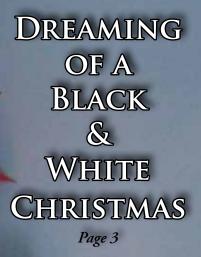


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MEMBERSHIP

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

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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NEWS BRIEFS

PRE-REGISTER FOR MIDWINTER GETTOGETHER

Don't forget to register for the MidWinter GetTogether in Des Moines, Feb. 8-10, 2013. The preregistration deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 15. You can register with a credit card online at www.RedWingCollectors.org, call the RWCS Business Office at 800-977-7927 or mail in the form on page 13 of the October *RWCS Newlsetter*. If you'd like to set up a table at the Show & Sale, you must request a seller's contract by Monday, Jan. 21. The cost is \$35.

The Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites has a room block on hold until Jan. 15, but rooms could book up before that date, so call them ASAP at 515-278-4755 and indicate you are an RWCS MidWinter attendee. See the page 12 of the October newsletter for more MidWinter information. As always, we'd love volunteers to help out at the registration table, Show & Sale, etc. Contact RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner.



Also, be sure to place your order for a MidWinter 2013 stoneware sheriff name badge made by Maple City Pottery (sample pictured). Pre-ordered badges are \$8 and they can be personalized with your name at no extra charge. A limited number of badges will be available for purchase at the event for \$10. To order your badge, check the corresponding boxes on the order form or on online by Jan. 15.

MIDWINTER 2013 - THE KIDSVIEW ROUND UP

This year, KidsView participants at MidWinter will be corralled for both education session time slots. From spittoons to Round Up dinnerware, the children will learn all about Red Wing's Wild West story. Children will also have the opportunity to paint a cup with their version of the Red Wing Round Up/ Chuck Wagon pattern. Other projects with Play-Doh, beads and more are planned. So check your child in at our version of a one-room schoolhouse in the Holiday Inn & Suites' Indiana Room before you hustle off to your session. KidsView is also looking for volunteers, so please contact the office at DIRECTOR@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG or 800-977-7927 if you'd like to participate.

Art Pottery Cross Reference Now Online

RWCS Member Paul Gustafson created a cross reference for people looking for info on specific Red Wing art pottery shape numbers and it's available for all members to use. Available in Microsoft Excel format on the "Resources" page in the members-only section of the RWCS website, this tool can save you lots of time when doing research. The cross reference lists the size and function of the piece with each shape number. It also lists which Red Wing reference books the piece is mentioned or pictured in, and includes page numbers. Thanks, Paul, for creating this excellent tool!

SHARED INTEREST GROUP LEADERS WANTED

We revived the Shared Interest Groups at the 2012 Convention and we're seeking members to lead up the groups for Convention 2013. We need people to take on categories like stoneware, dinnerware, art pottery...any special collectors market you can think of. If interested, contact Stacy Wegner or RWCS Education Manager Glenn Beall.

GIVE THE GIFT OF RWCS MEMBERSHIP

 D_{s}^{o} you know someone who should be a member of the Red Wing Collectors Society? Consider giving them the gift of RWCS membership this holiday season. We can send the membership packet and card to you in time for Christmas or as a hostess gift. Contact the office right away and we can assist you.

FOUNDATION SEEKS AUCTION DONATIONS

If you've been looking for a way to help support the RWCS Foundation and the new Red Wing Pottery Museum, how about donating a few pieces to be auctioned at the 2013 MidWinter GetTogether? The Foundation is seeking stoneware, dinnerware or art pottery items to auction to raise funds that will go towards the purchase of the Pottery Annex. To donate an item, contact Dave or Diane Hallstrom (contact info on page 5).



ABOUT THE COVER

Do you incorporate Red Wing's wares into your holiday dining or decorating? We asked RWCS members that very question in last December's *RWCS Newsletter*, and although a year has passed since then, a few of our fellow collectors remembered to send in some photos.

First off, RWCS Member Bill Furdon snapped some photos of his annual Christmas display of Red Wing art pottery for the cover. We last visited with Bill in December of 2008, when his "Blue Crackle Christmas" display was pictured on the cover of the newsletter. This year Bill has decorated with the following black and white pieces: #M1515 honeycomb vase, #M1485 vase (holding pinecones), #1583 vase (holding poinsettias), #1340 Pegasus, #5016 small black bulbous vase, #5031 large white bulbous vase, #1621 black bud vase, #M1510 vase with metal holders (holding red candle) and #455 and #445, which are small and large RumRill leaf vases. Bill also shares how he has assigned functional purposes to his art pottery; see page 11 for the story.

Also check out the back cover, where RWCS Members Don & Bonnie Klatt share photos of their family's holiday table setting and RWCS Members Ann & Jack Haase share how they're decorating with stoneware this Christmas.

We also hear memories from former Red Wing Potteries employee Joy Nygaard, who worked at the Potteries from 1947 to 1967, and then the Red Wing Potteries Salesroom from 1967 to 1989. Her son, RWCS Member Cary Nygaard, also worked for the two companies when he was in his late teens and early 20s. Their fascinating tales begin on page 7.

On behalf of the RWCS, Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope everyone is able to take time this holiday season to enjoy the company of family and friends and be thankful for the good things in their lives. Unless the Ancient Mayans get to say "We told you so," we'll see you in 2013.

CLUB NEWS



STACY WEGNER Executive Director

Seasons Greetings, RWCS members! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the holidays.

If you haven't already done so, it's time to get yourself registered for MidWinter Wild, Wild West! Registration and seller's table requests are available until the sun goes down on Jan 15. After that you'll have to pull up your rig and register in Des Moines. Don't forget to preorder your stoneware sheriff's badge for MidWinter; they are just \$8 in advance or \$10 on site.

