# THE 尼伯OES REPORT

Deep South: Deco to 50's Fifties Foraging in Beantown 50's & 60's on the High Seas Progress vs. Preservation in Miami The Other Georgia Retro Travel Volume 1, Number 2

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DECO ECHOES PUBLICATIONS P.O. Box 2321 Mashpee, MA 02649 508-428-2324

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**The Echoes Report** is published quarterly and is distributed throughout the U.S.

The purpose of **The Echoes Report** is to serve as a resource guide to consumers looking for vintage shops, news, and specific items regarding the 1930's-19-60's eras.

Annual subscriptions are available for \$10.00, which includes 4 issues per year plus a copy of our color catalogue, **Echoes**. Please send checks payable to Echoes with name, address, and phone number (foreign subscriptions-\$20.00).

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### L E T T E R S

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> Karen M. O'Donnell Owner, Remember When Torrington, CT

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## Deep South: Deco to 50's

Where can you find 1930's-1960's items if you're breezing through the Atlanta, GA area? We posed this question to several of the locals and they all said "Go to the Highlands!" The highlands? Is there a flood warning in effect? No, the Virginia Highlands in mid-town Atlanta. It's a funky area full of boutiques and cafes, with an atmosphere right out of the Sixties. It's the perfect place to spend a couple of hours browsing through the many specialty shops, and that's just what we did!

#### At Catherine Stuart &

**Company** and **Poor White Trash's** combined shop we found a lot of chrome appliances, fiestaware, Halls pottery, vintage fabrics, lots of vintage clothing and a pair of bar stools. The small shop was full of interesting displays and everything was clean and orderly.

"The biggest and the best." That's what we found at **Antiques,Etc.** owned by Vic and Delores Matich. He claims he is the biggest and the best shop in the South for Deco through 50's, and he's got the stock to prove it! His huge shop, consisting of two front rooms and one bargain room in the rear is full of incredible pieces in mint condition. Erica phones, chrome soda fountain stools, formica kitchen table



Front window display at Catherine Stuart & Co. and Poor White Trash's combined shop promises a treasure trove of 30's-50's items.

and chair sets, 50's lamps, clocks, chairs, coffee tables, and much, much more! His stock is also in demand for movie and television sets. It has been featured in such hits as *Freejack*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Robo Cop*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *and In The Heat of The Night*. Definitely a must see shop!

After exhausting the Highlands area, and still hungry for more, we moved on to the "Chamblee Antique Row" in the Metro-Atlanta area. Here we were greeted by a large moose standing in a vintage 50's car in front of the **Moose Breath Trading Co**! This "arrogantly shabby shop" is full of the wildest, most unusual stuff you'll ever see.

Continued on page 14



## ITEM



Tupperware

#### Creation: 1950's

History: After leaving Dupont in the 1930's, Earl Tupper was determined to create his own line of products. In 1942 synthetic polymer polyethylene emerged on the scene, and Earl knew this was the material he needed to use. His first product was a 7 oz. bathroom tumbler, followed shortly by bowls with his trademark lids. The lid was fashioned after paint can lids, except reversed. This construction kept the bowl contents extremely fresh and stopped spills if the bowl was dropped.

Unfortunately, the bowls did not sell very well in retail stores. Tupper pulled them off the shelves and devised his brilliant home party system. Why did the parties succeed? In the 1950's, suburbia was a strange new place and Tupperware parties were the perfect way to meet your neighbors. **Today:** Designer Morison Cousins was recently hired to update Earl's 1950's style containers. He replaced the old ridged-top canisters with sleek new white-walled versions with smooth colored tops.

Further: Visit the Tupperware World Headquarters in Orlando, Florida! It features over 150 historic food containers, and a Tupperware Home. You even get a free sample on the way out!





## 50's & 60's on the High Seas



Ah, the 1920's..the heyday of oceanliner travel... grand interiors, mahogany deck chairs...not so.

You may be surprised to learn that more people travelled by ship in the 1950's than at any earlier time. At this time, a new traveller was joining the ranks of the upper class and poor immigrants who already used the ocean-liners for transportation, the middle class tourist.

The quintessence of 1950's style can be seen in the S.S. Rotterdam, owned by the Holland-American Line. First launched in 1959, it began its tourist runs of the Carribean and world cruises in 1969. Surprisingly, Holland-American has decided to preserve most of the interior so modern day travellers can cruise the high seas in authentic fifties decor! Coincidentally (or not) the Rotterdam is one of their most profitable ships afloat, and will begin transatlantic crossings in 1993.

