



VOL. 40 NO. 2

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015



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REVIEW**
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**JOHNNIE'S
ROOT BEER**
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MEMBERSHIP

A primary membership in the Red Wing Collectors Society is \$35 annually and an associate membership is \$15.

There must be at least one primary member per household in order to have 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 AUCTION MANAGER CHANGES

RWCS Member Bruce Selfridge regretfully informed the RWCS Board of Directors in February that he had to step down from his position as RWCS Auction Manager due to several personal obligations that are consuming his time right now. We'll miss Bruce's involvement and we thank him for his dedication to the RWCS. Thankfully he has offered to continue volunteering during the event itself.

A brief search for a replacement yielded Scott Hardman, a member of the Golden State Red Wing Chapter who enthusiastically said he would enjoy taking on the auction manager role provided someone would be able to provide tech support to assist with spreadsheet work, etc. Luke Wegner (husband of RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner) was already helping with the auction and said he'd be happy to work with Scott and handle the computer end of the job.

A retired detective from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office in California, Scott now serves as a private investigator. His love for Red Wing started in high school when he bought a 5 gallon crock with a 6-inch wing and "ski" oval at an antique show. He was only 15 years old! Years later he learned about the RWCS and he and his wife Genise joined in 1996. They have two children – Kristina & Cody.

Please welcome Scott as your new RWCS Auction Manager. Auction submission forms may now be sent to the RWCS office, but don't worry – if you already sent your form to Bruce, he'll forward it along to Scott. *-Larry Birks, RWCS President*



Hardman

ROWE POTTERY TO PRODUCE 2015 RWCS COMMEMORATIVE

At the end of 2014, RWCS Commemorative Manager Bob Morawski contracted Rowe Pottery of Cambridge, Wis. to produce this year's Convention Commemorative. This will be the 4th time the piece has been made in Wisconsin; the last time was 1997. In addition, Bob reports that four or five RWCS Chapters are already working with Rowe to manufacture their commemorative pieces.

EXTRA, EXTRA! KIDSVIEW & YOUNG COLLECTORS TO PERFORM PLAY AT CONVENTION

I'm excited to announce that KidsView and Young Collectors will perform a play during the RWCS Convention this summer! We'll need enthusiastic kids to serve as readers, stage hands, props and more to perform "Oh Native Bird, Sing Our Song" from the Red Wing Readers Theater. We'll also need adult volunteers for this and other KidsView and Young Collectors activities, so please contact me if you'd like to participate in the rewarding experience of developing our youth's passion for collecting Red Wing! You can reach me at 651-764-2183 or KIDSVIEW@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG. *-Linda Wipperling, RWCS Kids View/Young Collectors Coordinator*

CONVENTION SHOW & SALE CHANGES

Last year, RWCS Chapter presidents asked for changes and improvements for the 2015 Convention Show & Sale that centered around a desire to attract more sellers and increase the variation of quality antiques. RWCS Member and longtime antique dealer Tim Lockard has agreed to help improve the event by accepting the role of Show & Sale Committee Chairperson and he's already provided a number of suggestions for this year's event. RWCS Member Dale Erickson remains the support personnel at the event itself.

In order to make initial changes for this year, the Board of Directors has approved the following revisions in the Show & Sale terms and conditions that will allow a trial during Convention.

- The committee established "larger booth space" areas around the perimeter of the gym to allow dealers to bring in their own displays or complimentary furniture. These large booth space areas will be offered in three sizes. Contact RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner with questions regarding larger booth spaces.

...Continued on page 11
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ABOUT THE COVER

What would you do if you stopped at a yard sale and found this jug priced at \$250 staring right back at you? You'd offer \$200 of course!

Well, maybe you would have just paid the \$250 and ran, but when owners Mike & Jamie came across this 5 gallon salt glaze jug decorated with a cobalt grape cluster and the word "wine" at a yard sale in California on Friday, Feb. 13, they engaged in a little bit of negotiations with the seller – and got their way! So much for Friday the 13th being an unlucky day.

A stoneware collector for about 25 years, Mike wasn't sure it was a Red Wing piece when he saw it at the yard sale, which contained mostly rummage sale-type items and only a few antiques. But, he knew they were going home with it either way. Jamie says she was "99.9% sure it was Red Wing", but admits neither of them had an idea of its value. Although the woman selling it didn't want to budge on her price, Mike was able to talk her down to \$200.

After doing some research when getting home, Jamie fired off a couple of pictures to the "Ask the Experts" page on the RWCS website to see if it was a Red Wing piece and get an idea of what it was worth. About a week later, she was having a bad day at work when the phone rang. It was RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner. After asking if Jamie was sitting down, Stacy informed her that RWCS Member Al Kohlman, who answers questions about stoneware on the website, had looked at the pictures. He said it was a Red Wing jug unknown to exist by collectors, and estimated its value at \$6,000 to \$7,000, if not more!

"I was shocked!" Jamie says. "We thought it was maybe worth six to seven hundred – not thousand. I called Mike at work to tell him the news and he didn't believe me. I was finally able to convince him I was telling the truth. When he got home, he cleaned out his gun safe and moved the jug from the fire place mantel into the safe."

While this piece is obviously the best find they've ever made, Mike & Jamie have had success searching for Red Wing before. They once scored a pair of spongeband salt & pepper shakers for a dollar each at a thrift store, and also found a Red Wing Albany slip pig for only \$30.

If you're thinking Mike & Jamie are ready to cash in and sell their awesome jug, better think again. They've already been offered more than Al Kohlman's appraisal and they turned it down. They're all about enjoying the jug; it is not for sale. Congrats to the lucky couple, and thanks for sharing the unbelievable find with fellow collectors. *-Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor*

MIDWINTER REVIEW



STACY
WEGNER

Executive Director

I am pleased to announce that moving the MidWinter GetTogether to Oconomowoc, Wis. resulted in 310

members attending the "Big Game" in February. This was a 24 percent increase over last year and the highest attendance since 2010. The Friday Night Lights reception kicked off with the RWCS Starting Lineup called by none other than newsletter editor Rick Natynski. Check out the education manager column below to learn more about the great seminars we had on Saturday. Saturday afternoon offered lots of great buys at the Show & Sale and the Houghton Auction that benefited the Pottery Museum.