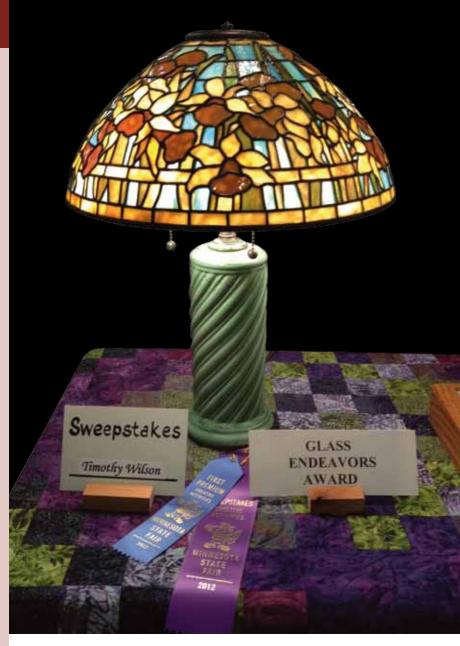
Back by popular demand, we'll silent-auction a set of all three versions of the 2012 Chromoline Commemorative at MidWinter, plus KidsView and Young Collectors items. Winners will be announced during the Show & Sale. Commemorative Manager Bob Morawski also has some other plans up his sleeve; large versions of the Chromoline vases and special candy dishes will be auctioned live.

Education Manager Glenn Beall is still rustling up a couple of speakers, but KidsView is raring to go with Sue Jones Tagliapietra. The children will be corralled for both education session times on Saturday during MidWinter. From spittoons to Round Up dinnerware, the children will yearn to learn all about Red Wing's Wild West story. Children will also have the opportunity to paint a cup with their version of Red Wing's Round Up/ Chuck Wagon pattern. Other projects are planned with Play-Doh, beads and more. Sue will need some extra help this year, so please considering volunteering at MidWinter KidsView.

The Badger Chapter will host the Friday Night Watering Hole and has some really great door prizes and auction pieces this year. So, come with your bidder hand ready or dress in your best Western garb to compete for door prizes.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with MidWinter registration, set up and tear down. Contact me today; no small amount of volunteer time will be turned away!

When packing for MidWinter, don't forget your red name badge holders or old plastic holders, your volunteer pin and your boots, cowboy hat, chaps, spurs, gold buckles, etc. As always, visit the RWCS website to learn more about the 2013 MidWinter GetTogether. Best wishes to all for a happy holiday season!



WILSON WINS BACK-TO-BACK HONORS

R WCS Member Veronica Wilson reports that her husband, Tim, took top honors once again at the 2012 Minnesota State Fair with his newest creation – a Tiffany reproduction stained glass lamp shade he made for a Red Wing (Rumrill) lamp base in the couple's favorite Opalescent Green glaze. If this sounds familiar, it's because Tim won the same honors at the 2011 Minnesota State Fair with a shade he made for a different RumRill lamp base, as we reported in the April 2012 *RWCS Newsletter*.

Tim's shade won first place in its category (Glass Lamp Shades Under 16 Inches) and then won the sweepstakes for its division, which included anything made from glass. Judges take all of the blue ribbon category winners from about 20 glass categories in the division, then judge for the sweepstakes.

Veronica says Tim is planning to go for a three-peat next year; he'll soon start on a new Tiffany reproduction lamp shade that will be entered in the 2013 Minnesota State Fair if completed in time. The next shade is being made for a Red Wing Nokomis #887 lamp base. Congratulations and good luck, Tim!



WE'RE ALMOST THERE! News from Your New Red Wing Pottery Museum

Story by Dave Hallstrom, RWCS Foundation President

First off, I'm happy to report that we are extremely close to finalizing our purchase of the west half of the Pottery Place Annex building for the new museum space. We were hoping to close on the building by the time this issue of the newsletter went to print on Dec. 3, but as discussed in the last issue of the *RWCS Newsletter*, this is a complex process with many moving parts. However, we believe the purchase will be finalized by the end of December and we expect to share the good news via e-mail blast, with a more detailed article appearing in the February newsletter.

Thank you for the many positive comments about the article in the last issue of the *RWCS Newsletter* on questions and answers regarding the RWCS Foundation and Red Wing Pottery Museum. Here are a few more questions that I've been asked recently.

Q. What is the RWCS Foundation, and why was it formed?

A. The RWCS Foundation is a not-for-profit foundation, 501 (c) 3, formed to preserve the history of the pottery industry in Red Wing, Minn., and to share that history in ways to enhance the public's knowledge of and appreciation for pottery as an art form and as an important part of American culture.

The RWCS Foundation was the result of the 1996 RWCS Vision Committee. This committee's job was to look at future needs of the RWCS as a whole. Therefore, the RWCS Foundation was formed, which allowed the RWCS to donate the interest it accrued from its savings accounts to the Foundation for the support of the education and preservation of clay industries in Red Wing, Minn. The RWCS Foundation got its formal approval from the IRS on December 7, 2000. This was accomplished by the incredible work of the late Jerry Schleich, who served as the RWCS Treasurer from 2000-2004.

Q. What is the difference between the RWCS Foundation and the Red Wing Pottery Museum?

A. The answer is simple. The RWCS Foundation is the business aspect of the Red Wing Pottery Museum, and the Red Wing Pottery Museum is the brick and mortar portion of the RWCS Foundation that displays the many artifacts and educational materials within.

Q. Minnesota's Give to the Max Day was Thursday, Nov. 15; how successful was it?

A. Give to the Max Day was created several years ago as a day for

all not-for-profit organizations in Minnesota to be recognized. Last year was our first year to participate, and with the help of Larry Peterson and my wife, Diane, we raised more than \$6,000. This year, the three of us were able to raise more than \$11,300 thanks to you, all of our donors. Looking forward to next year!

A few days later, we learned that an RWCS member will donate \$30,000 spread out across the next five years. We thank that donor for their incredible generosity!!

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments regarding your museum, please do not hesitate to contact me. And if you'd like to be on our e-mail list, please e-mail Diane or me with your name and contact information.

Dave Hallstrom, President • HALLSTROMD@HOTMAIL.COM 612-718-0331 • 787 Hallstrom Drive, Red Wing, MN 55066 Diane Hallstrom, Curator • DIANEHALLSTROM1@GMAIL.COM 612-247-9876 • 787 Hallstrom Drive, Red Wing, MN 55066



RWCS Foundation Board Members Larry Peterson and Diane & Dave Hallstrom pose next to the Foundation's booth at the 2012 Minnesota Give to the Max Day on Nov. 15. More than \$11,300 was raised to help with the purchase of the new museum space!

