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One Col	\$146	\$38	= \$184
1/3 Page	\$176	\$42	= \$218
1/2 Page	\$242	\$62	= \$304
Full Page	\$410	\$112	= \$522
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The first ad must be pre-paid. Subsequent ads can be paid on a monthly basis. Interest will be applied to past due accounts. Ads must be cancelled by the 10th of each month.

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The Busy Bee Trader is complimentary and published monthly. We reserve the right to edit material without notice to customer if it is not appropriate subject matter for this publication. Calendar dates and feature material pertaining to collectors and antiques are welcomed. Anything to be returned must include a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Adjustments or credits will not be made for typographical errors that do not diminish the interpretation of the advertiser's copy. No material in this publication may be reprinted without written permission from the publisher.

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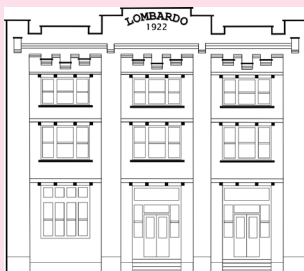


Congratulations to our January winner,
Sandra Gerard! Sandra spotted the Busy Bee
after picking up her copy of Busy Bee Trader at the
Hartford, Tennessee Welcome Center. Well done!

Want to play along? Here's how it works:

- The Busy Bee (just like the graphic shown here) is hidden inside one of the ads in each issue.
- When you find it, email us at findthebee@busybeetrader.com with your name and the location where you picked up your copy of Busy Bee Trader.
- The first reader to send in the correct answer will receive a special shout-out in the next issue!

Happy hunting – and good luck
finding the next Busy Bee!



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FEBRUARY CALENDAR



January 31: **THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** Honey Bee Vintage Home & Gift, Murfreesboro, TN

February 6, 5-9: **GALENTINE'S SIPS N' STROLLS** Miss Lucille's Marketplace, Clarksville, TN

February 6-7: **ANNIVERSARY SALE** Shoppes on the Square, Loudon, TN

February 7, 8-3: **FLOCK SWAP** Beaty Hardware, Cleveland, TN

February 7, 12: **ARTIST TRADING CARD GROUP** Artisan Depot Gallery & Gift Shop, Cowan, TN

February 11-14: **FIDDLERS ANTIQUE SHOW** Expo 3 at The Fairgrounds Nashville, Nashville, TN

February 12, 6-8pm: **GALENTINES HIGH TEA** Mercantile at the Ridge, East Ridge/Chattanooga, TN; reservations required

February 12-14: **THE NASHVILLE SHOW** The Fairgrounds Nashville, Nashville, TN

February 13: **GALENTINE'S DAY** Re-In-vintage Home, Murfreesboro, TN

February 13: **SHOP THE LOVE** Loudon, TN

February 13-14: **VALENTINE EVENT** The Way We Were, Dyersburg, TN; gift certificate giveaway, sales and snacks

February 13, 14, & 16: **END OF WINTER SALE** Grit & Grace, Cleveland, TN

February 14: **"FIND THE LOVE" VALENTINES DAY SALES EVENT** Bargain Hunters Antique and Flea Market Mall, Knoxville, TN

February 14: **VALENTINES COUPLES DINNER** Mercantile at the Ridge, East Ridge/Chattanooga, TN; reservations required

February 14: **VALENTINES EXTRAVAGANZA** Four Sisters Antiques & Vintage, Murfreesboro, TN; door prizes all day long

February 17, 6:30-9:30: **MARDI GRAS EVENT** Sheffield Antiques Mall, Collierville, TN; wine, hors d'oeuvres, music, benefits local charities

February 20-22: **CHATTANOOGA'S**

52ND ANNUAL ANTIQUES SHOW AND SALE The Signal, Chattanooga, TN; benefits the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts

February 21, 10-5: **YTT'S WINTERFEST 2026** Yesterday's Treasures Today, Dickson, TN; chili cook-off, live music and sales in all shops


February 28, 12-2: **FASHION SHOW** Four Sisters Antiques & Vintage, Murfreesboro, TN; prom dresses, vintage clothes, new clothes and accessories

February 28-March 1: **NASHVILLE STAMP AND POSTCARD SHOW** Gallatin Civic Center, Gallatin, TN; for details visit <http://nashphil.krbaker.com/>

March 6-7: **SPRING OPEN HOUSE** Grit & Grace, Cleveland, TN

March 7, 12: **ARTIST TRADING CARD GROUP** Artisan Depot Gallery & Gift Shop, Cowan, TN

March 14, 9-4: **ANTIQUE APPRAISAL FAIR AND SHOW** Eastview Rec Center, Greeneville, TN; appraisals for \$10/item, antique dealers and concessions



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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHERS

February often finds us in that in-between season... winter still lingering, but spring starting to peek through in subtle, encouraging ways. This month's issue of Busy Bee Trader reflects that same feeling, blending the richness of tradition with fresh inspiration for the months ahead.

We're excited to shine a spotlight on Antiques Week in Nashville, one of the most anticipated weekends of the year for collectors, dealers and design lovers alike. With a feature on both the Fiddlers Antique Show and The Nashville Show, we're celebrating not just the shows themselves, but the energy they bring to the region. To help you make the most of the trip, we've also rounded up additional shopping around Nashville—perfect for extending the fun beyond the show floor.

This issue continues to explore seasonal style with features on Winter Whites, the time-

less charm of vintage lighting in our Trend & Tradition column and the ever-popular plant stand in For the Love. Each piece highlights how classic elements can still feel relevant, cozy and inspired right now.

We're also sharing a look back at Artisan Depot's anniversary celebration, checking in on what's buzzing with Bees and rounding things out with Let's Get Social, where we take note of what's catching attention online across our community.

As always, we're grateful to the advertisers, readers and small businesses who make Busy Bee Trader possible. We hope this issue encourages you to explore, linger and discover something new, whether close to home or on the road.

