



Willow and the Holidays

## Pair of Staffordshire Whippets with Willow Border Bases, c. 1900



# IWC News

Official Newsletter  
of the International  
Willow Collectors

Volume Five  
December 2006

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### Vice President

Jennifer Cather

### Secretary

Franklin Ladner

### Treasurer

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Rose Gray

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*These regional groups are organized  
independently of IWC. For more  
information about joining one,  
contact the group for details.*

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**Annual Dues**, which run from January 1 to December 31,  
are \$30 for an individual, \$40 for a family at the same address.  
Outside the U.S., dues are \$35 for an individual and \$40 for a family.

**For membership**, send payment to:

Judy Prophet, 4323 Ortega Farms Circle, Jacksonville, FL 32210  
email: rjkprophet@aol.com

**Visit the IWC website** to view membership, convention information and  
message board:

**[www.willowcollectors.org](http://www.willowcollectors.org)**

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Please send all news, articles and photos to:

IWC, Nancee Rogers - Editor, 6730 Main St, Newtown, OH 45244  
email: nanceer@fuse.net

## Around the Willow Tree

You may not have known, but member Zeta Hollingsworth (TX) was diagnosed with West Nile Virus after returning home from the convention. She continues to improve but has a long road ahead in rehabilitation. From husband, Charles:

*Zeta is making slow but steady progress in her battle with the effects of West Nile Virus. Her legs continue to be very weak but we are getting her to stand behind a walker for about a minute or two every day. We hope that soon she will be strong enough to take a step. I still have to help pull her up by what is called a "gate belt", but once she is up and has locked her knees, she can stand for a short period of time. We have home health care therapist who come to the house 2 or 3 days a week to work with her and we do leg exercises two or three times a day in an effort to get her muscles back to the point where she can support herself and eventually walk again. We also go to Baylor Hospital Rehab twice a week where there is a heated therapy pool. They have taught me how to get her in and out of the pool in a chair lift and walk with her in the pool on a walker. These sessions seem to be helping her more than anything else. For now we must load her into the car and then take the wheelchair everywhere we go. The Dallas/Ft worth area has had right at 150 reported cases this year, with 11 deaths.*

*We ask your continued prayers, thoughtful emails and cards. Just don't forget the bug spray when you go out. Mosquito season may be over for this year but remember next spring what terrible things one little mosquito bite can do. We're still holding out hope that we can come to Hershey, PA. in 2007. See ya'll there.*

*Love you all – Charles & Zeta*

I am sure a card or note would be greatly appreciated. (JS)

Zeta Hollingsworth,  
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cwhollingsworth@att.net

## On the Cover

The photo on the cover features a matched set of Staffordshire whippets with the standard blue willow border on each of the bases. Standing 5.25 " high, one has copper luster spots, while the other has gold luster spots. Each base is highlighted by an over-the-glaze copper luster line decoration. The unmarked pair most likely dates from 1890-1910 and is identical to one in the Rita Cohen collection (see photo below).

*Collection of Loren Zeller*



*Above photo courtesy of Rita Cohen & Connie Rogers.*

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## IWC News Submission Deadlines

March 1st for April Issue  
July 1st for August Issue  
November 1st for December Issue

We welcome any photos, articles or information you'd like to share.

# “Other” Willow Patterns

By Connie Rogers

As most of us are aware by now, there are many different patterns identified as willow patterns. The IWC has traditionally recognized about 12 different variants as the main willow patterns that members collect. Just for the record, these are: 1) Standard or traditional willow, 2) Two Temples I, 3) Two Temples II, 4) John Turner willow, 5) Mandarin, 6) Burleigh, 7) Booths, 8) Worcester, and 9) Canton. In addition there are decal patterns such as the “Parrot” decal that is actually a decal representation of Two Temples II, “Pekin” which is a Chintz type pattern, and Border forms of the patterns.

In the late 18th and early 19th century, “willow” was a sort of generic term that applied to all blue-printed patterns. Some early Chinese landscape patterns known as Chinoiserie patterns were not very stable as they contained pattern elements copied from Chinese Export patterns, and the designs would vary from one pottery to another. Some factories referred to patterns by number, but as the 19th century went on, names came in to use on more and more patterns.

