Antique or Junque: Family heirloom still rocks

by Anne McCollam

Q: Enclosed is a photo of a rocker that has been in the family since I was a little girl (I'm now 82). The original back and seat were caned, but my mother had them recovered with needlepoint. The back of the rocker can VICTORIAN ROCKER - This Victorian Eastlake platform rocker was made around 1875 and would probably be worth from $375 to $425. CNS Photo. KALK PORCELAIN MARK - The Kalk Porcelain Factory in Eisenberg, Germany, has made porcelain since 1863. CNS Illustration. be adjusted and there are wood castors on the front. It has the original finish and it is in very good condition. I'm not sure what wood was used to make it.

I plan to pass it on to my granddaughter and would like to know how old it is and what it's worth.

A: You have a Victorian Eastlake platform rocker. The straight lines of the overall construction and the incised carving are typical of the Eastlake period. Judging from your photo, the wood is walnut. Platform rockers were extremely popular in the latter part of the 1800s.

Your rocker was made around 1875 and would probably be worth $375 to $425.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a pair of circa 1910 French bisque lamps that I have. An aunt, who purchased the lamps at an estate sale when my wife was a child, left them to my wife and me. The base has two figures in draped classical attire and the overall height of each lamp including the shade is 38 inches.

I have been told the lamps are of significant value and would like to know their history and what they are currently worth.

A: Kalk Porcelain Factory located in Eisenberg, Thuringia, Germany, used the mark you provided. They have made porcelain since 1863.

Assuming the bases are in pristine condition, the value of each German bisque lamp would probably be $800 to $1,200.

Q: Last summer I bought a small flowerpot with an attached saucer at an antiques mall for $40. It has an aqua green glaze and is decorated with raised leaves and round disks against a ribbed surface. The overall height is 5 1/2 inches and it is in excellent condition. There is no manufacturer's mark on the bottom. The information on the tag said the pattern is "Sand Dollar" and it was made by McCoy.

What can you tell me about my flowerpot?

A: You have a small jardiniere or planter that was made by Nelson McCoy Pottery Co. around 1945. Nelson McCoy Pottery was located in Roseville and Zanesville, Ohio, from 1910 to 1990.

Collectors also refer to the pattern as Necco Wafer because of the similarity of the smooth disk shapes in the pattern to the candy wafers made by Necco. This pattern is often not marked.

Sand Dollar/Necco Wafer jardinieres can be found selling on the Internet for at least $55.

Q: I have a green Depression glass cream pitcher and matching sugar bowl. I was told the pattern is "Poinsettia" and they are in perfect condition. The set belonged to my grandmother and I would never part with it, but would like to learn more about its history.

A: Jeanette Glass Co. made your cream pitcher and sugar bowl. They made glass in Jeanette, Pa., from 1898 to 1983 and produced the "Poinsettia" pattern from 1931 to 1935. The pattern is also known as "Floral" and was available in amber, crystal, Jadite, pink, red and yellow. Some pieces have been reproduced.

Your set would probably be worth $75 to $100.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

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