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In this edition of the newsletter:

- **Cool new stuff: Herman Miller Mid-Century Modern leather shell chairs, Arts & Crafts Mission Oak desks**
- **Winter sale: 20% off Catfish Bill's collection, RFTC items**

Cool new stuff: Herman Miller Mid-Century Modern chairs, Arts & Crafts Mission Oak library and secretary desks

Herman Miller Mid-Century Modern leather shell chairs — Herman Miller began in 1905 as the Star Furniture Co. in Zeeland, Mich. The company started as a

producer of high quality furniture, especially bedroom suites, in historic revival styles. In 1909, Dirk Jan De Pree began working for the company as a clerk and became its president by 1919, when it was renamed the Michigan Star Furniture Co. De Pree and his father-in-law, Herman Miller, purchased 51% of the company's stock in 1923 and renamed it the Herman Miller Furniture Company. These chairs are in excellent shape and are stamped and have the manufacturer's labels intact.



Arts & Crafts Mission Oak drop-front secretary desk — A great example of early 20th century Arts & Crafts furniture, this spacious drop-front desk includes a lock and key and original brass knobs. Mission style is a type of furniture that was popular in the U.S. at the turn of the 20th century. The furniture, distinguished by its simplicity of materials and design, arose out of the Arts and Crafts-inspired movement led by Gustav Stickley in the U.S. Makers of this type of furniture shared a belief in the social virtues of good design and hand-craftsmanship. The furniture is typically made of oak with a stain finish, and features a rectilinear design and exposed carpentry. There was little or no decoration, though the joinery was

sometimes given a darker stain to emphasize expert construction.



Arts & Crafts Mission Oak library desk — With dark tiger oak, this library desk is all original. It is stamped on the bottom with what looks to be “Piqua Tables 347.” After some initial research, RFTC trader Irish Will is a little stumped. From what he can discern, the table was most likely made in Piqua, Ohio, and could possibly have been made by the Kill-Corn Furniture Company, which was based out of Piqua and produced Mission-style furniture. If anyone out there can help Trader

Will in identifying this piece, any information would be much appreciated.



Winter sale: 20% off Catfish Bill's collection, RFTC items

Raccoon Forks Trading Company is having a winter sale! Select items from RFTC and trader Catfish Bill's collections have been marked down by 20%. Catfish Bill, a direct descendant of RFTC founder Emile Dobby, specializes in Aesthetic and Arts & Crafts era American and English furniture and furnishings; books, maps, prints and works of art; art tiles and pottery, gas and other lighting devices; architectural items and salvage, and stained glass windows.



Trader Catfish Bill's room at RFTC

Founded in 1812 by Emile Dobby (a French Canadian-Scots Irish fur trader) at the forks of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers, our mission for over 200 years has been to bring choice goods in from the wilderness to trade with the local population for whatever valuables they possess (including cash, checks, and credit/debit cards).

Emile immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1800s after being driven out of Scotland for his rogue and wile ways, which had led to charges that included horse thievery. After spending many years fur trapping in the American West, he started the original RFTC near our current location, at 621 Des Moines St. (in the NE corner of the East Village).

In our present incarnation we pledge to provide our loyal customers with high quality, carefully researched and curated antique and vintage furniture, furnishings, art, prints, etc., etc., etc.



Raccoon Forks Trading Co. is an Optimaee LifeServices small business. Optimaee creates jobs for individuals with disabilities and mental illness by developing and operating small businesses that provide high quality goods, services and economic

benefits to communities. For more information, please click here:
<http://www.optimaelifeservices.com/our-services/raccoon-forks-businesses/>



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Forward

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Store hours:

Sun: 12 pm to 6 pm

Mon: 10 am to 6 pm

Tues-Sat: 10 am to 9 pm

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