

Online Resources for Collectors

Presented by Michael Lehr (with David Kornacki)

Online Resources Help You With:

- Connecting with other collectors
- Finding, buying and selling objects
- Researching specific shops and individual makers
- Finding auction results and current values
- Finding experts
- Identifying/attributing objects

Connect using Facebook Groups:

- Collecting Gustav Stickley & the Designs of the Arts and Crafts Movement
- American Art Pottery Collectors
- The Arts and Crafts Movement – the “big group” 11 thousand members
- American Arts and Crafts
- Arts and Crafts Furnishings of Mission Oak, Stickley, and Limbert
- Pottery Collectors
- Numerous groups and pages for individual designers

Finding, Buying and Selling Objects

eBay.com! Check Regularly! (50% of DK collection via eBay over 30 yrs)

Auction Portals:

- LiveAuctioneers.com (auction portal not an auction)
- Invaluable.com: a lot of overlap with LiveAuctioneers
- Auctionzip.com, Bidsquare.com, Hibid.com, etc.

Major Auction Houses:

- Sothebys.com, Christies.com, Skinner.com, Bonhams.com, Doyle.com, etc

Dealer Websites:

- Get their business cards at the show – tell them what your looking for
- Get on dealer email lists! We love their weekly email blasts!

Useful Foraging Websites:

- Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist
- 1stdibs.com (beware “decorator pricing”), Chairish.com, Etsy.com, RubyLane.com, EBTH.com, etc. (dealer virtual antique shops)

Researching Shops/Individuals/Values

Websites with maker-specific information:

- Gustav-Stickley.com
- Roycroftcopper.com
- Hammeredhewn.com
- ACStickley.com

Websites for historical research:

- [Google Books](https://books.google.com)
- Archive.org
- Hathitrust.org
- Newspapers.com (requires subscription)
- Ancestry.com (requires subscription)

Finding Auction Results/Current Values

- LiveAuctioneers.com: free/easy way to see recent auction results
- Invaluable.com: a lot of overlap with LiveAuctioneers
- eBay.com: completed auctions (only goes back a month or two)
- Ragoarts.com a good search engine for recent completed sale results
- Worthpoint.com: 20 years of eBay results (requires subscription)

Common questions where Facebook can help:

- Is this “a Stickley”? (Or who made this piece?)
- Is this Arts and Crafts?
- I saw this on Facebook Marketplace, is it worth it?
- How can I find the expert on X? And should I contact an appraiser?
- Is this piece original? Is it new?
- How can I tell how rare this piece is?
- How much is this piece worth?
- Does this piece need to be cleaned or refinished?
- Should I refinish this piece of metal work? Should I polish it?
- How do I go about selling this piece?
- Why is a piece I listed getting offers much lower than I expected?
- Where is the best place to buy Arts and Crafts?
- What’s the best way to ship this piece?