Uber rare half gallon Red Wing jug with Sunnyside adv. Photo by Steve Burgess.

THE "SUNNYSIDE" OF UTAH'S MINING

INDUSTRY Story compiled by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

The threat of getting a lump of coal for Christmas had a more realistic chance of coming true for children living in Sunnyside, Utah at the turn of the 20th century, as the town was one of the leading coal producing communities in the West.

Located at the mouth of Whitmore Canyon in Carbon County, Sunnyside was first settled in 1896 by three brothers – John,

Jeff and William Tidwell, cattlemen who discovered coal in the eastern part of the Book Cliff Mountains. A sample of the coal was found to be ideal for coking and a representative of the Utah Fuel Company purchased the land shortly thereafter. Coal mining began in Sunnyside in 1898, which brought an influx of settlers to the town. Sunnyside was connected by rail to nearby Mounds, Utah the following year and the first school house was built in 1901.

SUNNYSIDE

MERC. CO.

SUNNYSIDE,

UTAH.

Early settlers lived in tents until the Utah Fuel Co. had houses built. Nearly 500 ovens were built between 1902 and 1903 to make coke, a near smokeless byproduct of coal used for fuel and as a reducing agent for smelting iron ore in blasting furnaces.

Saloons were among the first structures built in most mining towns, and Sunnyside was no different. Lonely men made up the majority of the population. They wanted their whiskey, beer, gambling and prostitutes and the saloons were happy to fill the need. At first it was difficult for independent entrepreneurs to open shop in Sunnyside and surrounding areas, as the Utah Fuel Co. controlled the land and they wanted miners and their families to shop at company-owned stores.

This changed when a Utah legislator introduced a law in 1901 that prohibited mining companies from preventing merchants from doing business on company property. Residents appreciated the lower prices these independent businesses offered, although the Utah Fuel Co. still had the advantage of proximity by forcing upstarts to locate a good distance from town. The mining company also issued company "script" which employees could use as credit to carry them between paydays. Most independent merchants couldn't afford to do this.

The exact dates of the Sunnyside Mercantile Co.'s existence are unclear, but according to the *Red Wing Potteries Ledger*, an order for (200) $\frac{1}{2}$ gal, (100) 1 gal and (24) 2 gal advertising jugs was placed with the Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. on March 22, 1907.

An ad in the March 2, 1917 issue of *The Sun* (a newspaper in Price, Utah – 28 miles from Sunnyside), stated that the New Golden Rule Store was moving to its new location at the Sunnyside Mercantile Co., which was managed by Jack "J.B." Pessetto. According to *Whispers from the Past, Part II, Sunnyside* by Johnny L. Martinez, Pessetto took over a Sunnyside



store in 1911 that was opened by "grocery man" Ike Glaser in 1901. Although the name of the store isn't listed, it's feasible that this was the Sunnyside Mercantile Co. Glaser also operated a saloon – one of at least five drinking establishments operating in Sunnyside in 1906. According to Martinez's book, seven train cars of beer were consumed by Sunnyside miners in June of 1906 – two by Glaser's saloon alone.

An ad in the Feb. 14, 1919 issue of the *The Sun* announced a 20 percent sale on everything at the Mercantile except for groceries, as the store had too many items in stock. The New Golden Rule Store was not mentioned in this ad, so perhaps that arm of the business had been integrated into the Sunnyside Mercantile Co. by that point.

Pessetto was also character in *The Sunnyside War*, a fact-based novel by Fred Civish, which dealt with labor relations in Utah's coal mining industry in the early 1920s. In the book, the Sunnyside Mercantile burned to the ground in 1922 and arson was suspected, as Pessetto's business was a major competitor of the Utah Fuel Co. stores.

By the early 1920s, the Utah Fuel Co. had built about 400 houses in town. According to *History of Sunnyside, Utah* written by Frank G. Farlaino in 1991, monthly rent ranged from \$7.50 to \$12; electricity was an extra \$1 and water was \$.50.

The town's population once neared 3000 people. During its most prosperous years, the Utah Fuel Company had 1200 men on its payroll. For many years Sunnyside had the distinction of working more days in the year than any other coal mine in the United States.

Eventually the nation's dependency on coal started to decline. Railroads and homes started turning to oil, natural gas and electricity. U.S. sugar refineries, which used massive quantities of coal, were hit hard after WWI, when European sugar entered the American market. The coke oven operation was shut down in 1927 and the Utah Fuel Co. started cutting its work force. Cutbacks were accelerated during the Great Depression and the town reached a low point in 1933 when the mine employed only 46 men. A complete shutdown was averted in 1938 when WWII loomed, as the demand for steel increased the need for coal. But, it was short-lived. Coal mining has long since declined in the area and today less than 500 people live in the once

booming town.

Thanks to Kathy Hamaker of www. CARBON-UTGENWEB. COM, who supplied the photo of the token and much of the research material used in this article. Newspaper advertisements found on the National Endowment for the Humanities website.





Most Red Wing collectors associate the "Nygaard" surname with Dennis Nygaard – a member of the RWCS Hall of Fame who's best-known for the many discoveries he's made when digging in the Red Wing Pottery Dump. But you might be surprised to learn that a different Nygaard has even deeper ties to Red Wing.

Dennis' aunt, Joy Nygaard, worked in the Red Wing Potteries front office between 1947 and 1967 and then served as the office manager at the Red Wing Potteries Salesroom from 1967 to 1989. Her responsibilities varied over the course of her long career, but serving as the personal assistant to Red Wing Potteries President turned Potteries Salesroom owner Richard A. Gillmer was one of her primary roles. Joy's son, Cary, also worked at the Potteries from 1965 to 1968 and then again from 1972 to 1975.

This fall, Joy and Cary sat down and shared stories from their days at the Potteries, beginning with Joy's memorable interview in 1947. Armed with letters of recommendation from short stints with the Mayo Clinic and a bank in North Dakota, Joy was 20 years old when she decided to apply for a job at the Red Wing Potteries.

