

*THE JOURNAL OF THE*

**McCOY POTTERY COLLECTORS' SOCIETY**

Dedicated to the Service of McCoy Collectors Everywhere

**Volume 22, Issue 2**

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**"McCOY IN BLACK & WHITE!"**



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**WELCOME**

The Board of Directors of the *McCoy Pottery Collectors' Society* are:

- President – Debbie Karnes
- Vice President – David Briggs
- Secretary – Mal Anderson
- Treasurer – Jenny Lahners
- Immediate Past President - Paul Moody
- Board Member At Large – Andrea Sackett
- Website Coordinator – Paul Moody
- Journal Editor – Craig Nissen
- Committee Chair person- Chrissy James

The Board wishes to welcome you to the Journal which is published four times a year, January, April, July, and October. The purpose of the Journal is to keep Society members up to date on all Society happenings and future plans and events. Additionally, the Journal provides numerous articles and information of interest to McCoy collectors that hopefully will add to the knowledge and enjoyment of McCoy pottery.

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**MEMBERSHIP**

All persons interested in McCoy pottery are invited to become a member of our Society. An application for Society membership and other pertinent information may be obtained from the Society Web site at:

**[mccoypotterycollectorsociety.org](http://mccoypotterycollectorsociety.org)**

**BUSINESS ADDRESS**

Please address requests for membership information, notice of postal and email address change, telephone number change, or general business correspondence to:

**The McCoy Pottery Collectors' Society**  
**P.O. Box 25**  
**BOURBONNAIS, IL 60914**

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**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Members are cordially invited to contribute their collecting stories, articles, photographs, or an information snippet to the Journal. Interesting stories have come from all across the country, and all submittals are encouraged for the enjoyment of all. Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Journal.

Please address your submittals, requests, or any Journal related matters to MPCs, 1794 Linden St., Grafton, WI 53024, or to the email address below:

**McCoyCN@att.net**

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**WANTED / FOR SALE**

Have one or more pieces of McCoy pottery that you would like to have, or some that you would like to sell? As a member of the Society, you may advertise your want/sale items in a Journal Issue once/year at no cost. Just email your list, with pictures, if possible, to same contact address as for Journal Contributions as noted above.

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**JULY 2024 CONVENTION**

The dates of our 2024 annual Convention are Wednesday July 10 - Saturday July 13.

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**By Debbie Karnes**

It is an honor to represent you as President of the McCoy Pottery Collector's Society. The society is now in its 36<sup>th</sup> year and going strong thanks to the dedicated and tireless leaders that have been a part of our organization. I would also like to thank all our members for continuing to support a forum for collecting, educating and sharing the love of McCoy Pottery.

On behalf of the society, I want to extend a sincere thanks to Paul Moody our outgoing president. Paul has worked tirelessly for the last 6 years leading this organization. Thankfully Paul will continue to be on the board as past president.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion is all set! The dates are Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The banquet will be on Friday evening July 12<sup>th</sup> at Bryan Place where we will enjoy dinner along with informative speakers. Please make your reservation for the banquet either by check or using the online payment option Stripe on our web site.

This year's theme is McCoy In Black And White. We would like to have an awe-inspiring theme display. However, to do that we need your help. Please bring pieces of black and/or white McCoy to display. The dress code for the evening will be black and white as well, please join in the fun! Here is a lineup of all the events

Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>

- Jeff Koehler McCoy Pottery Auction Preview  
2-4 pm
- Pizza party and social 6-8 pm At the Zanesville  
Quality Inn
- Room Shopping

Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup>

- Jeff Koehler McCoy Pottery Auction starting  
at 10 am
- Room shopping

Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>

- Annual Society Banquet at Bryan Place. The  
doors will open at 5 pm with dinner being served  
at 6 pm
- Room shopping

Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>

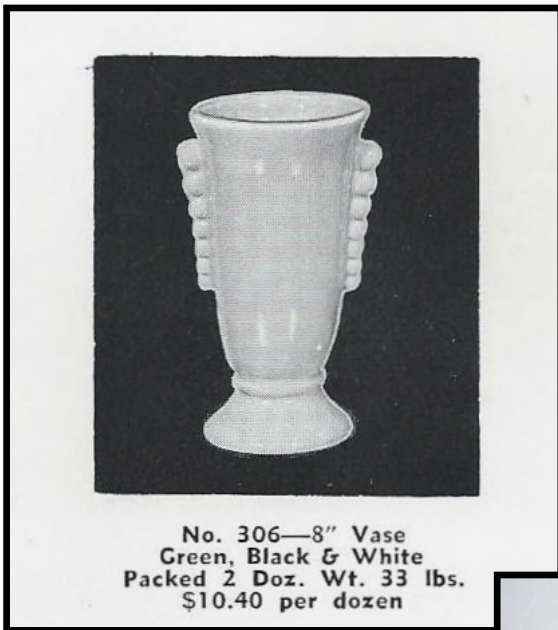
- Annual Society members business meeting 9 am  
in Quality Inn Conference room
- McCoy Society Picnic at noon
- Room shopping continues

### 1954 UNMARKED MCCOY VASE – OR?

By Ben Collectin

This McCoy Pottery 8 Inch Vase is a little unusual. It was produced in 1954 and was in the 1954-year catalog only. We do not know how many months they produced this Vase but it is a rather rare one to find so they likely only produced it for a short time.

The unusual characteristic is that it has no mark. If there is an era of McCoy production that has the highest percentage of pieces having been marked with “McCoy”, it would certainly be the 1950s. This unmarked feature might also add to the “difficulty to find” fact as people may not realize it is a McCoy Vase.



In the image left is the catalog page content for the Vase. On the opposite page is the 1954 catalog page where it resides. As you can see in the listing detail, the Vase was offered in Green, Black and White colors. When one of these examples do surface, it is almost always the green glaze decoration. The black glaze color is pictured above and like the white, a rare find. The green is pictured below right.

In the picture to the right, we have an example is a lovely brown glaze. This was not a production offering and truly quite rare.