Brandon & Melody Miles
Publishers, Busy Bee Trader



The Frayed Home



Sheffield Antiques Mall



Sweet Maple

WINTER WHITES:

By February, winter has usually worn out its welcome. The holidays are packed away, the calendar feels long and the light hasn't quite shifted yet. This is the stretch where rooms can start to feel heavy—and where décor has the power to quietly lift the mood.

Winter whites offer a simple solution. Soft, layered and timeless, white and neutral pieces reflect light, calm busy spaces and help bridge the gap between winter and spring without rushing the season away.

Why White Works Right Now



Sweet Maple

White doesn't need to feel stark or cold. In winter, especially, it's about warmth and texture. Ironstone, pottery, linen, painted furniture and timeworn finishes bring a softness that brightens a room without overwhelming it.

Vintage whites also carry character. Slight variations in tone, age marks and handmade details keep these pieces from feeling flat. They don't shout for attention... they quietly do their job, which is exactly what we need at the tail end of winter.

Layer, Don't Match

The key to decorating with winter whites is variety. Mix creamy linens with chalky pottery. Pair ironstone with painted furniture, pale woods or aged metals. Let textures do the work: smooth glazed surfaces alongside woven fabrics and distressed finishes.

This approach keeps white feeling collected instead of sterile and allows each piece to stand on its own.

White Isn't One Color

One of the reasons winter whites feel so inviting is that white is never just one shade. Cream, ivory, bone, chalk and soft gray-white all bring their own warmth to a space. Mixing



Four Sisters



The Antiques Parlour



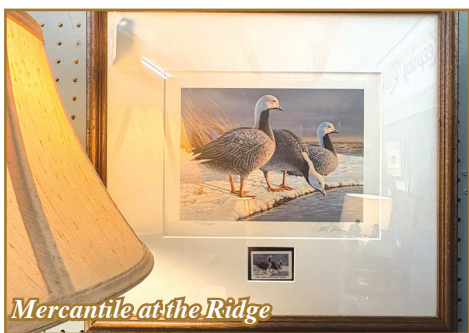
Clinton Antique Mall



Railroad Station Antiques



Brik Brak



Mercantile at the Ridge



Yesterdays Treasures Today



Brik Brak

Lightening the Last Stretch of Winter

these tones adds depth without clutter and keeps rooms from feeling flat. Ironstone beside painted furniture, aged linens layered with crisp pottery and whites with hints of patina all work together beautifully. Instead of matching, aim for harmony. These quiet variations in color and texture create a collected look that feels calm, comfortable and lived in, which is perfect for the final stretch of winter.

Let the Light In

February light is precious. White décor naturally reflects it, helping rooms feel brighter even on overcast days. A white vase on a windowsill, pale artwork on a darker wall or a cluster of ironstone on open



The Frayed Home

shelving can change the entire tone of a space.

Even small additions—white-accented wreaths, snowy artwork or neutral pottery—can soften corners that feel heavy after months of winter living.

Everyday Pieces with Staying Power

One of the benefits of winter whites is their longevity. These aren't decorations that get packed away with the seasons. Vintage linens move easily into spring. Iron-

stone looks just as good with fresh flowers as it does with winter branches. White pottery and vases transition effortlessly year-round.

By choosing timeless pieces, you're not redecorating, you're refining.

A Gentle Shift Toward Spring

Winter whites aren't about pretending winter is over. They're about lightening its final stretch. They bring calm, brightness and balance to the season we're all a little tired of... without rushing past it.



The Frayed Home



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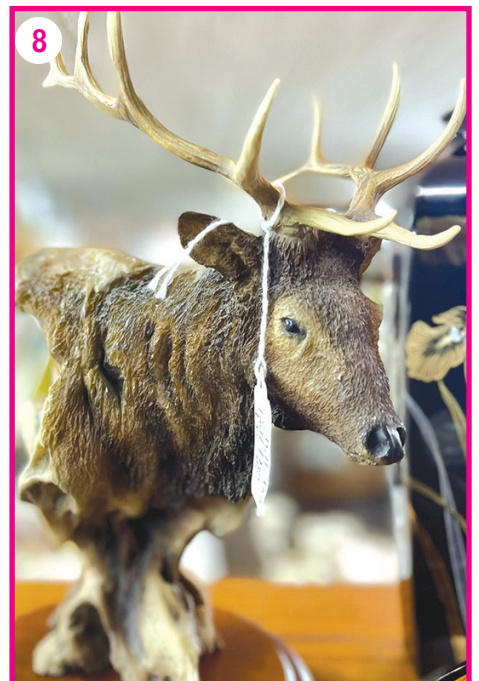
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SOCIAL

There's plenty to love on our advertisers' feeds this month! From timeless antiques to creative displays and new finds, February's social posts offer a little inspiration with every scroll. Follow your favorite shops to see what's new and discover what makes each one special.

1. **TWIN LAKES ANTIQUE MALL**, Gilbertsville, Kentucky. Facebook: Twin Lakes Antique Mall; Instagram: twinlakesantiquemall; TikTok: @twinlakesantique_mall

2. **PAPPY'S KNIVES & ANTIQUES**, Springfield, Tennessee. Facebook: Pappy's Knives & Antiques

3. **THE BARN**, New Harmony, Indiana. Facebook: The Barn by Jeff & Cindy Smotherman; Instagram: jeffandcindysmotherman; Pinterest: @csmoth

4. **UNCLE A.A.'S EMPORIUM**, Sheffield, Alabama. Facebook: Uncle A.A.'s Emporium

5. **MISS LUCILLE'S MARKETPLACE**, Clarksville, Tennessee. Facebook: Miss Lucille's Marketplace; Instagram: misslucilles; TikTok: @misslucilles-marketplace

6. **SHOP ON MAIN**, Ooltewah, Tennessee. Facebook: Shop on Main; Instagram: shop_on_main

7. **MUSIC VALLEY ANTIQUES & MARKETPLACE**, Nashville, Tennessee. Facebook: Music Valley Antiques & Marketplace; Instagram: mvam-nashville

