



VOL. 27 NO. 3

N E W S L E T T E R

JUNE, 2002

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF RED WING COLLECTING

BY LARRY PETERSON



25 years of RWCS Commemoratives.

On July 9, 1977, my wife, Pauline, and I attended the first Red Wing Collectors Society Convention at the Goodhue County Historical Society. About 300 folks were there from seven different states. Lyndon Viel was autographing his first book, "Clay Giants," out on the lawn. I was overwhelmed to see that many people interested in Red Wing stoneware. In the four years that I had been collecting up to that point, I had watched it grow from only 3-4 people collecting it to now hundreds, complete with a newsletter, a Society, and now the first Convention. I thought I had died and gone to heaven - and it was crowded!

My commitment to collecting was based on the love and the history of Red Wing AND the prayer that, hopefully, someday I could get my money back. During that day I had a chance to talk to a lot of people, see a lot of different pieces, and hear stories about a lot of pieces. I do not know of ANY piece that was SOLD that day. Items were eventually given away, or traded to fellow collectors, but no money exchanged hands that I know of. One of my better trades early on, I thought, was a sponge band salt box for a one gallon Albany bail handled Minnesota jug that I needed for my collection. How times have changed!

(continued on page 16)

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Display - Barbara Brown

FROM THE EDITORS

Many people have been working long and hard to provide unique and memorable activities and events for the 25th Anniversary Convention. You will read short articles from Ron Linde and Pauline and Larry Peterson, and their reflection on the past 25 years of the RWCS.

You have chosen to be a member of one of the nation's premier collector's organizations. We have a strong base of members and share the desire to learn about and share our experiences with the items created at the historic Red Wing Potteries.

If you have not decided yet to make the trek to Red Wing this

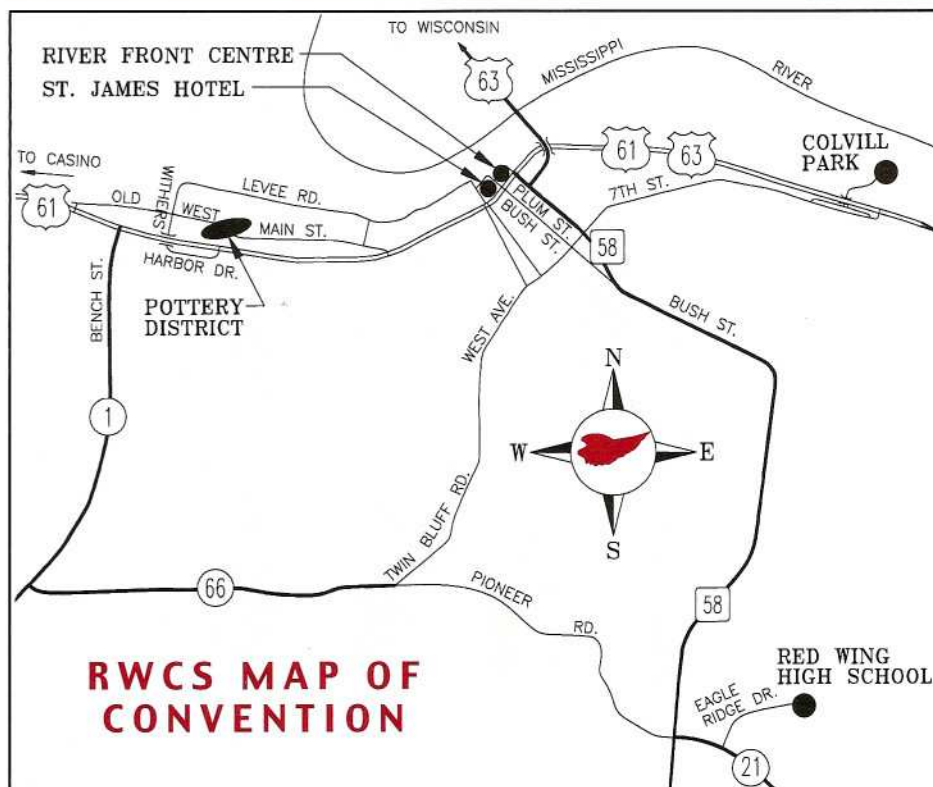
July, you should. Be a part of the 25th Anniversary experience with the rest of your Collectors Society friends!

We have greatly enjoyed being able to communicate and help educate all of the members. As always, we would like to hear from you. If you attend the Convention but do not have the opportunity to chat with us, we will have a place where you can leave your name and information and we will contact you. Your stories, experiences and expertise are what make the RWCS Newsletter interesting. We thank you for the chance to share in your collecting passion!

Cindy Taube & Gail Rosenthal

25TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in having a great time and helping out during the July 2002 Convention, please contact the Business Office to sign up.



2002 RWCS CONVENTION SCHEDULE

RED WING HIGH SCHOOL, RED WING, MN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

8:00-12:00	Board of Directors Meeting	L-100
11:00-3:00	Brat Feed <i>(includes early badge pick up for those who are pre-registered)</i>	Pottery Place Mall
12:00-3:00	Auction Check-in, Catalogs for Sale	Gymnasium

THURSDAY, JULY 11

8:00	Courtyard Café Opens	
8:00-4:00	Set up the Display & Rare Items	J 106, J 107, J 108
8:00-7:00	Membership/Registration	Courtyard Café
8:00-10:00	Chapter Presidents Meeting	L 100
8:00-10:00	Commemorative Distribution	H 106
8:30-11:30	Auction Check-in	Gymnasium
8:30-???	Distribution of Bid Numbers	Gymnasium
	Auction Catalog for Sale	
9:00-3:30	Sale of Educational Material	Auditorium Hallway
9:00-9:45	Orientation for First Timers	H 215
9:30	Balloon Release for Kids	Front door
10:30-12:00	Keynote Address	RW High School
12:45-4:45	Auction Preview	Auditorium
1:00-1:45	Orientation for First Timers	Gymnasium
1:00-2:00	Chapter meetings and Hospitality Rooms	H 125
1:00-3:50	Kids View Seminars	To be announced
1:00-4:00	Commemorative Distribution	H 200 Rooms
2:00-3:50	Shared Interest Groups	H 106
5:00-???	Auction	H 200 rooms
5:30-8:00	View Displays	Gymnasium
		J 106, J 107, J 108

FRIDAY, JULY 12

8:00	Courtyard Café opens	
8:00-3:20	Membership/Registration	Courtyard Café
8:00-11:00	Commemorative Distribution	H 106
8:30-3:20	Displays open	J 106, J 107, J 108
9:00-3:20	Sale of Educational Material	Auditorium Hallway
9:00-9:45	Orientation for First Timers	H 215
9:00-10:00	Transport Show & Sale/Souvenir Items	Gymnasium
10:00-10:50	Adult and Kids Educational Seminars	H 200 rooms
11:00-11:50	Adult and Kids Educational Seminars	H 200 rooms
11:50-12:50	Lunch on your own	Courtyard Café
12:30-1:20	Adult and Kids Educational Seminars	H 200 rooms
1:00-3:00	Commemorative Distribution	H 106
1:30-2:20	Adult and Kids Educational Seminars	H 200 rooms
2:30-3:20	Adult and Kids Educational Seminars	H 200 rooms
2:30-3:20	Transport Show & Sale/Souvenir Items	Gymnasium
3:30-5:30	Business Meeting	Auditorium
6:00-8:30	Potter's Picnic (serving food until 7:00 pm)	Colvill Park
	<i>In case of rain it will be held at the MN State College-SE Technical</i>	
	Sponsored by RW Chamber of Commerce	