## Vases - Solid Colors



No. 299—8" Wagon Wheel Vase  
Green, Birchwood & Black  
Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 54 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 306—8" Vase  
Green, Black & White  
Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 33 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 278—8" x 5" Vase  
White, Yellow & Green  
Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 50 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 292—8" Vase  
Green, Coral & Yellow  
Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 55 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 281—8" x 6" Vase  
Green, Pink & Yellow  
Packed 1 1/2 Doz. Wt. 50 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 282—8" x 6" Vase  
Green, Yellow & White  
Packed 1 1/2 Doz. Wt. 50 lbs.  
\$10.40 per dozen



No. 293—9" Vase  
Green, Coral & Yellow  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 35 lbs.  
\$12.00 per dozen



No. 291—9" Sunflower Vase  
Yellow, Green, Chartreuse  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 36 lbs.  
\$12.00 per dozen



No. 304—9" Swan Vase  
White, Yellow & Black  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 25 lbs.  
\$12.00 per dozen



No. 6—Vase Size 12"  
Gloss Green, Blue, Red  
and Matt White  
Packed 1/3 Doz. Wt. 35 lbs.  
\$26.40 per dozen



No. 83—Vase  
Green, White, Black  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 35 lbs.  
10"—\$17.60 per dozen  
Packed 1/2 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
12"—\$27.00 per dozen  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 35 lbs.  
14"—\$40.00 per dozen



No. 46—12" Vase  
White & Green Gloss  
Packed 1/2 Doz. Wt. 45 lbs.  
\$26.40 per dozen

### SNIPPET – 1950 PROMOTIONAL PAGE

**Additional Items For 1950**  
 **RIPPLE WARE WITH SUNBURST GLAZE**



No. 900 – 4" Jardiniere  
 Yellow w/Black drip  
 Green w/Red drip  
 Yellow w/Green drip  
 Packed 3 Doz. Wt. 24 lbs.  
 \$2.40 per dozen

No. 902 – 7" Vase  
 Yellow w/Black drip  
 Green w/Red drip  
 Yellow w/Green drip  
 Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
 \$3.80 per dozen

No. 905 – 8 1/4 x 5 1/4" Oval  
 Planting Dish  
 Yellow w/Black Drip  
 Green w/Red drip  
 Yellow w/Green drip  
 Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 22 lbs.  
 \$3.80 per dozen



No. 729 – 7 x 5 1/2" Mail Box  
 Green Glass  
 Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 42 lbs.  
 \$3.78 per dozen



No. 36 – Dec. Mother Goose  
 Cookie Jar  
 Brown Underglaze decoration  
 or White decorated  
 Packed 1/2 Doz. Wt. 26 lbs.  
 \$10.80 per dozen



No. 804 – 6 1/2" Vase  
 w/applied flower  
 Yellow or Red Flower  
 with Pink tinted body  
 Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 28 lbs.  
 \$4.50 per dozen



No. F31 – Rooster Planter  
 Blue & Yellow w/Green base  
 Purple & Yellow w/Green base  
 Comb and Gills RED  
 Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
 \$4.50 per dozen



No. F49 – Fawn Planter  
 Two tone Brown and Green  
 Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
 \$3.60 per dozen



No. 13 – 3 1/2" Jard. (Bottom)  
 No. 14 – 3 1/2" Jards. (Top)  
 Turquoise, Yellow, Green  
 Packed 3 Doz. Wt. 20 lbs.  
 \$1.32 per dozen

The Nelson-McCoy Pottery Company . . . . . Roseville, Ohio



Here is a single promotional page for Additional Items in 1950. How wonderful for us collectors that we can see some of these pieces in a McCoy Pottery document!

We have included a current photo of each of these excellent additions in that year for a nice detailed viewing





To the right we have two photo groups of the little Jardiniere pieces. As stated in the catalog copy, both of the little Jards were offered in turquoise, yellow and green glaze colors. The upper photo of one of the designs shows an example of all three Colors. The lower photo of the other Jard design is shown in just the turquoise and yellow.



## BASKET THEME COOKIE JAR W/ EAGLE

By Chiquita Prestwood

In Harol Nichols book, *McCoy Cookie Jars from The First to the Latest*, he shows a basket theme cookie jar with an Eagle in two colors. Made in 1968-1969 this Jar is shown in light brown and dark brown.

The lighter color is the common glaze color so I'd always had the darker brown in mind when out looking.



In early years of collecting, especially after Harold's book was printed, we wanted them all so I wanted the uncommon dark one. It was not until July of 2022 that I would spot one in the Antique Mall in Zanesville, Ohio. Could it be the Real McCoy after all these years? Why was it still on the shelf with many McCoy collectors in town for Pottery week?

Still, it looked right, the weight was right. Better yet, the price was right so it was mine! Once home, I wanted to compare my new find to the light colored one but could only locate the bottom of the light one.

So, I compared the bottoms as shown in photo to the right. They had the exact same height, indeed they were the same bottom pottery piece.





When putting the dark color lid on the light jar bottom, it fit perfectly. Finally, I had my answer; it was not a copy but the genuine dark color Basket Cookie Jar with Eagle.



Oddly, Harold valued the lighter one, more commonly found, higher than the dark one.

McCoy Treasures are not only the rare, hard to find pieces but, in fact, pieces that answer our questions and make us smile!

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### SNIPPET – PITCHER MARK

So you say you are looking for an McCoy piece example with the mark in great detail? Well look no further, this example certainly is a candidate for the best McCoy mark detail!



# MCCOY NEW COOKIE JARS 1960

Here is a price list and Promotional Sheet from 1960 for the New Cookie Jars being released for sale.

**Hand Decorated Ceramic Cookie Jars**

180 - Wishing Well

182 - Caboose

187 - Wind Mill

181 - Wedding Jar

179 - Coffee Grinder

178 - Oaken Bucket

184 - Pitcher

185 - Sack of Cookies

185 - Puppy

183 - Floral

THE NELSON MCCOY POTTERY COMPANY  
Factory - Office      Roseville, Ohio

Printed in U.S.A.      LITHOGRAPHY BY PAPPAS BROS., HAGERSTOWN, MD.

