

# Welcome from the President

elcome to Red Wing for the Red Wing Collectors Society 33rd Annual Convention. You will find untold joys to experience around this great city as the week unfolds preparing for the official opening of the RWCS Convention on Thursday, July 9th. The Convention will once again meet and beat all of your expectations so prepare yourself for a great week!

It is especially gratifying to see those who made the extra effort to attend this year's Convention. The economic climate everyone is facing can make any extra effort become an extraordinary one which makes your endeavor to support your Society so greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Sue Jones Tagliapietra President

The Convention, along with pre-Convention activities is excellent as well.

A fun new event for both Convention goers and the public is the "Rock Around the Crock" pig roast on Friday evening. The committee has worked very hard developing this event and I just know it will be terrific so make sure you attend.

Enjoy your week! I hope you find a treasure or two to take back home with you along with long-lasting memories of times well spent with dear friends. See you next year!

Sue Jones Tagliapietra

## Welcome from the Executive Director

e are "Celebrating with Red Wing" at the 33rd Annual RWCS Convention! Welcome back to another fun filled week in Red Wing. Despite the economic climate, I am excited to say that we have the same number of preregistered attendees as last year! Thank you to all RWCS members who have made the trip.

This year's supplement, in partnership with the Red Wing Republican Eagle, is packed with information on every event at the 2009 Convention. It includes reviews of education, open to the public events, and great articles. Special thanks to Tom Hanlon and Ruth Nerhaugen for making this supplement a great resource for the Convention.

We are inviting the community to celebrate with us during a number of great activities you can read about on page 13. We are privileged to have Kathy Wurzer as



Stacy Wegner Executive Director

our Convention Keynote, and invite the public to attend her presentation on Thursday, July 9th at 10:30am at the Red Wing High School Auditorium. Come hear about the history of Highway 61 and Red Wing in her new book "Tales of the Road."

I have a number of BIG THANK YOUS for the 2009 Convention: to the local Red Wing businesses who made such generous donations, to all the RWCS Convention volunteers, managers and support positions, and most of all the attending members! Without all this support the Convention would not be going strong for 33 years!

Thanks for coming RWCS Members; have a great time! To the community we welcome you to join us as we "Celebrate with Red Wing!"

Stacy L. Wegner



# Welcome from the Mayor

t is great to have you back! Historic Red Wing awaits you. I am sure that the 33rd annual Red Wing Collectors Society Convention will be one to remember.

Whether you have been here before or this is your first visit to Red Wing, there are a number of things to check out. Here are just a few: Central Park & the new band shell, Memorial Park, John Rich Park, Goodhue County Historical Museum, Red Wing Pottery Museum, Sheldon Performing Arts Theatre, Red Wing Shoe Museum, Anderson Center, and of course, our beautiful downtown shops with the hanging flower baskets out front. Please visit the City of Red Wing's web site at www.red-wing.org for more information on things to do and see.



John Howe

Mayor of Red Wina

Please excuse our road projects that will be underway during the Convention. We are definitely trying to improve transportation for the future. We have clearly

defined detour routes to get you where you need to go. Just relax and take in all the beautiful and interesting things there are to see.

Recently, Red Wing was ranked the 23rd most historic place to visit in the world by National Geographic Traveler Magazine. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity to thoroughly explore all that the City of Red Wing has to offer you. I wish you a great Convention. Please enjoy your time here!

John S. Howe

# Welcome from the History Center



The Goodhue County History Center is located at 1166 Oak St., Red Wing.

The Goodhue County Historical Society is happy and pleased to welcome the Red Wing Collectors Society and its chapters to Red Wing for another Convention. We look forward to renewing the friendships that we have made and anticipate visiting with a number of you at the History Center as well as at the Convention.

There have been several changes here since last year. Johanna Grothe, who had been our educator/volunteer coordinator, has moved into collections management. Under her direction, we had new cases built for the Center Pottery Exhibit. These are sturdier, and therefore, safer, and will, we believe, allow for better viewing of the pottery on display. We look forward to showing you our changes! Conventions are exceptional opportunities to meet new people and new things, as well as a chance to renew friendships. Your Convention is a splendid chance to learn about Red Wing's history, Red Wing pottery and to indulge your enthusiasm for collecting. Enjoy this year's Convention and your time here. Take the opportunities to meet new people and learn new things - we always learn from you! My staff and I will look forward to greeting you at the History Center! See page 9 for road construction detour information.

Char Henn Director/CEO, Goodhue County Historical Society



# 'Celebrating with Red Wing' theme for 2009 Convention

By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

ollectors don't wait until convention time to celebrate with Red Wing. Their pottery and stoneware collections are part of their lives every day – just as the dinnerware and crocks, vases, candle holders, teapots and other pieces were commonly found and regularly used in the homes of Red Wing area residents over the years.

People don't take their Red Wing for granted any more, though. When production came to a halt in 1967 and the pottery became increasingly collectible in the 1970s and '80s, many pieces got packed away.

"We want to show people that Red Wing can be a part of everyday life once again," said Stacy Wegner, Executive Director of the Red Wing Collectors Society.

That's why the theme of the 2009 Convention is "Celebrating with Red Wing."

"It's a way to connect to the history of our city," Wegner pointed out – a way to express pride in the community.

"Red Wing (pottery and stoneware) has

for so many years been an integral part of our history," she said. "At one time every household used Red Wing Pottery."

In the era before Tupperware, stoneware was used for storage. It was even handy for keeping umbrellas close at hand. People ate their meals off the dinnerware, planted flowers in the pots, displayed bouquets in the vases – they even made sauerkraut in the old crocks.

#### Avery clan

be a party – or a wedding, a birthday or a holiday – without Red Wing. Actually, no occasion is too small. The rural Red Wing couple uses locally produced dinnerware at meal time, too.

For Nora and Todd Avery, it wouldn't

It is as much a part of their lives as it was when Nora's mother got out the Bob White to set the table in the Flueger family home on East Seventh Street – a house where pottery shards were embedded in cement in part of the foundation.

"I don't own a plate that's not Red Wing Pottery," Nora said, though she has an eclectic assortment rather than complete sets. "People never know what they're going to eat off" when they come for a meal. "I started off with the fruit d in n er ware," she said, "but we found it's more fun to collect different patterns."

They also use a variety of serving platters and bowls at home and when taking a dish to a family gathering.

"The majority of it goes in the dishwasher,"

she pointed out. "They're not all perfect."

Todd Avery's Christmas cactus collection thrives in brushware pieces, and an assortment of art pottery, including vases, can be found throughout the house. He sold most of his Red Wing ash tray collec-

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Charlotte Ackerman discovered that a 20-pound butter crock is just the right size for a poinsettia.

(Pictured left) A vintage Red W i n g stoneware Christmas tree holder is a featured decoration during the holidays at the Jack and Ann Haase home.



Carson, the 2 1/2-year-old grandson of Nora and Todd Avery, finds that he's just the right size to play in 20-gallon Red Wing crock.





# Early pottery pieces, last plate in History Center collection

By Char Henn Goodhue County Historical Society

uch is made of beginnings and endings. History is often marked by the "firsts," the "lasts," the "bests"...

This article is about two early pieces of pottery and the last plate made.

Many of you are aware of the work that John Schwartau has put into discovering the identity of this area's first potter. His work recognizes John Paul. A couple of Paul's pieces have found their way into the collections of the Goodhue County Historical Society.

One piece is a "Turk's Head" baking pan. Similar to a bundt pan, the central tube allows for a more even distribution of heat during baking. The "Turk's Head" name came from the resemblance borne by the cake to a turban. The pan is 4.375 inches high and has an 11.25 inch diameter. Paul's coffee pot is 10.25 inches high with a base diameter of 5.25 inches. It has a hand-turned, applied handle with a thumb rest. It has an incised line decoration just above the base.

Paul learned his craft in his home region of Mecklenburg and the coffee pot's design shows influences of German pewter ware.

In his almost 10 years of potterymaking in Goodhue County, Paul showed industriousness, as he made useful, beautiful pottery on the prairie.

The gift of the last plate was, I would imagine, a very bittersweet moment for Dick Gillmer, the Pottery's last president.

A tan-fleck 10.25 inch plate in the Ceramastone shape, it was decorated in wax pencil especially for Gillmer. This plate, and another tan-fleck Ceramastone shape plate decorated for Gillmer's daughter, Susan, came to us from the family. In the end, what is most important about these three pieces are the 100 years, hundreds of workers, and untold numbers of pieces that came in between the "first" and the "last."

We at the Goodhue County History Center look forward to welcoming you for the convention and as you visit the History Center to see our collections.



Early potter John Paul's coffee pot, hand-turned with an applied handle, can be seen at the Goodhue County History Center.



The Gillmer family donated the last Red Wing Pottery plate to the museum. Tan fleck in the Ceramastone shape, it was decorated in wax pencil.



An early "Turk's Head" baking pan by John Paul, the area's first potter, is part of the History Center collection.

