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30 Years of Collecting

DIGGING THE DUMP

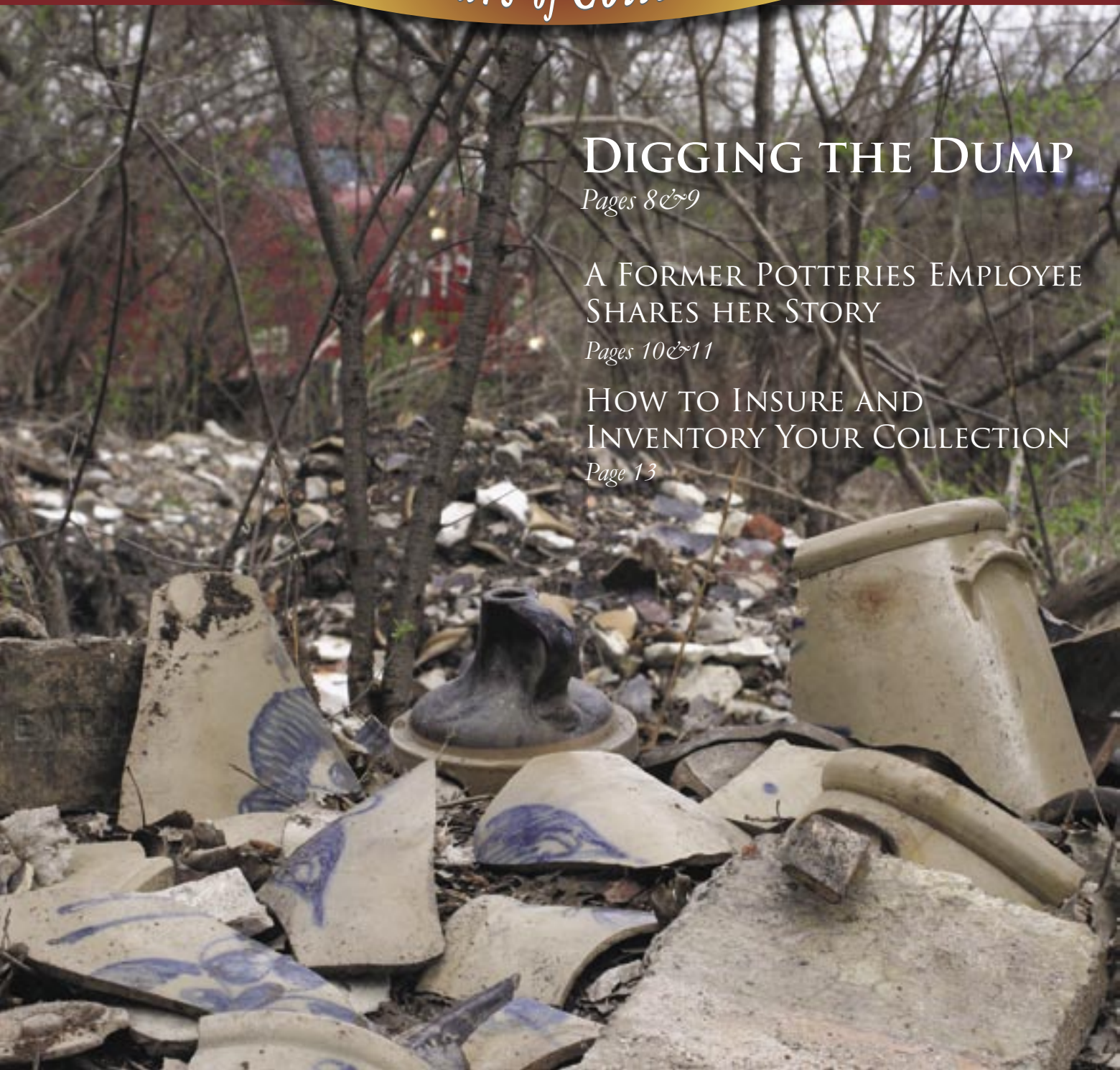
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MEMBERSHIP

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.

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NEWS BRIEFS

RWCS FOUNDATION TO HOLD FALL 2008 AUCTION

The Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation Board of Directors is very excited about the future of the Red Wing Pottery Museum. There has been a consistent flow of loaned items to the museum and the membership continues to be generous with their support. For this, the RWCS Foundation Board says "Thank you!"

To continue the excitement, the Foundation is establishing an Annual Fall Auction in Red Wing, kicking off in the fall of 2008. The purpose of this auction is to raise funds for the continued operation and maintenance of the museum. The unique part of this auction is that everything being auctioned off will have been donated for the expressed purpose of selling at the auction.

The Foundation will begin collecting donated objects for the 2008 Fall Auction starting in Des Moines in February at the 2008 MidWinter GetTogether. Information will be posted at MidWinter as to locations for donations. Donations can also be made during the 2008 July Convention in Red Wing. Individuals will need to provide a value for the donated piece if they intend to use the donation for tax purposes. The Foundation is looking for a wide variety of items in all price ranges. We're hoping that this auction will have something for everyone – the well-seasoned collector as well as the beginning collector.

Further information regarding the Fall Auction will follow. If you have questions, contact Wayne Burk at WHBURK@SALAMANDER.COM or Barb Brown at 763-684-2400 or BBROWN65@CHARTER.NET. Once again, the RWCS Foundation Board of Directors thanks you all for your continued generosity and support. We look forward to this new fundraising opportunity! -Barb Brown, RWCS Foundation Board

ORDER YOUR RWCS 30TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

Turner Publishing has nearly completed the book that will commemorate the Red Wing Collectors Society's 30th Anniversary, and expects it to be released in the first quarter of next year. For information about ordering a copy, see the ad at right or read the entire news release posted on the RWCS Web site.

"REFER A MEMBER" TO RWCS

For every new primary member that you recruit to join RWCS between now and July 1, 2008, your name will be entered into a drawing to win free Society membership for one year and registration to either the 2009 MidWinter GetTogether or the July Convention. Any member that recruits five or more new primary members to RWCS during the program will automatically have their membership renewed for free for one year!

In addition to individual members participating in this program, it's also open to all RWCS Chapters! The chapter with the most new primary members joining the Society will have the first bragging rights to the traveling Little Brown Jug of Membership. This trophy will be presented at the 2008 Convention and the program will be an annual event. To learn how to participate in the program and earn a year of free membership, visit WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG or call the business office.



CHAPTER SOUGHT FOR 2009 CONVENTION BUTTON

The Southwest Redwingers have been awarded the responsibility of producing the Convention Button for 2008, and they already have a great design in store for attendees. However, the RWCS Board of Directors is looking for individual chapters interested in accepting the fundraising opportunity for 2009 and beyond. Does your chapter have what it takes? Contact representatives at large Jerry Erdmann or Russa Robinson (contact info on page 2) for more information. Note: chapters that have never created the RWCS Convention Button are given first consideration.



ABOUT THE COVER

After all the years of digging and the infinite number of shards that have been removed from the Red Wing Pottery dump, there's still a treasure trove of information waiting to be discovered. Some pockets of rejected pottery are destined never to be unearthed, but don't tell that to the guys who have made digging in the dump their life's passion. If they succeed, every cubic foot of dirt will be searched and every great shard will once again see the light of day.