PRICE LIST - JULY 1960

NEW COOKIE JARS

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>LIST PRICE</u>	<u>PACKING</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
No.178	9x8½" Oaken Bucket Brown Spray Decorated Copper Trim & Handle	\$33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	32 lbs.
No. 179	9-3/4x6½" Coffee Grinder Brown Spray w/Black & Red Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	30 lbs.
No. 180	9x7½" Wishing Well Brown w/Green Drip White lettering	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	33 lbs.
No. 181	10½x8½" Wedding Jar White w/22K Gold Trim	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	35 lbs.
No. 182	8½x7" Caboose White w/Red Roof Hand Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	29 lbs.
No. 183	9x8½" Floral Black w/Floral Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	35 lbs.
No. 184	9½x8½" Pitcher Blue w/White cover Multi-color decal	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	29 lbs.
No. 185	9½x7½" Puppy Ivory w/Black & Brown Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	29 lbs.
No. 186	8x7½" Sack of Cookies White w/Gold Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	24 lbs.
No. 187	10x7" Wind Mill Blue Spray w/Hand Decoration	33.40 Doz.	½ Doz.	29 lbs.

TERMS: Net 30 days, F.O.B. Factory at Roseville, Ohio  
No packing charge

NOTE: All jars individually boxed 6 to master carton. Assortments  
may be ordered 2 each of any 3 styles to 1/2 dozen master.

THE NELSON McCOY POTTERY COMPANY  
Factory - Office  
Roseville, Ohio

**SNIPPET – GAY TIME PITCHER COOKIE JAR**

Released in 1960, the #184 cookie jar is in the shape of a pitcher. The “Gay Time Pitcher” cookie jar comes with two variations of the decoration. The couple is shown carrying a small plant for planting. The variation shows a larger plant and they are kneeling, enjoying the blooms. The cookie jar is marked “McCoy USA”



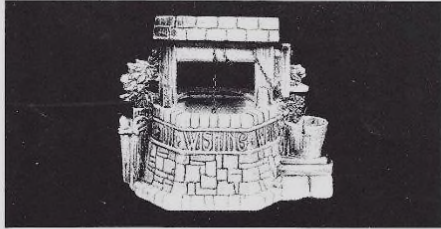
## TWO WISHING WELL PLANTERS – A SUCCESS STORY

By Chiquita Prestwood & Craig Nissen


The McCoy Wishing Well Planter was one of the most successful products ever produced by McCoy Pottery. For some collectors that may not be aware, there were actually two sizes of the planter produced. We will provide you all that detail including a couple of variations in this article as well as some nice supporting documentation.

Let's start from the beginning. To the right is a catalog page from 1949 introducing some new pieces. Note the Wishing Well Planter in the upper left area. Brown Blend is the only decoration offered. Also note the No. 725 designation and the size, 7 x 7-1/2 inches.


New 1949 Items




No. 725—7x7½" Wishing Well  
Brown Blend  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
\$18.80 per dozen




No. 34—Hobby Horse Cookie Jar  
White Decorated or  
Brown and Green underglaze with  
Hand Decoration  
Packed ½ Doz. Wt. 33 lbs.  
\$32.00 per dozen




No. 47—7½" Jardiniere  
Maroon, Yellow or Turquoise  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 45 lbs.  
\$9.20 per dozen




No. 35—3½" Hanging Basket  
Green or Yellow  
Packed 3 Doz. Wt. 24 lbs.  
\$5.60 per dozen




No. 16—Pots and Saucers  
Sizes 4"—5"—6"  
Green, Yellow or Turquoise  
4"—\$4.00 doz. 3 Doz. 33 lbs.  
5"— 5.20 doz. 2 doz. 35 lbs.  
6"— 6.40 doz. 1 doz. 30 lbs.



No. 78—8½x7" Triple Lily Vase  
White or Yellow Decoration  
Packed 1 Doz. Wt. 30 lbs.  
\$16.00 per dozen



No. 9—6" Cat Feeder  
Yellow or Green  
Packed 3 Doz. Wt. 50 lbs.  
\$5.20 per dozen



No. 66—5½" Chinese Planter  
Yellow, Turquoise or Black  
with hand decoration  
Packed 2 Doz. Wt. 24 lbs.  
\$9.60 per dozen

The Nelson-McCoy Pottery Company . . . . . Roseville, Ohio

To the right and below are three examples of the 1949 style Wishing Well with glaze decorations other than the standard brown blend. These were not production offerings but all do surface from time to time. Some may have been a modest contract order.

The first one has a very light glaze coloration with only a hint of any brown in the blend.

