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Friday, 04/21/06

Old Lyme painters loved capturing the countryside

Hey Connie Sue,

I have a painting that we are curious about. It is titled *Blessing the Harvest*, and it's by Carlton Wiggins. It is on canvas and is framed with the mark "Made in Sweden." There are notes written in marker on the cardboard that is attached to the back of the canvas that says:

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"Carleton Wiggins
Blessing the Harvest
Brittany or Holland
Cleaned and varnished in 1983"

Other notes say:

"Carleton Wiggins
Blessing the Harvest
Father of Guy Wiggins"

There is a gold plaque on the front of the frame with the title and painter name. The dimensions are 29 inches by 35 inches.

The info that I have found is that Carlton and



[enlarge](#)

This painting, *Blessing the Harvest*, by Carleton Wiggins, is likely worth more than \$5,000.

Contact Connie Sue Davenport with any questions about your antiques and collectibles, and we'll discuss them here. Send to conniesue@conniesueinc.com or by mail in care of Williamson A.M.

TODAY'S Features STORIES:

Guy are popular Connecticut artists. Someone told me that Carlton studied art in Europe, which is where he may have painted this.

Everyone who I have tried to get info from wants me to mail them the painting, and I am not comfortable doing so until I know more about it. Any info would be wonderful.

Thanks for your help

— **Joe and Donna Taylor, Brentwood**

Dear Joe and Donna,

Carleton Wiggins, born in New York, lived from 1848 to 1932.

You are correct, Wiggins studied in Europe, but this painting is probably a product of his love of the Connecticut countryside and his work to perpetuate the Old Lyme, Connecticut colony of painters who gathered to paint the open fields, rivers, streams, shores and pastures. The original group, which began in 1899, included Childe Hassam.

Carleton's son, Guy Wiggins, also was a talented artist. One of his paintings is in Nashville's Parthenon Cowan Collection of American artists from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Carleton Wiggins' teacher, George Inness, and Inness' son are also part of this remarkable collection on permanent display.

The color and activity in your painting adds interest to the lush pasture and dreamy sky. This painting might sell for \$5,000-\$8,000 with adjustments made for condition and verified authenticity. Carleton Wiggins signed his work in the lower left corner and I can see a faint signature in your photo.

I'd love to see the painting. Maybe you can bring it by Legacy Crossing Retirement Community at 910 Murfreesboro Road in Franklin tomorrow.

I'll be providing verbal appraisals at an event sponsored by Legacy Crossing, Let's Get Moving, and Century 21 Dawson and Associates. No guns or fine jewelry, please, but bring a friend to listen for a while. There will be light refreshments, too. What a lovely gift from these businesses to their community this is. Call 794-6005 (Legacy), 371-0021 (Century 21), or 599-6787 (Let's Get Moving) for more information.

- Tai chi spreads the music of movement



TODAY'S TOP STORIES:

- Pamela Rogers arrested again in sex case
- Man arrested in Smyrna shooting
- Investigators re-interviewing everyone in Smyrna toddler's disappearance
- Mother, teenage daughter slain in south-side home
- Nissan must hire half of HQ staff
- Predators manhandled again, trail Sharks 2-1



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