SATURDAY, JULY 13

7:00	Courtyard Café opens	
8:00-9:00	Set up of Show & Sale	Gymnasium
8:00-10:30	Membership/Registration	Courtyard Café
8:00-1:30	Displays open to public	J 106, J 107, J 108
8:00-10:30	Commemorative Distribution	H 106
8:00-11:00	Auction prices-realized catalogs for sale	Courtyard Café & Gym
9:00-10:30	Show & Sale open to Registered Members Only	Gymnasium
10:30-1:30	Show & Sale open to public	Gymnasium
10:00-???	Commemorative Lottery (while supplies last)	H 106
	<i>Watch monitors for lottery numbers</i>	
1:30-3:00	Show & Sale removal	Gymnasium
1:30-3:00	Display removal	J 106, J 107, J 108
6:45 p.m.	Mississippi River Cruise	Treasure Island Casino

SUNDAY, JULY 14

10:30	Brunch, St. James Hotel	5th Floor
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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Issue	Text/Editorial	Advertising
February	January 1	January 10
April	March 1	March 10
June	May 1	May 10
August	July 1	July 15
October	September 1	September 10
December	November 1	November 10

EDITORIAL BOARD

Clifford Ekdahl, Dave and Diane Hallstrom,
Al Kohlman, Ron Linde, Larry Peterson,
Ray Reiss, Con and Sandy Short, Dave Short.

CLUB NEWS

from the
President



CORRINNE REED

Excitement and anticipation continue to grow! Will the 25th Anniversary Convention break the 4,000 plus attendance record set at the 20th Anniversary Convention? For those who did not pre-register before the May 15th deadline, all is not lost. You can still register on site.

Wedge in around the buying and selling of Red Wing and other typical Convention activities, attendees will: vote on the proposed Primary/ Associate Membership Fee Structure, purchase "unique" official Convention buttons produced by the Puget Sound Chapter, learn the results of the 2002 Election of Officers and Representatives at Large, purchase "snazzy" new red tote bags bearing the official RWCS logo, have the opportunity to win a free 7 day Caribbean cruise for two, have the opportunity to purchase a RWCS 7 day Caribbean Carnival Cruise at greatly reduced rates, be "wowed" when they pick up their super 2002 commemorative with the chance of getting another through the lottery, should there be any extras, cruise the

(continued on page 12)

ROMANY POTTERY

BY MARILYN & TERRY MOE

Jim Norine discovered the advertisement that is pictured with this article and discussed it at the recent RWCS MidWinter GetTogether. The items shown in the ad are a mixture of Gypsy Trail Plain and Reed, and include two items we have not seen pictured in the literature. The ad is not dated but the mention of war requirements would indicate a time period after December 1941. We are estimating the date to be in the first half of 1942 because all of the previously known items that are shown in the ad appear in the Red Wing Price Lists for January of 1942. Several items are missing in the June 15, 1942 Price List and do not reappear in later price lists. The

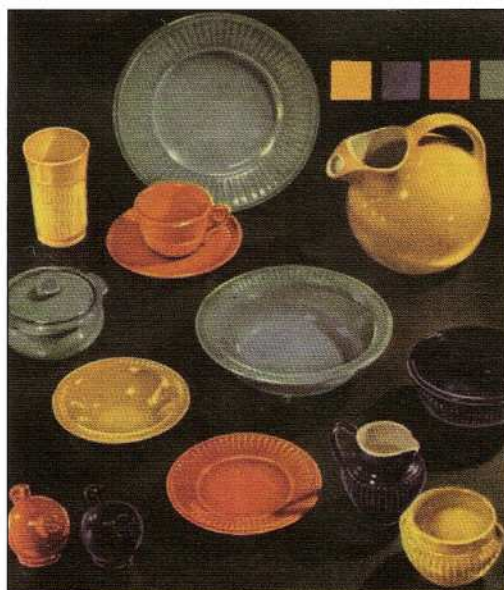
flip side of the ad features women's clothing, so it was part of a coupon book. Nothing more is known about the origin of the ad or about the types of coupons it was with.

The two most interesting items pictured are the 8" Vegetable Dish and the Cereal, Soup or Salad Bowl. The typical Reed Vegetable Dish was available in 8", 8½", and 9" but had tab handles. This one is round with no handles. We have one like this in our personal collection but have not been able to verify that it is Red Wing until now. The Cereal, Soup, or Salad Bowl is a bit more difficult to positively identify from the picture. It does not have the tab handles typical of the Reed Cereal Bowl, so

that rules it out. It may be a 5" or 6" Reed Mixing Bowl, but we think it is not tall enough. We believe it is the 6" Reed Salad Bowl that is listed in the January 1942 price list.

The colors shown are traditional Gypsy Trail colors but have adjectives added to pique the interest of the customers. Orange was Flame Orange, Turquoise was Robin's Egg Blue, Yellow was Sunflower Yellow, and Royal Blue was Midnight Blue. Evidently the wartime requirement for uranium, which was used in creating some of the glaze colors, (particularly orange), was a factor as the color substitution disclaimer shows.

The ad raises a number of interesting questions about alternative distribution channels used by Red Wing to market



ROMANY POTTERY — More popular than ever! Gay contrasting colors in each group add sparkle to your table. Comes in 4 colors: Flame Orange, Robin's Egg Blue, Sunflower Yellow, and Midnight Blue.* Build a complete set!

Salt and Pepper, both for.....	48 coupons
Sugar and Creamer, both for.....	52 coupons
Vegetable Dish (8 inch) in Robin's Egg Blue.....	60 coupons
4 Dessert Dishes (5 1/2 inch).....	76 coupons
4 Bread and Butter or Salad Plates (6 inch).....	88 coupons
4 Bowls for Cereal, Soup or Salad.....	96 coupons
Water Pitcher (2 qt. size) in Sunflower Yellow.....	100 coupons
4 Tumblers.....	100 coupons
4 Dinner Plates (8 1/2 inch).....	120 coupons
4 Marmites (covered baking dishes).....	136 coupons
4 Cups and Saucers.....	140 coupons

(If you choose, send half the coupons indicated and balance in cash on basis of one cent per coupon value.)

*War requirements for chemicals may necessitate substitutions in these colors; however, we assure you that if any substitutions have to be made they will be of comparably pleasing and attractive colors.



6" Turquoise Reed Mixing Bowl and 6" Reed Yellow Salad Bowl.

their products. We are hoping that some of the RWCS members will be able to provide additional insight and information about Romany or other names used to distribute Red Wing dinnerware. If you have any additional



information or insights, please contact us at 3380 27th Avenue, Marion, IA 52302. Jim will donate the original ad to the Red Wing Museum so it will be available for all to see. Romany, by the way, means Gypsy.