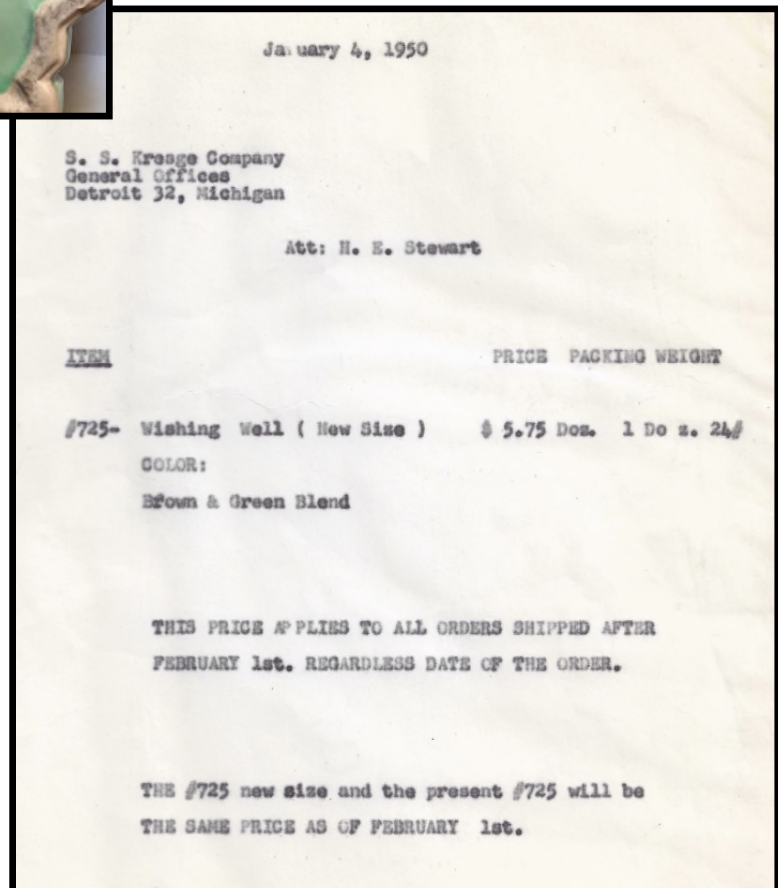


The second has a lovely burgundy and beige blend. Also note the chain on this example because it shows very well. This was on all Wishing Well Planters produced and a feature to make sure is there when buying a Wishing Well Planter.



The third is a light green base color with hints of brown. Notice the wonderful detail of the mark on the bottom.

So then in 1950; a “new” size was introduced. It was a smaller size and according to this memo, it implied that both sizes with the same catalog number would be available. Also, important to recognize that both sizes were to be the same price!



January 4, 1950

S. S. Kresge Company  
General Offices  
Detroit 32, Michigan

Att: H. E. Stewart

ITEM	PRICE	PACKING	WEIGHT
#725- Wishing Well ( New Size )	\$ 5.75	Doz.	1 Do s. 24
COLOR:	Brown & Green Blend		

THIS PRICE APPLIES TO ALL ORDERS SHIPPED AFTER  
FEBRUARY 1st. REGARDLESS DATE OF THE ORDER.

THE #725 new size and the present #725 will be  
THE SAME PRICE AS OF FEBRUARY 1st.



In the photo left, you can see the two sizes offered and sold in 1950.

In the photo right, are bottom pics. This might be the easiest way to tell the two sizes apart without a tape measure. The larger original size has the McCoy mark 90 degrees from the direction of the longest dimension on the planter. The smaller size has the mark in the same direction as the longest dimension.

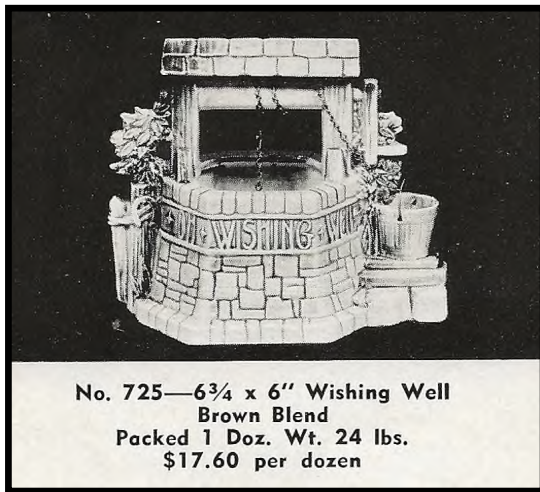
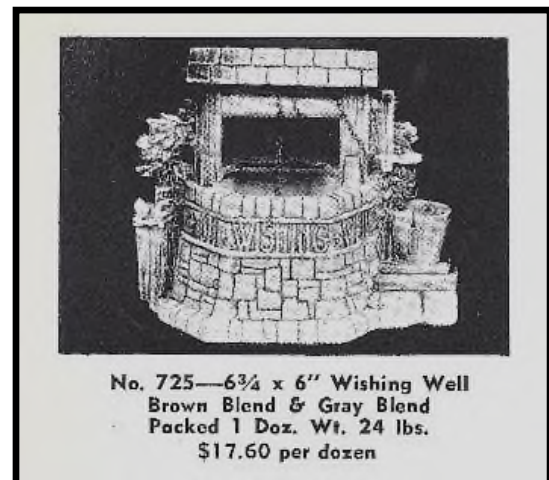


Image left from a catalog page from 1951. Note there is only one size listed; the 6-3/4 x 6 inches. So likely the previous year was simply a phaseout of the larger size especially given the same No. 725 designation for both sizes.

Then in 1953, as per the catalog image right, they added a Gray Blend option!





Current Best Sellers For Your Easter and Mothers Day Gift Season. Check Your Stock.

**THE NELSON McCOY POTTERY COMPANY**  
 MANUFACTURERS OF  
 HIGH GRADE EARTHENWARE AND ART POTTERY  
 ROSEVILLE, OHIO

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ ORDER NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DEPT. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SHIP TO \_\_\_\_\_ STORE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ B 3  
 HOW SHIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 WHEN SHIP \_\_\_\_\_

TERMS: 30 DAYS NET-F. O. B. FACTORY  
 MINIMUM SHIPMENT 100 LBS.

NO GOODS RETURNED WITHOUT  
 OUR PERMISSION.  
 POSITIVELY NO ALLOWANCE FOR  
 BREAKAGE IN TRANSPORTATION.

QUANTITY DOZ.	NUMBER	ITEMS	PKD DOZ.	WT.	GDST DOZ.
	No. 725 6 3/4" x 6" Wishing Well		1	24	\$6.00
		Brown Blend			
		Grey Blend			

This Gray Blend did not likely sell well as by 1954 this option was dropped and the catalog was back to Brown Blended as the only option!

The image of the Wishing well in 1954 catalog page right confirms the decision to go back to "Brown Blend" only for decoration in that year.

The Wishing Well Planter continued to be offered in that same fashion, smaller size and Brown Blend only through 1960!



In late October of 1999, an e-mail was received from Nelson McCoy on the topic of the Wishing Well Planter.