## Celebrating continued from page 3

tion, but still has a few favorites on display. Outdoors there are a couple of Red Wing Pottery bird baths, plus they like to use large Red Wing Sewer Pipe pieces as planters in the yard.

When Todd's daughter, Missy, and Nolan Ahrens got married a couple of years ago in Owatonna, Minn., he made sure Red Wing had a prominent place at the reception, which was at Ahrens' family's farm.

Punch was served from a Red Wing water cooler. And, his wife added, they covered 2-gallon, 4-gallon and 6-gallon crocks with rounds of glass on which to display the wedding cupcakes.

The water cooler also came in handy for a niece's graduation party and a relative's wedding vow renewal.

## Finding Red Wing

The couple makes sure other family members have an opportunity to appreciate Red Wing, too.

"We often give smaller crocks as wedding gifts to nieces, nephews and close friends," Nora Avery said. For a birthday, they might give a Red Wing vase filled with fresh flowers. Vintage Red Wing is a favorite Christmas gift as well.

"We have a lot," Nora said. Giving it as gifts "gives us room to get more." They are constantly on the lookout for ways to replenish their supply of Red Wing.

The Averys, together for 10 years and married for four years, are active in the Red Wing Collectors Society; this year for the first time Todd is Auction Manager for the official Convention auction.

They spend a lot of time on weekends at antique stores and auctions building their collections. They also shop on e-Bay, and love it when they find "good deals" online or while traveling in other states.

"We buy things because we like them, they catch the eye," Nora said. "We buy things we want to see or use regularly."



Red Wing collectors Nora and Todd Avery find that local stoneware is the perfect accent for their outdoor decorating, too.



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# Dinnerware collectors share new information

By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

Remember eating your breakfast cereal out of a Gypsy Trail bowl, lunching on Village Green or setting the table with Bob White for Sunday dinner?

That type of fond memory is just one reason why dinnerware is a popular collectible for an avid group of Red Wing Collectors Society members.

Everything they ever wanted to know about Red Wing dinnerware may be at their fingertips before the snow flies – thanks to Larry Roschen of Coon Rapids, Minn., and Terry Moe of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Roschen and Moe, "research buddies," have teamed up to create a comprehensive new guide to Red Wing dinnerware, filled with information that is not included in existing dinnerware reference materials, but often can be found in original documents.

It may become a book some day, but in the interim, they are making the information available to collectors in three formats:

• Four hours of seminar sessions at the 2009 Red Wing Collectors Society convention on Friday, July 10, at Red Wing High School.

• A series of excerpts on the organization's Web site, www.redwingcollectors.org, beginning in late summer.

• Similar excerpts in the RWCS newsletter, starting in the fall.

The project begins with Roschen and his wife Kathy, longtime dinnerware collectors. He became a regular buyer on eBay in the late 1990s, looking to fill gaps in his collection.

"I would occasionally come across a

Red Wing brochure up for sale. I bought a few and found them very interesting," he said. As he acquired different brochures from a specific pattern, he noticed that the pieces available sometimes changed over the course of time.

### Original materials

"The light bulb went off for me after purchasing an undated Provincial Luncheon Ware catalog that included a November 1946 price list," Roschen aid. "The catalog included photos and text describing Orleans, Brittany, the early version of Ardennes, Harvest, Lexington, and the Fruit or Salad set (bowls and plates with fluted rims).

"The catalog had been printed some time prior to November 1946 because the price list stated that Ardennes, Harvest and Fruit or Salad were no longer available," he continued.

"I now knew that these three patterns had been discontinued at some point before November 1946. Also, the catalog did not include Normandy, which told me the early version of Normandy had been discontinued before the catalog was printed (and thus before early Ardennes was discontinued)."

Roschen was fascinated.

About that time, he met Moe, who shared his interest in Red Wing dinner-ware.

"My mother's family owned a Rexall Drug Store in Laurens, Iowa," Moe said. One of the lines carried in the store's gift shop was Red Wing.

"From about the age of 3, I ate my Wheaties from a Gypsy Trail Hostess Ware 6-inch bowl – number 979 for those of you who demand all of the information," he said.

"I inherited the partial set of Gypsy

## At the Convention ...

Larry Roschen and Terry Moe will offer four hours of educational seminars on Red Wing dinnerware on July 10 at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention at Red Wing High School.

Sessions 1 and 2 will be "Gypsy Trail A to Z," and Sessions 3 and 4 will be "Overview of Dinnerware, Provincial 1941 through Hotel and Restaurant 1967."

The first two sessions provide an indepth analysis of the earliest solid color dinnerware lines. Wreath, Gypsy Trail and Ivanhoe will be examined closely. There will be pictures of all known pieces in each of the lines and selected items will be available for hands on inspection. The last two sessions will provide an overview of the remaining dinnerware lines, including numerous photos. No material will be repeated.

The seminar is based almost entirely upon primary source materials from the Pottery, including brochures, price lists, company internal documents, and advertising materials. People may bring dinnerware items they would like identified.



Larry Roschen, a Red Wing dinnerware collector, became fascinated by brochures and other printed material about dinnerware. The comprehensive information is being made available through the Red Wing Collectors Society Web site and newsletter.

Trail when my mother died," and he and his wife, Marilyn, have been adding to it since then."

Roschen and Moe became friends. At first they just traded dinnerware, Roschen

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Terry Moe, dinnerware collector, has been collaborating with Larry Roschen on an updated guide. Both also offer educational seminars each year at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention. He talked about Gypsy Trail at the 2002 gathering.

# WE SET OUT TO MAKE WORK BOOTS. WE ENDED UP BUILDING A COUNTRY.

Since 1905, we've been handcrafting the shoes that have built skyscrapers, roads, bridges, railroads, and homes. In short, we've helped build America. We all have. Red Wing, the shoe company. And Red Wing, the community. Our strength lies in the people who live here. Play here. And work here. The proof is in every brand we make.



Red Wing Shoe Company 314 Main Street Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

## **Dinnerware** continued from page 5

said, "but soon it became apparent we shared an interest in learning more about the dinnerware we collected."

### 'Historical mystery'

Moe explained that he and his wife had often found items in antique shops "that looked like they should be Gypsy Trail but we could not locate them in any of the available books on Red Wing.

"We would bring them to the RWCS Convention and show them to the experts. on the Dinnerware Identification Panel, but they were not able to identify them either.'

He decided there had to be more information if he could only find it. Trained as a historian, Moe said, "I viewed it as another historical mystery that could be researched and perhaps solved. I began investigating sources in various libraries and museums," looking for company documents.

Both Roschen and Moe began actively seeking originals or photocopies of brochures and price lists, which they shared.

They sought out material at the Minnesota Historical Society and the

More

**Collectables!** 

Goodhue County History Center, and shared photocopies with other collector friends. Red Wing ads in trade journals and homemaker magazines were another source of information.

"After several years we realized we had a wide range of documents that covered all eras of Red Wing dinnerware production, although we still had numerous gaps to fill," Roschen said.

"We also discovered that we both considered it very important to pass along to other collectors the things we were learning," Moe said.

The duo presented educational seminars sharing the new information at convention and the MidWinter gathering. They started a spreadsheet that attempted to document the introduction and exit of every piece made in each dinnerware pattern, but realized there were information gaps.

#### Web site

In late 2007, RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner asked Roschen to develop some new content on Red Wing dinnerware for the society's Web site.

He began working on a format, and

Welcome

**Collectors!** 

decided not to include values, since those quickly become outdated, but to provide data on availability and collector interest.

"It didn't seem right to simply regurgitate the information already available in existing references. I wanted to share some of the facts Terry and I learned in our research of old documents, something new that most collectors wouldn't know. Roschen said.

As the dinnerware advisor for the "Ask the Experts" section of the RWCS Web site, he wrote a few sections, but realized the final document would be too long to post on the Web site.

And, Roschen said, RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski let it be known that he wanted dinnerware content for the newsletter, too.

Roschen told them both that a series of Web postings and articles would work best.

He also contacted Moe to work with him. I realized this had become too large a project for one person," Roschen said. "He made numerous suggestions and sent additional content to be included. He also channeled his English teacher to make grammatical corrections to my initial draft."

Now they are working to add photographs to the final version of the text. Ideally, they will have at least two photos of each pattern - generally a dinner plate and a group photo showing several pieces.

### Potential book

The next step for Roschen and Moe will be to view the dinnerware documents from the massive Hutchson collection that is now in the possession of the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation which operates the pottery museum at Pottery Place Mall.

"At this point our mission is to sort the documents into "known" and "new" information," Roschen said. "We hope to find documents that will fill many of the gaps that remain in our dinnerware timeline.

"If the Foundation has the information we hope to find it's possible a dinnerware book may be the result," Roschen said, possibly in collaboration with the Foundation.

"We get questions all the time" from the public about dinnerware, Wegner said. "This is going to be a great resource for the office.

## Museum expansion still in planning stage

#### By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

lans to expand and possibly relocate the Red Wing Pottery Museum are advancing, but no major development is expected in the immediate future.

