



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF COLLECTING



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FROM THE EDITOR

I was happy to learn recently that a group of collectors are spinning off of the success achieved by fellow RWCS Member Kent Williamson in his efforts to create a list of every advertising bean pot Red Wing ever made. Kent has recorded nearly 540 different examples in less than a year, so RWCS Members Frank Korosec, Jeff Birchman and Grant Radtke are hoping to have the same success with Red Wing **advertising beater jars**, and they're asking for everyone's help.

Although they've been at it for only a couple of months, their list was at 265 different beater jars when this issue went to print. Since each of these guys lives in Wisconsin, it's no surprise that the number of Wisconsin advertising beater jars they've identified far exceeds that of any other state at this time; 103 alone have been identified from the Dairy State. But it's likely that just as many, if not more, were made for businesses in Minnesota...they just need to hear from Minnesota beater jar collectors, and collectors from other states as well, for that matter.

Here's a state-by-state breakdown of their findings so far: Wisconsin, 103; Iowa, 49; Minnesota, 34; Nebraska, 24; North Dakota, 7; South Dakota, 6; Michigan, 3; Kansas, 2; and 1 each from Missouri and Montana. Another 35 have no state listed. The easiest way to access this list is by clicking on the "files" section of the RWCS Facebook Chapter page. If you're not on Facebook, RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner has loaded the list under the "Resources" tab on the members-only section of the RWCS website.

In addition to building the list, the beater jar group is looking to create a photo database of every different example known. If you collect advertising beater jars, please review the list that's been compiled so far and check to see if you own any that aren't listed. If you do, please share what the ad says or send photos of the examples that are missing to Frank Korosec at FKorosec@uwhealth.org. While you're at it, ask him to add you to the beater jar e-mail list so you can keep up to date on new additions to the list. I'll report on the group's progress in a future issue of the *RWCS Newsletter*. 🍪



Rick Natynski, Editor



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Primary membership in the Red Wing Collectors Society is \$35 annually; associate membership is \$15. There must be at least one primary member per household in order to have an associate membership. Members can pay for up to two years when renewing their membership. Contact the RWCS Business Office for additional details.

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NEWS BRIEFS

RWCS 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION UPDATE

Happy 40th Anniversary, fellow Red Wing Collectors! Be sure to attend this year's Convention in Red Wing, July 6-8. We will kick off the anniversary celebration on Thursday, July 6 with a very special panel of collectors who will present this year's keynote address, sharing some personal and fun experiences as members of the RWCS. We will also honor the RWCS charter members in attendance, followed by a fun anniversary get-together in the Minnesota State College Southeast commons area. Don't miss the Friday evening Crock Hop in Potters Hall at the Pottery Museum from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Traditional root beer floats and refreshments will be served along with a visit from Doc and Marty. A "Back in Time Scavenger Hunt" in the museum along with door prizes at "Lou's Café" will be too fun to miss!

Don't forget to order the special anniversary tile on your Convention registration form – they are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and can be mailed to your home. Special cloisonné commemorative pins celebrating the 40th Anniversary will be given to every member attending Convention. All of this plus special displays and memorabilia will be a part of the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Red Wing Collectors Society! See you all there!

ORDER THE OFFICIAL RWCS CONVENTION T-SHIRT

Celebrate the RWCS 40th Anniversary in style with your very own "Back to the Future" RWCS Convention T-shirt! These custom-designed shirts can be ordered by visiting www.customink.com/g/jnf0-00ay-77ma. The shirts are \$14.98 each and they will be available for pickup at the July Convention in Red Wing. Shirts sizes 2XL and up are subject to an additional charge. The order deadline is June 6. A small number of shirts might be available to purchase onsite, but the only way to guarantee yourself a shirt is to pre-order. All proceeds will benefit the RWCS.



SHARE HOW YOUR RED WING JOURNEY BEGAN

The RWCS 40th Anniversary is a great time to reminisce about that first piece of stoneware, art pottery or dinnerware that began our quests in collecting. Many collectors recently shared stories on Facebook about how they acquired their first piece of Red Wing clay. Regardless of whether it was a common piece or a rare find, we all remember how we got started. Please send me your story, along with a photo of the item if you wish. I will put it all together into a booklet – not only for some fun reading of cool stories, but also to have the stories as a part of the Red Wing Collectors Society archives. Whether the clay piece was Red Wing or not, whether it was a lucky find or a gift from a family member, the unique and individual stories will be a treat for us all. Please submit your story by May 15 to be a part of this 40th Anniversary project! E-mail your story and photo to me at historian@redwingcollectors.org. Thank you!

-RWCS Historian Nancy Lambert



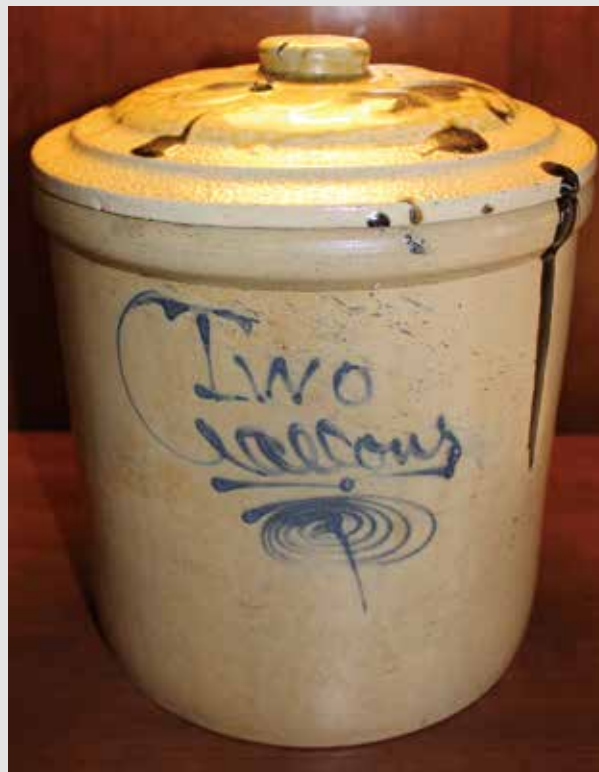
YOUTH PROGRAMS LEAD NEEDED FOR CONVENTION

The RWCS is looking for someone to lead the KidsView and Young Collectors programs during Convention this year. Planning has already begun for both programs; please see the Youth Programs info on page 4. Young Collectors activities will be at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing on Thursday and KidsView will take place at the college on Friday only this year. If you're interested in leading these programs, please contact Stacy in the office.