Credits: Romany ad courtesy of Jim Norine. Photographs courtesy of Ivy Loughborough. 🍷

8" Reed Round Vegetable Bowl.

On page 4 is a picture of a Romany Pottery Ad.

CONVENTION LODGING

Plan to attend the 25th Anniversary RWCS Convention in Red Wing. For lodging information, contact: Red Wing Chamber of Commerce • 1-651-388-4719
Red Wing Visitors & Convention Bureau • 1-800-498-3444

DONATION FOR RWCS

We are looking for a RWCS member or business to donate either and LCD or In-focus Projector for group presentations. The cost of always renting these items during MidWinter and Convention is very high and we would like to acquire our own.

If you know someone who would be able to make this donation or the company where you work is replacing these items, please contact the RWCS Business Office.

FIRST CHOICE TRAVEL RATES

Travel Window: July 6-16, 2002
(Sat. night required)

US/Canada Originating Passengers:

Round Trip Fare Paid Discount

Between \$200-\$299USD/\$300-\$499CAD
\$30USD/\$45CAD

Between \$300-\$449USD/\$450-\$674CAD
\$50USD/\$75CAD

Between \$450-\$749USD/\$675-\$1124CAD
\$75USD/\$113CAD

\$750USD/\$1125CAD or greater

\$100USD/\$150CAD

Fares shown are before discount and do not include applicable PFCs, international taxes, fees, surcharges, inspections fees, or processing fees.

Contact First Choice at
651-388-3573 or 1-800-564-5203 or

CLUB NEWS

from the
Vice President



WENDY CALLICOAT

The "Kids View of Red Wing" will be hosting another Kids Only auction. This auction was a huge hit last year. I am not sure who had a better time, the adults or the kids. We will need donated items again this year. The kid's loved real Red Wing items. Stoneware seemed to be the all time favorite. These items should be ordinary pieces that kids will see when they go to an antique store or an auction. If you would like to donate an item or volunteer your time, please contact either Sue Jones Tagliapietra or myself for further details. Bring Kid's Auction items to the RWHS Little Theatre to drop off. There will also be a simulated "Dump Dig" activity and a balloon release on Thursday morning in honor of the 25th Anniversary. We still need folks to help on both Thursday and Friday.

The future of the RWCS and the preservation of items made by the Red Wing Potteries lies with our children. We must do our part to get them excited about collecting Red Wing. 🍷

CLUB NEWS

from the

Auction Managers



JEFF & PAULETTE FLOYD

If any member is unsure of the status of their Auction submission, please contact the Auction Managers via e-mail or telephone. Those members selected in the lottery should have received their letter of confirmation by now.

Members that have a piece in the July Auction are encouraged to use the Wednesday check-in period of 12 to 3 p.m. If you can't make the Wednesday check-in, you may also use the Thursday morning check-in period between 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Please bring your SASE to speed up your Auction check-in.

The RWCS Auction Managers and their committee will have final say in any and all matters regarding condition or authenticity of any Auction item. If you can't make it to this year's Convention, but would like to receive an Auction Catalog with prices realized, you may send the Auction Managers a check for \$3 (made payable to RWCS) AFTER the Convention.

Here's hoping that the temperature in the gym is cool and the prices are hot. See you in July! 

CRUISIN' FOR RED WING

Picture this—you're meeting with friends you've known for years but with whom you've never had enough time to just chat. Or you've just discovered that another collector, perhaps from Seattle, whom you have never met before happens to have the advertising piece that you've been looking for and it's for sale! So, you're doing a little business and having a lot of fun. You may have just had a lobster for dinner and seen some playful dolphins doing what dolphins do by the side of the ship.

Special interest groups all over the world are taking advantage of opportunities such as this. Why not us? The only way you can make this a reality for you and your friends and family is to join the RWCS 2003 Caribbean Cruise, November 9-16! What an itinerary! In seven days you get to play on the Caribbean island of Grand Cayman, make a day of it in Mexico and cruise the Mississippi for a jazzy day in New Orleans.

And it's all for a great price. If you prefer an inside cabin, the price (based on double occupancy) is \$795 per person. This includes your cruise, lots of gourmet food, on-ship entertainment, trip insurance, gratuities, group shirt, souvenir, and education seminars. If you select an outside cabin, the price is \$895 per person. If you want a third or fourth person to join you in your cabin the price for those guests is \$570 per person (\$610 if over age 16).

Of course, you have to get to Tampa, Florida, in time to sail. If you need to fly, the smoothest way to do it is to purchase your air from

Carnival Cruise Line. The air travel provided by them is selected to meet embarkation and disembarkation times and is carefully monitored by Carnival agents for weather difficulties, mechanical problems and schedule changes. Their air prices include all taxes (security, fuel, airport facility, etc.) and roundtrip transfers from the airport to the ship and back at the conclusion of the trip. Once people have committed to the cruise, we can "shop" for air fares.

Some sample cruise air rates from selected gateway cities (remember that these include all taxes and transfers) are as follows:

Seattle	\$509
San Francisco	\$509
Los Angeles	\$469
Denver	\$479
Minneapolis	\$459
Omaha	\$329
Des Moines	\$369
St. Louis	\$429
Dallas	\$369
Boston	\$299
Chicago	\$409
New York (LGA)	\$299
Atlanta	\$309

Important: If you choose to do your own air, you must meet the timetable of the cruise and you must provide your own transportation to and from the ship. Please avoid flying on an airline having only one destination flight per day as above mentioned problems may cause you to miss the ship.

You'll hear more about this fabulous opportunity at Convention. And we hope that many of you will join the cruise. It should be a great time for all. 

SPECIAL RWCS

25TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, JULY 7 - SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2002

SUNDAY, JULY 7

Streets of Downtown Red Wing
Sunrise - 4:00 p.m. Red Wing
Outdoor Antique Flea Market
Fundraiser, \$50 donation secures
20'x20' space

MONDAY, JULY 8

RWCS Foundation Museum,
Pottery Place Mall

12:00 noon Sign up for narrated
Bus Tour of Red Wing, limit of 50,
first come, first served

12:00 noon till sold out Sale of
original Joyce Anderson signed &
numbered prints, #'s 5-105 (No. 1
to RWCS & No. 2-4 to the artist),
note cards, & post cards (as
unveiled at MidWinter and
displayed in April Newsletter.)
Purchase limited to 1 print per
person per trip through line.

