

CREATING THE 1978 COMMEMORATIVE Pages 8 & 9

#### RWCS CONTACTS

#### RWCS BUSINESS OFFICE

PO Box 50 • 2000 Old West Main St. • Suite 300 Pottery Place Mall • Red Wing, MN 55066-0050 651-388-4004 or 800-977-7927 • Fax: 651-388-4042 BUSINESS/CONVENTION MANAGER: STACY WEGNER RWCS1@REDWING.NET

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: LORI ANDERSON RWCSMEM@REDWING.NET

Web site: www.redwingcollectors.org

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: SUE JONES TAGLIAPIETRA 2219 Lakeland Ave. • Madison, WI 53704-5636 608-241-3072 • RWCSSJT@YAHOO.COM

VICE PRESIDENT: JOLENE McKOON 3124 4th St., Unit 8 • Moline, IL 61265 309-797-3894 • JMCKOON@ATT.NET

SECRETARY: PAULETTE FLOYD 208 E. Somonauk • Yorkville, IL 60560 630-553-9234 • PJFLOYD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

TREASURER: MARK COLLINS 7312 Lake St. • Omaha, NE 68134 605-351-1700 • MARKCOLLINS@COX.NET

HISTORIAN: STEVE BROWN 1816 Sakenda Rd. • Buffalo, MN 55313 763-684-2400 (after 5 p.m.) • BIGPAWS@CHARTER.NET

REPRESENTATIVE AT LARGE: RUSSA ROBINSON 1970 Bowman Rd. • Stockton, CA 95206 209-463-5179 • RRUSSA@AOL.COM

REPRESENTATIVE AT LARGE: JERRY ERDMANN W15416 Fair-Morr Rd. • Tigerton, WI 54486 715-535-2094 • JJERD@FRONTIERNET.NET

Auction Manager: JEFF FLOYD 208 E. Somonauk • Yorkville, IL 60560 630-553-9234 • PJFLOYD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Co-Commemorative Managers: JOHN TREMBLE 942 Becky Circle • Hudson, WI 54016-7509 715-381-0006 • RWCSCOMMEMORATIVE@HOTMAIL.COM

#### MATT HUEPFEL

RWCSCOMMEMORATIVE@HOTMAIL.COM

Interim Education Manager: TERRY SPEEDY 5079 S. Seymour Rd. • Swartz Creek, MI 48473 810-938-3228 • Thespeedys@tcwireless.us

JULY CONVENTION SUPPORT PERSONNEL:
Pre-registration – DONNA & CHUCK HANSON
Show & Sale – CINDY & PETE MAY
423-639-2477 • RW3PCMAY@EARTHLINK.NET
Display Room – JULIE & GLENN BEALL
712-644-2256 • GBEALL@LOGANET.NET



Page 3	News Briefs, About the Cover
Page 4	2007 Convention Information
Page 5	Roger Hildebrand - 1940-2006
Page 6	THE STORY OF SEMON'S FAIR STORE
Page 8	THE JUG: CREATING THE 1978 RWCS COMMEMORATIVE
Page 10	RWCS Financial Review
Page 11	A Water Cooler Once Lost, but now Found
Page 12	2007 Convention Information
Page 14	Classifieds
Page 15	RECENT FINDS & DEALS
Page 16	RWCS Foundation News, Who Made this Crock?

#### 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

RICK NATYNSKI GENERAL DELIVERY: USPS • 13425 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD ELM GROVE, WI 53122-9998

RWCSNEWSLETTER@WI.RR.COM 414-416-WING (9464)

The Red Wing Collectors Society, Inc. Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Red Wing Collectors Society, Inc. Suite 300 • 2000 West Main Street Red Wing, MN 55066.

Phone: 651-388-4004 Fax: 651-388-4042

WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG

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

Copyright © 2006 by the Red Wing Collectors Society, Inc. All rights reserved. The Red Wing Collectors Society, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of articles submitted by individual members.

# NEWS BRIEFS

#### THE 30TH RWCS CONVENTION: JULY 11-14

There are many ways for members to get involved this Convention in celebrating our 30th Anniversary!

Member Photo Display: The RWCS Business Office is requesting that members send a picture of their personal displays or collections to hang at Convention. These pictures will be placed in a collage and won't be identified with your personal information. This will be a great opportunity to share your collection with the membership. All pictures will be returned after Convention.

Chapter Story Boards: Calling all chapters to create a small display! We'd like the chapters to use a cardboard project display board to tell their stories at the 30th Convention by providing pictures, newsletters, meeting information and details on your activities. This will be displayed in the locker area near each chapter's banner. The business office will store them and they will be used anually.

Volunteer: In addition to all the normal areas that need volunteers (Auction, Show & Sale, Registration, Display, KidsView and Education), we need help with the activities of the 30th Anniversary. Interested persons can contact Bonnie Myers at BMYERS5@CHARTER.NET or 507-454-5320.

30 gallon crocks: The 30th Anniversary committee is also looking for 30



gallon crocks for a project. We would like to borrow your crock for the Convention in July; condition is not critical. If you have a 30 gallon zinc or salt glaze that you would be willing to bring to Convention for the committee to display, please reach Bonnie Myers at the contact information above. We need 30 of these 30 gallon crocks, so we will need lots of help to make this happen.

#### Online Membership Service is Successful

Por the first time, RWCS members where able to register online for the MidWinter GetTogether. More than 20 percent of you pre-registered via the RWCS Web site, which is great considering it was the first time this service was available! We appreciate the patience of all who worked with us through the changeover and helped us test it before it went live.

This convenient way to register will be available for the July Convention on April 1st! You will be able to visit the RWCS Web site at www.redwingcollectors. org to register for Convention, order a commemorative, buy banquet and picnic tickets and as always, renew your membership.

#### E-MAIL ADDRESSES WANTED

When sending in registration forms or membership renewals, please include your e-mail address. The RWCS Business Office will only use your e-mail address to inform you about your membership status, send a receipt for your registrations or contact you in the event of a special announcement that is urgent and cannot wait for the next newsletter. You can submit your e-mail address at anytime by e-mailing rwcsmem@redwing.net calling the office. Please include your name and membership number.

