

# HOTEL OR RESTAURANT CHINA

By Larry Roschen & Terry Moe © 2010 Photos courtesy of the authors and [WWW.REDWINGDINNERWARE.COM](http://WWW.REDWINGDINNERWARE.COM).



*Above: A variety of Empire items.*



*Above: Empire plates with colored rims.*



*Above: Some known Regal items.*

Over the past several years, we have found small quantities of plain white dinnerware items with smooth surfaces sometimes bottom marked with the green upright wing stamp that was introduced in the mid 1960s. We assumed that this was intended for restaurant use because the items were very heavy and similar to restaurant dishes made by other potteries. No documentation had been located describing this pattern. In fact, we knew very little about Red Wing's foray into the commercial business because we had only an undated brochure showing the well-known white or beige fleck Hotel or Restaurant China with a ribbed design somewhat similar to Gypsy Trail Reed. In addition, we did not have documentation for the custom china done for Diamond Jim's, Sheraton, Sweden House or Thunderbird.

While recently examining some of the dinnerware-oriented documents in the Hutchison Collection now owned by the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation, we discovered information which greatly clarified the standard Hotel or Restaurant Line. There were actually two patterns in the line. The more familiar ribbed items were called Empire Shape and the plain items were called Regal Shape. Both shapes were available in White or Beige Fleck glaze. Empire was the original pattern and consisted of many more items than Regal. It is also much easier to find today. Unfortunately, the Regal brochure that we viewed was far removed from the original and was very difficult to read. Items listed were: three sizes of plates, a bouillon cup, a sauce or fruit bowl, a cereal or salad bowl and a coffee cup and saucer. Additionally, we found a 9-inch nappy that matched the other items including the green wing.

We also acquired an original Hotel or Restaurant China brochure showing only the Empire items mailed to Mabel's Café in Grand Marais, Minn. On the second page was an ink stamp message from W.C. Ness of Red Wing Potteries describing the availability of the product with colored bands in green, blue, maroon or yellow. We had seen examples of these items over the years, but had no documentation about their origin.

What does all this mean? For one thing, it means that items with a blue band are not automatically Sweden House, nor are items with a maroon band automatically Diamond Jim's. It also means that while banded items are less numerous than the plain items, they are only special order items and should be valued as such rather than as something experimental. ■

White or Oatmeal color  
**HOTEL or RESTAURANT CHINA**  
by **RED WING POTTERIES, Inc.**  
LIST PRICES, SUBJECT TO REGULAR DISCOUNT



SAVE UP TO 50% ON YOUR CHINA  
Direct from Factory  
CONTACT W. C. NESS  
Personal presentation or more information for  
WHITE OR OATMEAL UP TO 50% OFF LIST  
Also available in green, blue, maroon, or yellow band  
Personal patterns available on special order

PLATES			PLATTERS OVAL		
Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.	Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.
9 1/2"	3	\$10.20	8 1/2"	2	\$2.00
9 3/8"	3	\$8.80	"Eggshell"	1	8.00
7 3/4"	3	\$4.40	10 1/2 x 12 1/2"	1	3.00
6 3/4"	3	\$4.60			
5 1/4"	3	7.20			

SOUP BOWLS			BAKERS OVAL			CUPS			SAUCE or FRUIT		
Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.
5"	5.00	3	\$16.80	4 1/2"	2	\$14.00	3 3/4"	7.00	4 1/2"	3	\$7.20
5 1/4"	16.00	3	20.40	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	1	20.60					
				5 1/2 x 9 1/2"	1	24.00					

CEREA - SALAD			POT PIE			BOUILLON CUP			TEAPOT INDIVIDUAL			
Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	List Price Per Doz.	
6 1/2"	3	\$15.60	5 1/4"	8.00	2	\$18.00	4"	8.00	3	\$10.80	4"	14.00

SAUCEBOAT			SUGAR OVAL OPEN			CREAMER			ASH TRAY INDIVIDUAL		
Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.
4 1/2"	4.00	2	\$24.00	2 1/2 x 4 1/2"	8.00	1	\$24.00	2"	3 1/2	1	\$24.00

Above: This is the second page of the Hotel or Restaurant China brochure that shows only the Empire items, which was mailed to Mabel's Café in Grand Marais, Minn.

