

Wilton Spring Antiques Show Revives The Brand

Two-Day Format Popular With Many Dealers



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Knollwood Antiques, Village of Thorndike, Mass.,
Antiques at 30B, Lake Lucerne, N.Y., Friedman Gallery,
Weston, Conn., Robert Perry and Nancy Fishelson,
Orchard Park, N.Y.*

Review and Photos by W.A. Demers

WILTON, CONN. — Here is a tale about defying the odds — attempting a revival of a storied antiques show, introducing a new date and opening the doors on the first brilliantly sunny and warm day after a hellacious winter. Frank Gaglio of Rhinebeck,



Steve Gero, owner of Old Village Antiques, Avon, Conn., has perfected the art of using "vertical space" in displaying some of his classical early furniture.



N.Y.-based Barn Star Productions, manager of the Wilton Spring Antiques Show, will tell you that even he had a bit of anxiety leading up to the event's April 18–19 run, but defying the odds worked. “I was thrilled with the consistent attendance throughout the weekend,” said Gaglio afterward, “and people were buying! We all have memories of Wilton shows past, and it’s always

Justin Cobb, the Amherst, Mass., specialist for marine art, antiques and sailor folk art, also deals with strikingly graphic Native American material, such as this vintage mask by a Nootka Island artist. Behind Justin is an American School portrait of a sea captain.

had a special significance for me because I exhibited there for years.”

So, even though the size was more “boutique” (45 dealers) than

behemoth, this two-day show conducted at the Wilton High School Field House to benefit the Wilton Historical Society offered a relaxed



Spotted Horse Antiques, West Windsor, Vt.



◀ *Garvey Rita Art & Antiques, West Hartford, Conn.*



Valued for his early scenes of ▲ Nantucket, Wendell Ferdinand Macy (1845–1913) rendered this atmospheric farm scene titled "Breaking Light." It was shown by David & Donna Kmetz, Douglas, Mass. Said Donna, "I enjoyed being at Wilton. I thought the show looked good and found the layout really pleasant. I had some decent sales and caught up with several people who live in the area."

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environment, giving customers time to shop the show on their weekend

schedule, go home, measure and revisit the show on the second day.

Gaglio reported that, factoring in Sunday reentrees, approximately 700 browsed the aisles. The two-day format also encouraged dealers to pull together more elaborate displays than the one-day format allowed in the past.

“I’m happy to say Robert and I had a very good show,” said Nancy

Fishelson, who shared a booth with Robert Perry, another Orchard Park, N.Y., dealer. “I believe the two-day format works much better than a one-day show, as new people came the second day.” [\(Continued on page 17 inside the E-edition\)](#)

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