



Antique & Collectible Fishing Tackle Hits An All Time High Lang's Spring 2007 Auction Sets A \$1.7 Million World Record

Extremely Strong Prices for Top American Tackle in Another Million Dollar Plus
Lang's Auction held in Boxborough, Mass. on April 19, 20 & 21, 2007

(April, 2007) - The trend towards the strongest prices paid for the rarest examples in outstanding condition continues in every category and at every price level. Two powerhouse collections were the highlights of the Spring 2007 Auction: The Dr. John Romero Heddon Collection started the cataloged auction and included an amazing array of rare lures, lure boxes and Heddon advertising, bringing world wide attention to American lure collecting. Starting the second session, The Kerry Chatham Collection, also creating world wide attention, for the most important gathering of the rarest American reels to ever come to auction. The prices for the remarkable early fly reels in this collection soared with the scarcest casting reels following closely. The first major auction offering of contemporary salmon flies, the Martin Boucher Collection, included thousands of outstanding examples by the world's most renowned tiers and enticed collectors and fisherman from several countries. While not entirely fishing related and out of Lang's usual area of expertise, a collection of original Zane Grey items was the talk of the auction and certainly stole the show when prices climbed into the thousands of dollars for many of the lots, resulting in world records for hand written notes, photos, letters, signatures, Indian Artifacts, books, etc. Rods, Original Art, Books, Advertising, Fish Decoys, Creels and Great Lures in every price range and category, all added to the record breaking total.

Reels: The Kerry Chatham Reel Collection saw strong prices throughout for quality and condition, especially in the very desirable small fly reel category. Included in this historic collection were four marbled side reels, with the top lot of this category and of the auction being an extremely rare salmon size Philbrook & Paine that realized a record \$29,120.00. The three other marbled reels followed: marked H.L. Leonard (\$19,040.00), marbled Philbrook & Paine 3" (\$17,920.00) and a tiny marbled Philbrook & Paine 1 7/8" Fly Reel (\$14,000.00). An outstanding Julius Vom Hofe Perforated Trout Reel flew to \$21,280.00, setting a record for this maker's reel without the box. Other top reels from this wonderful collection included: 2 Talbot Ben Hur Fly Reels (\$11,200.00) and (\$10,080.00) respectively, Large Coin Silver Billinghamurst (\$10,080.00), First Version Meek #44 (\$14,560.00), Fixed Handle Brass Billinghamurst (\$5,600.00), J.F. & B.F. Meek Numbered Screw (\$9,600.00), G.W. Gayle & Son No. 6 (\$7,280.00), Heddon No. 30 (\$6,160.00), Two Consecutive Numbered J.L. Sage Kentucky Reels (\$8,400.00 & \$5,600.00), B.F. Meek & Sons No. 8 (\$7,280.00), B.C. Milam No. 6 (\$4,025.00), G.W. Gayle & Son No.3 (\$5,264.00), B.C. Milam & Son No.5 (\$4,025.00), B.C. Milam No. 1 (\$6,720.00), Brass Meek & Milam No. 1 (\$3,450.00), Meek & Milam No. 2 (\$2,240.00), B.F. Meek & Sons Club Special (\$2,280.00), B.F. Meek No. 4 (\$2,875.00), etc. Other reels: Sage No. 4 (\$5,400.00), EVH 1/0 (\$5,700.00), Zwarg 2/0 (\$2,352.00), EVH Restigouche (\$2,128.00), JVH 12/0 (\$2,352.00), Hardy Jock Scott in Box (\$2,040.00), Pflueger Golden West in Box (\$2,464.00), Seamaster Mark I (\$2,400.00), Bogdan No. 00 (\$2,128.00), Heddon 4-15 (\$2,352.00), Heddon No. 35 (\$2,280.00), Heddon 4-18 (\$2,240.00), Jack Welch in Box (\$2,016.00), Heddon No. 1 (\$1,680.00), Mitchell 300 Tournament (\$1,200.00), Fin-Nor No. 1 Wedding Cake (\$1,680.00), Fin-Nor No. 2 Wedding Cake (\$1,680.00), Seamaster Salmon (\$2,128.00), Pettengill No. 4 Side Mount (\$1,232.00), Follett Side Mount (\$1,232.00), JVH Black Bass (\$1,092.00), etc.

Lures: Dr. John Romero's collection included the most important grouping of Heddon lures ever seen by the public and gave many lure collectors the thrill of a lifetime with a chance to view one of a kind lures that may not be seen on the open market again for decades. Many new lure collectors were certainly gained by offering this collection to the public as was evidenced by the record numbers of online bidders in this category and the huge number of emails received by first