A BIG "thank you" goes out to the Badger Chapter and the Wisconsin Chapter for all their support to make everyone feel welcome! Their hospitality suite was well-stocked with food and was open daily for lunch and snacks. They also got lots of local businesses to donate gift cards and items for door prizes and live auction baskets for Friday night.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at registration and the Show & Sale, those who presented an educational session, all the attendees and everyone else who made MidWinter possible. While the event itself was a huge success, some attendees had negative experiences with the service at the hotel. For more about that, read the article at right.

A new experience this year was all the MidWinter buzz that was shared on Facebook before, during and after the event. Great job to all the members who were selling, buying and posting throughout the course of the weekend. I can't wait to see Facebook traffic come alive from our 600+ members who are on the site when Convention rolls around. Get out there and talk Red Wing!

For those who missed this year, be sure to mark your calendar for next year's MidWinter, February 5-7, 2016 in Oconomowoc. Attendees voted Oktoberfest as next year's theme!

Next up – Convention! For several updates on the "Excursion to Red Wing", July 9-11, check out the back cover.



GLENN
BEALL

Education Manager

Happy Spring,
fellow collectors! I

enjoyed seeing everyone at the MidWinter GetTogether in Oconomowoc, Wis. back in February. All of our educational presentations saw good attendance from attendees. A big thanks goes out to the RWCS members who presented. Our keynote presentation was split by RWCS Vice President Paul Wichert,

who discussed the Society's technology efforts, and RWCS Foundation Board members, who gave an update on the Pottery Museum of Red Wing and the group's desire to create an endowment fund.

Longtime Pottery Dump Diggers Steve Showers and Dennis Nygaard each gave interesting talks on the things they've found in recent months, and Mark Wiseman gave a well-researched presentation on the Iowa potteries of Des Moines and Boone & Warren counties. RWCS Historian Nancy Lambert discussed the process of creating the Kansas/Missouri advertising book; her efforts have inspired at least one or two other

OLYMPIA RESORT PROMISES IMPROVEMENT FOR 2016 MIDWINTER *Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski*

For being the first year at a new location after being held at one property in Des Moines for the past 14 years, the 2015 RWCS MidWinter GetTogether in Oconomowoc, Wis. went very well. As Stacy mentioned in her article at left, there was a significant increase in attendance over the past few years and lots of members came to the event who had never attended MidWinter before, which is exactly what the RWCS Board of Directors was hoping for. But, while the event itself was a success and most people had a great time, the property that hosted MidWinter failed to meet the expectations of many attendees.

While there were some one-off complaints shared by attendees, there were also several issues consistently reported by members. Those include:

- Many rooms were not cleaned at all during the 3- to 4-day stay. Several members experienced delayed check-ins because their rooms were still being cleaned when they arrived.
- Three members reserved handicapped rooms, but the rooms were not available when they arrived. As it turns out, those rooms were given to occupants who didn't need handicapped rooms.
- There were numerous complaints regarding the hotel restaurant, the biggest being the slow, poor service. It was painfully obvious that the restaurant was not staffed to handle a group of our size. Also, the restaurant was closed from 1:30 to 5 p.m. daily. Although the hotel bar was open for food service during that time, most of our members weren't made aware of it.

- The hotel's Crickets Lounge was not open in the evenings as expected. The hotel's other bar was more of a dance club and music was too loud for conversation.

Usually you wouldn't return to a hotel after having negative experiences like these, but since a 2-year contract is standard when booking these types of events, the MidWinter GetTogether will be held at Olympia Resort again next year. Following the event, Past RWCS President Sue Jones Tagliapietra noted that the RWCS experienced similar issues for the first few MidWinter events held in Des Moines, but once they corrected the problems, they did an exceptional job of hosting us. Although Olympia's performance was disappointing in many respects, the management's response following the event was actually quite refreshing.

Stacy Wegner, Board Members Paul Wichert and Bob Morawski and I sat down with Olympia management on Feb. 27 to discuss the problems. Olympia Vice President & General Manager Michael Barton said several times that he was "embarrassed" when reviewing our document that contained all of the complaints from members and vowed to meet our expectations next year. Addressing the items listed above, the following assurances were made:

- Barton personally reached out to each individual that did not receive a handicapped room and apologized. For all future reservations, a specific room will be preassigned well in advance of arrival.

...*Continued on page 1*

chapters to take on similar projects of their own. Brent Mischke shared his passion for Red Wing stoneware bowls of many shapes and sizes, and as always, dinnerware experts Larry Roschen and Terry Moe gave a great talk.

We've got some great presentations lined up for the July Convention, but I'd love to add a few more. Please contact me if you're interested! Sharing your knowledge and excitement of Red Wing is a rewarding experience, and it will help you network with collectors who share your interests. Plus, speakers are given a stipend of \$75 per-session to compensate them for their time. I look forward to hearing from you!

NEWS FROM YOUR POTTERY MUSEUM OF RED WING

Story by RWCS Foundation Board President Dave Hallstrom & Board Member Larry Peterson



POTTERY MUSEUM TO DEFEND AGAINST LAWSUIT

On March 10, 2015, the Foundation was served with a Complaint filed by Wells Valley Enterprises in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. The Complaint alleges that Wells Valley owns exclusive trademark rights to the use of the terms "Red Wing" and "Red Wing Stoneware" for pottery, and that the Foundation has infringed those alleged trademark rights.

Emphatically denying the allegations as being without basis, the Foundation Board of Directors met and promptly took action to create a litigation committee, which reports to the Board. The Foundation has also retained attorneys Christopher K. Larus and Kristine Tietz of the law firm of Robins Kaplan LLP. These attorneys have agreed to represent the Foundation in this dispute *pro bono* – without charge for their services. The Foundation is grateful for Robins Kaplan's generous support. The Foundation intends to aggressively defend against the allegations and will continue to pursue its mission of preserving and celebrating the rich and colorful story of Red Wing's clay industry. We will endeavor to keep the members up to date on significant developments as they occur, but in the meantime, the Foundation will be taking diligent action to defend against the lawsuit.

POTTERY MUSEUM WINS "BUSINESS OF THE YEAR" AWARD!

As briefly mentioned in the February *RWCS Newsletter*, the Red Wing Chamber of Commerce named the Pottery Museum of Red Wing as the 2014 Business of the Year in the Arts & Entertainment, Lodging, Recreation and Tourism category over 22 other nominees. Several members of the RWCS Foundation Board were on hand for the Red Wing Chamber's Feb. 3 awards ceremony. Congrats to everyone who helped make this happen!