1:00-3:00 p.m. Narrated Bus Tour
of Red Wing, including clay pits

3:30 p.m. Tour of RWCS
Foundation Museum including
narration on Minnesota Stoneware
Company building housing the
Pottery Place Mall - Steve Brown
4:00-5:30 p.m. Unveiling of Charter
Member plaque & reception, artist
reimbursed personalization of
Joyce Anderson prints

TUESDAY, JULY 9

Explore Red Wing On Your Own,
visit: RWCS Foundation Museum;
Pottery Place Mall; Goodhue
County Historical Museum, Red
Wing Stoneware Co.; Red Wing
Pottery; Red Wing Pottery
Salesroom; Claybanks Historical

Marker, Red Wing Clay Industry
Historic Homes (Horace Rich, E.S.
Hoyt, Philander Sprague, John H.
Rich, etc.); St. James Hotel;
Antique Shops; Treasure Island
Resort & Casino

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

Pottery Place Mall

11:00-3:00 p.m. Brat Feed - includes
Early Badge Pickup for those who
are pre-registered

THURSDAY, JULY 11

Red Wing High School Courtyard
Area, Carnival Cruise Booth, Mary
Foley/Sue Gillmer RWCS 2003
Western Caribbean Cruise goes on
sale (150 cabins). Five dollar raffle
tickets for free RWCS 2003 Western
Caribbean Cruise for 2 go on sale
(no limit on number purchased)

10:30-12:00 noon Red Wing High
School Auditorium General
Session Key Note Presentation
"Walk Down Memory Lane" live
reminiscences/remembrances of a
variety of clay industry workers,
facilitated by Ron Linde.

Red Wing High School Display
Room- Continued sale of signed &
numbered prints (No.'s 106-500),
note cards, & post cards during
normal display room hours.

FRIDAY, JULY 12

Red Wing High School Auditorium
RWCS Annual Business Meeting
3:30-5:30 p.m. Drawing of Winning
Raffle Ticket for free RWCS 2003
Western Caribbean Cruise for 2
(Presence not mandatory to win)

SATURDAY, JULY 13

Treasure Island Resort & Casino

6:45 p.m. Arrive at Treasure Island
Casino to take shuttle to Marina.
(No parking at marina.) Must use
shuttle.

7:00 p.m. Cruise departs - Cruise
now full. (For addition of name to
waiting list in case of cancellation(s)
see Barb Brown in Display Room.)

7:00-9:30 p.m. "Spirit of the Water"
Mississippi River Cruise (hors
d'oeuvres & cash bar) 

RWCS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2002 NATIONAL EVENTS

July 10: Board of Director's
Meeting

July 11: Chapter Meetings

July 12: Annual Business
Meeting - Red Wing, MN

July 11, 12, 13: Annual
Convention - Red Wing, MN

2002 CHAPTER EVENTS

July 11: Noon Nebraska
Redwingers Meeting

July 11: 1:00 p.m. Iowa Chapter
Meeting/Elections

July 11: 1:00-2:00 p.m. Southwest
Redwingers Meeting

July 12: 8:00 p.m. Gopher
Chapter Meeting

August 10: 1:00 p.m. Gopher
Chapter Meeting

September 8: 1:00 p.m. Puget
Sound Chapter

September 12: 7:30 p.m. Gopher
Chapter Meeting

September 14: 1:00 p.m. Golden
State Meeting

CLUB NEWS

from the
Business Manager



KAY WILSHUSEN

There is excitement in Red Wing – the collectors are coming next month! We are hoping that thousands of you will be able to attend the 25th Anniversary celebration!

Please take the time to review this Newsletter carefully – there is an abundance of Convention information and don't miss the Carnival cruise information! These are jubilant times for our Society!

Last year a cursory review of the Convention details resulted in some disappointed faces, so take the time to read the details. 🍷

Note these important points:

- Badges and commemorative vouchers must be picked up at Registration no later than Saturday, July 14, 10:30 a.m. No exceptions!
- Registration and Commemorative Distribution closes on Saturday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.
- Lottery begins on Saturday, July 14, at 10:00 a.m. and ends approximately 2:00 p.m.
- Badges must be worn during the Convention and at social events.

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

BY RON LINDE

The Red Wing Collectors Society has had great success. What immediately comes to mind for me are the volunteers of the RWCS. Their contributions have made for excellent Conventions year after year. When I think of the people who have helped with registration, commemorative distribution, crowd control, and club auctions, the numbers are staggering. Board members have diligently planned and charted the growth of the Society. Members contribute their knowledge by giving educational talks on an array of subjects.

Attractive, well-planned displays can influence collecting trends. Social events add to the camaraderie and spirit of the Convention. Recently the added focus on children is a unique innovation among collector groups. Yes, volunteers serving this organization are amazing, and I think that it is this group – all the many, many volunteers – to whom we all owe a huge “THANK YOU”

for their time and efforts as they are the core of the Red Wing Collectors Society.

On a personal note, I started as a collector of stoneware, and early on I became interested in art pottery. One of the side comments in those days, “Here comes Linde. Drag out a vase!” I smile (inside) when I see some of those hardcore stoneware collectors now talking about art pottery shape numbers and glazes. I am also delighted to get several emails or phone calls requesting information about Red Wing artware. It is a joy to see people expanding their knowledge and appreciation of Red Wing products!

The diverse production of the potteries at Red Wing – stoneware, artware, and dinnerware – is unique. To this day, I think there are some excellent buys and some wonderful items to collect.

The Red Wing Collectors Society has had an amazing run. Let's all think about how we might help in continuing the legacy! 🍷

Ron Lindes' Display of Hand Painted Red Wing Dinnerware, People's Choice Award, 1995.



POTTERY X-FILES - QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q I have a pair of Red Wing pottery urns and wonder what you can tell me about them or their value?

R. Atkinson, Maryland

A These 10.5 inch urns were first produced by Red Wing Potteries in 1941 as part of their Magnolia line. These are unusual because they are hand-painted. I would guess that they are worth about \$225 each because of the intact lids and the hand painting. (R. Linde) 



Q These items used to be my Grandmothers. The platter is in excellent condition and the marking on the back says, "Red Wing Pottery, Hand Painted." I would like to know when the piece was made and any other information about them.

D. Schuh, Wisconsin

A The piece is a 14" Brittany chop/platter. It is from the Provincial dinnerware line. One of 4 patterns named after 4 Provinces in France. Orleans, Ardenns, Brittany and the most famous Province of all, because of WWII,

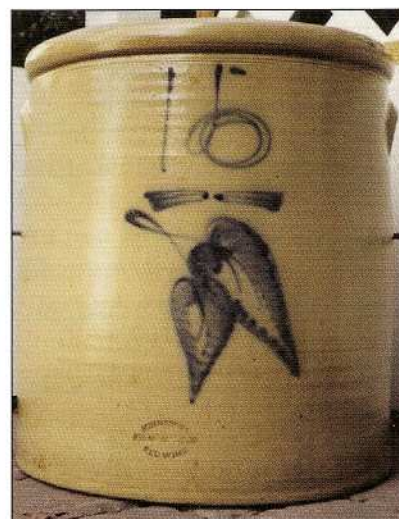
Normanday. It is part of a full dinnerware set including all plates and pieces. The back ring, or foot, looks to be 1/4 of an inch in height or the high footed plate in the later issue the foot is much lower. The dinnerware was produced in the late teens and early 20's in the high foot style with a blue/black stamp. It was reissued in the 40's with the low foot and a red ink stamp. There seems to be some disagreement on the exact year but no doubt about the two different times. It's value if in mint condition is about \$75.00. There is lots of it around but many pieces are crazed. (C. Ekdahl) 



Q I recently found this crock in an antique store in Wisconsin and it's in mint condition. What is it worth?

