



# Good Old Days Country Shop Newsletter

## Special points of interest:

- Spring Open House
- Latest Trends
- New items in the shop
- How not to get ripped off

Good Old Days Country Shop

Volume 2 Issue 1

## First Spring Open House at New Location Planned

Our Spring Open House is scheduled for April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th from 10:00 AM till 5:00 PM. We will be closed prior to this open house while we prepare the shop for opening. As I am writing this, the gals are busily moving things about, unpacking boxes, labeling product, and decorating for Spring.



This will be our first Spring Open House in the new location. The Christmas Open House was phenomenal and we promise an even more spectacular event in April. I told Barb I would not let the cat out of the bag but perhaps I will just give you a taste

of what you might expect this Season.

We have a great selection of cupboards ranging in sizes and prices. You have told us (from the survey on the website) that the cupboards are your favorite category in the shop, so we will continue to provide you with a variety

of antique and reproduction pieces. Of course, we will have a large assortment of early Stoneware, most of which originates in the Northeast and dates back to the mid 1800's. I have been busy in the shop working on reproduction farm tables and other pieces that we'll have displayed come April.

Barb and I have been to several buying shows this Winter looking for unique and folksy items that you don't find in just "any" shop. We'll have the shop jam packed with our findings so please take a moment and stop by and see what the gals have been up to all these weeks.

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## Trends at the Markets

"You should have seen what we saw". People often ask us what is new in the "country" look and what is new at all the market shows we attend each year. Well, rest assured that the primitive look is still as strong as ever. Grubby painted furniture is strong and growing. The most popular colors

are Black, Mustard, and Red.

We are seeing a lot of crows this year. Little crows, big crows, big stuffed crow pin cushions, they're EVERYWHERE! So, we bought em. Shabby is growing



and we are starting to see more pink show up, as well as the white and lime. Iron is BIG this Spring, just in time for the gardening season.

So, if anything major changes in the country and primitive trends, we'll be sure to keep you posted about it right here.

# Good Old Days



Our bowl racks have become quite popular. This Spring we have a large assortment of various plates that can be displayed in these racks as well. Ask about a special order for something you want displayed.

*“Don’t forget that if there ever is anything you want, we will find it for you, just ask us about it..”*



Painted, primitive, reproduction furniture is making a huge presence in the Northeast. We have several sources now providing these great looking pieces. Look forward to seeing a lot of this style of furniture this year at very affordable prices.

## Buyer Beware....

Being “In the Trade” as we like to say, I am intrigued by the handicraft, or lack thereof, by the various craftsmen we come across in our travels. It is amazing how much junk actually sells out there and the consumer for the most part has no idea what they are buying, except that it “has the look”. I can’t begin to cover this vast subject in this small space however I hope to point out a few small tidbits that might help you make more informed decisions when buying antiques or quality reproductions.

The old axiom “You get what you pay for” generally is true however sometimes consumers pay much more for something simply because of supply and demand.

So what do you look for in a good quality piece of furniture. The answer is “That depends”. It depends on the style, age, period, and region of the piece in question. First, determine if the piece is authentic or a reproduction. Any reputable dealer will tell you if it is not obvious. I then look at the finish, since this is the first

most obvious characteristic to observe. Is it original? Has it been refinished or repainted? Is the finish “right” for the time period when it was made? I then look at the joinery. First, is there any? Often times case pieces are simply nailed together. Is the joinery handmade or machine made? Are all the joints sound or re-glued. There is no right or wrong answer to these types of questions but these types of observations should help you to start to make a judgment on the value of a piece.

## New Items in the Shop

This Spring, we will be offering much more in both quantity and choices between products. In our existing product lines, look for more Redware, painted primitive furniture, towels, coverlets, candles, sugarmolds, lampshades, pewter, rusty stars, and much more.

New products we are now carrying include primitive spoon racks, new primitive pottery, tin floor

lamps, August Moon, curly maple farm tables, and more.