NEWS BRIEFS CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

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ABOUT THE COVER

Of all the cobalt-decorated salt glaze pieces Red Wing made, it's safe to say that 2 gallon target crocks are the easiest to find. Of course, virtually all of them have a "2" hand-drawn over the decoration to identify the jar's capacity. To have "Two Gallons" spelled out is unheard of. Although unsigned, this piece was undeniably made by either the Red Wing or Minnesota stoneware company. Note the exceptional salt glaze lid, which has a turkey dropping that lines up nicely with the long drip on the crock.

Longtime RWCS Member Rick Lemmon brought this showstopper to the MidWinter GetTogether in Des Moines where many collectors enjoyed seeing it first-hand. Turn to page 7 to see more of the impressive pieces that were offered for sale or delivered to the event. 🦃

MIDWINTER REVIEW

The RWCS MidWinter GetTogether was packed this year, with 253 members attending in Des Moines. Sales were hot all weekend and everyone was smiling and having a good time. There was so much excitement, the RWCS Board decided to return to Des Moines for the 2018 MidWinter, February 23-25.

The festivities kicked off with the Friday Night social and Collector Bingo. Watching members work the room to fill out their cards was great!

I hope each of you got to meet new people and make new friends. If you missed out, you can expect another round at a future RWCS event.

On Saturday morning, I gave everyone the details about the 2017 Convention, from facility changes to event times and locations. Members got the opportunity to ask questions and see pictures of the facilities – Minnesota State College Southeast (once known as the Vo-tech) and the Red Wing National Guard Armory. However, the show-stopping performance by “Doc and Marty” kicking off our Back to the Future, 40th Anniversary theme was something to behold. Nancy Lambert shared an update on the 40th Anniversary celebration and all the members had lots of laughs.

Education seminars were well attended at MidWinter. Special thanks to Larry Roschen & Terry Moe for “Red Wing Dinnerware & Reproduction”, Mark Wiseman for “Early Colfax Springs History and Stoneware”, Yoshi Hoffman for “Bean Pots – All the Rage!” and his Facebook Q & A. Another special thanks to Glenn Beall, Elizabeth Beall and Catherine Beall for assisting with the education sessions on site. Our Education Manager Michelle Weisen had a family emergency and was unable to attend.

The Saturday Show & Sale was well attended and followed by the Houghton Auction. It was announced this was the last RWCS Foundation fundraiser auction at MidWinter. The Foundation thanks everyone for the support with their bidding. Dick Houghton stated they were looking for collections to auction at the 2018 MidWinter GetTogether and beyond.

The Iowa Chapter came out in full force to welcome the RWCS back to Des Moines. They kicked off MidWinter with a wine and cheese event in their Hospitality Room on Thursday evening and ended with a coffee and donut send-off on Sunday morning. Special thanks to Lowell Reed for distributing MidWinter posters and RWCS membership flyers in the Des Moines area prior to MidWinter.

Thanks to all attendees for coming to MidWinter and making the return to Iowa memorable. Special thanks to the volunteers, speakers and everyone else who made MidWinter successful.

Following MidWinter, the Board of Directors mailed a survey to all attendees. If you have not done so, please return your survey in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided with the paper survey. Your feedback is important to us for future MidWinter planning.



STACY WEGNER

Executive Director

RWCS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

“BACK TO THE FUTURE” – JULY 6-8 – RED WING

Have you registered for Convention yet? Did you submit your items for the Auction? Do you want a table for the Show & Sale? Did you order your Commemorative? What's the accessory? Can I get it mailed? What about the tile? These are just some of the questions that come to mind each year at this time for members. Its time to think about your answers and contact the RWCS office!

Once those questions are answered, make time to visit the RWCS website to familiarize yourself with the Convention locations:

Minnesota State College Southeast
308 Pioneer Road

Events: Education, KidsView, Display, Registration, Education Materials, Chapter Meeting, Keynote, Annual Business Meetings, Commemorative distribution and silent auctions

Red Wing National Guard Armory
885 E 7th Street

Events: Auction Check in, Auction, Show & Sale, and limited hours for Registration and Commemorative distribution

SHOW & SALE

Saturday, July 8 at the Armory

Parking will be available at the Armory, on the streets and a SHUTTLE WILL BE AVAILABLE. (Shuttle details will be in the June issue.) Concessions will be provided by the Goodhue Co. Historical Society.

The RWCS is looking for volunteers to assist with set up and door security. We also need volunteers to assist with cleaning up the Armory and placing tables and chairs back into storage. Please contact the office or sign up on the volunteer page today.

Note to dealers: The deadline for reserving a table is MAY 15, but sign up early because availability is limited and tables are being sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. All sellers must complete a new ST-19 form with their contract.

THE CELEBRATE 40 PROJECT

Chapters, you still have time to add to the project you created last year or start a new one to display this year. Bring your “40” to the college on Wednesday or Thursday morning to be on display through Friday.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Young Collectors:

Thursday, July 6 at the Museum

Participants will learn about the collection management and archiving going on in the Pottery

Museum of Red Wing. Inventory specialists David Nichols and Jin Crimando will lead the seminar and explain how the archive process works. He will also share how one becomes an archivist. Come learn how to manage your college like a museum!

KidsView:

Friday, July 7 at the College

This is only ONE DAY and SPACE IS LIMITED, so please pre-register. Participants will learn all about Red Wing's Anniversary collection, join in a project using the Pottery Museum of Red Wing's coloring book, partake in an air dry clay project and more.