The purpose of this article is simply to present some of the early Chinoiserie patterns that have a willow tree that is an important element in the design. Many of these patterns were only made for a short time and were produced on very few different forms.

A late 18th century pattern on porcelain by Wolfe, Mason and Lucock in Liverpool is known as “Dagger Border”, and there are three known classes or variations. The central pattern is very similar to “Two Temples I and/or II”. There are two willow trees seen – one above and another below the bridge. The image in Photo 1 is of a Class III pattern on a 7.25 inch saucer dish used in tea services.

A porcelain pattern, Photo 2, by New Hall developed in the 1790s is known as “Emerging Boat” in Geoffrey Godden’s book on New Hall Porcelains. “Twisted Willow Tree” and “Triple Willow” are two of the names in use by collectors and dealers. A similar pattern on Stone China by an unknown maker is known as “Chinese Export Boat Pattern”, Photo 3. The two patterns are similar, and the willow tree is a predominant feature on both. *Cont’d*



Photo1: 7.25 inch saucer dish. “Dagger Border, Class III” pattern by Wolfe-Mason-Lucock, Liverpool c. 1795-1800.



Photo 2: 8.50 inch saucer dish. “Emerging Boat” or “Twisted Willow Tree” c. 1790s.



Photo 3: 8 inch plate with dagger border. “Chinese Export Boat” pattern. Early 19th century with Stone China mark.



Photo 4: 9 inch punch bowl. “Curved Back Bridge. Ochre painted rim.



Photo 5: 9.25 inch punch bowl. "One Man on the Bridge" pattern.

"Curved Back Bridge" is a pattern known only on a 9 inch punch bowl with wide butterfly border. Here again, in Photo 4, we see a variation on the "Two Temples II" pattern with two men on the bridge and the placement of the buildings and willow tree. This bowl is earthenware and has an ochre painted rim.

"One Man on the Bridge" is also found on a punch bowl, 9.25 inches in diameter, Photo 5. The pattern has a similar border to that on "Curved Back Bridge", and the center pattern is similar but in reverse. Coysh names the pattern "One-man/insect willow pattern" in *Blue and White Transferware 1780-1840*. A similar pattern, also found in Coysh's book is a willow pattern made by Shorthose & Co.



Photo 6: Cabbage leaf mug with handle to the left. "Willow and Pleasure Boat" pattern.



Photo 7: Cabbage leaf mug with handle to the right. "Two Figures under a Fence and Bridge".

I bought a cabbage-leaf molded mug that stands 4 inches high many years ago in London, Photo 6. It is unmarked as are most early 19th century pearlwares. The pattern has recently been identified as being made in Swansea at the Cambrian Pottery. "Willow and Pleasure Boat" is the preferred name as the willow tree is quite important in the pattern; however, Holdaway named it "Two Figures under a Fence and Bridge" in her article in *Welsh Ceramics in Context Part II* published in 2005. Of course that name comes from the part of the pattern seen from the other side of the mug, Photo 7.



Photo 8: "Fig Tree" pattern sparrow-beak jug.



Photo 9: "Willow and Curved Bridge" pattern on octagonal jug.

In doing research with the help of a researcher/collector in England on naming Chinoiserie patterns owned by Rita Cohen, I found he had identified one pattern I had on a jug as "Fig Tree", named for the large fig tree hanging over a curved bridge, Photo 8. Rita had the same pattern on another jug that had a large willow tree in place of the fig tree, Photo 9. We decided to name it "Willow and Curved Bridge". *Cont'd*

Loren Zeller happens to have both patterns on large jugs in brown earthenware with yellow printed pattern, Photos 10 and 11. Maker is unknown for all of these variations.

When I am faced with many lovely early Chinoiserie patterns at a sale (such as from the inventory of Rita Cohen) I find that I am drawn to patterns that have a willow tree as part of the design. Because I have collected the willow pattern for over 30 years, this does not come as a surprise. I bought a coffee pot from Rita last spring, Photo 12. Both the willow tree and a tree on the other side of the building have disjointed trunks that do not proceed straight up and down. Renard Broughton, a collector/researcher in England has a tea bowl with this same pattern, so there must have been tea wares made in the pattern. Due to the rounded shape on the top of the building, he has named the pattern "Domed Pagoda".