The business office will not, under any circumstances, release your contact information or e-mail address to anyone. We understand and are committed to your privacy.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR QUILT RAFFLE TICKET SALES

The quilt initiated by the Trails West Chapter's Quilt Project will be raffled off during the 30th Convention and all proceeds will benefit the RWCS Foundation. The RWCS Business Office is looking for each chapter to find a few volunteers to help sell the raffle tickets throughout Convention. The business office will provide a table and signage at the Convention, along with tickets and start-up dollars. All chapters are encouraged to reach out to their members and ask for volunteers at upcoming meetings. Please contact Harley Thompson from the Golden State Chapter at hatcrtthom@aol.com to sign up for dates and times.



# ABOUT THE COVER

Peace, Dude." We might never know what the Red Wing Pottery employee who decorated this plate was thinking, but hey, what an employee does on their lunch hour is their own business. They certainly took some creative liberty with this plate.

This particular lunch hour piece sold on eBay for more than \$1,300 back in December. It was owned by Rollie Seager, who worked at the Pottery in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

While this exact design may be one-of-a-kind, turn to page 190 of Ray Reiss's *Red Wing Art Pottery II* and you'll see six more decorated white-glazed Hearthstone plates. One of them

is another "Flower Child" plate and another is decorated with "LSD Life, Sex, Death." Later this year, we'll feature photos and the background behind eight more plates from this strange, but cool series of Red Wing Lunch Hour plates.



#### RWCS NEWS



STACY
WEGNER

Business &
Convention Manager

I hope all Red Wing Collectors Society members had a wonderful holiday season and are excited for all that 2007 has in store. This year will mark the 30th Anniversary of the RWCS, the 40th Anniversary of the closing of the Red Wing Pottery and the City of Red Wing will celebrate it Sesquicentennial, as well. In addition to all these exciting events, my husband Luke and I are expecting our first child in April!

The City of Red Wing will kick off the Sesquicentennial on March 4 with a birthday celebration at the Sheldon. There are two weekends of celebration also planed for June 15 & 16 and June 29 & 30. Check out the city's Web site at www.red-wing.org to learn more about this once in a lifetime event!

The RWCS is getting involved in the celebration through the Pottery Park Project as well as our article series in the *Red Wing Republican Eagle*. I am still looking for authors to write a short article (at most 700 words) on dinnerware, art pottery and the odds and ends of Red Wing. If you are interested, please contact me at RWCSI@REDWING.NET or 800-977-7927.

As mentioned in the December issue, the Red Wing Retro exhibit at the Minnesota History Center has been extended until April 8. In addition to this great news, the museum will hold Red Wing Retro Family Day on Sunday, March 11. Special activities will include a lecture series, a book-signing by Ray Reiss, a plate painting for kids and a few of our members will be available to offer estimated values on pieces brought onsite. On March 11, all RWCS members that identify themselves will receive discounted admission of \$4 instead of the normal \$8 for the exhibit and activities. Hope to see you there!



#### 2007 CONVENTION AUCTION

A uction time is coming! The 2007 Convention will be here soon. Enclosed are the forms for this summer's Convention Auction. If you have never consigned a piece before, it's as simple as filling out an entry form. You have until May 15 to get your submission postmarked. Please read the Auction Guidelines sheet before filling out the form, as it gives all the background information. As with last year's Auction, we will accept credit cards once again. More than \$20,000 was charged at the Auction in 2006, helping bidders and consigners alike. Please remember that all entries are still subject to the lottery. If you have ANY questions pertaining to the Auction, please call or e-mail me directly. See you in July!

Jeff Floyd, Auction Manager

RWCS Auction consignment rates:

- Items selling up to \$100 will be assessed a \$10 minimum commission.
- \$100 to \$2,499: 10 percent commission.
- \$2,500 to \$9,999: 7.5 percent commission.
- \$10,000 or more: 5 percent commission.

#### 2007 CONVENTION DISPLAY ROOM

If you've been to the RWCS Convention in previous years, you know the volunteer displayers do a marvelous job. Displayers are creative and they have lovely Stoneware, Dinnerware, Art Pottery, Memorabilia, and Rare Items that they share with all who attend the annual event. Chapters often set up a non-competitive display to promote their chapter and show off items from various members' collections.

Have you ever felt just a bit intimidated by an awesome display and said to yourself, "Wow – I could never do that!" This is the year for you to answer yourself, "Yes I can!" For this 30th Convention, displays will be no more than 10 feet in length. Six- or 8-foot tables can be available upon request for your use, or you can bring your own.

Each displayer who sets up each Regular or Non-Competitive Display will receive one regular commemorative as a thank-you for volunteering to display. (This does not include Rare Items.) Regular Displays will be judged for Best-of-Show and People's Choice Awards. Rare Items will be judged for the Dennis Yaeggi Rare Item Award by People's Choice. Winners of these awards will be announced at the Business Meeting and will receive a special commemorative. Any member who is registered for the Convention is eligible to vote for People's Choice. A team of judges votes for Best-of-Show using criteria such as quality of pieces, representation and relation of types of pieces, educational value including written material and related props that enhance the display. Chapter Displays are non-competitive and therefore ineligible to win a special commemorative.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about becoming a displayer or volunteer in the 2007 Convention Display Room, please contact us.

Glenn & Julie Ellen Beall, Display Room Chairs 215 W. 7th St.; Logan, IA 51546-1221 (712) 644-2256 GBEALL@LOGANET.NET



# Trecord from a reserving

Setting a record: Roger Hildebrand and wife Rachel were featured in the February 2005 Red Wing Collectors Society Newsletter after buying a 10 gallon butterfly churn at auction for \$29,000.

going to Convention and MidWinter and all the friendships he formed over the years."

Shortly after the couple married in 1968, Roger started collecting carnival glass and other antiques. That passion grew throughout the years and he continued collecting, although his focus shifted to his work in the 1970s. He and Rachel moved from St. Paul to Pelican Rapids, Minn. in 1972 and they started Hildebrand's Midway of Fun Shows in 1979. The business was good to the couple and they became well-known throughout the Midwest for putting on great carnivals throughout the state of Minnesota between Memorial Day and Labor Day every year. In fact, Roger was the first person to serve two full terms as president of the Midwest Showmen's Association - an organization devoted to the interests of carnival ride companies, fairs, concession operators and other outdoor amusement professionals. He was also named most valuable member of the Association in 1980, and Showman of the Year in 1983.