In this issue, we hear from three of the most dedicated dump diggers out there: Steve Showers, Dennis Nygaard and Austin Fjerestad. In addition to sharing some of their richest dump-digging history, they discuss tips of the trade and reveal theories that only a person who has spent a significant portion of their life underground sifting through broken crocks can conjure up. Turn to page 8 for this unprecedented look at Red Wing's greatest wonder and the people who cherish it.

UPCOMING BOOK CELEBRATES RWCS 30TH ANNIVERSARY!



9x12-inch, "coffee-table" format with hundreds of full-color photos

Includes all things RWCS from 1977-2007, plus a look back at the Red Wing Potteries

Sched. for 1st Q. 2008 Release

ONLY \$54.95
includes shipping

Call toll-free, order online, or mail check/money order:
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RESERVE YOUR COPY BY DEC. 30, 2007

SUE JONES TAGLIAPIETRA

President



It doesn't seem possible that we are reaching the end of 2007. I am very pleased to let everyone know that the Red Wing Collectors Society has ended the year on a very positive note. As you read the insert with the Board of Directors meeting minutes, you will find that we had an audit that basically showed we were doing what we were supposed to be doing and doing it in the right way. You will also see we managed to end the year with a small amount of money left. Of course, there is always a long "wish list" of ways to spend any unspent money.

This year's 30th Anniversary celebration at Convention was very successful thanks to Bonnie Myers who chaired the committee. Bonnie and her husband, Nick Marson, worked tirelessly even through two hip surgeries and family emergencies. She and her committee raised more than \$30,000 for the RWCS through the sales of the tiles. Thank you again, Bonnie!

The RWCS Foundation continues to acquire bigger and better collections, pieces, ideas, etc. The energy that abounds the group is amazing. We continue to add new chapters to the Society and the existing chapters continue to thrive and grow. The quilt raffle was such a great idea and I just keep wondering what will be next? (Hint, hint.)

Stacy Wegner makes running the Society look easy as executive director. She even did her part this year to recruit a new member. Her newborn, Miss Flora Helen Wegner, arrived in April. Katie Hardyman started as the administrative assistant in October and has been an incredible asset to the Society.

All in all, I am so proud to be affiliated with this wonderful organization and to know so many of you members. I wish you all a wonderful and bountiful holiday season. May the New Year bring peace and joy to you and your loved ones!

2008 MIDWINTER GETTOGETHER: SAY "ALOHA"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 8-10 • HOLIDAY INN & SUITES - DES MOINES, IA.

Deadline for pre-registration: January 16, 2008

Friday, February 8

Board of Directors Mtg.	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Iowa Room (Lower Level)
Registration	1-8 p.m.	Hotel Lobby
Room Sales	All day	
"Aloha in 2008" Reception	7-9 p.m.	Heartland Ballroom

Saturday, February 9

Registration	7-10 a.m.	Hotel Lobby
Continental Breakfast	7-8:15 a.m.	Heartland Ballroom
Welcome/General Session	8:15-9:30 a.m.	Heartland Ballroom
Education Seminars Session 1	9:40-10:30 a.m.	Wisconsin, Missouri, Minnesota,
Education Seminars Session 2	10:40-11:30 a.m.	Kansas & Indiana Rooms (Lower Level)
KidsView	9:40-11:30 a.m.	Illinois Room (Lower Level)
Show & Sale	1-4 p.m.	Heartland Ballroom
Houghton's Auction	6 p.m.	Heartland Ballroom

Sunday, February 10

Continental Breakfast (Hosted by the Iowa Chapter)	7-9 a.m.	Room 513
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You still have plenty of time to make your plans to attend the February 8-10, 2008 MidWinter GetTogether Hawaiian Luau in Des Moines! We've already received many registrations by mail, and online registration is available at WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG. For online registration instructions, see the next page!

This MidWinter will be more family-friendly than ever, with KidsView activities that will include painting mugs and a craft session that will take place during the Show & Sale and auction, just like last year. We're looking for volunteers to help out at MidWinter, so please call Katie Hardyman at 800-977-7927 to offer your assistance.

Just a heads up that the registration area will move from the hotel's front entrance to the area near the windows that overlook the pool because the area near the entrance gets too cold and access to electricity is difficult.

Remember, requests for a Seller's Table at MidWinter must be received by Jan. 11 in order to receive a contract and returned by Jan. 25. Again, Show & Sale space is limited at MidWinter, so it will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis.

For the latest information on the MidWinter GetTogether, please visit the Web site at WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG. For reservations, call 800-HOLIDAY or 515-278-4755 and indicate you are a RWCS MidWinter attendee and/or a room seller. The hotel is located at 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, IA 50322.

A COLLECTOR REMEMBERED

Longtime friend and collector, Pam Sax of Elkhorn, Wis. passed away at home on November 21 with her family at her side. As member #744, many of us remember Pam and husband Ron from those early days of the Red Wing Collectors Society at the Vo-Tech, as well as the many years following. Memories such as breakfast at Bev's, lunch at the Liberty, a ride around town, some casino time, reunions with old friends, always a "free item" on their table at the Show & Sale...they were all good! Pam loved to watch for eagles on the river during those annual trips to Red Wing. And now, "on eagle's wings" she is raised up. Peace, Pam, peace. We will miss you! -Nona & Skip Knapp, and many friends

REGISTERING FOR MIDWINTER ONLINE: IT'S AS EASY AS 1-2-"CLICK!"

Story by *Katie Hardyman, RWCS Administrative Assistant*

Online registration is easy, fast and saves the Red Wing Collectors Society time and money. Last year, about 20 percent of you registered online for the MidWinter GetTogether and we're hoping for 50 percent this year. Why? Not only does it save a lot of time for us here in the business office, but it also ensures greater accuracy. And best of all, it doesn't cost you anything. In fact, it saves you the cost of a postage stamp!

To get started: All you need is a computer with Internet access, your membership number and a credit card. That's it!

Easy Steps:

1. Log onto the RWCS Web site:
WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG
(If you have already set up a password, simply enter your member number and password on the left side of the screen and proceed to step 5.)
2. If you have not logged in before, click on **Need a Password?** It's on the left side, right below the log in area.
3. Scroll down the page to **Existing Members without Login**. Enter in the required data including your new password. Your password must be at least 6 characters and we encourage you to include letters and numbers for security reasons, although a letter-number combination is not required.
4. Click **Set Up!** This will bring you back to our home page.
5. Click on **Registration** on the left side. This will bring you to your account.
6. Under your name and address, you will see **edit info**. This is where you can make changes to your address, phone and e-mail address. You can also change your password here.
7. To register for MidWinter, scroll down to the primary member of the household and click on **Shop for (your name)**.
8. This will bring you to the screen where you can renew your membership, register for an event and sign up for a Seller's Table. Simply click on all your choices and then click on **Update Member**.
9. If you need to register any other members of your household you can do so at this point.
10. When you are finished shopping, scroll down to the bottom of the screen, review your Order Summary and click on **Check Out**.
11. Your billing information must match the name/ and address on the credit card you will be using.
12. Choose the credit card you want to use and fill in the number, expiration and card verification number, and then press **Charge**.
13. An order confirmation screen will come up that you can print for your records. If you have an e-mail address in the system, you should also get a confirmation via e-mail.
14. Congratulations! You have successfully helped save RWCS time and money!

