

WHY THE COLLECTOR'S REVIEW?

We're not in competition with other publications such as the "Eureka" but seek to complement them with additional coverage of those aspects of mining not related to lighting and concentrate more on the western U.S. The "Review" will seek to fill a niche left by a previous artifact-related periodical no longer in publication.

We are sending this issue as a complimentary one so that the readers can judge its contents and decide if they wish to subscribe for the next 3 issues. A subscription form is enclosed for convenience. Please examine this publication and let your friends know that we're signing up subscribers now.

ANDY'S PHILOSOPHY

Here's some advice from Andy Martin on the preservation of wooden artifacts:

1. Don't do anything you can not undo. No shellac, varnish, etc. Don't let sun melt the wax. Be careful that the grease on a slimy board does not rub on to others. Don't let long term exposure to sun bleach litho candle ends.

2. Cleaning - I use a garden hose, be careful not to blast off lettering. Dry items in the shade.

3. Record where it came from - mine - date - who found it, perhaps level it came from. I just write in the back side of the item (breaking rule #1). You can also staple a piece of paper to the backside.

4. Repairing. White glue (will dissolve in water), rubber bands, vice grips and staples (for temporary stabilization) are used.

5. Nails - probably best to leave as is, but I often pull them, or hammer till flush. Try to leave at least one, so people know if it is a cut nail, or wire nail piece.

6. Storage. Be careful about rubbing damage. For best pieces I sometimes wrap in cloth, and then garbage bag. In garage or shed, keep them off the floor to avoid water damage, watch for bugs and termites.

7. You don't have to haul every scrap out of a mine. Photo cruddy items and put 'em back if you don't want 'em. If you get something home and then find no one wants it, return it to the mine if not too much trouble.

- Andy 