



VOL. 33 NO. 2

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2008



A UNIQUE "NEW" DECORATION

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RED WING
STONEWARE
COMPANY

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MEMBERSHIP

A primary membership in the Red Wing Collectors Society is \$25 annually and an associate membership is \$10.

There must be at least one primary member per household in order to have associate membership. Members can pay for more than one year when renewing their membership. Contact the RWCS Business Office for additional details.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Postmaster: Send address change to: Red Wing Collectors Society, Inc. Newsletter
PO Box 50 • Red Wing, MN 55066. USPS 015-791; ISSN 1096-1259.

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NEWS BRIEFS

RED WING POTTERY ROAD SHOW – MAY 18

The long-awaited Red Wing Collectors Society Pottery Road Show is fast approaching, scheduled from 1 to 4 p.m. May 18, on the 2nd floor, of Pottery Place. The Red Wing Collectors Society, along with the RWCS Foundation, Cannon Valley Collectors Club (CVCC) and the businesses of historic Pottery Place are excited to sponsor the Red Wing Pottery Road Show. The event is free and open to the public.

Everyone is invited to bring their Red Wing stoneware, dinnerware or art pottery to the historic Pottery Place during the Red Wing Pottery Road Show to find out its value, learn about its history and have questions answered. If your piece is too big, or you're concerned about transporting in case of an accident, bring pictures and details. No piece too small or too large. If it's Red Wing, one of our many experts will be on hand to help you out.

In addition to all this great information, there will be a 2:30 p.m. tour of the museum and the historic Pottery Place building. Plus, RWCS and CVCC will give away a one-year membership to each organization to help a new collector get started. Once you have had a chance to learn all this great information about Red Wing Pottery, take time to check out the unique specialty shops and antique malls of Pottery Place. Special coupons will be available to anyone who stops by during the Red Wing Pottery Road Show.

For more information about the event, contact the RWCS Business Office at 800-977-7927, e-mail RWCSI@REDWING.NET or log on to WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG.

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

Enclosed with this issue of your *Red Wing Collectors Society Newsletter* is a ballot for the RWCS Board of Directors elections. Balloting will be by mail in accordance with RWCS by-law Article V, Nominating Committee and Voting Procedure. Ballots will be mailed to all members in good standing and must be received by the RWCS Business Office no later than June 30, 2006. To request ballots for associate members, contact the Business Office at 800-977-7927 or MEMBERSHIP@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG. Photocopies will not be accepted.

RWCS 30TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

Turner Publishing has completed the Red Wing Collectors Society's 30th Anniversary commemorative book, and all preorders have been fulfilled. A limited number are still available for purchase. For information about ordering a copy, call 800-788-3350 or log on to WWW.TURNERPUBLISHING.COM.



volunteer with RWCS. You can sketch out your design, create it on your computer or just describe your idea for your design. Your design should be able to be placed on a 1½-inch x 1½-inch pin. Once you've captured your design, send your ideas to Bonnie Myers at BMYS5@CHARTER.NET or to Stacy Wegner at EXECUTIVEDIRECTOR@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG. You can also mail them to RWCS, PO Box 50, Red Wing, MN 55066-0050. The deadline for submitting your design ideas is May 5, so please start working on them right away. We can't wait to see what you come up with!



ABOUT THE COVER

Can you believe that new cobalt decorations are still being discovered from time to time, even though more than a century has passed since the Red Wing Stoneware and Minnesota Stoneware companies stopped making salt glaze stoneware as a regular production item? This 10 gallon crock in perfect condition and backstamped "Red Wing Stoneware Company" came up at an auction in Minnesota in late November 2007. The primitive decoration resembles a daisy-type flower similar to those found on water coolers, positioned above what appears to be a butterfly.

The auction company found the piece in an old dirt basement only days before it was to sell off an entire estate, so it was too late to run print or web advertisements. However, they called the antique mall in Cannon Falls, which notified its Red Wing dealers and called other local collectors. That word-of-mouth proved to be enough, attracting a few serious buyers to the sale. The gavel fell with the final bid creeping into the five figures.

RWCS VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION: DESIGNS WANTED

We are so excited to launch a brand new program! An unknown author once said, "Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless." We want to show RWCS volunteers how much we appreciate all of their help keeping the Society a strong and dynamic organization. As we embark on the next 30 years, you can help celebrate RWCS volunteers by supporting the brand new Volunteer Recognition Program. A new volunteer pin is the first project and will be introduced during the 2008 Convention. We need your help designing the new volunteer pin. Put on your thinking caps to create a design that visually and tastefully identifies the wearer as a proud



MIDWINTER WRAP-UP



**STACY
WEGNER**

Executive Director

This year's MidWinter was a "tiki good" time. More than 250 RWCS members attended this year and 30 children were also registered – a significant increase from last year. We also signed up nine new members during the event. This is a great start to filling the "RWCS Little Brown Jug of Membership." While the Trails West Chapter is leading in recruiting the most new members, it's not too late to stake your claim of first bragging rights to the membership jug trophy that will be presented at Convention to the chapter with the most new members.

It was nice to see members getting into the Hawaiian theme down to their shorts and flip flops. The RWCS Board of Directors tapped the tiki early at its annual "Meet and Greet" before the Friday Social. To help get everyone in the spirit, leis were given to members and Wayne Burk gave a special performance during the Social. Wayne hula danced his way into MidWinter lore with an official Hawaiian grass skirt and coconut bra donated by Jeff and Paulette Floyd, and also sang his way into our hearts. I know it was a moment we will never forget, even though we might like to.