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Above: The close-up photo shows the ink stamp message from W.C. Ness of Red Wing Potteries describing the availability of the product with colored bands in green, blue, maroon or yellow.

Upper right: The green upright wing stamp, which was introduced in the mid 1960s, is found on the bottom of Regal items.

Immediate right: The shape page from the Regal brochure.

**NEW REGAL SHAPE**  
by **RED WING POTTERIES, Inc.**


**HOTEL and RESTAURANT CHINA**

Featuring:

- IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
- HIGHLY CHIP RESISTANT
- PRESTIGE STYLING
- EXCEEDS GOVT SPECIFICATIONS FOR CHINA
- OVENPROOF
- 1st QUALITY CHINA

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR BEIGE FLECK

SAVE!!!  
SOLD DIRECT FROM FACTORY.  
DISCOUNTS UP TO 50% OFF LIST PRICES.



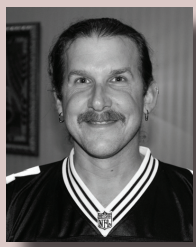
PLATES		
Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.
9 1/2"	3	\$10.20
9 3/8"	3	\$8.80
7 3/4"	3	\$4.40

BOUILLON CUP			SAUCE or FRUIT			CEREA - SALAD			COFFEE CUP		
Capacity	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.	Diameter	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.	Diameter	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	Capacity	Dozs per Carton	List Price Per Doz.
6 1/2 oz	3	\$ 9.60	4 1/2"	3	\$ 7.20	6 1/2"	3	\$12.00	6 1/2 oz	3	\$12.00

FOR PERSONAL PRESENTATION OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
RED WING POTTERIES AT 388-3562 RED WING RD. 0445-0000 ST. PAUL

A future issue of the RWCS Newsletter will have a more in-depth discussion of the Hotel or Restaurant China as part of Larry and Terry's "Introduction to Dinnerware" series. Since that article isn't scheduled to run for awhile, they wanted to make collectors aware of this new research now.

## CONVENTION REVIEW



**BOB MORAWSKI**  
Commemorative Manager

I would like to start out by reminding everyone that whether you picked up your stoneware pig Commemorative at Convention, bought a lottery piece or your piece is being mailed to you, you have the same chance of receiving Versions A, B or C.

I believe everyone now has a complete understanding of the three version concept. Due to the fact that some Version A pieces look similar in color to Version B pieces, I inserted cards with all the Version B Commemoratives. The card stock matches the info cards and they say "Version B 2010".

This year we produced and distributed 3,500 pieces. This compares to 3,600 pieces in 2009. We experienced a much smaller decline in

orders as compared to previous years when we saw up to a 10 percent decrease from year to year.

The silent auctions in the Commemorative room were a big hit. Prices realized: set of A, B and C, \$570; triple version, \$550; Maple City lunch hour piece, \$200; Special Commemorative, \$375; salt glazed pig, \$225; and the KidsView pigs, \$125 to \$200 each.

The Commemorative production process has been slower this year due to the warmer temperatures and higher humidity experienced in the Midwest before and after Convention. After casting a pig, the mold has to dry before casting another. On good days, we were able to use each mold twice. On warmer, more humid days, we were only able to use each mold once. This extended the mail order process three weeks longer than expected. We contacted all mail order recipients by e-mail or mail and explained this on the answering machine at the RWCS Business Office.

I have BIG, BIG plans for next year, our 35th anniversary of Convention. When the Commemorative is unveiled in July 2011, it will have been in preproduction and production for three years!

One final note: a Version C pig sold on eBay in July for \$711.26.