Eventually the business became a family affair when Roger and Rachel's twin daughters, Michelle and Melissa, began to help out.

# ROGER HILDEBRAND

1940 - 2006

erhaps the only thing that personified Roger Hildebrand as much as his deep, booming voice, trademark smile, keen business sense and love for his family was his passion for Red Wing Stoneware.

Roger's unexpected passing on Dec. 30 brought sadness to family and many friends, a good deal of whom he met through his participation in the Red Wing Collectors Society.

"The gene for collecting was much stronger in Roger than it is in me," says Roger's wife, Rachel. "He loved the challenge of the hunt for that piece that no one else had. He collected things like rocks, stamps and coins since he was a boy...it had always been a part of his personality.

"He always felt the Red Wing Collectors Society was a special organization," she adds. "He loved the people, the buying and selling,

The Hildebrands sold the carnival branch of the business in 1992 and although they retained the concessions operation, they had a lot more time on their hands. That's when Roger turned his focus back to collecting antiques - especially Red Wing.

"When Roger found out about a piece he had to have, there were times he would hop in the car that day to get it," Rachel says. "We went as far south as Santa Fe, New Mexico to buy a piece and as far north as Dauphin, Manitoba in Canada. It was so much fun."

Roger made news across the Red Wing Collectors Society a couple years ago when he set what is believed to be a record price for a piece of Red Wing sold at public auction, paying \$29,000 for a 10 gallon salt glaze butterfly churn back-stamped "Red Wing Stoneware Company." While some spouses might not have been supportive of such a purchase, Rachel couldn't have been happier.

"Whenever he went after a piece, it was fine by me," Rachel explains. "The way I looked at it was that we worked very hard during our lives to build and maintain a successful business. We earned the opportunity to enjoy ourselves and collecting Red Wing was a good part of his life that made Roger really happy."

The only thing he enjoyed more than the artistry of the handdrawn cobalt decorations found on Red Wing salt glaze was a hard-to-find butter crock with clear, crisp advertising.

"Roger and I always had a good-natured feud about who was the king of advertising butter crocks," explains longtime collector Jim Stiller. "We would always go back and forth when one of us would find a piece that the other one didn't have. We'd each act like we were mad at one another, but it was always in good fun."

The two became friends shortly after Roger first visited Jim's shop, Excelsior Coins & Collectibles, in the early 1990s.

"One of my favorite memories of Roger was when we were bidding against each other on a butter crock at the MidWinter

auction a few years ago," Jim says. "My limit was \$1,500, but I ended up going up to \$2,000 and Roger still got it. I remember sticking my tongue out at him and everyone in the place cracked up. That was the kind of relationship we had - competitive, but light-

"It's going to be rough for me, because that competition won't be there anymore," he concludes. "That made collecting a lot of fun for the both of us, and I know Roger would agree. He was a good man and we'll miss him dearly." ■



One of a kind: Roger bought this 2 gallon salt glaze leaf churn, the only one known to exist, when Rachel found it while the couple was out antiquing a couple of years ago.

# THE STORY OF SEMMONS FAIR STORE









A kitchen staple: Semon's Fair Store bowls, bean pots, beater jars and refrigerator jars like these were popular in the 1920s and '30s among Athens, Wis. housewives.

"an you answer some questions about a Semon store mixing bowl?" asked my local Menomonee Falls librarian.

"Semon mixing bowl? Who wants to know?"

"I'm holding an inquiry from a lady in Wausau. She has a whole list of questions about a bowl identified as Semon's Store, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin."

Strange world, antiques. What was once given away free is now a precious collectible. I'm a Semon and I don't own one, neither does my brother or sister. However, about ten years ago, a friend mentioned he had seen a Semon mixing bowl on the south side of Milwaukee. Asking price, \$40. We never pursued it. Another friend called last fall to inquire if we were interested in making a silent bid on a Semon bowl coming up in an auction.

"What would be a reasonable price," my wife asked. "Maybe \$50?" "Oh no," her friend was horrified, "More like \$200."

My father would never have believed it. He migrated to Wisconsin from Vitebsk, Russia in 1913 at age 19. His father died when my dad was 12 or 13 and in 6th grade. The family, mother and four boys, was left destitute. My father was forced to leave school to earn money.

What could a barely teenage boy do in an already poverty stricken economy? At first, he helped his mother make a kind of cheese which she sold at an open air market, then worked for a cattle dealer and butcher. He learned early how to buy, sell and handle money; the beginning of a mercantile career.

At age 19, following an older brother, he had saved enough to purchase passage out of Czarist Russia, pay bribes to border officials and escape conscription in an anti-Semitic army which sentenced young Jews to 25-year enlistments.

Finding work in Wisconsin was never a problem. He painted chairs in Sheboygan for a dollar a day, formed a partnership with a friend to paint houses and bought and sold potatoes, wool and animal hides. He was strong, industrious, willing to learn. In 1917 he joined the Army. At the time a voluntary enlistment meant instant United States citizenship. His former life in Russia was left behind. He would never see his mother or two younger brothers again.

Assigned to Camp Grant in Rockford, Ill, he was put in charge of running the post exchange. He held the post into 1919, well after the war ended.

He returned to northern Wisconsin and opened a store in Milan with his brother. The partnership lasted a year. A second partnership with Peter Bootzin endured for more than 20 years. They weren't business partners, rather they used their association to buy merchandise in quantity and that is how the mixing bowl giveaway got started.

Their businesses were called general stores because generally a buyer could find most anything they wanted or needed. Merchants established very close relationships with customers and at Christmas gave their patrons a gift. Not content to merely give a calendar, they purchased and gave away large clay kitchen bowls inscribed with the store name from the Red Wing Stoneware Company in Minnesota. Red Wing pottery was famous. The 10- inch wide mixing bowls complete with name and advertisement made an inexpensive and wonderful sales incentive. Every time a housewife baked, there it was. "Semon's Fair Store – Sells More for Less – Athens, Wisconsin."

Together each year, my dad and Mr. Bootzen purchased an entire carload of bowls, sharing it half and half. Carload meaning railway boxcar. Thousands of bowls were given away over a period of years. When the Athens store was sold in 1939 and a new one opened in Menomonee Falls in 1940, the practice was continued, but for only a year. The lady in Wausau evidently had found a rare Menomonee Falls Semon bowl and wished to establish a provenance.

