

Pickard Collectors Club Newsletter

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CO-PRESIDENT'S LETTER, by Kathy Swank and Tim Ingram

Greetings Everyone!

Congratulations to George Bruce for successfully hosting another wonderful convention in Naperville, Illinois this year! And this wasn't just any year...this was still the year of the pandemic which caused so much change and confusion as the planning process evolved. George organized many interesting activities which helped us all to gain a better understanding of Pickard, at a pace which was both relaxing and enjoyable. After a year of limited activity, it was so good to meet up with and talk to so many old friends and see so many beautiful pieces of Pickard China. Thank you, George, for all your special efforts to make this another memorable Pickard convention!

A very special thank you also goes to Gary Adams and Danny Grzesiak, for many years the Pickard Auction specialists, who worked so hard to facilitate this year's auction, even as they retired from that position. Due to their expertise and willingness to share their knowledge and experience, a new team followed through and another successful auction was enjoyed by all! Thank you, Gary and Danny.... but we still hope to see you at our upcoming conventions!

Now before you get totally involved in Holiday activities, don't forget to mark your calendar for our 2022 Pickard Collectors Club Convention, "Exploring the Golden Age of China Painting", which will be held in Des Moines, Iowa from September 14-18, 2022. We look forward to seeing you all there!



I'm sure we are all hoping that the Covid crisis will have been a thing of the past when we meet next September. While excursions from the Hotel are at present tentative, there are possible plans in the works for both Thursday and Friday.

For Thursday, we are looking at a visit to Antiques Iowa Antique Mall in Story City. It's only about 45 minutes from the hotel, and has about 120 dealers, so there should be opportunities to find something to your liking. On the way back, perhaps a stop in Ames to visit Reiman Gardens on the campus of Iowa State University. Beautiful fall gardens and a Butterfly Wing are a part of Reiman Gardens.

Friday possibilities could include a visit to Salisbury House and Gardens, Terrace Hill (Iowa's Governor's mansion), or the Jordan House, all just a few short minutes from the hotel.

Oh, and I understand there is a bungalow on School Street busting at the seams with hand painted china. While most of it is Chicago related, there are treasures from around the country that were produced during that Golden Age of China Painting. The biggest issue the owner has is trying to put everything out on display!

Continued on page 2

CO-PRESIDENT'S LETTER, continued from page 1

Join us September 14-18, 2022, in Des Moines! The info on the hotel is in an accompanying article. If you have questions or suggestions to make your trip to Des Moines extra special, please let us know.

We all hope, as we finish out the challenging year of 2021, that the new year will bring renewed hope for patience, peace and the opportunity to come together and appreciate the wonderful world we live in!

Have a wonderful and peaceful holiday season!

Kathy & Tim

Des Moines Convention is Set!

Our home for next year's convention will be the Embassy Suites by Hilton Des Moines Downtown September 14 - September 18, 2022.



The room rate is \$135 per night which includes a cooked-to-order breakfast each morning. The hotel will honor that rate three days before and three days after the convention based on availability. Complimentary WI-Fi is provided. Free shuttle service to and from the airport **and** within a two mile radius of the Hotel, which virtually covers the entire downtown area. The Hotel is located at 101 East Locust, right along the Des Moines River with a number of attractions actually within walking distance of the hotel, including the Iowa State Historical Building, The Iowa State Capitol Complex, The Des Moines Botanical Center, The World Food Prize Hall of Laureates, The Heritage Art Gallery, and dozens of restaurants and shopping.

Valet parking is available at the hotel, or you can option to park at a city parking garage a block away, currently at a \$10 a day rate.

The booking link for your next Pickard adventure is here: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=DSMDNES&groupCode=CESPCC&arrivaldate=2022-09-14&departuredate=2022-09-18&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Join us September 14-18, 2022, as we explore "The Golden Age of China Painting."

PAST PRESIDENT'S LETTER, by George Bruce

After over a year of not meeting in person, it was a pleasure seeing those who braved the journey to Naperville despite still having some degree of concern about the Covid 19 nightmare. A huge **"Thank You"** for attending.

I managed to follow through with my commitment after a very difficult year. Thanks for the opportunity to continue, it gave me something to pass the time and occupy my mind. There is no way I can thank everyone who helped me out. A special thanks to Harry and Cathy and all the Board members who really stood by my side and gave me inspiration to continue and made sure everything was in order. I couldn't have done it without them.

And of course, a very special "Thank You" to Cathy and Harry for a spectacular Thursday evening at the Poulos's home and patio. It was not only a beautiful weather evening, but a delicious spread of great appetizers, food, and drink. And not to mention their fantastic collection. They put together a video presentation of past conventions and exhibits that interested everyone. It brought back many memories. Thanks for a special evening!

The convention was planned and promised to be somewhat relaxing and providing time for socializing. I hope that was achieved and everyone enjoyed that approach. Thanks to Jan Simek for the wonderful music/beautiful china video of the "Life of Three Artists". Very well done, Jan. I was pleased that my son, Timothy Bruce, put together a very interesting and informative presentation looking at a different perspective of the art of painting china and how it was possibly influenced by happenings in Chicago during that time frame. Harry presented information regarding Pickard Exhibits and of course organized the Friday evening "Is It Pickard?" Thanks, Harry.