"I remember interviewing with Harry Barghusen, who was the Red Wing Potteries office manager at the time," Joy says. "He told me he didn't have any positions open, but he said he was planning on firing someone soon and would let me know when the position opened up. I started work a couple weeks later."

With a starting salary of \$1.25 an hour, Joy first served as a typist, typing six-part invoices and performing other miscellaneous office tasks. It was a hot summer; the office wasn't air conditioned and there was only one floor fan to be shared by all.

"None of the girls in the office had a car – some walked to work and some of us got a ride from Harry, who picked us up at the post office and dropped us of there at the end of the day," Joy says. "I remember once some kids started throwing snowballs at his car. He jumped out of his car, caught the kids and gave them a tonguelashing. I don't think they ever threw snowballs at cars again after that. The funny part was that Harry was a very big man, but he sure could move when he wanted to."

Joy took a leave of absence from 1948 to 1953 so she could stay at home with her children when they were young: Rodney, Cary and Susan. She kept her relationship going with the Potteries during those years by doing some part time work at home and returned to full-time status in 1953. Barghusen had been appointed as the Potteries president while Joy was away, *Continued on next page*

> Joy Nygaard and her son, Cary, recently reminisced about their days working at the Red Wing Potteries and Potteries Salesroom. Joy's career spanned across five decades; Cary worked at the Potteries while in high school and after he returned from serving in the Air Force.





Left: Joy appeared in the Red Wing Republican on Oct. 4, 1965, promoting the availability of the Minnesota Twins ashtrays. It's interesting to learn that the ashtrays were sold at stadium concessions stands during the World Series.

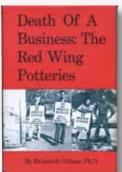
and her strong work ethic resulted in her

becoming one of the leading office employees upon her return.

"In 1955, Harry retired and Forrest Richardson came in as president," Joy recalls. "He had been at the F.B. Foot Tanning Co. in town and had installed new IBM equipment in their offices. The first thing he did at the Potteries was to install IBM equipment and he fired all the office help except myself. Needless to say, I was swamped with work. One day I complained to him saying I needed help. He told me I 'had no foresight.' I didn't even know what that meant at the time."

In 1957, the Red Wing Potteries Board of Directors replaced Richardson with Richard Gillmer, who had been one of the company's top sales people in Chicago. Joy worked her way up the ranks and was eventually promoted to credit manager after completing a correspondence course. Before she knew it, she had a hand in many facets of the company. She even got involved in advertising by photographing and drawing items and designing company catalogs.

"I knew Charlie Murphy really well," Joy smiles, speaking of the well-known Red Wing designer and artist. "He often included me on his designs, asking me and other girls in the office for our opinions. We also helped pick out the names of different dinnerware patterns. I remember driving him to the airport in the Twin Cities once – he told me I could just leave my car at the curb and I ended up getting a parking ticket."



Joy typed The Death Of A Business: Red Wing Potteries, an account of the labor strike and its impact that was handwritten by Potteries President Richard A. Gillmer's son, industrial psychologist Richard S. Gillmer. As an employee, Joy got a 20 percent discount on Red Wing's wares. Another benefit was that she was able to get a job at the Potteries for Cary in 1965 when he was in high school; he started at \$1.53/hour.



Above: The Nygaard family in the mid-1960s: (left to right) Rodney, Gil, Susan, Joy and Cary.

Above: Joy with her late husband, Gil, in 1970.

"In the early days when the Potteries were still operating, one of my main jobs was to move finished product from the plant over to the retail store, where I restocked the shelves and helped out at the front counter," Cary explains. "I also worked in the garden shop portion of the Potteries Salesroom on the weekends, where we sold factory seconds and clay flower pots, bird baths, crocks and other garden ware produced by the Robinson Ransbottom Co. I also did some groundskeeping. But the best part was working in the candy shop that was attached to the Salesroom. We got to eat all we wanted."

Cary also had the unpopular job of drilling holes into dinner plates and inserting a metal handle. These single or tiered "tid bit trays" had become popular with housewives and this conversion made it easier to sell odd test pieces and other plates that didn't match the patterns that remained in stock. Cary admits that he inadvertently broken quite a few of those plates when drilling the holes.

The Strike

Some of Joy's most vivid Red Wing memories come from the labor strike that ultimately closed the Potteries in 1967.

"The labor strike was very traumatic," Joy says. "I had been there for quite awhile; I saw the books and I knew how the company was doing. Competition in the pottery industry was really tough. Some real good friends went on strike. They became foul-mouthed trouble makers and we never spoke again."

"During the strike I was dating a girl whose brother worked at the Potteries," Cary adds. "We were at her house when she told me her brother had showed her how to lay down nails to puncture tires. When he came home, we got into a little scuffle."

"I think the day the plant closed was the saddest day of Mr. Gillmer's life," Joy continues. "The union made certain demands and Gillmer met them. But the union leader and negotiating committee had persuaded the employees to let them vote for them, and they made new demands. That's when the stockholders voted to liquidate the company."

Gillmer bought the Potteries Salesroom and its inventory when the plant closed. He laid off most of the office staff and made Joy the office manager of the Salesroom. He also hired a sales manager to handle the wholesale arm of the business.

Joy had a wide range of responsibilities in her position as office manager. She performed all bookkeeping and auditing for the Salesroom and helped select the different computer equipment that was needed. She considers scheduling employees one of the

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Above: Cary's 1967 wage and tax statement from the Potteries. Right: Cary poses with the family cat and a Red Wing piano planter as a boy. Far right: A very dapper Cary Nygaard in his 1967 senior photo.

more difficult challenges she had, as there were a lot of part-time workers and it was hard to keep everyone happy. Soon Joy became the only non-family member on the Red Wing Pottery Sales Board of Directors. To top it off, she got a 40 percent discount at the Potteries Salesroom.