Nelson wrote;

“Chiquita, I remember the wishing well planter for two reasons. When I was real young, I helped drive my mother to Florida (probably about 16 years old) and we visited a Woolworth store on Flager Ave in downtown Miami. She went in and asked the sales lady where were the wishing wells, and the lady replied that she kept them under the counter, because if a district manager came in, they had to be on display, or on order. They apparently sold out too fast!

The second time I remember my cousin Jim Melick was our purchasing manager and he was telling us he had just bought ONE MILE of chain for the wishing well! It was sure a big winner for McCoy Pottery.” Nelson

What a terrific nugget of history that e-mail is for all us collectors!

There is another known Wishing Well Planter out there that was not made by McCoy Pottery. These two photos show you this other style pictured right of the larger size McCoy style from 1949-1950. This was made by Cameron Clay of West Virginia.



As you can see the designs are close to identical. There are a few subtle differences for sure but if not sitting next to each other, it might be a challenge identifying for sure. It is said that they may have started with the old 1949 McCoy mold.

When we look at the bottoms, here we have an obvious significant difference. As a matter of face, a lot of Cameron pieces have this similar “rail” design on the bottom.



One final topic to add to this story of McCoy Wishing Wells! In addition to the Planters, McCoy Pottery made a Wishing Well Lamp. The difference is that the Planters were a McCoy catalog product while the lamps were exclusively a product made for Buckingham Ceramics. Of course, McCoy made the piece of pottery and the customer added the other components like the shade, socket, wiring, etc.



The first photo right is of the Lamp complete with an original shade. This Lamp was also made with gray glaze color and included the same shade but in a burgundy color. And a third glaze color option made was chartreuse.

The Lamp body is in fact the same as the smaller high-volume size Wishing Well Planter that McCoy made for years as noted earlier.

Looking at the bottom of the Lamp, you can see it is marked Buckingham Ceramics. However, it is sometimes found covered by a felt material as shown in the other bottom photo but if you remove the felt, the Buckingham mark as below will be there.



The photo right shows a standard smaller size Wishing Well Planter next to the Lamp base. The pottery pieces are identical but for the piece running across the top. There you can see they went to a flat surface and eliminated the peak to provide a flat surface for the mounting of the socket. After the wire goes through that top section, it exits the planter. There is no hole for a wire in the base.

So, this article is likely all you might have ever wanted to know about Wishing Well pieces made by McCoy Pottery and possibly more. But as McCoy Collectors, it is kind of a neat thing to have a lot of



## MEET REBECCA DICKINSON

By Chrissy James

Wow as I thought my collecting of McCoy pottery started at a young age but then I was able to listen to the story of how Rebecca's collection started.



At the age of 15 her and her mother went to a garage sale. Rebecca wanted to find a flowerpot to be able to put a plant in to have in her room. Low and behold she found her first piece which consisted of a small artisan round white flowerpot with the beautiful McCoy mark on the bottom. Let me add that her very first piece of her massive 700+ collection of Mccoy cost her .25 cents.



“Her family did not pay much attention to her collection until after the Martha Stewart era. Now they all own at least one piece”. As most of you collectors know, when Martha was able to show her collection off, that this is when everyone made sure that they jumped on the band wagon to collect this beautiful pottery that has filled so many homes. Rebecca's husband's job was Heating and Air so he traveled quiet often. She said when he would travel, he would stop on his lunch at different places and bring a piece of McCoy home. What a wonderful husband.



What is your most memorable piece?  
 When I look at each piece in my collection is when I see memories. It's like an emotional attachment to each piece. I think about where and when I acquired each piece, and they all hold a memory. When my husband and I were at a flea market in the 80's I remember going into a booth and the seller had the black reference book out, but not for sale. I had never seen one and not even knew it existed. I asked the man if I could look at the book and I stood in the booth and read the entire book. Remember this is way before any of the other reference books came out. My husband went back to that booth and bought the book and signed it Merry Christmas 1989! What a nice gift from your husband. Over the years my husband has helped me to collect but didn't really get into collecting until we made it to Zanesville in 2019 and then he was hooked.



What other things do you collect?

Not much as we don't have the space. As we all know, McCoy can take up a lot of space in your home. Rebecca has had to resort to keeping some of her pieces in totes as she is not fond of this idea, but you can only display so much. Her and her husband do collect some old antique radios, old lamps and fans as her husband was a Heating and air man.



Why do you love to go to Zanesville in July?

It was always my dream to be able to go to Zanesville during pottery week in July. In the 90's I received the NMX press in the mail, and it was advertised in there. I always poured over those Newsletters. Then I was able to go in 2019 and I felt like it was an honor to be able to attend. I was able to meet Craig Nissen and Chiquita which was another thing that I dreamed of. My friends that don't collect just don't understand but when you go to Zanesville the collectors just understand you.

Do you find much in Florida?

"I do but not like Ohio where you can bring back a car load." I find my pieces at antiques stores, Goodwill's, Flea markets, Facebook marketplace and of course Ohio. Two of my best purchases

came off Facebook Marketplace.

As I was scrolling FB marketplace one evening, I noticed the black tall cat vase was for sale about an hour away from us. I messaged the lady and she said he was perfect. She asked how much, and the seller replied \$25 but since you're coming from an hour away, I'll take \$20. WOW what a steal. Her other purchase off FB MP was her liberty bell umbrella stand which is marked Cusick. What another bonus to add. I used to be able to find a lot of stuff off eBay in the 80's and 90's as shipping was cheap then.

If you could go back in time and be a worker at the factory, what era and job would you pick? I love the 30's and 40's because of the bright colors and I would be a decorator although I'm terrible at painting. I find this interesting as Rebecca told me that her siblings are wonderful artists, and she displays several of their art pieces throughout their home.

If there was one thing that you could have asked Nelson and Billie, what would it be? I know that they had several artists that worked for them over the years, but I always have wondered how they came up with so many different designs.

How do you display your pieces?

I display my pieces in cabinets and open bookcases. I have almost the complete set of Stone craft dishware that we use. We have a room of what we call the "Florida room" where we display a lot of our pieces. I try to change them out seasonally but right now it's a little difficult as our kitchen is in remodel mode.