Please call the business office at 800-977-7927 if you have any questions. We're always happy to help you master the online registration process so you can continue to use it in the future!



RWCS NEWS



**TERRY
SPEEDY**

Interim Education Manager

MidWinter is fast approaching, and with it the opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, and of course, find and buy that Red Wing piece you've been looking for. This year's gathering is shaping up to be a fabulous time, and we're really looking forward to seeing everyone there.

The education opportunities have expanded this year, with an additional seminar offering. Last year the seminars were chock-full of members, so we added an extra seminar this year to help make the rooms more comfortable.

With the additional options available for online registration and member services, Bonnie Myers has graciously offered to help those with limited computer skills learn how to expertly navigate the RWCS Web site. Her seminar will focus on the RWCS site and also the Wing Tips site and what they both have to offer. Steve Showers will be back with his always popular Dump Finds seminar, with even more new finds and information.

Learning to buy and sell on eBay has never been easier than when Chris Osterholz walks you through it, and he has found new tips and ideas to share with our members. The salt glaze lovers among us will thrill to Rick Natynski's seminar, with new photos and pieces we can all dream of finding at that barn sale down the road. Last, but most-assuredly not least, Mark and Marie Latta return with an interesting and informative art pottery seminar that will leave you longing for more.

The keynote address this year will focus on the RWCS Ledger, which was preserved, researched and published by the Foundation. Dave Kuffel, who has dedicated untold hours of his time to research and study the Ledger entries, will share the story of this project, with insider stories and tips on what to look for and what the notations mean.

This year's MidWinter will be a great time, with something for everyone. All we're waiting for is you!!

The Greatest Crock Crib in the Midwest

Story by Rick Natynski



Larry Schwartz is a man who collects just about anything that peaks his interest. Meat cleavers, grinders, water pumps, carpentry tools, pulleys, axes, tractors and baseball bats are displayed throughout the several buildings on the Western Iowa farm that has been in his family for generations. But at approximately 500 pieces, his stoneware collection is the most impressive of them all.

"You can't go to an auction and not buy anything," Larry says with a smile. "Whether it was a crock, a piece of furniture or a flat of old tools, I always ended up bringing something home. Before I knew it, I was building several collections."

Although Larry first bought a few crocks at an auction back in 1973, it wasn't until 1995 that he truly started building his huge collection.

"I never really did plan on buying as much Red Wing as I did Western Stoneware, because it cost twice as much," Larry says. "Of course, then I started picking up a few Red Wing crocks for reasonable prices at auctions. As I began to learn more about what was out there, I wanted to build a set of 1 through 60 gallon crocks, and then I started trying to build sets with different ovals."

In addition to auctions, Larry's favorite stomping grounds are the antique shops and shows in Walnut, Ia., and he's bought many pieces from well-known dealer Jim Hackett over the years.

"Although I have sold a few pieces here and there, I've never been in it to make money," Larry states. "The hunt is a lot of fun and I really enjoy talking with new people and meeting new friends."

Larry jokes that he "made peace in the family" in 2001 when his wife, Lois, told him she'd like to have her house back. An avid collector herself, she was tired of looking at stoneware stacked to the ceiling in every room and wanted space to display her collections of rolling pins, stoneware bowls, salt & pepper shakers and Santa Claus figures.

Now most of Larry's awesome collection is neatly

displayed and stored under lock and key in his farm's old corn crib, where grandsons Ben and Cole (pictured lower left) enjoy spending time with their grandfather.

Larry's monster 10 gallon Red Wing churn, which is in excellent condition and has great color, is one of his favorite pieces. He's also partial to the several 25 gallon Monmouth salt and zinc glaze crocks he has. He owns 75 Red Wing and Western churns combined, and there aren't many collectors out there who have as many large crocks as Larry does. He owns 20 crocks sized 40 gallons or larger – 12 of them being Red Wing.

With all the success he's had in filling his collection, you'd think Larry wouldn't have anything left on his want list. But there are several crocks he's looking to upgrade from, in addition to a few pieces that have eluded him completely, such as a 40 gallon elephant ear crock.

Larry still comes across some great oddities from time to time, like the 3 gallon wing crock with bail handles pictured in the upper left-hand corner, which he picked up a few months ago at an auction in Marshalltown, Ia.

"I got pretty excited when I saw it," he recalls. "I was really hoping no one else would realize how unique it was. Luckily, no one did. I got it for only \$55." ■





HOME AGAIN HOME AGAIN

THE HISTORY OF THE F.A. MORLEY JUG – PART II

STORY BY LARRY PETERSON, OWNER OF THE MORLEY JUG

In January of 2007, the 30 gallon F.A. Morley jug returned home to Red Wing. Upon arriving in town, it went directly to the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation Pottery Museum, not too far from where it had been created.

This one-of-a-kind advertising jug, made before 1897 for Frank Morley, “Dealer in Cigars Wines and Liquors,” was probably made by his older brother William for the Morley Bar at 1503 Main Street in Red Wing, Minn. Both Frank and William worked for the Red Wing Stoneware Company as young men.

I shared the early history of the jug in the August 2007 issue of the Red Wing Collectors Society Newsletter, but where has it been since then?

Well, in 1967, a woman named Andrea and her husband stopped at the Red Wing Pottery Salesroom to purchase some dinnerware, when they noticed the Morley jug sitting in Mr. Gilmer’s office. They inquired if it was for sale, and Mr. Gilmer quoted them a price. Andrea and her husband were able to pay in cash and take it home to Owen, Wis. along with some Bob White dinnerware. A few years later, they moved to Eau Claire, Wis. where the 75 lb. jug remained for almost 40 years.

When I went to see the jug with Dave and Diane Hallstrom in December of 2006, Dave and I immediately dropped to our knees to reverently touch every inch of the jug. We were ecstatic to discover that the lettering was definitely underneath the glaze. Neither of us could believe, after searching for this prized jug for 30 years, that we had finally found it. All three of us were speechless! After caressing it for several minutes, Dave, Diane and I sat down with Andrea and her family and shared all the history that we had discovered about the jug and the Morley family.

We created a notebook just for Andrea that contained all this information. It was exciting to see how much Andrea cared about the jug and its history.

When reminiscing about the jug, Andrea recalls finding candy bar wrappers in the bottom, which were likely put there by customers when it sat inside the door of Nelson’s Cigar Store in downtown Red Wing for a couple years in the mid-1960s. Since acquiring it, the Morley jug had always been displayed in a prominent place in the family’s home – many times next to the television set. Andrea often photographed her sons standing beside the jug in the Christmas cards she sent to family and friends.

“The boys used to drop their Lincoln Logs into the jug and climb around it when they were kids,” she said. During our visit, her sons discussed the fact that they would be in grave trouble if anything ever happened to the jug. Fortunately, nothing did. Andrea’s love for the jug made it easy for her to protect and take care of it for those 40 years, even though she did not know its historical importance.

A couple weeks after the first visit, I found my way back to Eau Claire to make the jug mine. After packing it very carefully, we transported it back to Red Wing, where it was finally going home again!

I am deeply grateful to Andrea and her family for all their years of caring for and prizing the coveted Morley jug. I feel we all owe her special thanks for being the loving protector of this incredible piece for 40 years.