Volunteers are needed to help with KidsView and Young Collectors. Please contact Stacy if you're able to help support our future collectors.

CROCK HUNT

The Annual Convention Crock Hunt will once again start the Friday before Convention and go through the Show & Sale. If you live in the Red Wing Area and would like to help with this event, please contact the office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All Convention areas are in need of volunteers. Visit the individual event page on the RWCS website to sign up, check the Volunteer tab on the Convention menu, or contact the office.



RWCS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The 2016 RWCS Foundation Scholarship was awarded to David "Swen" Swenson. A Minneapolis-based ceramics instructor, artist and musician, Swen grew up in Rhode Island where he attended the Community College of Rhode Island before earning his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Alfred University in upstate New York.



(Left to right) RWCS Hall of Famer Ron Linde, scholarship winner David Swenson and Rob Ostrander

After finishing school in 2009, Swen moved to Minnesota to pursue ceramics and began teaching in community education and after-school programs across the Twin Cities area. He has been the recipient of various awards during his tenure in Minnesota, including fellowships, residencies, grants and awards from Northern Clay Center, the Jerome Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board and the RWCSF. He maintains his studio practice in Minneapolis and continues to teach at various institutions.

This \$1,000 award is presented annually by the RWCS Foundation through the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis. It may be awarded to a deserving individual who is pursuing a career as a potter or to a scholar studying or researching historical aspects of the pottery industry. The first award was presented in 2004. The award is endowed by RWCS Hall of Famer Ron Linde and Rob Ostrander.

MEET INVENTORY SPECIALIST DAVID NICHOLS

Thanks to a legacy grant we received from the Minnesota Historical Society, the Pottery Museum of Red Wing has started an inventory of the entire museum collection. We have two very qualified inventory specialists working on this project for a year – David Nichols and Jin Crimando.



David is the head inventory specialist. He grew up in Warren, MI (a Detroit suburb) and graduated from Minnesota State University in Mankato with Bachelor and Master degrees in History and a certification in Museum Studies. He's currently logging pieces into the main database and creating records of their history in a database that can be used for research. David and his fiancée met while attending school and they're getting married in September. We're happy to have him on board! We'll introduce Jin in the next issue.

MUSEUM REPRESENTED AT MIDWINTER

The Pottery Museum was represented at the RWCS MidWinter GetTogether, where nearly \$9,000 was raised from the following events: MidWinter Auction, \$6,784.40; Silent Auction, \$427; Chapter Commemorative Challenge, \$760; and Gift Store sales, \$991. We also attended the Mudder event and raised another \$2,000 through Gift Store sales. We appreciate all the support received! Pottery Museum Manager Robin Wipperling will attend the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums Conference in Walker, MN April 26-27.



BROWNIE TROOP MAKES A VISIT

Members of Minnesota Brownie Troop #18174 toured the museum and decorated Red Wing plates to earn their Journey and Arts & Creativity Patch. The museum is a great place for children to learn about life before refrigeration. They also learn about how much work went into preparing food back then!

NEW GIFT STORE INVENTORY

We've got some great new unique items for sale in the Pottery Museum Gift Store! If you're interested in any of these things, we can ship them to you. New items in stock include Wm. Radam's Microbe Killer T-shirts, Red Wing sweatshirts, pottery photo puzzles and Red Wing Home Packing Preserving booklets.



AFFAIR FOR DINNERWARE LUNCHEON ON MAY 13

The 2nd Annual Affair for Dinnerware Luncheon will take place from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 13 in the Victorian Dining Room at Red Wing's St. James Hotel. Join us for an afternoon filled with a vintage style show, music, door prizes, silent auction and a delicious meal served on original Red Wing Dinnerware. Attendees will also have an opportunity to visit with some of the ladies who painted dinnerware at the Potteries. Tickets are \$35 and they're available at the Pottery Museum. Call 651-327-2220 to order. We hope to see you there!

-Pottery Museum of Red Wing Manager Robin Wipperling

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Carl's Wolff Pack

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski



We all have our stories about how we started collecting. For longtime RWCS Member Carl Malik, it all began 50 years ago with Chicago-area whiskey, beer and soda bottles. As an officer with the Chicago Police Dept., he found that collecting bottles provided a much-needed release outside of work that he could share with his wife, Mary. He often joined fellow collectors on bottle digs throughout the city, and the couple visited countless antique shows and flea markets on weekends. His interest in bottles morphed into stoneware after discovering jugs that carried advertising from some of the same vendors as the bottles he owned.

"It was common for good advertising jugs to sell for \$20 or \$30 when I started collecting them in the late 1960s," Carl recalls. "I remember once paying \$85 for a jug I really wanted at an auction, which everyone thought of as a lot of money for a jug back then – including myself."

Carl typically shies away from items that are larger than 3 gallons in size, but mini jugs, butter crocks and jugs up to 1 gallon are right in his wheelhouse. Half-gallon advertising jugs are his sweet spot and he doesn't limit his collection to Red Wing. In fact, at least half of his Chicago-area advertising pieces were made by Illinois potteries like Macomb, Monmouth and Western, Ohio firms like Burley & Winter and Pennsylvania's Sherwood Bros.

Advertising stoneware turned out by Red Wing is his favorite, however, and he considers putting together the lineup of M. Wolff & Sons advertising pictured above as one of his best accomplishments in collecting. The eight pieces include an example of every size, shape and color combo that he's ever seen with the Wolff stamp. In fact, the small crock, bailed jug and dome-top jug – each 1 gallon in size – are the only examples he's ever seen or heard of. He's actively searching for anything not pictured here.

"I'd love to find a quart or half gallon Wolff jug," he says. "And since I have 1 and 3 gallon crocks with the Wolff ad, you have to imagine they made a 2 gallon. I'd like one of those, as well."