"We have some very firm, promising possibilities for museum expansion within the city of Red Wing," said Ron Linde,

place" to launch a fund drive, Linde said.

A Nebraska family has announced plans to donate a 5,000-piece collection of Red Wing to the foundation's museum, but more space is needed. The organization has probably three years to find a way to accommodate the collection.

In addition, Linde cited a large collection of photographs donated by Phil Revoir of Red Wing. A new space would provide more possibilities for display and preservation of those images, he said.

The Red Wing Pottery Museum, operated by the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation, is located on the second

floor of Pottery Place Mall.







# Wurzer shares 'Tales of the Road' as Convention highlight

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By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

athy Wurzer may not collect Red Wing pottery – she's afraid that if she starts, she won't be able to stop until her bank account is depleted but she is well versed in its past as well as its present.

Wurzer will talk about Red Wing and share some of its unique stories at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention. She is keynote speaker for a session at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in Hovda Hall at Red Wing High School. For the first time, the Society is opening the session to the public, free of charge.

Research for her Twin Cities Public Television documentary and companion book, "Tales of the Road: Highway 61," brought Wurzer to Red Wing many times over the past several years, but that wasn't her only reason for visiting. "I'm down there a lot anyway," she said, because she has a good friend in Hager City. "Red Wing is one of my favorite places."

Wurzer is well known throughout the state as the host of Minnesota Public Radio's Morning Edition and co-host of Almanac, the weekly public affairs program on public television.

## Red Wing stories

The "Tales of the Road" project began as a documentary tracing the approximate 440 miles of Highway 61 from Pigeon Falls at the Canadian border to La Crescent in southern Minnesota. The companion book started later, but was released first, in 2008.

"What a road trip it has been," she said, promising to talk at the Convention about the six years she spent working on it.

Red Wing posed a particular challenge, Wurzer said, because the city is "chock-full of great stories. I had to decide what to include" in both facets of the project.

Red Wing pottery had to be in the book, she decided, because of its importance. Wurzer also knew that she didn't want to focus on just the pottery and the stoneware, but also the workers who created it.



Cathy Wurzer

the stories she sought in oral histories recorded by people who had worked in the potteries. They talked about the factories, the conditions, what they did and what they made.

"What I was smitten by," she added, was the way potters created grave markers in local cemeteries using sewer pipe and stoneware.

In addition to three full pages of information and photos on the pottery industry, the book also includes two pages on the historic Sheldon Theatre, plus a mention of Red Wing Shoes and Riedell skates.

#### Second documentary

Wurzer filmed a number of people and places in Red Wing for the documentary, including Scott Gillmer at the business today. Unfortunately, the documentary ran 15 minutes long, and had to be edited.

"Ultimately, (the pottery) was not in the final version of the first documentary," she said, although some other features of Red Wing can be seen. Instead, it was decided to "Take a step back and do a larger version for Part II of the documentary.'

Book-signing visits to Red Wing confirmed that there are plenty more stories to be told. One person told her about the pottery dump, where shards were tossed and are still being uncovered. Another mentioned the artist community at the Anderson Center and inventor A.P. Anderson. At the museum she learned about a gangster who was shot to death in Wacouta Township and the flowers that somebody still places on his gravestone.

# Got an

Cathy Wurzer invites people to contact her if they have an idea, a story or the name of a person who might be helpful in the making of Part II of "Tales of the Road: Highway 61." Go online to the Web site www.talesoftheroad.net and click on "contact us" to send an e-mail.



"I'm looking at it as an educational trip as well," Wurzer said. "I'm looking forward to learning more about the pottery" and meeting people who may have stories for the second documentary.

Wurzer is taking a little break right now, but come August she anticipates she will resume researching and fundraising in earnest. "By 2010, I hope we can start shooting video," she said.



Cathy Wurzer will talk about her book, "Tales of the Road: Highway 61," at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention. The public also is invited to hear her speak at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the High School.



# Thank you to our many RWCS volunteers who make the Convention successful every year:

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aura Beall	Logan, IA	Display	8	Margaret Ekdahl Ralph Ryan	Red Wing, MN	Pre Registration 2	Hay Creek
ulie Beall my Beall	Logan, IA Logan, IA	Display Display	8 7	Helen Bell	Red Wing, MN Red Wing, MN	Pre Registration 2 Registration 33	
atherine Beall	Logan, IA Logan, IA	Display Display	7	Carol Hallstrom	Red Wing, MN Red Wing, MN	Registration 33 Registration 30	Goodhu
lizabeth Beall	Logan, IA Logan, IA	Display	6	Sue Ingwersen	Indianapolis, IN	Registration 7	Goodhu
uth Beall	Sioux City, IA	Display	6	Leona Scherer	Schroeder, MN	Registration 3	
arley Beall	Sioux City, IA	Display	5	Barb Fisher	Lincoln, NE	Registration 3	
ose Splitgerber	Lincoln, ŃE	Display	5 5	Pat Gallo	Red Wing, MN	Registration 1	
teve Splittgerber	Lincoln, NE	Display		Scott Woltering	Champlin, MN	Registration 2	
rianna Hanson	Howard, SD	Display	1	Connie Kolberg	Cannon Falls, MN	Registration 2	
arry Peterson	Northfield, MN	Education	33	Denise Salm	lowa City, IA	Registration 2	
)an DePasquale 'hyllis Showers	Norfolk, NE Welsh, MN	Education Education	33 32	Barb Gernentz Cindy May	Red Wing, MN Greenville, TN	Show & Sale 11	
teve Showers	Welsh, MN	Education	32	Dave Hallstrom	Greenville, TN Red Wing, MN	Show & Sale 11 Show & Sale 11	L L
Jiane Hallstrom	Red Wing, MN	Education	30	Jeff Huppert	Red Wing, MN	Show & Sale 11	
ennis Nygaard	Hastings, MN	Education	24	Jeff Tagliapeitra	Madison, WI	Show & Sale 11	
ave Kuffel	Libertyville, IL	Education	21	Jerry Erdmann	Tigerton, WI	Show & Sale 11	D L\A/
aul Wichert		Education	21	June Erdmann	Tigerton, WI		Best Wes
lon Linde	Waukesha, WI Northfield, MN	Education	21	Kay Salisbury	Melvern, KS	Show & Sale 11	B
inda Krueger	Glencoe, MN	Education	17	Larry Salisbury Lynn Huppert	Melvern, KS	Show & Sale 11	
arry Roschen	Coon Rapids MN Cedar Rapids, IA	Education	11 10	Lynn Huppert	Red Wing, MN Greenville, TN	Show & Sale 11	
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ouise Schleich Iustin Fjerestad	Lincoln, NE Hopkins	Education	6	Mark Russell	Melvern, KS	Show & Sale 11 Show & Sale 9	R
lick Natynski	Pewaukee, WI	Education	4	Linda Russell	Melvern, KS	Show & Sale 9 Show & Sale 9	R
armen Selfridge	Healdsburg, CA	Education	3	Dennis Hostetler	Wakefiled, KS	Show & Sale 7	ĸ
ammyi Soutar Hawley	Sioux Falls, Sd	Education	2	Dixie Hostetler	Wakefiled, KS	Show & Sale 7	
atherine Beall	Logan, IA	Education	1	Gary Wisbar	Stillwater, MN	Show & Sale 6	
luss Johnson	Delano, MN	KidsView	15	Mary Wisbar	Stillwater, MN	Show & Sale 6	
ue Johnson	Delano, MN	KidsView	10	Fred Fitchsen	Red Wing, MN	Show & Sale 3	M
eff Tagliapietra (ay Salisbury	Madison, WI Melvern, KS	KidsView KidsView	10 10	Gloria Fitschen Taylor Rohr	Red Wing, MN Melvern, KS	Show & Sale 3 Show & Sale 1	Do

Thank you to these Red Wing businesses for your sponsorships and donations:

Will-Do Trucking West End Liquor Wells Fargo Voael & Gorman Attorneys at Law Uffda Shop Tickle Yer Fancy The Galley Room Subhouse Sturdiwheat St. James Hotel mes Merchants Association Rodeway Inn efined Skin Medi-Spa Visitors and Convention Bureau Wing Trolley Company Red Wing Stoneware Red Wing Pottery d Wing Framing Gallery ed Wing Corner Drug d Wing Confectionary Pottery Place Antiques kins Restaurant & Bakery Parkway Motel ood Promotional Products Nichols Inn Moments on Main Merchants Bank emory Maker Antiques cDonald's of Red Wing Marita's Lily's Coffee House Life's Little Oasis ty's Restaurant & Lounge Larry Veeder ng Neptune Car Wash Josephson's Clothing ed Home & Flower Studio Valley Campground & Saloon Hallstrom's Florist ue County Historical Society Godfather's Pizza Ferrin's Furniture Falconer Vineyards Dairy Queen Culver's Christian Book Store Body Kneads Bev's Café estern Rivertown Inn & Suites Bed & Bath Treasures Associated Bank AmericInn Red Wing Shoe Co. Red Wing Golf Club Treasure Island DaVita Dialysis Marie's Casual Dining owntown Main Street Country Inn & Suites