CURRENT POTTERY MUSEUM NEEDS

There have been so many who have generously contributed during the Capital Campaign thus far and in years past. Your non-profit Pottery Museum is funded only from donations, grants and revenue from the Pottery Museum Gift Shop. Currently it takes \$5,700 per month just to open the doors. This amount includes on-going overhead expenses including utilities, insurance, security, personnel, etc. This amount does not include our building purchase and interest. Please consider an annual or monthly donation that will be dedicated to preserving and celebrating the story of Red Wing's clay industry. Donations can be sent to: Pottery Museum of Red Wing, 240 Harrison Street, Red Wing, MN 55066.

The museum also has need of specific, useful items as we continue to have more visitors and more events scheduled. The items below were listed on the "Brick Wall of Donations" during MidWinter. If you are able to either donate the cash so we can purchase them or any of the items (unused) mentioned below, please contact Museum Manager Robin Wipperling. Many thanks for your continuing, generous support.

- Smart TV for the Commons Area: \$600
- Single Cup Coffee Maker: \$130
- Projector for Multipurpose Room – \$425
- Stainless Steel Cart for Break Room: \$150
- 2 High Top Tables: \$85 each
- Tripod Stand: \$300
- Cordless Mic \$400

ATTENTION FOUNDING MEMBERS of Friends of the Pottery Museum of Red Wing

A list of everyone who donated or pledged \$300 or more before December 31, 2014 will be posted on the museum website on May 10. Check WWW.POTTERYMUSEUMREDWING.ORG to make sure your name is posted and your level of giving is correct. If you do not have internet access, please call the museum office at 651-327-2220. Changes or corrections must be given in writing and confirmed with the museum manager by May 30, 2015. We are making every attempt to eliminate omissions or errors. This list will be used for invitations to the special celebration of Founding Members on the one year anniversary of the Pottery Museum's Grand Opening and will be posted at the Pottery Museum in July. To save postage, EVITES will be sent to those Founding Members with e-mail addresses.

Organized by: Copyright Red Wing Collectors Society

POTTERY MUSEUM OF RED WING

BUILDING EXPENSES 2013 – 2014

During our first 25 months, we paid out:

Closed: December 28, 2012	\$ 50,000
Closing costs	\$ 3,300
Remodeling the Pottery Museum	\$ 107,841
HVAC and sidewalks	\$ 47,480
Total remodeling as of Nov. 2014	\$ 155,281
Insulation, heat tapes & electrical (Dec. 2014)	\$ 5,800
(ADA Door Openers and railing - Cost approximately \$8,000. Donated by RW Area Seniors; January 2015)	
Balloon Payment; June 28, 2014 + 6 mos. interest	\$ 112,000
Balloon Payment; January 27, 2015 + 18 mos. interest	\$ 71,000
Balance Paid as of January 31, 2015	\$ 397,421
Balance Due as of January 31, 2016	\$ 150,000
Balance Due as of January 31, 2017	\$ 150,000

* Going with a 4-year contract for deed instead of a conventional 25-year loan is saving us approximately \$400,000 in interest money!

We are more than half way there!

Here are a few things you can be proud of:

- You have created a truly "world-class" Pottery Museum.
- You helped move the original museum and the Schleich Red Wing Pottery Museum's artifacts to their new home.
- Your museum has been listed as a definite place to visit by the *New York Times*, *USA Today* & many travel brochures.
- Your museum has had visitors from all over the world!

FRIENDS OF THE



LEVELS OF GIVING

Potter.....	\$100-\$499
Collector.....	\$500-\$999
Partner.....	\$1,000-\$2,499
Patron.....	\$2,500-\$4,999
Benefactor.....	\$5,000-\$9,999
Kiln Master.....	\$10,000-\$24,999
Potter's Guild.....	\$25,000-\$49,999
Clay Giant.....	\$50,000 and above

LEVELS of GIVING are determined by cumulative donations.

Johnnie's

ROOT BEER BARREL

Story by Rick Natynski,
RWCS Newsletter Editor



Virtually all of the advertising stoneware and pottery pieces that Red Wing was commissioned to make over the years were ordered by businesses with a physical address that were owned and operated by an adult. A rare exception to that rule is the hard-to-find "Johnnie's" root beer mug that surfaces on occasion.

As revealed in an article in the July 8, 1994 *Red Wing Republican Eagle*, the mugs were made for John McGrew, son of Red Wing Potteries foreman L.C. McGrew. Quoting a former classmate, the article states that John started Johnnie's Root Beer Barrel when he was a sophomore at Red Wing Central High School, shortly after his dad gave him a barrel of root beer.

Born in Red Wing on July 5, 1926, John Thomas McGrew was the first child of Emelia McGrew and Lewis Conrad McGrew. He had a younger brother, Scott, and a sister, Marilyn. If the McGrew surname sounds familiar, there's good reason; Johnnie's grandfather was the famed Charles "Lou" McGrew – a longtime potter and foreman for the Red Wing Potteries.

John ran the business outside the Red Wing Potteries, serving root beer and potato chips to pottery employees while they were on their lunch breaks. Although no records are known to verify this information, the article states that 144 of the mugs were reportedly made while the business was in operation.

As shown side-by-side in the photo below, which appeared in the October 2013 *RWCS Gopher Chapter Newsletter*, the Johnnie's mug borrows design elements from mugs made for Red Wing's Bakeware (Oomph) and Hospitality Ware (Labriego) dinnerware patterns. The square-shaped handle and raised base are unique to the Johnnie's mug.

The mug was made in the two color combinations shown above and can be found signed with the "Made in Red Wing" circle ink stamp or unsigned. As noted in the Gopher Chapter's newsletter article, the Johnnie's mugs had a raised base, which gave the illusion that the mug held more root beer than it actually did. It's likely that Johnnie's father or grandfather was responsible for that trick.

According to the 1943 *Scarlett Feather* – Central High School's yearbook – John played on the Red Wing Wingers varsity basketball and football teams, was a member of the student council and served as vice president of the Junior Hi-Y Club. His leadership qualities had him well positioned for success once he would graduate from high school, but sadly John never got the opportunity to realize that potential.

As reported in the Oct. 30, 1943 *Daily Republican Eagle*, the popular Red Wing High School student and athlete died that morning after falling seriously ill after a pheasant hunting trip near Benson, Minn. less than a week earlier.