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While advertising stoneware and bottles is his favorite collecting category, Carl's immense collection of historical Chicago artifacts extends from advertising smalls, calendars and signage used to promote businesses, products and events in the late 1800s and early 1900s all the way up to a massive 100-year-old back bar that he purchased directly from a Chicago tavern he used to haunt before it shut down. Even the stunning fireplace in his basement was made from original cobblestones salvaged from a downtown Chicago road reconstruction project.

A collector in her own right, Mary has assembled a spectacular grouping of milk glass souvenirs from the World's Columbian Exposition – a world's fair held in Chicago in 1893 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the New World in 1492.

Carl retired from the Chicago P.D. in 1999 after 33 years of service, giving them more time to build their collections and enjoy time with family and friends.

"As much as we enjoy collecting, sharing our collection with friends and people who appreciate it is just as enjoyable," Carl says. "Seeing that look of excitement on people's faces is really fulfilling."

If you own or know of a Wolff advertising piece in a size or shape not pictured here, please contact Carl at 708-606-8568 or PO Box 367, Monee, IL 60449. While he'd love the opportunity to add to his Wolff collection, he'd be just as happy to see a photo of an example he isn't aware of. 🍕

Editor's note: Two of the pieces pictured above were included in the feature about Red Wing's graphic advertising stoneware in the February RWCS Newsletter, and I made a mistake by not thanking Carl in the article. After I apologized for omitting his name, Carl and Mary invited me over to see their amazing collection. Many thanks to the Maliks for their kind hospitality and allowing me to share this photo and their story with fellow RWCS members. And thanks to Mary for the homemade pizza she served for lunch during my visit last month. My mouth is still watering!!

MIDWINTER JAW DROPPERS



Above: RWCS Members Dan & Jo Allers brought a nice lineup of Iowa stoneware, including these signed pieces from Eldora.



Note the wide mouth on the 3 gallon Birchleaf jug at left. The owner brought it to show, but it wasn't for sale. The same was the case with the rare Evanston, IL butter crock pictured off to the right.

Something's not quite right about the coolers pictured above. Can you tell what it is?

A: The blue-banded water cooler on the left is mis-marked "Ice Water" while the "Water Cooler" cooler on the right is mis-marked "Ice Water".

The Rollins adv. chum above was glued back together, but still sold quickly.



Brought by two different people, the 30 gallon crocks above and below were pre-sold and delivered to the buyers at the event. The triple leaf was front-stamped "Minnesota Stoneware Co." WOW!



Above: RWCS Member Rick Lemmon poses with some of the pieces he brought to sell; several others are pictured on this page, as well.



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MidWinter '17



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Original Charles
Murphy Mursen
Clock drawings
courtesy of the
Schleich Collection at
the Pottery Museum
of Red Wing, with
assistance from
Michelle
Weisen.



KEEPING TIME WITH MURSEN CLOCKS

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

Mursen of Red Wing, Inc. was a side business formed by well-known Red Wing Potteries designer Charles Murphy and Red Wing GM dealership owner George Jurgensen for the purpose of selling the figural clocks that Murphy designed. ("Mursen" was a combination of their last names.)

RWCS Hall of Fame Member Ron Linde interviewed Murphy on two separate occasions before the artist passed away in 1994. During their conversations, Charles shared that he created the clock designs in the basement of his Red Wing home and indicated that Jurgensen played a significant role in funding the operation. The Murphys were active in Red Wing's social circle, so it's likely that the business relationship spawned from a friendship they had formed with Jurgensen.

It's unknown if Charles ever pitched the concept of these clocks to Potteries President H.H. Varney before partnering with Jurgensen, but Marie said during a March 2000 interview that Charles was unhappy that he wasn't getting the pay raises Varney had promised him. While purely conjecture, it would make sense if he kept the idea to himself from the onset and worked on it in his own time as a personal venture.

Murphy designed three wall clock frames (the Chef, Mammy and Gretel) and two mantle clock frames (the Polo Player and Tik Tok the Clown), and had them made by the Red Wing Potteries. Patent applications were filed on Aug. 25, 1947 and Murphy was granted design patents for Gretel, the Polo Player and Tik Tok on June 29, 1948. Since the literature that accompanied each clock said "Design Patent Pending", we know they were manufactured prior to this date. According to the patent certificates, Mursen of Red Wing, Inc. had the exclusive rights to the designs for 3½ years.

The clock operation was short-lived, however. Although the exact reason for this is unclear, many collectors believe that they didn't sell well. While that certainly could have been a contributing factor, we also know that the clocks were made at the tail end of Murphy's first tenure as Red Wing's art director – a position he ultimately vacated in 1949 due to his disagreements with Varney. It could just be that the business faded because

Chef, Gretel and
Mammy photos
courtesy of
RWCS Member
Yoshi Hoffman.



Murphy's focus shifted to finding a new job, which he ended up taking at Stetson China in Lincoln, IL.

During the aforementioned interview with former RWCS President Corinne Reed and former RWCS Rep. at Large Wally Armstrong, Marie said Charles left the clock business with Jurgensen to manage and implied that it wasn't a big priority due to his responsibilities at the car dealership.

It's unknown exactly how many Mursen Clocks were made, but "they made a lot of them," Marie said during the interview. "They were all stacked up and I sat there and put them all together. I assembled them and plugged them in to see if they ran. And I did this for nothing." It's believed that she did this in the couple's garage.

Mursen Clocks are popular with collectors, as they're both functional and decorative. Murphy likely borrowed the idea for the Chef and Gretel designs from the Chef Pierre and Katrina Dutch Girl cookie jars he designed for Red Wing in 1941.

It's believed that the Gretel and Mammy clocks only came in the glazes pictured at left. All of the clocks were hand-painted under the glaze, but the Chef can be found with and without a red shirt that was cold-painted. His lips were also cold-painted, while Gretel and Mammy's lips are under glaze and have more of a purplish hue. Both Linde and fellow RWCS Hall of Famer Larry Roschen have said that creating red glazes often presented challenges for potters, so it's likely that ceramic engineers weren't able to produce the bright red glaze Murphy requested, thus the reason for the cold painting.