Red Wing Pottery closed in the 1960s. Sales incentives like yardsticks, calendars and white painting caps may still be sought after, but Semon bowls have become a prized possession. A classmate from grade school, Dorothy Darkow, wrote happily to a friend, after reading a vignette I had written of my early life in Athens, that she "has a Semon bowl."

Maybe one of these days, I'll search the antique shops of north and central Wisconsin and find one. They aren't cheap, not any more. But, I think it right and proper that someone in the Semon family should once again own "a Semon bowl."

P.S. When I originally wrote this piece, I did not own a Semon bowl. Since that time we have acquired three. Just lucky.



**Profitable partnership:** Semon and Bootzin used their partnership to buy larger quantities of merchandise at lower costs. This particular advertising is more desirable because of the reference to Red Wing Flour.



A rare find: This Semon's advertising from Menomonee Falls, which is now a suburb of Milwaukee, is found only on a blue-banded bowl produced by Red Wing in 1940 (bowl pictured at center).





# Looking back at the past 30 years: The Birth of the 1978 RWCS Commemorative By Dave Stagner

It was 1977 and we had been collecting stoneware for 10 years. The other half of "we" is my best friend and wife of 40 years, Ruthie.

Dave and Ruthie – Red Wing stoneware collectors.

We traveled the back roads in search of antique shops, garage sales, flea markets, and auctions. Every crock had to be turned over, knuckle rapped, the surface examined, and the markings discussed. We appreciated the skill that went into making these utilitarian vessels and the intelligence of the design, and the art of the decoration.

Soon we were delving into the history of the stoneware industry in Minnesota. We wanted to know more than the size, color, and

price. We wanted to know about the people who had created this wonderful plethora of products for the nineteenth century consumer. And we wanted to know why the products had changed and what technological innovations had come into play. We were truly smitten.

And we were not alone. There were others following the same paths we were. Some were ahead of us, some behind, and we sought out each other to share our common interest.

1977 saw the beginning of the Red Wing Collector's Society and our first convention on July 9th of that year. It was a friendly get together outside on the grass and under the trees on a beautiful day. No one brought things to sell. We all brought things for show and tell. Ruthie and I had looked through our collection and decided to bring a table of blue and white stoneware. It stopped people in their tracks, but so did every display at the show. Each member's display was different and was more interesting than the last.

It was that day that I knew that the Red Wing Collector's Society was going to be a success. What with the scope and volume of product produced in Red Wing for over 90 years, collectors could specialize in many areas, but they would all have the common denominator of: "It was made in Red Wing".

It wasn't long after that first convention that I decided that a commemorative piece should be made for the next convention to be held in 1978. I felt it should be a handmade stoneware jug. I passed this idea along to some of my collector friends and they all thought it was a good idea and they all had different ideas on what should be made. In general they felt it should be brought up at the next convention and a committee should be formed to decide on all the important questions.

When someone mentioned that they knew an out of state company that could produce the commemorative, I knew I had to do it myself. I had strong feelings that the first commemorative should be completely representative of the early Red Wing stoneware product. It should be a hand turned jug with an applied handle. It should be made in Red Wing by a Red Wing potter. It should have the dark brown glaze of the early Red Wing jugs. And most important, it should be made with clay dug from the original Red Wing clay pits in Goodhue County.

I lived 80 miles from Red Wing. I didn't know if there was a potter in Red Wing. I wasn't a potter. I didn't know how to make a stamp to emboss the jugs. I had no idea where the clay came from for the Red Wing Stoneware Company or how to prepare it. And I didn't have any spare money for this project. All I had was a dream.

First I had to find a potter in Red Wing and that turned out to be easy. I drove to Red Wing and started asking people on the street and in businesses if they knew of a potter in town and within two hours I was knocking on her door. E. Frye was her name and she enthusiastically took on the project. She agreed to turn 300 jugs, apply handles, stamp each on the front and back, glaze and fire them for \$1.50 each. Better yet, she agreed that if I discovered the source of the clay, she would go with me to dig the clay and then

prepare it for use in this project. I had no idea where I was going to get the money, but I gave her a small down payment and told her I would be back with real Red Wing jugs that she could use as examples.

A week later I returned not only with the original Red Wing jugs, but also with the stamps she would use to emboss the jugs. It turned out that the newspaper in Rochester, Minn. still had some old equipment that still worked and that could be used to make lead stamps. They made the two stamps that we needed for six dollars apiece.

The clay was another story. I researched land records and drove back roads for weeks until I found the early clay pits. One Saturday, Frye and I went out and dug about four hundred pounds of raw clay. She had commandeered her children's sand box and lined it with a piece of plastic. The clay had to be softened up under water and be sieved to remove pebbles and sand. She later told me that this was a very difficult backbreaking job.

A few weeks later she produced her first jug. I was eager to see it, she was excited and proud and I was disappointed. It was thinly glazed, the handle was all wrong, the stamps were applied on an angle and it didn't look anything like a Red Wing jug. I did my best to explain why it wasn't what I wanted. The wind was let out of her sails and I almost thought she was going to quit the project, but she held in there and a week later when I came back she had a half dozen that were much better. Still not exactly what I wanted, but I didn't dare complain this time and she was ready to settle down to some serious pot turning.

Later that day I stopped in an antique store in Red Wing. I had been stopping there regularly whenever I came up to Red Wing and we would talk over the progress Frye and I were making on the jugs. This day the owner informed me that she was having a commemorative made also. I said we don't need two this year. Why don't you have it made for next year? And she informed me that there was no problem. There hadn't been a commemorative made for the first convention in 1977 so she was having one made. I wasn't happy about it, but there was nothing I could do about it and so that is how the first commemorative became the second and the second commemorative became the first.

During the weeks leading up to the 1978 Red Wing Collector's Society convention, I drove up to Red Wing several times to check on the progress of the 300 jugs. Progress was steady, but slow and I began to fear that we wouldn't have enough for the day of the convention. They were finally done just one week ahead of time. There were a total of 315, but I declared 40 to be not good enough. I destroyed those 40 with a hammer. Frye was not at all happy about that. She wanted to keep them, but I had paid the agreed price and they were mine.