Photo 10: "Fig Tree" pattern on large brown glazed jug with yellow printed pattern.



Photo 11: "Willow and Curved Bridge" pattern on brown glazed jug with yellow printed pattern.



Photo 12: "Domed Pagoda" Coffee pot with butterfly border. Note trunk of the willow tree.

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## Happy Holidays from Membership

This time of year we look back on the past year and reflect on all we accomplished and how far we have come in this stage of our lives. As we get older we realize that it's not the jobs we do or the balance in our bank account that matters. It's the difference we have made in the lives of our families and friends. My favorite saying is: "Life is not defined by the number of breaths you take but by the moments that take your breath away". The members of IWC have taken my breath away many times this year. You have all made a difference in my life and I thank you for that. I wish you the happiest holidays ever.

Best Willow Wishes,  
Edie Cronk



# Suzie Shares Willow

By Jennifer (Crist) Cather

Suzanne Crist is an active member of the I.W.C, and Convention '07 Co-Chair. She also happens to be my mom and the reason I collect willow! She has been doing something really special with willow over the past 6 months and I would like to share it with the members of the IWC.

Suzie gives piano lessons in her home and is active at her church. Therefore, many people have seen her collection or know she shops and collects blue willow. Due to these facts, two local chapters of the American Businesswoman's Association, as well as a senior and church group, have asked her to present "Blue Willow Talks."

I was fortunate to be off school last Thursday and was able to hear my mother give her presentation. Additionally, she used me to help 'show and tell' her pieces. The accompanying photos are some that were taken at this talk. We were really impressed that one lady saw it advertised in the local paper and drove about 20 miles to hear Suzie talk. When she was finished, the lady invited Sue to speak to her senior group!

Suzie gave the group handouts with the legend and pictures of the willow design on them as visual aides. She discussed the 'levels' of collectors. Continuing on, she told them her reason (and mine) for collecting blue willow-family ties. Suzie additionally told the ABW group of the manufacturers, styles, patterns, colors and legend of willow. I was impressed with all the research my mom has done on the subject and how with each topic she had specific pieces to show the ladies! The group was EXTREMELY receptive to her and offered feedback and lively comments about their experiences, knowledge and ownership of blue willow.

With such interest and engagements like this one, it is exciting to see that the legend, collecting and spirit of Willow continues on!

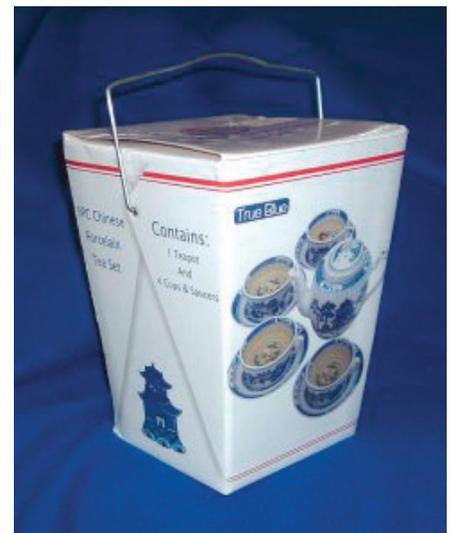


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## New Willow Find

Submitted by Rose Gray

I found a really neat, boxed 9-piece set of blue willow made in China. The box has a metal carrying handle. The tea set is full sized, and I found it in TJ Maxx (where else) about three weeks ago. Didn't pick it up because I was in Seattle and thought I'd pick it up when back in Richland. Our TJ Maxx didn't have it (you think I would have learned by now!), so had to wait until last week to get back to Seattle to get it. Was really disappointed when I couldn't find it, but eventually found it on a discount shelf. The original price was \$9.99 (a real bargain) but I only paid \$7!!! If there had been more, I would have bought them too. What is unique is how it is packaged and I think that, alone, may make it collectible in the future!!