Do you sell any of your pieces?

No, I have never sold a piece, but I need to sell as I don't like pieces being in tubs and not on display.

Wow, what an honor to be able to interview another collector that understands the pottery like the rest of us. I bet she never thought that the artisan piece at the garage sale would turn into a lifelong hobby. I thank Rebecca for giving me her time and sharing her passion for McCoy. It's always so nice to be able to speak with people who understand your obsession of McCoy pottery.



The following McCoy Pottery Company document is dated January 1, 1946. It is a summary of employee bonuses handed out mainly related to Holidays. If one thinks about wages in the early 1940s these bonuses seem pretty substantial!

EXPLANATION OF BONUS PAYMENTS PAST 6 YEARS

1940  
CASH Office Majority \$50.00, Several, more, at Christmas  
Factory " \$20.00, Few \$40.00, Key men \$50.00 at X'mas.  
Everyone \$5.00 Easter, Everyone \$10.00 Thanksgiving.

1941  
BONDS Office Majority \$115.00, Several, more, at Christmas at X'mas.  
Factory " 3yr. \$56.25, 2yr. \$37.50, 1 yr. \$18.75, few \$15.00/  
Everyone \$5.00 Easter, Everyone \$10.00 Thanksgiving.

1942  
BONDS Office Majority \$126.25, Several, more, at Christmas at X'mas.  
Factory 3 yrs. \$56.25, 2yrs. \$37.50, 1 yr. \$18.75, few \$20.00/  
Everyone \$10.00 Thanksgiving, Employees in Service \$18.75 X'mas.

1943  
CASH Office Majority \$116.25, Several, more, at Christmas at X'mas.  
Factory 3yr. \$56.25, 2 yr. \$37.50, 1 yr. \$18.75, few \$20.00 & \$15.00  
Everyone \$10.00 Thanksgiving, In Military \$18.75 at X'mas.

1944 same as 1943

1945  
CASH Office, same as 1944 plus 5% annual pay, plus extra Military, Xmas.  
Factory 10 yrs. \$76.25, 3 yrs. \$56.25, 2 yrs. \$37.50, 1yr. \$18.75,  
6 mos. \$10.00, School \$5.00 at Christmas  
Everyone \$10.00 Thanksgiving, In Military after Jan. 15, 1946 \$18.75  
if they return, In Military, return or state they will return before  
Jan. 15, 1946 same as others in Factory.

JAN 1 1946

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Auctioneer**

# MCCOY LIGHT “Think What Could Have Been”

By Mal Anderson

One of the things that perplexes a writer is not knowing what to write about next. Even though I have a little “writers block”, let’s see what I can come up with this time. In this article, let’s go back with our thinking about McCoy lamps and consider what could have been if the design, planning and sales departments used more of the great vases, planters and cookie jars in their lamp designs and offerings.

Early into McCoy’s quest to get into the lamp business, there were a couple of adaptations of vases like the V-2 that can be found as a lamp base.



What were they thinking as they didn’t use the V-1 vase (far left photo above) and turn out lamps in that form. That would have been a great attractive form that probably would have sold well along side of the V-2 lamp. That is especially so, knowing that the V-2 lamp came in about five or six different color glazes and the V-1 vase is only found in yellow and green. We missed out on that one.

Another early entry into the lamp sales era was the large handled vase that seemed easy to change into a lamp without much modification. They only had to reinvent the mold to enclose the top for the lamp fixtures and open the bottom so the bulb socket could be attached on the top easily from underneath.



Beginning in the 1930s, it seems that the designers at Nelson McCoy Pottery believed that getting into the manufacture of lamp bases was going to be a benefit to the company's bottom line so they put more focus into adaptive and new designs of lamps. One of the very interesting and desired shapes of ware was the leaves and berries planter and lamps shown here.



The years of the Second World War found most if not all potteries short on glaze chemicals as they were needed for the War effort. As soon as the War came to an end, chemicals were again available and the potteries resumed using their in-house formulas for their glazes and then ware was seen with those glazes used before the War began.

It is believed that Blossom Time was one of those post War categories of ware that began being offered around 1946. Someone in the design department must have thought that Blossom

Time vases would make ideal conversions to lamps. We have only found two shapes that were reimagined as lamps and with those, they were only found in white glazes. Here are those examples.



Questions remain as to why they didn't offer the Blossom Time lamps in their signature yellow along with white.

In the late 1940s, the 1950s were quickly approaching and so was the need to come up with more lamp shapes. The McCoy design department was only happy to make that happen. In 1950, there were those beautiful flower forms being offered. 1950 saw the advent of the hyacinth vase and soon after a lamp was reconfigured out of the vase shape. One has to wonder why they didn't also reconfigure the chrysanthemum vase into a lamp. It would have been a beautiful lamp.



Some of the other forms that were also made as lamps were the Arcature Vases (1950), the Rocking Chair Planters (1954), the Old Car Planters (1956), also the Gondola Planters, Pitcher and Bowl Planters, Sunflower Vase, plus also Horse Bookends of 1956.





I would be reminisce if I didn't mention the Hunting Dog Planters and Lamps. These planters are frequently available for sale. They can be found in various conditions and pricing. I have included a picture of both the planter and lamp. The lamp is very hard to find but of course the planters are frequently available. Even though they look the same in front, when you look at the back you will see the difference. They were mostly used as accent or TV lamps.



**Planter Back**



**Planter or Lamp Front**



**Lamp Back**

Why weren't the Flying Ducks and the Deer Planters configured as lamps and possibly the Liberty Bell Planter? They were very similar in design to the Hunting Dog Planter seen above. I guess we will never know. I'm sure you can think of others. What would you like???

There are various other vases/planters that have been configured as lamps including cookie jars from the 1960s and later. Here are some that I might like to see!