The excitement continued with the beautiful Trader Vic replicas made by Mike Robinson and donated by the Golden State Chapter for door prizes. Mike even made a special one that was auctioned for \$1,000 to proceed KidsView. Special thanks to Bruce Cameron for bidding up winner Wendy Callicoat, and to auctioneer Richard Houghton for working his magic in the room that night. This will ensure that KidsView will be a permanent MidWinter fixture. Also, thanks to John Tremble for donating his clown mugs to KidsView this year.

Saturday started off with a packed keynote presentation on the Potteries Ledger by Dave Kuffel, followed by great education sessions. The Show & Sale was a sold-out floor with more than 50 tables occupied by stoneware, dinnerware, and art pottery. The frenzy continued at the evening auction conducted by Houghton's Auction Service. Many collectors walked away with a new piece for their collection and even I found some pieces in the excitement that I could not live without. I now have a nice new Red Wing planter sitting in my office.

The RWCS Board voted to hold MidWinter 2009 from Feb. 6-8 at the Holiday Inn & Suites in Des Moines and to consider a city on the eastern side of Iowa for 2010. In a poll taken outside the Show & Sale, attendees voted to have a Sock Hop theme for next year's event. That's right, MidWinter is going back to the 50s! Ladies and gents, it's time to get out those bobby socks, saddle shoes, poodle skirts, letterman sweaters and leather jackets. We will be using old 45s to mark room sellers' rooms, so if you have any you would like to donate, please contact the business office.

Convention registration forms are now coming into the office and more members are registering and ordering commemoratives online than ever before. Thanks to all of you who have registered via the RWCS Web site. The RWCS Business Office is still looking to help celebrate Minnesota's Sesquicentennial. Please send us photos of your Minnesota advertising stoneware, art pottery ashtrays and trivets, etc.

Managers, support positions and RWCS Membership Coordinator Katie Hardyman are in need of volunteers for Convention. If you're interested in distributing commemoratives, assisting in KidsView, helping members find their way at registration, or going behind the scenes during the auction, here is your chance to do so. Please contact the business office if you're interested. Even if you want to help out early in the week, there is always a place where the RWCS Convention could use an extra pair of hands.



Above: This front-stamped and stenciled 30 gal salt glaze butterfly crock was the best piece to show up at this year's MidWinter GetTogether. Although it was priced at more than \$20,000, it didn't last long, selling on Thursday night before the event officially began.

Below two: This hard-to-find Winnebago, MN butter crock was offered with a postcard of the original shop.



2008 MIDWINTER JAW-DROPPERS



Although several people were selling quality Red Wing dinnerware and art pottery out of their hotel rooms at the MidWinter GetTogether held Feb. 8-10 in Des Moines, it was stoneware collectors who were treated to seeing some exceptionally rare pieces. While room sales typically highlight this event, the Show & Sale was also packed with buyers and sellers alike, and the Saturday auction consisted of nearly 350 lots of stoneware and dinnerware for bidders to get excited about. Some of the scarce ad□

delivered to Des Moines for him to pick up, he was nice enough to display them in his room for all to enjoy. ■





TERRY SPEEDY

*Interim Education
Manager*

The MidWinter gathering has come and gone, but the memories of another great weekend filled with Red Wing and friends will live on. If you couldn't attend, we missed you, and you missed a terrific time.

With five education seminars to attend, from salt glaze and computers to art pottery and the dump, we had nearly 400 seats filled for the two seminar sessions available. The keynote address after breakfast on Saturday was packed, and with good reason, as Dave Kuffel gave a stellar presentation on the Red Wing Potteries Ledger. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Dave and our other presenters: Steve and Phyllis Showers, Mark and Marie Latta, Chris Osterholz, Bonnie Myers, and our own newsletter editor Rick Natynski. Without them, education would be less informative and a lot less interesting.

With the wrap on another fun and Red Wing filled MidWinter, our focus shifts to the heat of the summer for the July Convention. I'm still looking for seminar presenters, and would truly like to offer a few new seminars, including one on mini jugs. If you or anyone you know would like to do a seminar on these little beauties or another topic, please contact me. I'd love to work with you and help make that happen in my final Convention as your education manager.

With several seminars set, and the keynote address nearly worked out, it should prove to be a great opportunity to gain more knowledge and insight while enjoying our favorite passion...OK, *one* of our favorite passions! Looking forward to seeing you there!



JEFF FLOYD

Auction Manager

Please remember to mail in your Auction Registration Form if you wish to submit an item into the Convention Auction Lottery. The deadline for mailing is May 15. Letters will go out the first week of June to those who were drawn in the lottery. Please contact me directly if you need to check the status of the item you submitted.

Also, I'm looking for more volunteers to help out in July's auction. I will need a few more people during the viewing hours of 12:15 to 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, July 10. Any member wishing to volunteer for the viewing hours can call me at home or send me an e-mail. Please see my contact information on the inside front cover of the *RWCS Newsletter*. Thank you.

CONSIGNED ART POTTERY STOLEN

Approximately 175 pieces of American art pottery were stolen from Belhorn Auction Services in the Columbus suburb of Hilliard, Ohio at 9:45 p.m. Feb. 25. Also stolen was a cargo trailer in which the pottery was loaded, which was secured and locked at Belhorn's office.

Pottery stolen includes various examples of Weller, Roseville, Rookwood, Owens, Van Briggie, Hampshire, Pillin, Fulper and others. Also stolen was an exhibit of fake and reproduction pottery assembled by the American Art Pottery Association for educational purposes. The trailer is an unmarked, white American Hauler cargo trailer with fold-down rear ramp and a system of shelving on the inside.