T. Peacock, Illinois

A This 15 gallon salt glaze crock with 2 cobalt leaves has everything going for it! It is in mint condition, a nice glaze, 2 huge cobalt decorated leaves, and a beautiful front stamp Minnesota Stoneware Company. Truly a rare find indeed! Value \$1,800 - \$2,500? (D. Hallstrom/L. Peterson) 





Secretary RWCS

SUE JONES TAGLIAPIETRA

All board members, the business manager and one guest were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Minutes were approved as mailed.

Announcements:

- A very professional traveling display has been developed and is available.
- The joint venture with the Minnesota Historical Society was successful and was good publicity for both organizations.
- There has been a number of articles written in publications about Red Wing Pottery, Historian, Steve Brown, reported the 25th anniversary committee continues to finalize activities for Convention.
- Business Manager, Kay Wilshusen, gave her report that included:
 - Review of the March financial reports indicated the bridge loan has been repaid.
 - The policy for Board member expense reimbursement will be within 30 days of submission, the same as the payment schedule of other bills.
 - Membership Report- 6,379 newsletters were mailed in April and 132 new member packets were sent January through March 2002. All complimentary memberships have full membership benefits.
 - There will be Show and Sale rules/policies/instructions posted for MidWinter and July Convention

RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding of sellers/helpers in the future. In addition, there will be a new layout for the July Convention Show and Sale and the potential of bringing the people who do souvenir sales from the hall into the gym to address safety concerns.

- The number of hours of computer programming completed by Star Tech has exceeded the number of budgeted hours.

- 18 letters were mailed to potential Chapter members in Kansas.

- Convention: The data entry for Convention is current. Moved, seconded and carried that the cost of the Cruise for Two inside cabin-affle tickets will be \$5.00 which includes all costs of the cruise excluding airfare.

Chapter Reports: Kansas will be having their first meeting in May. The officers will be elected at that meeting. Steve Davis is the new president of the Colorado Chapter. Auction Managers, Jeff and Paulette Floyd, reported that auction items postcards are being received.

Commemorative Manager, John Tremble, reported the commemorative production and associated processes are in order. The distribution of the special commemoratives beyond the historical distribution, given will be decided at the July Board of Director's meeting.

Education Manager, Sandy Short, reported there are 21 presenters confirmed for July Convention

Old Business: The Puget Sound Chapter has agreed to sell the new tote bags this year at Convention.

Corrinne Reed reported that there is available space on the RWCS web site to allow for hosting of chapter "sub sites" on the national web site server. Moved and carried to offer

sub-sites on the RWCS web sites for any Chapters that have web sites or plan on developing web sites.

New Business: Two representatives from motels in Red Wing met with the Board. They expressed their appreciation of the Red Wing Collectors Society and the business it brings to the area. There are a select few members who are disruptive during Convention.

The Puget Sound Chapter has requested a \$1000 loan for production of the 2002 button. Moved and carried to approve the Puget Sound request for a \$1000 loan with the understanding that the loan will be repaid within 30 days after the Convention.

Moved and carried to encourage Chapters or individuals to consider providing the cost of an annual membership in order to retain an existing membership or to encourage a new membership.

Jerry Schleich presented information regarding ownership of the Red Wing Stoneware Company names. Moved and carried for the RWCS to continue to explore the concept of providing annual and ongoing value to a gift from Tom Woodruff, owner of the Red Wing Stoneware Company, to the RWCS Foundation for the joint ownership of the Red Wing Stoneware Co, Red Wing Stoneware Company, Red Wing Stone Ware Co and Red Wing Stone Ware Company names.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. on April 27th. The next meeting is July 10th, 2002, Red Wing High School.

Respectfully submitted 

Please note, these minutes are condensed and unapproved and unedited by the RWCS. Any member wishing a full set of minutes may either send a SASE to the Secretary or download minutes from the WCS web site.

RED WING OUTDOOR ANTIQUE SALE

There will be an Outdoor Antique Flea Market held in the streets of historic downtown Red Wing on Sunday, July 7, 2002. It begins at sunrise and will go until 4 pm. Please note that items for sale must be antiques or souvenirs. This event will kick off the week of the 25th Anniversary of the Red Wing Collectors Society Convention, with events occurring all week around town and the official RWCS Convention occurring on Thursday, July 11th at the Red Wing High School. Thousands of visitors and attendees will be in Red Wing during the RWCS 25th Anniversary

Convention. This is the perfect event and audience to sell your items to, so don't miss out!

A \$50.00 donation to the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation secures a 20'x 20' space to display all of your wares. For more information please contact:

Red Wing Collectors Society
Foundation Fundraiser
c/o Diane Hallstrom
P. O. Box 413
Red Wing, MN 55066
Phone 1-800-554-9639
Email diahall@redwing.net

RWCS NEWSLETTER SIZE CHANGE

The U.S. Post Office has been more stringent with all types of mailings since last September, and we have had difficulty with the 2 ounce limit we must adhere to for the Newsletter mailing. Because of this, the RWCS Board and the Newsletter Editors have decided to alter the trim size to meet the USPS requirements. This change will not adversely affect the amount of Newsletter content.

In a time where we are all trying to be cost conscious, this decision will allow us to meet the weight restrictions of the Post Office and enable us to continue to send the Newsletter in a protective envelope to all members in a timely manner at the same postal rate. We wanted to make you aware of this minor change before it occurred.

2002 CONVENTION DISPLAY ROOM

The Convention is coming, the Convention is coming!! Once again, the Display Room will be open and available for your viewing pleasure at the 2002 RWCS Convention. There are still some spots available for additional displays and I'm sure you all have ideas for some interesting ways to show off your prize pieces of Red Wing. Dust off those gems and come show them off at this year's Convention!

Interested parties should contact Barb Brown, Display Room Chairperson, to let her know what kind of display you have in mind. You could submit entries into the

Stoneware, Dinnerware, Art Pottery, and Memorabilia divisions, as well as submitting an entry into the Rare Item category. Last year we had a great group of displays, but let's all blow the doors off this year in honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Red Wing Collectors Society!

Interested parties can contact Barb via the following information:

Barb Brown
Display Room Chair
722 Grafton Street
Ottawa, IL 61350-3028
bbrown@theramp.net
815-434-3800

CLUB NEWS

from the
Education Manager



SANDY SHORT

Friday highlights will include three walks down memory lane for Convention attendees. Helen Bell, a former banquet and keynote speaker will talk about the Potteries and growing up in Red Wing. Mike Back will share childhood memories of visits to his grandparents in Red Wing. He'll also share advertising items from August Becker, who was his grandfather.

Edmond Alpers will repeat his seminar from last year about his work as an industrial engineer at the pottery in the years before it was closed by the strike. This year Byron Gunderson and Larry Peterson will talk about "Protecting and Preserving Your Investment in Red Wing" and "Developing a Goal For Your Collection." Byron will also share his thoughts and research on George Rumrill. Ron Linde will give some insights on "Charles Murphy and His Designs in Red Wing." To see what else is happening, check in this issue of the Newsletter. As always I'm looking for new presenters or

(continued on page 12)

RWCS MISSISSIPPI

The response to the RWCS cruise on the beautiful Mississippi River has been quite successful. We now have a FULL BOAT!! Be ready to weigh anchor on Saturday, July 13th at the Treasure Island Marina. The cruise leaves at 7:00 p.m., but plan on being at the casino around 6:45 p.m. since there isn't parking available at the marina. Cruise participants need to park at the casino and take the shuttle from the casino to the marina. The boat will return to the dock at 9:30 p.m.