On the day of the 1978 convention I piled the 275 jugs in boxes without padding in the in the back of my old rusted out, faded red, 1960 Dodge pickup and drove the 80 miles with them to Red Wing. I had been over that highway innumerable times, but I hadn't realized until that day how rough the road was. When I got there people were looking for me and I never got a chance



**Red Wing Partners:** (Above) Dave and Ruthie Stagner peruse stoneware 'a few years back. (Belon) Some of the blue and white stoneware Dave and Ruthie brought to show. Photographs courtesy of Dave and Ruthie Stagner



to unload. I sold them out of the back of the pickup for \$3.50 each. The jugs were all slightly different, as is to be expected when something is handmade. It really was a madhouse around the back of that truck. People were leaning in digging through the jugs, trying to find the best one.

I allowed each member family to buy one and after 1 PM to buy a second one if they wanted to. At the end of the day, I had twenty left and most of those went to members that were not able to attend that day.

Of the \$3.50, \$1.50 went to the potter, \$1.00 was turned over to the Red Wing Collector's Society, and I kept \$1.00 to offset my expenses.

Today I still have one of these jugs. It is the one that I decided was the best one back in the summer of 1978 and I still feel that way today.

Oh! Just in case you are wondering, THE JUG is not for sale.

# RWCS FINANCIAL REVIEW

Your board of directors is committed to the long-term financial stability of our society. One of the ways we do this is to adopt and follow an annual budget.

We want all members to be aware of the society's financial condition. In every February issue of the newsletter, your board furnishes you with a financial summary such as the one shown on this page. A financial status report is also presented at our annual meeting in July. The financial information shown here is the most current information available. You can also receive a complete listing of 2006 expenses by contacting the **RWCS** Business Office.

Mark Collins, Treasurer

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES ALL SOURCES

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DEC. 31, 2006

TOR THE PERIOD ENDED DEC. 31, 2000			
Revenues 12 Mos. Ended 12/31/06			
Advertising	\$186.20		
Auction	145,136.75		
Banquet	2,575.00		
CATALOG SALES	1,469.00		
Commemoratives	77,185.00		
Commemoratives (mailed)	71,945.00		
Convention Banners	925.00		
Donations	45.00		
FACILITIES	525.00		
Interest	15,061.97		
Kids View	888.75		
LOTTERY SALES	26,415.00		
Mailing Fees	21,423.00		
Memberships	107,934.80		
Newsletter Ads	2,544.45		
Picnic	2,932.00		
Pre-Registration	38,873.00		
Registration (walk-in)	8,067.00		
Sellers' Tables	6,840.00		
Tote Bags	557.00		
Total Revenue	\$531,528.92		
Expenditures	\$532,434.87		
NET REVENUES	\$(905.95)		

# RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY – 2007 BUDGET RED WING, MINNESOTA

Revenues	2006 Actual	2006 Budget	2007 Budget
General & Administrative	\$125,772.42	\$121,040.00	\$121,700.00
Convention	53,207.75	53,672.50	73,820.00
Commemorative	196,968.00	211,750.00	211,000.00
Auction	146,605.75	125,900.00	128,500.00
<u>MidWinter</u>	8,975.00	8,450.00	8,600.00
Total Revenues	\$531,528.92	\$520,812.50	\$543,620.00
Expenditures			
Newsletter	\$80,190.18	\$80,200.00	\$79,200.00
General & Administrative	138,570.96	136,485.00	154,953.96
Expense Contingency	0.00	10,000.00	5,000.00
Convention	47,262.53	47,220.50	78,307.28
Commemorative	120,531.44	118,775.00	93,450.00
Auction	134,225.47	116,555.00	119,340.00
MIDWINTER	\$11,654.29	\$9,973.00	\$12,020.00
Total Expenditures	\$532,434.87	\$519,208.50	\$542,271.24
NET REVENUES	\$(905.95)	\$1,604.00	\$1,348.76

# STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES ALL SOURCES

For the Period Ended Dec. 31, 2006

TOR THE PERIOD ENDED	DEC. 31, 2000
Expenditures 12 Mos. En	IDED 12/31/06
Accounting	\$2,640.00
Auctioneer	2,887.20
Badges/Buttons	575.20
Capital Expenditures	1,290.36
COMMEMORATIVES	97,334.44
COMMUNITY EVENTS	50.00
COMPUTER & RENTAL	13.16
CONVENTION BANNERS	
	1,563.95
CONVENTION SUPPLEMENT	3,445.00
Data Entry Service	5,225.14
DISPLAY	9.14
Donations	8,408.22
Dues/Subscriptions	315.00
Education (Staff)	226.50
Education Programs	5,336.99
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	4,560.74
Executive Board	4,911.75
FACILITIES	19,389.74
Full Board	15,235.59
Insurance	11,979.70
Internet/E-mail	580.85
Kids View	1,251.30
Legal Fees	90.00
MAILING BOXES	370.62
MEALS	127.45
MEMBERSHIP COSTS	829.36
Mileage/Travel	1,369.10
Newsletter	79,369.54
Newsletter Travel	820.64
Office Supplies & Misc.	2,955.44
Paid to Owners	129,469.75
PAYROLL TAXES	6,190.13
Petty Cash	694.38
Postage & Shipping	13,123.57
Printing (Commemoratives)	1,293.95
Printing (Convention)	2,816.35
Publicity/Marketing	132.50
REGISTRATION	917.56
Salary (Assistant)	16,218.26
Salary (Business Manager)	32,376.78
Salary (Stipends)	9,975.01
Sample	1,850.97
SECURITY	4,543.50
SHIRTS	4,588.00
SHOW & SALE PRINTING	406.42
SOCIAL EVENT (BANQUET)	2,440.02
SOCIAL EVENT (PICNIC)	3,297.08
SUPPLIES	570.08
TELEPHONE Town Pro	2,917.56
Tour Bus	460.88
Trademarks	315.00
Truck	1,650.00
WEB SITE	8,025.00
Web Site Database	15,000.00
Total Expenditures	\$532,434.87

# A Water Cooler Once Lost, but now Found

By Brent Honcharenko

ooking back, I think I might have been unconsciously hooked on Red Wing long before I realized it. I remember my grandparents having old whiskey jugs and gray crocks with red wings on them when I was a boy, sitting around their house in different places. I always knew they were there; they were just part of the décor that I had come to know and grow up with, but never paid attention to. I also remember going to rural farm auctions with my grandfather back in the 1970s, where these familiar-looking crocks sold for about 50 cents apiece, if that. Often times the auctioneer couldn't even give away the crocks that didn't sell at the end of the auction.

