



## Toy collecting is no longer child's play

Auctioneers Richard Harry and Randy Stoltzfus are no strangers to collecting toys. Early in life both had interest in different kinds of toys: Richard in pressed steel and Randy in farm toys and Hess trucks. Through the common thread of auctioneering their paths would cross and lead to a business partnership. Harry's Auction started in early 1960's as a household & consignment auctions. After graduating in 1982 from Reppert Auctioneer School in Indiana, Richard took over the family business.

Randy started his career in an auction house at the early age of 12. After graduating high school, he continued his pursuit of being an auctioneer by attending Reisch Auction College in Mason City Iowa.

In the early 1980's Randy was employed by Harry's auction where he and Richard became good friends. After discovering their common interest of toy collecting they began traveling to toy shows in Ohio, Maryland, New York and Pennsylvania.

In 1988 the two men decided to start promoting toy sales at Harry's Auction.

The first sale took place on May 12, 1988 and it consisted of 325 Winross® trucks. In 1995 Richard decided to close his auction house and the pair moved the toy auction to the Bareville Fire Hall in Leola, Pa. They have 10 employees and currently hold two to three sales a month September through June.

These days the items sold appeal to a wide range of interests. All types of toys can be found some of which include: farm toys, Hess®, trains, Nascar®, dolls, Ertl®, pressed steel, pedal cars, Winross®, and many, many other items. If you would like to consign 1 toy or a whole collection, it can either be dropped off or the auction staff can make arrangements to come to your home, carefully package your collection and transport to their spacious warehouse to be cataloged for upcoming sales.

Harry's also has a mailing list with over 400 active toy buyers. They also advertise locally, nationally and in many toy publications.

Richard and Randy pride themselves on serving both the buyer and the seller equally. Their passion for toys and auctioneering is evident, and it shows with their energy and enthusiasm. They were able to turn a mutual interest into a successful business.

Richard Harry can be reached at (717) 656-2436 or Randy Stoltzfus at (717) 656-8919.

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