Advancements in medicine might have saved John's life had this condition been experienced in present day, but what doctors diagnosed then as "a form of abdominal infection" unfortunately cut his life short, leaving his family and friends wondering what could have been. He was buried in Red Wing's Oakwood Cemetery.

Be it a small token, memories of young Johnnie McGrew live on today thanks to the special Red Wing root beer mugs that bear his name.

Thanks to the RWCS Gopher Chapter and Afton Esson, the Goodhue County Historical Society's archives & library manager, for providing information for this article. The mugs shown above are currently on display at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.



Johnnie McGrew in 1943



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2015 MIDWINTER KIDSVIEW REVIEW

Story by Linda Wipperling, KidsView Chairperson

The teams were formed and the games began for KidsView during the MidWinter GetTogether in Oconomowoc, Wis. RWCS Member Dan Barry, aka "Mr. Dan", started us off by teaching the kids about the sports pottery Red Wing made, such as the Little Brown Jug and the Minnesota Twins items from 1965. The kids were able to take a booklet home with pictures of sports pottery and they had great fun painting jugs supplied by RWCS Member Wyn Painter. Lots of other fun activities kept us busy, such as a game of bean bags, learning cheers and a little snack. The jugs that were painted have been fired and sent to the kids.

I want to extend a huge "thank you" to Dan, Wyn and all of the volunteers who helped make KidsView fun and exciting for all ages.

Get ready for some fun, learning and adventure at the 2015 RWCS Convention in July, where kids will learn about the famous jugs of Red Wing. I'm looking for volunteers for both KidsView and the Young Collectors. More information will follow in the June RWCS Newsletter. Please contact me at 651-764-2183 or KIDSVIEW@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG or if you're interested in volunteering or have suggestions.



Linda gets in on the fun.



"Mr. Dan" shows how it's done!



From bulldogs and cows & calves to sheep and pigs, Bill Prock had his own zoo of Red Wing animals for sale. He even had an Albany slip lion doorstep!



2015 MIDWINTER JAW DROPPERS



Above: A one-of-a-kind pitcher with experimental coloring and glaze codes on the bottom sold privately.



Below: Collectors of Red Wing's Hamm's items had a lot to choose from at one table at the Show & Sale.





*Min
Get*



S'15

Winter Together





Above: A funny Photoshop image reposted by RWCS Member Mike Orgler.



10 Above: A rare salt glaze Success Filter posted by RWCS Member Chris Tincher.



Story by Rick Natynski, *RWCS Newsletter* Editor

RWCS events like Convention and the MidWinter GetTogether are a lot of fun because people who share a love for Red Wing stoneware and pottery assemble in one place to learn, buy, sell and spend time with fellow collectors. If only there was a way for those events to last all year long without taking time away from careers, family, friends and all of the other things we enjoy outside of collecting.

Actually, something like that does exist and it's getting bigger and better everyday. It's the RWCS group page on Facebook.

I personally never had interest in joining the social media revolution and I'm still not quite there. But when it comes to talking Red Wing, that's different. I'm always interested in hearing stories, seeing new finds and sharing those of my own. So I started having second thoughts when my wife, who has been a member of the Red Wing group on Facebook for a few years, started telling me about all the activity on the page in recent months. Once she told me that people were buying and selling things on the page, that sealed the deal. It was time to cave-in and join Facebook.

RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner started the RWCS Facebook page all the way back in 2009. People on occasion posted questions and photos, but for about five years the page remained fairly stagnant. Stacy always encouraged people to join the page, but she was usually the only person who posted photos and events. Sometimes a week or two would pass between posts. Now only a matter of hours might pass before someone posts a photo of a recent find or a question about a piece.

"The traffic on our Facebook page has been like night and day ever since last November," Stacy says. "We had about 400 people in the Red Wing group back then, but there wasn't much activity. In the past 4 months we've gone up to 600 members and people are posting things left and right."

What prompted the change? A lot of it can be attributed to the group's unofficial ring leader, RWCS Member Chris Tincher. Although it pained him to do so, Chris decided to sell nearly of all his Red Wing collection about 3 years ago so he would have enough money to start a new business. With the business up on its feet, he started rebuilding his collection this summer. But something was missing.

"It wasn't the stoneware I found myself missing as much as the fun of the hunt and the friendship of collecting," Chris explains. "There was nothing better than when I would hit a big score...hands shaking and the new crock riding in the seat beside me, my phone in my hand dialing up my brother or my father – whomever I could get to answer first. But now with my brother gone (he passed away in 2008) and my inability to mend broken ties with my father, I was lost on how to fix the sharing part of collecting."

Chris had been active in some vintage advertising memorabilia pages on Facebook when he stumbled on the RWCS group page. After participating for awhile, he noticed it was kind of "slow moving", so he suggested last November that people start posting things for sale since that's what really drove the activity on the vintage advertising pages.

"But buying and selling on the Red Wing page are not the driving factors of what makes the page work," Chris explains. "Actually there is very little buying and selling going on. What has developed has been much more

Sue Chapman
February 13



Like · Comment · Share · 27 7

"Share Sunday" is a highlight day on the RWCS Facebook page. RWCS Members Sue Chapman (above) and Barb Williams (top left) shared these photos.

valuable then a 'free eBay' page. It has brought us together as friends and family. In a very short time, I've had the pleasure of becoming friends with so many new people."

Of the 600+ people who are members of the RWCS Facebook page, there are long-time, advanced collectors and brand new collectors alike. The great thing is that you can be as active or inactive as you want to be. Some people post several comments and photos a day, while others just watch all the photos and comments being exchanged. The page is open to the public, so anyone can join. According to Stacy, that has resulted in several new collectors becoming full-fledged RWCS members, which is great for the club.

"It's not about having the best crock, the most expensive crock or anything like that," Chris concludes. "The Red Wing Facebook page takes the hobby past the fight at the auction or the sometimes self-focused part of collecting and it has put people together in a way that truly makes this hobby 'more than clay'. It is really all about friendship, because without that, it's just me alone in a room with a bunch of crocks."

To join the RWCS group page, simply do a search for "Red Wing Collectors Society" on Facebook and click on the "Join group" button. Within a day, RWCS Facebook administrator Laura Beall will approve your request to join and then you'll be in. If you need assistance in joining Facebook, reach out to a friend who's on there and they'll help you get started and help you manage your privacy settings if you're worried about ex-lovers tracking you down. 😊

OLYMPIA PROMISES IMPROVEMENT *cont'd from page 4*

- Barton acknowledged that Olympia's housekeeping service, cleanliness, lack of inspection process and missed room assignments during MidWinter was inexcusable. He accepted full responsibility for the lack of service and poor execution throughout our event and assured us that they will overhaul their housekeeping training program so we will not have that problem in the future.