Nearly all of the stolen pieces were slated for the American Art Pottery Association's 2008 auction to be held in conjunction with the organization's annual convention for April 23-27 in the Greater Philadelphia area. The full commission and buyer's premium generated from the auction serve as an important revenue source from the American Art Pottery Association. All consignors affected by the incident are fully covered and will be reimbursed for any financial loss.

Security camera footage shows the perpetrator's vehicle is a white Ford F-Series pick-up truck, with body style from the late 1980s to mid 1990s. The truck has a metal mesh cage or ladder rack over the bed as well as a white sun guard visor over the top of the windshield.

A general list and photos of the stolen pottery can be found at www.belhorn.com and will be updated as additional information is collected. Anyone who has information regarding this incident or is approached by an individual with pottery for sale matching the description of stolen items should contact the Hilliard (Ohio) Police Department at 614-876-7321 or Belhorn Auction Services at 614-921-9441. A reward is being offered for any information leading to the recovery of the stolen property.

CERAMIC ARTS STUDIO COLLECTORS' CONVENTION SET FOR AUG. 23

It was a time now known as "the fabulous '40s," and Ceramic Arts Studio (CAS) of Madison, Wis. was right in the thick of it. In operation from 1940 to 1955, the Studio was founded by entrepreneur Reuben Sand and potter Lawrence Rabbitt, and originally specialized in hand-thrown pottery. However, with the 1941 arrival of designer Betty Harrington, CAS moved into the production of the ceramic figurines for which it is best known. Popular with World War II consumers, Ceramic Arts Studio pieces are highly prized today for their quality of execution, and imaginative, mid-20th century style.

Registrations are currently being accepted for "CAS Celebrates the Fabulous '40s," the 2008 CAS Collectors Convention, which will be held in Madison on Saturday, Aug. 23. CAS Collectors is a group open to all those with an interest in the work of Ceramic Arts Studio. The 2008 Convention will feature activities and décor centered around the 1940s theme, celebrating the era that gave birth to the Studio. Attendees will take in the Wisconsin Pottery Association Show & Sale at the Alliant Energy Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 23. Later, all will gather at Madison's Howard Johnson Plaza for the Convention.

Convention registration, at \$60 per person, includes all evening activities, plus the Commemorative. Registrations received by May 15 will be eligible for an "earliest earlybird" prize drawing, to be held at the Convention. Forms and additional information are available on the club's website, www.cascollectors.com, or by writing CAS Collectors, 206 Grove Street, Rockton, IL 61072.

"SWATCH" OUT FOR COLOR TEST PLATES

Story by Rick Natynski
Photos by Stacy Wegner

These days a person can run over to their local hobby shop and choose from a whole spectrum of glazes when deciding how to decorate their pottery. But back in the Red Wing Pottery days, a discrete group of four or five employees worked in a lab on the building's second floor, and they were the ones that concocted the color formulations that would result in the ideal pink for the Pink Spice pattern, the trademark tones for Delta Blue, or the dark green used for the Tampico watermelon rind.

Once mixed, these glazes had to be fired to see how they would stand up to kiln temperatures. Thus, different glazes were applied to blank pieces of pottery, identified by a code number and sent off to bake. These test pieces had two primary objectives. One, of course, was to determine what the glaze color would look like once it had been fired. The other was to test glaze strength and consistency.

Many variables went into creating successful glazes. A quality recipe would need to result in no crazing or bubbling, and it would need to adhere to different types of clays and surfaces. Everything from the amount of time spent in the kilns to the exact spot where pieces sat inside the ovens contributed to whether glazes would turn out right.

While it's likely that hundreds of plates, cups and vases were fired in the kilns to test potential dinnerware and art pottery glazes, only a small fraction survive today. One reason is that they had no commercial value at the time, which is why they were never signed. A person walking into the Sales Room was looking for something stylish to eat off of, not a bunch of color swatches with numbers next to them.

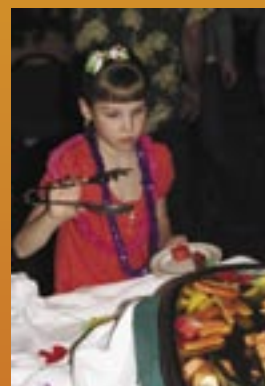
Second, these test pieces were directly tied to Red Wing's proprietary research and development. Hundreds of lab hours went into perfecting the many glazes the Pottery used, and the identification codes on the test pieces matched up with the closely guarded glaze recipes. If these recipes were to get into the wrong hands, competing potteries could save themselves the time it would take to create glazes of their own. Therefore, most of these pieces found their way to the dump, where they were shattered beyond recognition.

The pieces that did survive, however, are not only valuable and highly collectible, but also serve as excellent reminders of all the time and hard work that went into Red Wing's wares.





MidV



Winter 2008

Hawaiian Luau



My Dad, the Crock Hunter

Story by Bryce Williams, age 12

Dear Editor: My name is Bryce Williams and I am in the seventh grade at Cambria-Friesland Middle School in Wisconsin. I have been given an assignment in class to write an article about someone in my family or about something that has happened to me. The second part of the assignment was to try to get the article published in a magazine, newspaper or newsletter.

