

ATTIC TREASURES...

by Rob Reid

Welcome to August, balmy days and crazy thunderstorms. I welcome inquiries about any objects that you may have and look forward to seeing and perhaps writing about them. Please forward a photo and a description to me through *Whitchurch Stouffville this Month*, drop it off at Reid's Antiques, 6397 Main St. Stouffville during regular business hours or via email at robert.reid5@sympatico.ca

This is a nice little collection of pens and

writing objects from a time before computers when things, and people, seemed to move at a slower pace. Many people may recognize and even have fond memories of dipping pens and even pigtales into an inkwell or two!

The copper pot that looks somewhat like a watering can was actually used to fill inkwells. It was probably used in a school or perhaps in an office environment. It would be filled from the big bottle of ink and if you were the

teacher's special student you got to go from desk to desk refilling the inkwells. This is a fairly unusual item as there were not many of them to start with and they are often mistaken for some form of watering can. This particular piece dates from around the 1940's and would probably sell for \$75 to \$100.

The black pen and pencil set in the leather case are made by Waterman pen company of Canada. This set is a basic fountain pen with 14kt gold nib and brass fitting and a twist-style pencil with an eraser in the base. The leather case bears the name Waterman and "Service Set" to refer to its contents. This is a fairly common set and would sell for about \$50 to \$75.

The inkwells are small and while the glass one is made to stand on its own, probably on a desk or table, you can see by the lip on the ceramic one it would have been made to be inserted into a desk of some form. These are both fairly common items and

can usually be found for \$10 to \$25 depending on age, condition and style.

The last item in this collection is a real gem. This pen is almost seven inches in length, with a fine mother of pearl handle and a solid gold shank that has lovely engraving all the way around. The nib itself is signed John Foley, New York 1876 and is permanently fixed to the body. It comes in a case that has the name of what would be the retailer of the pen. In this case it is James E. Caldwell & Co. of Philadelphia.

This pen would have been fairly expensive when it was first made and I believe it was probably owned by a successful lawyer or businessman. While the case shows signs of some wear and tear, the pen is in near mint condition and to the right collector it would most likely sell for about \$200 to \$250. All in all a nice group of writing paraphernalia.

Rob Reid is the owner of Reid's Antiques and Consignment on Stouffville's Main St.



Kate Gilderdale / Stouffville This Month

Stouffville This Month's MaryAnn Fleming (above) and Kate Gilderdale took page 3 columnist Luke Anderson out for lunch at a sushi restaurant near his apartment recently. The food was fabulous, but Kate and MaryAnn proved less than dextrous with the chopsticks. Now they're planning a diet book based on the 12 grains of rice lunch.

Chirp! Meow! SPLASH! Hiss!

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