- Since MidWinter, Olympia has made management revisions and hired appropriate staffing for its restaurant. It will also provide a new menu later this year. Next year it will bridge closed times of operations as well as offset waiting for food by providing concession options for the group. In addition, a small gift shop area will be created to provide snacks and essential personal items.

- Crickets Lounge will be open during the evening at next year's event to give attendees a good place to assemble every night after RWCS activities.

- Stacy Wegner will be properly introduced to hotel staff on the Thursday morning of MidWinter and she will review all the needs

NEWS BRIEFS *cont'd from page 3*

- The Show & Sale is being opened up to sales of "quality" antiques and stoneware-related items. The related items can be period furniture, benches, cases, or display pieces that complement the stoneware being sold. In past years, American stoneware and pottery had to be 90% of the items in a seller's booth. That has been changed this year to 60%, with the remaining 40% being "quality antiques, complementary furniture and period antiques that would be of interest to stoneware collectors." The change is not opening the sale to "flea market" items and we expect sellers to self-enforce the items being offered to be of good quality and vintage period pieces.

- Souvenir sellers previously had to offer 90% of their items as souvenirs or stoneware reproduction items. That percentage is being revised to 75% souvenirs. The remaining 25% of items may consist of quality antiques, American-made pottery, or other items related to pottery collecting or period collectibles. This will allow potters or souvenir sellers to bring vintage pieces for sale.

We are excited about these changes and hopeful that many new sellers will attend and bring in more formal displays with American stoneware and complementary pieces for sale. A survey of the membership attending Show & Sale will be conducted after Convention to get their opinions and suggestions for next year's event. *-Larry Birks, RWCS President*

MONMOUTH POTTERY ON THE SQUARE

The Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Pottery on the Square Swap Meet in Monmouth, IL from 8 a.m. to noon on June 27, 2015. Activities will include a stoneware swap meet and appraisal clinic. The clinic will begin at 8:30, and knowledgeable Illinois pottery collectors will be on hand to examine pieces brought by the public. Rare items have been seen at the appraiser's booth and it is exciting to see what might show up. It also provides a learning opportunity for aspiring collectors.



In conjunction with the event, the Monmouth Chamber is offering a limited-edition commemorative piece pictured above. They are priced at \$35 and shipping charges vary based on quantity ordered. For more information on the event or the jug, contact the Monmouth Chamber at AMM@MONMOUTHILCHAMBER.COM or 309-734-3181, or visit WWW.MONMOUTHILCHAMBER.COM to see photos from last year's event.

of the RWCS during its stay. Attendance by all Olympia department managers will be mandatory. In addition, a primary contact person will be designated to represent Olympia throughout the event. Staff cell numbers will be given to pertinent Red Wing staff to ensure improved communication and action in the event of group needs.

In closing, Barton offered the following written statement to RWCS members who experienced dissatisfaction during the event:

"We hope you sincerely understand we collectively apologize for our failures. I am a large proponent of controlling what is within our control and we unfortunately failed often in that regard on many occasions. While we have plenty of work ahead, I am confident your group will return next year to experience a much-improved product, engaged service, well prepared staffing and a genuine smile to greet you. It will be our goal to continue to shift your feelings so understand you have hopefully found a 'new home' that will provide a genuine sense of hospitality and friendship for many years."

SUMMARY OF SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY, INC.

According to **Article XV – Amendments**, of the RWCS Bylaws, proposed amendments to the Bylaws by the Board of Directors are required to be published in the *RWCS Newsletter* at least once, and ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members in good standing present at the annual business meeting or a special meeting.

For the most part, the proposed bylaw revisions herein fall into three major categories. First is the membership concept where any RWCS member is a member of the RWCS Foundation, but not the reverse. Second, the recent 2014 election had more than the typical number of candidates, which brought up more coordination issues. This led to the idea of updating our election voting to an electronic method. And third, the Executive Director is given authority to create convention support positions.

The Board of Directors hereby proposes the following amendments to the Bylaws. Indented portions of regular text indicate existing text. Indented portions of italic text are clarifications of the proposed changes. If text is being added, the new text will be in bold italics (***new text***). If text is being removed, the removed text will be in bold italics with strikethrough line (~~***removed***~~).

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

• Any person who appreciates stoneware and pottery, who subscribes to the beliefs set forth in the Preamble, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the RWCS, and pays the annual dues, shall be eligible to become a member of the Society and shall be afforded all the rights and privileges of the organization. The RWCS shall use a Primary/Associate annual membership fee structure effective August 1, 2002, ***except as noted below***. A Primary annual membership shall be afforded all the rights and privileges of the organization. An Associate annual membership shall be afforded all the rights and privileges of the organization except for the receipt of the newsletter. There must be at least one Primary membership per household address in order to have additional members at that address having Associate member status. ***Alternate memberships are:***

“Complimentary” memberships are free and utilized administratively for special situations and include access to events and receipt of the newsletter. Such memberships must be approved by the RWCS Board of Directors.

“Children’s” memberships are a complimentary, free type of membership available to RWCS members in good standing for any child 13 years old or younger which said member chooses to sponsor at RWCS events which may be complimentary. No other benefits are included unless the child(ren) becomes a Primary or Associate member.

“Young Collectors” memberships are a complimentary, free type of membership available to RWCS members in good standing for any youth between the ages of 14 and 18 which said member chooses to sponsor at RWCS events which may be complimentary. No other benefits are included unless the child(ren) becomes a Primary or Associate member.

Some remaining memberships are categorized as “Additional” which were utilized prior to the current Primary/Associate classification but can no longer be acquired, only maintained by such members as long as the primary membership is paid continuously. If the Primary Membership lapses, the “Additional” Membership lapses and it must be reinstated as Primary or Associate status.

Lastly, all Society members in good standing are also members of the Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation (Foundation) with all the rights and privileges afforded Foundation members. Any Foundation member who is not a Society member in good standing is not a member of the Society and does not enjoy the rights and privileges of Society membership.

The membership types have been in existence for years, but recent developments have brought out the need to clarify

them. The idea of each RWCS member automatically being a Foundation member has been expressed verbally for years. This bylaw change merely formalizes the idea in writing.

