

TREASURE SEARCH

Ansonia chime clock's value depends on base



Dear Nancy and Frank:

We recently inherited this chime clock. It was manufactured by the Ansonia Clock Company. We haven't been able to locate any history or value. Your assistance would be appreciated.

Donald and Susan W.,
Livonia

clocks. The company was founded by Anson Phelps in Derby, Conn. He owned a copper mill, which explains the generous use of ormolu on his clocks. By 1879, he moved his operations to Brooklyn, N.Y. He, like most other clock makers, didn't survive the Great Depression and subsequent World War.

Your clock depicts two female allegorical figures representing hunting and fishing. Your mantel clock is probably made of bronze or some other metal like spelter, a metal composed primarily of zinc, which was commonly used in clock production. The difference is important to your clock's value. We can only suggest some ways to tell.

Use a flexible magnetic strip as a test. If the metal rejects the strip, it's bronze. If the strip holds, it's another metal. If you look at the bottom of the clock, put a small scratch in the metal. If it shows white, the metal isn't bronze. If it shows a gold tone, it's probably bronze. But be careful in turning or lifting the clock.

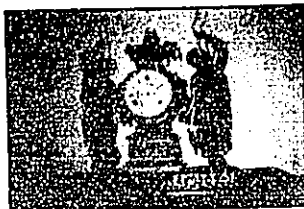
Also, a key issue is whether the works are original.

Depending on size and condition — if bronze — the retail range would be \$2,500 to \$5,000. If spelter, the retail range would be \$900 to \$2,500. Make an appointment and we'd be happy to look at it for you and tell you if it's bronze or not. Only time will tell.

Nancy and Frank Boos are with the Frank H. Boos Gallery, an appraisal firm and auction house at 420 Enterprise Court in Bloomfield Hills that has been in the auction business for more than 30 years. Do you have an item you would like to know about? Send in a good photo of it, along with its description (including size, working parts, etc.) and any known provenance (history) to *Treasure Search*, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. Include your name, community and phone number.

Dear Don and Sue:
In the earliest areas of civilization, the sun shone prodigiously and sundials were used to indicate time. As civilization expanded into areas where the sun didn't always shine, the sundial had to be abandoned and a new form of marking time had to be found. Voila — the invention of the clock!

Your clock was made by the Ansonia Clock Co., which was best known for its ornate, decorative and imaginative



Time will tell: The material — whether bronze or another metal — and works — whether original or not — determine the value of this clock.

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE ANNOUNCES

THE BIGGEST HOLIDAY SALE OF THE YEAR! FOR 4 DAYS ONLY...

FRI. 24TH SAT. 25TH SUN. 26TH MON. 27TH

SAVE 40% ON EVERYTHING IN OUR STORE!

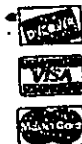
SAVE ON PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE, HARDEN, THOMASVILLE, LEXINGTON AND MANY MORE!

AND, AS AN ADDED BONUS
MAKE ANY PURCHASE OVER \$2500⁰⁰ AND
CLASSIC INTERIORS WILL PAY YOUR 6% SALES TAX!

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30
Open Sun. 1-3

VISIT OUR IN-STORE CLEARANCE CENTER

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE



20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile • (810) 474-6900

* All Discounts Are Off Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price.
* All Previous Sales Excluded • Offer Not Valid in Conjunction With Any Other Promotional Discounts.

AERO ♦ PACIFIC DRAPERY OUTLET

"We have been making beautiful custom draperies for over 40 years."

- Thousands of Fabrics
- Horizontal Blinds
- Shades
- Duettles

Highest Quality Custom Made Draperies at the Most Competitive Prices in Town

SAVE 70-80% OFF
Hundreds of Brand New Unclaimed Draperies

PACIFIC DRAPERIES
GARDEN CITY TOWN CTR.
5968 Middlebelt
(Just North of Ford Road)
(313) 421-0000

- FREE TRAVERSE RODS (with purchases of \$500 or more, new orders only)
- FREE IN-HOME DECORATOR SERVICE
- FREE MEASUREMENTS
- FREE ESTIMATES

AERO DRAPERIES
TEL-EX PLAZA
25279 Telegraph, Southfield
(Just North of I-94)
(810) 353-8000