The Polo Player is typically found in the Metallic Brown glaze pictured above, but a Crackled White version is pictured on page 81 of *Red Wing Art Pottery II* by RWCS Member Ray Reiss. Also pictured on that page is a white Tik Tok with purple-hued polka dots, which is the alternate version of the light blue Tik Tok pictured at right.

Thanks to RWCS Hall of Famers Ron Linde and Larry Roschen, RWCS Member Yoshi Hoffman and Pottery Museum of Red Wing Archivist Michelle Weisen for their contributions and assistance with this article.

Torn and tattered, this is one of the few remaining Mursen Clock tags. As indicated, the timepieces were provided by Connecticut's Sessions Clock Co. However, Mursen Clocks are often found with mechanisms made by the Lanshire Clock Co. and Warren Telechron Co., as well. It's unknown if these were merely replacements, or if Mursen ended up contracting with multiple manufacturers.



Charles Murphy was granted design patents for the Polo Player, Tik Tok Clown and Gretel clocks. Visit www.google.com/patents to view the drawings he submitted with his applications and information pertaining to the patents. Type "USD150089" in the search bar for Gretel, "USD150090" for Tik Tok and "USD150091" for the Polo Player.



BEWARE OF FAKED ADVERTISING

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

As discussed in the article on Red Wing's graphic ads in the February issue of the RWCS Newsletter, there are a number of "faked" advertising pieces out there that have fooled even the most advanced of collectors. When I say "faked" ads, I'm referring to advertising stamps that have been newly applied to old, authentic jugs. It's been some time since I've had an article on fakes in the newsletter, so here's an update on two different types of "faked" ads to be wary of.

Overglaze ads: These are the easiest to identify because the advertising stamp will either wash off with water or it can be scratched off with a knife. (Authentic advertising stamps are under the glaze, thus they cannot be removed.) Sometimes clear coat polyurethane is applied over the ad to give it the appearance that it's under the glaze, but it can still be scratched off.

Another way to identify these pieces as fakes is that the typefaces used in the ads usually don't match up with the typefaces that appear on original Red Wing advertising pieces.

While some of the newly stamped items carry the same wording as authentic Red Wing advertising pieces, others were made as fantasy pieces. Such was the case with this pair of faked Coca Cola advertising jugs with that surfaced in February – both of which were consigned/listed by the same person. The South Bend version was consigned to an auction in Northern Indiana and the Paris jug was listed on eBay. The South Bend stamp was applied on a non-Red Wing 5 gallon jug and sold for more than \$350. Fortunately the buyer, an RWCS member, was able to return the jug for a full refund after noticing that the advertising stamp started coming off as he was cleaning the jug.



RWCS Member Brian Vlaminc was the winning bidder on the jug listed on eBay, which was a bottom-signed 2 gallon Red Wing cone top jug. Knowing the ad on the jug was faked, he cleverly put in a high bid to make sure no one got scammed on it. He won it for \$531.99, but when it came time to pay, he informed the seller he wouldn't be sending any money because the ad wasn't original. Nicely done, Brian!

(Tip: No authentic early 1900s Coca Cola advertising jugs are known to exist from any pottery, so if you see an old jug with a Coke stamp, steer clear!)

Underglaze ads: These can be extremely difficult to identify, because the ads cannot be scraped off with a knife. Several advanced, longtime collectors have been deceived by such pieces, especially when they started showing up on eBay in the late 2000s and early 2010s. Fortunately we have some great resources in our corner who have shed some light on how these pieces are made and can help identify them as fakes.

One of these people is RWCS Member Wyn Painter, a very reputable practicing potter who owns and operates W.A. Painter Pottery Works in Overland Park, KS. Well-versed in the technical side of firing clay, Wyn often discusses the negative impact that faked pieces have on his industry and he does everything he can to help prevent fellow collectors from being taken advantage of.

"One way in which old pieces of stoneware are being altered is by either sanding or bead blasting off the original glaze and applying a new advertising stamp before reglazing and refiring the piece," Wyn explains. "It's a really dishonest practice and it needs to stop."

The person who's making these pieces, who will go unnamed in this article, has never been a member of the RWCS. He operates out of a Southern state and specializes in creating new salt glaze and other types of primitive-looking pottery. It's a shame, because while he's clearly a talented potter, he's not using his skills to make an honest living when he doesn't sign his pieces or mark them as modern day creations. A source informed me that the guy was sued a few years ago for selling an item he created and passed off as an authentic piece



of stoneware from the 1800s. This person doesn't sign the faked advertising pieces he makes either. He even has a few photos of old, original pieces with faked ads pictured on the photo gallery of his website – one of the which is the Seelbach ad pictured later in this article.

Several of these faked items have been listed on eBay. Some have been represented as authentic Red Wing advertising pieces, while others haven't. Each of the sellers who listed them were located in the same state or a bordering state of the person who's making them, so it's my guess that they knew the potter, sold the faked pieces for him, and got a cut of the profits in return.

Wyn says from a technical standpoint, one of the best ways to tell if a piece is a refired fake is if it has abnormally large, unsightly pock marks like the non-Red Wing Five Jacks Whiskey jug at left or unusually large unpopped "bubbles" like the Flour City Club Pure Rye jug pictured in the sidebar above. While not all faked advertising pieces possess these characteristics, Wyn says this is a good indicator that an old piece has been refired too long or at too high of a temperature. Another clue is that it's highly unlikely that these severely bubbled or pock-marked pieces ever would've made it out of the potteries back in the day. While pieces with minor flaws were sold, these particular items look so bad that they probably would have been tossed into the dump if they came out of the original kilns looking like this.