The miracle is that the jug returned in the same perfect condition it left Red Wing in back in 1967. I believe that this jug demonstrates better than anything else the exceptional quality and craftsmanship of Red Wing Stoneware. I am happy to share it with you in the museum. After 110 years, the F.A. Morley jug is finally “home again, home again!” ■

(Top to Bottom) Picture 1: Andrea’s sons pose next to the Morley jug in one of many Christmas card photos. Picture 2: The Morley jug’s past owner, Andrea, poses alongside the treasure with new owner, Larry Peterson. Picture 3: Larry rolls the Morley jug into the Red Wing Pottery Museum. Picture 4: The Morley jug usually sat next to the TV in Andrea’s home, but it was moved next to the family’s Christmas tree come December. Picture 5: Andrea and her sons, now fully grown, pack up the Morley jug and say “goodbye.”



DIGGING THE RED WING POTTERY DUMP

Story by Rick Natynski

There's long been intrigue surrounding the Red Wing pottery dump, which essentially is a huge time capsule buried at a time when stoneware served a functional purpose, and the thought of collecting and proudly displaying it in the home wasn't even on the verge of being considered. Pieces that today would be the centerpiece of one's collection were discarded back then, because a factory imperfection made them virtually useless to the consumer.

But even before author and Red Wing collecting pioneer Lyndon Viel released *The Clay Giants* back in 1977, inquisitive collectors have scoured this area located a matter of yards behind what is now Pottery Place Mall and the Red Wing Pottery Company (the former Red Wing Stoneware Company factory and Pottery Sales Room), literally in search of pieces from the past. Shards of stoneware previously unknown to be produced by the Red Wing and Union companies have been dug from the dump, proving their origin.

Three of the most active Red Wing pottery dump diggers recently discussed greatest finds, dump digging tips, theories of the dump's expansiveness and the thrill of the hunt. Here is their story.

The guy who started it all

Steve Showers' name goes with the Red Wing dump like macaroni goes with cheese. Credited with being the one who started the dump-digging phenomena, he actually started poking around the dump while the Pottery was still in business.

"I was about 12 or 13 when I went down to the dump in the late 1950s," Steve recalls. "I would nose around down there while my mother shopped around up in the Pottery Sales Room. Sometimes an employee would chase me away, but for the most part, nobody cared when I took a few shards home."

Now at 64 years old, Steve has about 35 years of solid dump digging experience, because it was 1972 when he started digging on a regular basis. He began digging in the area where the new Pottery



Pond Park sits, and remembers finding large, almost whole zinc glaze wing crocks on a consistent basis. In fact, he once found a complete 30 gallon crock with lid, and a 40 gallon crock that was in one piece despite being cracked and warped to the point where a lid wouldn't fit it.

"In the early days of dump digging, you could find a lot of great shards with wings without having to look very hard," Steve says. "But in the 1970s, the City of Red Wing started allowing contractors to dump used concrete over that part of the dump, so it's no longer accessible. Fortunately the city has always been supportive of us digging around in the area along the railroad tracks, as long as we didn't use any heavy machinery."

"One of my favorite pieces I've dug is a globe-shaped coin bank made for the 1893 World's Exposition in Chicago," he says. "I also have a 4 gallon salt glaze churn with a huge leaf that was in only two pieces when I found it."

Steve gave his first educational seminar on dump digging back at the 1978 Convention, and he's given one ever since, except for a year or two. Many familiar faces attend his presentation year after year, which has lead to some of the best friendships he has ever built.

"Some people are big into thing like hunting, fishing or racing, but for me, this is my hobby," Steve says. "It gives me good exercise out in the fresh air, it's a great stress reliever and I've met people from all over the country through collecting stoneware – some who are better friends than people I went to school with

or worked with for many years," Steve says. "It's the bonds that you build with people that make collecting Red Wing so much fun."

One of those good friendships Steve built is with Dennis Nygaard, who started digging with him in 1980.

"When I started digging, I was one of those guys who loved collecting Red Wing, but couldn't afford it," Dennis says. "Fortunately I met Steve, who taught me a lot about digging in the dump."

At 55 years old, Dennis started digging for bottles in old farm dumps when he was a kid, and growing up in Goodhue County, he found Red Wing Stoneware on a regular basis. He's been digging in the Red Wing dump for more than half of his life and has a garage full of shards to show for it. In fact, he recently found a new home for the shards, so he can actually use it for parking his car again. The move sparked a rediscovery of shards he dug so long ago that he forgot he had them. Although he didn't know it at the time, his years of experience since digging them have revealed that some had been exceptionally good finds.

"When people ask me how many shards I have, I tell them I have a ton...literally," Dennis says, smiling. He admits that he needs to spend some time sorting through and matching shards to reassemble complete pieces. If your jaw hasn't already dropped to the floor, get this: he has about 25 buckets full of salt glaze water cooler shards just waiting to be pieced back together.

Dennis's greatest find was two whole 2 gallon salt glaze beehive jugs with stenciled advertising, which won him the Dennis Yaeggi Rare Item Award at



the 2004 Convention. The Glenwood Spring and Inglewood Springs jugs were sitting side by side when he found them, surrounded by large pieces of a 25 gallon butterfly crock, which he believes the jugs were sitting in when pushed off the cart back in the late 1880s. The Glenwood jug has some chips on the spout and the Inglewood jug is mint, except for a clay separation.

Although they used to dig primarily to add to their collections, Steve and Dennis now dig more to enhance the knowledge of Red Wing's wares.

One of the greatest things about Steve and Dennis is that they always extend an open invitation to anyone interested in joining them for a dump dig. And if the RWCS Foundation Museum ever expands, the pair has even discussed donating a significant portion of their shards to be displayed.

"We don't keep any secrets," Steve says. "We really enjoy sharing our finds with people who are just as excited about Red Wing as we are, and we love helping new diggers find great shards of their own."

The new generation

Just as Steve passed a lot of his knowledge along to Dennis, Dennis has been a great mentor to Austin Fjerestad. Talk about falling in the footsteps of these Red Wing dump-digging rock stars, at 26 years old, Austin leads the next generation of diggers.



Like Steve and Dennis, Austin began digging around age 13. His discovery of old bottles in his back yard fueled his excitement for finding and digging in old city dumps throughout Eastern Minnesota, and he first dug into Red Wing soil with Dennis in 2002. Five years later, he's digging more than ever and presents findings with Dennis during their joint seminar at Convention. He also wrote an article about his extensive bisque flower pot findings in the April 2007 issue of the *RWCS Newsletter*.

"I've always had an interest in history, and collecting and preserving stuff," Austin says. "One of the most exciting things about digging is that you're pulling things out of the ground that have been buried there for more than 100 years."

Although he's put together many whole pieces, Austin's best finds include about 70 percent of a 30 gallon salt glaze and Albany slip lid with petals, and the front of a 10 gallon salt glaze daisy cooler.

Dig at your own risk

Digging in the dump is definitely not something just anyone will enjoy. As these three passionate diggers will tell you, the conditions obviously aren't luxurious. There are right and wrong ways to go about digging, there are hazards to be wary of, and yes, snakes and skunks make their homes there. ("Watch out for the vampires, too," Austin jokes.) But if you can deal with these obstacles and become comfortable with the fact that you can go hours without finding anything worth toting home, digging can be a lot of fun.

