

CHICAGO TOY SHOW CELEBRATES 38th YEAR

May 15, 2011

THESE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM PAST Chicago Toy Shows by Antique World Shows, Inc. represent the range and quality that are typical of the antique/collectible toys and dolls brought to each event. This show is a favorite of antique toy collectors because it is always a source of rare, unusual, and valuable pieces. Featuring the earliest manufactured toys, pre-war and post-war articles, as well as vintage collectibles, the range of items at this show is phenomenal and the quality is superb.

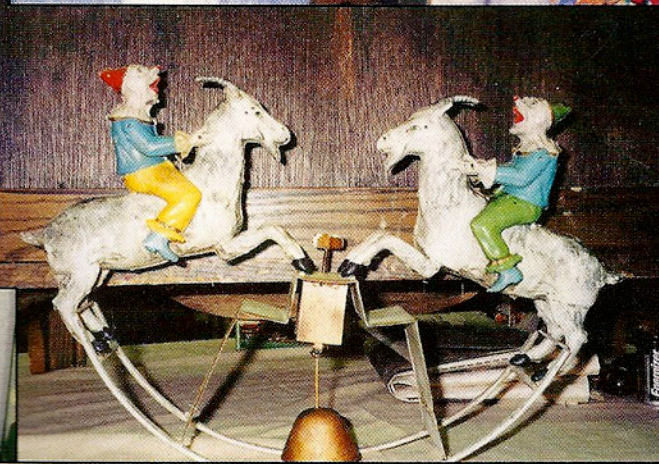
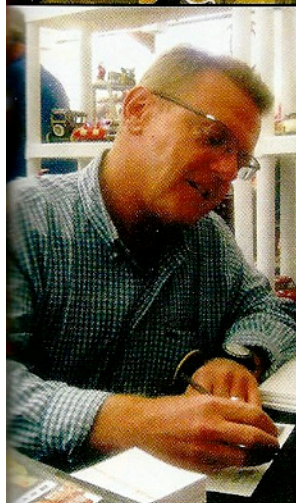
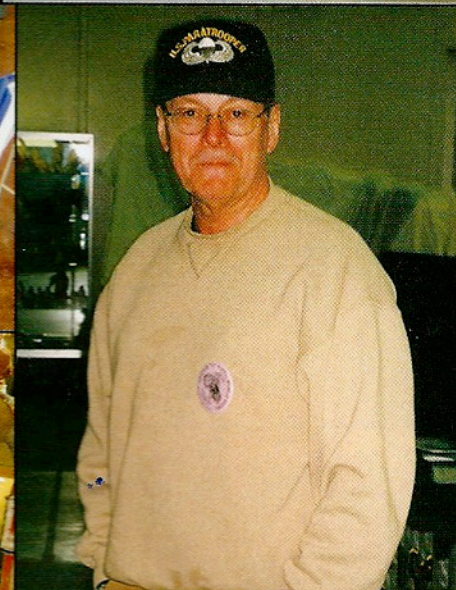
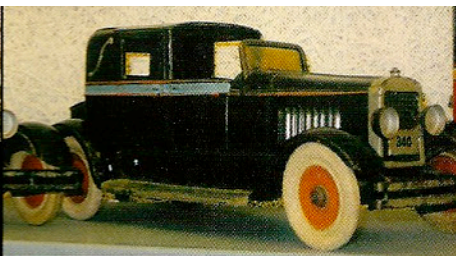
This Chicago Toy Show is also the source of international friendships and long distance companionships that have formed over 38 years as collectors meet others interested in the hobby. If there is anything toy collectors enjoy more than looking at their assembled treasures, it is sharing the pastime with others. Friends are made around the world and from state to state

based upon their interest in toys.

When the Chicago Toy Show weekend arrives, collectors come together from all over the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan to talk about all aspects of toys from paint and parts to labels. Folks re-live show stories, and share tales of past finds and hopes for illusive toys they know will eventually be discovered at this event. They share encyclopedic knowledge as they evaluate and select toys, consult over new finds, and finally wrap treasures to take home.

The main event begins with the rush to see what is brought in during the Saturday dealer set-up. More than 600 dealers haul boxes to their exhibit areas while running all over the fairgrounds to see what appears elsewhere as cartons unload and items unwrap. Cell phones buzz to call friends, and the fairgrounds swarms with excitement. Voices echo throughout the halls with,