#### 2009 Convention Schedule Red Wing High School, Red Wing, MN

TIME   Wednesday, Ju   8:00 - 12:00   11:00 - 3:00   12:00 - 3:00   Thursday, July   8:00 - 4:00   8:00 - 4:00   8:00 - 4:00   8:00 - 4:00   8:00 - 10:00   8:00 - 10:00   8:00 - 10:00   8:00 - 10:00   8:00 - 10:00   9:00 - 12:30   10:30 - 12:30   12:15 - 1:00   12:15 - 1:00   12:15 - 4:15   12:30 - 3:00   1:00 - 2:00   1:00 - 4:00   4:30 - 7???   5:30 p.m 8:00   Friday, July 10   8:00 - 1:30   9:00 - 1:30	Board of Directors Meeting Brat Feed (badge pick up for pre-registered attendees) Sponsored by Pottery Place Mall Auction Check-In, Catalogs for Sale 9 Courtyard Café Open Set up the Display and Rare Items <b>Registration Opens</b> Chapter Presidents Meeting Ephraim Pottery Demonstration Commemorative Distribution Auction Check-In Distribution of Bid Numbers; Auction Catalog for Sale Sale of Educational Material Orientation for First Timers Welcome Session Keynote Address: Cathy Wurzer Bus Tour Registration (at Information Table) Kids View Auction Check-In Auction Preview Historical Red Wing Bus Tour Departs/Returns High School Chapter Meetings and Hospitality Rooms Kids View Seminar & Auction Commemorative Distribution Auction Puscinal Red King Bus Tour	LOCATIONL100Pottery Place MallGymnasiumGourtyard Café100 PodCourtyard Café100 PodCourtyard CaféGymnasiumGymnasiumGymnasiumGourtyard CaféJ200 RoomsSee schedule)Art Room/AuditoriumH100 PodGymnasiumGourtyard CaféCourtyard CaféAuditoriumJ200 RoomsGymnasiumJ100 PodGymnasiumJ100 PodJ100 Pod	9:00 - 3:20 9:00 - 10:00 9:00 - 10:00 10 - 10:50 10:00 - 2:20 11:00 - 2:20 11:00 - 2:20 11:00 - 2:20 1:30 - 2:20 1:30 - 2:20 1:30 - 3:00 2:30 - 3:20 3:30 - 5:30 6:00 p.m 8:30 Saturday, July 8:00 - 10:30 8:00 - 10:30 8:00 - 10:30 8:00 - 10:30 8:00 - 10:30 9:00 - 10:30 9:00 - 10:30 1:30 - 3:00 1:30 - 3:00 5:30 p.m 6:30 6:30	Sale of Educational Materials Orientation for First Timers HAUL IN Show and Sale/Souvenir Items Adult Education Seminars Kids View Seminars Adult Educational Seminars Kids View Person Stration Adult Educational Seminars Adult Educational Seminars Adult Educational Seminars Commemorative Distribution HAUL IN Show and Sale/Souvenir Items Annual Business Meeting Pig Roast (located between East & East Ave.) 11 HAUL IN Show and Sale Registration Opens Commemorative Distribution Kids View Plate Pick Up Auction Prices-Realized Catalogs for Sale Display Open to the Public Show & Sale Open to Registered Members ONLY Show and Sale Removal Display Removal So Long Mixer	Courtyard Café Choir Room C-100 Gymnasium H200 Rooms (see schedule) Art Room Art Room Art Room Art Room Courtyard Café H200 Rooms (see schedule) H100 Rooms (see schedule) H100 Pod Gymnasium Auditorium NEW LOCATION Central Park Gymnasium Courtyard Café Courtyard
					Summit Room

# Take detour to Goodhue County History Center

ue to road construction on Oak Street, people who want to visit the Goodhue County History Center at 1166 Oak St. will have to follow a detour.

Detour signs will take visitors via Fourth Street to Sixth Street and past Red Wing Golf Club.

Construction started June 15. History Center Director Char Henn said the museum will remain open during the water and sewer separation and repaying, although there will be a few days – when water has been cut off to the building – when it will be closed to visitors.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free to convention attendees with their badges.

Updated information is available on the Web site – www.goodhuehistory.mus.mn.us – or people can contact the Goodhue County History Center at (651) 388-6024 or via e-mail at goodhuecountyhis@qwestoffice.net.





# **EDUCATION DAY - Friday, July 10th**



210`

#### Keynote: Cathy Wurzer Tales of the Road Thursday, July 9, 10:50 a.m. Hovda Hall

Cathy Wurzer is the author of a new book about historical sites along Highway 61 which includes a chapter about Red Wing Pottery and the potters themselves. She received a good deal of help from RWCS and the Goodhue Co. Historical Society. Cathy will talk about the research that went into the book that focuses on stories along the highway that have been, until now, not well known.

Cathy Wurzer is one of Minnesota's premiere journalists, with an extensive background in public and commercial broadcasting.Cathy is currently the host of "Morning Edition" on Minnesota Public Radio. Cathy has held a number of positions in the past at MPR, including talk show host, reporter and producer. She is also the co-host of "Almanac", a weekly public affairs program, produced by Twin Cities Public Television for Minnesota's statewide public television network.

Cathy Wurzer is also a published author...having written the regional best seller "Tales of the Raad-Highway 61" in 2008, published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. She was the executive producer and host of the public television documentary by the same name that had its premiere earlier this spring.

> Commemorative History Jack Horner CFO, Treasurer of Western Stoneware Session I, 10-10:50 H202 Session II, 11:11:50 H202 Session III, 12:30-1:20 H202 Session IV, 1:30 to 2:20 H202

Come and learn about the RWCS Commemorative production at Western Stoneware. Jack Horner will be discussing the production methods of the 2009 Convention Commemorative. He will also have several pieces in stages of production to show the steps from clay to finished piece. In addition, Jake will also show an award winning documentary produced by Monmouth College students on Western Stoneware.

Jack Horner was raised and educated in Monmouth, IL the home of Western Stoneware. However, Jack began his career at Container Corporation Chicago and Weyerhaeuser Company Container, Bag Division Sales. At Container Corporation Chicago, Jack's positions included Lab Technician, Quality Control, Research & Development, and Marketing. Jack has been with Western Stoneware since 1970. He began as an Assistant Sales Manager and over the past 30 years he has held positions in packaging & shipping, research & development, Special Projects Coordinator, Maintenance Supervisor, and Plant Engineer. Currently, Jack is the Treasurer/CFO and co-owner of Western Stoneware, Inc.

> Red Wing Paper Memorabilia Dan DePasquale Session I, 10-10:50 H208 Session II, 11-11:50 H208

If you are interested in reviewing the history of the Red Wing Stoneware Companies through paper memorabilia this program should be of interest to you. You can expect to see original documents ranging from stationary, to ink blotters, to checks, to original advertising of stoneware products and much more. It is guaranteed you will see some items that you have never seen. Additionally, paper items contain a wealth of information about the stoneware companies and production pieces. "Tidbits" of information about the companies and products will be shared.

Dan is a charter member and past president of the Red Wing Collectors Society. He has helped author two books on Red Wing and is currently completing a third book with co-author Larry Peterson.

Saffron Ware – the beautiful yellow ware of the Red Wing Potteries Tammi Soutar Hawley Session I, 10-10:50 H204 Session II, 11-11:50 H204

This session will be a general overview of the beautiful buttery yellow Saffron Ware line of stoneware produced by the Red Wing Stoneware companies in the early part of the century. I will feature a small display of a few Saffron pieces and the similarities to the Gray Line series of stoneware! I will have a few pieces that are most likely not Red Wing so folks can learn to tell the difference between the real thing and the "others".

Tammi Soutar Hawley started collecting Red Wing about 10 years ago – mainly interested in small utilitarian items for decorating. Interest sparked into yellow ware and cookie jars shortly thereafter. Today my main collecting areas are that of saffron ware, cookie jars, and a few dinnerware patterns such as Chevron from the Gypsy Trail line and Bob White. I have been married to my stoneware fanatic husband Jon for just about 5 years – we spent our honeymoon digging in the Red Wing pottery dump! We have 3 1/2 year old twins Quinn and Coralee and live in Sioux Falls, SD.

Gypsy Trail A to Z Session I: 10-10:50 H205 Session II: 11-11:50 H205 Overview of Dinnerware, Provincial 1941 through Hotel & Restaurant 1967 Session III: 12:30-1:30 H205 Session IV: 1:30-2:30 H205 Speakers: Terry Moe and Larry Roschen

Terry Moe and Larry Roschen are presenting a seminar that will provide extensive insights into Red Wing Dinnerware. The seminar extends through all 4 sessions. The first 2 sessions provide an in depth analysis of the earliest solid color dinnerware lines. Wreath, Gypsy Trail and Ivanhoe will be examined closely. There will be pictures of all known pieces in each of the lines and selected items will be available for hands on inspection. The last 2 sessions will provide an overview of all of the remaining dinnerware lines beginning with Provincial 1941 and ending with the lines in production when the Pottery closed in 1967. Numerous photos from all patterns will be shown and discussed. The seminar is based almost entirely upon primary source materials from the Pottery. Brochures, Price Lists, Company internal documents, and advertising materials provide the resources for the presentation. Feel free to bring dinnerware items you would identified to the seminar. While it is not necessary to attend all of the 4 sessions, none of the material will be repeated. If you want a complete overview of all the dinnerware lines, you will need to attend all 4 sessions.