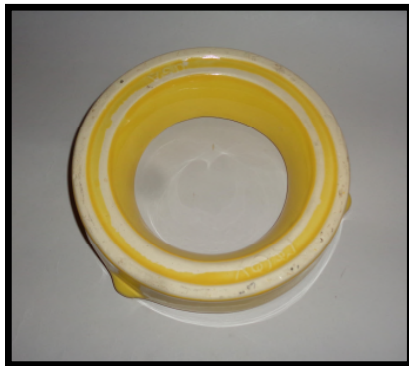


I hope that this article gives you a broad sense of what was done by the Nelson McCoy Pottery Company to increase sales and the bottom line. These lamps are near and dear to my heart and I love that we know a lot about them, their history and potter. Remember to keep those lamps lighted and good luck with your search for that ultimate McCoy piece you want to find.

# THE PANSY "FLOWER" RING

By Craig Nissen

In early 1951, McCoy Pottery released the "Flower Ring" or more well known to collectors, the Pansy Ring, into the market for sale. As you can see by the detail in the promotional literature, it was offered in yellow or chartreuse. The listing at the top of the next Page showing more new 1951 pieces also includes the Pansy Ring and described as such with notation that the two glaze colors are gloss.



### Additional Items For 1951

<p>No. M6—11x8" Centerpiece Chartreuse, Gray &amp; Flamingo Pink packed 1 doz. Wt. 22 lbs. \$21.60 per dozen.</p>	<p>No. 615—9x6" Centerpiece Green &amp; Yellow packed 2 doz. Wt. 42 lbs. \$16.00 per dozen.</p>	<p>No. M7—10x6 1/2" Decorated Dual Centerpiece Green W/Black Gray W/Green Yellow W/Green packed 1 doz. Wt. 25 lbs. \$24.00 per dozen.</p>
<p>No. 610—8" Planting Dish Green, Yellow &amp; Turquoise Packed 2 doz. Wt. 33 lbs. \$8.40 per dozen.</p>	<p>No. 614—8" Flower Ring Chartreuse &amp; Yellow packed 2 doz. Wt. 36 lbs. \$10.40 per dozen.</p>	<p>No. 735—8x5" Decorated Duck Planter Yellow &amp; White packed 2 doz. Wt. 36 lbs. \$14.40 per dozen.</p>
<p>No. BE5—6 1/4 x 5 1/2" Planter Book Ends W/felt Green W/Yellow Insert packed 1/2 dozen pair Wt. 32 lbs. \$36.40 per dozen pair</p> <p>No. BE5—6 1/4 x 5 1/2" Planter Book Ends W/felt Ivory W/Brn. Spray &amp; Green Insert Brown W/sprayed Metallic Finish W/solid Brown insert packed 1/2 doz. pair Wt. 32 lbs. \$44.00 per dozen pair</p>	<p>No. 123—20 oz. Pitcher White, Yellow &amp; Turquoise packed 2 doz. Wt. 30 lbs. \$5.80 per dozen</p>	<p>No. 9—5" Mixing Bowl Ivory, Green &amp; Turquoise packed 3 doz. Wt. 32 lbs. \$2.80 per dozen.</p> <p>No. 9—6" Mixing Bowl Pink, Green &amp; Yellow packed 3 doz. Wt. 42 lbs. \$3.75 per dozen</p>

TERMS: Net 30 days f. o. b. factory, no charge for packing.  
The Nelson-McCoy Pottery Company . . . . . Roseville, Ohio

The piece was marked "McCoy" on the bottom and "USA" on the bottom roughly across from the McCoy mark.

NEW ITEMS FOR 1951						
NO	SIZE	ITEM	PRICE	PACKING	WEIGHT	
#730-	7½ x 4"	Frog Leaf Planter COLOR: Green Decorated	\$ 4.90	Doz.	# Doz.	30 lbs.
#731-	5-3/4 x 5½"	Rabbit & Stamp Planter COLOR: Ivory w/Brown Spray	6.00	"	1 "	22 "
#732-	5-3/4 x 5½"	Chinese w/Basket Planter COLORS: Black, Chartreuse and Yellow COLORS MAY BE ASST. TO CARTON	4.20	"	2 "	24 "
#733-	8½"	Basinet w/Doll COLORS: Pink or Blue COLORS MAY BE ASST. TO CARTON	6.00	"	1 "	24 "
#734-	8½"	Clown on Pig Planter COLOR: IVORY w/Hand Decoration	5.40	"	2 "	36 "
#614-	8"	Pansy Ring COLORS: Green or Yellow Gloss Glazes COLORS MAY BE ASST. TO CARTON	3.60	"	2 "	36 "
#201-	7½ x 6"	Parakeet Shadow Box Hand. Decorated	6.80	"	1 "	22 "
#202-	7½ x 6"	Butterfly Shadow Box Hand Decorated	6.80	"	1 "	22 "
#284-	8"	Fitcher Bud Vase COLORS: Pink, Maroon and Chartreuse	3.00	"	2 "	18 "
#285-	9"	Modern Vase COLORS: Green, Pink and Yellow	4.80	"	1 "	30 "
#286-	9"	Fitcher Vase, Embossed COLORS: Green w/Brown Spray	6.00	"	1 "	30 "

In addition to the yellow and green production glaze colors, this burgundy glaze color shown right surfaces from time to time and has some other glaze color accents on the top surface.

We do not know but likely they may have had a modest contract job with a customer for some pansy Rings in this color as they do show up.





The example above is in a nice black non-production glaze color. There are only a couple of these known. This specific example was in the Billie and Nelson McCoy personal collection. Likely it was a color they prototyped and later decided not to include in the product color offering. The McCoy mark is located in the same place on the bottom as the production pieces implying it came out of the same mold.



This example of a pansy ring was also in the McCoy's personal collection. It has a different design with the top area being totally open. It is the only example of this design known to date. A logical scenario would be this was an alternative design for a Pansy Ring to be added to the product line and simply was not the style selected for production

To the right a Smiley Piece Set in the original box!  
How great is that!



**SNIPPET – YELLOW VASES - MARKS**

Nelson McCoy once explained why the same shape of McCoy Pottery could be found marked “McCoy” while others are marked “USA”.

