Antique or Junque: A low-tech 'Blackberry'

by Anne McCollam

Q: My husband's aunt received the vase in this photo for a wedding present. It is in perfect condition and the only mark on the bottom is the number "6."

JARDINIERE - Roseville Pottery in Zanesville, Ohio, made this jardiniÃ¨re around 1933 and it would probably be worth $500 to $700. CNS Photo. VON SCHIERHOLZ MARK - Von Schierholz Porcelain Factory of Dresden, Germany, has been in business since 1817. CNS Photo.Can you tell us the history and value of our vase?

A: Roseville Pottery in Zanesville, Ohio, made your vase or jardiniere. It is an example of the pattern "Blackberry" and was introduced in 1933. The number "6" represents the size of the jardiniere. Pieces of this pattern were often marked with paper labels and some were not marked at all with the Roseville name. Your jardiniere was made around 1933 and would probably be worth $500 to $700.

Q: Enclosed is the mark on a porcelain electric lamp that was purchased by my parents around 60 years ago. The lamp base and dome-shaped shade are both porcelain and the overall measurements are 26 inches tall. The base is decorated with figures in 18th century clothes and gold trim. On both the base and shade are applied pastel flowers.

Can you tell me the origin of my lamp and its approximate value?

A: Von Schierholz Porcelain Factory made your lamp. They have been in business since 1817 and are known for their Dresden-inspired porcelain. The mark you provided was used from 1967 to 1972.

Your Dresden-style porcelain lamp would probably be worth $2,500 to $2,800.

Q: We have an oak Regina music box and 44 disks. It is a table model and measures 16 inches wide, 15 inches deep and 10 inches tall. The latest patent date on the disks is March 1897. It has been in our family for over 100 years and is in excellent working condition.

We will appreciate any information you can give us on the value of our music box.

A: Regina Co. began making high-quality music boxes in 1894 in Rahway, N.J. Their popularity lasted from the mid-1890s to around 1915, when gramophones were introduced.

Your music box and disks would probably be worth $2,500 to $2,700.

Q: My mother purchased a woven basket in the early 1950s through a women's church group in South Dakota. The tag on the basket reads "Made and Sold by Winnebago Handcraft Cooperative, Indian Mission, Black River Falls, Wisc."

The basket is 8 inches tall and the oval opening is 11 by 9 inches. It has a swing bentwood handle and the widest strip was originally green and the rest natural. Signed on the bottom is the name "Emma Decorah."

Please tell me more about my basket.

A: Your basket was a creation of the Ho-Chunk Nation in Black River Falls, Wis. The Indian Mission School

was founded in 1878; the Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) Handicraft Cooperative was established in 1935 by the Rev. Ben Stucki. Most baskets were made with splint black ash. As a rule, the artist signed each basket.

Your mid-20th century Winnebago basket would probably have a value of $200 to $400.

Q: I am the fifth generation to have a pressed glass pitcher with a pewter lid. It stands 7 inches tall, is made of heavy, thick glass, and is in mint condition. According to family history, Mennonites who were seeking religious freedom brought it to America on a ship from Prussia in 1870.

What can you tell me about my pitcher?

A: Your pitcher was used for serving syrup. Without a manufacturer's mark, it can be just about impossible to identify its maker and origin.

Its value would probably be $85 to $125.

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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