If you've never been to the dump, shards are scattered everywhere. But if you want to find something with advertising, birchleaves, elephant ears or cobalt decorations, all of the good stuff has been picked off the top layer and a lot of holes have already been dug. Because the dump covers a few acres, it's large enough that you can waste a lot of time if you don't know where to dig. This is why it's always advisable to take Steve, Dennis or Austin up on their offer to dig with them – especially if you're a rookie digger.

"If you want shards from a specific era, we're more than happy to show you the right places to dig," Austin says. "With our experience, the odds are good that if you dig with us, you're going to find better stuff than when you dig alone."

More important than being efficient is the matter of being safe. It's not a surprise that there aren't many people walking around the dump on any given day, so it's a good idea to dig with a buddy and keep a cell phone handy in case of emergency.

The Red Wing pottery dump can go from being one of the quietest places in town to one of the loudest in a few seconds. Trains rumble by on a consistent basis, creating tiny earthquakes that threaten the structural integrity of freshly

dug holes and often lead to minor cave-ins. Earlier this year in fact, a guy got buried to his waist and Steve and Dennis had to help dig him out, Austin says.



Digging during colder times of the year is best, because the soil holds together better. Plus, the muggy summer heat exposes you to unforgiving swarms of mosquitoes and the potential for a nasty case of poison ivy. However, Steve said a digger once developed poison ivy in the dead of winter because he was unknowingly digging through the itchy plant's roots, so it's a hazard to be cautious of.

Recent finds and a lot of thinking have Steve and Dennis theorizing that they haven't even scratched the dump's surface.

"About five or six years ago, Steve and I believed most of the dump had been dug out and there weren't many good finds left," Dennis shares. "But as we continued to find more and more, we looked back and realized there were a lot of areas that we missed. Plus, we've never hit bottom. Since the dump sits in an area that used to be a lot swampier than it is now, a lot of it sunk down and now it's under water."

In some spots, you can dig 6 to 7 feet deep before hitting water, but usually water is found at depths of 3 to 5 feet, meaning there could be shards going down another 10 feet. As if that prospect isn't exciting enough, the longtime diggers believe there are likely "mini dumps" located all over town, where landowners might have welcomed the potteries to dump their carts of imperfect stoneware to help fill in ditches or small ravines. And don't forget, we've been talking about the Red Wing and Union dumps this whole time. The Minnesota Stoneware dump is still out there, Dennis says.

"There's so much stuff out there waiting to be discovered, it's unbelievable," Steve adds. "Even after all these years, it continues to be a learning process, and that's what keeps it fun." ■



Memories of Working at the Red Wing Potteries

By Carol Betcher, former Red Wing Potteries employee

I started working at the Red Wing Pottery in July of 1956, just after graduating from Lincoln High School in Lake City, Minn. at age 17. I was engaged on graduation day to Lloyd Betcher, so I was happy to get a job so soon. The pay was \$1.03 an hour, which was pretty good money at the time.

Because I did not drive, I had to stay with my maternal grandparents, Herman and Emily Carstens, in Red Wing. I just loved it at their house because I had a very nice private bedroom and bath. Best of all, Grandma Emily worked at the Pottery, too. She didn't drive either, so Grandpa had to get up pretty early to take us to work at 6:30 in the morning.

Our eight-hour shift started at 7 a.m. and every morning we walked past all the men who were waiting to start work in the boiler room on the main floor. Our painting area was on the 2nd floor and being above the boilers, it was hot there all year long.

To start learning how to paint on the dishes, us new girls were put on a separate line and given damaged plates to practice all the different strokes on. We used Delta and Grumbacher Sable brushes. The patterns I painted most often were the Bob White and Tampico watermelon designs.

Our boss, Betty, would see how we painted and one by one we were put on the main production lines. Each girl painted only one color at a time. Workers were on both sides of a long conveyer belt. As the plates went down the line, each girl would put her strokes on. Some colors would take three or four girls, and other colors one or two girls. Some belts had up to 20 painters depending on what pattern was being done. The lady on the end of the line would have to inspect each piece and stack them on a cart to be taken down to fire the paint colors in. After being fired, they would be inspected again before they were glazed and fired once more.

Our boss was constantly checking every single line, and if there was too much talking, she would speed up the conveyer belt. The plates were very rough and our fingers would bleed. Then

we had to tape our fingertips and practice with taped fingers to get the brush strokes done right. We used our pinky finger to balance our brush strokes and practice again on damaged plates.

When you wanted to take a break, you had to raise your hand (just like in school) and the boss would either put a replacement in or she would stop the line and give all the workers a break. When she was in a good mood, she would stop the line for about three minutes to give our hands a rest. Otherwise we only got a 10-minute break in the morning, a 10-minute break in the afternoon and a half-hour for lunch break during an eight-hour work day.

Unfortunately at the time I started working there, they weren't allowing workers to paint lunch-hour pieces. I don't know why that was, but Grandma Emily had already worked at the Pottery for about 15 years and was in her 60s when I started in 1956. One lunch-hour piece she painted was a plate with the scenery of a man holding a basket overlooking an apple tree and a small pond, which I believe was her rendition of the setting of the farm lived on in Arcadia, Wis. when she was young. She signed it on the back, and it's dated Nov. 17, 1948. I also have a blue bird vase she painted on her lunch hour, which is signed and dated Nov. 23, 1948. After all these years, my sister, Valerie Johnson, recently told me that she has about five lunch-hour pieces that Grandma gave her 35 years ago – most of which are signed and dated.

It's been 51 years since I worked at the Red Wing Pottery, and I don't remember any of my co-workers, except for Shirley Heath, who I still see every once in awhile. One time when we were working on the line, Shirley placed a plastic spider on the plate she had just painted and down the conveyor belt it went to the next lady. I tell you – that lady almost had a heart attack. Boy, did Shirley and I get a scolding!

But the boss didn't stay mad at me for too long, as I was picked with several others to paint a special piece that was kept a secret until they sent us to a different room downstairs to do the painting. It was the Hamm's Beer Bear Bank. We all wanted to buy one when they were done, but were not allowed to. They belonged to the Hamm's Brewery Co. I later learned that only the best painters were picked to paint the bears, and Grandma was really proud of me for being one of the chosen.

The last workers hired in 1956 were the first to be laid off in 1957. I only worked there nine months, but I did get to paint a lot of dinnerware patterns. I bought a lot of Red Wing pieces and I sure enjoyed my job. And I'm still married to that guy who I got engaged to on graduation day back in 1956. Lloyd and I celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 29, 2007, and we enjoy the small collection of Red Wing we have displayed in our home in Lake City. ■

Special thanks to Carol's longtime friend, RWCS member Elvira Sigmund, for encouraging Carol to write this article and make it available to RWCS.



(Upper left) Carol Betcher started working at the Red Wing Potteries after graduating from high school in 1956. Carol's grandmother, Emily Carstens, worked at the Red Wing Potteries for about 20 years before retiring in 1960. (Above right & bottom left) Shown are the one-of-a-kind vase and plate that Carol has on display at the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation Museum that her grandmother painted during her lunch hour. (Lower right) Although not painted by her grandmother, Carol also has this lunch-hour Pegasus on loan to the RWCS Foundation Museum. (Opposite page) This black & white photo, which hangs in the RWCS Foundation Museum, illustrates painters sitting along a conveyor belt at the Pottery.



THE MADISON DAIRY PRODUCE CO.