5 CLUES THAT THIS FLOUR CITY CLUB RYE STAMP HAS BEEN FAKED:

- The advertising stamp can be found on both Red Wing and non-Red Wing pieces.
- The size of the advertising stamp varies to better fit the size of the piece. (The mini jug above left is a ½ pint, while the jug above right is a ½ gallon.) Note the ad on the mini jug also has a circle border, while the ad on the larger jug has no border at all. If it was authentic, the size of the ad and border would be the same on both pieces.
- The piece on the right has significant bubbling or pock marks, indicating it was refired.
- The zinc glaze area has a slight roughness or fine gritty feel to it, another sign that it had been refired.
- Numerous pieces carrying the ad first started showing up around five years ago. Prior to that, not even one example of the ad had been seen or heard of by collectors in the 100 +/- years since it had "supposedly" been made.

2016 RWCS FINANCIAL REVIEW

Presented here for your review is the RWCS Financial Report as of Dec. 31, 2016 and the 2017 RWCS Budget. I have included some narrative and a summarized income statement. Please take some time to understand where your Society is at from a financial perspective. I will present this information at the Annual Business Meeting at Convention in July and hope to see you there. If you would like more detail or have questions, please contact me or the RWCS business office. -Dan Beck, RWCS Treasurer

FINANCIAL POSITION	2014	2015	2016
CASH IN BANK	\$502,830	\$503,151	\$492,325
OTHER ASSETS	1,094	2,539	6,833
LESS LIABILITIES	(42,487)	(57,487)	(56,628)
NET ASSETS	\$461,437	\$448,203	\$442,530

- Net assets represent the real cash that is available for use. Net assets are increased or decreased by the amount of our profit or loss each year.
- Net assets have decreased for the third year in a row. Your Executive Director and Board members are working hard on ideas to return the RWCS to a positive net income.
- While the RWCS still has a sizable cash balance, our objective is to turn the tide and create a stronger entity that can always survive the ups and downs in collecting.

RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY 2016 RESULTS AND 2017 BUDGET

REVENUES	2015 ACTUAL	2016 BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	'17 VS. '16
GENERAL & ADMIN	\$92,662	\$90,905	\$96,310	\$85,565	\$(10,745)
CONVENTION	39,912	44,105	40,953	48,325	7,373
COMMEMORATIVE	130,319	123,100	124,392	129,350	4,958
AUCTION	72,654	74,900	60,409	60,700	291
MIDWINTER	11,152	11,335	4,128	9,400	5,272
YOUTH	2,205	1,700	122	200	78
TOTAL REVENUES	\$348,905	\$346,045	\$326,313	\$333,540	\$7,227

EXPENDITURES	2015 ACTUAL	2016 BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	'17 VS. '16
GENERAL & ADMIN	\$194,466	\$186,882	\$176,407	\$181,326	\$4,919
CONVENTION	38,968	35,831	35,237	41,136	5,899
COMMEMORATIVE	50,224	54,150	53,466	75,805	22,339
AUCTION	65,864	65,850	54,059	55,250	1,191
MIDWINTER	8,989	10,750	9,935	8,600	(1,335)
YOUTH	3,629	3,000	2,881	2,080	(801)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$362,139	\$356,463	\$331,985	\$364,197	\$32,212

INCOME (LOSS)	2015 ACTUAL	2016 BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	'17 VS. '16
GENERAL & ADMIN	(\$101,803)	(\$95,977)	(\$80,097)	(\$95,761)	(\$15,664)
CONVENTION	944	8,274	5,716	7,189	1,474
COMMEMORATIVE	80,095	68,950	70,926	53,545	(17,381)
AUCTION	6,790	9,050	6,350	5,450	(900)
MIDWINTER	2,164	585	(5,807)	800	6,607
YOUTH	(1,424)	(1,300)	(2,759)	(1,880)	879
TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	(\$13,235)	(\$10,418)	(\$5,672)	(\$30,657)	(\$24,985)

- Our 2016 net loss of \$5,672 was less than the planned loss of \$10,418, and less than last year's loss of \$13,235.
- Our loss was less than planned, in spite of reduced Commemorative, Auction and MidWinter revenues. Reduced General & Administrative expenses were the primary bright spot in curbing our losses.
- Our 2017 planned loss has increased by almost \$25,000 primarily in support of the 40th Convention celebration this summer. Don't miss it!
- We have made significant progress in reducing our losses since 2014, when we lost \$46,000. There is more that can be done, however, and we need your assistance. Ideas are welcome to enhance our revenues. Volunteers are welcome to perform tasks that we need to pay for today. Please give this some thought and step forward to help if you can.
- Some great people who had a lot of creative foresight created the RWCS from the ground up. The RWCS organizes around an interest and fellowship that we all love. All of us together can make this organization thrive! Thanks, and see you at Convention!

Red Wing
#686
Stereoline
vase in
Hyacinth
glaze.



WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG

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AD RATES

Classified ads are 20¢ per word for members and 30¢ per word for non-members; \$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.

DISPLAY ADS

Display Ad Size	Ad Rate
Full page	\$500
1/2 page (horizontal or vertical)	275
1/4 page	150
1/8 page	85

Display ads purchased by non-members cost an additional 15%.

DISPLAY AD DIMENSIONS

Full Page	8 x 10.5
1/2 page (horizontal or vertical)	8 x 5.25
1/4 page	4 x 5.25
1/8 page	4 x 2.125

Ads must be supplied electronically as an EPS or PDF file. 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

E-mail your ad to newsletter@redwingcollectors.org and send your check to: Rick Natynski, P.O. Box 198, Pewaukee, WI 53072. If you don't have e-mail, you can mail your ad with your check or call Rick at 414-416-WING (9464).

