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Interiors by Susan, LLC Newsletter

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Winter Wonderland The History of Snow Globes

Snow Globes first made their appearance in France in the late 1800's. Many believe they came in the footsteps of the paperweight. The earliest snow globes were made of glass and were part of the Victorian upper class lifestyles in the 1870's. By 1879 Europe had five manufacturers and they were shipping them to Germany, Austria, Poland and England.

What is inside a Snow Globe? The *domed* appearing snow globes were actually spheres made from leaded glass, filled with water, sealed, and then placed on top of ceramic or cast iron bases. The *snow* was bone chips or tiny pieces of porcelain and in some case even sawdust was used.

States until the 1920's. The early snow globes were souvenirs of local towns.

It was not until the 1970's that American companies took the decorative item upscale. Designs became more intricate with music boxes and moving figures being added.

The novelty did not appear in the United



The Snowflake Man

"Under the microscope, I found that snowflakes were miracles of beauty; and it seemed a shame that this beauty should not be seen and appreciated by others. Every crystal was a masterpiece of design and no one design was ever repeated. When a snowflake melted, that design was forever lost. Just that much beauty was gone, without any record behind", quote by Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley 1925.

From the earliest memories of many of our

childhoods we have heard "no two snowflakes are alike". Wilson S. Bentley (1865-1931) confirmed that idea in the small rural town of Jericho, Vermont. Bentley was a self educated man who gained world wide attention and recognition for his pioneering work in the area of photomicrography. His work was of course on the snow crystal which is commonly referred to as the snowflake. He adapted a microscope to a bellows camera, and then through years and trial

and error he became the first person to photograph a single snow crystal in 1885. He would go on to capture more than 5000 snowflakes in his lifetime, no two alike.



Wilson A. Bentley



Collections: How to Show them off

Collection is a noun from the 14th Century and defined in Merriam-Webster dictionary as an accumulation of objects gathered for study, comparison, and exhibition or as a hobby. Most people own at least one collection. These come in a variety of sizes. There can be hundreds or as few as three items and a collection have been born.

Collections are meant to be seen and enjoyed. There are many ideas of how to do this. Your choice of how to display your prized possessions has a lot to do with how much space you have available. This can be done either vertically on shelving or bookshelves; or on a horizontal surface such as a coffee or end table.

displaying your items it is best not to place the items in a straight line or all clumped together. Vary them by height or color, space them out and place other objects in the mix. It is important to keep the eyes moving and the senses interested.

As an Interior Designer I can assist you with your collection. Call today to schedule an appointment. 920.858.2379

“Collect only items you truly love and are a reflection of who you truly are.”

To add interest when

Hearthstone Historic Home

Hello my name is Susan Barker and I have been a tour guide of the Hearthstone, the first hydroelectric house in the world, for the past two and half years. I have always loved visiting historic homes for as long as I can remember. I am amazed at the number of people I meet, who have lived in the area their whole life, and on the day I am giving tours it is their first visit to the home. There is so much history in the house and I learn something new every time I volunteer. It is

a local experience I recommend highly to everyone.

The Hearthstone was designed by a well-known Midwest architect William Waters. On September 30, 1882 the Hearthstone Historic Home, built for an Appleton business man Henry J. Rogers turned on their lights for the very first time. The lights used a centrally located hydroelectric station using a system newly invented by Thomas A. Edison.

The home is decorated in Victorian, Charles Eastlake style. There are nine fireplaces, antique furniture and beautiful woodwork carved by a local artist.

Come visit this unique home that is part of the Fox Cities history. I would be happy to personally give you a tour, just let me know. 920.858.2379

Hearthstone Historic Home
625 W. Prospect Avenue
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www.focol.org/hearthstone/

Hearthstones

Mission Statement:

“It is our mission and promise of Friends of Hearthstone, Inc. to restore and preserve Hearthstone, a Victorian landmark house, and to re-create a historical experience based on its Thomas A. Edison heritage for the cultural enjoyment and educational benefit of the public”.

Board of Directors, 2004



I hope you enjoyed my first newsletter. It was a pleasure to research the various stories. Enjoy the Winter Season!

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