comcast.net Website: www.windsongantiques.com Open: Daily 11am-5pm, Sundays 12-4pm

Winter hours may vary. Please call ahead.

Canal Street Antique Mall & Design Center

181 Canal Street, **Lawrence**, MA Phone: 978-685-1441 and 978-965-5903 Website: www.canalstreetantique.com Email: canalstreetantiquemall181@gmail.com Open: Daily 10am-5pm, Thurs til 7pm.

The Uptown Store

266 Main Street, **Lee**, MA Phone: 413-358-0170 Email: info@theuptownstore.org Website: www.theuptownstore.org Open Mon., Wed., Thurs. Fri 10am-4pm, Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 11am-4pm

Upton House Antiques

275 King Street (Rte. 2A-110), **Littleton**, MA Phone: 978-486-3367 Website: www.uptonhouseantiques.com Open: Wed., Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 10am-4pm *A call ahead is advised.*



Acushnet River Antiques

50 Kilburn Street, **New Bedford,** MA Phone: 508-992-8878 Email: ariverant@aol.com Website: www.acushnetriverantiquesllc.com Open Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 11am-4pm

Antique Junction

1294 S. Main Street, **Palmer**, MA Phone: 413-531-1936 Open: Wed-Sun 10am-4pm (Mon & Tue - Call for appt.) Open daily before and during Brimfield Antique Shows for extended hours.

Palmer Antiques Co-Op

1239 So Main Street, **Palmer**, MA Phone: 413-283-3373 Email: palmerantiquescoop@comcast.net Website: www.facebook.com/PalmerAntique Open Thursday-Saturday, 9am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

Nu-Tiques at the Barn

486 West Street (Route 31), **Paxton,** MA Phone: 508-754-2340 Website: www.nu-tiques.com Open: Weekends April - December 10am-4pm



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Email: heaventiques@yahoo.com
Website: www.heavenonearthdesigns.com
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149 Main Street, **Stoneham,** MA Phone: 781-435-2366 Email: Livemorehuntlessconsigment@gmail.com Open Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm, Sunday: 11am-5pm

Sturbridge Antique Shops

128 Charlton Road (Rt. 20), **Sturbridge**, MA Next to Walmart Plaza Phone: 508-347-2744 Website: www.sturbridgeantiqueshops.com Open daily 10am-5pm

Vintage and Antique Textiles

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Alice Cell: 978-754-5112
Email: pandmpaintings22@gmail.com
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Sunday 12-3pm or by appointment

Bernat Antiques

89 Elmdale Rd., **Uxbridge**, MA Phone: 508-278-5525 Email: ccorinna30@gmail.com Website: www.facebook.com/bernatantique Open Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm; Fridays til 7pm

Stanley Mill Antiques

146 Mendon Street, **Uxbridge**, MA Phone: 508-779-0334 Email: stanleymillantiques@gmail.com Open: Wednesday - Sunday 10am-5pm

Stone Mill Antique Center

44 East Main Street, **Ware**, MA Phone: 413-277-0137 Open Thurs.-Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. Noon-4pm

Wayside Antiques & Collectibles

1 Prospect Street, **West Boylston,** MA Near the Old Stone Church Phone: 508-835-4690 during business hours only Website: www.facebook.com/Wayside-Antiques-Collectibles

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Website: www.facebook.com/bookreadersfind Open Wednesday-Sunday 10am-6pm

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Time Capsule Antiques & More

23 Plaistow Road (Rte 125), **Plaistow**, NH Phone: 603-974-7126 Email: timecapsuleantiquesandmore@gmail.com Website: www.timecapsuleantiquesandmore.com Open: Sun. 11am-4pm, Mon. 10am-5pm, Tue. Closed, Wed. 10am-5pm, Thurs. 10am-5pm, Fri. 10am-5pm, and Sat. 10am-5pm

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132 Portsmouth Avenue, **Stratham**, NH Phone: 603-772-6205 Email: info@collectorseye.com Website: www.collectorseye.com Open Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun., 10am-5pm. Closed Tuesdays

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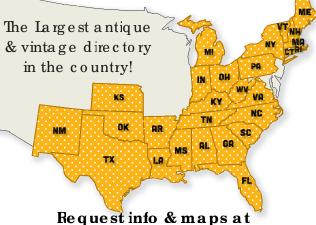
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The Signs of History

about the history of a place, an industry, a specific time period, and more. Here, I've picked three signs from my collection that I love and that have a few things in common. They all have at the core of their business, travel, whether through actual movement via train and bicycles or sound traveling over the airwaves. They also share bird iconography to denote different meanings. In this case, I think they were used to convey that sense of connection that travel provides.

The Flying Crow

This drumhead sign came from the collection of a dear friend, Brian Maiher. It was "picked" on the show around four years ago. In 1928, the Flying Crow was a passenger train that was part of the Louisiana & Arkansas Railway. It ran

from Kansas City, MI, to Port Arthur,

TX, to New Orleans, LA, from 1928 through 1968. The term "drumhead" refers to a type of removable sign that was mounted on the back of named passenger trains. They were commonplace in the first half of the 20th century in North America.