Funny how times have changed! Those same crocks that sold for pocket change at auctions 30 years ago can now bring thousands of dollars today. And we line up to bid on them and collect them.

After graduating college and moving to Prescott, Wis., I began seeing old stoneware again more frequently. I didn't realize it at first, but Prescott was only about 20 miles northeast of Red Wing. I was living right in the heart of Red Wing Country! It really hit me when I met my future wife (a Red Wing native) and visited her parents' house. Red Wing Pottery was everywhere!!

Although I had just accepted the old Red Wing crocks as being a part of my grandparents' décor, I really admired and appreciated how the pottery was incorporated into the décor of my future in-laws' home. From that moment, I was hooked – so much that I soon began going to auctions in western Wisconsin and southern Minnesota, started my own collection and joined the Red Wing Collectors Society in 1994. Now my wife Kim and I have the whole house decorated with this stuff in some way, shape or form.

Every piece of Red Wing has a story and when that story is known, it increases its sentimental value. My prized piece is a 5 gal water cooler I received from my grandparents, which sat out on their back porch for many years. A couple of years after my wife and I were married and had a good start building our own Red Wing collection, we were visiting my grandparents

back in North Dakota and I asked my grandmother what happened to the old water cooler I vaguely remembered. She barely remembered it herself and didn't know its whereabouts. After thinking about it for a while, she said she was certain it had been given to my uncle and that it was probably out at the farm sitting in a rubbish pile.

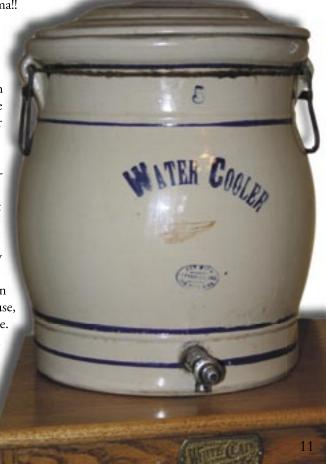
At that point, I assumed the cooler was long gone and didn't give it another thought. But the next summer when we were back visiting, my grandmother asked me to accompany her to the garage. I obliged, figuring she needed help moving something. We walked to the corner where something sat under a blanket. And then she unveiled it - the water cooler I had asked about the previous year. I couldn't believe it! Barely a memory, now there it was sitting in front of me. She smiled, gave me a hug and told me to take it home. At first I shook my head and I told her I couldn't. She told me I could, and it was now mine. The one thing you didn't do was argue with grandma!! I hugged her back and proudly accepted the gift.

Then she told me the story behind the cooler. My greatgrandfather purchased it back in the 1930s and it was used in the local one-room school house for many years before being used at other venues such as church functions and harvesting gatherings. It eventually ended up at my grandparents' farm, where it was laid aside and sat for many years. When my grandparents turned the operation over to my uncle in the mid-1960s and left the farm, the cooler ended up on the back porch of their new house, where it again sat for a long time.

That's when I was introduced to it as a boy. When my grand-parents moved again in the mid-1970s, the water cooler disappeared. That's when grandma thought it had

ended up back at the farm. Turns out it didn't. It made the move with them, but went from the back porch to the dark corner of the pantry in the basement where it was buried behind other things and forgotten about. Then after my inquiry, she saw it one day when she was in the pantry. She and grandpa brought it up, cleaned it, put it in the garage and waited for my next visit.

No longer a forgotten treasure, the water cooler now sits in the corner of our dining room, proudly displayed on its own pedestal for all to see when they visit. And boy, has it been a conversation piece over the years! It's in perfect shape and still has the original spigot and cover. Like I said, it's my prized piece. My aunt noticed it when visiting our house a couple of years ago and said, "Wow, that looks just like the one we had at the school house when I was a little girl." When I confessed that it was in fact the cooler she remembered as a child and told her the story, my aunt gave me a big hug like grandma had and said she was glad it was saved, still in tact and in a good home.



# CHAPTER EVENTS



Nebraska Chapter members in attendance at the December meeting.

#### Nebraska Redwingers

Noon Saturday, March 3 at Country Kitchen, 3324 Lincoln in York, Neb. Located ½ mile north of I-80. Visitors welcome. Contact Steve or Rose Splittgerber at RSPLITTGER@HOTMAIL.COM or 402-730-3400 with questions.

#### Southwest Redwingers

Annual Spring Fling – Noon Saturday, March 3 at the home at David and Colleen Nelson, 16 West Wood Drive in Phoenix, AZ. Guests are welcome. Call David Nelson at 602-863-4418 for more information.

#### Siouxland Redwingers

Noon Saturday, April 21 at the home of Mike & Mary Lynn Headrick, 403 W. Park Ave., Flandreau, SD. Pot luck luncheon with main entrée provided – please RSVP. \*\*Note: Jeff & Michelle Heigherger will host an open house at their home at 603 W. 9th St., in Dell Rapids, SD prior to the meeting from 10 to 11:30 a.m.\*\* Contact Glenn Beall at 712-644-2256 or 605-464-9632 with questions.

#### Cannon Valley

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 6 at Marie's Restaurant in Red Wing. Begins with dinner, followed by meeting at 7 p.m. Call 507-263-9245 for more information.

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 3 at McArthur's Pub, two miles south of Miesville outside Cannon Falls. The event will begin with dinner, followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Call 507-263-9245 for directions.

#### Gopher Chapter

1 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at the home of Rich & Kathy Allen in St. Cloud, MN. Call 320-253-7967 for directions.

#### Sunshine State Redwingers

1 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at the home of Mavis Hazen, 5700 SW 35th Lane, Ocala, FL. Contact Darlene Duecker at SSRW@BELLSOUTH.NET or 954-560-9622 for more information.



# 2007 CONVENTION TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

RWCS 30TH Anniversary: reMEMBERing... Great Clay...Great People!