Those lucky RWCS members that are signed up for the cruise and have your reservation paid in full will be contacted to confirm your spot on the cruise. Members that are signed up for the cruise but still owe the balance of their reservation will also be contacted in order to pay the balance on your reservation. Full payment must be received prior to Convention in order to confirm reservations.

Due to the wonderful response to the cruise, we are maintaining a wait-list in case there are cancellations. If you would like to place your name on the waiting list, please contact Barb Brown, RWCS Mississippi River Cruise Coordinator.

Waiting-list reservations and balance payments can be mailed to: Barb Brown

RWCS 25th Anniversary
722 Grafton Street
Ottawa, IL 61350-3028

Any questions? Contact Barb Brown
at bbrown@theramp.net
or 815-434-3800. 

EDUCATION *(continued from page 11)*

names of someone you would like to listen to and learn from!!

The Educational Seminars for the 25th Anniversary RWCS Convention will follow a familiar format. There will be 3 orientation sessions for first time Convention attendees on Thursday & Friday. Thursday will feature the shared interest groups and the Art Pottery, Dinnerware and Stoneware identification sessions will be held. Bring your own pictures or items that you would like to have identified to these sessions and learn more about your piece.

Educational seminars include: Iowa Advertising; Odds & Ends of Red Wing; Photographing Your Collection; Recent Dump Finds; Decorating with Red Wing; Wooden Handled Coffee Carafes; Stoneware Fruit Jars; Becker Advertising & A Child's Memories; Red Wing Memorabilia; Pre- 1950's Cookie Jars; Bottles That Say Quack;

Philosophy of Red Wing; Red Wing Bowl-er-ama; Bidding on Ebay; and On the Trail of the Gypsy, Across the Plains and into the Reeds and Photography.

Learn how to show off your Red Wing collection using great photography techniques. Todd and Ivy Hintz will go over all the things you need to know to take better pictures: lighting, composition, color, contrast, and background. See examples of the right and wrong way to photograph your pieces so you don't make mistakes!

After the sessions they'll set up their equipment so you can bring your favorite piece and shoot a digital picture for you to take home. Bring a 3½ floppy disk to transfer the file.

There may be more last minute additions that you will be able to learn about when you pick up your Convention registration packets. 

HELP WANTED

The 25th Anniversary Convention Registration co-chairs need your help! You can join Chuck and Donna Hanson's team in getting your fellow members registered for this special Convention. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, have fun and help during the 2002 Convention. Contact Kay Wilshusen at the Business Office (1-800-977-7927) with questions or to sign up.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(continued from page 4)*

Mighty Mississippi on the "Spirit of the Water" river boat, purchase one of the 500 original, specially commissioned, signed and numbered prints by Red Wing artist, Joyce Anderson, attend one of the Kid's Seminars and receive a ticket for free admission to the Potter's Picnic (if you're a "Kid").

Have a friend, neighbor, or family member you'd like to get "hooked on Red Wing"? Why not present them with a "gift" membership just in time to help celebrate the Red Wing Collector Society's 26th year of existence at this very special 25th Anniversary Convention? 



The Sheldon

Red Wing's Historic Performing Arts Theatre

Don't Miss Hello Dolly!

A Phoenix Theatre Production

Spend a fun-filled evening watching Hello Dolly!
presented by The Phoenix Theater at the
Sheldon Theatre in downtown Red Wing, MN

Show Times: **July 11, 12, 18, 19 at 7:30 p.m.**
July 13 and 20 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Show Ticket Prices: Adults \$12.50, Students \$7.50

To order tickets for the show and dinner gala event or for
further information, call The Sheldon Theatre Ticket Office
at 651-385-3667 or toll free at 800-899-5759.

Ticket Office hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon. through Fri., Noon to 5 p.m. Sat.
Tickets may be purchased online at www.sheldontheatre.org. The theater is
located at 443 West Third Street in downtown Red Wing.

Pottery Place Mall Has It All!

Show & Sale Begins
Wed., July 10th - July 13th
Annual Brat Feed
July 10th 11am-3pm

For pre-registration contact:
Arlone Crowson • Pottery Place Antiques
651-388-7765 Daily Rates Available
Pottery Place Mall Commemorative on Sale -
July 10-13th



2000 West Main Street • Red Wing, MN 55066
651-388-1428

AUCTION

RED WING NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
800 Bk. of E. 7th St., Red Wing, MN

July 9, 2002 - 3:30 pm

Red Wing Stoneware and Art Pottery

Butter Churn, Water Cooler, Assortment of Lids, Jugs, Mini Jugs,
Rum Rill and RW Art Pottery, Ash Receivers,
Dinnerware and Commemoratives.

Catalogs available at \$3.00 each, inspection from noon to auction time.

July 10, 2002 - 3:30 pm

Red Wing Stoneware and Art Pottery

Rum Rill and Red Wing Art Pottery Pieces, Cookie Jars, Ashtrays,
Delta Blue Plates, Bob White Tea Pot, Crocks - Wing, Birchleaf &
Salt Glaze, Bowls, Jugs, Pitchers and Commemoratives.

Catalogs available at \$3.00 each, inspection from noon to auction time.

HOUGHTON'S AUCTION SERVICE

1967 LAUNA AVE. • RED WING, MN 55066 • 651-388-5870

What: Stoneware Sale

Consisting of Red Wing,
Blue/White and miscellaneous
Stoneware in addition to
Red Wing memorabilia

Who: Gail Peck
Dan DePasquale

Where: Super 8 Motel
Conference Room
(Pool Entrance)

When: Wednesday, July 10, 8am to 4 pm
Thursday, July 11, 8am to 12 noon

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

CLASSIFIED ADS

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, 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.

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 (includes typesetting)	60	45

Display Ad Dimensions

Full Page	7½x10
1/2 page (horizontal or vertical)	7½x4½
1/4 page	3½x4½
1/8 page	3½x2½

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 Macintosh in Quark XPress. Ads must be supplied electronically as an EPS or TIFF file for Mac. Be sure to include all fonts used. If you are unsure about acceptability, inquire with the Editor. Quotes supplied for design and makeup if needed; there is a \$50 minimum. Unformatted or unreserved ads will be treated as classifieds.

DEADLINES

Issue	Advertising Deadline
February	January 10
April	March 10
June	May 10
August	July 15
October	September 10
December	November 10

EDITOR ADDRESS

Send all ads with payment. Make checks payable to **Cindy Taube** and mail to: Creative Communications
27950 Bayview Drive
Red Wing, MN 55066

We can't accept checks made out to the Red Wing Collectors Society.