This sign—reverse painted on glass with original gold leaf—has withstood the test of time. It hangs in my office and will be passed down to my children. Drumhead signs were round in shape, resembling small drums—hence the name—and most included an internal lighting source that illuminated the signs at night.

Victor Bicycles

The Overman Wheel Company was a bicycle manufacturing company in Chicopee Falls, MA from 1882 to 1900. The flagship product of the company was the Victor Bicycle. The very first Victor bicycle was the first American-made three-wheeler. The innovative design of the bike, which had interchangeable parts, made it possible

for repair shops to make small repairs without having to dismantle the whole bike. These bikes were the highest quality of their day, yet the company eventually went bankrupt.

This Victor Bicycles porcelain curved sign was found in a very old junkyard in the New York area around six years ago. As you know, my brother and I collect bicycles and have ever since we were little kids. I've owned several Victor models over the years. One I currently have is a 54-inch Victor Highwheel (with a large front wheel and a much smaller back wheel).

This sign is one of only a few Victor Bicycles porcelain signs (Victor bicycles were made from 1883 to 1900) that survives to this day. The sign would have been sent to a dealer to display on their building as an official Victor Bicycles agent. It could be up for sale.

The Majestic Eagle

This Majestic Eagle "sign" is from an authorized Majestic radio dealer display circa 1920s. Painted in bold colors with the eagle resting atop the globe, the piece is over two feet high and the eagle's wingspan is 42". It was found in a home in Southern IL and was owned by a gentleman who was a dealer for Majestic radios. In the late 1920s, Chicago's Grigsby Grunow Co. began marketing its Majestic Electric radio as the "Mighty Monarch of The Air." The bald eagle mascot

matched their biggest claim to fame that they "Fly higher" than any radio waves and reach anyone. These were typically made of paper mâché material and are very rare to find in any kind of condition, let alone as pristine as this one.

Collecting anything that was made of PMH that survived almost 100 years is very rare to find. These range anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000. This one is in my office – and is not for sale.

Best known for his co-hosting role on The History Channel's long-running hit, American Pickers, Rob Wolfe is also a seasoned antique dealer. From vintage signs to antique cars and motorcycles, and everything in between, Rob has an extensive knowledge of, and passion for, all things antique. He's been collecting unique items and learning about their history since early childhood and today that passion can be seen at his showroom in Bettendorf, Iowa where this summer he'll host the annual Bettendorf Americana Car show and Antique Auction.

Continuous Shows and Flea Markets

January-December: Alameda, CA

Alameda Point Antiques Faire
3900 Main Street
1st Sunday of the Month, 6am-3pm
510-522-7500, www.AlamedaPointAntiquesFaire.com

January-December: Los Angeles, CA

Santa Monica Antique & Vintage Market
At the Santa Monica Airport Interim Open Space,
3233 Donald Douglas, Loop
Ist & 4th Sunday Every Month, 7am-3pm
310-909-9001 Phone or Text
www.SantaMonicaAirportAntiqueMarket.com

January-December: Jewett City, CT

College Mart Flea Market Slater Mill Mall, 39 Wedgewood Drive Sundays 9am-4pm 860-376-3935, www.leoneauctioneers.com

January-December: Lambertville, NJ

Golden Nugget Antique Flea Market 1850 River Road, Route 29 Wed., Sat. & Sun. 6am-4pm, Indoor Shops open 8am 400 outdoor flea market tables open 6am-4pm 609-397-0811, info@gnflea.com, www.gnflea.com

January-December: Wallingford, CT

Redwood Country Flea Market 170 S. Turnpike Road Open Every Friday, Saturday, Sunday Fri. 6am-1pm, Sat./Sun. 6am-3pm 203-269-3500 www.facebook.com/redwoodcountryfleamarket

January-December: Mt. Dora, FL

Renningers Weekly Market 20651 US-441 Fri. 10am-4pm, Sat. & Sun. 9am-5pm 352-383-3141, www.renningers.net

January-December: Washington, D.C.

The Flea Market at Eastern Market
7th & C Street SE, Capital Hill
Every Sunday, 10am-5pm
Diverse Markets, 202-215-6993
info@easternmarket.net, www.easternmarket.net

January-December: El Cajon, CA

San Diego Antique and Vintage Show & Sale 311 Highland Avenue
Third Saturday of the Month, 9am-Ipm
Larry, 619-368-2055, larrystonebooks@gmail.com

January-March: Brookline, NH

Winter Sundays Brookline Antiques Market Brookline Event Center, 32 Proctor Hill Road Open Every Sunday, 5-5:45am Dealer Set Up / Early Buying \$20. Show 5:45-11am FREE 603-582-4491, www.brooklineeventcenter.com

February 7-January I, 2025: Dover, NH

First Wednesday Antiques Flea Market
Dover Elks Lodge, 282 Durham Road
8am-12noon
Gurley Antique Shows, 207-396-4255,
rachelgurley@gmail.com, www.gurleyantiqueshows.com

March-December: Woodbury, CT

Woodbury Antiques and Flea Market 44 Sherman Hill Road (jct 6 & 64) Saturdays, 7:30am-2:30pm, weather permitting thenewwoodburyfleamarket@gmail.com, 203-263-6217, www.woodburyflea.net

