

Antique or Junque: Green pitcher serves a valuable refreshment

by Anne_McCollam

Q: My uncle found this covered green vase in a local thrift shop. It is 9 inches tall, glazed on the inside and in excellent condition. Marked on the bottom in a circle are the words: "Cornel & Son Pottery" Hand Made "Bye" Ky." It is difficult to read, but that is what it looks like.

A green pitcher, made by Cornelison Pottery, would probably be worth \$125 to \$150. It would be fun to find out something about our vase.

A: You have a pitcher rather than a vase. Made by Cornelison Pottery in Bybee, Ky., the marks were sometimes difficult to read. Webster Cornelison started his pottery in 1809 and it has stayed in the family for six generations. The name was changed to "Bybee Pottery" in 1954. Most of the early pieces were thrown on the potter's wheel. If you run your fingers along the inside, you will feel the ridges that indicate it was hand-thrown.

Your pitcher was made in the early 1900s and would probably be worth \$125 to \$150. How fun is that?

Q: This mark is on the bottom of my porcelain compote. The compote stands about 4 inches tall and is decorated with multicolored flowers, green leaves and a wide gold band on the edge. The background is eggshell.

Could you please tell me what factory used this mark, when it was made and what it is worth?

A: Located in Marktredwitz, Germany, Jaeger and Co. used the mark you provided sometime between 1900 and 1910. They have been in business since 1898.

The value of your compote would probably be \$150 to \$200.

Q: I have a collection of old books; some were used in education. Can you tell me if there is any publication that gives the values of rare and old books?

A: "American Book Prices Current" is a record of books that have sold at auction. It is published annually and can be found in the reference area of public libraries.

Random House's "The Official Price Guide to Collecting Books," Huxford's "Old Books Value Guide" and "Collector's Guide to Children's Books" all offer good information. They are available in libraries or can be ordered at most bookstores.

Q: I have a large earthenware platter that is decorated with a country scene. On the back are a unicorn and the words, "Trademark of Wedgwood and Co." It has been in my family for generations and is in very good condition.

What can you tell me about my platter?

A: From 1862 to 1890, Wedgwood and Co. used the unicorn mark. This company was founded by Enoch Wedgwood and should not be confused with products made by Josiah Wedgwood and Sons. They have produced earthenware and ironstone in Tunstall, Staffordshire, England, since 1860.

The value of your platter would probably be \$100 to \$150.

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.

Copyright 2009 Creators Syndicate Inc.

Antique or Junque: Green pitcher serves a valuable refreshment by Anne_McCollam