I chose to write a story about my dad and the stoneware that he collects. I had a very nice time writing the story. I learned a whole bunch of facts about my dad and his adventures to find Red Wing stoneware that I had never known before. I am hoping that you could publish this story in your newsletter for me. It would not only mean a lot to me, but I bet my dad would be so proud of me for trying to publish an article about him and his adventures through the years. I look forward to hearing from you and thanks for taking the time to read my letter and article. Sincerely, Bryce Williams

My dad, Ken Williams, first became interested in crocks around 1987 when his Uncle Dave gave him a 6 gallon birch leaf crock with a ski oval. From that point on, he was addicted to collecting these beautiful pieces of stoneware, not knowing much about the history of them. Although each piece in his large collection has a story of their own, these are a few of his fondest finds and memories.



8 & 10 Gallon Boysenberry Cocks

In 1992, it was my dad's first trip to a Red Wing Stoneware Convention. I wasn't born yet. My dad can remember how exciting it was when he entered Red Wing. There were people selling crocks everywhere you looked, on the streets and in their garages. He was looking to buy something unusual, and in his hunt to find an unusual crock he saw many possibilities. However, he had just gotten married and really didn't have the money to spend on such a piece.

On the day of the Convention's Show & Sale, he was determined to find that special piece. He woke up at 5 a.m. to try to

be first in line for the Show & Sale. Finally they let the crowd in at 9 a.m. So, he ran down the first aisle and saw a 10 gallon butterfly crock. He carefully picked up the crock, but then quickly set it down in search of a more unusual treasure. He then ran across to the next row and spotted an 8 gallon crock in mint condition that he had never seen before. He quickly looked at the price and saw that it was marked \$425. He then asked what the best price was, and the seller responded that he would like \$400. My dad told the seller he would take it.

Once he returned home, he started to research the crock and found out that the decoration was a boysenberry. Additionally, he found out that 8 gallon salt glaze decorated crocks were even rarer. In fact, the piece is so rare that it took him 14 years to find a ten 10 gallon to match it. These two pieces are two of his most treasured Red Wing items in his crock collection.

10 Gallon Salt Glaze Butterfly Water Cooler

It was an early spring day in 1996, and my dad went to make his usual rounds at the local antique shops looking for Red Wing. At the first antique shop he stopped at, he knew the person running the store quite well. The store owner informed my dad that a gentleman had just been in the store and wanted to use the store's Red Wing value guide to look up a piece he had just bought.



The storeowner opened his Red Wing book and showed my dad a picture of what the gentleman claimed he had. The picture depicted a Red Wing salt glaze water cooler with a cobalt butterfly on it. As his heart started beating rapidly, he asked the store owner where the man went. The store owner said the man was a dealer in his mall and had just exited out of the back of the store.

My dad quickly ran around the building to see the dealer driving away. He went back into the store and asked the owner if he knew where the dealer was going. The owner told him he was going to another store, so he quickly went to that shop hoping to see him. Unfortunately he was not there, so he went back to the original antique store to see if he could find out the dealer's

name. The owner gave him the dealer's name and he looked it up in the phone book to find out where he lived. To his surprise, the dealer lived only four blocks away from the antique store.

Of course, this was his next stop. He sat in the dealer's driveway for three hours until he returned home. He approached the dealer and asked if he was the person that had just purchased a Red Wing salt glaze water cooler and whether he was interested in selling it. The man was quite surprised that he knew about it and wondered how he found out about it. After my dad explained his adventure, the dealer proceeded to show him the cooler. After examining the water cooler, the dealer told him to go to the bank and get lots of money and come back. So he went to the bank and made a withdrawal, not knowing what the piece was worth. He then went back and started negotiating a price for the water cooler. When he ran out of money, the dealer told him that if he gave him the cash and 10 two gallon crocks to boot, he would be the proud new owner of the water cooler. My dad agreed and the cooler now sits above the TV in our living room.

20 Gallon Double Leaf Front Stamped Crock

In 2005, my dad was paging through the auction adds and came across an auction on the following Sunday. The ad read that it had a 20 gallon Red Wing crock and others. Thinking that this was probably a common 20 gallon crock, he decided to go the auction because he was curious about what the other crocks were.

It was a hilly, two-hour drive to the auction. Once he arrived, the first thing that caught his eye was a large salt glaze crock by the buildings. He instantly ran to see what the decoration was and assess the condition of the crock. The crock was in mint condition with two big blue leaves and a Minnesota oval beneath them. He went to register for a bidding number and waited to see if any other collectors would show up.

My dad sat next to the crock, listening to people talk about it. He noticed a guy on his cell phone describing the crock to somebody. After the person was done talking on the phone, my dad asked the guy what he thought about the crock. The guy responded that it was a good crock and it should bring a couple hundred dollars. My dad realized that he wouldn't have to worry about that bidder, since he knew he would be willing to pay much more than a couple hundred dollars.

Four hours later, the auctioneer finally started to sell the crock and my dad noticed that there were no other collectors to bid against him. The opening bid was \$50, and my dad was in. Somebody quickly raised him to \$200, but then the bidding stopped. Knowing it was worth more than that, the auctioneer stopped the auction and began to tell everybody how rare the crock was and the fact that you don't see them everyday. The bidding started to resume. My dad kept bidding and finally it stopped at \$450. My dad could hardly believe that this crock sold so cheap. He was so excited, he shook while carrying it to his truck.

As you have learned from the stories above, collecting stoneware can be a challenging hunt and you never know where your next piece is going to come from. From the collecting adventures told by my dad, I have become interested in Red Wing jugs and now have several in my collection. Now my dad and I go on these stoneware hunts together! ■



12-year-old Bryce Williams poses with a portion of his stoneware collection in his bedroom.