Transatlantic crossings, you say? Isn't that the QE'2's domain? Yes, it is. How could a cruiseliner with a 1950's

interior compete with the luxurious OE-2? Easily, since the QE-2 is a veritable floating museum of 1960's high style decor...another step back in time. Helix stairs, molded plastic pedestal chairs, two million square feet of formica and color combinations such as pink with orange are just some of the elements used by top British designers to create the hallmark cruise liner for Cunard in 1969.

Unfortunately, modern day "renovations" have left the interior less than intact. Nevertheless, some of the original sixties scheme does remain-reminders of the fun. futuristic outlook of that era.

Boomerang tables or modular furniture on the high seas-you decide which cruise line you prefer.







SIXTIES

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ZERO TO SIXTIES



This is **Pee-Wee's Diner** on Slappey Boulevard in Albany, Georgia! At night the pink neon lights up the facade and shines off the chrome band around the front. And a deal is still to be had with their 99 cent hamburgers!

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## **Beantown Fifties Foraging**

**50's** fans be aware -- there's a new shop in town and it's *H O T* -- **Machine Age**. Opened in December, 1991 and located on Congress Street in Boston, Massachusetts, **Machine Age** specializes in American 50's designer furniture by Eames, Bertoia, Noguchi, Breuer, Saarinen, and others.

Besides furniture, which comprises one half of the large showroom, Machine Age also carries antique fans, small appliances, a large collection of fifties lamps, china (i.e. Russell Wright), globes, and other collectibles. We must make special note of the fans; there are over 200 of them in stock, all fully restored and operational. One whole wall gleams with their chrome and brass blades, some of them spinning to deflect the heat of the hot summer afternoon.

Every piece in the showroom is in mint condition. Owner Normand Mainville understands that his customers want their items to be clean and operational, and he takes great pains to make them that way. He finds his constantly changing stock by attending auctions, flea markets, and travelling to distant cities such as Dallas and Montreal. An item will not be purchased unless it is in excellent condition -- no chipped, cracked, or broken pieces allowed.



Molded pedestal tables, classic oscillating fan, and 50's table accessories highlight display at Machine Age.

Before the purchased stock ever sees the showroom floor, it must make a stop in the workshop located behind the showroom. Entering the workshop is like entering the land of the lost toys --dusty fans, dirty lamps, unfinished tables, chairs, bicycles, and much more pack this small space to the rafters. It is here that Normand sands and refinishes table tops, cleans the pottery, and checks the wiring on the fans, lamps, clocks, appliances, televisions, radios, telephones, and irons he sells. It is just this attention to detail and quality which has earned Normand an excellent reputation within the field in a small period of time.



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Continued on page 18

Two-wheel version of the chrome





Compact disc adaptation of classic jukebox found at Indiana's Antiques.

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## **Progress vs. Preservation in Miami**

On March 2, 1992, the Sands Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida was reduced to rubble. It took less than a week, and it was gone. Although the 1939 Streamlined Moderne building was a part of the National Register's Miami Beach Art Deco District, it was refused protection by the city's historic district, allowing the owners the right to secure a demolition permit.

The demolition of the Sands was the most significant setback for the preservation movement since the Senator Hotel was torn down in 1988 to make room for a parking lot. It also signifies the ongoing struggle between preservationists and Miami City officials to protect the district while promoting tourism. Approximately one fourth of the Art Deco District, containing over 800 hotels, apartment houses and other buildings, remains unprotected by local zoning laws or preservation ordinances.

To add fuel to the fire is the current city proposal for a new 1,000 room convention center within the district's boundaries. Preservationists believe that it is just such projects as this that will destroy the very qualities that make the Art Deco District so appealing. They propose a network of smaller, restored hotels as a better, more logical, solution.

Of course, if you

quickly look at Ocean Drive, the Art Deco District's tourist mecca, you could conclude that the obvious success and prosperity must outweigh the problems. But too many cars, too many people, too little parking, and inflated property values

threaten to destroy the residential neighborhood environment within the district. It is a difficult challenge to balance tourism with the needs of the residents. *Continued on page 21* 







Cone chair surrounded by 50's furnishings and accessories at *Antiques, Etc.* 









### The Other Georgia

**T**rue, Atlanta has over 300 antique shops and malls. True, Atlanta has massive monthly antiques and collectibles shows. But Georgia is far from a one-city state!

