

MOM'S JOY ROOM

2964 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26501 | (304) 282-3671

CERTIFICATE OF DESCRIPTION & VALUATION

Vintage Silverplate Animal Banks — Rabbit, Duck & Pig — Cobalt Blue Glass Eyes — c.1960s–1980s — Priced Individually



COLLECTION MARKET VALUE

\$45–90

Three pieces — see individual values below

COLLECTION ESTIMATED WORTH

\$90–160

Collector ceiling for complete matching cobalt-eye silverplate bank set



Left: Silverplate Rabbit Bank

Center: Silverplate Duck Bank (tallest)

Right: Silverplate Pig Bank

All with cobalt blue glass eyes — c.1960s–1980s

HISTORY

Silverplate animal banks of this type — rounded, highly polished figural coin banks with jewel-toned glass eyes — were produced in quantity by European and American manufacturers throughout the mid-to-late 20th century, with peak production in the 1960s through the 1980s. The bright mirror-finish silverplate over a base metal body gave these pieces a luxury appearance at an accessible price point, making them popular as nursery decorations, christening gifts, and children's room accents. Unlike sterling silver banks, which were reserved for premium gifting, silverplate examples were widely available through department stores and gift shops, and were produced in a consistent range of farmyard and domestic animal figures — pigs, rabbits, ducks, cats, dogs, and bears being the most common subjects.

The defining decorative feature of this particular set — the **cobalt blue glass cabochon eyes** — places them in a specific and desirable production tradition. The use of faceted or smooth blue glass eyes on silverplate and silver animals was favored by British and Continental European silversmiths and giftware makers, and the cobalt blue color in particular gives these pieces a distinctive, eye-catching character that separates them from the plain cast examples.

The matching cobalt eyes across all three animals suggests they were produced as a coordinated set or from the same maker's line. No maker's mark has been confirmed from the photo, but the quality of the silverplate and the glass eye detailing is consistent with mid-century European giftware production — likely English, Italian, or Continental.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Set of three matching silverplate figural coin banks — rabbit, duck, pig
- ◆ Finish: High-polish mirror silverplate over base metal
- ◆ Eyes: Cobalt blue glass cabochons — matching across all three figures
- ◆ Coin slot: Each piece functions as a working bank
- ◆ Era: c.1960s–1980s — mid-to-late 20th century European or American giftware
- ◆ Maker: Not confirmed from exterior — consistent with English/Continental production
- ◆ Condition: Good — bright silverplate, eyes intact on all three
- ◆ Each piece priced and sold individually

 Rabbit Bank

Rounded seated rabbit form, large cobalt blue glass eyes, polished silverplate finish, squat haunches and small forepaws. Charming nursery proportions — the most classically "gifted" form in the set.

MARKET VALUE
\$15–30

EST. WORTH
\$30–55

 Duck Bank

The tallest of the three — a goose or duck in upright stance, elongated neck, cobalt blue glass eyes, broad rounded body tapering to a flat base. The vertical silhouette gives it strong display presence.

MARKET VALUE
\$15–30

EST. WORTH
\$30–55

 Pig Bank

Classic piggy bank form — round body on small stubby legs, cobalt blue glass eyes, snout forward, small ear tabs. The most iconic bank form in Western tradition, here rendered in polished silverplate.

MARKET VALUE
\$15–30

EST. WORTH
\$30–55

Collector's note: Silverplate animal banks of this type are collected in several overlapping categories — silverplate giftware, figural coin banks, and nursery/children's room antiques. The cobalt blue glass eyes are the defining premium feature of this set; plain-eye examples command notably lower prices. The fact that all three share matching cobalt eyes strongly suggests they originated from the same maker's line, making the group more desirable as a set than as individual pieces — though each is priced individually here. Value would be enhanced by any visible maker's marks on the underside (British hallmarks, Italian 800 marks, or a maker's stamp). Market Value reflects realistic shop/private-sale pricing per piece; Estimated Worth reflects what a dedicated silverplate or figural bank collector would pay per piece.

"Every penny dropped through that little slot was a small act of hope — and seventy years later, they're still shining."

Mom's Joy Room | Morgantown, WV
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Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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