We missed not having Gary and Danny at the helm of the auction, but due to their exceptional organization, training and information, along with the expertise and knowledge of Erin Swank, the auction went smoothly. And of course, the auctioneer Garrett Smith and his side kick Tim Ingram, moved the auction quickly and professionally. A huge thanks to all who assisted with the auction. An appreciation to all the Auction consignors for making it a success.

Congratulations to Kathy Swank for receiving the Alan Reed Award, and Sarah Spence for the Joy Luke Award. They both deserved it for all they did and have done for the club.

We all appreciate the following members for stepping up and taking on responsibilities of the club. Erin Swank and Theresa Poulos, Co-Presidents for 2022 – 23; JD (Jonathan) Daniels for IT/Media Manager; At-Large Directors Patti Scanlon, Sarah Spence, and Ande Ngola, and those officers continuing their role: Secretary, Louise Principe - Treasurer, Harry Poulos - Membership Director, Mary Newman, and Newsletter Editor, Susan Speth.

Again, I hope all who attended enjoyed the convention. We now look forward to next year's gathering in Des Moines, Iowa with our new Co-Presidents at the controls, Kathy Swank and Tim Ingram. Be sure to use the calendar they passed out and start planning your trip. Get ready Iowa, we're heading your way. It will be a great convention.

Until next September, enjoy the Holiday Season with family and friends. Be safe and stay healthy.

The very happy winners of the exquisite George Bruce paintings, featuring the patterns of John Fuchs. All proceeds donated to the Club.

Thank You, George!



George, Cathy & Harry Poulos



George, Patti & Brian Scanlon



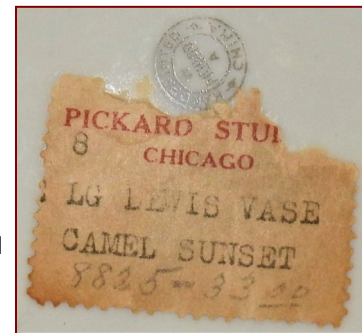
George, Terry Howatt

CAMEL VASES, by Harry Poulos

I recently purchased a vase with an old Pickard label describing the blank as a "Large Lewis Vase" in the pattern "Camel Sunrise" with an original bargain price of \$33. Needless to say, I paid substantially more than that. The artist was Cirnacty, who often used this blank as a palette for his figural pieces (examples shown next page). Mark is #8 (1918-19).



The vase depicts a woman on a camel wearing colorful garb and a hijab with tents in the background at sunset and is the first "camel vase" I've seen depicting a woman. It is also the first time I've seen a piece in this type of pattern painted by Cirnacty.



Recent Newsletter articles describe Egyptian Revivals, including the fascination with things Egyptian during Pickard's early days. In addition to stylized designs, decorators embarked on Arabian themes including colorful Arabian inscriptions, which Pickard advertised in its literature. Although most Pickard pieces in the Arabian



pattern are unsigned, those that are were generally done by Lindner. Brauer had a similar pattern done by Bachman.



Of course, Pickard's figural also addressed this theme, epitomized by the "Praying Mohammedan" pattern. The pattern depicts a Muslim on a prayer rug facing Mecca near two camels, sometimes with pyramids in the background, and were usually painted by Breidel, Weiss, or Farrington. This was advertised in old literature, and an example appears at Plate 52 in the Collectors Encyclopedia of Pickard China by Alan Reed.



1905-10 Arabian by Lindner

Pickard Advertisement

Arabian Pattern, Brauer

Decorators borrowed designs and the August 1999 newsletter describes how a Nov 1915 Ladies Home Journal cover entitled "The Hanging of the Crane" by W.T. Taylor inspired the design of a plaque in the late George Darcy's collection. Of interest is a painting or print which is on the back wall of the Pickard studio in an old photo of the decorators (page 39, Collector's Encyclopedia of Pickard China). I suspect this was the pattern's inspiration.

Other variations on this pattern generally include two patterns, but not necessarily the person on the prayer rug. Photos of pieces by Breidel depict two Arabs on camels with torches at night (Pickard mark #5 1905-10) and a colorful daytime scene, again with two Arabs on camels outside a Mideast fortress (unmarked). Other scenic and figural pieces dealing with this part of the world appear in Alan Reed's book, including scenic by Comyn (plates 313, 319) and plates 54, 55, and 68.



CAMEL VASES, Continued



Examples, Lewis Vase



Arabian Pattern, Pickard 1905-10



Praying Mohammedan Advertisement



Breidel, unmarked



Breidel, Pickard, 1905-10

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE 2021 NAPERVILLE, IL CONVENTION



The Poulos Great Wall of China.



Rick and Barb Kalvans



Julie Waterman



Erin and David Swank



Sarah Spence sharing how she got started collecting Pickard.