CLASSIFIEDS

RED WING FOR SALE

FOR SALE: RWCS Commemoratives 1989-2016 (includes all boxes); 4 salt glaze crocks with lids, including 20 gallon salt glaze front-stamped butterfly crock. Many other rare crocks, large variety of Birchleaf crocks, 5 wing churns, 3 Birchleaf churns, Safety valve jars and RW canoe. Located near Hannibal, MO. Call Billie at 573-231-6727. (6/17)

FOR SALE: Red Wing egg trays with covers: Quartette – Mulberry, 2 pinhead-size fleabites between egg compartments; Caprice, excellent condition; Lanterns, excellent condition; Iris, excellent condition; Magnolia, excellent condition; Fruit, excellent condition; Quartette – Chartreuse, excellent condition; Spring Song, 1/4" hairline where handle connects to tray; Fantasy, one tiny handle chip under glaze; Willow Wind – Blue, 1/4" compartment chip; Blossom Time, fleabite under handle; Lotus, hairline through cover, 1/8" chip on egg compartment (this tray is the worst of the group). Call Ken at 440-774-3075.

FOR SALE: Red Wing 20 lb butter crock, excellent cond, \$800; Red Wing grey line bowl with adv., 9" wide, 5 1/2" high, "It pays to mix with Kohnke's SD", with crack \$125; Red Wing grey line sponge band bowl, 7" wide and 4 3/4" high, with 2 hairline cracks, \$25; RW grey line bowl or cup, measures 4" x 3 7/8", from outside rim to outside rim, excellent cond, \$250; RW 20 gallon birch leaves crock, excellent cond, \$300. Contact Maureen at nydreamer2@gmail.com or 703-801-7105.

FOR SALE: Gladiola 9" gloss fleck Nile blue. Note: Dollen references state #416 was made in only 10" & 12". Excellent condition, \$325 OBO; Wisconsin Badger 1939 figurine. (Head has been re-glued.) \$88 OBO. Call Jan at 507-381-5446.

RED WING WANTED

WANTED: Bob White 4 oz. juice tumblers, supper sets, marmites & cocktail trays; Roundup water cooler w/ stand; Delta Blue water cooler & coffee mugs; Tampico tumblers & tall beverage mugs. Contact Herb at hdaniels000@gmail.com or 417-876-7104. 12/17

WANTED: Hamm's Red Wing Banks, Brown Bears and Unique Hamm's Red Wing items. CASH PAID. Call Kirk RWCS member #917 at 612-618-3717 or 763-252-0114 (office). 8/17

WANTED: 155 vases, white/ivory, 9" & 12" tall. E-mail ralphryan@charter.net. 10/17

WANTED: Syracuse, NY glass or stoneware pieces – Geo. W. Halloway Drug Store. Contact Ed at lindy9122@gmail.com or 315-637-9747. 8/17

WANTED: Mini and salesman sample flower pots in all colors. Contact cobe142@cox.net or 402-598-1315.

WANTED: Looking for a Willow Wind pattern Spoon Rest – the last one I need to complete my collection of Red Wing spoon rests! Please call Margaret at 651-388-9729.

WANTED: NORTH DAKOTA! Looking for jugs, crocks, butter crocks and churns with advertising. Will pay top dollar for the right pieces. Contact 701-270-0242 or beehive@polarcomm.com.

WANTED: Will pay strong price for Red Wing bean pot with Westby, Wis. advertising. Contact Rich at repatlargeeast@redwingcollectors.org or 608-617-7424

WANTED: Red Wing large blue/green Chromoline vases in mint condition (#687 & M3006). Contact Rick at 414-416-9464 or newsletter@redwingcollectors.org.

Other signs that an ad might be faked include the stamp being found on Red Wing *and* non-Red Wing pieces, the stamp appearing in different sizes, and numerous examples of a previously unknown ad turning up within a short timeframe. Looking back, it was clear that something fishy was going on when the Flour City Club Rye ad started appearing as often it did, on jugs made by different potteries, with the size of the ad altered to fit different sized jugs.

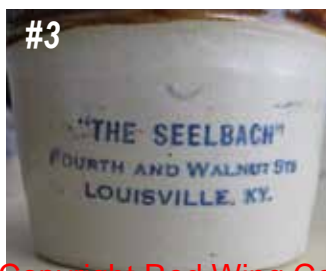
Another person who has learned about these faked ads is RWCS Member Sheldon Bohnhoff, who has one of the most impressive collections of Red Wing advertising mini jugs ever assembled. Unfortunately Sheldon got burned on a few of these pieces, but not wanting to other collectors to fall victim to faked ads, he shared the info and pieces pictured below. Thanks to Sheldon and Wyn for their help with this article!

#1 Sheldon acquired the 1/8 pt. cone top "Anti-flu League" mini jug from an eBay seller who listed a number of pieces between 2013 and 2016 that were likely faked. When it arrived, he compared it to his authentic 1/8 pt. Red Wing fancy jug with the same ad and realized the lettering was not an exact match. Being a rare ad, he knew Red Wing wouldn't have made a separate ink stamp for a cone top version. Fortunately he was able to return it.

#2 & #3 "The Seelbach" jug (front and back pictured) was actually the first piece Sheldon purchased from the shifty eBay seller. The seller later sold non-Red Wing pieces with the exact same Seelbach stamp. Unlike the authentic Red Wing advertising mini jugs in his collection, the zinc glaze portion of these jugs has a slightly rough, fine gritty feel to it. "In talking to Wyn, that gritty feel comes from the new glaze that was added over the new stamp," Sheldon explains. Unfortunately it was too late to get a refund by the time he realized it was a fake.

#4 The "Souvenir" mini jug has a different typeface than the authentic Red Wing version. (Sheldon didn't buy this one, but he shared the photo.)

#5 & #6 The two "Derby Day, St. Louis, MO" jugs are the same size, but the ads are different sizes and the ad on #6 has a circle border. Note the "bubbling" on #5.



UNRESERVED RED WING POTTERY AUCTION!

FRIDAY, APRIL 28th AT 11 AM CENTRAL
1235 S. ADAMS AVENUE, FREEPORT, IL 61032
THE COLLECTION OF RON AND JANICE BROSHOUS

CAN'T MAKE THE AUCTION?
LEAVE BIDS OR BID LIVE AT PROXIBID.COM

ALL items will sell to the high bidder without reserve. We are just now starting to unwrap, so you will have to visit our site the first part of April for a full list and photos. This auction will include over 200 pieces of Red Wing including Koverwates, lids, butter churns, crocks, butter crocks, canning jars, beehive jugs, spatterware, Birch Leaf, Elephant Ear, bowls, shoulder jugs, Saffron Ware, Pipkin, dinnerware, advertising pieces, Commemorative items and much more. This is just an early, partial list...