Exits 42 and 43 from interstate 75 will drop you into Perry's antique trail. Billing itself as the "Antique Capital of Georgia," Perry hosts a monthly market at the Fairgrounds with over 100 quality dealers. There are always several dealers featuring 30's through 60's items, particularly 50's and 60's. There are also 33 dealers at the **Perry Antique Mall**, Inc. and slightly more at the **Heartland Antique Mall**.

For auction fans. Sunbelt Auctioneers in Tifton features a broad variety of high quality items. Recent auctions have presented enamel kitchen cabinets, fiestaware, 30's-40's pottery, Fada radios, art glass, and Deco wall hangings and sconces. Another auction with a varied offering is held in Pine Mountain near Columbus on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. Most of their 30's-60's items are glassware and kitchen collectibles, although furniture occasionally surfaces.

Marietta boasts over 200 dealers clustered in four historic districts near interstate 75. Many of their shops are open on Sunday, which is an exception in Georgia. The Depression Glass Club holds their annual show and sale in late July at the Civic Center.

A few select items:

Gas pumps at Homespun & Sweet Antiques in Douglasville. Coca Cola items and cookie jars at Whistle Stop Antiques & Collectibles in Austell. Books at Magnolia Antiques in Douglasville.







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Clocks at **The Trading Post**, also in Douglasville. Coca Cola, advertising signs, and gasoline memorabilia at **Partners 'N Plunder** in Dillard. Marbles at **Bats in the Attic** in Ringgold. 50's

# 60's







Molded plastic chairs strike a dramatic pose in the window of *Antiques, Etc.* 

Neon gas station sign, auto-arm loveseat, and pocket chair at Moose Breath Trading Co. are just a small sample of what is available at this warehouse.



They specialize in restaurant and saloon decor, movie and theater prop rentals, aviation memorabilia, and nautical and fire collectibles. The huge 20,000 square foot space is *FULL* of these items along with vending machines, pay phones, old signs, barber chairs and much more. It's definitely "not your average antique shop!"

At Claire Jackson's small booth in the Rust & Dust marketplace we found a whole wall full of 30's-60's items! Chrome ice buckets, celluloid dresser sets, a deco bakelite ink well and blue mirrored clocks were just some of the treasures to be had.

Further down "the row" was Indiana's Unique Antiques run by Pattie and Ron Jones (clever "Indiana-Jones"!) With Atlanta being the Coke capital of the world, it's appropriate that they had a huge display of vintage Coca-Cola items -a bar and bar stools, signs, coolers, etc. .... They also had an impressive jukebox selling for \$5800, barber chairs, neon signs, slot machines and an unusual 4 foot lighted palm tree which hangs on the wall.

FIFTIES was the word at Bill Cass's shop in the Broad Street Antique Mall! Blond hutches, Russell Wright, boomerang glasses, and eclipse glasses packed his booth to the hilt!

Also at the Broad Street Mall was the shop **Past Tense** which specializes in lunch boxes from the 50's,60's, and 70's. They also had Kewpie cups, Erica phones, chrome bar stools, fiestaware, and jewelry.

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Excellent condition chrome kitchen set provides background for striking set of matched pedestal chairs at Antiques, Etc.





At Ann-tiques at the Mall we found a real treasure - vintage pocketbooks! 2 bakelite in solid colors and 4 celluloid purses in mint condition! They also had scarab bracelets and pins and hat boxes. A very nice little booth with exciting displays.

And at the Cannon Mall in Chamblee we spotted **Red Rooster Collectibles** run by Bonnie Boyle. She had general 30's-60's items, kitchen accessories, a grey formica kitchen table, vintage hats and palm tree pitchers.

So, if you're jetting through Atlanta, take a layover and visit the many exciting 30's-60's shops in the area!

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#### SHOP RESOURCE GUIDE:

Catherine Stuart & Company 804 A N. Highland Ave Atlanta, GA 30306 404-874-1450

Poor White Trash 804-A N. Highland Ave. Atlanta, GA 30306 404-874-1450

Antiques, Etc. 1003 Virginia Ave.NE Atlanta, GA 30306 404-874-7042

Moose Breath Trading 5461 Peachtree Road Chamblee, GA 30341 404-458-7210



Chrome stools, Erica phone, and fiestaware pitcher are just a little of what's available at **Past Tense**.