ARTICLE IV – Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Officers

• Secretary – to keep the minutes of the ***Board of Directors meetings, the Executive Committee meetings, and the Annual Business meeting, and to present minutes of the Annual Business meeting at the Annual Business meeting and present same for publication in either the newsletter or on the RWCS website.***

This would give the flexibility to publish or distribute minutes in a variety of ways.

• Non-Elected Convention Support Positions (***Support Positions***)

A. Display – shall be responsible for the organization and management of displays at the annual convention, and the selection and distribution of awards.

B. Registration – shall be responsible for the organization and management of registration for the annual convention and other official Society functions.

C. Show and Sale – shall be responsible for the planning and management of the show and sale at the annual convention and other official Society functions.

D. Other support positions as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

All Support Positions shall be appointed by the Executive Director with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. Support Positions are not deemed members of the Board of Directors.

The authority to create additional, special Support Positions is given to the Executive Director.

• ***Additional Board of Directors Voting Procedure***

The President may initiate a voting-required action of the Board of Directors through electronic methods such as deemed appropriate by the President.

Approval of this new language would give the Board the authority to vote on issues via telephone, email, text messaging and/or the RWCS website.

ARTICLE V – Nominating Committee and Voting Procedure

• The Vice President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of four other members, at least three of whom shall not be members of the Board of Directors. Nominations and resumes of candidates for the election of Officers, Auction, Commemorative, and Education Managers, and Representatives at Large shall be published in the RWCS Newsletter at least four months prior to the election. Balloting will be by mail ***or other designated electronic method***. Ballots will be mailed ***or emailed*** to all members in good standing at the time of the mailing and must be received in the RWCS Business Office by the 30th day of June of the year of the election in order to be counted. A member must be in good standing as of the June 30th closing date to have his/her ballot count. ~~***There will no longer be nominations or voting at the annual convention. Nominations or voting at the annual meeting is not allowed.***~~ The Officers, Managers, and Representatives at Large shall be elected by a plurality vote of those members ***casting*** their ballots who are members in good standing as of the closing date.

Balloting by mail ***or electronic method*** will commence in the spring of each election year with the Representatives at Large being responsible for the auditing and counting of ballots, with the newly elected Board members to be announced at the annual business meeting. If the current Representatives at Large are on the ballot, other members must be designated to audit the balloting for the Representatives at Large.

This revision allows for electronic voting and communication.

The proposed amendments to the RWCS Bylaws will be discussed and voted upon at the RWCS Annual Business Meeting, which will be held during the 2015 Convention on Friday, July 10th in the auditorium of Red Wing High School, Red Wing, MN. If you have any questions or concerns prior to the annual business meeting, please contact any RWCS Board member using the contact information listed on page 2 of the *RWCS Newsletter* or on the RWCS website. 📧

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2014 RWCS FINANCIAL REVIEW


The RWCS financial report as of December 31, 2014 is presented here for your review. A financial status report is also presented at the RWCS Annual Business Meeting in July. We have included some explanation and limited the detail in hopes that more of you might read and understand the financial position. For those of you who would like more detail, please contact the RWCS business office and we will send you a detailed statement. -Dan Beck, RWCS Treasurer

FINANCIAL POSITION	2013	2014
CASH IN BANK	\$540,697.08	\$502,829.93
OTHER ASSETS	484.00	1,093.92
LESS LIABILITIES	(35,485.68)	(42,486.61)
NET ASSETS	\$505,695.40	\$461,437.24

- More than \$400,000 in cash is invested in bank certificates of deposit (CDs). IRS rules require all interest earned by the RWCS must be donated to a charitable organization.
- Net assets represent cash which is available for operations. The net assets decreased by approximately \$48,000. This decrease is the result of the net operating loss incurred in 2014.

RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY – 2014 BUDGET INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUES	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET	2015 BUDGET
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	\$103,410.99	\$95,674.95	\$66,960.24	\$78,415.00	76,615.00
CONVENTION	49,884.50	48,473.00	42,763.65	50,910.00	41,850.00
COMMEMORATIVE	166,051.91	166,633.50	152,648.00	168,450.00	128,050.00
AUCTION	82,725.25	57,204.00	78,522.00	70,000.00	70,900.00
MIDWINTER	9,836.30	9,915.04	13,214.55	9,791.30	11,055.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$411,908.95	\$377,900.49	\$354,108.44	\$377,566.30	\$328,470.00
EXPENDITURES	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET	2015 BUDGET
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	\$179,795.47	\$185,980.71	\$189,759.35	\$185,009.75	\$200,625.61
CONVENTION	41,338.77	35,421.39	36,725.02	41,674.51	41,584.36
COMMEMORATIVE	81,320.16	73,802.23	96,456.02	73,700.00	54,150.00
AUCTION	72,553.59	49,660.27	68,771.47	64,150.00	64,950.00
MIDWINTER	9,939.49	11,242.41	8,593.74	11,511.30	11,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$384,947.48	\$356,107.01	\$400,305.60	\$376,045.56	\$372,309.97
INCOME (LOSS)	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET	2015 BUDGET
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	(\$76,384.48)	(\$90,305.76)	(\$122,799.11)	(\$106,594.75)	(\$124,010.61)
CONVENTION	8,545.73	13,051.61	6,038.63	9,235.49	265.64
COMMEMORATIVE	84,731.75	92,831.27	56,191.98	94,750.00	73,900.00
AUCTION	10,171.66	7,543.73	9,750.53	5,850.00	5,950.00
MIDWINTER	(103.19)	(1,327.37)	4,620.81	(1,720.00)	55.00
TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	\$26,961.47	21,793.48	(46,197.16)	1,520.74	(43,839.97)

- The RWCS stands on firm financial footing with \$461,000 of cash in the bank. However, we have ended 2014 with a \$46,878 loss. \$16,000 of this loss was a “catch up” to prior years related to a change in accounting practice for pre-paid dues. There was also a significant decrease in net profits from our commemorative income. This decrease was because of the closure of the originally contracted vendor. This resulted in a significant increase in the cost from the new vendor. Income from our auction was also below budget and below last year.
- 2015 is budgeted at a loss of \$43,840. The RWCS Board is making investments in a number of areas this year, including needed technology improvements. The Board has attempted to be conservative in its budgeting for 2015.
- Members deserve and receive a high quality newsletter. The cost of the newsletter is budgeted at \$71,000, which the Board feels is a very fair price for a high quality newsletter. Membership dues are budgeted at \$70,000, which does not cover the cost of the newsletter.
- **What can you do to help change the profit position of the RWCS?** It starts with membership. We have a great organization. Advertise it and get involved! With membership comes Convention attendance. Higher Convention attendance brings more auction and commemorative sales. Challenge yourself to get involved! 