Most of Cary's responsibilities stayed the same when the Potteries closed. The former production building now known as Pottery Place was strictly used as a warehouse and Cary continued moving finished stock over to the Salesroom until he left for the Air Force in 1968. When he returned to work for the Potteries Salesroom in 1972, Cary continued moving stock from the warehouse to the retail store until the supply was finally depleted in 1973 or 1974. But his main job during those years was to make deliveries to the Twin Cities and other parts of the state.

Memories of Gilmer

Joy and Cary have many memories of Richard Gillmer. Joy says he was a hard man to work for, but he treated her well and she loved her job. "He had quite a temper, but he only yelled at me once," she says.

"Yeah, but you probably had it coming," Cary quips.

"You're probably right," she laughs.

On one occasion, Joy discovered that one of the several high school kids working in the Salesroom was stealing money from the register. She and Gillmer confronted the boy and all he did was shrug his shoulders.

"I felt sorry for the boy for his lack of remorse and almost cried," Joy says. "Mr. G said I was too soft-hearted."

Cary recalls a time when he had gotten into some mischief in town and had to appear in court.

"Gillmer told me to get a haircut," Cary laughs. "But he also trusted me enough to have me drive his Cadillac up to the Twin Cities from Red Wing to pick him up from the airport. That was pretty cool."

"After a few years, when business was good, Mr. G met with me to discuss the salaries for all the employees," Joy says. "He was offering the sales manager a higher salary than he was offering me and since I thought we had the same amount of responsibility, I asked him why. He told me I was his most valuable employee, but the sales manager was a man and he needed more money because he had two kids in college. Can you imagine what would happen if someone said that today? My, how things have changed!"





Despite that occasion, Joy says she felt that Gillmer always looked out for her.

He proved it in 1970, when she was diagnosed with leukemia.

"The insurance company wanted to cancel my policy, but Mr. G wrote to the company and worked with Red Nordgard, the local insurance rep in Red Wing, to get them to continue my coverage," she says. "I ended up being one of the few people who survived leukemia at that time."

In Loving Memory

Although he remained the chairman of the Red Wing Pottery Sales Board of Directors, Gillmer retired in 1978 and his daughter, Susan, took over the family business. Joy didn't always see eye-to-eye with her, but her loyalty to the company never changed. She worked at the Pottery Salesroom until she retired in 1989. She still lives in Red Wing today.

Red Wing collectors will be interested to learn that Gillmer allowed the Nygaards to take several pieces from the Red Wing Potteries production facility after the plant closed in 1967. We'll share those stories in the next issue.

When it became clear that the Red Wing Potteries would close, Gillmer had custom plates made for the remaining office staff. Joy received this pair. (Photographed by Stacy Wegner, RWCS Exec. Dir.)

W W W . R E D W I N G C O L L E C T O R S . O R G

STONEWARE NEWS BRIEFS



BOB DOWNS: 1956-2012

We're saddened to share that Maple City Pottery owner Bob Downs passed away on Nov. 15 at age 56 after a battle with cancer. Bob, also an RWCS Member, brought the RWCS Commemorative to fruition since 2010. He also spoke about the process of making the Commemorative at the 2010 and 2011 RWCS Conventions.

"Bob went to great extremes to give the Society a high quality product over the past three years," says RWCS Commemorative Manager Bob Morawski. "I gave him a difficult task every year and he always came through. He was a talented potter and I really enjoyed working with him. He'll be missed."

Bob was raised in the Quad Cities and had been a potter all of his working life. He began by opening and operating a pottery shop near Davenport, Iowa. Later he did the same for a number of years in Wilton, Iowa. He then went to work at Rowe Pottery in Cambridge, Wis. for five years until he moved to Monmouth, Ill. and opened Maple City Pottery, which he operated for 25 years. In addition to being a master potter, he also loved to dance and enjoyed classic cars. He is survived by two sons.

Morawski reports that Maple City has been left in good hands and he expects the same crew will produce the 2013 Commemorative as planned.

WHAT CAME FIRST - THE CHICKEN OR THE POULTRY?

A question was recently asked about when and why Red Wing switched from "Chicken Drinking Fount" to "Poultry Drinking Fount" on the ink stamp it placed on its feeders. Our immediate thought was to ask RWCS Member Maxine Paxson, who has been collecting chicken feeders with her husband, Bill, for more than 15 years. But it was Maxine who asked the question in the first place, so we thought it best to see if anyone out there has an answer.

"We had been collecting for four or five years before finding our first feeder that actually says 'Chicken Drinking Fount' on it," Maxine says. "We didn't even know one of those existed. Now, of all the feeders in our collection, only three of them actually say 'chicken' – one of them is our feeder that has advertising from Durand, Wis. The 'chicken' stamp is on the side opposite the advertising."

Maxine says the "chicken" stamp came first, but when and why did that happen? From a marketing perspective, perhaps Red Wing switched terms so its feeders would appeal to farmers that raised types of poultry other than chickens, but that's only a guess. If anyone can think of any other reasons why this might have



Above: Red Wing's two variations of feeders. The one bearing "chicken" is more difficult to find than the other.

been done, and approximately what year Red Wing switched from "chicken" to "poultry" on its feeders, please contact *RWCS Newsletter* Editor Rick Natynski. He'll share the information with Maxine and run a follow-up article.



IDAHO ADVERTISING JUG GETS "PICKED"

Collectors who tuned in for the Nov. 26 episode of "American Pickers" on the History Channel were in for a treat when Antique Archaeology's Mike Wolfe pulled a rare 1 gallon Red Wing jug with Lewiston, Idaho advertising out of a junk pile in Idaho. I usually record the show and watch it later, so I didn't know anything about it until the next day, when my wife e-mailed me this photo and a Facebook posting from Lauren at Antique Archaeology's Nashville location who said to contact her for information. RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner had also shared the posting on the RWCS Facebook page, so I figured a fellow collector had already snapped it up. But, I shot off an e-mail just in case. Then I switched on the DVR and watched as the salvager who was liquidating an Idaho property asked Mike if he'd give him \$15 for the jug. Mike's conscience kicked in and he offered \$100. Then Mike said he was going to ask \$300 for it, and a little bit of drool dripped down my chin.