Claire Jackson Rust & Dust Antiques 5486-5492 Peachtree Rd. Chamblee, GA 30341 404-454-7161

Indiana's Antiques The Whippoorwill Co. 3519 Broad Street Atlanta, GA 30341 404-455-8357

Bill Cass The Broad Street Mall 3550 Broad Street Chamblee, GA 30341 404-458-6316

Past Tense The Broad Street Mall 3550 Broad Street Chamblee, GA 30341 404-458-6316

Ann-tiques The Broad Street Mall 3550 Broad Street Chamblee, GA 30341 404-458-6316

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Red Rooster Collectibles The Cannon Mall 3509 Broad Street Chamblee, GA 30341 404-458-1662



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**Readers' Swap** 

This section is dedicated to helping our subscribers network to find specific items they are searching for. If you are looking for a certain piece, or want to buy or sell an item, write us a letter, and we will publish it in our next issue. One of our readers should be able to help you find what you need!

#### Write to:

DECO ECHOES PUBLICATIONS P.O. Box 2321 Mashpee, MA 02649

Tony Franks 53 Marvin Ridge Road New Canaan, CT 06840 203-972-0606

Looking for home movie cameras from the 30's to the 60's

Ekaterina Renko 7 Carillon Road Brewster, NY 10509

Looking for Hawaiian artifacts and vintage pieces

Henry Frongillo 1111 Newtown Road Cotuit, MA 02635 508-420-3243 508-428-9747 Selling a mint condition, stunning wood Deco bedroom set. 4 pieces- armoir, side table, bed and dressing table with round mirror. Only \$1500.

Ron Drouillard 524 W. Surf Chicago, IL 60657 312-477-8252

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Joyce Kressler 11 Westwood Drive Worcester, MA 01609 508-756-3407

Looking for bakelite dominos any color

William Sommer, MD 9 West Tenth Street New York, NY 10011 212-260-0999

.....

Looking for ceramic dancing figurines by Cowen, Fulper, or Nancy Reedy from the 20's and 30's, with bobbed hair styles and flower arrangers on the side



Mary Saucier 102 Greaton Road Boston, MA 02132 617-327-8235

Looking for 50's-60's tablecloths, glasses, and clothing with New England maps and points of interest printed on them

.....

Robert R. Hoffman Dept. of Psychology Adelphi University Garden City, NY 11530 516-877-4743

Restoration and upholstery work on badly damaged furniture from the 1920's through the WWII era. Call for info.

.....

Mrs. Larry Spilkin PO Box 5039 Southfield, MI 48086-5039 313-642-3722

Looking for plastic and bakelite radios 1930's-1950's, especially unusual colors.

Jeff Freedman 800-222-5650

.....

Looking for streamline moderne art deco and machine age items

.....



He has a regular clientele of stylists who come in to rent his items for films, TV and advertisement sets because they know they can just pick up his stock and use it as is, no clean-up time.

So, if you long to sit in a 1952 Bertoia Diamond chair while watching your favorite show on a Philco Predicta TV and sip a drink mixed in a Waring blender, Machine Age is the place for you.

Machine Age is located at: 354 Congress St. Boston, MA 02210 617-482-0048 Hours Wed.-Sat. 12-5

As long as you're in the neighborhood, take a hop,



Normand Mainville relaxes in a womb chair at his shop, Machine Age.



A pair of 50's lamps bracket a religious display cabinet at **Machine Age**.

skip, and a jump over to **Populuxe** on South Street in Boston, MA. We did!

Partner, Laurie Eaton, gave us a tour of the 2,000 square foot space, and it is FULL. Full of furniture, kitchen appliances, pottery, lamps, religious artifacts, and other collectibles from the 1930's-1960's eras in the front half. The rear is a veritable treasure trove of vintage clothing! Beaded and sequinned dresses, jeans, ties, purses, jewelry, glasses, hats, shoes, gloves, and much more. While I was there, I just had to purchase a pair of 60's Foster Grant sunglasses--very cool and only \$15!