CHAPTER EVENTS

Southwest Redwingers

6 p.m. Sunday, April 20 at the home of Kent Williamson, 3104 East Broadway Road, #328, in Mesa, AZ. Call 480-985-6337 for more information or directions. This is the last meeting until the July Convention in Red Wing.

Wolverine Chapter

Noon Saturday, May 3 at the home of Judy Corkins, 5366 North Oak Road, Davison, MI. Potluck lunch followed by meeting. Contact Char Ackerman at 989-832-2527 or CHARDAVE@CHARTER.NET for directions.

MONMOUTH CELEBRATION

The Monmouth, IL Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the area's historic tradition of creating quality pottery at its annual Pottery on the Square Swap Meet event on June 28.

Beginning at 8 a.m. on the city's public square, activities will include a swap meet, pottery demonstration and window displays of rare pottery pieces. A pottery appraisal clinic will also be held, as will a pottery and stoneware consignment auction at 10:30 a.m. The public can bring items the day of the event or register them ahead of time and have them advertised on the auctioneer's website www.BURNSAUCTIONSERVICE.COM. Swap meet and auction items are not limited to Illinois pottery.

The Chamber is also offering limited-edition, three-quarter sized commemorative leaf and scroll pitchers for purchase. The pitcher will be burgundy and white with a "Western Stoneware" leaf logo. Orders are being taken for the pitchers that will be available the day of the event. The deadline for orders is June 1 and they are priced at \$35 plus shipping.

Contact the Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce at MACCDIR@MAPLECITY.COM or 309-734-3181 for more information.

RED WING IN HIS BLOOD

Story by Rick Natynski

At 63 years old, Dave Stark has gone most of his life without having anything from his biological father except for his last name. But now he has a special piece of Red Wing that links him to his father's legacy.

A former Red Wing Pottery foreman, Frederick Stark died in 1946 when Dave was only 18 months old. His obituary states that he died from lead poisoning, which wasn't an uncommon hazard for people in the pottery industry long ago.

Becoming Stark Once Again

Dave's mother, Margaret, remarried in late 1949 after meeting Harlan Nelson. The couple lived on Putnam Street in Red Wing for a couple years until moving to a farm near Ellsworth, Wis. in the early 1950s and starting a large family. Dave and his siblings attended a one-room schoolhouse until 8th grade, and he used the Nelson family name until reclaiming the name of Stark the day before graduating from high school.

"When I was a teenager, there were some problems with the IRS and the discrepancy with the Nelson name and the name that was on my Social Security card," Dave explains. "I always considered my stepfather to be my dad, but it would have been expensive to officially change my name to Nelson, so my parents decided it would be best for me to graduate from high school as Dave Stark."

That was the first thing Dave had to remember his birth father by, but the second wouldn't come for another 40 years.

Dave went off to college at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls, graduated in 1969 and became a history teacher at Unity High School in Wisconsin. He's a father of three, and after more than 30 years in education, he and wife, Pat, now run a small resort in Balsam Lake, Wis.

A Not-So-Common Common Bowl

In recent years, Dave would have a good laugh whenever he went to the dentist, because his friend and dental technician, Red Wing Collectors Society Member Diane Quist, knew he was born in Red Wing and enjoyed telling him about her annual trip there every July for Convention. He never understood what all the fuss was about.

"Being from Red Wing, I thought it was fascinating that people would actually go there for summer vacation to look for pottery," Dave explains. "We had a lot of utilitarian pottery around the house when I was growing up, but I wasn't aware that it's now a collectible antique."



Above: Dave Stark poses with the bowl his father, Frederick (at right), gave to his aunt while working as a foreman at the Red Wing Potteries. Frederick died when Dave was only 1½.



But he gained a deeper appreciation for that fuss about two years ago, when his aunt called to say that she had a gift for him. It was a Red Wing bowl that Dave's father had given to her while he was working at the pottery. Being a part of his heritage, she wanted him to have it. Dave was moved; he never knew it existed.

The bowl is now proudly displayed in Dave's living room cabinet, and although it's only a simple zinc-glaze shoulder bowl, it's anything but common. Its sentimental value makes it priceless. He says it will be an heirloom that he hopes his kids will one day pass on to their children.

"It's pretty special after all these years to have something tangible that's tied to my father," he explains. "Being a person who's interested in history, I feel it's important to remember where we came from and have an awareness of what our ancestors did to make our lives better."

When asked if a Red Wing Collectors Society membership is in his future, Dave laughs.

"I don't know about that," he says, chuckling. "I don't think those big crocks would fit in our house very well." ■

Thanks to RWCS Member Diane Quist for submitting this story topic. Stark's Nov. 15, 1946 *Red Wing Daily Republican Eagle* obituary photo courtesy of the Goodhue County Historical Society.

LETTERS FROM THE MEMBERS



30TH ANNIVERSARY PRINT

The RWCS Business Office and 30th Anniversary Committee Chairperson Bonnie Myers have received letters from several charter members since the 2007 Convention who expressed their appreciation for the limited edition print they were given to commemorate the RWCS 30th Anniversary. We thought it would be nice to share one of those letters with the rest of the membership:

Dear Bonnie:

What a nice surprise to receive an unexpected package, and then to be so pleased with its contents! I am honored to be the recipient of such a fine print. It most certainly does remind me of those first two eye-opening, inspirational, congenial Conventions. None of us expected such a surge of discovery and connectedness. And who could have imagined that 30 years later those would be the most vivid of memories and that the appreciation of the wares, the knowledge and the history would still persist.