I didn't get a response, so I figured I was a day late and a dollar short, as is often the case in the world of Red Wing. But four days later an e-mail appeared in my inbox from Lauren, saying the jug was still available. She told me she'd write "SOLD" on it. The jug was mine!! This issue went to print before the jug was scheduled to arrive via FedEx, so I'm eagerly awaiting its delivery as I write this. I think I need to reward my wife with a spa day or my attendance at a chick flick. *– Rick Natynski*



Above: #1265 card holder Below: #1591 napkin holder





Above: #1378 toothbrush holder Right: #950 cocktail stirrer holder Below: #606 gravy boat



ART POTTERY MADE FUNCTIONAL

Ithough he's been collecting Red Wing for nearly 20 years, it didn't take long for RWCS Member Bill Furdon's collection to get out of control. With more than 2,000 pieces of Red Wing art pottery and

dinnerware, he easily has one of the largest collections on the East Coast. But what he doesn't have is enough space in his Provincetown, Mass. home needed to display it all, so he's gotten creative by assigning functional purposes to his Red Wing. Bill recently shared pictures and answered some questions about his collection.

Q. How long had you been collecting before you started to give your pottery a 'functional' purpose? What gave you the idea to do that?

A. After my first year of collecting, I was finding myself with lots of different great shapes, but couldn't just put flowers in them. At the time, my ugly napkin holder was taking up space on my kitchen counter. I would much rather have a piece of Red Wing there, so it started with a Pink Fleck #1591 vase, which is also the second piece I ever bought. I have rotated in different pieces several times over the years, but just came across this piece and put it back on the counter.

Q. Where do you use other pieces around the house?

A. I have a hobnail dish on my bureau which holds my keys and spare change. I use other pieces to hold things like my toothbrush or greeting cards. I also began putting different foods into the art pottery like fruits, garlic, dips and even gravy. I like using my Red Wing dinnerware, but it really makes the table look interesting when I can fill the art pottery with different foods. I typically use art pottery for everyday use that is chipped or has mild imperfections. I don't want to be concerned about damage during a dinner party. If you can't reach it in my house, it's most likely that I really don't want you to handle it.

Q. Do you rotate pieces in and out of boxes? If so, how often? Do you bring out certain pieces for different seasons?

A. The collection has really grown over the years, so most of it is kept in storage in large plastic bins. I have broken them down by shape number or glaze. I like certain glazes like Travertine or the black glaze, so I will collect as many pieces as I can and when I want to make a change in my display case, I will pull that box out. I have certain serving pieces I rotate in usually once a year. I don't have a certain color group or pieces for different seasons, but I do have a lot of Gladiola vases in yellow, white and blue fleck that I like to pull out in the summer.

Do you use your Red Wing art pottery for non-traditional purposes? Share your photos and stories with fellow RWCS members by sending them to RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski.





Above: Bill received a beautiful orchid from a friend in an unattractive plastic pot. Since he doesn't like to fill art pottery with dirt, he wedged it into a green Red Wing #M1480 vase.

At left: Included in one of Bill's display cabinets is a white Red Wing #M1485 compote, which he uses to hold pinecones.

ind Dinnerware the Contemporary Line © Copyright 2012 Terry Moe and Larry Roschen Photos courtesy of the authors and WWW.REDWINGDINNERWARE.COM

The information presented here has been gleaned from vintage Red Wing brochures, catalogs, price lists and internal documents as well as trade journals and magazines. In this discussion, a "pattern" is a dinnerware set in a particular shape with a unique handpainted design or color scheme. A "line" is a group of patterns that share the same shapes but have different handpainted designs or colors. Some of the introduction and exit dates presented have not been verified because of gaps in available documentation. When uncertain, an estimated date is provided. The end point of a pattern can be difficult to ascertain. In the 1940s and 1950s a discontinued pattern no longer appeared on price lists; in the 1960s patterns that were no longer in production remained on price lists as "limited stock" with only a few pieces listed. Here a pattern is considered to be discontinued when a full range of items was no longer available and orders were limited to remaining stock.

Each pattern has been assigned an Availability rating and a Collector Interest rating as described below. Availability represents an average for the pattern in question, however the scarcity of certain pieces within the pattern may differ. Collector Interest refers to the pattern in general, but there may be specific pieces in any pattern that are of greater interest to specialty collectors (teapots, pitchers, salt & peppers, etc). Please keep in mind these ratings are the authors' observations; your experience may vary.

<u>Availability</u>

- 1 Rare
- 2 Very scarce 3 – Hard to find
- 4 Average
- 5 Readily available
- <u>Collector Interest</u> 1 – Highly sought, demand exceeds supply 2 – Primarily of interest to specialty collectors 3 – Above average 4 – Average 5 – Below average

Red Wing's Contemporary line was unusual for several reasons. It consisted of only two patterns, but one of them included 25 different pieces while the other had only 12. Most of the pieces had three short legs and a bulbous pot belly shape. The casseroles and salt & pepper shakers had hollow handles that stuck straight out from the sides. Though both patterns were short-lived, there were several variations of the names Red Wing used for them. The odd shapes and color schemes of Contemporary pieces leave no doubt they were made in the 1950s and greatly appeal to those who enjoy mid-century modern design.

White and Turquoise



Above: White & Turquoise munch jar Below: Covered casserole



Availability: 1 Interest: 1

Years: 1955-1956

"Contemporary White", "White and Turquoise" and "White with Turquoise" were names used by Red Wing in its literature. The artwork was a vertical arrangement of turquoise ovals separated by thin black lines on a white background. The tops of the salt & pepper shakers and the tops of knobs on covers were black.

White and Turquoise was not a full dinnerware pattern, as only 12 serving pieces were made: salt & pepper, casseroles in two sizes, bean pots in two sizes, water pitcher, 12-inch salad bowl, marmite, munch jar and canisters in three sizes. It's a mystery as to why no plates, bowls or other tableware were made in White and Turquoise since the molds were made for sister pattern Spruce. But the July 1955 brochure that introduced the Contemporary line made it clear that those pieces were not available in the White and Turquoise design.