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

- •Morning Board of Directors meeting at Red Wing High School (open to the public)
- •Outdoor brat feed held at and sponsored by Pottery Place Mall
- •EARLY BADGE PICKUP AT BRAT FEED
- •Auction Check-in

#### THURSDAY, JULY 12

- •Orientation for first-timers
- •CHAPTER PRESIDENTS MEETING
- •Commemorative distribution
- •Auction Check-in
- •Keynote Address
- •CHAPTER MEETINGS
- •Kids seminars
- •Sales of educational materials
- •Narrated bus tour of historical Red Wing
- •DISPLAY ROOM VIEWING
- •EVENING AUCTION

#### Friday, July 13

- •ORIENTATION FOR FIRST-TIMERS
- •Commemorative distribution
- •Adult and kids seminars
- •SALES OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
- •DISPLAY ROOM VIEWING
- •Annual Business Meeting
- •PICNIC (SPONSORED BY RED WING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)

#### SATURDAY, JULY 14

- •Commemorative distribution
- •Commemorative lottery
- •DISPLAY ROOM VIEWING (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)
- •SHOW AND SALE (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)
- •EVENING BANQUET AT RED WING COUNTRY CLUB

### SUNDAY, JULY 15

•Brunch at St. James Hotel (Early entry)

### CONVENTION INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

- •Three ways to register: online at www.redwingcollectors.org, fax at 651-388-4042 or mail.
- •RECORD YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER ON YOUR FORM. IF YOU HAVE MISPLACED YOUR NUMBER, LEAVE IT BLANK.
- •Deadline for pre-registration has been extended to June 1, 2007.
- •EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION WINNER WILL BE CHOSEN ON APRIL 15TH.
- •If you're planning to have a Seller's Table, you're welcome to pay for it at the time of registration.
- •SELLERS' TABLE CONTRACTS MUST BE REQUESTED BY MAY 1 AND RETURNED BY MAY 15.
- •PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS ON YOUR FORM. THIS IS THE PRIMARY WAY WE WILL NOTIFY YOU OF YOUR COMMEMORATIVE ORDER.
- •NO COMMEMORATIVES ARE MAILED UNTIL DUES ARE PAID.
- •After Oct. 1, 2007, members with expired memberships will forfeit their commemoratives (no refunds).
- •Kids View seminars are for children between the ages of 3 and 15.

## Bruce and Vicki Waasdorp's

# AMERICAN POTTERY AUCTION

MARCH 17, 2007

# Mail & Phone Bid Catalog Sale

Visit our web site for a preview of our upcoming exciting spring auction.

WWW.ANTIQUES-STONEWARE.COM

More than 300 lots of primarily Midwest and Eastern Decorated Stoneware Plus Examples of Unique Designs, Advertising Pieces and Rare Forms.



Absentee Auction catalog with each item individually photographed and described available late February.

Send \$25.00 (includes post sales results)

To: Waasdorp Inc. P.O. Box 434 Clarence, NY 14031 Phone: 716.759.2361 Auction close date March 17, 2007 10% buyer's premium.

Visit our web site for Auction Preview.

www.antiques-stoneware.com waasdorp@antiques-stoneware.com

Classified ads are 15¢ per word; \$3 minimum charge.

Ads are divided into the following sections: Red Wing For Sale, Red Wing Wanted, Other Pottery For Sale, Other Pottery Wanted, Events, Clubs, Auctions, Publications & 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., 12/06. Ads without dates are one-time ads.) Please type or print clearly and proofread before submission.

#### DISPLAY ADS

Display Ad Size	1x	6x
Full page	\$400	\$360
1/2 page (horizontal or vertical)	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 (horizontal or vertical)	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.

The Newsletter is produced on a PC in Adobe InDesign. 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

#### **RED WING FOR SALE**

50 gal. birchleaf crock w/blue ink and ski oval – hairline on side; double stamped orange-banded rolling pin w/Livermore, Iowa adv. – mint; 3lb. pantry jar w/Minneota, MN adv inside and original lid. Call Marolin at 402-821-2495

Commemoratives (mint in box): 1990, \$110; 1994, \$100; 1995, \$90; 1999, \$70; 2000, \$95; 2002, \$110; 2004, \$90; 2005, \$80; 2006, \$100. RWCS Newsletters – 60 issues from 1987 to present, fine condition, \$45. Phone 320-382-6173.

RW Self-draining jars (50, 40, 30, 20, 15, 10 & 5 gal.) would like to sell as set, asking \$2,500. Blue & white Lily Bowl & Pitcher (mint), \$1,200. Extra pitcher w/some small chips, \$450. Let me know what's on your wish list. Contact Bryan at BVJT@PRTEL.COM or 218-826-6258.

Commemoratives: 1983, \$525; 1985, \$325; 1986, \$250; 1988, \$80; 1989, \$325; 1990, \$70; 2000, \$90; 2002, \$80; 2003, \$75. Buyer pays all shipping. Call Oliver at 701-237-5575.

SASE envelope for long list of Red Wing stoneware for sale. I'm the largest dealer in N.D. Rare items include Dome-top Fruit Jar & 8 gal. churn. Sid Hinrichs; 1201 Dakota Ave.; Tower City, ND 58071. Phone 701-749-2586.

Commemoratives: 1986, \$225; 1990, \$75; 1991, \$95; 1992, \$60; 1993, \$80; 1994, \$80; 1995, \$80; 1997, \$90. RWCS Newsletters 1977-2004 (some missing), \$300. Call June at 218-529-9557.

Commemoratives: 1990; 1991; 1992; 1993; 1994; 1995; 1996; 1997; 1998; 1999; 2002; 2003. \$60 each, but must take all for total of \$720. Phone 660-646-1511.

Complete set of Red Wing Collectors Society Commemoratives 1977-2006. \$5,950. Call Dennis at 605-673-2369.

15 gal Red Wing potteries crock w/lid, 20 gal Red Wing stoneware crock w/bail handles, 30 gal Red Wing stoneware crock w/large "30" and wing, 20 gal birchleaf w/Union oval, handles & outstanding color, 60 gal self draining jar w/large wing & original wooden stand. All items in great condition. Many more pieces available. Contact Lucy in California at TERNLUC@AOL.COM or 805-484-3479.

2 gal mid-size wing, excellent, \$118; 4 gal salt glaze double-P, beautiful, \$225; Orleans pattern large buffet bowl, \$139; Orleans pattern individual casserole w/lid, \$99; English Garden medallion line 12, \$150; 3 gal Macomb Pottery Co. salt glaze crock, \$125; Blue-band crock as found, \$38; Western 5 gal bail handles w/cobalt leaves, \$350; Red Wing Commemoratives 1994 through 2006, call for list and prices. All plus postage. Call Douglas and Elaine at 320-352-2505.

