

Buyers warm up to firearm, rare coin consignment sale

By Doug Welch

With the first hint of winter nipping the air, some 500 firearm and coin enthusiasts warmed up the Craig Center at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Janesville Sunday, Nov. 11, for a consignment sale hosted by Badger State Auction.

It was one of a series of consignment auctions this year by Badger State's Bob Johnson in an effort to match multiple sellers with buyers of unique and desired items in the Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois region.

The November 11 auction matched about 385 buyers from four states with sellers of contemporary sporting firearms, vintage coins and an assortment of antiques and collectibles, furniture, newer and vintage tools and household items.

Johnson was one of two auctioneers to work the enthusiastic crowd that was divided into separate rooms once nearly 50 firearms were sold.

The event also served as Badger State Customer Appreciation Day, just in time for Thanksgiving. Thirty frozen turkeys were given away in random drawings to those holding buyer cards.

The sale of 46 guns brought more than \$18,000 to their sellers. Some of the most desired firearms included a Remington .243 rifle for \$600; a Browning .410 pump action shotgun for \$420; a Winchester 30-30 lever action rifle for \$500; a Remington .270 rifle for \$575; a Henry lever action .22 rifle for \$335; a Glock 9 mm pistol for \$480; a Smith and Wesson 9 mm pistol for \$450; a Smith and Wesson .357 magnum for \$450; and a Cobra 9 mm pistol for \$360.

Once the hour-long sale of firearms was complete, the auction was split into two separate venues and Johnson continued in one room with the coin sale. Several valued items brought premium prices, including a 1909 \$20 Saint for \$1900; a \$20 Liberty for \$1730; an 1848 \$25 gold Liberty for \$1,700; a 1927 St. Gaudens for \$1,800; a complete set of Peace Dollars for \$1,000; a 1922 P. Lincoln cent for \$450; and several \$5 gold Liberty coins averaged \$450 each.

In addition, three vintage mechanical slot machines were sold for an average of \$800 each.

Badger State Auction, based in Milton, has conducted 160 auctions thus far in 2012. Badger State has sold farm land at record prices this year and also specializes in farm, estate, living estate business liquidation, fund raising and consignment auctions.

Check out Badger State Auctions at www.badgerstateauction.com or call 608-868-2199.