Though not stated in Red Wing's promotional literature, it seems likely that White and Turquoise was intended to be used with the Kermis party set, which featured the same colors and was made during the same two year period.

Left: White ぐ Turquoise pitcher



Counter clockwise starting at left: White and Turquoise large bean pot, 12inch salad bowl, salt & pepper shakers and three canisters.









Above: Spruce plates Below: Creamer & sugar





Left: Spruce salt & pepper shakers Below: 12inch bowl Right: Large and small bean pots



Years: 1955-1957 Spruce Availability: 3 Interest: 1

"Contemporary Spruce" and "Spruce Green" were the names used by Red Wing for this pattern. The artwork for Spruce was similar to White and Turquoise but with different colors. Spruce had gray ovals separated with thin brown lines, with a turquoise swatch inside each oval. The background color was gray-green and a fleck green overglaze covered it all. Unlike White and Turquoise, the tops of the shakers and knobs were not colored differently than the background color.



Above: Spruce cup & saucer Below: Beverage server

The original 1955 Spruce lineup included all 12 pieces made in White and Turquoise plus the following: plates in

three sizes, soup/salad/cereal bowl (with three legs), cup, saucer, creamer, sugar and 15-inch platter. In 1956, a nappy bowl was added. And while not shown in any Spruce brochure, the July 1957 dealer price list included three new Spruce items: beverage server with cover (at right), sauce/fruit bowl (no legs) and small platter. Because they were made very briefly, these three items are more difficult to find than other Spruce pieces. The Spruce beverage server had an elongated spout that resembled the stick handle found on the casseroles.





AD RATES

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are 20¢ per word; \$4 minimum charge and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to appearing in the newsletter, classifieds and display ads are posted on the RWCS website.

Ads are divided into the following sections: Red Wing For Sale, Red Wing Wanted, Other Pottery For Sale, Other Pottery Wanted, Events, Auctions, Clubs & Publications and Websites, 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., 4/12. Ads without dates are one-time ads.) Please type or print clearly and proofread before submission.

DISPLAY ADS

1x	6x
\$425	385
225	205
125	115
85	70
7 1/2 x 10	
7 1/2 x 4 7	7/8
3 5/8 x 4 7	7/8
3 5/8 x 2 1	l/4
	\$425 225 125

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

Ads must be supplied electronically as an EPS or PDF file for PC. If you are unsure about acceptability, inquire with the editor. There is an additional 10 percent fee for design and makeup if needed (\$10 minimum).

DEADLINES

Issue	Ads	Editorial	Mail Date
February	Jan. 10	Jan. 1	Feb. 15
April	March 10	March 1	April 15
June	May 10	May 1	June 15
August	July 25	July 15	Aug. 31
October	Sept. 10	Sept. 1	Oct. 15
December	Nov. 10	Nov. 1	Dec. 15

EDITOR ADDRESS

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads:

Rick Natynski PO Box 198 Pewaukee, WI 53072

Can also submit ads by e-mail: send to NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG and send checks separately. Or, call Rick at 414-416-WING (9464).

RED WING FOR SALE

For sale: Clay Giants books I & II (one signed by author Lyndon Viel). Red Wing Flour advertising clothes pin apron, excellent condition. Red Wing mini jugs, including Excelsior Springs, Mo. advertising. Call Jim at 715-635-3581 or Edna at 815-968-6036.

150 advertising bean pots. Most with lids. All in good condition. Selling as one lot. Will not split up. Lot: \$7,500 plus s/h. Many other RW pieces available. Will e-mail list. E-mail EGCI@MSN.COM.

UHL mini jug "Merry Christmas 1937", \$125. Call 541-881-1102.

Copies of the Collecting the Legacy Volumes 1 & 2 combination book are still available. Only 500 copies were printed and a limited quantity remains. \$20 plus \$5 shipping. Contact the RWCS Business Office at 800-977-7927 or MEMBERSHIP@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG to secure your copy.

RED WING WANTED

Wanted: Will trade any of 3 Wisconsin bean pots for South Dakota bean pots that I need for my collection. E-mail DKNEB@TNICS.COM for information. 2/13

Wanted: 5 gallon churn lid. E-mail LARRYABRAHAM@GENEVAONLINE.COM.

Wanted: Advertising bean pots, mixing bowls from Bang's Market, Ada, MN. Contact Renee' Bang, 206-243-4788 BANGSRUS@COMCAST.NET.

Wanted: Pieces from the Spring Song line. E-mail me at PUGTRIO123@COMCAST.NET.

Wanted: Red Wing Kashmir pattern dinnerware. Prefer the darker brown background and more rusty orange design. No chips. Need serving pieces and place settings. Also looking for 4 gallon North Star churn. Contact Nancy at NLMBRT385@CENTURYLINK.NET or 785-691-7213

Wanted: 2 gallon Salt Glaze churns, one with Single "P" decoration, and one with Drop 8 decoration. Will consider hairline cracks and chips. Contact: Larry Birks at 816-380-1096 or BRGTR3@EMBARQMAIL.COM.

Wanted: Red Wing Pitchers: Green Iris, White Cherry Band & Brown & White Dutch Boy & Girl pitcher. Call 716-216-4194. Wanted: The 2 gal wing crock *with bail bandles* that I owned many years ago. Large chip on back rim. Contact Tracy at 319-653-6607 or tracyowens@iowatelecom.net.

Wanted: Advertising crocks, jugs and churns – especially pieces with a decoration & ad. Contact Scott at COBE142@COX.NET or 402-331-4749.

Wanted: Chromoline pcs especially #675, #687 & M3006 in blue/green. Contact Rick at NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG OR 414-416-9464. Will buy damaged, too.

CLUBS AND PUBLICATIONS

Blue & White Pottery Club – Visit the club's website at www.BLUEANDWHITEPOTTERY.ORG.

Collectors of Illinois Pottery & Stoneware – Visit the club's website at www.coips.org.

McCoy Pottery Collectors Society – club's website: www. MCCOYPOTTERYCOLLECTORSSOCIETY.ORG.