8. **MEMORIES ANTIQUES**, Tullahoma, Tennessee. Facebook: Memories Antiques; TikTok: @memories.antiques

9. **CANDLELIGHT ANTIQUES**, Elkmont, Alabama. Facebook: Candlelight Antiques; Instagram: candlelight_antiques

10. **ANTIQUE CENTER I & II**, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Facebook: Antique Center I & II

11. **OVER THE HILL ANTIQUES**, Readyville, Tennessee. Facebook: Over the Hill Antiques

12. **QUANTUM ANTIQUE GALLERY**, Memphis, Tennessee. Facebook: Quantum Antique Gallery; Instagram: quantumantiquegallerymemphis

13. **STURGIS ANTIQUE MALL**, Sturgis, Kentucky. Facebook: Sturgis Antique Mall; Instagram: sturgisantiquemall

14. **THE SHOPPES AT HOMESPUN**, Farragut/Knoxville, Tennessee. Facebook: The Shoppes at Homespun; Instagram: theshoppesathomespun

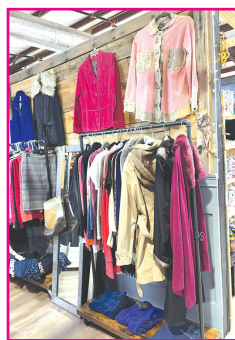


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PACK RAT'S ATTIC HOMESPUN MEMORIES WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

By Lynda Vandiver, Madisonville, Kentucky

Lynda Vandiver is married with one son, one grandson and is a former medical secretary/transcriptionist; now a church secretary. She enjoys reading, writing, creating puzzles, music, crocheting, chocolate, family and grandson. She has been making puzzles for national and international magazines for many years, as well as writing short stories for magazines.

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SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20



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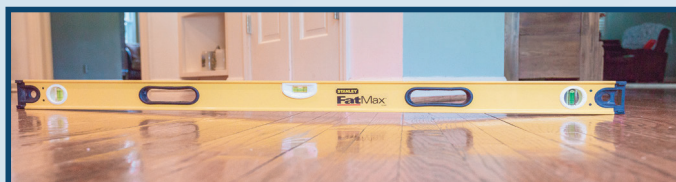


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VINTAGE RECIPE:

Crazy Cake



- 2 c sugar
- ¾ c shortening
- 1 c sour milk
- 2 t soda
- 2 blocks chocolate
- 1 c hot water
- 3 c flour, sifted
- 2 t baking powder
- 1 t salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 t vanilla

Mix sugar and shortening; add sour milk and soda. Melt chocolate in hot water and add. Add flour sifted with baking powder and salt; add eggs and vanilla. Mix 5 minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes.

This vintage recipe was originally submitted by Betty Blair of Pennsylvania.

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Enjoy free admission, free parking, and free stamps for kids. Dealers from far and near will be set up, offering a wide variety of stamps, postcards, collectors' supplies and much more. There will exhibit displaying rare stamps and postal history.

For further information, call 615-833-5161 or email show@nashvillephilatelic.org. Visit online at www.nashvillephilatelic.org/ or nashphil.krbaker.com/



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If the lights are on, come on in!

Word Search Solution

We Love Antiques

from page 18



ANTIQUES WEEK IN NASHVILLE

Two Shows. One Weekend. Endless Inspiration.

Each February, Nashville becomes one of the Southeast's most important antiques destinations. For collectors, dealers and design-minded shoppers, mid-winter in Music City means Antiques Week. Anchored by two long-running events – Fiddlers Antique Show and The Nashville Show – the weekend brings together an impressive range of merchandise and experience at The Fairgrounds Nashville.

While the shows overlap in dates and location, each brings its own personality and strengths. Together, they offer a well-rounded view of today's antiques market, where tradition and evolution comfortably share the floor.

Fiddlers Antique Show: Tradition, Energy and the Thrill of the Hunt

Fiddlers Antique Show has long been a cornerstone of Nashville's antiques scene. With roots in its early tailgating days, the show has grown into a highly anticipated event while retaining its sense of history and momentum. For many buyers, Fiddlers marks the true beginning of Antiques Week.

Shoppers encounter an energetic mix of dealers from across the country offering Americana, country furniture, folk art, textiles, stoneware, advertising and decorative accessories. The variety rewards both focused buyers and casual browsers, making unexpected discoveries part of the experience.

Longtime exhibitors provide consistency and deep knowledge, while newer dealers bring fresh inventory and perspective. The addition of the evening preview party gives early buyers access to



standout pieces and adds an extra layer of excitement. Fast-paced

and full of possibility, Fiddlers often sets the tone for the entire weekend.

The Nashville Show: Scale, Variety & Discovery

Running alongside Fiddlers, The Nashville Show offers a different but equally compelling experience. Formerly known as the Tailgate-Music Valley Antique Show, it brings decades of history and one of the largest dealer lineups of the weekend.

With more than 150 exhibitors, the show

features American and European furniture, folk art, garden elements, vintage linens, quilts, pottery, china, jewelry, industrial pieces and architectural finds. The scope encourages exploration across styles, periods and categories.

New this February, the Jewelry and Vintage Style Show joins the larger Nashville Show experience. This curated addition features fifty dealers focused exclusively on vintage clothing and jewelry. Fashion-forward and thoughtfully selected, it complements the antiques side of the show while appealing to collectors, stylists and designers who appreciate well-chosen vintage.

The Nashville Show remains a destination for discovery – a place where shoppers may arrive looking for one thing and leave inspired by something entirely unexpected.

Trends to Watch Across Both Shows

Across both events, buyers continue to seek pieces that feel authentic yet adaptable. Expect strong interest in smaller furniture with clean lines, decorative objects with rich patina, textured textiles and lighting that doubles as art. European accents remain popular, especially when mixed with American forms, as versatility continues to guide today's collecting.

Planning Your Visit

With two major shows happening simultaneously, planning ahead is key. Allow time for both events, revisit booths and take advantage of conversations with dealers. Whether buying for resale, sourcing for design projects or simply enjoying the hunt, Antiques Week in Nashville delivers depth, variety and inspiration – reminding us why discovering antiques in person remains at the heart of the experience.