Larry Roschen and his wife Kathy have collected Red Wing pottery since 1980. After buying everything and anything for a few years, dinnerware soon became their primary collecting interest. Pitchers, teapots, salt & pepper shakers and dinner plates are Larry's focus, as well as building complete sets of several dinnerware patterns. In recent years research of original Red Wing documents is a growing interest. Larry currently serves as the dinnerware advisor for the "Ask the Experts" section of the RWCS website.

Terry Moe and his wife Marilyn have been collecting Red Wing pottery since they inherited a partial set of Gypsy Trail Plain and Reed in 1975 from Terry's Grandmother. They primarily collect dinnerware and at one time had all of the production dinner plates except Buds. Gypsy Trail, Wreath, Ardennes, and Normandy along with Merrileaf are the main focus. They also collect supper trays. Primary source material relating to dinnerware are also a major interest.

Larry and Terry have conducted numerous dinnerware seminars for RWCS Midwinter and Summer Conventions.

#### Red Wing Salt Glaze Rick Natynski Session III, 12:30-1:20 H208 Session IV, 1:30-2:20 H208

Whether you're new to collecting Red Wing salt glaze stoneware or an advanced collector, this session is for anyone who enjoys a piece of stoneware with turkey droppings and a hand-drawn cobalt decoration. Rick will offer identification tips and show photos of more than 100

#### Kids View 10th Anniversary – Brought to you by the Number 10 July 9 & 10, 2009

Thursday, July 9th			Friday, July 10th		
Time	Group 1**	Group 2**	Time		
1:00 to 1:45	Make Your Own Stoneware Under the TENder guidance of Mike Robinson kids will inTENsely stamp and glaze a specially designed version of miniature stoneware. (the piece will be fired and picked up on Friday) Art Room*	Auction Viewing and Grading Reducing Auction TcNsion through learning. Group 2 views the donated pieces. This session teaches the fine at of auction viewing, selection and bidding. Be prepared to answer the top 10 auction questions. Auditorium*	10:00 to 10:50	A TENured Tradition Our inTENsion is to continue favored traditions. This year under the TENur guidance of Russ and Sue Johnson and the TENacious instruction of Steve Brown, children will ance again for the TENth year paint on real Red Win dinnerware. No TENderfoots and TEN gallon hats are allowed here. Art Room	
2:00 2:35 ***	Auction viewing and selection The donated pieces for Group 1 auction are avail- able for to inspect and offer bids for top three choices. Auction rules are reviewed and auction begins. We have a TENdency to have some funl Auditorium	Make Your Own Stoneware Under the TENder guidance of Mike Robinson kids will inTENsely stamp and glaze a specially designed version of miniature stoneware. (the piece will be fired and picked up on Friday) Art Room	11:00 to 2:20 * * *	TOP 10 OF CHARLES, BELLE AND JEFF. LISTEN, ProTENd and Produce That is the theme of this seminar. You will learn of the 10 first patterns made, have times to try new activities and return to old familiar ones. A TRUdency to have funt We inFLN to tour the display area too. BROUGH TO YOU BY THE NUMBER 10 - Kevin and Paul from Ephraim Pottery. The inTENtion is to create. Kids will do a combination of creating variations o smaller 10 jugs as well as some having experience on the pottery wheels: Lunch and a break are provided. Art Room	
3:00 3:30 ***	Silent auction continued Younger children are encouraged to watch the auction and see how the bidding process works. Auditorium	Kids View Bidding Auction Begins InfENse But Great Fun Dick Hoghton will conduct the kids auction. A sealed envelope gives \$ to bid o secure your fevorile piece. It's time to practice all that you have learned. Auditorium	*All children meet in the Art Room. **Children will be divided into two groups based on age. ***Starting times may vary. PARENTS: Your child will be expected to stay in the Art Roon or Auditorium for the duration of the activity. UNLESS you have given express permission that your child may leave independently.		

# **EDUCATION DAY - Friday, July 10th**

pieces ranging from the most common target decoration to the rarest bird decorations.

Rick Natynski began collecting Red Wing stoneware in 2001 and has since built a nice collection of salt glaze, his favorite being anything that bears the "ribcage" decoration. He also enjoys advertising stoneware. Rick became the editor of the Red Wing Collectors Society Newsletter in 2006. He lives outside Milwaukee with his wife, Elsa, and 1-year-old daughter, Synneva.

What is new with the RWCS Foundation and the Red Wing Pottery Museum Ron Linde, Diane Hallstrom, Larry Peterson, Louise Schleich, Carmen Selfridge Session 1, 10-10:50 H206/207 Session 1, 11-11:50 H206/207

The RWCS Foundation Board Members will discuss the new projects, acquisitions and up coming events. Rather than listen to rumors or guesses, come get the whole story and answers to anything and everything you've ever wanted to know.

The main purpose of the Foundation is to preserve Red Wing and other American stoneware and pottery for future generations. The displays are a historical reflection of what has happened in Minnesota and the United States during the past century. The museum's purpose is to encourage collecting in those who may not know about the RWCS, as well as to educate those who stop to visit.

> Red Wing 101 and Red Wing 102 Paul Wichert and Linda Krueger Session I, 10-10:50 H203 Session II, 11-11:50 H203

How familiar are you with Red Wing Stoneware and Pottery? Want to learn more? RED WING 101 and 102 are geared toward the new collector. Paul Wichert and Linda Krueger will present on the history of the Red Wing potteries, what they produced, what's collectible and what's not. They will discuss collector trends, an items 'condition' and will provide you with some pointers on what to watch for when you're buying. They will also cover ovals, signatures, and shape numbers, reuse of the molds, as well as various glazes, colors, and color combinations.

An Information Technology professional by trade, Paul Wichert is a long time collector of Red Wing and Advertising Stoneware. An Antique dealer for over 15 years, he has been an active member of the Red Wing Collectors Society since 1992. He has served with the RWCS commemorative distribution crew since 1993. He has participated as an appraiser at Waukesha Historical days' celebrations and at the Antique Treasures Expo with the Keno Brothers (Antiques Road Show) in Madison, Wisconsin. Hosted by the Fox Riverwalk Antique mall, he also has presented the Red Wing 101 seminar for various groups of antique dealers and collectors.

By profession, Linda Krueger is a self employed Interior Decorator in the Twin Cities area. She is also an antique dealer with over 20 years experience and collects mostly stoneware, and occasionally, an art pottery piece or two. A native of Sleepy Eye, MN, she also collects a variety of Sleepy Eye items. An active member of the Red Wing Collector Society since 1989, Linda has served on the commemorative distribution committee continuously since 1993. She is a member of the Gopher Chapter and was a commemorative chair.

#### Dump Finds Steve Showers Session III, 12:30-1:20 H206/207 Session IV, 1:30-2:20 H206/207

Steve Showers started digging Red Wing stoneware in 1967. His presentation will encompass past and present "finds". Steve has been digging every fall and winter for the past 22 years and has found many interesting items over the years which he will share with you. A few of his more interesting finds include a five gallon iug from Edmore, North Dakota, a bisque bank from the Chicago expo of 1893, many salt glaze lids, advertising butter crocks, jugs and bowls. Come see what's new this year from the Dump!!

Steve retired in December of 2003 after 40 years with the 3M Company. He has been a "Red Wing Archeologist" for over 40 years digging up history in the Red Wing Potteries dump. In addition to his interest in the Red Wing Pottery dump he is an avid bottle digger in the summer. He collects Red Wing items from Goodhue County, Minnesota. He and his wife, Phyllis, live in Welch, Minnesota.

#### Recent Finds and Discoveries in the Red Wing Dump Dennis Nygaard & Austin Fjerestad Session I, 10-10:50 H201 Session II, 11-11-50 H201

Once again, our session promises to be both interesting and different as we talk more about early wares and new finds at the dump. Most of our seminar will cover the details of some of our previous finds with added info and insight from other newer finds. Early forms, flaws, and unknown items will be shown and talked about that relate to early lid production, bisque pies, decorations and marks. On top of this we will talk about some of the Mysteries of the Dump and what we are learning about the area the dump encompasses. With all the new pieces, finds and discoveries from the dump this session promises to wow the new collectors and the veteran collectors as we shed light on wares from the 1880's era of the potter industry.

Dennis is a long time RWCS member who has not missed a Convention. He has been digging in the Red Wing dump for over 25 years, often with fellow diggers Steve Showers and Austin Fjerestad. In addition to his dump finds, Dennis collects stoneware fruit jars from all United States potteries with a special interest in New Brighton, PA pottery. Dennis lives in Hastings, MN with his wife, Virginia, and three sons.