CLASSIFIEDS

RED WING FOR SALE

Complete set of Commemoratives 1986-2001 (16 pieces) \$2,200 plus shipping and insurance. Call mornings or evenings 952-492-3205. 6/02

Commemoratives, 1986-2001, Mint Condition-\$2,500. Price includes duplicates of 1988, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000 & 2001. Call 507-235-6000 anytime.

Commemoratives Mint: 1977-2001. I was there Stickers, Tags & Pamphlets included, \$8,500; 12" Dashhound Planter #906 w/Sticker, mint - \$325. Call 330-494-9396. 6/02

Autographed Copy of 'Clay Giants, the Stoneware of Red Wing and Goodhue County, Minnesota,' by Lyndon C. Viel. 1977-78 Price Guide. Call 262-646-3453.

Handles and Wooden Lids. Send SASE for flyer to: Larsen's Collectibles, 757 120th Street, Hampton, Iowa 50441-7555. Phone 641-866-6733. 4/03

Commemoratives: 1991-\$110, 1993-\$80, 1994-\$65, 1995-\$70, 1996-\$90, 1997-\$70, 1998-\$80, 1999-\$70, 2000-\$75, 2001-\$75, or all for \$725. 4" Yellow Vase with Paper Red Wing Sticker-\$30, 3# Butter Crock-\$75, 4 Provincialware Ind. Casseroles w/Lids (1 Lid has a chip)-\$50, 1996 Red Wing Stoneware Grayline Batter Bowl-\$40. Call Rita (952) 890-0873.

Red Wing Potteries, Inc. Handpainted Dinnerware: Bobwhite 1955 by Charles Murphy, 12 of each Plates, Cups, Saucers and Salad Plates. Plus many extra and rare pieces, Mugs, Tea Pot with Holder, Platters, Vegetable Bowls, Cereal Bowls, Butter Warmer, Salt & Pepper Birds (2 sets), Creamer, Sugar, Marmet Handled w/Lid, Jugs, etc. Excellent Condition. Please call 308-632-8468 or write: Donna R. Murphy, 211 W 31st Street, Scotts Bluff, NE 69361.

Commemoratives: 1981, 1983 to 1990, 1991 (2), 1992 to 2001. Mint Condition, all 21 \$2,500. Call 319-436-2911.

Commemoratives: Mint Condition 1977 thru 1999-\$8,500. Call 608-655-4587 after 6pm. 12/02

Our 4th Annual Dinnerware and artware sale in booth 62 at the Superior Antique Depot, 933 Oakes Ave., Superior, WI. Starts on Monday, June 24 through Sunday, July 14. 10 to 5 daily. (closed July 4). We have a nice selection on 15' shelves and in our display case. Stop and see us going to or coming from Convention here is Superior, Wisconsin.

RED WING FOR SALE

Saffron S. Dakota Adv. Beater Jar-\$180, Pantry Jar-Wisconsin Adv. w/Lid-\$600, Spongeband Iowa Adv. Bailed Butter Jar-\$500. Call Sid 701-749-2586.

Commemoratives: Mint Condition; set 1991-2001-\$1,050, 1994 20lb. Crock Commemoratives (2 available)-\$100 each, 1995 Giraffe Planter Commemorative-\$100, 1996 Grayline Cooke Jar Commemorative-\$100. Call 218-724-5703 after 2:00 pm. 8/02

20 Gal. Birchleaves-\$175, 25 Gal. Crock-\$400, 20/25 Gal. Crock Lid-\$350, 5 Gal. Water Cooler w/Lid and Spigot-\$900, 2-3-4 Gal. Crock w/Ski-\$150/each. 3 Gal. Crock Lid-\$150, 3 Gal. Butter Churn Lid-\$150, 5 Gal. Shoulder Jug-\$150, 5 Gal. (Ball/Lock) Applesauce Crock-\$350, 1999 Commemorative-\$75, Bean Pot Clear Lake, SD Advertising-\$150, Excellent Condition. Call 703-492-2038.

Commemorative: 1987-2001 (2 complete sets)-\$1,500 per set, also R.W. Sewer Pipe-\$100, Minnesota Centennial Trivet-\$100, and also complete set of Bob White Dishes and extra pieces, negotiable, everything in mint condition along with newsletters for this period of time. Call 507-567-2576 or email: bjsevert@smig.net.

Moving to Florida. 2001 Convention Winner "Best of Show" 48 different colors #505 Red Wing vases-\$2,500, will deliver to 2002 Convention. R.W. Water Coolers, Spongeware Umbrella Stand, Salt Glaze Crock and Jugs, Lids, Commemoratives - including 1995 and 2001 Special Commemorative, Art Pottery, Cookie Jars, Spongeware, Spongeband, 50 Gal. Birchleaf Crock, Blue Stipple RumRill, plus Watt-ware, Roseville, Hull and Weller pottery. Send your want list to www.kineticobyaquaruis.com or Fax: 651-777-0437 or call 651-775-3376. L.M. serious inquiries only! All inquiries will be answered.

RWCS Commemoratives: 87-\$150; 89-\$275; 90-\$100; 91-\$100; 92-\$90; 93-\$125; 94-\$90; 95-\$85; 96-\$125; 97-\$125; 98-\$100; 99-\$75; 2000-\$85; 2001-\$85. 7-inch Spongeband Bowl w/Adv. L.E. Frederickson, Elmore, MN-\$250; 1 pt. Beanpot Omar Adv.-\$75. Phone 507-526-5966.

AUCTIONS

Antique Auction June 22, 10:30 a.m. Sauk Center, MN Fairgrounds. Red Wing, Wattware, Furniture and much more. Phone 320-352-2505 or doug@mainstreetcom.com

CURRENT PRICES & SCOOPS

Tell us about the price received for a Red Wing product. Briefly describe item, where sold, date, venue (store, auction, etc.) and price paid. Send in on a post card. Multiple submissions mean multiple entries in Newsletter Special Commemorative Lottery at the 2002 Convention. Send to the Editor at the address on page 3. All entries received between July '01 and June '02 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the Newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE SOLD	VENUE	PRICE PAID
3-4 Zinc Churn Lid, no cracks or chips		11/01	E-Bay	\$104.00
Hull, IA Advertising Stoneware Sponge Pitcher	Iowa	11/01	Auction	\$250.00
5 Gal. Albany Beehive (no stamp), mint	Tucson, AZ	1/02	Antique Shop	\$98.00
4 Gal. Beehive Birchleaf Jug, w/Oval, Handturned, mint	Gladwin, MI	1/02	Antique Shop	\$200.00
Beater Jar w/ Advertising, mint	Ixonia, WI	1/02	Auction	\$170.00
Novelty Planter Violin, #1484, Yellow Fleck	New Philadelphia, OH	1/02	Antique Mall	\$51.00
Vase w/Handles #734	New Philadelphia, OH	1/02	Antique Mall	\$79.00
9 1/2" Butterscotch Green Interior				
Vase #975 6" Ivory/Brown	New Philadelphia, OH	1/02	Antique Mall	\$45.00
Wipe Magnolia Group				
Tea Pot - Bob White Pattern, mint	Williamstown, WV	1/02	Antique Mall	\$63.00
Bottom Marked Brown & Turquoise on Brown Fleck Background				
15 Gal. Butterfly Crock, side stamped	Aplington, IA	1/02	Private Sale	\$2,500.00
12 Gal. Butterfly Crock, side stamped	Aplington, IA	1/02	Private Sale	\$2,000.00
25 Gal. Butterfly Crock, side stamped	Aplington, IA	1/02	Private Sale	\$8,000.00
Saffron Bowl #6, mint	Ixonia, WI	1/02	Auction	\$80.00
12 1/2" Blue Plate	Blooming Prairie, MN	1/02	EBay	\$5.99
(P.229 Ray Reiss Book One) Unmarked Shape #48				
3# Zinc Glaze Butter Jar	Des Moines, IA	2/02	Auction	\$3,200.00
Corner's New Store, Owatonna, MN Adv.				
3# Zinc Glaze Butter Jar	Des Moines, IA	2/02	Auction	\$4,000.00
Stieren - Jerman Co. General Merchandise - West Point, NE Adv., Bottom Signed				
20 Gal. Salt Glaze Crock,	Des Moines, IA	2/02	Auction	\$1,250.00
Butterfly Design, Side Stamped, Hairline				
1/4 Gal. Zinc Glaze Shoulder Jug	Des Moines, IA	2/02	Auction	\$2,000.00
"Medicinal Use" Whiskey Jug, Creston, IA Adv.				