Lee Smith displaying Autumn Arbor auction tray



Brothers Matt and Jan Simek



Dick Tracy and his sidekick, Matt Simek



George Bruce and Kathy Swank



The Bruce Family



Harry Poulos (l) and Donald Beilke (r) in the year of the mask.

PICKARD AND INSTAGRAM, by Ande Ngola

Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/>) is a social media app focused on photo sharing. We know that not all club members feel comfortable using social media apps, but it is a way that we can increase visibility for Pickard china to those who may not otherwise discover what many of us have enjoyed for so long.

When you post a photo on Instagram, you do not have to include any text with the photo, but this makes it hard for other users except for those who follow you to find your photos. And the key to Instagram is to have followers! Therefore, most users provide a brief comment or description of the photo. More importantly, users add hashtags (#). A hashtag is a word or phrase prefaced by the “#” symbol. If you use a phrase, do not include any spaces in it. For example, use [#pickardchina](#) rather than [#pickard china](#).

Why are hashtags important? These hashtags create a way for users who do not follow you personally to find the photos you have shared because rather than just following individual users, users can choose to follow a topic designated by a hashtag which allows them to see any posts that are uploaded with that hashtag. Essentially, using a hashtag is like giving your picture a searchable label or heading that lets anyone find and see the photos you share.

Sharing photos of your Pickard china on Instagram can increase visibility and interest for Pickard china and perhaps ultimately increase our club membership, but only if people see them! Here is a list of recommended hashtags you can add to a photo you choose to share:

- #pickardchina
- #pickardcollectorsclub
- #vintageporcelain
- #vintagechina
- #vintage<object name> (e.g. #vintagepitcher or #vintageaset)
- #antiqueporcelain
- #antiquechina
- #antiquecollector
- #handpaintedporcelain
- #porcelain
- #havailand
- #limoges



If you are interested getting started with Instagram, but are uncertain about taking the first steps, I will host a zoom introduction session in January. Please contact me at andecroll@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

WOODY — PICKARD AUCTION, HARKNESS COLLECTION



Hosea and Rebecca Harkness

On October 9, 2021, Woody Auction had the distinct pleasure of auctioning the Pickard collection of Hosea and the late Lily Harkness. It was an honor to work with Hosea and to have Hosea and his daughter, Rebecca, present for the event. There were 395 lots of Pickard and painted porcelain sold, and the bidders were amazed at the quality of the collection.

Hosea and Lily met when they were in grade school at a church activity. In high school, they attended the same church youth group and became good friends.

When Hosea went into the military and was deployed to Japan for 16 months, they exchanged letters regularly and had forged a deep friendship.

Their letters lead to a courtship by mail and when Hosea returned to the states, they had their first date. They were then engaged, Hosea returned to college, and they were married the next summer after Lily graduated from college. In all, they were married 64 years before Lily passed away and Hosea could not fit the collection into an assisted living apartment.

Lily was a porcelain painter and loved the Pickard excellence and beauty, especially the roses and gold work of the Pickard artists. She trained Hosea regarding what to look for, and after about four years, it became a joint venture in pursuing beautiful pieces to add to their collection. Their keen eye was evident in the quality throughout.

Their large 14" x 9" vase, dark tones with large rose décor, artist signed Campana D (Dominick Campana), sold for \$6,500; a rare 15.75" round serving tray, soft pink rose décor, artist signed F.B. Aulich, sold for \$6,000; and a stunning 7.5" tall vase with white lily over yellow, green, and mauve background, Pickard Mark #4, artist signed Yeschek, went for \$5,500.

Submitted by Carol Fabarez, Woody Auction



WOODY—PICKARD AUCTION, HARKNESS COLLECTION



Vase, Pickard Mark #6, 11.25" x 6", Poinsettias and Marguerites Pattern, Artist Signed Gasper, (Paul Gasper)



Vase, Footed, Pickard Mark #5, 6.5" x 4.25", Lily Palmate Pattern, Artist Signed Shoner (Otto Schoner)

Vase, 14.25" x 7" Pickard Mark 2, Artist signed Rean (Maxwell Rean Klippahn)



PICKARD COLLECTORS CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Club bylaws are available on our website.



www.pickardcollectorsclub.org

Click on "About the Club" tab



Please share with the Board of Directors and the members of the Pickard Collectors Club how truly honored I am to have received the 2021 Joy Luke Collector of the Year award. Since the club's inception, its members, conventions, and activities have broadened my knowledge and enhanced my appreciation of Pickard china for its art, history, and enduring impact on lives. For me, one of the most compelling aspects of the club is the participation by generations of families of the Pickard company and Pickard artists. As always, the people make the difference!

Thank you all for your membership and participation in the Pickard Collectors Club and for contributing your research and stories. I look forward to our continued collecting and enjoyment of Pickard china and our efforts to attain the mission of our club. I so deeply appreciate being named to this esteemed award.

Most sincerely,

Sarah Spence

MORE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Yeschek Raspberries from the Poulos collection.



The auction crew, Harry, Patti, and Erin, making their list and checking it twice. Missing from photo, Sarah Spence.



Our intrepid auctioneer, Garrett Smith.