

Antique or Junque: Cookie plate proved to be the treat

by Anne McCollam

Q: Recently when a friend came for dinner she gave me an antique porcelain plate filled with cookies. She told me she bought the plate at an antiques mall and thought, along with the homemade cookies, it would make a nice little hostess gift. It is 8 inches in diameter, hand painted and in mint condition. Marked on the back are the words "George H. Bowman - Cleveland - Findley," and below two crossed daisies are the letters "J. & C."

PORCELAIN PLATE - Jaeger and Co. of Germany made this plate around 1902 and it would probably be worth \$35 to \$45. CNS Photo. MARBLEHEAD POTTERY MARK - The Marblehead Pottery Co. of Marblehead, Mass., was founded in 1904 by Herbert Hall. CNS Illustration. What can you tell me about my plate?

A: Jaeger and Co. made your plate around 1902. They have produced porcelain in Bavaria, Germany, since 1898. The plate was a special order for the George H. Bowman Department Store. "Findley" is the name of the pattern. W. H. Oddie was sent to Europe for Bowman in 1912 on a business trip and perished with the Titanic on the return voyage.

Your plate was made around 1902 and would probably be worth \$35 to \$45.

Q: This mark is on a pottery vase that I inherited. The vase stands 4 inches tall and has a dark blue matte glaze. Around the top is a border of incised flowers and leaves.

What can you tell me about my vase?

A: You have an Arts and Crafts vase that was made by Marblehead Pottery. The pottery was founded in Marblehead, Mass., in 1904 by Herbert Hall. It began as group therapy for patients at a local hospital. By

1905, it became independent of the hospital. Under the direction of artist and designer Arthur Baggs, the pottery flourished. In 1916, he bought it out and managed it until it closed in 1936. With the exception of tiles and bookends, the pottery was hand-thrown. Chances are you have an example of Marblehead blue glaze that was developed around 1915.

Your early 1900s vase would probably be worth \$350 to \$500.

Q: I have a small ironstone dish that is decorated with the tea leaf pattern. It is square and measures approximately 4 by 4 inches. Marked on the bottom is a crest with a lion and a unicorn and the words "Royal Ironstone China - Alfred Meakin, Ltd."

Anything you can tell me about its maker, vintage and value will be appreciated.

A: Alfred Meakin, Ltd., made your dish in Staffordshire, England. They have been in business from 1873 to the present.

The copper luster tea leaf pattern against a white background was introduced around 1880. The pattern was hand painted and also known as "Luster Band and Sprig." Several other firms beside Meakin produced the popular tea leaf pattern.

Collector interest has waned in the past 20 years, but it is still has some loyal fans. Similar dishes are seen in antiques shop in the range of \$25 to \$35.

Q: I have a brass Zippo cigarette lighter with the image of a cowboy on a bucking horse on the front. On the back are the words "Marlboro Country Store." Also on the bottom are the words "A-Zippo-Bradford, PA.-"

Made in U.S.A."

I would appreciate any information you can provide and also the value.

A: Your cigarette lighter was purchased through the Marlboro Country Store. Philip Morris Tobacco Co. established the store as a promotion to encourage consumers to buy Marlboro cigarettes. Smokers saved the UPC codes on the cigarette packages and then redeemed them for sportswear and gear that reflected the image of their masculine adventuresome Marlboro cowboy.

Your lighter was part of the promotion in the 1990s and would probably be worth \$30 to \$50.

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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