RED WING WANTED

RumRill Athenian Group, Ivory Bowl #573; Blue and White Lily Bowl; 10 Gal. Red Wing Crock with H.C. Schranck, Co. Milwaukee advertising in blue ink. Call 262-544-6336. 8/02

16" Bread Bowls, Unsigned or Bottom Signed; Minn. Stoneware, Red Wing Stoneware. Name your Price. Call 507-753-2826. 8/02

8 Gal. Salt Glaze Crock with Cobalt Leaf, signed or unsigned. Also Red Wing Ash Receivers. Contact Harry Scharmer, 619 Eau Claire Blvd., Wausau, WI 54403 or Call 715-845-5510.

Top Half of 4 Gal. White Success Filter. Call 605-665-2889 and leave message. 8/02

RED WING WANTED

Advertising Butter Cocks from 1 Pound to 10 Gallons. Also wanted, rare Salt Glaze Cocks, Jugs, Churns, Etc. What have You? Call Roger Hildebrand, 218-863-6624 or email: redwgrog@prtel.com. 6/02

CLUBS AND PUBLICATIONS

Two great books: Red Wing Stoneware (NEW 2002 values) and Red Wing Collectibles (2001 values). \$9.95 each or \$17.95 for both plus \$1.25/\$1.75 postage, respectively. Quantity discounts available. Gail Peck, 2121 Pearl, Fremont, NE 68025. 402-721-5721. 12/02

CLUBS AND PUBLICATIONS

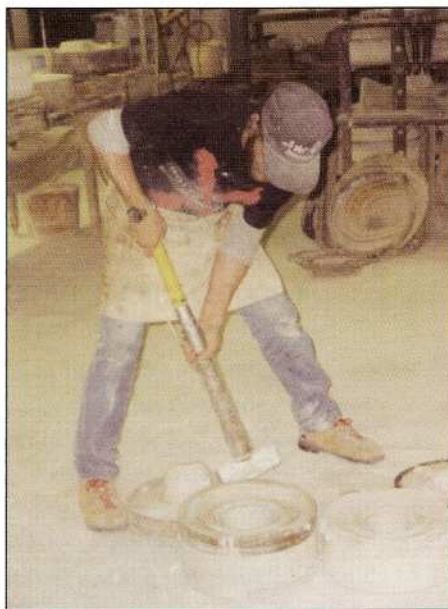
A must for Art Pottery collectors: Encyclopedia of Red Wing Art Pottery. This is a hardback book and contains over 500 color pictures, along with current pricing with each picture. This book includes a wide variety of Red Wing Art Pottery, RumRill, and Dinnerware. The pieces in this book can still be found to purchase. Sale priced at: \$21.95 plus \$2.00 postage. Send \$23.95 to: Dollen Books, PO Box 67, Minden, IA 51553. All books will be autographed. 6/02

LOWERED PRICE: Red Wing Art Pottery 2 by Ray Reiss is now \$29 plus \$5 s&h. Red Wing Dinnerware Price & Identification Guide \$12.95 plus \$1.75 s&h. Ray Reiss, 2144 N. Leavitt, Chicago, IL 60647. 12/02

Everyone believed back then that there was an abundance of stoneware for everybody. Everyone was happy when someone else found a new piece. As the society grew and through auctions, the value of Red Wing steadily increased. Very few other collectibles or antiques in the last 25 years have gone up in value as much as Red Wing. Today, Red Wing is a highly sought after collectible which can be used as an investment opportunity for the future. When the stock market has gone down, I have gained much security knowing that my Red Wing collection has held or gone up in price! Twenty-five years ago my prayer was simply to get some of that money back if I ever sold. What I never counted on was the love and enjoyment that I received from my Red Wing experience. I found that many other folks were having my same experience. As more people collected and shared their experiences, the Society and the collecting exploded to a place that I could have never dreamed.

Today, I just met another couple that started collecting less than a year ago. Listening to their excitement and to their enthusiasm for the Convention this summer, I realized that the Red Wing experience is still happening.

Some of the changes that I have observed are that in the beginning you found items in antique stores and at estate auctions. Today, we have Ebay, auctions of just Red Wing, the Convention sales and auctions, the MidWinter GetTogether, networking, and even a shop that specializes in just Red Wing right in the city of Red Wing, MN. Convention size grew



from 300 to now thousands. The Convention started as one afternoon, and now stretches over a week's time this year. People are getting together monthly in many states thanks to the ever-increasing number of Society chapters. One book started it all, and today over a dozen different books have been printed involving the stoneware, art pottery, and the dinnerware line. It is one of the country's largest collector's societies. A complete set of the commemoratives are valued in the \$8,000 range. I remember that in 1978 there were commemoratives left over that didn't sell. The early collectors did not specialize; they bought every piece that they could get their hands on and get into their car. Today, collectors seem to want to specialize, sometimes right from the beginning. Early collectors never sold anything. Today collectors are weeding out their collection so that they can up-grade and trade in order to continue acquiring the coveted pieces. All of these changes are the



Do you every wonder what happens to the original Commemorative molds? Now you know. These pictures show the molds being destroyed at the Monmouth facility.

results of good pieces that used to be in the \$100 range, but are now in the \$5,000 to \$25,000 price range.

One of the most exciting things going on in the RWCS today is the delightful addition of programs and activities for children. My personal dream for many years has been to have a free museum open seven days a week. Last year this dream came true. The formation of the non-profit Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation Museum, which is located on the second floor of the old Pottery building, is the realization of this dream. This museum allows collectors and the public alike to view the complete range of what Red Wing produced.

As I look back on my thirty years of collecting, I only wished that I had bought more and sold less; but whoops, there might have gone my marriage! So much has changed in the last twenty-five years, but the excitement of collecting, and the joy of having it and seeing it always grows for me. I wish you the same. 