#### **AUCTIONS**

5th Annual Stoneware/Pottery
Auction Sunday, March 4, 2007 at
12:30 p.m. at Storden School City
Center - Storden, MN. 500+ pieces
Stoneware & Art Pottery, Roseville,
Red Wing, Hull, McCoy, Watt,
RumRill, much, much more! Croatt
Auction Service, John Croatt 17-32
at 507-445-3919 or 507-830-1984
Visit www.rrcnet.org/~croatt or
www.midwestauctions.com for more
information. 2/07

#### **RED WING WANTED**

Advertising bowls/stoneware from Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Darlington, or Shullsburg, Wisconsin. Also interested in any other southwestern cities. Call Darlene at 954-560-9622 or e-mail SSRW@BELLSOUTH.NET 2/07

# 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 2007 Convention. Send to the editor at the address on page 2. All entries received between July 2006 and June of 2007 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE
50 gal wing crock, mint	Missoula, Mont.	11/06	Private sale	\$1,000
Small preserve jar w/adv. for Hooper, Neb., mint	Bridgeport, Neb.	12/06	Auction	\$975
40 gal wing crock, hairline	Northeastern Wis.	11/06	Farm auction	\$125
5 gal wing jug w/adv. for Prosperity Bleach, New York, damage on spout and base		12/06	eBay	\$385
Adv. bean pot, no lid	Minneapolis	12/23/06	Antique shop	\$2.99
Adv. bean pot w/lid	Minneapolis	12/26/06	Same shop	\$12.99
Spongeband adv. pitcher	Minneapolis	12/27/06	Same shop	\$35
4 gal hand-turned wing cooler, no lid	Tempe, Ariz.	1/07	Private sale	\$175

#### **RED WING WANTED** (CONTINUED)

Looking particularly for the following Town & Country pieces: lid for a blue sugar, blue cup without saucer, 2 peach marmite tops. Also looking for pieces listed on our "Want List" at www.zeiselmostly.com or call Pat at 415-587-6725. Thank you!

Racine, Wis. advertising wanted, especially Red Wing advertising from Racine stores. Call Jim at 262-554-0488 or e-mail HORLICK@WI.RR.COM 2/07

Want to learn about the existence of any advertising pieces from Knapp, Wisconsin. To sell or share information, please contact Tim at TWYSS@CLEARLAKE.K12.WI.US or 715-263-2118. 2/07

Family member looking for Red Wing bean pot and/or milk pitcher from Ormsby, MN with Myron or Olaus Syverson name on it. Also looking for other collectibles with these names on them. If interested in selling, please call Tim at 507-537-0701. 2/07

"Win Twins" ashtray 4½" x 6¼". I have 3 colors: tan, brown & white. I am hoping to purchase and/or learn about any color I do not have. I have an extra tan ashtray for trade or sale. Call Clyde at 651-227-5284.

Advertising from the following Wisconsin towns: Arkansaw, Porcurpine, Ella, Misha-Mokwa, Urne and Durand. Phone 715-495-9396. 4/07

#### **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 both *Red Wing Stoneware* and *Red Wing Collectibles*! \$9.95 each or \$17.95 for both plus \$1.50/\$2 postage, respectively. Quantity discounts available. Gail Peck, 2121 Pearl, Fremont, NE 68025; 402-721-5721. 12/07

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR MUSEUM?

By Ron Linde

ops! When Foundation Board member Louise Schleich reported that the Nebraska Redwingers donated \$2,000 to the Foundation, I had a mental lapse and wrote in my last article that it was a \$1,000 donation. So Nebraska Redwingers, "thank you" again for the first \$1,000 and a hearty "thank you" for the additional \$1,000! I am also happy to report the donation of \$100 from the Lewis & Clark Chapter. Every bit of money helps. We appreciate your support of the Foundation and the Red Wing Pottery Museum.

I'm very pleased to announce the cleaning of the kiln will start soon! A Red Wing Boy Scout will work with the help of professionals in removing asbestos-laden material from the kiln. Needless to say, Museum Curator Diane Hallstrom and Museum Director Dave Hallstrom have put in much time and effort to coordinate all the planning and paperwork with this Eagle Scout project, but the first step in kiln restoration that involves asbestos removal seems ready to go.

Affable and talented young potter Mike Helke was our scholarship award recipient for 2006. He works as exhibitions and gallery assistant and teaches at the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis. During his Red Wing visit, he toured our museum and was fascinated with the scope of Red Wing's production.

I am also happy to report on the interest and popularity of the Red Wing Retro exhibit at the Minnesota History Center. The staff has extended the Red Wing Retro exhibit until April. On Sunday, March 11, the Minnesota History Center "Family Get-Together" will feature the exhibit. Foundation Board members will do appraisals of Red Wing pottery and the staff has planned activities for children. RWCS members who identify themselves at the admission desk will pay half price – a \$4 admission. We encourage you to see the exhibit.

Hope to see you all at MidWinter in Des Moines!

#### WHO MADE THIS CROCK? By Rick Natynski

The 4 gal crock pictured at right could L easily be passed over in an antique shop as not being Red Wing. The decoration isn't well-known, the rim is narrower than your typical 4 gal Red Wing salt glaze crock, and when inspected closely, a seam is visible between the handles and the body of the crock, which seems to be more characteristic of an Ohio piece.

But lo and behold, this 4 gal crock is back-stamped "Red Wing Stoneware Company."

Ribcages, drop-8s, single-Ps and targets are decorations with well-known names, but this spiral-shaped decoration lacks a universal title. RWCS member Jack May, who submitted the pictures of his 5 gal side-stamped crock shown below, refers to it as a "drop-8 with hooks." RWCS member Ross Gettrust, who submitted the photo of the signed 4 gal crock, calls it a "dragonfly."



Macomb Stoneware of Illinois made a similar decoration (at right), but the numbers are stenciled instead of hand-drawn and the "hooks" in the decoration come up from the bottom – not down from the top.



# COMING IN THE APRIL ISSUE...



MIDWINTER COVERAGE

F.A.Morley JUG UPDATE