McCoy items were sold to the higher end department stores and also “dime stores”. The prestigious department stores didn’t want wares marked the same as ware that was sold to the less expensive dime stores. The answer to that request was for the McCoy Pottery to use the McCoy logo mark for department stores and then mark the same vase USA for the cheaper dime stores.

The Tulip Vase in the photos included here was produced in 1942 and is a prime example of the use of the different marks on the same style vase.



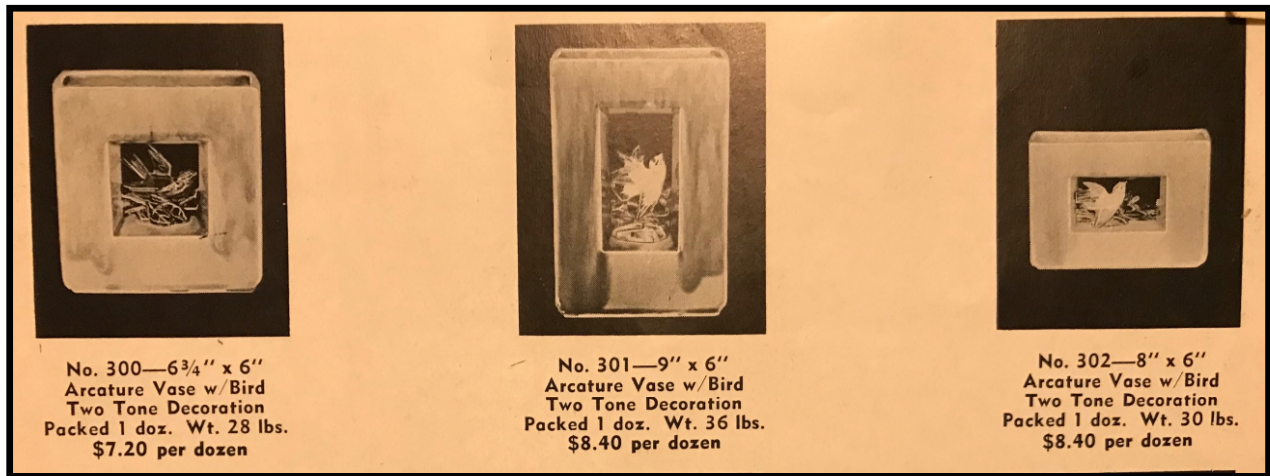
*Chiquita*



### THE ONYX ARCATURE VASES

By Chiquita Prestwood

During the early 1950's, the family of Arcature Vases were produced by the Nelson McCoy Pottery Company. The Vases were offered in three different design shapes. One roughly in a 6 inch square configuration, one 9 inches tall with the same 6 inch width and then one 6 inches tall with an 8 inch width. All three designs had the same depth. In addition, they all had a delicate looking bird piece mounted in their center opening. Looking at the real photo examples below you can see that each Vase had its' own center bird piece, three different designs.



As McCoy Pottery Collectors, we have noticed how the glaze colors always seem to run/blend together and now we may know why.

Look at the detail in the listing below. The glaze decoration colors that were offered on all three Vase were a green onyx, a grey onyx and yellow onyx . The use of the “onyx classification” would seem to explain the blended colors.

300- 6-3/4 x 6"	Arcature Vase w/Bird COLORS: Green Onyx Gray Onyx Yellow Onyx	\$ 7.20	Doz. 1	Doz. 28 lbs
301- 9x6 "	Arcature Vase w/Bird COLORS: Green Onyx Gray Onyx Yellow Onyx	8.40	" 1	" 36 "
302- 8x6"	Arcature Vase w/Bird COLORS: Green Onyx Gray Onyx Yellow Onyx	8.40	" 1	" 30



In these three examples of the square style Arcature Vase, you can see each of the glaze onyx decoration color options.

An internal photo from Nelson McCoy Pottery. Not known if the intention was to use in a promotional piece of literature or other use. What is significant for McCoy Collectors is a visual reference of all the sizes of these pieces together!





**RECENTLY SURFACED**



**SMALL MCCOY JARD**

A very popular piece with McCoy Collectors. Can be found with aqua, yellow or light blue glaze typically.

This example sold in December, 2023 for \$75.00 plus shipping.

**MCCOY COBALT VASE**

This 1940s Vase is about 7 inches tall. This example has that nice Cobalt Blue glaze decoration which was likely a big factor in the selling price.

This example sold in January, 2024 for \$ 131.50 plus shipping.



**EARLY BRUSH MCCOY WOODLANDS VASE**

Beautiful Vase is 10 inches tall. Excellent condition.

This example sold in February, 2024 for \$ 286.00 plus shipping.



**MCCOY POT AND SAUCER**

A tough find for sure on this Pot and Saucer from the early 1940s. This example has the burgundy glaze from the era.

This example sold in February, 2024 for \$ 376.00 plus shipping.

**MCCOY BURGUNDY VASE**

This popular Vase is covered with a burgundy gloss glaze. It stand about 6 inches in height.

This example sold in February, 2024 for \$ 95.00 plus shipping.



**MCCOY 7 INCH VASE**

Beautiful McCoy Vase in a beautiful gloss pink/coral glaze. This Vase stands 7 inches tall.

This example sold in January 2024 for \$ 62.87 plus shipping.

**RARE 1930s DECO VASE**

A terrific example of this rare 1930s Jardinière. Decorated with a lovely green tone glaze.

This example sold in February, 2024 for \$ 311.00 plus shipping.

**MCCOY BLUE JARDINIERE**

Lovely McCoy Jardiniere from likely the 1930s. Decorated in a wonderful blue glaze not commonly found on this piece. Stands about 6 inches in height.

This example sold in February, 2024 for \$ 94.00 plus shipping.

**MCCOY GLOSS AQUA VASE**

Beautiful McCoy Vase in a gloss in a gloss aqua glaze. Nice mold detail.

This example sold in February 2024 for \$ 302.99 plus shipping.