We always try to keep a good supply of our popular handmade items that we make in our shop on hand. Although I have been busy with other aspects of this business this winter, I did manage to design and build a few primitive painted bowl/plate racks. I hope to have some farm tables and benches made by the time we

open. We also have dozens of new antique items in the shop that should catch your eye. Don’t forget that if there ever is anything you want, we will find it for you, just ask us about it.

For a sneak preview of some of the new items, take a look on the Tour page of our website at <http://www.goodolddayscountryshop.com>

## Calendar of Events

- **April 2, 3, 4th**  
Spring Open House - 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **July 17, 18**  
Pultneyville Homecoming Weekend
- **September 18**  
Pultneyville Garage Sales
- **November 5, 6, 7th**  
Christmas Open House.

## Odds & Ends

Our address is:

7643 Jay Street  
Pultneyville, NY 14538  
Phone—(315) 589-2775

You can always check our website for more information at <http://www.goodolddayscountryshop.com> or call us at home at 315-926-7615.

Please email us with suggestions for improvements or suggestions for the shop. We would love to get some testimonials from you for the website, so please send us your thoughts.

Our hours are Wed-Fri from 11:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M., Sat from 10:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M., and Sundays from 12:00 P.M till 4:00 P.M.

Consider giving us your “wish” list whereby your friends, relatives, and spouses can come and shop for you using your wish list as a guide. This is great for wedding lists, birthdays, anniversaries, or “just because”.

Don't forget, we always carry gift certificates for that special someone (you?). Tell your friends and family members to just simplify matters and get you a gift certificate from the Good Old Days.

We will be opening with a new computerized sales and inventory tracking system this Spring. This will speed up the checkout process and save us hours of time entering inventory.



*These barn stars have become our trademark. We paint them ourselves, usually Americana, but can do any colors or patterns.*

## Recipe Corner

### Pheasant Chowder

If by chance you don't happen to have any pheasants in your freezer, you can easily substitute quail or grouse. I suppose plain old chicken would work just as well (snicker snicker).

The ingredients are:

1 pheasant  
2 strips of bacon  
1/2 cup chopped yellow onion  
2 cups broth  
3 medium potatoes, diced  
2 cups milk

1/2 cup cream  
2 1/2 tsp. Salt  
1/4 tsp. Pepper  
1 Tbs flour  
1 Tbs butter

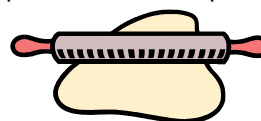
Boil pheasants till fork tender.

Once cool, remove meat from bones and set aside.

Save the broth for later. Fry the bacon until crispy. Add onions and sauté removing bacon before it gets burnt.

Add potatoes and pheasant

broth. Cook till tender. Restore bacon and pheasant to soup. Add milk, cream, and seasonings. In a separate bowl, make a paste with



flour and butter. Add to soup and cook 10 minutes stirring constantly.

Serves 4 - 6



*We provide a wide range of styles and sizes in farm table and tavern table reproductions. We use 100 year old wood for the tops, so they contain the worn look and age of years gone by. The legs can be either a tapered straight leg or a traditional turned leg. We use mortise and tenon joinery to ensure strength and integrity for years to come.*

## Antique Tips

### Cleaning that old finish

Sometimes when you pull that old piece out of Grandma's attic, your tempted to take it right to the strippers and remove that dirty old finish. But wait, there may be a better solution before you destroy a century of age, beauty, and timeless patina. It is very possible that the only thing your new heirloom needs is a good cleaning. But be

careful here, as cleaning with too strong a solution may also remove some of that goodness that you really didn't want to remove. So start out with a mild soap and water solution. Using a sponge, scrub everything down and dry with paper towels. Repeat this process until the paper towels do not indicate any more dirt and grime. If further cleaning is required, use 0000 steel wool

dipped in mineral spirits and the paper towel sequence just described. Go easy with steel wool. If you are still having a problem with the dirt and grime, try this solution. Mix equal parts of mineral spirits, turpentine, and alcohol together and use the steel wool and paper towels to clean. Once clean, protect with a thin coat of paste wax and enjoy your work. If none of this works, bring it to me.