Incredible numbers of people have devoted endless hours and energy to sustain and promote the growth of the Society. To those people, I extend my respectful thanks.

Thank you for celebrating the 30th anniversary in such grand style. And thank you for not forgetting those of us who were unable to be with you (at Convention).

Sincerely,

Grace Buck, Charter Member #66



RED WING DUMP?

My wife and I live in the small town of Melvern, KS. It's about 40 miles south of Topeka, KS in the northeast part of the state. We are only four miles north of 1-35, which connects Kansas City and Wichita. A point of interest in Melvern is that we are on the main line of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad. The line is a double track running about 60 to 65 trains a day with trains of 110 to 150 cars. This railroad dates back to the late 1800s.

Our little town has a very old truss bridge that spans the tracks and has been placed on the National Historical records. During the year we have quite a number of people coming to photograph the trains and the bridge.

Producing a train calendar is an annual project of our local service group. Some of us photograph the trains and the surrounding area during every season of the year incorporating as many views of trains and equipment as we can capture.

This fall, a train service crew was in town. They were using a unit that I had not seen. While moving around to get a good shot of the unit, I crossed between the sets of rails. In doing so, I looked down and saw a pottery shard lying inside up. I said to myself, "What if this is a Red Wing piece?" I picked it up, turned it over, and there was part of a big red wing!

The piece you see in the pictures is 1/2 an inch thick. What was it and where did it come from? The amount of train traffic passing through Melvern requires constant maintenance. The track and ballast has been replaced in the last two or three years. If only that little shard could tell me its story!

Larry Salisbury, Trails West Chapter
LARRYANDKAY@EMBARQMAIL.COM

MISSING E.E. BRUCE JUG

About five years ago, we had someone come to our house to care for our dog while we were on vacation for a week. The day we got home, the garage door was wide open. At first, we didn't notice anything missing or disturbed in the house. But about two years ago, my wife, Maxine, was rearranging the stoneware and making an inventory list with pictures of our stoneware for insurance. It wasn't until we were looking at this picture – the only one taken sometime before the theft of our two double-handled jugs with different advertising sitting side-by-side – and thought, where's our Bruce jug? We searched every room of the house and basement about five times with no luck. Unfortunately, we can't prove the person we asked to care for our dog took the jug. Perhaps one of her kids or a friend came back later and took the jug. At any rate, if you have seen this jug or think you might have purchased it from



someone, please let us know how and where. We aren't concerned about getting the piece back, but we would like to track down the person who took the jug. The jug is a 5 gallon double-handled beehive with advertising from "E.E. Bruce & Co. Wholesale Druggists, Omaha, Nebr." Please call us at 608-577-3628 or 608-577-3629 if you have any information. Thanks, Bill & Maxine Paxson

Classified ads are 15¢ per word; \$3 minimum charge and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ads are divided into the following sections: Red Wing For Sale, Red Wing Wanted, Other Pottery For Sale, Other Pottery Wanted, Events, Auctions, Clubs & Publications and Web Sites, Announcements and Services. You will not be charged for these words, but please indicate which section your ad should be placed in. If ad is to run in more than one issue, please indicate at time of placement. (Note: the small number at the end of an ad tells when the ad expires, e.g., 12/07. Ads without dates are one-time ads.) Please type or print clearly and proof read before submission.

DISPLAY ADS

Display Ad Size	1x	6x
Full page	\$400	\$360
1/2 page (<i>horizontal or vertical</i>)	200	180
1/4 page	100	90
1/8 page	60	45

Display Ad Dimensions

Full Page	7 1/2 x 10
1/2 page (<i>horizontal or vertical</i>)	7 1/2 x 4 7/8
1/4 page	3 5/8 x 4 7/8
1/8 page	3 5/8 x 2 1/4

Display Ads are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The publisher reserves the right to refuse ads for any reason.

Ads must be supplied electronically as an EPS or PDF file for PC. Be sure to include all fonts used. If you are unsure about acceptability, inquire with the Editor. There is an additional 10 percent fee for design and makeup if needed. Camera-ready ads are not accepted. Unformatted or unreserved ads will be treated as classifieds.

DEADLINES

Issue	Ad Deadline	Editorial Deadline
February	Jan. 10	Jan. 1
April	March 10	March 1
June	May 10	May 1
August	July 25	July 15
October	Sept. 10	Sept. 1
December	Nov. 10	Nov. 1

EDITOR ADDRESS - New as of April 2008

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads to:
Rick Natynski
PO Box 441
Elm Grove, WI 53122-9998

Ads may also be e-mailed: NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG with checks sent separately. Or, call Rick at 414-416-WING (9464).

RED WING FOR SALE

Handles and wooden lids. Send SASE for flyer to Larsen's Collectibles, 757 120th Street, Hampton, Iowa 50441-7555. Phone 641-866-6733. 8/08

Stop in and visit us when traveling! Now open in Billings, Montana, we have a great selection of antiques including Red Wing for the novice or advanced collector. Broadwater Mercantile Antiques, 1844 Broadwater, Billings, Montana. Tom & Carol Swoboda. Open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mon. through Sat. E-mail BRMERCANTILE1001@QWESTOFFICE.NET or call 406-652-4590 for wants or info. RWCS members since 1987. 4/08

Disposing of 200+ item Red Wing Stoneware collection of 20 years. 53 crocks, 35 lids, 26 jugs, 12 salt glaze crocks, 5 water coolers. Other items including 7 commemoratives, canning jars, churns, poultry waterers, etc. You arrange shipping. Call 509-697-6565 or write to C. Brown; 120 Brown Lane South; Selah, WA 98942 for complete listings. (Discount for purchase of total collection.) 6/08

McDonald's Red Wing Crocks and Mugs:

It is our pleasure to announce that the 1/2 gallon 2008 McDonald's Red Wing crocks and mugs are now available. This charming design features Ronald McDonald's Big Red Shoes in action. This cross collectible will be an enchanting addition to your Red Wing collection.