BEYOND THE SHOW FLOOR:

When antique lovers head to Nashville for a show, they're already primed for discovery. But what many visitors don't realize is that some of the area's best finds live well beyond the show floor. From longtime favorites inside the city to destination-worthy stops just north and south of town, Nashville offers plenty of reasons to extend your trip—and your shopping list.

If you're planning a visit for one of February's antique shows, consider building in time to explore these trusted Busy Bee Trader advertisers while you're in the area.

IN NASHVILLE

Nashville's antique scene is as layered as the city itself, blending traditional antiques with vintage, architectural elements and eclectic finds.

GasLamp Antiques (pic 5)

A Nashville staple, GasLamp Antiques is known for its wide-ranging inventory and classic antique appeal. From furniture to decorative accents, it's a solid stop for collectors and decorators alike.

GasLamp Too (pic 6, 11)

Just what the name implies—more to explore. GasLamp Too complements its sister store with additional vendors and fresh finds, making it easy to spend extra time browsing.

Music Valley Antiques & Marketplace (pic 3)

Located in the heart of Nashville's historic Music Valley, this marketplace offers a little of everything. Furniture, décor, collectibles and unexpected treasures make it a favorite for shoppers who like variety under one roof.

Farmhouse Art & Junktiques (pic 2)

If your style leans rustic, farmhouse or creatively repurposed, this stop belongs on your list. It's a great place to find pieces with character and charm.

70 South Antiques (pic 1, 4)

A well-rounded shop featuring antiques, vintage items and decorative pieces, 70 South offers approachable finds that work well in today's homes.





Antique Stops Worth the Extra Miles

JUST NORTH OF NASHVILLE: THE GOODLETTSVILLE TRIO

A short and easy drive north lands you in Goodlettsville—home to three must-visit stores located conveniently close together.

Goodlettsville Antique Mall (pic 12)

Large, well-stocked and easy to navigate, this mall is ideal for shoppers who enjoy variety and the thrill of the hunt.

Rare Bird (pic 9)

Curated and creative, Rare Bird is known for distinctive pieces that stand out. It's a favorite for shoppers looking for something a little different.

Cast + Found Vintiques (pic 7, 10)

Blending vintage, salvage and thoughtfully chosen décor, this shop offers inspiration along with great finds.

JUST SOUTH OF NASHVILLE: FRANKLIN FAVORITE

Heading south? Make time for one more stop.



Franklin Antique Mall (pic 8, 13)

A destination in its own right, Franklin Antique Mall features a wide range of vendors and styles, making it well worth the short drive.

Whether you're in Nashville for a single day or making a weekend of it, these stores offer plenty of opportunities to extend the experience—and maybe bring home a few extra treasures

along the way. Keep Busy Bee Trader close and let it guide you beyond the show floor.





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top with remaining slices.
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until golden and melty.



RECIPE:

Strawberry Cream Cheese French Toast Bake

1 loaf brioche or Texas toast, cubed
8 oz cream cheese, softened
1 c sliced strawberries
6 eggs
1½ c milk • ½ c sugar
1 t vanilla
Powdered sugar for topping

Grease baking dish. Spread cream cheese over bread cubes and add strawberries. Whisk eggs, milk, sugar and vanilla and pour over top. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes. Dust with powdered sugar before serving.

With February strawberries and make-ahead ease, this recipe would make a great breakfast for Valentine's Day morning.

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FOR THE LOVE OF PLANT STANDS

by Terry Lea, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

It's the time of year when we focus on our indoor environment, and even those of us who don't attempt to keep houseplants alive year round are drawn to displays of live plants: everything from sleek palms and spiky succulents to delicate ferns and cheerful flowering plants in every hue. But a plant needs a planter or pot... and the planter needs a plant stand.

Stands range from ornate wire and cast metal to wood stands with a single support, three legs, four or even five or six. Some stands have marble or stone tops, while others are plain wood. What separates a plant stand from a side table or stool? And where did these stands originate?

A brief history of plant stands

Pre-15th century farmers in Mesopotamia and Egypt, as well as China and Rome, were cultivating plants in pots and using various materials to support them for drainage and aesthetics.

By the Renaissance era, planters and stands became status symbols, with intricately carved details adorning them.

The 19th century ushered in an unprecedented demand for fresh flowers and exotic fruits year round, as they could be nurtured in glass conservatories and orangeries. The middle class looked for ways to enjoy the same plants and planters once reserved for the wealthy. Mass-produced pots and plant stands made them more accessible and affordable for all.

By the early 20th century, the Craftsman movement offered a rustic, handmade style of plant stand as a counter to machine-made, ornate carved designs. Mid-century then brought its own sleek, modern take on furniture both indoors and out, and hairpin-leg plant stands became widely popular on porches and patios.

So what—exactly—IS a plant stand? (And how is it different from a small side table?)

There is no strict definition for this piece of furniture. Low, round Asian-style plant stands are typically only a few inches tall, with five or six feet supporting large pots. Often called fishbowl stands, they securely elevate a plant a few inches for drainage and are excellent for large specimens like figs and citrus trees. Tall, pedestal-style fern stands can reach five feet or more, allowing billowing fronds to grow long without touching the ground.

When you're looking at small stands and tables at an estate sale or antique store, a general rule of thumb is that plant stands are proportionally tall for their width and length. Why? Probably because plant lovers throughout history have always wanted to squeeze in as many plants as possible, leading to stands with a small footprint.

In smaller rooms, including bedrooms, a sturdy plant stand can easily act as a side table or nightstand, providing just enough surface space



without demanding much floor space beneath it. Likewise, small side tables can do double duty as plant stands.

What to look for when buying a plant stand

If you're looking for a true antique plant stand, familiarize yourself with the style you prefer, then consider the wood used. Hardwoods such as mahogany, rosewood and cherry were commonly used in the early 20th century and earlier. Turn the stand upside down to inspect its

construction: intricate joinery and an absence of screws are strong indicators of age.