April 28-October 27: Puslinch (Guelph), Ontario, Canada

Aberfoyle Market Sundays Only Market 57 Brock Road South 8am-4pm 877-763-1077, www.aberfoyleantiquemarket.com

April 21-October 27: Sandwich, MA

Sandwich Weekly Antiques & Collectibles Show 34 Quaker Meeting House Road Sundays, 7am-12noon Lisa, 508-685-2767, www.thesandwichbazaar.com

April 3-October 30: Sandwich, MA

Sandwich Weekly Antiques & Collectibles Show 34 Quaker Meeting House Road Wednesdays, 6am-12noon Lisa, 508-685-2767, www.thesandwichbazaar.com

May-September: Dover, NH

Dover Antique & Vintage Market

Dover Elks Lodge, 282 Durham Road

10am-2pm

Gurley Antique Shows, 207-396-4255,
rachelgurley@gmail.com, www.gurleyantiqueshows.com

May 18-October: Woodstock, NY

Mower's Saturday & Sunday Flea Market
Maple Lane
8am-6pm
845-679-6744, woodstockfleamarket@hcc.rr.com
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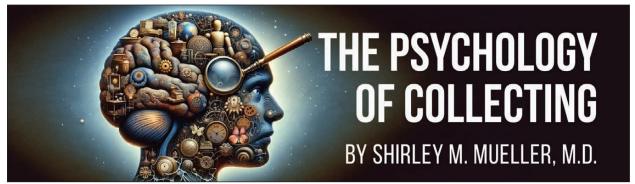
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Child Collectors

Beatrice — Beatrice is seven years old and in first grade (she also takes advanced courses with older children throughout the day.) Though her name may sound old-fashioned, Beatrice herself is anything but conventional. She excels in her schoolwork, takes piano lessons, and is an excellent artist. She also collects

objects, not just anything, but specifically Magic Mixies. These are kits that enable children to learn magic as they blend ingredients. Each Mixie is different, with unrelated elemental powers. For example, one changes color when water is added; another opens its eyes when a magnet is nearby. And yet, a third can create a new furry friend. Beatrice, lovingly displays her collection proudly as well. In fact, when the family built a new bookshelf for Beatrice, she said to her mother,

"Mommy, this shelf is for collecting."

Children Who Collect – The reported incidence of children who collect varies from 30 and 40 percent to perhaps 80 percent. Part of this disparity is that the literature in this area is sparse. We do know that natural items are commonly collected and that there is a difference in what the two genders collect. Girls are more likely attracted to visually appealing items and boys to objects connected to war or sports.

Psychologists have noted that collecting behavior in children often begins around 6 to 8 years of age. This correlates with the time children begin developing executive skills and a sense of control over their surroundings. Developmental psychologist, Jean Piaget (1896-1980), even designated collecting as belonging to a 'concrete operational stage' in children. This is when they begin to understand logic and use it in reasoning regarding objects in their surroundings and experiences.

Children's Motivations to Collect -

The instigating factors for children to collect include escaping boredom and reality, curiosity about their collectibles, and learning more about them. Other reasons include fulfilling a passion for the objects they desire, wanting to distinguish themselves from others,

and expanding their social world by possessing objects they collect. Often, more than one motivation was revealed in surveys. And some children had more than one collection.

In one examination, parents were mentioned three times as frequently as friends and family when examining the child's wish to collect. Grandparents were also cited. In Beker and Gentry's paper, *Kids as Collectors: A*

paper, Rids as Collectors: A Phenomenological Study of First and Fifth Graders, Tony, one of the fifth graders, told one of the interviewers he started his collection of sports cards because: "My Grandpa had some cards and I just started to like them, and I just kept adding and adding them to my collection 'cause I saw them at his house and I started to collect them."

John Lennon was a child collector too. Interestingly enough, a relative, Stanley Parkes, gave John a classic stamp album when he was 10 years old. This started Lennon on his childhood philatelist collecting journey, his first passion, well before he developed his second, that of a singer-songwriter.

Summary — It is clear the urge to collect begins early in life. Not only that but there may also be more child collectors than adults. Though information overall about child collectors is anything but complete at this point, child collectors appear to have many of the same motives as adults.

FYI, there is a YouTube channel for Magic Mixies named "MooseTube Squad" here: www.youtube.com/@MooseTube Squad.



Beatrice's bookshelf displays her collection of Magic Mixies. photo courtesy of her mother



Shirley M. Mueller, M.D., is known for her expertise in Chinese export porcelain and neuroscience. Her unique knowledge in these two areas motivated her to explore the neuropsychological aspects of collecting, both to help herself and others as well. This guided her to write her landmark book, Inside the Head of a Collector: Neuropsychological Forces at Play. In it, she uses the new field of neuropsychology to explain the oftenenigmatic behavior of collectors. Shirley is also a well-known speaker. She has shared her insights in London, Paris, Shanghai, and other major cities worldwide as well as across the United States. In these lectures, she blends art and science to unravel the mysteries of the collector's mind.



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