There are a limited number of the 2007 holiday 1/2 gallon crocks available. The design was drawn by Red Wing artist, Dan Wiemer, in celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the City of Red Wing, Minnesota. The distinctive design feature a pen and ink drawing of McDonald's with a holiday light wrapped McDonald's road sign in the foreground. A portion of the 2007 Red Wing Sesquicentennial logo is tucked in the snow next to the sign.

Go on line to WWW.MCCOURTESY.COM and click on Red Wing Stoneware to get all of the information for mail orders. The crocks are also available at McDonald's of Red Wing, Minnesota. 4/08

10 gallon Ice Water birch leaves hex bung hole, 6 gallon churn birch leaves ski oval, 4 gallon hand turned wing water cooler, 20 gallon bail handled crock lid, 4 gal Western crock double stamped (two 4s, two leaves). Also, I'm looking for a lid for a 1985 zinc ice water commemorative. Bob 262-853-8269

RW 2 - 5 gal crocks missing ovals. RW 3 - 6 gal churns, no lids, 3 has reverse oval. RW advertising jugs, Wm Steinmeyer Milwaukee WI Qt - 2 gal. Call 262-679-6427.

Rare 5 gallon brown topped shoulder jug displaying a red wing. Asking \$500. More information at GRLEONARD@AZTEC-NET.COM or 905-877-8788.

Commemoratives mint in box: 1986, \$250; 1987, \$200; 1988, \$125; 1990, \$110; 1993, \$100; 1994, \$90; 1995, \$90; 1997, \$125; 1998, \$110; 1999, \$80; 2002, \$80; 2004, \$90. Call Grace at 507-645-4660.

Red Wing Grape Cookie Jar (purple color). \$100 OBO, plus shipping/insurance. Call 309-788-0042 after 4 p.m.

RW salt glaze 15 gal double ribcage crock with excellent cobalt. Short hairline on back. \$2,700 OBO. Call 414-416-9464. Photos available.

RWCS Commemoratives 1981-2005 (25) excellent condition - many boxed. Many newsletters from early years (newspaper type), convention buttons - ribbons - anniversary booklet. \$4,000.00 or reasonable offer for all. Possible delivery to Convention. E-mail VANGLOP@HOTMAIL.COM or call 541-259-2327 or 715-779-5456. 6/08

Red Wing Lotus dinnerware: (14) 10 1/2" plates, (13) 7 1/2" plates, (13) 6 1/2" plates, (12) tea cups & saucers, egg plate, (4) coffee cups, sugar & creamer with cover, salt & pepper, butter dish with cover, spoon rest, (4) cereal bowls, (6) soup bowls, divided veg dish, relish dish, celery dish, (20) fruit dishes, (4) nappy serving bowls, gravy boat, casserole with cover, tea pot and cover, water pitcher, 10" vase, meat plate, lazy Susan. \$900 or offer. Call 641-847-2816.

Commemoratives: 1996 Grayline cookie jar, \$75; 1997 20 gal crock, \$75; 1998 Iris pitcher, \$70; 1999 5 gal Koverwate, \$45; 2000 Hamm's pitcher, \$60; 2001 4" Sponge panel mixing bowl, \$65; 5 gal Union Stoneware Co. ball lever jar, \$75; 2004 Union Stoneware brushware vase, \$60. Call 515-465-3958 for more information.

50 pieces of Bob White including plates, cups and serving dishes. Excellent condition. Call for complete list. Home: 507-263-4550, cell: 612-245-6512.

4 gal Elephant Ear water cooler. MINT! \$5,400 or offer. Call 402-331-4749.

OTHER POTTERY FOR SALE

Blue White Commemoratives: 1991 Grandmother's maple syrup pitcher, \$40; 1992 Lincoln pitcher, \$40. Call 515-465-3958 for more information.

RED WING WANTED

Wanted - "Early" Ardennes and "Early" Normandy (has pink and blue bands only) dinnerware. Will buy or trade. Can't part with any of your pieces? Still want to hear from you to learn about what's out there and to share information. Contact John at THESAGATS@COMCAST.NET or 612-861-0066.

RECENT FINDS & DEALS

Did you find a rare piece or a great deal worth sharing? Briefly describe the item, where it was sold, date purchased, venue (store, auction, etc.) and price paid. Send in on a post card, or if you'd like to include a photo for publication, e-mail RWCSNEWSLETTER@WI.RR.COM, or enclose in an envelope. Multiple submissions result in multiple entries in the Newsletter Special Commemorative Lottery at the 2008 Convention. Send to the editor at the address on page 2. All entries received between July 2007 and June of 2008 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE
Mint blue mottled ½ gal pitcher	Hutchinson, MN	1/08	Auction	\$70
Bob White hors d'oeuvre holder	Granbury, TX	1/08	Antique mall	\$25
Town & Country copper glow platter & five comma bowls	Rochester, MN	2/08	Antique shop	\$95
Town & Country Quartette chartreuse mustard jar		2/08	eBay	\$202.50
3 gal Storden, MN adv. crock, hairline	Storden, MN	2/08	Private sale	\$600
2 gal reversed oval crock, mint				
Small greyline pitcher, mint				
7-inch greyline bowl, mint				
Non-Red Wing adv. bowl, mint	St. Cloud, MN	2/08		
Pink & blue banded bowl, chips	Private sale	\$100 total		
Plain beater jar, mint				



Be Our Guest.