Ornate molded cast metal stands can be harder to distinguish as new or old, so the best advice is to look for pieces in good condition with minimal rust damage. When paying a premium for an antique, work with ethical and knowledgeable sellers.

Mid-20th century and newer stands are typically made of oak or pine, and less expensive examples often use newer screws or wire staples. Metal stands range from wire to cast metal, and older versions tend to be heavier gauge, though often rustier. Old or new, make sure the stand isn't alarmingly wobbly and that it sits square on its legs or base without rocking.

How to care for plant stands

Old or new, plant stands are expected to withstand the deadly combination of heat, direct sun and water. Keep your stand as dry as possible by using saucers under plants and watching for spills or trapped condensation. If your plant stands live outdoors, seal them with a good-quality UV- and water-resistant sealer. Rotate stands occasionally so the same side isn't left to endure months or years of direct sunshine.

Terry Lea and Sherri Brown were flea-market-going-friends before they made their shared hobby into a full-fledged business by opening Re-Invintage in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Be sure to check out all their fantastic finds at 3781 Franklin Rd., Murfreesboro, TN.





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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF ART IN COWAN, TN

In December 2025, the FCAG/Artisan Depot Gallery proudly marked 20 years in Cowan, Tennessee—a remarkable milestone for a volunteer-run organization dedicated to supporting artists and creatives in Franklin County and the surrounding area. The gallery celebrated its 20th anniversary on December 19, 2025, honoring two decades of creativity, collaboration and community connection.

Founded on December 2, 2005, the Franklin County Arts Guild began when a group of local artists sought a place to display their work and connect with the community. Their first home was a small upstairs space in the Cowan Development Co. building at 110 Tennessee Avenue South. While modest in size, it marked the beginning of what would grow into a thriving arts organization. Over the years, the guild evolved through several transitions and locations before establishing its permanent home at its current location, the FCAG/Artisan Depot Gallery at 204 E. Cumberland Street.

The gallery's journey would not have been possible without the support and collaboration of Dr. Jerre Creed and the Cowan Development Co. Dr. Creed was instrumental in helping secure a dynamic, affordable space and has remained a strong advocate for the importance

of an artist-run gallery in Cowan. CDC associate and Cowan resident Mark Ledbetter has also played a key role from the beginning, serving as a trusted liaison and go-to resource for the guild when immediate needs arise.

Throughout its history, the FCAG/Artisan Depot Gallery has offered a wide range of opportunities for artists, students and art lovers alike. Programming includes workshops, meet-and-greets, community art shows, member exhibitions, art scholarships, student gallery exhibits, the Monarch Way Station Garden & Outdoor Art, monthly

Art Wednesday gatherings and an Artist Trading Card-making group welcoming both beginners and professionals.

During the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, an essential grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission helped the gallery continue its mission. Thanks to the dedication of FCAG members and volunteers, the gallery remains open Thursday through Sunday from 12-5pm. Membership support ensures the organization can continue fostering artistic expression, outreach and cultural growth in the rural community it proudly serves.

Those interested in becoming a member can learn more at www.franklincoarts.org. Updates on events and activities are also shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/artisandepot-gallery. The gallery can be reached by phone at 931-313-5686.

With heartfelt appreciation, the members of the FCAG/Artisan Depot Gallery thank the community for being part of their story. Every visit, every kind word and every shared moment within the gallery's walls has helped it grow and thrive. As the organization looks ahead, it does so with gratitude for the past and excitement for many more years of creativity, connection and shared passion.

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TREND & TRADITION

Let There Be (Vintage) Light: Old Fixtures, New Glow

Each month in Trend & Tradition, we explore the styles making a comeback—or proving they never really left—in the world of antique and vintage décor. From classic pieces reimagined for today's homes to small details that add soul and story, we love showing how old and new can shine side by side.

Lighting is having a moment, and not the mass-produced, big-box kind. Designers and homeowners alike are turning to vintage and antique lighting to bring warmth, character and authenticity into modern spaces. From crystal chandeliers hanging over kitchen islands to hand painted lamps providing a soft glow in living rooms, yesterday's fixtures are illuminating today's homes in the best possible way.

Why Vintage Lighting Works So Well Today

Modern interiors often lean clean, neutral and streamlined. While beautiful, they can sometimes feel a bit... flat. Vintage lighting solves that problem instantly. An antique fixture adds texture, craftsmanship and a sense of history that can't be replicated. Unlike trendy lighting that comes and goes, these pieces were built to last—and to be noticed.

There's also a growing appreciation for sustainability. Reusing and restoring antique



Presswood Antiques

lighting keeps quality materials out of landfills and gives them a second life. Old brass, hand-cut crystal, porcelain sockets and solid metals simply aren't common in modern manufacturing anymore.

A Quick Look Back

Antique and vintage lighting spans many eras, each with its own charm. Victorian gasoliers and ornate chandeliers favored drama and detail. Early 20th-century fixtures leaned into craftsmanship, with Arts & Crafts and Art Deco styles offering clean lines, geometric shapes and rich metals. Mid-century lighting brought sculptural forms and playful silhouettes that feel right at home in today's interiors.

Knowing the era isn't required, but recognizing quality is.

What to Look for While You Shop

When browsing antique malls, vendor markets or estate sales, keep an eye out for these lighting standouts:

- Solid materials like brass, bronze, iron or porcelain
- Original details such as pull chains, glass shades or patina
- Classic shapes: lanterns, school-house globes, chandeliers, sconces
- Signs of age that add character, not damage

Rewiring is common—and expected. A fixture doesn't need to be

“plug and play” to be a great find. Most antique lighting can be safely updated by a professional without sacrificing its charm.

Easy Ways to Use Vintage Lighting in Modern Spaces

You don't need a historic home to pull this off. Here are a few simple ways to let vintage light lead the way:

- Make it the focal point. Hang an antique chandelier in an otherwise modern dining room or bedroom.
- Mix eras. Pair industrial pendants with a farmhouse kitchen or use mid-century lamps in a minimalist living room.
- Think small. Table lamps, wall sconces and even antique lanterns add impact without overwhelming a space.
- Layer your lighting. Vintage pieces work beautifully alongside modern recessed or task lighting.