Austin Fjerestad has been an RWCS member since 1996 and has been digging with Dennis in the dump since 2002. Austin has been an avid digger all of his life looking for bottles since he was 12. In addition to putting the dump puzzle together, Austin collects Minnesota Sodas prior to 1920's. He is a lid collector both through his dig finds and mint finds.

#### Orientation for First Timers Catherine Bell

Thursday 10 a.m., Friday 9 a.m.

If 2009 will be your first time attending the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention, there is a lot to see and do! Start your first Convention experience out right by attending an Orientation Seminar led by longtime RWCS member Catherin Beall. Catherine will discuss all of the activities that are lined up and offer tips on making the most of your Convention experience. NEW THIS YEAR: a representative from the Red Wing Visitor and Convention Bureau will also stop in for both sessions to tell you about all that Red Wing has to offer.

Hello! I am Catherine Beall. I am interested in Red Wing and have grown up with it, and have attended chapter meetings in Nebraska and South Dakota. Mr. Charles E. Murphy's prints are especially admirable, and collecting Art Pottery is my favorite past-time. As a younger member of the Red Wing Collectors Society, I participated in Kids View Activities, but now volunteer along with Wendy Callicoat and Sue Jones-Tagliapietra. I have been a volunteer and a displayer in the Convention Display Room. In Iowa High School Speech competitions for the past two years, I have earned excellent ratings for both Group and Individual contests. As a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, I have learned discipline and self defense.

#### LEDGER Dave Kuffel

Session III, 12:30-1:20 H203 Session IV, 1:30-2:20 H203

The recently published Red Wing Union Stoneware Company special order ledger, dating from 1906-1914, will be the topic of conversation. A brief review of LEDGER content will be provided for newcomers. New speculation regarding the LEDGER itself, further detail regarding some of the LEDGER entries, and the introduction of a corresponding "eLEDGER" will be discussed.

Convention 2009 marks Dave's 30th consecutive convention. Dave's Red Wing collecting has primarily focused on stoneware, and most recently, on advertising bee hive jugs, crocks and butter jars. Dave also has an interest in Mission style furniture and architecture, and, wooden bodied automobiles (woodies).

Dave states that Red Wing – the people, the pottery, the Convention, and the city – have become a significant part of his life. Dave currently serves on the RWCS Foundation board of directors which has responsibility for all facets of the Red Wing Pottery Museum. He encourages all RWCS members to visit and support their museum.

## Red Wing Collector's Society - Educational Seminars • Friday, July 10, 2009

	H201	H202	H203	H204	H205	H206/207	H208
Session I 10:00 10:50	<b>Recent Finds</b> Dennis Nygaard Austin Fjerestad	Commemorative History Jack Horner Western Stoneware	<b>Red Wing 101</b> Paul Wichert Linda Krueger	<b>Saffron Ware</b> Tammy Soutar Hawley	Dinnerware Review Part 1 Terry Moe & Larry Roschen	What's New with the RWCS Foundation & Your Museum Red Wing Foundation Board Members	<b>Red Wing Paper</b> <b>Products</b> Dan DePasquale
Session II 11:00 11:50	<b>Recent Finds</b> Dennis Nygaard Austin Fjerestad	Commemorative History Jack Horner Western Stoneware	<b>Red Wing 102</b> Paul Wichert Linda Krueger	<b>Saffron Ware</b> Tammy Soutar Hawley	Dinnerware Review Part 2 Terry Moe & Larry Roschen	What's New with the RWCS Foundation & Your Museum Red Wing Foundation Board Members	<b>Red Wing Paper</b> <b>Products</b> Dan DePasquale
Session III 12:30 1:20		Commemorative History Jack Horner Western Stoneware	<b>LEDGER</b> Dave Kuffel		Dinnerware Review Part 3 Terry Moe & Larry Roschen	Latest Red Wing Dump Finds Steve Showers	Red Wing Salt Glaze Rick Natynski
Session IV 1:30 2:20		Commemorative History Jack Horner Western Stoneware	<b>LEDGER</b> Dave Kuffel		Dinnerware Review Part 4 Terry Moe & Larry Roschen	Latest Red Wing Dump Finds Steve Showers	Red Wing Salt Glaze Rick Natynski





By Abby Wolner

into Red Wing's past.

West Main Street.

all be thrown away.

stoneware cover the ground.

Behold, the pottery dump.

dinnerware capping off the west.

ucked behind Pottery Pond and

flush with the railroad tracks lies

the remains of one of Red Wing's

oldest traditions. Few are allowed in, and

even fewer emerge without deeper insight

hill behind the Red Wing Pottery

Salesroom, we arrive. Shards of broken

The pottery dump covers the few acres

The caverns of broken stone form a

Rejected pottery was brought to the

After a firing, anywhere from 10 to 75

percent of the items would be unsalable,

dump by the truckload. Pieces that were warped, stuck together, or broken would

between the Mississippi River and Old

timeline, with late 19th century salt-glaze

on the east end, and mid-20th century

After a treacherous shimmy down the

Contributor

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Steve Showers has been finding treasures in the Red Wing Pottery dump for decades. He'll talk about those finds again this year during Education Day at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention. — photos by Abby Wolner



Pieces of broken salt-alaze covers are a rare find in the pottery dump below Old West Main Street



Broken shards of zinc glaze pottery, made after 1896, can be found in the pottery dump. Truckloads of rejected stoneware were brought to the site.

Pieces of salt-glaze pottery, which was made between 1877 and 1896, were dumped behind the factory. Today shards of this potterv are found on the east end of the dumping arounds.

and all of the rejected pottery would be taken to the dump.

Showers finds history in

pottery, stoneware shards

Steve Showers has been digging in this pottery graveyard for about 40 years officially, that is. Showers actually started exploring the area as a teenager.

"My mom used to come down and buy seconds from the pottery," he said. "I didn't want to go shopping, so I'd jump down the hill and go digging."

The Cannon Falls native has developed extensive knowledge of Red Wing pottery and stoneware.

His knack for identifying what the tiny shards used to form is infallible. Showers points out pieces of butter churns, jugs, and crocks. He even knows their approximate age and volume.

"I'm kind of a history buff," he said.

As a child, he liked to look for fossils, but pottery became his artifact of choice as an adult. "[The dump] is so close, and basically untouched when we first got here," he said. "That's what was so exciting.'

Showers works in groups of two or three people when digging. Members of the crew uses shovels and buckets to remove dirt from the covered stoneware before searching for choice pieces.

"Some of the most interesting things are unknown pieces or special orders,' Showers said. Large crock covers are also rare and valuable finds.

Showers sells some of the pieces he finds and keeps others. He intends to eventually donate his collection for public viewing. "That way more people can enjoy them," he said.

"Rumor has it," Showers said, "that there was a 25 gallon jug full of miniature crocks that was thrown out. I always tell my seminars that's what I'm looking for."

Showers will entertain audiences with his tales from the dump at this year's Red Wing Collectors Society Convention. He is an annual speaker at the gathering.

Collectors and historians alike are anxious to see what Showers uncovers next.

As for the diggers' future plans, he said,"we'll keep going until someone shuts us down.<sup>3</sup>

In the town where pottery is king, who would want to?



## For more information...

Steve Showers will present his annual "Dump Finds" report as an educational seminar on Friday. His sessions will be at 12:30 p.m. and at 1:30 p.m.

His presentation will encompass past and present "finds." Showers has been digging every fall and winter for the past 40 years and has found many interesting items which he will share. Among his more interesting finds are a 5-gallon jug from Edmore, N.D., a bisque bank from the Chicago Exposition of 1893, many salt-glaze lids, advertising butter crocks, jugs and bowls.

Showers, who retired in December 2003 after 40 years with 3M Co., has been a Red Wing "archeologist" for over 40 years, digging up history in the Red Wing Potteries dump. In the summer, he is an avid bottle digger. Showers and his wife, Phyllis, live in Welch.



# Public invited to join in the fun at 2009 Convention

By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

Red Wing folks are well accustomed to seeing Red Wing Pottery and stoneware collectors around town during the annual Red Wing Collectors Society Convention, which is July 9-11 this year.

But this year local residents will have more opportunities than ever before to join in the fun – with or without joining the Collectors Society.

In addition to the annual Show and Sale, open exhibits and museum displays, people are invited to come and hear keynote speaker Cathy Wurzer, to attend the "Rock Around the Crock" pig roast and party, and to vie for prizes in the first Crock Hunt (page 18).

The public can join Collectors Society members at following events:

## Wednesday, July 8:

Crock Hunt. The entry form for the first-ever Crock Hunt can be found in this special supplement to the Republican-Eagle on page 18.

Anyone who wants to participate can go around town looking for displays of Red Wing Pottery, new or old.

Just match the display with the logo of the business where it can be found. Bring your ballot with you to the business, because someone there will stamp or initial the ballot as proof you were really there – not just guessing.