*Opening May 2008
in Red Wing, MN!*

*For Reservations
call 952-467-2414*

RED WING WANTED

Wanted - Utica, Wisconsin advertising sponge bowl. 2 gal Oak Leaf Simmons Hardware advertising Chicken feeder. Also any other advertising chicken feeders. Call Maxine at 608-577-3629.

CONVENTION STREET BANNERS

Ever wonder how you could get your name or your chapter on a street banner hung downtown Red Wing during Convention? For only \$350, you can have one made and it will be hung downtown each year by the RWCS Business Office. If interested in ordering one, please contact Stacy Wegner (contact info page 2).

AUCTIONS

Tuesday July 8, 2008 – 3:30 p.m. National Guard Armory, Red Wing, MN. Salt glaze crocks, zinc crocks, shoulder jugs, 4 gal. Ice Water cooler, 5 gal. water cooler, adv. bean pots, spongeband bowls, grayline, saffron, mini jugs, artware, dinnerware, commemoratives, plus much more.

Wednesday July 9, 2008 – 3:30 p.m. National Guard Armory, Red Wing, MN. Salt glaze & zinc crocks, shoulder jugs, churns, butter crocks, beehive jugs, covers, spongeware bowls, artware, dinnerware – assorted patterns, test plates, lunch hour plates, plus much more. Catalogs available June 1 at \$5 each. Houghton's Auction Service, 1967 Launa Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066. Phone: 651-388-5870.

CLUBS AND PUBLICATIONS

2005 stoneware book (Antique Trader Stoneware Price Guide); includes Red Wing; Monmouth-Western; Blue/White; Eastern U.S. 288 pages; colored photos; \$20 postage paid. Gail Peck, 2121 Pearl, Fremont, NE 68025; 402-721-5721. 12/08

2006 values for Red Wing Stoneware and 2008 values for Red Wing Collectibles! \$9.95 each or \$17.95 for both plus \$2/\$2.50 postage, respectively. Quantity discounts available. Gail Peck, 2121 Pearl, Fremont, NE 68025; 402-721-5721. 12/08

Blue & White Pottery Club – Visit the club's Web site for membership form at www.BLUEANDWHITEPOTTERY.ORG. Annual membership is \$15 for first member, \$5 each additional member and \$1 for members under 12 years old. You can also write to B&W Pottery Club, PO Box 460517, Aurora, CO 80015.

BRONK AUCTION SERVICE

Red Wing Stoneware - Antiques - Furniture

AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 3rd – 9:30 am

Location: 1 mile West of LEWISTON, MN on Hwy 14

Stoneware: Advertising Cherryband pitchers..Greyline pcs.. Advertising jugs.. Saltglaze crocks.. 10gal blackleaf Ice Water cooler ..4gal double stamped elephant ear churn..zinc crocks & churns..RWCS commem..beater jars..SleepyEye mug..more

Complete listing & pics at www.BronkAuctionService.com

Lunch & Heated Indoor Facilities!



BRONK
Auction Service

(507) 523-2731

Greg Bronk - Lewiston, MN #85-40 (507) 523-2731

Steve Bronk-Kasson, MN #55-139 (507) 528-9931

Web Addr-www.bronkauctions.com Email:Greg@BronkAuctions.com

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS (CONT'D)



HIDDEN TREASURES ARE STILL OUT THERE

We've always wanted and looked for a Petty's Hog Tonic jug from Sioux City, Iowa, but never have been able to acquire one. However, that all changed when we made the decision to go to a tag sale on a very cold, snowy day in Des Moines on Jan. 25. When we walked through the door, there on the floor was a gorgeous 2 gallon Petty's jug

with beautiful bright blue markings. Wow! Our hearts raced, breath was short and nerves were shaking. We grabbed a hold of it and looked around, but it was the only piece of stoneware there in this very small house. One never would have believed that a jug such as this would be in this house.

We took it to the seller, as nothing was priced, not knowing what to expect. He said, "What about \$60?" After my wife revived me, I said, "That's fine," and quickly got the money out, paid the man and hugged the jug tightly.

I'm sure there are hundreds of stories similar to ours, but we're grateful and blessed to be able to share our story with you. Advice: don't give up searching for that special piece you've always longed for.

Jimmy & Becky Carter



REPRODUCTION RED WING JUICER

I was recently paging through a catalog from *Country Door* when I saw a reproduction Red Wing juicer advertised. I was surprised to see that this was being made and figured that there must be other collectors out there who are unaware of it as well.

If you log on to WWW.COUNTRYDOOR.COM

and type in "Red Wing juicer" you should find a description and picture that looks exactly like the one-piece reamer with stand shown on page 208 in *Clay Giants 3*. I believe this picture is in the other *Clay Giants* books also.

This is the kind of item that even a knowledgeable collector could be fooled by if they were not aware that it's being produced. I don't want somebody to find one of these at a flea market marked for \$200 and think they're getting good deal, when it's something they can get out of a catalog for \$22.95.

Red Wing regards,
Steve Poeschl

COMING IN THE JUNE ISSUE...



CONVENTION PREVIEW

THEN AND NOW: LAMPERT YARDS

