



James LeFurgy, Wiscasset, Maine



Grantiques, Winchester, Mass.



Brett Cabral, Salem, N.H. / Emmons & Martin, Essex, Mass.

# Milford Antiques Show Brings Holiday Cheers To Hundreds

MILFORD, N.H. — Every Sunday from late October through early April the Milford Antiques Show happens for just two and a half hours at the tennis courts inside Hampshire Hills Athletic Club. On December 28, show manager Jack Donigian hosted about 60 exhibitors with a few hundred shoppers attending.

Each Sunday the show begins with exhibitors entering the building from the back bay door at 6:30 am, rolling their recent acquisitions into the large, warm and well-lit tennis courts where tables have been neatly arranged to serve as the dealers' booths. Shoppers begin to arrive about 8 am and are corralled across the front of the room, where they can see the dealers from a distance but still cannot do any business. At precisely 8:30 am the tape is released and the shopping begins with enthusiastic buying and selling among all the participants.

Dealers at the show are primarily those who can drive in that morning from home. This makes it very much a New England show.

James LeFurgy has reopened his Wiscasset, Maine, shop but he could exhibit here and still keep the shop since the show is over at 11 am. His offerings included a set of early Hitchcock pillow back chairs in excellent condition, with good rush seats and great paint and stenciling. He also brought a sampling of his art collection and several antique Persian rugs.

Another Wiscasset dealer, John Sideli, was here for the first time, in part to see what there was to find for his shop. Popular for his folk art collection and Outsider art, Sideli was showing several tables covered in early small home tools. His pie crimpers included ivory and bone wheels and handles in their construction.

Brett Cabral, Salem, N.H., focuses on small things for his inventory at this marketplace. A large collection of Nineteenth Century kitchen tools and flatware, firkins and pantry boxes, early steel knives and related household antiques filled one of his tables.

Even though the show is short, there is a good selection of early furniture. Dick Wallace, New Ipswich, Mass., was showing several pieces from his collection. Attracting good interest was an early Eighteenth Century Pennsylvania

spice chest, as he called it, about 3 feet tall and only a little more than a foot wide and deep in walnut. The Chipendale style feet, he believed, had been added later in its life.

Bud Hughes, Stratham, N.H., was spread out in a double space with a large collection of early small Americana and smalls. He even brought a sampling of early American furniture, including a tap table he found in New Hampshire and an early Connecticut Pembroke table with a set of four yellow Hitchcock chairs.

Easter Hill Antiques, Sharon, Conn., was offering a selection of early sterling silver, Sheffield plate and coin silver, along with other small antiques for the dining table.

Specializing in Persian rugs, Wayne Barron was there with his collection. The Cambridge, Mass., dealer was also offering Asian ceramics and art.

Bud Tully, Dunstable, Mass., offered early English earthenware and a selection of glass ware from America, both Sandwich and Pairpoint.

Grantiques is Donna Grant's business from nearby Winchester, Mass.; her specialty is early silver in interesting forms, not just flatware. For example, in one case there were perhaps as many as a dozen tea steepers and many other specialty items as well.

Bob DeLuca approaches the business with a whimsical sense of humor. This week the Amesbury, Mass., dealer found parts of a clown's costume — the giant shoes, outrageous mask and wig — which were for sale. Among his serious antiques was a Henry Capt clock, from Geneva, Nineteenth Century, hourly repeater movement with enameled faces and restored works.

Each week this show hosts between 60 and 80 dealers and has several hundred shoppers all looking for a little bit of early New England, for this has become a source, one of the places to find that special something and to make the connection between the shopper and seller.

This show is conducted every Sunday, unless the weather is really too difficult to travel, from 8:30 to 11 am. Admission is \$5 from 8:30 am to 9:30 am, with free admission from 9:30 am to 11 am and parking is free.

For additional information, [www.milfordantiqueshow.com](http://www.milfordantiqueshow.com) or 781-329-1192.



An early restored Henry Capt Swiss repeater clock, offered by Bob DeLuca, Amesbury, Mass.



Dick Wallace, New Ipswich, Mass.



Rick Dodge, Marblehead, Mass.

## Jack Donigian's Weekly New Hampshire Market Is Popular Shopping Event



Bud Tully, Dunstable, Mass.



Peter Hadley, Salem, N.H., and Anne Baritz, Needham, Mass., shared several spaces at the show and she said it was well worth their efforts.



Review and Photos by Tom O'Hara



John Sideli, Wiscasset, Maine



Mountain Rugs, Parsonsfield, Maine