MAKERS OF

RED ROSE BUTTER

STORY BY JEFF AND SUE JONES TAGLIAPIETRA

There's long been speculation among Red Wing collectors over the origination of butter crocks with advertising for Red Rose Butter and the Madison Dairy Produce Company. First, they have the physical characteristics of Red Wing, but were never signed. Second, which "Madison" were they advertising for?

Luckily, we picked up a 20 lb. Red Rose butter crock at the MidWinter auction a couple years ago with the "20 lbs." block stamp that matches the 20 lb. butter crocks that have large and small wings, proving they were indeed made by Red Wing. And living in Wisconsin's capital city, we were always hopeful that they were from our hometown of Madison, Wis. However, eight other Midwestern states contain a Madison, with South Dakota, Nebraska and Minnesota being strong contenders.

After all the looking we did, it's somewhat ironic that the answer would come during an eye exam a couple of years ago, when I discussed the Red Wing stoneware collection Sue and I have with my longtime optometrist, Tom Steinhauer. Upon mentioning our Red Rose advertising crock (purchased from Larry's Jugs many years ago), Tom said, "That was my family's business." So, the next thing to do was to meet Tom's father, Fritz Steinhauer, to learn more about the history.

We arrived at the Steinhauers' west side Madison residence slightly after 10 o'clock on a Monday morning. Fritz seemed to be happy to talk about the Madison Dairy Produce Company and its relationship with the butter crocks. We had brought with us both the 10 and 20 lb. crocks with the Red Rose Butter advertising, and we noticed right away that Fritz and his wife Nancy had a 10-pounder in their kitchen with a dried flower arrangement in it. You know how we Red Wing collectors can spot pieces from a mile away!

Fritz was quite surprised to see the 20 lb. butter as I pulled it out of the box. He couldn't remember ever seeing one like it.

Steinhauer Creameries began churning butter in Cottage Grove, Wis. in 1906. The company later moved to Madison and changed its name to Madison Dairy Produce Company, first residing in a triangular building on King Street – just off the Capitol Square. In 1928, it moved to its current location on East Washington Ave. Production continues today and local shoppers can purchase Red Rose Butter in 1 lb. blocks with paper labels at Woodman's Supermarket. The company was operated by the Steinhauer family until 2001, when it was sold to Land O'Lakes. Fritz was the last Steinhauer president.



Fritz talked about his uncle, Fred Steinhauer, who was one of the company salesmen in the 1930s and 40s. He lived in Milwaukee and sold Red Rose Butter door-to-door. Fritz remembered butter also being sold in much smaller crocks back then, maybe 5 lb. tubs. The butter sold for about 30-cents a pound at the time, a significant difference than today's price. Madison Dairy Produce Company sold their butter to A&P Grocery Stores as a primary vendor, but sold to others as well.

Fritz recalled that there were many of the 10 lb. advertising butter crocks stored away in the attic at the current East Washington Ave. location as late as the 1970s. Sometime later, the crocks were gone and he didn't know what happened to them. Possibly employees took them, but who really knows?

Fritz couldn't remember who made the butter crocks for the company. I hoped to find an entry in the ledger recently published by the RWCS Foundation, but it's not in there. Fortunately, our 20 lb. butter crock is all the proof that's needed.

Fritz said his grandfather was about 30 years old when he started the company, but he doesn't know how the name Madison Dairy Produce Company or Red Rose Butter was chosen. He began working at the company after college in 1952 and recalls farmers bringing their cream directly to the production facility until the USDA put a stop to it in the 1950s. As you might guess, farmers were not always cleanly dressed when entering the factory – an apparent problem for government regulators.

This story wouldn't be complete if we didn't share some interesting information about the Steinhauer family. Before going into the family business in 1952, Fritz decided to forego a tryout with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams. He had played football at a small college in Iowa, and in 1951 and the Rams invited him to try out for the team! He must have passed down his athleticism though, because his daughter is LPGA golfer Sherri Steinhauer.

Since we enjoy the historic appeal of Red Wing Stoneware so much, we're glad that we were able to find a tie between Red Wing and our hometown of Madison, Wis. ■



INSURING & INVENTORYING YOUR COLLECTION

Article by Rick Natynski

The wildfires that scorched parts of the West Coast this fall serve as a timely reminder that some disasters can not be prevented. While some areas of the country are more prone to natural disasters than others, fires and severe storms can hit anywhere. If one happens to you, your attention will likely turn to your possessions once your family is out of harm's way. Your new flat screen TV can be replaced, but as any Red Wing collector will tell you, some pieces can not. That's why you need to determine if you're adequately insured.

Most people assume that if they have a homeowner's policy or renter's insurance that covers personal property, their collection must be covered. Unfortunately, this isn't necessarily the case.

"Your homeowner's policy provides coverage for personal property for the most part on a replacement cost loss settlement," explains RWCS member Bob Kubes, an agent with the Musty-Barnhart Insurance Agency, which insures the Red Wing Collectors Society. "Does this mean they will replace your pottery? Yes. Does it mean you will receive what it is worth? Probably not."

The replacement cost coverage gives you new for old, Bob says. In other words, it will replace your piece of stoneware, dinnerware or art pottery with a new one. Therefore, you could go to a store that sells new pottery, price out a new piece that is similar to the one that was damaged or stolen, and that's what the insurance company will pay for, minus your deductible, Bob says.

So basically, if your 2 gallon Red Wing water cooler from the 1920s valued at thousands of dollars is damaged in a storm, a conventional policy would pay for a replacement from the Red Wing Stoneware Company that's in existence today. Those coolers usually run between \$100 and \$150 or so.

Also, your personal property limit is for all of your personal property, Bob adds. So if you have a substantial collection, you might not have anywhere near enough coverage. As if that isn't bad enough news, Bob says many homeowner policies don't cover breakage.

The good news is that you're reading this article and you can take the steps necessary to avoid this disappointment. First, call your agent and confirm what coverage you have, and find out what you need to do to have your collection properly insured. Get a ballpark of what it will cost, and if you don't like the numbers, shop around for the best price.

If you're working with Musty-Barnhart, Bob says the best way to protect your investment is to schedule your collection on an inland marine form. This allows you to have your collection covered for what it is worth. Most are also available with little or no deductible.

"All you need to do is provide the company with appraisals or documentation of the value of the piece, and that is what it will be insured for," Bob advises. "Most importantly would be to pay the additional cost to have

breakage included as a covered cause of loss."

Whether you have your collection insured or not, documenting it is important because it helps you keep track of what you have, what you paid and what it's worth. You're also helping your loved ones who will inherit your collection if you die unexpectedly. If your spouse, kids or relatives aren't collectors, the last thing you want is for them to unknowingly sell the collection off for peanuts when you're gone. Longtime Red Wing collecting guru Larry Peterson says that from his talks with fellow collectors, the pressure involved in creating a perfect inventory often keeps them from doing it altogether. However, it doesn't have to be that way.

"I think the thing that keeps people from properly inventorying their collection is that they think they need to do it perfectly and they need to do it all at once," Larry says. "Instead, this is something that you can do in pieces. You're better off with a partially complete inventory than not having any inventory at all."

