

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Season for Making Deals

Calendar brings yard and garage sales

BY FASHUN N. STYLES
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Freshen up your fanny pack. Loosen up your money clip. It's the time of year for spring and summer garage and yard sales.

Ask yourself. Ask anyone. Who doesn't want to get more for less? Who doesn't want to save lots of money over shopping at the mall? In this economy, the answer should be simple.

Just like the treasures found on the History Channel's "Pawn Stars," you might try casting your own crew to join you because a different sets of eyes can help you find the deals.

Like the "Pawn Stars" cast, try bringing along "the Appraiser," someone you has that rare skill of assessing the value and spotting good deals, from Rolexes to antique cars. Then there's "the Chum," the buddy who can uplift your spirits. While the appraiser and spotter are helping you spend and save, your chum-ole-buddy is a pro at stroking your ego and making sure you have fun while getting a good deal.

"American Pickers" Mike Wolfe, asked what exactly he looks for at garage sales, and said "Anything I can make a buck on." That could be anything from antique baby carriages and vintage jukeboxes to old cars and scrap metal."

Some folks make thousands of dollars a year simply by going to these sales and reselling items on eBay. Others like the connection to community. Events like the upcoming Jack & Jill's Social Club garage sale on June 5 support non-profit organizations and are great way to network with neighborhood friends and family.

Here are the ABC's of garage/yard sale shopping:

- **Set your alarm.** Good merchandise goes quickly, so you'll want to get out on the road early in the morning. Yard and garage sale professionals who get the good deals know that this is the way to success!
- **Take plenty of cash!** Consider plenty of small bills and a few rolls of quarters and nickels, loose change.
- **Truck or Car?** Now that you've found all of your new trea-



asures, how are you going to transport it? Consider the type of vehicle you'll be driving. You need something with lots of space for "stuff." You never know when you might find "a great deal" on something big and bulky that you've just gotta have.

- **Park as close to the sale as possible** - but not in or in front of anyone's driveway. Beware of fire hydrants and "no parking" signs

- **Even if you don't need something, go!** There's stuff you didn't know existed, even stuff you just didn't know you needed.

- **Enjoy the yard sale experience.** Don't worry about haggling over what you already know is a good deal.

- **Make a list:** If you're looking for specific items, make a list of the exact items you're looking for

- This is Oregon, so just in case, **prepare for rain.** That means packing an extra umbrella or a rain jacket.

- If you have a **hobby collection,**

ask the seller if they have it. It's great to look at the big picture of all the great deals, but if you're looking to add to your personal collection, ask directly, if they have it.

- **Are you in a decorating dilemma?** A garage/yard sale is a great way to pick up items to make do, until you get all of our decorating ideas worked out

- **Replace and rebuild.** Whether you're looking for items to rebuild from things you lost from a recent relocation, fire or natural disaster, yard sales are a fun and interesting way to rebuild and replace.

- **Keep in mind upcoming birthdays, holidays or other special occasions.** You can often find very nice gifts at garage sales. They are especially good places to buy Christmas ornaments and decorations.

- **Bring your cell camera phone.** A quick picture to bring back home to your spouse or children can convince your loved one that you've found a good deal.

Jack & Jill's Fundraiser

Mark your calendar for the annual Jack and Jill's Social Club garage sale, Saturday, June 5, from 10 a.m. until Sunset at 27 N.E. Cook St.

Circle the date, tweet your Twitter, message your MySpace and don't forget to friend someone on your Facebook to gather in getting good deals. All sales will benefit the social club's Portland chapter.

Food and beverages will be available.



Ulicious Smokehouse & Grill

1505 N.E. Killingsworth St.

503-477-3958

House Hours

Mon-Thurs 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

House Specials

Rib Tip \$5.00

Rib Sandwich \$6.00

Class of 1970 40th Reunion



JEFFERSON

We need your help locating other classmates
If you have any names, phone numbers, emails, mailing addresses
please contact us.

Friday August 6th, 2010: Place to be announced

Saturday August 7th, 2010: Embassy Suites Portland Airport Hotel
(rooms available for only \$109 + tax)

Cost for reunion: Classmates \$65 spouse or companion \$35

Please R.S.V.P. as soon as possible to:

E-mail to: leiablakely@gmail.com (preferable)

Voice mail: Carol Erdmann 503-982-3051

Snail mail: JHS Class of 70 / PO Box 19905 / Portland, Oregon 97280

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