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	1x	6x
Full page	\$425	385
1/2 page (<i>horizontal or vertical</i>)	225	205
1/4 page	125	115
1/8 page	85	70

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

Display Ad Dimensions

Full Page	7 1/2 x 10
1/2 page (<i>horizontal or vertical</i>)	7 1/2 x 4 1/2
1/4 page	3 5/8 x 4 7/8
1/8 page	3 5/8 x 2 1/4

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

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads:

Rick Natynski, PO Box 198
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Ads can also be submitted 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: Large assortment of Red Wing Stoneware. 5 gal water cooler, lid and stand. Men's and ladies' chamber pots, refrigerator jars, prohibition pitchers/mugs, crocks and covers, advertising beater jar and bowls. Many others. YE OLDE ANTIQUES, Medford, WI. E-mail CSTOERZI@CHARTER.NET (eBay member cstoerzi).

For sale: Red Wing Commemoratives 1977-2014, missing 1998. Will sell together only. Mint condition. Contact Karla at 660-665-9055 or SOURTOE@CABLEONE.NET.

For sale: Midnight Rose dinnerware: 13" platter, egg tray, 9" bowl, 5 cups & saucers, bread plate, celery dish (rim nick) and three dinner plates (one w/chip). Sold as one lot. Est. retail value: \$485. Asking only \$300. Located in Phoenix. Call Jeanne at 623-214-5069.

For Sale: 1977 RWCS Commemorative, \$1050. E-mail NANCY194805@GMAIL.COM.

For sale: Red Wing 5 gallon shoulder jug small wing \$75.00, medium wing \$125.00 + shipping. Both excellent condition. Contact Maureen at NYDREAMER2@GMAIL.COM

For sale: Red Wing Magnolia dishes, service for twelve 95% complete, with platters, serving bowls, covered tureen, gravy boat, salt & pepper, butter dish. Excellent condition – make reasonable offer. Local pickup only in Phoenix, AZ. Tandra Love: TANDRA.LOVE@FISGLOBAL.COM or 480-629-7749.

For sale: Commemoratives: 1991, 1992 (2), 1993 (2), 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999. Wisconsin Chapter Commemoratives: 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998. Marmalades: 2 pineapple with tray/lid – 1 yellow, 1 turquoise. 4 apples with tray/lid – 2 pink, 2 turquoise. 1 pear with lid/tray, turquoise. 1 pear with lid, turquoise. Belle Kogan 100 #762 7.5" copper. Capistrano casserole dish with lid (green bottom, light pattern top). Fancy Free (desert) beverage server with lid. Incised peasant design munch jar (light stone color). Animal novelties: #879 brown fish, #876 white donkey, #880 matte green pelican. #734 9.5" birch bark canoe. All items mint. Call Patricia at 608-924-3322. (4/15)

RED WING WANTED

Wanted: Red Wing sponge cap bowl with advertising for "Prospect, Wis. Compliments of J.E. Elger, 1935". Call Clint at 262-679-6427. (8/15)

Wanted: Bowey Chocolate Cattail Brushware Cookie Jar, bottom stamped, no damage with lid. Kashmir covered serving bowl. Contact NANCY194805@GMAIL.COM.

Wanted: All blue panel sponge bowls in the 5", 7" and 10" sizes; must be mint. Also looking for 4 & 10 gallon "Drop-8" crocks and "Drop-8" churns sized 3, 4, 6 and 8 gallons. Contact Chris at CCTINCHER@GMAIL.COM or 316-708-5272.

Wanted: NORTH DAKOTA! Looking for jugs, crocks, butter crocks and churns with advertising. Will pay top dollar for the right pieces. Contact BEEHIVE@POLARCOMM.COM or 701-270-0242.

Wanted: These Xmas adv. bean pots: Kohnke's - Clear Lake, SD; Sinai Elevator Co, Sinai, SD; and Gjermundson Bros Hdwe - Wittenberg, WI. Any condition considered. Also looking for 9-inch blue and white panel bowl. Will

consider any condition. Call 414-731-0218 or e-mail REDWINGR@GMAIL.COM.

Wanted: Mini and salesman sample flower pots. Contact COBE142@COX.NET or 402-331-4749.

Wanted: Red Wing #687 & M3006 blue/green Chromoline vases and #675 blue/green bowl in mint condition. Also interested in buying Galena Pottery. Contact Rick at 414-416-9464 or NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG.

EVENTS

Elkhorn Flea Market, Walworth County Fairgrounds in Elkhorn, WI. Sundays: May 17, June 28, Aug. 9 and Sept. 27. More than 500 quality dealers! For information, visit WWW.NLPROMOTIONSLLC.COM.

AUCTIONS

3 p.m. Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at the Bluff's, Hager City, WI. Crocks, Water Coolers, Jugs, Churns, Mini Jugs, Grayline, Pitchers, Saffron, Bowls, Cookie Jars, Brushware, Nokomis, Commemoratives, plus much more.

10 a.m. Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at the Bluffs, Hager City, WI. Very large assortment of Salt Glaze & Zinc Crocks, Western Crocks, Butter Churns, Jugs, Butter Crocks, Mason Stone Jars, assortment of Spongeband, plus much more. Catalogs available June 1 at \$5 each. Houghton's Auction Service, 1967 Launa Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066.



**Gene Sander
Red Wing Crocks
& Collectibles
Cream Separator
& Dairy Items Auction**

Friday, June 19th at 11 AM
Preview starts at 9 AM
Saturday, June 20th at 10 AM
Preview starts at 8 AM

**Wood Lake
Meeting Center,
210 Wood Lake Dr SE
Rochester, MN 55904**

Friday: Red Wing Crocks, Butter Churns, Water Coolers, Filters, Jars and Red Wing items.
Saturday: Cream Separators, Signs, Clocks, Cans and Dairy items.
Gene loved anything dairy and gathered up as much as he could. Almost one of everything here! Come take a seat during this large auction with 300+ lots each day in great location.
Pre-bidding Online Catalog open in May with photos and descriptions.
Pam would appreciate your attendance at this auction of her late husband's collection.