First, it's good to have photos of your collection, even if your insurance company doesn't require them. In today's digital age, you can start by simply spending a half hour photographing your collection with a digital camera, and a few minutes transferring the files to your computer. While you're at it, copy your inventory to a CD and keep a backup copy for yourself and put one in a safety deposit box or leave it with a friend or relative. Keeping your inventory off premises is important, because if your home and collection sustains damage or theft, there's a chance your computer could also be impacted and your inventory could be lost.

To go one step further, you can also video tape your collection. And if you don't have a digital camera, computer or camcorder, you can ask someone to help you, or just use a film camera and have doubles printed.

The next step is to record a list of your inventory, which should include price paid, estimated value and condition of every piece. Typing up a list on your computer makes copying and updating it simple, but if you don't use a computer, a hand-written copy fulfills the same purpose. Either way, include this list with the photos that you've stored in a different location.

Don't forget to update your inventory when you acquire new pieces and notify your insurance agent. With nice collections routinely reaching six figures these days when sold at auction, Larry recommends updating the value of your collection every one to three years.

"I always say that if I only get back the money that I've put into collecting Red Wing, it would still be the best investment that I've ever made because of the great friendships I've built and all of the fun I've had," Larry says. "Being properly insured can protect that investment and provide great peace-of-mind."

Contact Bob Kubes at BOB@MUSTYBARNHART.COM or 651-388-7128 for more information.

CHAPTER EVENTS



Trails West Chapter

The Trails West Chapter's Oct. 27 meeting was held at the home of Earl and Beth Humphreys in Excelsior Springs, Mo. A terrific Show & Tell was followed by Larry Birks' talk about a recent visit to the Red Wing dump. The group then toured the Excelsior Springs Museum and Hall of Waters.

The chapter's next meeting will be held at MidWinter in Des Moines, and the spring meeting will be held at the home of Larry and Kay Salisbury in Melvern, Kan.

Southwest Redwingers

The Southwest Redwingers held their Dec. 15 meeting at Union Hills Country Club in Sun City, Ariz. The chapter's next meeting is slated for 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28 at the home of Kirk and Greta Hoersman, 9006 West Escuda Drive, Peoria, Ariz. Call 623-322-9966 for more information. Visitors are welcome!

Nebraska Redwingers

The Nebraska Redwingers held their Dec. 9 meeting at the home of Rex and Pat Lucke in Elkhorn, Neb. where they reviewed the Nebraska advertising items found in the Red Wing Pottery Ledger. Contact Steve Splittgerber at 402-770-7600 or RSPLITTGER@HOTMAIL.COM for information about the chapter's next meeting.

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

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads to:
Rick Natynski
General Delivery: USPS
13425 Watertown Plank Road
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

Dollen Art Pottery Collection, coming to eBay September 2007. Featuring the actual Red Wing Art Pottery that was photographed and used in B.L. Dollen books, Red Wing Art Pottery, Red Wing Art Pottery Book II, and Encyclopedia of Red Wing Art Pottery. Go to BLDOLLEN.COM. This will take you to our Web site, which will have an Auction Event link to eBay listing Red Wing pieces. Go to the Web site for more details and register to be notified of future event pieces. BLDOLLEN.COM 12/07

Original RWUSCO Spongware pitcher with Hull, Iowa advertising in excellent condition. No repairs. We have another identical pitcher that is cracked. Also a 10-inch Cherryband pitcher in excellent condition. Call 712-472-2187.

Commemoratives mint in box: 1990, \$110; 1994, \$100; 1995, \$90; 1999, \$90; 2000, \$90; 2002, \$85; 2004, \$85; 2005, \$85; 2006, \$90. RWCS Newsletters 1987 to 2001, fine condition, \$50. Waconda 5 gal jug, Union Stoneware, mint. Call 320-382-6173. 12/07

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

2 gal Great Falls, Montana jug, \$260; 5 gal Billings, Montana ball-lock jar, \$750; 1/2 gal dome top fruit jar, \$2,600; 20 lbs. wing butter crock, \$950. Call Sid at 701-749-2586.

Red Wing 2 gal bar-handled, blue-banded petal water cooler lid. MINT \$1200.00 Call 402-331-4749.

200 pieces of stoneware, 90% Red Wing. Shop our 3 floors of antiques & collectibles. Stoneware includes crocks, waterers, pitchers, churns and much more. Cabin Antiques, 141 South Penn, Oberlin, Kansas (located at the crossroads of Highways 83 & 36). 7 shops to browse. Call 785-475-2311, (home 785-475-2615) or e-mail CHARBOWEN@SPCGLOBAL.NET 2/08

Stoneware Wax sealer jar with "Utah Liquor Co. Family Store, 223 Main St., Salt Lake City, Utah. Return this jar and get 10 cents cash" adv. Bottom signed "Minn. S. Co. Red Wing, Minn." Very good condition, no cracks. Will sell to the highest offer. Call Ken at 641-777-7276.



Yellow teapot #260 (lady in dress) excellent cond, asking \$150. Dishes: Normandy, Lotus and Ardennes. E-mail BEEGEEBAG@YAHOO.COM for pics and pricing.

5 gal packing jar with original lid & handle, small tight hairline, UPSIDE DOWN OVAL! \$550 OBO; 4 gal churn, large wing, tight hairline, no lid; 4 gal salt glaze beehive jug, chip. Call 715-748-3631 or e-mail CSTOERZI@CHARTER.NET for more information.

Commemoratives – mint condition: 1981 (one), 1984 (two), and 1985 through 2004 (one each year). \$3,500 for all 23 or best offer. Call 651-388-8150 after 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or anytime Saturday and Sunday. Please leave message.

Half gal stone Mason fruit jar, blue label, zinc lid, perfect condition. Pat date 1899, \$250. Call Bev at 541-881-1102.

Commemoratives – all in excellent condition. 1980 Spongware bowl, \$800; 1981 brown top jug, \$500; 1982 cherry band mug, \$450; 1983 Mason fruit jar, \$400; 1984 salt glaze cooler, \$325; 1985 ice water cooler, \$275; 1986 acid-proof measure, \$150; 1987 Red Wing ashtray, \$125; 1988 Pompeii plate, \$60; 1989 greyline pitcher, \$175. Call 952-446-9662.

RED WING WANTED

Wanted, 40, 50 & 60 gallon crocks and 4 gal beehive jug. E-mail photos to RWALLING1@COX.NET or call 480-275-4556. 12/07

Wanted, 3 gal pantry jar lid, #10 pantry jar with lid, Saffron cookie jar lid. Call Donna at 605-793-2449 evenings.

Wanted, brown top wing jugs, all sizes; 3 gal 4-inch wing ball-lock jar; 2 gal brown top ball-lock jar; 5 gal wing churn; fruit jars of all sizes. Call Sid at 701-749-2586.