The contrast is what makes it work; clean lines meet timeworn beauty.

Where to Hunt

Lighting is one of those treasures you'll find tucked throughout antique malls and vendor markets, not always front and center. Look up. Scan corners. Ask vendors what they have stored away. Many Busy Bee Trader advertisers carry restored fixtures, salvaged lighting or one-of-a-kind lamps you won't see anywhere else.

So next time you're antiques shopping, don't just shop the floor—shop the ceiling. That vintage light might just be the perfect finishing touch for your modern space.



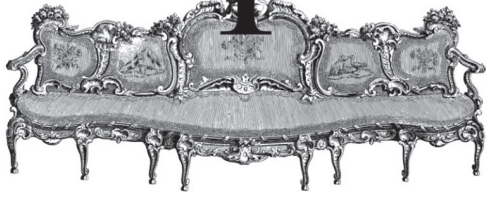
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THE HOUSTON MUSEUM OF DECORATIVE ARTS CELEBRATES CHATTANOOGA'S 52ND ANNUAL ANTIQUES SHOW & SALE

Southern charm, timeless treasures, and a great cause

The Houston Museum of Decorative Arts invites antique lovers and collectors to celebrate Chattanooga's 52nd Annual Antiques Show & Sale, held at the Signal Ballroom in the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo Complex. The event kicks off with a Southern Charm-themed Preview Party on Friday, February 20, followed by a full weekend of antique shopping on Saturday and Sunday, February 21-22, 2026.

Guests can browse an exceptional lineup of dealers from across the country offering antique furniture, quirky home décor, unique silver, heirloom jewelry and more. Tickets are \$10 for one day or \$15 for the weekend, with 100 percent of proceeds benefiting the Houston Museum's education and outreach programs.

Shopping Hours

Saturday, February 21 | 10am-6pm

Sunday, February 22 | 11am-4pm

Throughout the weekend, visitors can also enjoy live artisan demonstrations showcasing local artists at work, including porcelain repair, loom weaving and flower arranging.

Tickets, including Preview Party tickets, are available through the Museum's website. Thanks to a grant from the Weldon Osborne Foundation, the Houston Museum's newly redesigned website reduces ticketing fees, allowing more support to go directly back into the community.

This year's Antiques Show comes at an especially exciting time for the Houston Museum as the organization continues a major restoration project and prepares to reopen later this year.



Guests are invited to shop, celebrate and support a meaningful cause while enjoying one of Chat-

anooga's most beloved traditions.

"This is an incredibly exciting moment in the Houston Museum's history," said Pam Reed, Executive Director of the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts. "As we near the completion of our long-awaited restoration, the Antiques Show allows us to celebrate with our community before welcoming everyone back into our beautifully preserved Victorian house museum later this year. We can't think of a better way to honor our past while looking toward the future."

Preview Party Details

Friday, February 20, 2026 | 7-10pm

Signal Ballroom, Chattanooga Choo Choo Complex

21 Choo Choo Avenue, Chattanooga, TN

The Preview Party offers guests an elegant evening surrounded by beautiful antiques, complete with music, appetizers, bubbly and the opportunity to shop the Show before it opens to the public. Tickets are \$125 per person and include admission to the Antiques Show all weekend. One hundred percent of ticket sales benefit the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts.

The 52nd Annual Antiques Show & Sale is presented by Robinson, Paula & Carl Henderson and First Horizon Foundation.

Guests are invited to shop, celebrate and support a meaningful cause while enjoying one of Chattanooga's most beloved traditions.





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WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT BEES?

by Shannon Ingram, Cleveland, Tennessee

While the bees keep warm, the beekeepers keep busy!!

February is probably the least interactive month of the year for both honeybees and beekeepers. The bees are clustered together to keep the queen warm. They do very little housekeeping, as all are needed in the cluster.

This can be alarming to a new beekeeper for a few reasons. First, the beekeeper is used to seeing activity in and out of the hive. In the cold months, there is little to none. The bees won't even leave the hive to poop!

They wait for a warm enough day to take a "cleansing flight" and that could be a long, long time!

Another alarming sight is when the undertaker bees remove the bees that died during the cold days. Again, everyone main-

tains the cluster, but bees continue to die off and fall to the hive's bottom board. With thousands of bees in a colony, you can imagine the sight when the dead are finally able to be discarded out the front as soon as conditions allow!

Meanwhile, the beekeeper is getting

ready for spring! Hive boxes must be repaired or built. Foundation frames need to be scraped of old wax, repaired or rebuilt. Taking inventory of equipment is crucial to being prepared for a successful spring honey

season. All equipment gets cleaned and organized. Spring is not the time to find out you don't have what you need.

Every beekeeper is working hard in anticipation of spring!



VINTAGE RECIPE: Cheese Grits



1 c grits
1½ c water
1 t salt • 2 c milk
1 stick oleo
1 roll nippy cheese
1 roll garlic cheese
2 eggs, well-beaten

Cook grits, salt, water and milk over medium heat until thick. Add sliced cheese and oleo and stir until melted. Add eggs and stir until thoroughly combined. Pour into large baking dish. Cover with crushed bread crumbs or corn flakes and dot with butter. Cook in a 350 degree oven for 35 minutes.

This vintage recipe was originally submitted by Joan Williams of Georgia.

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EDITH'S EMPORIUM: 1914 McCallie Ave., downtown Chattanooga. Vintage, new, renewed, embroidery & gifts. Like us on FB, I-24, Exit 183 toward Belvoir Ave/Germantown Rd, 469 ft, merge onto N Terrace, 0.8 mi, right S Germantown Rd, 0.7 mi turn left on Brainerd Rd, 0.9 mi, continue onto McCallie Ave, 0.1mi stay left lane to continue across overpass/Dodds LN & McCallie Ave., stay on McCallie Ave 0.6mi - destination on left. 423-624-1345.