Follow our webpage: www.mundaauctions.com for full catalog including complete listing order, photographs and descriptions.

Terms: A 10% buyers fee will be added to all in-house purchases. Check & Cash accepted for payment. See Proxibid's website for on-line bidding terms. Seating, restrooms and lunch.

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E-MAIL: munda1@aeroinc.net
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AUCTION

Bill & Maxine Paxson
N920 County Road T
Waterloo Wis. 53594



Saturday May 20th – 9:30 am
Over 250 Stoneware items

<http://www.auctionspecialistsstoughton.com>

Please see photos on website



RED WING STONEWARE, POTTERY & ART WARE

AUCTIONS

3 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, 2016
The Bluffs Bar & Grill

(Just across the bridge from Red Wing)
N1833 785th St., Hager City, WI

RED WING SALT GLAZE AND ZINC CROCKS, JUGS, WATER COOLERS, CHURNS, AND LOTS OF LIDS, SEVERAL NORTH STAR PIECES, 20# BUTTER CROCKS, MASON FRUIT JARS, POULTRY FEEDERS, 3,5,15 & 20# KOVERWATES, SPITTOONS & CUSPIDORS, ASSORTMENT OF ART POTTERY, COOKIE JARS, PLUS MUCH MORE.



10 a.m. Wednesday, July 5, 2016

The Bluffs Bar & Grill

N1833 785th St., Hager City, WI

RED WING ZINC 2-30 GAL CROCKS, SALT GLAZE CROCKS, 3,4,6, & 10 GAL WATER COOLERS, LIDS, BUTTER CHURNS, JUGS, MASON FRUIT JARS, REFRIGERATOR JARS, ASSORTMENT OF PITCHERS, KO-REC FEEDERS, BUTTER CROCKS, BEATER JARS, ASSORTMENT OF BOWLS, SUCCESS FILTER, BEAN POTS, CHAMBER POT, ASSORTMENT OF COMMEMORATIVES, ASSORTMENT OF VASES, RARE: REBECCA VASE (VERY SMALL) BY RAEB OF CEDAR FALLS, IA CLAY FROM HOLY LAND, LORD'S PRAYER INCISED.

See web site for more pictures. Catalogs \$5 each – available June 1 for complete listing. Send payment to address below.



HOUGHTON'S AUCTION SERVICE • 1831 BOHMBACH DR RED WING, MN 55066

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NEWS BRIEFS CONTINUED

CONVENTION AUCTION SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MAY 1ST!

As listed on the auction submission form that was included in the February *RWCS Newsletter*, we moved up the auction submission deadline to May 1st this year. That is right around the corner, so please send in your forms right away! Some nice pieces have already been submitted, like the sharp 3 gallon Banner Liquor Store beehive jug pictured at right!

We're making a hard push to promote auction items in advance of Convention. So if you send in a photo of your item(s) when submitting your piece(s) for the auction, we'll post it on the RWCS website and the RWCS Facebook Chapter page and Rick will fit as many photos into the June *RWCS Newsletter* as possible. The best way to submit photos is to e-mail or text high-resolution images to director@redwingcollectors.org, but you can also mail hard copies to RWCS, PO Box 50, Red Wing, MN 55066.

As always, we're asking for quality items in good condition. Keep in mind that pieces that sell for less than \$100 will be assessed a \$20 commission fee, while everything that sells for \$100 or more will have a commission of only 12 percent. Where else can you auction your pieces directly to your target audience for only 12 percent commission and not have a buyer's premium that bidders need to worry about? Even eBay is at 13 percent when you factor in the PayPal fees that sellers are charged. In addition to being a great rate, the commission helps support the RWCS – one of your favorite organizations!

As an added incentive to help persuade you to consign good pieces, we've lowered the minimum reserve amount to \$1,000 this year. So if you have a nice piece in this range or higher, you're able to protect it with a reserve. If your item doesn't meet the reserve, you're only charged a flat \$100 reserve fee. (Remember, as auction manager I can reject your reserve piece if I feel the item's value is far less than your reserve price.)

If you have any questions, please contact me at auction@redwingcollectors.org or 209-602-1461. If you call me, please remember that I live on the West Coast. So, please don't call me before 11 a.m. Central Time. My wife works the late shift and early morning calls must be avoided at all costs. My life depends on it! Thank you. -RWCS Auction Manager Scott Hardman

MUSEUM & KIDSVIEW RECEIVE LARGE DONATIONS FROM RWCS FACEBOOK CHAPTER

RWCS Facebook Chapter members came together to raise \$2,800 in a short amount of time for two different fundraising efforts! In February, \$1,800 was raised for the RWCS Foundation to purchase several 5 ft. and 6 ft. tables with a storage cart for the Pottery Museum of Red Wing to use for the many events that are held in Potters Hall every year. Then in March, \$1,100 was raised for the RWCS KidsView educational program – \$450 of which secured 364 pieces of original Red Wing Hotel & Restaurant white dinnerware that had been listed on eBay. These pieces, which include 116 dinner plates, 118 bread & butter plates and nearly 60 cups & saucers, ensure that the "Paint Your Own Plate" KidsView activity at Convention will continue for many years.

Thanks to Chapter President Chris Tincher and Chapter Secretary Yoshi Hoffman for leading the charge for both of these efforts, past RWCS President Larry Birks for picking up the KidsView dinnerware, the Trails West Chapter for transporting it to Red Wing, and everyone who made financial contributions to these causes! 🍷



COMING IN THE JUNE ISSUE...



THE STORY OF NORTH STAR'S BEST PIECE



CONVENTION PREVIEW

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