time Heddon lure buyers. The top lure in this collection was the Musky Night Radiant Charmer from the Heddon Factory Board, realizing \$13,500.00. A small sample of other lures: Exp. Musky Tadpole (\$2,352.00), Musky Zaragossa (\$1,380.00), 151 Minnow/Box (\$5,600.00), Late Slopenose/Box (\$5,040.00), Minnow/Pine Tree Box (\$3,360.00), Killer/Box (\$2,240.00), R/W Killer/Box (\$3,000.00), Casting Bait/Box (\$3,080.00), "00" Minnow/Box (\$1,848.00), Squid Bait (\$2,128.00), Slopenose Expert (\$2,400.00), Kinney Bird/Box (\$5,880.00), Night Radiant (\$5,600.00), Underwater Expert (\$3,220.00), 300 Musky Minnow (\$3,808.00), Exp. Frog (\$3,220.00), Lt Casting Minnow/Box (\$1,456.00), Bottlenose Tadpole/Box (\$2,760.00), Underwater Minnow/Box (\$1,904.00), Coast Minnow (\$2,300.00), Muskellunge Minnow (\$1,920.00), Tadpole (\$1,140.00), 7500 Vamp/Box (\$2,464.00), Zig Wag (\$1,232.00), Coast Minnow (\$2,128.00), Wiggle King/Box (\$1,008.00), Black Sucker (\$7,200.00), 150 Minnow (\$1,800.00), Surface Minnow (\$2,040.00), Jointed Vamp (\$4,500.00), Polly Runt (\$1,440.00), 200 Surface Bait (\$1,840.00), 707 Muskellunge Minnow (\$2,688.00), Y/B Spindiver (\$9,600.00), Goldfish Spindiver (\$4,144.00), Perch Scale Spindiver (\$6,000.00), Red Spindiver (\$9,600.00), Surface Minnow (3,136.00), Ice Decoy (\$3,472.00), 150 Underwater Minnow (\$5,100.00), Zaragossa (\$2,128.00), Flipper (\$1,792.00), Round Nose Vamp (\$3,105.00), SOS Minnow (\$2,128.00), Musky Vamp (\$2,128.00), Lucky 13 (\$1,456.00), Salmon River Runts (\$1,440.00), Fly Angler's Outfit (\$1,920.00), Wilder-Dilig in Box (\$1,560.00), etc. Other notable lures: Comstock Flying Hellgrammite (\$8,400.00), Heddon Westchester Flyrod Lure (\$1,456.00), Manistee Minnow (\$5,320.00), Ideal Minnow (\$2,520.00), Musky Chippewa Minnow (\$2,040.00), Woods Expert Minnow (\$1,920.00), Wilcox Wiggler (\$1,792.00), Musky Pepper New Century Minnow (\$2,128.00), Octopus Minnow Wood Box (\$5,040.00), Creek Chub Wigglefish (\$3,472.00), Creek Chub Beetle (\$3,360.00), Creek Chub Dingbat (\$3,360.00), Viking Frog (\$2,040.00), Rhodes Minnow/Box (2,400.00), Tiny Shakespeare Underwater Minnow/Box (\$1,840.00), Single Hook Pikaroon/Box (\$2,760.00), Gregory Swivel Tail Minnow (\$2,280.00), Hungry-Jack/Box (\$2,300.00), Exp. Pflueger Frog (\$1,120.00), Creek Chub Husky Plunker (\$1,320.00), Revolution/Box (\$2,400.00), etc.

Rods: 7 1/2' Payne (\$3,360.00), Howells 8' (\$3,080.00), Maxwell 7' (\$2,800.00), Leonard 8' (\$2,800.00), Winston 7' (\$3,528.00), Leonard Catskill Pack Rod (\$2,800.00), Goodwin Granger 7 1/2' (\$1,680.00), Young 8' (\$2,640.00), Leonard Model 50H (\$2,280.00), Kosmic 8 1/2' (\$1,320.00), T&T 8' (\$1,140.00), Thomas Dirigo 7 1/2' (\$1,080.00), Wright & McGill 7 1/2' (\$1,080.00), Abbey & Imbrie Edwards 9' (\$1,050.00), Peak Graphite 8' 1" (\$900.00), Heddon 8' (\$840.00), etc.

Advertising: Included in the Romero Heddon Collection were wonderful Heddon Advertising Signs: Die Cut Vamp Sign (\$4,200.00), Zig Wag Die Cut (\$3,360.00), Luny Frog Die Cut (\$2,415.00), No-Snag Poster (\$1,320.00), etc. Other notable advertising: A&I Store Fly Display (\$1,265.00), Creek Chub Die Cut (\$1,568.00), etc.

Zane Grey: A collection consigned from the descendants of Grey's secretary enjoyed record prices driven by the most ardent Zane Grey Collectors. The top lot was Grey's original hand written Tales of the South Seas that realized \$14,560.00. With dozens of serious Zane Grey enthusiasts vying for most every lot, the collection did extremely well. Other significant lots: ZG Passport (\$2,240.00), Bookstore Photo (\$3,162.50), Fishing Photo (\$2,800.00), Baseball Photos (\$3,360.00), Press Photos (\$6,160.00), Betty Zane Book (\$1,232.00), Tales of Fishes Book (\$4,500.00), 6 Brochures (\$9,600.00), 2 Bonefish Brigade (\$8,960.00), Hardy Catalog (\$2,800.00), 2 Ashaway Line Spools (\$1,288.00 & \$1,020.00), Yei Rug (\$8,400.00), 4 Indian Pottery (\$3,360.00, \$3,360.00, \$3,405.00 & \$3,688.00), Romer Grey Items (\$5,600.00), Journal Pages (\$2,464.00), Several Lots of Hand Written Pages (\$10,640.00, \$6,160.00, \$4,480.00, \$7,280.00, \$3,920.00, etc.), 1918 Journal (\$5,600.00), Hand Written Note Book (\$8,960.00), Signed Documents (\$6,325.00), Personal Letters (\$3,024.00), 2 Lots of Documents (\$7,280.00 & \$6,720.00), Signed Books (\$9,520.00), etc.

*** The April 2007 Discovery Auction shattered previous totals, realizing \$134,528.00**

* All prices reflect the appropriate buyer's premium.