Laurie says that the clothing sells out very fast, since their shop is located in a residential

Continued on page 19

area and they have developed a strong base of regular customers. So, the stock is constantly changing and new finds are always to be had!

#### Populuxe is located at

92 South Street Boston, MA 02111 617-482-5207 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11-6





Chesterton. IN 46304



Wire chairs fall like raindrops from the ceiling of Machine Age.



Mannequin heads strike Vogue-like poses while displaying vintage hats and glasses at **Populuxe**.

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## **Retro Travel**

In 1990, Canada's VIA RAIL company made a bold move. They dropped half of their trains, and <u>completely</u> refurbished the rest of their fleet, bringing it up to luxury standards.

Now the vintage 1950's coaches, sleepers, diners and (*Wow*!) dome cars are all back on track. You can travel a scenic route across the Rockies in grande style, or use their triweekly service between Toronto and Vancouver. For reservations call 800-361-3677.

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Lufthansa has taken a step back in air travel. To emphasize its long history in the air, it has purchased and restored a 1936 Junkers trimotor airplane. It will be used for sightseeing and charter service in Germany.

This particular airplane is one of the oldest planes still operating. Lufthansa purchased it in 1984 and spent a year on the restoration. It now has modern instruments and 16 custom-made passenger seats.

Similar in appearance to the Junkers trimotor airplane is the DC-3. Created in 1935, it offered passengers safety, comfort, luxury, and speed

like they had never experienced before. It soon became the most popular passenger airplane of its day.

Today there are over one thousand DC-3's still in operation. One of the best ways to see and experience one is the DC-3 Sky Tour offered by Otis Spunkmeyer Air. Located in the San Francisco Bay area of California, their tour provides breathtaking views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, Angel Island, Trea-Fishermans's Island, sure Wharf, and the Marin coastline.

The nostalgic one hour flight is full of all the glamour, romance and luxury of air travel in the 1940's, the heyday of the DC-3's. Stewardesses are dressed in vintage uniforms, and 40's popular tunes play overhead. Sunset tours and private parties are also available. To book a sentimental journey through the skies call 415-667-3800.







Behind the preservation movement is the Miami Design Preservation League, founded in 1976 by the late designer, Barbara Capitman. Her perseverance succeeded in getting the Art Deco District included in the National Register of Historic Places. At the time, it was a derelict neighborhood, but her son and his partner led the way by purchasing and renovating 10 hotels and opening two restaurants. The district started to attract attention, and today Art Deco weekend attracts as many as 400,000 people each January.

So what is the solution? The Miami Design Preservation League believes that expand-

1827 18th Street, NW

Lower Level

ing the Art Deco Historic District's borders to coincide with the National Register's borders would be a giant step forward. This would protect buildings within the district from being razed by requiring the owners to have a building permit in hand before demolition occurs. The Preservation Board would also have the right to deny demolition approval, and in that case, 5 of the 7 city commissioners

would have to override the refusal before the demolition could occur.

Clearly, a balance must be reached between development and preservation, without the high cost of losing the beauty of a historic district.

NOTE: The 46th National Preservation Conference will be held in Miami from October 7-11. For more information call (800) 937-6847.





Queen Glue © 1992 Richard Emond





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## TIDBITS

"Leave the searching to Liz!" That's Liz Gordon-Philippe's motto. Her business, Liz's Antique Hardware, specializes in hardware and lighting fixtures from 1870-1950. She has over 300,000 items in her store, but if none of these meet your needs, she will search for a specific piece. For more information, write:

Liz Gordon-Philippe 3821 Park Boulevard San Diego, CA 92103 or call: 619-284-1075

When in New York, visit the Lower East Side's newest restaurant, **Orsons**. Named after the star of *The Third Man*, its small space features 1930's lights, a 1940's bar, and 1950's bent-plywood chairs. The menu is affordable and caters to every taste.

1960's fans who live near the South Shore in Massachusetts should tune their radio dials to WATD and WATB for "American Pop Radio," a new

I'll take a Big Mac, a Coke and a large order of fries to go please. Not here, although you would think so. This building is a bank! It was built in 1969 for the Trust Company bank and is located in Sylvester, Georgia. show created by publisher Steve White. It's a mix of audio tidbits from sixties' television, movies, news, and music, along with where-arethey-today interviews with 60's celebrities. Fridays 6 to 8 p.m., frequencies 95.9FM and 103.9FM.

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