Turn in your ballot at "Rock Around the Crock" (see below) by 6 p.m. Friday and if all your matches are correct, you might win a prize!

## Thursday, July 9:

Cathy Wurzer. The Minnesota Public Radio talk show host and author of a regional best-seller, "Tales of the Road – Highway 61," will speak at 10:30 a.m. in the Red Wing High School auditorium, Hovda Hall. She is host of MPR's Morning Edition and co-host of Almanac, a weekly public affairs program produced by Twin Cities Public Television for the statewide public television network.

Admission is free. After she speaks, Wurzer will be available to autograph copies of her book, which includes a section on Red Wing and its pottery. Books will be available to purchase.

The book, released in 2008, is a com-

panion piece to a public television documentary by the same name.

## Friday, July 10:

"Rock Around the Crock." A pig roast with music by Mike Murphy is planned in Central Park, using the new band shell. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. At 6 p.m., there'll be a drawing to determine prizewinners in the Crock Hunt.

Members of the Phantoms Motor and Model Club and the Bearing Burners Car Club will be bringing their vintage and classic vehicles to display on Sixth Street between the old courthouse building and Central Park.

Anyone who'd like to participate in the pig roast can purchase a ticket for \$12 at the door. The Red Wing Photography Club will be taking pictures as a fundraiser

# Saturday, July 11:

Show & Sale. As always, the Show & Sale in the high school gym will be open free to the public at 10:30 a.m.; Collectors Society members only will be allowed in at 9 a.m.

However, non-members who want to come earlier are welcome at the high school at 8 a.m. to see the displays in the J-100 pod classrooms.

Members each year create displays using their stoneware, art pottery, dinnerware, memorabilia and/or rare items. Prizes are awarded.

Events run until 1:30 p.m.

## Daily:

The Red Wing Pottery Museum, operated by the RWCS Foundation, is open daily on the second floor of the Pottery Place Mall. Admission is free. The museum is open during regular mall hours.

#### Any time:

Join the RWCS. Established in 1977, the Society holds its National Convention in Red Wing every year. Thousands typically come for a week of educational meetings, auctions, buying, selling and family entertainment — including activities for children.

The organization has more than 4,000 members worldwide. For more information call (800) 977-7927, e-mail membership@redwingcollectors.org or go online to www.redwingcollectors.org.



Huge crowds always show up for the public show and sale held on Saturday morning of the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention in the high school gym.



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## Visit the **GOODHUE COUNTY HISTORY CENTER**

1166 Oak Street Red Wing, MN (651) 388-6024 www.goodhuehistory.mus.mn.us

Follow detour signs HOURS

Tues.-Fri. 10am-5pm; Sat. & Sun. 1-5pm **Closed Mondays & Holidays** 



Hwy 61, Downtown Red Wing

# CANNON VALLEY

(MINNESOTA) Connie Kolberg, President 26251 Miesville Trail Cannon Falls, MN 55009 (507) 263-9245; ckolberg@citlink.net

#### **GOLDEN STATE (CALIFORNIA)**

Bruce Cameron, President PO Box 690, French Camp, CA 95231 (510) 537-0325; ffr554@aol.com

## CHAPTER

Lyle Tuttle, Southwest Chapter, holding a "find"

from a Phoenix, AZ, area garage sale.

(MINNESOTA)

Marv Osterholz, President PO Box 62, Rockton, IL 61072 (815) 624-6201; osterstuff@aol.com

## RWCS

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Wayne Burk, President

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MONTANA

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#### PUGET SOUND (WASHINGTON)

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## <u>CELEBRATING WITH</u> RED WING

ROCKY

MOUNTAIN

Matt Beilby,

PO Box 7737

SIOUXLAND

(SOUTH

President

DAKOTA)

Glenn Beall,

REDWINGERS

215 W. 7th Street

SOUTHWEST

(ARIZONA)

President 4888 Tee Ct SW,

REDWINGERS

Charles Hanson,

Arizona Address:

Mesa, AZ 85209

(FLORIDA)

Rochester, MN 55902

cdhanson302@msn.net

John Dougherty, President

1792 Walden Pond Dr.

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SUNSHINE STATE REDWINGERS

Logan, IA 51546-1221

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907-669-9190; mkb.hops@excite.com

(712) 644-2256; gbeall@loganet.net

President

(COLORADO)

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Dennis Nygaard, President 114 24th Street W, Hastings, MN 55033 (651) 437-7943 denvirny@aol.com

#### **ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF THE RWCS**

## **INDIANA WINGERS CHAPTER**

John Ingwersen, President



THE RWCS





ROCKY MOUNTAIN

CHAPTER

IXI AND REDWINGERS

A Chapter of the Red Wing Co

26400 S. Hickory Trail Harrisonville, MO 64701 (816) 380-1096; brgtr3@earthlink.net

#### WISCONSIN CHAPTER, RWCS

Pete Pavloski, President 1411 Rapids Trail Nekoosa, WI 54457 (715) 325-3715; pbpav@hotmail.com





44829 Malow Ave. Sterling Heights, MI 48317









# RWCS Board of Directors

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## Membership Application Form

A Primary \$25 annual membership is afforded all the rights and privileges of the organization. An Associate \$10 annual membership is afforded all the rights and privileges of the organization except for the receipt of the newsletter. There **must be at least one Primary membership per household address** in order to have other members at that address having Associate member status. Each membership is afforded the right to purchase one Convention commemorative.

Type of membership: □ Primary annual membership fee \$25 □ Associate annual membership fee \$10			
State Zip			
ested you in joining:			
Red Wing Collectors Society P.O. Box 50 Red Wing, MN 55066-0050			

# 2008 Convention Attendance

# 1,851 Red Wing Collectors By State:

Alabama-4 California-27 Florida-12 Illinois-65 Massachusetts-2 Minnesota-947 North Dakota-80 Ohio-7 Pennsylvania-6 Texas-2 Wyoming-1 Arkansas-5 Colorado-13 Iowa-163 Indiana-13 Maryland-4 Missouri-29 Nebraska-40 Oklahoma-3 South Dakota-51 Washington-8 Arizona-12 Connecticut-23 Idaho-6 Kansas-28 Michigan-23 Montana-4 New Mexico-1 Oregon-1 Tennessee-4 Wisconsin-337

Memberships as of 6/28/09 - 4826



# Sewer pipe exhibit new at museum

#### By Ruth Nerhaugen nerhaugen@republican-eagle.com

\$16`

The clay industry in Red Wing included products that were even more practical than crocks, jugs and dinnerware. The city also was home to factories that manufactured sewer pipe for the city's infrastructure.

A new exhibit of local sewer pipe products is on display at the Pottery Museum on the second floor of the Pottery Place Mall, operated by the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation.

The organization has paid less attention to the sewer pipe industry than to Red Wing pottery and stoneware, foundation vice president Diane Hallstrom said. "It's really interesting."

So in June, the locally made pipe was installed in the large case just inside the museum doors where sets of water coolers in all sizes has been displayed in recent years.

Lunch hour pieces are among featured items. Hallstrom said sewer pipe factory workers often used their lunch hours to



create one-of-a-kind items, just like the pottery workers did.

Stumps were popular, especially for use as planters in yards and in cemeteries. People also made umbrella stands, bird houses, log-shaped piggy banks and even mailboxes out of the tile.

Among bird houses in the display will be one made by the late Orville Olson when he was a child doing a school project. His father worked at one of the sewer pipe factories. Olson worked for many years at the Goodhue County History Center.

"Those people were very artistic," Hallstrom said. "It's amazing to me" to see what they made in that dark, hot environment in their spare time.

One of the most impressive pieces is a large container, with cover, which features a gathering of animals.

Also in the exhibit will be examples of production pipe and some of the sample pieces which were given away and used as pencil holders.

Hallstrom noted that the clay used for sewer pipe tile was "grainier, grittier" than the smooth Claybank clay used for pottery. "It was the top area of the clay" deposit and not as fine, she explained.

Most of the sewer pipe pieces in the display are on loan from members and local residents, she said. An exception is the original sewer pipe factory whistle, which is on the wall at the museum. It was used to announce lunch time or a shift change.

"The museum is unique" in showing mostly borrowed items, Hallstrom said. The foundation's goal is to have a sample of everything Red Wing made – pottery and stoneware, too – but it does not own all of those pieces.

"We feel that right now, the best way to do this is to have members and residents" loan them to the museum for six to 12 months. "We don't have lots of museum-owned artifacts."

Having items on loan allows them to change the exhibits when new items become available. "It's really fun," Hallstrom said. In addition, she added, "It gives members a feeling of pride, that part of their collection" is on display in the museum for a time. Conventiongoers also will find some salt-glaze pieces that were put on exhibit since the last Red Wing gathering.

The Pottery Museum is free and open to the public during Pottery Place Mall hours.



Lunch hour pieces made by sewer pipe factory workers are on display now at the Red Wing Pottery Museum, including this log cabin. There were three companies over the years — John H. Rich, Red Wing and Union Sewer Pipe Co.



