

The Dolly Johnson 46th Annual
ANTIQUE SHOW MARCH 14-15, 2009 Ft. Worth, TX
American Resilience: Antiques of Joy and Strength



Made to Delight *Made to Endure* *Made in America*
www.dollyjohnsonantiqueshow.com

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For Immediate Release

Dolly Johnson Antique Show March 14-15, 2009 Presents
American Resilience: Antiques of Joy and Strength

Select Offerings to Benefit the Presbyterian Night Shelter of Tarrant County

1.03.09 Ft. Worth, TX The 46th annual Dolly Johnson Antique Show in Fort Worth will make you smile. It will make you laugh. It will astound you with the joy and strength and endurance of antiques made by Americans in good times and in hard times. In the face of national economic woes, 50 select dealers from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Kansas, Georgia and other states will arrive at the Will Rogers Memorial Complex on March 14-15, 2009 to stake their claim on the resilience of America.

In presenting *American Resilience: Antiques of Joy and Strength*, show owner JJ Frambes says, “American antiques encourage us to dig deep into our national character. At our core, resilience is part of our heritage as Americans. On March 14-15, bring your friends, bring your children and join in this celebration of antiques that were made to delight, made to endure and made in America.”



Texas dealer Betty Gail Hayes and Illinois dealer Judy Fuchsen will both bring antiques from America’s fun side, such as large folk art game wheels from carnivals, circuses and amusement parks, as well as American country antiques in original brightly-painted colors. While Fuchsen finds strength in the construction of the Adirondack style lodge antiques that she offers, shoppers of all ages will find delight in her 1940’s toy log cabin, made by hand with glass windows, tiny curtains and a miniature screened-in porch. Illustrating the capacity of Americans to “make do,” Fuchsen will showcase an oil painting of a child sitting in the lap of a grandfatherly cowboy. “What delights me about this piece of antique folk art,” she says, “is that the artist had no canvas. It’s painted on the back of a tablecloth, then stretched and framed.”



When asked what they have learned about Americans by dealing in American antiques, Ed Fulkerson and Michael Breddin of Leftovers Antiques in Brenham, Texas agree on one word: *endurance*. “When I look at the construction of an early step-back cupboard,” says Fulkerson, “I realize that American pioneers were a tough breed. Life was tough, but out of whatever materials were available, they bench-made utilitarian furniture that has endured for generations.” For the Dolly Johnson Antique Show, Leftovers will offer a wide price-range of American antique furniture and accessories. “This is a great time to buy antiques,” continues Fulkerson. “The best merchandise in many years is now coming on the market. We’re seeing more buyers for investment-quality antiques as well as good prices for beginning collectors.”

Hill Country dealer Jean Compton searches nation-wide for hand made dolls, antique quilts and antique folk art that Americans made to delight one another. “I’ll have charming examples of pioneer dolls, made on the fly out of materials at hand, to give joy to children as families moved westward,” says Compton. She will also bring a collection of “tramp art” made by Americans in the scarce years following the Civil War up through the early 20th century. “Before cardboard,” says Compton, “everything came in wooden crates, which people re-cycled into delightfully carved boxes and whimsical forms such as frames, newspaper racks, doll furniture and children’s furniture. It’s the ingenuity and the generosity that I like. Often created as gifts, the best folk art comes from some of the hardest times.” She will offer a rare 1930’s life-size African-American baby doll from New England, with shaped toes and fingers, dressed in a one-of-a-kind christening gown.



As a special benefit for shoppers, exhibitor and author Jill Peterson will autograph copies of her acclaimed book, *Homestead*, which offers over 375 color photos of early American homes, from pilgrims to pioneers.

While rooted in American country antiques, the show includes dealers who have been selected to broaden the variety of offerings, including antique Native American jewelry and art, antique textiles and vintage linens, antique silver and ironstone, plus general store antiques and western memorabilia. First-time vendor Vicki Woods of the shop Homepieces in McKinney reports that she is bringing “finely painted primitives, architectural fragments and other uncommon objects, all in original paint and textures.” While many American antiques are brightly colored, Woods offers more subdued colors such as weathered grays, whites, blacks, all with the evidence of time and character. “Oh, I throw in the occasional funky piece too,” she adds, “as well as garden statuary, unusual accessories and fabulous lighting.”

In keeping with the show’s tribute to American resilience, the children’s program of the Presbyterian Night Shelter of Tarrant County will benefit from an offering of coffee and muffins. Additionally, the Shelter will receive 100% of proceeds from the sale of antiques donated by dealers in the show, by Fort Worth antiques shops and by friends and family of the late Dolly Johnson. Founded in 1984, the Presbyterian Night Shelter serves nearly 3,040 homeless men, women, children, teenagers and veterans per year.

You don't get to be the oldest antiques show in the American southwest without learning something essential about America. "In the past," says Frambes, "Americans have shown an abundance of generosity, strength, joy and resilience. We can do it again."

So put the bad news on the back burner and get yourself to the Will Rogers Memorial Center at 3400 Burnett-Tandy in Fort Worth's Cultural District. Show hours are Saturday, March 14 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and is good for both days. Children receive free admission and parking is free. For more information see www.dollyjohnsonantiqueshow.com or call JJ Frambes at 254- 622-2858.

2009 Calendar Listing:

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American Resilience: Antiques of Joy and Strength

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Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3400 Burnett-Tandy, Fort Worth, TX

Adult admission \$7, Children free.

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