MEMBER PASSINGS



RWCS Member Berlon Roy "Lonnie" Spies of Schuyler, Neb. passed away on Aug. 28 at age 83. He is survived by his daughter, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He

was preceded in death by his wife of 41 years, Donna. Lonnie owned and operated Lonnie's Trailer Sales since 1955 and was a partner in Manufactured Mobil and Modular Homes in North Bend, Neb. He was active in the community and enjoyed farming, gardening and antiques (crocks were his favorite).



RWCS Member John Henry Schwartau of Red Wing passed away on Oct. 12 at the age of 89. He is survived by wife, Bernice, and daughter,

Judy. John farmed for more than 40 years. He was active in his church and he devoted his life to family and the wider community in leadership and service in areas of health care, political campaigns, agricultural and historical efforts. With Bernice, he conducted research and fundraising for the John Paul/Red Wing Pottery Industry Historical marker on Highway 58. He also photographed historical barns of Goodhue County; collected tools and gave rope-making demonstrations.

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 to editor Rick Natynski on a post card, e-mail NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG, or enclose in an envelope if you'd like to include a photo for publication. Multiple submissions result in multiple entries in the Newsletter Special Commemorative Lottery at the 2013 Convention. All newsletter submissions received between July 2012 and June of 2013 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE	Q
Beater jar w/ "The People's Store" adv.	Western Iowa	9/12	Auction	\$25. ⁰⁰	
8 pieces of Labriego Hospitality Ware, mint	Northcentral Iowa	10/12	Thrift shop	\$15.00	3
3 gal water cooler lid, mint	Western Iowa	10/12	Auction	\$14.00	101
Zinc glaze Russian milk pitcher, mint	Ralston, NE	11/12	Antique show	\$40.00	
12-inch RW blu-banded bowl	Ralston, NE	11/12	Antique show	$80.^{00}$	
RW Brushware bowl w/"Neenah Floral Co." ac	lv.	11/12	eBay	\$99.00 shipped	AT .
10-inch blue band cut flower jar, base chip	Mo. Valley, IA	11/12	Auction	\$5. ⁰⁰	and the second
16-inch RW #687 Stereoline ivory/green vase	Richfield, WI	11/12	Private sale	\$30.00	411 3
RW Gypsy Trail cabbage cookie jar		11/12	eBay	\$875.00 shipped	
Rare RW mini jug w/Ft. Smith, Ark. adv.		11/12	eBay	\$1301. ⁸⁵ shipped	
Beater jar w/ "Soennichsens" (Neb.) adv.	Glenwood, IA	11/12	Auction	\$25.00	

CHAPTER NEWS

Trails West Chapter

The Trails West Chapter held officer elections during its Oct. 13 meeting. The following members were elected: Larry Birks, President; Nancy Lambert, Vice President; Cecelia LeCluyse, Treasurer; Jim Williams, Secretary; Marilynn Williams, Newsletter Editor; and Dixie Hostetler, Historian. Congrats to all!

Wisconsin Chapter

Nearly 40 people attended the the Wisconsin Chapter's meeting on Oct. 28, which began with a guided tour of the Big Cat Rescue in Rock Springs, Wis. They have nearly 30 big cats like lions, tigers, leopards, panthers and a bobcat residing there.



Lunch followed at the Coach House Restaurant in Rock Springs. A short meeting with Show & Tell, a silent auction and Commemorative

distribution was also held. Members decided that the Wisconsin Chapter's get together at Convention will begin at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10 at Smoking Oaks Restaurant so people can still make it to the RWCS



Foundation's Wine & Cheese party on time.

6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013 Holiday Inn & Suites – Des Moines, Iowa

10 Gal Water Cooler w/Lid, 4 Gal SG, Stamped, Lazy Eight Crock, (2) 10 Gal Lids, Assorment of Jugs, Large Spongeband Refrigerator Jar, Large Spongeband Adv. Pitcher, Saffron Bowls, Casseroles, Pitchers, Dog Dish Adv: Hubbard's Sunshine Dog Food, 1 Qt Stone Mason Jar Squatty w/Blue Label, Assortment of Bean Pots with Advertising, 5 Gal Koverwate, Brushware Cemetery Vase "Dad" Albert C Straub, Large Assortment of Dinnerware, Many Patterns, Tiptoe Dinner Plate w/Glaze Test Codes on Front, Plum Blossom w/Test Codes on Back, Like China Sample Dinner w/Glaze Codes on Back, True China Dinner Plate Tidbit Sample Decoration, Assortment of Magnolia Art Pottery, Matt White Madona Figurine, 1965 Twins World Series Ash Tray, Plus Much More!

Catalogs \$5.00 each available after Jan. 1.

HOUGHTON'S AUCTION SERVICE 1967 Launa Ave, Red Wing, MN 55066 651-388-5870 WWW.HOUGHTONAUCTIONS.COM

HOLIDAY DECORATING WITH RED WING

DINING ON Magnolia For the Holidays

Story & photos by RWCS Members Don & Bonnie Klatt

These are photos of our Red Wing Magnolia pattern dinnerware, which we use for special holidays. We have 12



place settings, but the grandchildren will have to wait a few years until we pull theirs out! Along with the setting, we use my mother's 1947 silverware.



When the Tree Stand is More Significant than the Tree

Story & photos by RWCS Members Ann & Jack Haase

When one's attention is focused on what is holding up the Christmas tree rather than the tree itself, you know there is a Red Wing collector in the room! We have so enjoyed our Red Wing Christmas Tree Holder,



purchased at an auction in Iowa about 15 years ago.

Though the spout has some wrinkles (Don't we all?), we figured out how to fit two layers of PVC pipe inside the spout for stability, and found a tree that would fit in the PVC pipe.

Over the years, the tree has been decorated in various ways, such as with popcorn and candy canes, antique ornaments and this year with HRM plastic cookie cutters from the 1940s and 50s. But, no

matter how grand or how simple the tree is decorated, we find our attention always come back to the Red Wing Christmas Tree Holder!



Coming in the February Issue...



FLORAL DECORATED SALT GLAZE



Designs of Belle Kogan

W W W . R E D W I N G C O L L E C T O R S . O R G