AUCTIONS

6th Annual Stoneware & Pottery Auction - Sunday, March 2, 2008 at 12:30 p.m. at Storden School City Center - Storden, MN. 300+ pieces. Croatt Auction Service, John Croatt. Call 507-445-3475 or 507-830-1984 or visit WWW.MIDWESTAUCTIONS.COM for more information. 2/08

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. 12/07

2006 values for Red Wing Stoneware and 2007/2008 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. 12/07

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

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
Green Town & Country creamer	Albert Lea, Minn.	8/07	Auction	\$2. ⁵⁰
1 gallon Ruppe & Sons...Hancock, Mich adv jug (lip and handle chips)	Calumet, Mich.	9/07	Antique Shop	\$600. ⁰⁰
6 gallon 4-inch wing churn, complete w/bail handles (base chip)	St. Ignace, Mich.	9/07	Antique Shop	\$250. ⁰⁰
5 gal beehive jug with 11-inch leaf	Asheville, NC	9/07	Auction	\$300. ⁰⁰
RW "Fruit" salt & pepper shaker pair	Ft. Worth, Tex.	10/07	Antique shop	\$6. ⁰⁸
Kermis 10-inch salad bowl, mint		10/07	eBay	\$118. ²⁶
RW 3-4 gal churn lid, mint	Fairmont, Minn.	11/07	Auction	\$35. ⁰⁰



RED WING STONEWARE MIDWINTER

AUCTION

Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008 – 6 PM

HOLIDAY INN & SUITES – DES MOINES, IA

Salt glaze: 20 gal primitive upturned leaf, 20 gal primitive butterfly, 12 gal leaf crock - front marked with MN split oval. Many salt glaze butter churns & crocks - all sizes. Zinc: 40 gal 6-inch wing crock, 5 gal double-handled jug, 4-5-6 gal hand-turned ice water coolers, ice tea coolers, water coolers, Koverwates, butter churns, Elephant Ear crocks all sizes, shoulder jugs, Ft. Dodge Stoneware crocks. Advertising: Menning & Slatter Table Relish jug, complete set of RW fruit jars, 2-5 gal Waconda Water jugs, butter tubs, complete set of sponge-ware panel bowls (most w/adv), 4 gal Albany butter churn signed J.M. Carlisle IA (rare), RWCS Commemoratives 1977-2001, RW beater jars and pitchers, Colonial items, including two custards, plus much more!



Catalogs available after Jan. 1 at \$5.00 each. See Web site for photos.

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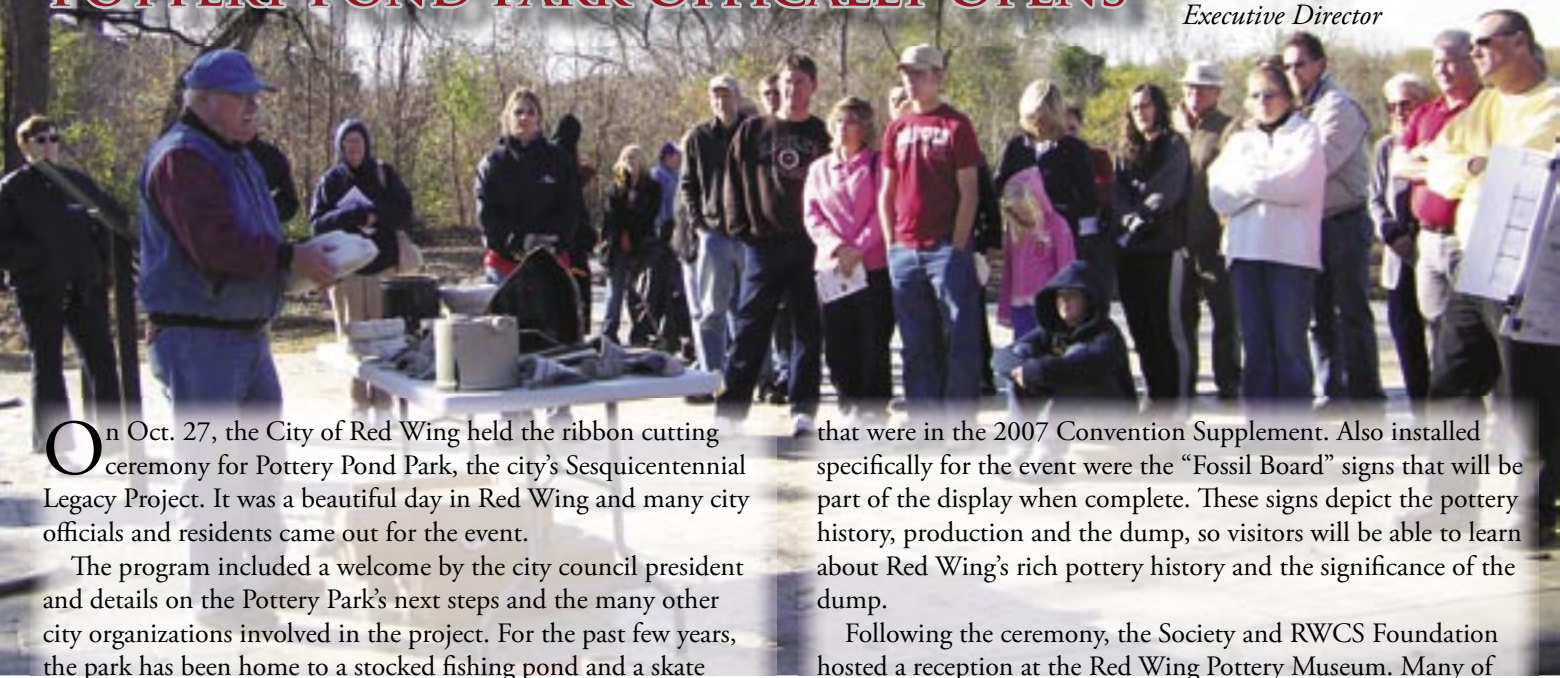
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POTTERY POND PARK OFFICALLY OPENS

Story by Stacy Wegner, RWCS
Executive Director



On Oct. 27, the City of Red Wing held the ribbon cutting ceremony for Pottery Pond Park, the city's Sesquicentennial Legacy Project. It was a beautiful day in Red Wing and many city officials and residents came out for the event.

The program included a welcome by the city council president and details on the Pottery Park's next steps and the many other city organizations involved in the project. For the past few years, the park has been home to a stocked fishing pond and a skate park that opened a few years ago. The addition of the interpretive Pottery Walk is a welcome addition for the 150th Celebration.

To celebrate the addition of the Pottery Walk, Scott Gilmer discussed today's pottery industry and RWCS Foundation Board members Dave and Diane Hallstrom talked about the significance of the location. Since this first phase of the walk focused on preserving the old pottery dump, RWCS member Steve Showers gave a presentation about his 25+ years of experience digging in the dump and some of his interesting finds (photo above). Steve answered many questions following his presentation.

To help people visualize what the park will look like when it is complete, City Planner Brian Peterson displayed the drawings

that were in the 2007 Convention Supplement. Also installed specifically for the event were the "Fossil Board" signs that will be part of the display when complete. These signs depict the pottery history, production and the dump, so visitors will be able to learn about Red Wing's rich pottery history and the significance of the dump.

Following the ceremony, the Society and RWCS Foundation hosted a reception at the Red Wing Pottery Museum. Many of the guests who attended the program at the park came to the museum for tours, hot cider and snacks. The business office had the RWCS table-top display set up with membership information and both Katie and I were on hand to answer questions. All-in-all, it was a wonderful day and a great event for us to be a part of!

With the significant amount of rain the previous two months, the shelter and benches have been delayed, but should be completed by the end of 2007. Once everything is complete, the business office is planning to move the RWCS Convention Picnic to Pottery Park in 2008. To learn more about the Pottery Park, visit the RWCS Web site and check out the 2007 Convention Supplement PDF on the resource page.

COMING IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE...



YOUNG COLLECTOR PROFILE



THE MAN BEHIND TWO COMMEMORATIVES