

Antique or Junque: Old chair sits well with them

by Anne McCollam

Q: We have owned the oak office chair in this photo since 1962. Originally it was in the office of an Indiana co-op grain elevator business where my husband worked after he graduated from high school. At some time after it was given to him, someone painted it green. Eventually since we liked the chair and used it, we decided to refinish it ourselves. Although we had to replace one of the castors, it is now in very good condition.

We have no intention of ever parting with it, but would like to know if it has any value.

A: Your oak office chair was made in the early to mid-1900s. Although not technically an example of Mission furniture, oak office chair collectors sometimes use them with their desks. Similar ones are seen in antiques shops in the range of \$200 to \$300.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a porcelain figurine that has been in my family for generations. The figurine is a female who stands on a gold scrolled base and is in mint condition. The overall measurement is 13 inches tall and she is wearing a white blouse, hat and a skirt decorated with flowers.

OAK CHAIR - This oak office chair was made in the early to mid-1900s and would sell for between \$200 to \$300. CNS Photo.

SITZENDORF MARK - The Sitzendorf Porcelain Manufactory has operated out of Sitzendorf, Germany, since 1845. CNS Illustration.

What can you tell me about the history of my figurine, as well as its vintage and value?

A: Sitzendorf Porcelain Manufactory made your porcelain figurine. They have been located in Sitzendorf, Thuringia, Germany, since 1845. Many Sitzendorf porcelain figurines were inspired by earlier Dresden and Meissen pieces.

Your Dresden-style figurine was made in the early 1900s and would probably be worth \$275 to \$325.

Q: I have a solid oak chest that belonged to my grandmother. It has a swing mirror; on the top are two handkerchief drawers with porcelain pulls and below that are three drawers with carved fruit and leaf pulls. The finish is the original and the overall condition is very good.

I would appreciate any information on its age, history and value.

A: Your chest was made in the Victorian era around 1865. It is an example of the Victorian sub-style, Renaissance Revival and would probably be worth \$600 to \$800.

Q: I have two matching porcelain pitchers approximately 8 inches tall that belonged to my late mother. They were wedding gifts to her from my great-grandparents. Each pitcher is decorated with pink flowers with long stems and green leaves against an off white background and also gold trim. Marked on the bottom are the words "Peonies" an image of a nude potter kneeling beside a tall pitcher and "K & Co B - 1790."

I would appreciate any information you can give me about my pitchers.

A: Keeling and Co. made your pitchers. They were in business in Burslem, Staffordshire, England, from 1886 to 1936. They used the mark you described from 1886 to 1899. Keeling and Co. shared a pottery and porcelain works with Dale Hall Pottery Co. that was established in 1790. It was common for companies to use the date of the founding of a pottery works they were associated with. Some also believe potteries intentionally used the early date to give the impression they were in business longer than they actually were. The nude potter with vase was also used by several other companies. I have found no information to explain his nakedness.

Your pitchers are circa 1900 and each would probably be worth \$125 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.

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