

Antique or Junque: Pricing a pitcher

by Anne McCollam

Q: Enclosed is a photo of a tall slender pitcher. It is decorated with a scene of a shepherdess on one side and a young woman picking flowers on the other. The background is cobalt blue and has gold trim. It stands 12 inches tall and it is in perfect condition. I could not find a manufacturer's mark.

What can you tell me about my pitcher?

BEER TANKARD - Based on its style, color and shape, this tankard was made around 1900 and would probably be worth \$175 to \$225. CNS Photo. HAVILAND MARK - The Haviland Co. of Limoges, France, has been making porcelain since 1864. CNS Illustration. A: Your pitcher is often called a tankard and was used to serve beverages or beer. Many similar ones were made in the East Liverpool, Ohio, potteries. Unfortunately, without a mark, it can be impossible to identify the maker.

Based on its style, color, and shape, your tankard was made around 1900 and would probably be worth \$175 to \$225.

Q: I have 50 miscellaneous pieces of porcelain dishes that have been passed down through my family for the past 100 years. Enclosed is the mark seen on each dish. I would like to identify the pattern in order to replace the missing pieces.

Any help you could give me will be appreciated.

A: Haviland and Co. is located in Limoges, France. They have made porcelain since 1864. If the name of the pattern is not included with the mark, it can be extremely difficult to identify the pattern. Having said that, there are several options. You can contact Haviland and Company and ask if they can provide the pattern. If that is not productive, send a photo of your dishes with a good description to one of the matching services here

in the United States. Replacements Ltd. or The Silver Queen are two good firms to start your search.

Q: I have an antique amber glass shoe that I am curious about. It measures around 5 inches long and 2 inches tall at the heel. The bottom of the sole is crosshatched to simulate a tread. My grandmother gave it to my mother years ago. Although I am 80, I still have a vivid recollection of trying to fit my foot into it when I was very young, unsuccessfully I might add.

I consider it to be a family keepsake, but would like to know what it's worth.

A: Pressed glass shoes similar to yours have been made since the late 1800s. They were produced in clear and colored glass by several American glass companies and usually not marked. Many were decorated with the daisy and button pressed glass pattern. Glass shoes have also been reproduced in the 20th century.

Your Victorian glass shoe was made around 1900 and would probably be worth \$50 to \$100.

BOOK REVIEW

The 45th edition of the "Official 2007 Blackbook Price Guide to United States Coins" was written by Marc Hudgeons, N.L.G., Tom Hudgeons, Jr., and Tom Hudgeons, Sr. Included in this guide are over 18,000 prices, hundreds of coin illustrations, an index to make identification easy, and the latest market reports on trends, collecting and investing.

The authors have provided extensive information on bidding, buying, and selling coins at auctions, on the Internet, and through the mail. They have explained how coins are minted and the significance of mintmarks. They also discussed the American Numismatic Association's official grading system.

This handy little book is chock-a-block with facts and tips you need to become a knowledgeable collector.

"Official Blackbook Price Guide to United States Coins" is published by House of Collectibles, New York. It is available in bookstores at \$7.99.

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