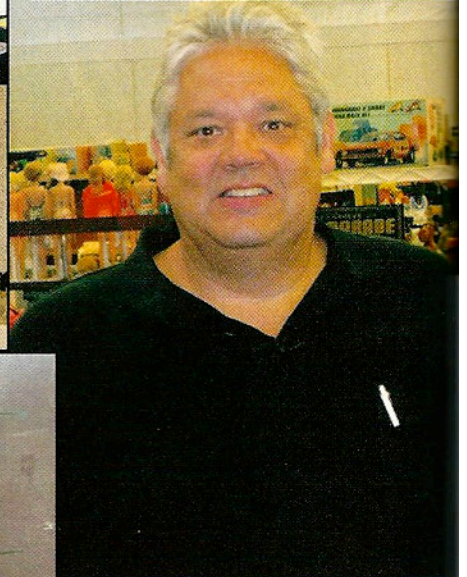
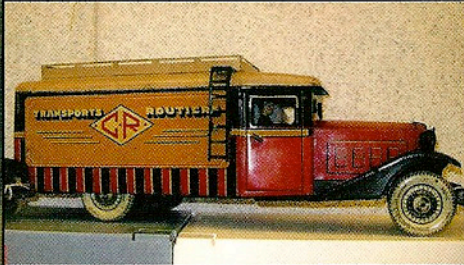
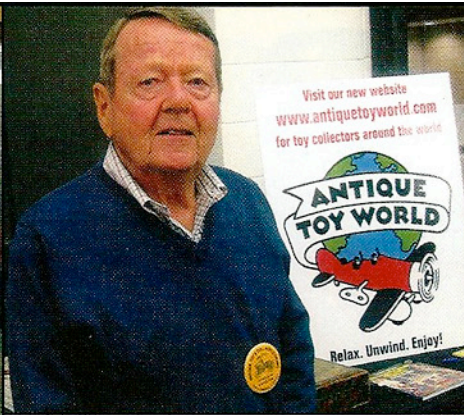


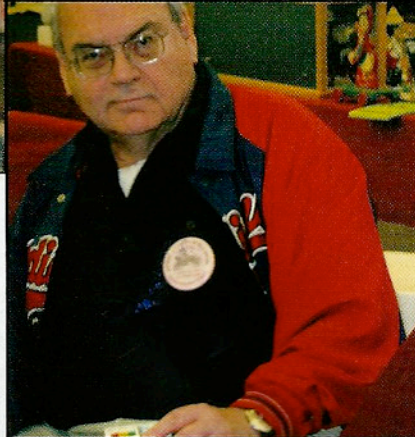
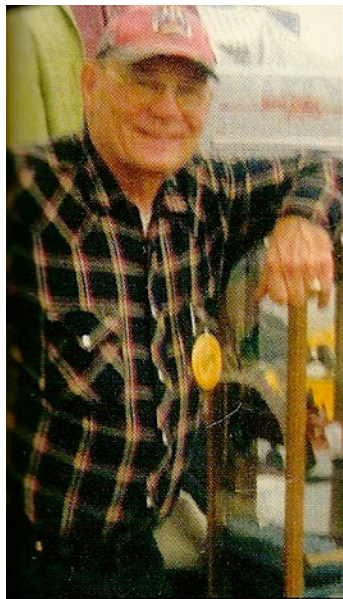
"Ya gotta see this" and, "have you been here yet?" Some rarities change hands as they are carried through the doors into the buildings, and everyone manages to somehow shop the show and also set up their own booth.

Favorite features from the past will return to the Chicago Toy Show on May 15, 2011:

- (1) The "Country Breakfast" is back! A chef and competent staff who will supply tasty and plentiful food all day will run the Atrium kitchen. Coffee will be provided free to dealers all day Saturday and Sunday morning before the show opens to the public.
- (2) The Summer Show is back! And it

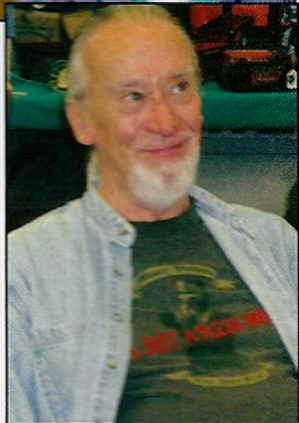






returns with 34,000 new faces...The "Chicago Toy Show Summer A-Fair" will feature our exhibitors in the Trades Building along the Main Midway of the Kane County Fair in 2011 on July 22 to July 24, from 2:00pm to 9:00pm. We will share our excitement over toys with a new and curious crowd, supplying them with keepsake souvenirs. It will be a Summer A-Fair to remember!

- (3) The Trade Building (formerly the Doll building) will reopen as the fourth Exhibit Hall at the May 15, 2011 show, filled with Pavilion dealers who chose to come indoors to showcase items too precious for outside that have not been shown before.
- (4) The October 23, 2011 show will mark the return back to our regular schedule, and future shows will be April, July, and October on our usual fourth Sunday.



When collectors arrive on a show date, they know they have found the largest toy show in the world as it stretches across four exhibit halls and pavilions, loaded with toys enjoyed by generations. Check out the website at <http://www.chicago-toyshow.com> for complete details, and know that the show is bursting with friends from past years who are anxious to see you again. The most valuable items in any collection are the acquaintances made along the way.

—Diana Tabin