Visit us online for Complete Listing, Photos and More!
AumannAuctions.com
(888) 282-8648

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 2015 Convention. All newsletter submissions received between July 2014 and June of 2015 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE
Badger on Football figure, bottom-signed "Red Wing Potteries 1939", head glued back on	Oatman, AZ	2/15	Antique shop	\$4. ⁰⁰
8-inch RW sponge panel bowl with Oconto, Nebraska advertising, bruise line on base		2/15	eBay	\$113. ⁸² (shipped)
½ gal RW "Powell's Cedar Rapids" adv. jug, mint	Oconomowoc, WI	2/15	MidWinter	\$1,100. ⁰⁰
¼ gal RW "Powell's Cedar Rapids" adv. jug, mint	Indiana	2/15	Auction	\$1,732. ⁰⁰ (shipped)



This incredible Minnesota Pottery business card from Henry Mitchell, David Hallum and L. Bowman sold on eBay for \$366 plus postage on March 3. As cited on page 9 of *Red Wing Pottery & Their Wares* by RWCS Hall of Fame Members Gary & Bonnie Tefft, *The Red Wing Argus* newspaper reported on April 22, 1875 that the trio went into business behind Hallum's home at the corner of 3rd and Minnesota streets earlier that month. The company operated until early 1877, when Hallum sold his interests to the newly incorporated Red Wing Stoneware Company. Not only is this example likely one of very few Minnesota Pottery business cards still in existence, but it's in fine condition...especially for being more than 140 years old! The eBay seller is an ephemera dealer located in South Carolina.

RED WING STONEWARE & POTTERY AUCTION

9 a.m., Saturday May 2, 2015

Zumbrota V.F.W. Hall

25 East 1st St., Zumbrota, MN 55992

400 plus pieces of Red Wing Stoneware & Pottery:

Salt Glaze crocks (one side stamped), Assort of Red Wing Zinc crocks & jugs, Red Wing churns, Red Wing Water coolers, Mini jugs, Red Wing Christmas Tree holders, Assort of Brushware, assortment of lids, Shoulder bowls, Butter bowls (some with advertising), Advertising pieces, Minnesota Twins pieces, Poultry feeders, Assort of Red Wing Morristown Water & salt feeders, Small New York salt feeders, RWCS Convention buttons, pictures, assortment of bean pots (some with advertising), Some rare pieces & some pieces with unusual markings. See our website for more photos. Catalogs available for \$5.

After many years of collecting Red Wing Stoneware, Gary Meier has decided to share his collection with the public. The auction will take place at the V.F.W. Hall at 25 East 1st St. Zumbrota, MN (watch for Houghton Auction Signs) Viewing at 7 a.m. on auction day. Lunch & restrooms available.



HOUGHTON'S AUCTION SERVICE • 1967 LAUNA AVE. RED WING, MN 55066

651-388-5870 • WWW.HOUGHTONAUCTIONS.COM

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2015 CONVENTION UPDATES EXCURSION TO RED WING – JULY 9-11

The 2015 Convention is only about 12 weeks away! We have lots of new and exciting things going on this year, making it a great year to attend! Here's some news regarding the fun activities we have in store.

Everything is on one level this year! The RWCS has worked with Red Wing High School to relocate Commemorative distribution. It will now be around the corner from Registration and education will move to the H100 rooms.

Mount Frontenac Golf Course to host RWCS Banquet: Come and see a picturesque view of Lake Pepin and the Mississippi River from this bluff top golf course. A great way to gather and have a meal with your fellow collectors on Saturday of Convention!

"Going Home" for CrockFest: The first RWCS Convention was held at the Goodhue County Historical Society, so we're excited to have CrockFest there for the first time. The vault will be open, a special exhibit is in the works and a fun band will be entertaining the crowd. Come see the great view, too. Although parking is limited, we will have a shuttle available from the Pottery Place Parking lot. We'll have more information on this in the June newsletter.

Hands-On with Color: Potter Richard Spiller returns for the hand-on pottery classes with new red clay pieces and Engobe colors, too. Sign up today for \$40 so you can make your own colorful red clay 4-inch crock or 6-inch tile. Your creation will be fired and mailed to you after Convention. Visit the RWCS website to learn more!

Show and Sale Booth Space: With the help of RWCS Members Tim & Roxie Lockard, the RWCS is excited to offer new booth space options for the Show and Sale. See the News Briefs on page 11 to learn more.

Crock Hunt: The annual Convention Crock Hunt will once again start the Friday before Convention and end after the Show and Sale on Saturday afternoon, July 11. If you live in the Red Wing area and would like to help with this event, please contact the office.

Registration Form Deadlines: Don't forget that Sellers Table contract requests and Auction Submission forms must be sent to the RWCS office by May 15th! Convention preregistration forms must be mailed by June 1, but can be completed online as late as June 8.

Volunteers opportunities: Make a Convention memory and meet more collectors! All departments for Convention need volunteers. From set up to clean up, there is something for every member. Call the office to get involved!

Convention Street Banners: We are accepting order for new street banners. Please get your order in by May 15th to ensure it is hung downtown for the

EARLY CONVENTION AUCTION PREVIEW



Above: A Red Wing #1633 vase with experimental glazing.

Right: Greyline casserole & lid w/ Xmas adv. from "Abbin's Store, Mt. Vernon, S. Dak."



The RWCS Foundation has already submitted some great items for the RWCS Convention Auction this summer! The pieces pictured above and more were donated to the RWCSF for the specific purpose of selling to raise funds for the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. Remember, if you'd like to sell a piece or two of your own in this year's auction, which will take place on Thursday, July 9 at Red Wing High School, you must return your auction submission forms to the RWCS business office by Friday, May 15. Include a photo, too - we'll preview more items in the June RWCS Newsletter!



Annual Convention. Price of a street banner is determined by the quantity ordered, so get those orders in.

Membership Brochures, Convention Posters and Flyers: If you are planning to set up at flea markets, attend auctions, travel to antiques shows or sell Red Wing on eBay, contact the RWCS office and we'll send you some RWCS marketing supplies. Call the office early to ensure we can get it to you before your event! Remember, RWCS Chapters – bragging rights to the Little Brown Jug of Membership are on the line! 🍷

COMING IN THE JUNE ISSUE...



THE POTTERS EXCURSION

CONVENTION PREVIEW