VINTAGE & MORE ON THE BLVD: New location, 3920 Dayton Blvd. Less than 5 miles from downtown Chattanooga. Filled wall to ceiling with antiques, vintage, retro, mid century, furniture, decor, collectibles, smalls & more. Like on FB, 423-602-5497. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5.

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GRIT & GRACE: 445 Church St. SE. Located at the old Woolen Mill. Entrance by the giant smokestack. Over 100 indoor shoppes. Watch for seasonal outdoor markets. Antiques, home decor, handmade, art, farmhouse, repurposed, vintage and industrial. Mon-Sat 10-6pm. info@gritandgracemarket.com. www.gritandgracemarket.com. 423-790-0503.

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VINTIQUES: 1201 Dellwood Lne NE, I-75 exit 27 turn east onto Paul Huff Pkwy. 3 miles, turn rt onto Old Tasso Rd., 1000 ft turn onto Dellwood Ln, 1000 ft on rt. RV Friendly. Antiques, furniture, home decor, farmhouse, china, toys, signs, man cave, something for everyone. 423-618-6311. Howard and Pixie Dust paint company retailer. Tues-Sat 10-6pm. FB Watch our ad for outdoor mkt. sales. on page 5 and www.facebook.com/TNVintiques

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ANTIQUÉ MARKET: 305 Market St. in the heart of Downtown Clinton. Large selection of furniture including American Primitives, turn of the century English, French and American furnishings. Quality collectibles, glassware, jewelry, clocks, & antique lamp restoration & re-imagination. Thurs-Sat 11-5, Sun 1-4. 865-463-8699. theantiquemarket.com.

CLINTON ANTIQUE MALL: 317 North Main St. in old hardware bldg. Clinton's oldest & largest antique mall. 3 floors of high quality antiques and primitives from 1800s to early 1900s. 865-457-3110. I-75 to Exit 112, west TN 158 (Charles Seivers Blvd) Rt on S. Main, turns into N. Main, store on rt.

CORNER ANTIQUES: Located at the intersection of Main, Market & Memorial Streets in an 1890's General Store Bldg. Specializing in country, primitive & American furniture, country collectibles and decorating accessories such as: stoneware, yellow ware, red ware, wooden ware, tin ware, oil lamps, wooden decoys, baskets, quilts, etc. Also, a very nice line of locally handmade seasonal character figures and decor items. Find us on Google, Facebook, Instagram & Yelp. Mon-Sat 10-5:30; Sun 1-5; Closed Wed

COLUMBIA

ACCENTS & ANTIQUES OF COLUMBIA: 37-38 Public Square, 38401. 2 Floors. New & Old, Books, Collectibles, Comic Books, Candles, Jewelry, Furniture, Lamp Parts. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-4 931-380-8975.

BLEU 32: 108 W 7th St. Just off the square. 12,000 Sq. FT of Antiques, Art, Gifts, Handmade items, Boutique Clothing, and More! Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-4

COLUMBIA ANTIQUE MARKETPLACE: 101 N. James Campbell Blvd. Look for us in the Factory. Awesome vendors with great prices. 931-982-6400.

EAST RIDGE

MERCANTILE AT THE RIDGE: 6725 Ringgold Rd, in East Ridge. A Merchant's Collective specializing in antiques, home decor, collectibles, specialty shops, food, local artisans, boutiques, gifts and more. 423-654-7923, M-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-6.

ETOWAH

INTERIORS BY DESIGN: 902 Tennessee Ave., across from Rocky Top Store. I-75, Exit 49, East on Hwy. 30, South on Hwy. 411/TN Ave, 5 blocks, on left thru last traffic light. Custom window treatments, blinds, cornice boards, in-stock fabric, trim, home furnishings, decor, accessories, antique furniture, gifts & more. Thurs-Fri 10-5, Sat 10:30-2. Closed Mon, Tues & Wed by appt or chance. 423-263-4555.

FRANKLIN

FRANKLIN ANTIQUE MALL: 251 2nd Ave S., on the corner of 2nd and Margin. Franklin's Oldest & Largest Mall filled with quality antique furniture, accessories, smalls and good collectibles in the old "Ice House." Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. 615-790-8593.

GOODLETTSVILLE

GOODLETTSVILLE ANTIQUE MALL: 213 N. Main Street. 37072. I-65, Exit 97. Go rt. on Main St, one block on rt. Over 23,000 sq. ft. of antiques, vintage, collectibles, furniture, primitives, glassware & more. Mon-Sat 10-5:30, Sun 11-5:30. 615-859-7002.

KNOXVILLE/MARYVILLE

THE SHOPPES AT HOMESPUN: Farragut Shop - 11523 Kingston Pike, Knoxville Village Green Center; Hrs M-S, 10-6, Sun 1-6. 1-865-6713444. Maryville

location - 1410 Sevierville Rd.(Old Cherokee Lumber Bldg) Hrs M-S, 10-6, Sun 1-6. 1-865-724-2018. Both shoppes offer Primitives, Antiques, Home Decor, Gifts & More.

LEBANON

HACKBERRY FARM ANTIQUES: 840 Lindsley Rd (From I-40, Exit 239, go southeast on Hwy 70 for 3 miles, right on Lindsley Rd, then 1 mile on left. Appx. 5 miles from Lebanon Square. Antique furniture, china, silver, art & Depression glass, lamps, pictures, original art by Orlinda, TN artist Bruce Corban & more. Thurs-Sat or by appt. 615-444-1769.

LOUDON

THE SHOPPES ON THE SQUARE: 612 Grove St. Antiques, vintage, furniture, home decor, seasonal, boutique clothing. Mon-Sat 10-5. 865-244-0207.

MEMPHIS

QUANTUM ANTIQUE GALLERY: 5696 Summer Ave., Memphis, TN 38134. Memphis' Oldest 29,000 sq. Ft. Antique Mall. Open Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 11-5, 901-385-2544. Check us out on Facebook & Instagram.