# President's Press

By Hugh Sykes

First up, Kathy and I wish all of our willow friends and IWC members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As you might know, my interest in collecting willow has been focused on collecting willow with an advertising theme. My collection ranges from the older tip trays and jugs made for whiskey makers Jamie Stuart, Dawson and Sandy MacDonald to newer items made for restaurants such as the Churros table card. In a physical sense these 'hard' forms of advertising are easy to collect, you just pick them up (usually with an exchange of money) and they are yours. With the advent of 'soft advertising' and with that I mean, you see it in a moment on TV or flick past it quickly in a magazine on a website, the willow pattern has recently made some notable contributions in Australia and New Zealand. Unlike the older forms of hard advertising, the soft forms are free, but at best all you will have to collect is a magazine page, jpeg or a TV video clip.

Two major businesses downunder have used the willow pattern to promote their products. The first a major bank, HSBC has a magazine advertisement which shows 12 versions of the willow pattern with the slogan "not all china exporters are the same." The second by Telecom



New Zealand features Molly the cat and Rex the dog. Molly is on the phone to her owner who is on vacation in England, asking if she can still buy her favourite pattern "willow" as Rex is holding a broken plate which he has tried to tape together. This Telecom advertisement has been featured in

television commercials, magazines and even on billboards. Kathy has said no to me having the billboard in or on our home!

I expect that the willow pattern will increase its media advertising appearances in television and alike as advertisers look to tie in their product with the willow pattern, this in addition to numerous TV and Movie appearances. As for my soft advertising collection, this continues to grow on my computer; hopefully my computer will be as enduring and reliable as the willow pattern.

# Willow and the Holidays



Left and above: According to mom Barbara Stevens, daughter Debbie Johnson creates a lovely holiday home displaying her willow and Christmas decorations – using both red and blue willow!

## *From Cheryl Colley...*

My friend Jane (another member of IWC) knows how much I love anything blue willow. Last year for Christmas she made these lovely two-sided ornaments. It took me almost a month to figure out how to display them but I did and they look great. Here is also a photo of the finished display I made to make them a year-round joy!



# *International Willow Collectors Convention 2007*

Harrisburg/Hershey, Pennsylvania  
July 12-15, 2007



## Four Points by Sheraton Hotel Theme: “Willow is My Cup of Tea”

- Come and experience the sites and “flavors” of the Harrisburg and Hershey area
- Learn about tea and tea customs, as well as willow
- Bring your favorite willow teapots and tea cups
- Meet and greet fellow willow lovers from around the world
- Win willow items from our raffles, door prizes and games
- Enjoy a banquet dinner, guest speakers, breakout sessions and other special events

More details to come.

Make plans now to join us in July of 2007!

For more information or to get on our convention packet mailing list,  
contact our 2007 Convention Co-chairs

**Jennifer Cather**  
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# PAWS Holds its First Meeting

Submitted by Suzie Crist

The first meeting of the Pennsylvania Willow Society met at the home of Suzie Crist on Sept. 23, 2006. Everyone who attended was invited to bring their favorite cup and saucer for a "show and tell" time. Jen Cather gave the group an update on the Covention 2007 plans and we shared ideas. We hope to meet soon after the holidays for a working meeting and a visit to the convention site.

