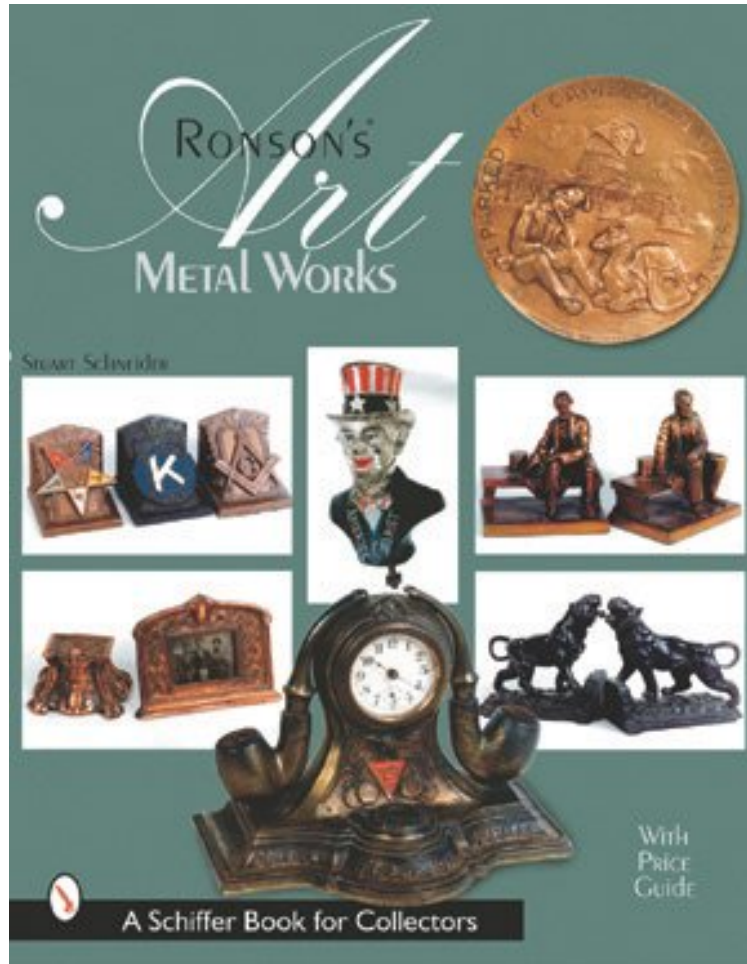


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Stuart Schneider

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[Get free] Ronson's Art Metal Works (Schiffer Military History)

## Ronson's Art Metal Works (Schiffer Military History)

**Stuart Schneider : Ronson's Art Metal Works (Schiffer Military History)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ronson's Art Metal Works (Schiffer Military History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ronson ReviewBy Stephen E MagedThis is an excellent reference for Ronson made items. I really enjoy using it as I collect or try to collect many of the items in the book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy tjmonkey1Great Book!9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A Worthwhile Collector's BookBy Michael C. MillerThis is one of a series of books by the same author covering "unique" manufactured items including cigarette lighters, ballpoint and fountain pens, and flashlights among others. It is also a collector's price guide. One should read the Introduction and History sections carefully because the rest of the book consists primarily of pictures and captions. My interest was piqued when the dust jacket blurb listed hood ornaments. L.V. Aronson started doing business as The Art Metal Works in the 1880's. They are said to have made the first hood ornaments manufactured for sale in the U.S. in about 1909. Since I am helping the San Diego (CA) Automotive Museum catalog its hood ornament collection, and we have one of these, I bought the book. Unfortunately

only one hood ornament (of several they made) is covered. It is a 1915 Uncle Sam with "America First" emblazoned on it. While I think the author has confused "patriotism" with "isolationism" in his discussion of it, nonetheless it is an interesting piece. But even more interesting is the picture on page 100 of a 1909 Smiling Baby Buddha figurine which became the first U.S. hood ornament, "GOBBO". My source informs me they came in three sizes - large (trucks), medium (cars) and small (bicycles). He owns a complete set. The author informs us that it wasn't unusual for companies to "borrow" figures they (or others) made for one use and change it to another. About 1923, GOBBO's head became an incense burner (page 110) with "I am GOBBO - God of Good Luck" inscribed on the side with L.V. Aronson's mark on the bottom. This same inscription appears on the hood ornaments. When WWII ended, the various items the company was producing such as incense burners, bookends, aquarium stands, figurines, etc., were discontinued and the company focused on making cigarette lighters and associated items which were the most profitable,

Ronson's place as a leader and pioneer in the manufacture of fine decorative metal wares from the 1900s to the mid-1930s is documented here. In addition to cigarette lighters, for which Ronson is most readily known, the company, then known as Art Metal Works, also produced a diverse selection of metal bookends, hood ornaments, statuary, aquarium and plant stands, clocks, pipe holders, desk sets and accessories, figurines, novelty items, lamps, boxes, toys, incense burners, and much more. With descriptive captions and information from original company catalogs and advertisements, alongside full-color, detailed photographs, this book is like no other on the market today. Whether you are a collector of art metal or a student of art and design, you are guaranteed insight into the style, beauty, and value of some of the finest metal wares manufactured.

About the Author A former professional photographer, consultant/historian Stuart Schneider has written 13 prior books for Schiffer Publishing on collectibles and antiques. Currently, he resides in New Jersey.