MURFREESBORO

FOUR SISTERS ANTIQUES & VINTAGE: 1056 Seals Way Murfreesboro, TN, 6000 sq. ft. 84 quality vendors! Phone: 615-624-7285. Open 7 days week.

HYLABROOK ANTIQUES: I-24, Exit 78B (Murfreesboro), first road on right (Chaffin Place), 5th building on right past Cracker Barrel. Furniture, primitives, toys, first edition & historic books, art glass, Fenton, military items, silver & more. Mon-Sat 9:30-5:30, Sun 12-5:30. 615-907-6066.

NASHVILLE

GASLAMP ANTIQUES & GASLAMP ANTIQUES TOO: 100 Powell Place, Ste 200 & 128 Powell Place. Two stores of antiques, vintage, collectibles, art & more. M-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-6. 615-297-2224. 615-292-2250. gaslampantiques.com

COOLTEWAH

SHOP ON MAIN: 5722 Main Street, 10,000 sq. ft. Shop with Vintage & antique furniture, home decor, accessories, boutiques, jewelry, gifts & more. Dir: I-75, Exit 11, 3rd traffic light Right on to Main St, on left next to Memphis St BBQ

SHELBYVILLE

ALEX'S ROCK SHOP: 100 South Main St. (Located inside The Shops at Main & McGrew.) Rocks, fossils, crystals, gemstones, minerals, and so much more! Alex is very well known for his selection of geodes. There is so much to learn and discover at Alex's Rock Shop. Wed-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. 931-536-1626 ask for Alex's Rock Shop.

THE SHOPS AT MAIN & MCGREW: 100 South Main St. Real antiques located in Shelbyville's historic post office. Explore 8,600 sq. ft. of antiques as well as Dave's Pop Culture Room and Alex's Rock Shop. Premier Dixie Belle Paint Retailer. We receive a new load of items once a month, so keep coming back. Open Wed-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5. MainAndMcGrew.com. 931-536-1626.

SOUTH PITTSBURG

BACK ROAD RELIC HUNTERS: 1430 HWY 156, South Pittsburg. Buy & Sell authentic Civil War & Revolutionary War relics-swords & weapons. Metal detectors, gem mining, gold panning & souvenirs. Cinnamon glazed pecans, cashews & almonds 423-827-6005, Take I-24 W., Exit 152 A, TN Rt 156, go through South Pittsburg, 1.6 mi take slight right turn on N Cedar Ave., 1.3 mi, on right.

SPRING HILL

SPRING HILL ANTIQUE MALL: 1213 School St. From Hwy. 31 in downtown Spring Hill, turn on Hardin Alley. 8,000 sq. ft. in the old Spring Hill High School gymnasium. American and European antique furniture, cottage style furniture, glassware, Griswold ironware and more. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. 931-489-0022.

SWEETWATER

NOBLE CURIOSITIES: 511 N Main St. Hrs Mon-Thurs, 11-5, Fri-Sat, 10-6, & Sun 1-5. Huge market with over 60 amazing vendors offering vintage, antiques, furniture, decor, boutiques, men's tools, signage, belts, etc. Plus special ladies items, food, gifts & much more. 423-836-9200.

SWEETWATER ANTIQUES: 309 N Main St., over 8,000 Sq ft. of antiques. Dealers restock weekly, always something new to see. Open 7 days a week, 10-5; Check us out on FB and Instagram. 423-351-9480

TAZEWELL

SMOKEY MOUNTAIN AUCTIONS: We conduct estate auctions that have antiques, cars, firearms, and real estate. You can visit our website and register to receive updates about our future auctions. 423-489-1495. www.smokeymountainauctions.com. info@smokeymountainauctions.com.

TULLAHOMA

MEMORIES ANTIQUES: 117 W. Lincoln St. Primitive to Victorian. Multiple vendors. Tues-Sat 11-5. 931-455-3992.

VONORE

VONORE EMPORIUM: 1000 HWY 411, 423-814-1052. Tue & Sat 10-4, Wed-Fri 10-5. Closed Sun/Mon Gifts, decor, florals, Avon, cards, seasonal mdse, artwork, vintage Pyrex, jewelry, garden flags, clothing, TN merchandise, dips, mixes & Amish popcorn & snacks

WALLAND

RIVERMILL ANTIQUES: (20+yrs) 4618 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy. Open 7 days, Mon-Sat, 10-6, Sun 12:30-6. Antiques, primitives, vintage & home decor, local history memorabilia items, & more. Pop up sales regularly! 865-977-0810.

WANTED

WANTED: MILITARY SWORDS, DAGGERS, FLAGS, HELMETS, RIFLES AND PISTOLS. Working or Not. Call or text Shawn 901-485-2695

WANTED: Old firecrackers, packs, labels, catalogs. Call Rick at 773-332-0987 or email: Glorious4th@aol.com

SERVICES & CLASSIFIEDS

LOTZ HOUSE ANTIQUE APPRAISALS: On-site USPAP appraisals and Fair Market Valuations for individuals, needing appraisals for tax donations, insurance replacement cost and estate planning. We specialize in personal property and military items. Conveniently located in Downtown Franklin our offices are housed in the Historic Lotz House Museum. For more info and pricing call 615-790-7190 or email info@lotzhouse.com

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



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The Fiddlers

Antique Show

February 11-14, 2026

EXPO 3 **Nashville Fairgrounds**

Shop Alongside Antique Dealers, Avid Collectors, Decorators & Designers!

Kick off your once-a-year Nashville Antique Week experience with the ANTIQUE SHOW experience you're craving! An amazing selection of country, Americana, fine art, textiles, stoneware, advertising, holiday, military... and those true "WOW" pieces! A beautiful show to shop & enjoy!

WEDNESDAY Evening
Preview Party
Early Buyers (\$30)

Wed. Feb. 11: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

General Admission (\$15)

Thurs. Feb. 12 & Fri. Feb. 13:

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 14:

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

the
tradition
continues

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exhibitors

ALL
antiques



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