Sewer pipe tile was made from grittier, grainier clay. It was used to create Red Wing's infrastructure. Samples can be found in the Red Wing Pottery Museum.



The steam whistle from the original Red Wing Sewer Pipe factory is part of the Red Wing Pottery Museum collection.

# Pottery Road Show again uncovers rare items

250

ndiscovered Red Wing Pottery items still can be found in the cupboards and closets of Red Wing homes.

Several of them showed up at the second annual Red Wing Pottery Road Show May 16 at the Red Wing Pottery Museum. It was put on by the Red Wing Collectors Society, RWCS Foundation, and a local RWCS chapter, the Cannon Valley Red Wing Collectors Club.

More than 75 people brought 50 pieces of Red Wing stoneware, dinnerware, and art pottery for experts to evaluate. They also answered questions and provided background information.

New finds at this year's show included

1977

stoneware, dinnerware and art pottery.

The stoneware experts, Larry Peterson, Wayne Bell and Dave Hallstrom, saw great examples of Red Wing salt-glaze, advertising, and spongeware.

Their attention was immediately grabbed by a 5-gallon scratched Albany slip jug double-handled and doublestamped on the handle and side. This rare early Red Wing Stoneware Company jug was valued to be \$5,000 to \$7,000 by expert Peterson.

Larry Roschen, Ivy Loughborough and Todd Hintz, dinnerware experts, examined several unique finds including a juicer with cup, lunch hour chop plate and one piece from a 1941 Orleans dinnerware pattern set still in the box – including the straw from the factory.

A recent eBay "lunch hour" plate also caught their eye. It was a Town and Country white dinner plate with a blue flower decoration and date mark on the back. The term "lunch hour" refers only to pieces that were decorated or personalized by pottery workers during their break.



The Muse, designed by Belle Kogan, was made in the 1950s.

"I've seen many 'lunch hour' plates over the years but I cap't recell

the years, but I can't recall any on a Town & Country plate," said Loughborough. "This plate would be sought after by both Red Wing collectors and collectors of designer Eva Zeisel's work."

A lamp with hand-painted art, piano planters and "the Suitor" figural, cold painted (painted after firing) in bisque, were noted as the most interesting pieces by art pottery experts Mary Bang and Bonnie Myers.

The organizations plan to hold another Red Wing Pottery Road Show in 2010. Anyone who missed the road show can find out more about their Red Wing pieces in two ways: the RWCS free "Ask the Experts" service on the Web site www.RedWingColllectors.org, or by calling the RWCS office at (800) 977-7927.



#### RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY INC. COMMEMORATIVE INFORMATION

Salt Glaze Crock

19//	Salf Glaze Crock	250
1978	Common Jug	350
1979	Butter Churn	400
1980	Sponge ware Bowl	
1981	Brown-top Jug	750
1982	Cherry band Mug	697
1983	Stone Mason Fruit Jar	1,026
1984	Salt-glazed Cooler	1,161
1985	Ice Water Cooler	1,750
1986	Acid Proof Measure	1,982
1987	Red Wing Ashtray	2,328
1988	Pompeii Plate	2,600
1989	Gray Line Pitcher	2,682
1990	Fancy Jug	3,540
1991	Pantry Jar	3,551
1992	North Star Jug	
1993	Chicken Fountain	
1994	20-lb Crock	
1995	Giraffe Planter	
1996	Cookie Jar	
1997	20# Salt Glaze Crock	
1998	Blue Iris Pitcher	
1999	5 Gal. Kover Weight	
2000	Hamm's Pitcher	
2001	Sponge Bowl	
2002	5 gal. Ball Lock Packing Jar	
2003	Leaping Pegasus figurine planter	
2004	Brushware Vase	
2005	Red Wing Self Draining Jar	
2006	Round-Up Teapot	
2007	5 gal. Birch Leaf Threshing Jug	
2008	Century of Progress Transportation Mug	3,700

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# 10th Anniversary of Kids View

By Sue Jones Tagliapietra Red Wing Collectors Society

518

ids View of Red Wing started as the brainchild of Wendy Callicoat and I over breakfast at the St. James Hotel more than 10 years ago.

It all started with, "Wouldn't it be great if there was something for children to do at the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention so families could come, use it as a vacation and everyone would have a great time?"

The Red Wing area has so much to offer that it seemed like such a natural offspring to what we were already offering to so many adults.

Wendy had children and I had grandchildren of the same age. We both realized what was missing from the convention.

Our "What if?" turned into a "Why not?" and we took it to the Board of Directors (we just happened to be on it). We asked for approval to start with just



Each year participants in Kids View get to attend an auction (above) and paint their own dinnerware (below).



two seminars. They wholeheartedly backed the concept and off we went.

Our concept from the very beginning was that we really wanted Kids View to be educational but also fun. We saw this as a way to grow and preserve the society by investing in the young people as current and future collectors. We wanted to strengthen their knowledge and validate their love of collecting.

Participation in KidView is free as long as a family member is a member and registered for convention.

#### First year

The RWCS Convention has been popular and well attended since it began in 1977. Overall the basic structure has not changed very much. Some things have been added or modified but the basic structure is solid and in place.

We felt we would model Kids View after the basic convention structure and offer the children the same things on a smaller scale, and construct it to meet their needs.

The first year we started very small and just offered education seminars and some hands-on activities. There were 20 participants and boy did they have fun. Kids learned about stoneware, played a matching game, painted tshirts and modeled real potters clay. What a ball!

The next year we got braver and thought we needed to model more like the adults so we added an auction. We appealed to the membership to donate items. The donation turnout was phenomenal.

We had twice as many pieces as we did children, but luckily stoneware is not like eggs – it keeps until the next year. We had 70 children, lots of volunteers, and contin-

ued with stoneware as the theme.

As the years progressed we have had over children 100 attending. We have gotten quite bold with our seminar ideas. We added painting on "real" Red Wing dinnerware as a favored and featured activity. We even auction



Painting real Red Wing plates is a popular activity at Kids View, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. — photos by Gail Rosenthal

off the plates as a fundraiser each year.

Dump digging

We had our very own "dump dig" one year. We brought in bags of sand and two kiddie pools. We buried items for kids to dig up with gloved hands, including two crocks — they had to dig up all the pieces for them and put them back together.

There have been many and varied guests. Belle Kogan and Charles Murphy have been favored guests — so much so that the adults requested them at a MidWinter presentation as well. Stan Bougie spoke about his days as a salesman for the Pottery. Many members have given their time and expertise to talk to the kids about their collections. Dave Kuffel, another favored speaker, is famous for his "flip flop" seminar.

A bus trip to the Pottery and the pottery dump was a big hit. There were people around the Pottery site to give a guided tour to the children. We had a picnic on the grounds of the Pottery that day, too.

We have had some wonderful surprises through the years.

The Golden State Chapter in California, through targeted fundraising auctions, has given Kids View some very generous donations that continue to allow us to be creative in providing educational and fun opportunities for the kids.

We have been on the Minneapolis television news, in numerous newspapers and in magazines celebrating what we do. The interviews with the children are the most powerful as they are the recipients and can truly state the impact of the program.

#### Open to kids

The member who brought in Town and Country dinnerware with documentation each year inspired a young collector to develop a complete set of Town and Country using her babysitting money and all extra cash at auctions. She is now one of the most knowledgeable persons about Town and Country dinnerware.

We accept children ages 3 to 15 in Kids View. There have been many children over the past 10 years who have graduated from Kids View. It has been very rewarding having former participants as volunteers and assuming lead positions in running various seminars.

That is our future and it gives us great hope that when we are ready (not yet) to step down, there will be plenty of young members willing to accept the responsibility for running Kids View.

The 10 years have flown by. We never could have done this without the generous support of the membership, the chapters and the Board of Directors, who not only believe in the concept but continue to support us monetarily so we can carry out our original mission to grow the society through the youth.

Note: We always are looking for volunteers to help with Kids View. It is very rewarding and lots of fun. Please consider even an hour to help someone paint a plate, put a handle on a jug or wash hands.

#### CELEBRATING WITH RED WING

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# CROCK HUNT

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**Goodhue County** 

**History Center** 

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**RED WING POTTERY** 

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Bed & Bath

**RULES: The Crock Hunt begins on Wednesday, July 8.** Both Red Wing Collectors Society Members and non-members are eligible to participate in the 2009 RWCS Convention Crock Hunt. Participants must locate each display pictured site during regular business hours to match the business logo and photo. Participants must obtain an employee initials (or other mark chosen by the site) from each site.

Winners drawn will have their forms checked to ensure that answers are correct before a prize is awarded. Winners do not need to be present to win. Completed forms must be brought to Central Park Band Shell by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10 to be included for prize drawing(s).

Participating businesses must feature at least one piece of old or new Red Wing pottery in their picture. The business logo will not be included in the picture. Both the photo and business logo will be printed at random on the Crock Hunt form published in the Convention Supplement and Attendee Packet.





Visit my booth at **COUNTRYSIDE ANTIQUE MALL** 31752 65th Ave., Cannon Falls, MN 507-263-0352