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**Coffee: A Historic Beverage And a Great Holiday Gift**

**By Irene D. Hope**

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Ah, coffee... a fantastic dark beverage that wakes us up in the morning. For some of us, it keeps us up during the day, or for late night study sessions. We drink it out of habit, we drink it for pleasure, we drink it for flavor; whatever the reason, it is surely a popular beverage. So where did this famed drink come from?

Coffee, for Americans, is three hundred years old. In the East it was widespread at every level of society, since the earlier era. The most notable dates point to around 800b.c. However, Homer, and according to Arabian tales speak of a mysterious bitter black beverage with powers of stimulation that could have been this drink.

About the year 1000, coffee was being used for medicinal purposes. In 1400 a Yemeni goat herder observed his flock eating reddish berries, then becoming excited and restless. After relating his observations to a monk, they boiled the berries and made a beverage that could disperse sleep and weariness. No matter how it actually was created, the fact remains that the coffee plant started in Africa, in an Ethiopian region known as Kaffa. From there it spread to Egypt, Yemen, and Arabia, where it became a part of daily life.

In the late 1500s coffee was a commodity, being sold in Europe. However, due to an increasing demand for the new beverage, and high taxes on shipping, there was experimentation with growing the crops in various other countries. Much later, around 1727 coffee growing started in Northern Brazil. By the 20th century, various forms of coffee were developed for the public.

Decaffeinated coffee was first founded in 1903 when Ludwig Roselius, a German coffee importer, gave a batch of damaged coffee beans to researchers. They developed the process of taking the caffeine out of the beans without losing any flavor. This was marketed in the 1920s.

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Instant coffee was first mass produced from the invention of George Constant Washington, an English chemist living in Guatemala. While waiting for his wife one day to join him outside for coffee, he observed on the spout of the silver coffee urn, a fine powder, which looked to be the condensation of the coffee vapors. This excited him and led to his founding of soluble coffee.

In 1906 he started experiments and put his invention, Red E Coffee, in the markets in 1909. Nestle', in 1938, trying to aid Brazil with their coffee surpluses created freeze-dried coffee. Nescafe was started and first introduced into Switzerland. Instant coffee became a fad after 1956 when commercial television was the new craze.

And now in the US alone, 400 billion cups of coffee a year are consumed. Coffee is one of the world's largest commodities, second only to oil. From a remote area in Africa, to millions of shelves and homes worldwide, coffee has become a fixture everywhere.

Irene D. Hope is the webmaster of All Special Coffee, a wonderful coffee resource site.

### **Coffee Makers and Ebay are Perfectly Matched**

**By Carol Hanson Hanson**

Coffee goods and the ebay auction website are well suited to each other, with the help of ebay you will find hundreds upon hundreds of products that will help you enjoy the magical beverage. You may be saying to yourself, why on earth would you purchase used specialist coffee blends or coffee grinders? well quite simply hundreds of coffee targeted goods are auctioned on ebay each day and a large number of products such as stainless steel coffee makers and coffee travel mugs are brand new and totally untouched.

Locate a section which is relevant to beverage and gourmet food and simply type in your particular item or items of focus, Now here's the real solution for picking up a bargain on ebay, Say you are hunting for a Jamaican Coffee product don't just type that into the ebay search field, try as many coffee related searches as you can because someone selling merchandise such as antique coffee spoons or Coffee grinder blades may possibly have more than just one coffee product on their merchandise list.

A different secret for sourcing coffee items or similar items on ebay is this, take note of spelling errors, Just recently I acquired an automatic coffee grinder for a discount price simply because I used spelling mistakes when I made my initial coffee searches with the ebay search tool. Masses of coffee items are sold on ebay each month and a great many of them have been advertised with spelling mistakes, an individual could be selling gourmet coffee gifts or a trial coffee packs and miss out single letter which means you may easily be the only person searching for coffee items and the only buyer to succeed with a winning purchase.

Another great reason for buying coffee items and beverage and gourmet food merchandise on ebay is the fact that a fair quantity of unwanted coffee items are sold there because of the financial predicament of the person selling, a vintage coffee table being auctioned for thirty percent lower than in

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the stores may not be as unusual to find than a person may think.

A coffee product might perhaps find its way onto the ebay listings simply because it was purchased in a government auction, you may possibly end up purchasing whole load of coffee products and if you are experienced could certainly sell them and clear a large profit, you could then re-invest it in some sort of useful coffee accessory.

The Free Secret

report by Carol Hanson the author of this article. It can be found at :

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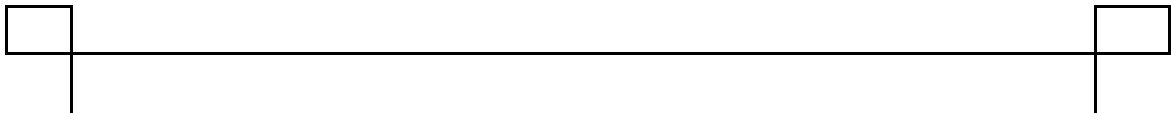
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