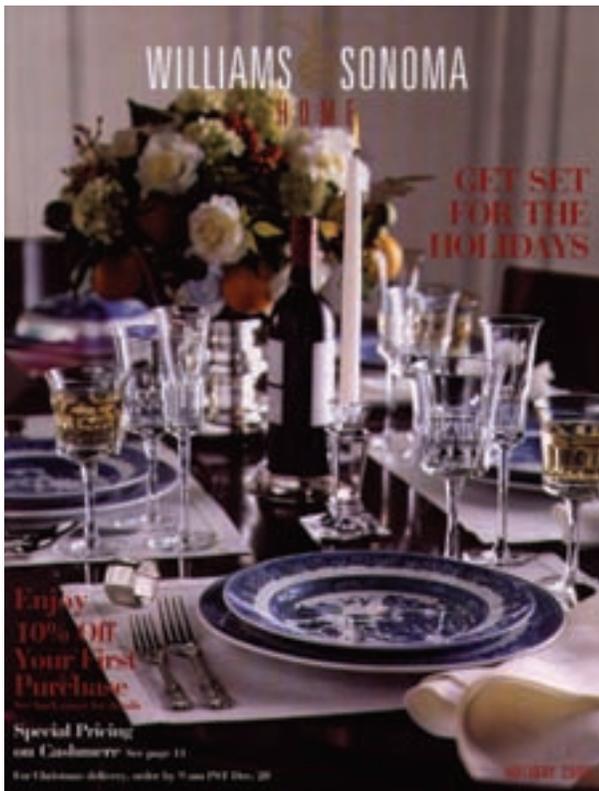


Attending the meeting were: Jen Cather, Kay and John Boob, Loretta DeMarco, Suzie Crist, Suzanne Morgan and Ruth Swartz (a first timer and missing from the photo). You will have to ask one of those attending about Willowesque!

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## Williams Sonoma Home Introduces Willow Line

Williams Sonoma Home has introduced a new line of traditional-patterned Blue Willow dishes. The line is featured on the cover of and throughout their catalog, as well as on the company's home web page. Visit their site: [www.wshome.com](http://www.wshome.com), or one of their Home locations. From what I've heard this is not available in their cookware stores. (JS)



Phone orders: 1-888-922-4110

Customer Service: 1-888-922-4105



## 2006 Convention Souvenirs

For a limited time, you can order some of the souvenirs that were for sale in San Antonio.



### Music CDs....\$15.00 each

A German-fest of great songs, featuring the Nordheim Faculty & Friends Band concert as played at the banquet.



### Note Cards....\$7.00 each set

A package of five note cards and envelopes featuring the "Willow Alamo."

### Bandannas....\$3.00 each

(Not pictured)

Blue willow pattern on a bandanna for that real Texas look.

The money from the CDs goes to the band's scholarship fund.; the rest of everything sold goes to IWC (all excluding shipping costs). Even if you couldn't make the convention, you can have a little piece of Texas delivered right to your door! Make checks or money orders payable to Franklin Ladner and mail to:

Franklin Ladner  
2407 Westwood Dr.; Arlington, TX 76012

## In Sympathy

We were saddened to hear that Maria Lirtzman (OH) passed away in November after a long battle with cancer. She was a charter member of the Ohio Willow Society and International Willow Collectors and attended several conventions. She is survived by her husband Alan, four children and a grandchild. She will be sadly missed by all her friends and family.

Our sympathy to her family.

## IWC News Back Issues

We have, in a limited number, back issues of our newsletter. Please contact Membership Chairperson, Edie Cronk, for information about purchasing these past issues.

Edie Cronk  
2408 46th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
eacronk@msn.com

## The Perfect Gifts?

Why not give someone you know an IWC membership as a special gift? A birthday, an anniversary, a special thank you. All good reasons to remember a fellow collector. You might even add a music CD or note cards from this year's convention. What great gifts!

*May your  
holidays  
be bright!*

*Happy 2007!*

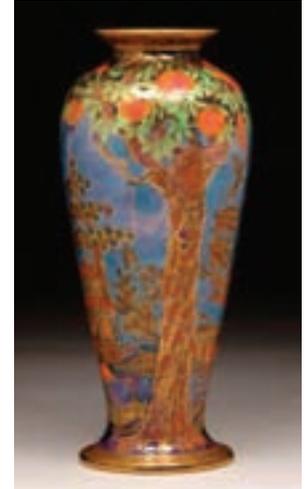
# December 2006 Willow Showcase



Beswick Covered Dish  
eBay Reserve not met



Beswick Teapot  
eBay Reserve not met



Wedgwood Fairy Vase  
\$7,500 (eBay)



Green Persian Spray Doulton Plate  
\$110. (eBay)



Salada Tea Advertising Dish  
\$103. (eBay)



1960's Fiberglass Tea Tray  
\$9.45 (eBay)



Pierced Plate  
\$90.89 (eBay)