

The Ubiquitous Pig

The Newsletter of Sow's Ear Antiques

870-423-7311

Volume 3 No. 3

Fall 2005

COLLECTING QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CONSERVATION

It's in the news and nearly everywhere we look: high oil prices mean higher costs to consumers at the gas pump, supermarkets and utility bills. Every stop at the service station reminds us that we should and need to conserve energy.

Like you, we at Sow's Ear Antiques and Books are mindful of those costs. As we drive around the country on buying trips we balance our "conservation guilt" against the knowledge that every time we—and you—buy an antique, we preserve the past and conserve the future. Strictly speaking, the purchase of an antique or an old book is really the essence of recycling: the energy and materials used to make them need not be spent again, yet our enjoyment and pleasure in these items is as bright and new as a freshly minted penny.

Similarly, an item with historical significance presents its story again and again and each time it falls into the hands of every new collector. As you know, conservation is also about time and memory.

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Sow's Ear Antiques is located just west of the Kings River Bridge on Highway 62 West. Look for big yellow billboards. Open 10-6 PM daily. Call first in January and February.

Mona, Don'Cha Leave Me!

Mona Lisa comes to
Carroll County

On one of my recent junkets to Lapel, Indiana, I paid a visit to the workshop of Greg Adams, willow and cherry bentwood furniture maker. While talking to him I noticed a large, dusty framed picture leaning against the wall and couldn't resist asking, "Is Mona for sale?" Greg told me the story of how this Victorian era print had been passed from one Great Aunt to another and finally to him. "But what the heck, if you want her, you can have her." We agreed on the price and she came home to Sow's Ear



Antiques. She is larger than Leonardo's original, measuring 22"x31" beautifully framed under wavy glass. Mona was unveiled at Sow's Ear in mid-July and a lucky Berryville resident and local area teacher bought her that same afternoon. I have to admit that I was sorry to see her leave, both because it is a favorite painting, and because the print itself was so fine. Silently, I cried, "Mona, Don'Cha leave me" as she...well...left! Such is the life of an antiques dealer.

"Every picture tells a story."
Rod Stewart