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# MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

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Auctioneers & Appraisers

Michaan's Auctions  
2751 Todd Street  
Alameda, CA 94501  
[www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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Auction:  
Estate Auction  
Featuring 19<sup>th</sup> Century Works  
Sunday, September 6, 12pm

Preview:  
September 4 – 6

## **Autographed 1949 Yankee Baseball on the Auction Block at Michaan's**

Oakland CPA Lee Wilson grew up in neighboring San Leandro enjoying sports and being an active Boy Scout. As a 16 year old high school student Wilson achieved what only about 4% of scouts achieved: he earned his status as an Eagle Scout.

In 1950 to be honored as an Eagle a scout needed to demonstrate leadership, community spirit and commitment to scouting values. Additionally, a scout must have earned at least 21 merit badges, including specifically First Aid, Swimming, Life Saving, Personal Health, Public Health, Cooking, Athletics, Camping, Citizenship, Bird Study, Pathfinding, Safety and Pioneering.

Wilson met all these requirements and rose to the rank of Eagle Scout. By way of congratulations, Wilson's scoutmaster gifted him with a baseball signed by members of the 1949 World Series Champion New York Yankees.

1949 was the year the Yankees, under the management of the legendary Casey Stengel, came from behind as underdogs to win the championship; it was also the first year of their incredible 5-year run as world champions.

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Players on the team included Johnny Mize, Hank Bauer and Yogi Berra and the Yankee Clipper Joe DiMaggio, whose signature graces the ball's sweet spot.

Wilson cherished this ball for nearly half a century, refraining from handling it and keeping it out of the sun. He relished the memories of his youth and enjoyed trying to decipher all the 27 signatures on the ball. Recently, however, Wilson decided to let another generation of baseball fans acquire his treasure.

Wilson has consigned his baseball to Michaan's Auction in Alameda to be included in their estate sale on September 6, 2009. With a pre-sale estimate of \$2000-3000, the baseball will be one of the highlights of the sale, which will also include fine jewelry, art, furniture, silver, porcelain, stamps, coins and collectibles.

For more information about the sale contact Michaan's at 510-740-0220 or visit [www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com).

## **About Michaan's Auctions**

Michaan's Auctions is a leading full service auction house on the West Coast specializing in the appraisals and sale of antiques and fine art. Some of Michaan's specialty departments include Furniture and Decorative Arts, Modern, Contemporary, European and American Paintings and Prints, Books and Manuscripts, Jewelry, Asian Works of Art and Ethnographic Art.

Established in 2002, Michaan's Auctions holds up to thirty sales each year that attract a broad base of buyers and consignors from all over the World. With one of the largest facilities in Northern California and the bay areas lowest buyers premium Michaan's offers buyers and sellers the ability to preview and bid on many unique and desirable pieces. Some of these pieces garnered world record prices. In 2005, a world record price was achieved for an A.D.M Cooper, The Three Graces 1915, sold at auction for \$21,060 as well as a Eduard Gaertner, German City Street Scene 1831, sold at auction for \$266,000.

Michaan's has built its reputation on it's ability to accept single items, groups or entire estates with the "no risk consignment policy", a policy that sets them apart from other auction houses. Michaan's team of specialists are dedicated to staying current on the latest issues and developments in the market and are committed to providing personalized and professional attention throughout the entire auction process.