

Red Wing Sample & Test Plates 7 Licensed to . Copyright Red Wing Collection Pieces That Don't Appear in any Books 10-11

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FROM THE EDITOR

To most people, the holiday season is a time to spend with family and friends to celebrate the passing of another year and look ahead to the next. But many Red Wing collectors also view it as a time to take stock of the their collection and put together a list of goals for the upcoming year.

What are your goals for 2018? Is it time to make a serious play on that piece that a friend has had for years, but refuses to put a price on? Maybe you've been thinking about collecting a different line of dinnerware or art pottery that's always caught your eve. Or, is it time to sell some things to de-clutter or downsize? Wherever you're thinking about taking your collection in the next year or two, this is a great time to make a New Year's resolution to put together a game plan.



As far as this issue of the RWCS Newsletter is concerned, if the plate pictured on the cover has your mouth watering for more, you're in luck. Turn to page 7 to see more sample and test pieces, one of which is signed by famed Red Wing designer Charles Murphy. Other articles in this issue include a pictorial of rare items that surfaced over the past year, a look at a unique piece of Red Wing history and the local man who created it, and the efforts some RWCS members have made to assemble a list of all known Red Wing advertising beater jars.

This issue also has a slight Western flair to it, as two advertising jugs are featured. One story comes to us from RWCS Member Aaron Bliss, who discusses how he came to own his favorite Montana jug; the other looks back at the Sundance, WY saloon owner who commissioned jugs for his business.

Finally, if you haven't pre-registered for MidWinter yet, be sure to do so by the end of January. RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner and RWCS Interim Education Manager David "Yoshi" Hoffman provide a preview of the event on page 4.

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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 HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The RWCS Hall of Fame was established in 1991. Any RWCS member in good standing may nominate a candidate for induction. Nominated individuals should have made a major positive impact in the collecting, preservation and/or education of Red Wing stoneware, pottery or dinnerware. Nominations, including a short explanation as to the basis for the nomination, must be submitted in writing to the RWCS Historian (contact info on page 2) for Board consideration prior to the MidWinter Board meeting. The number of inductees is not restricted, but per the RWCS Hall of Fame Guidelines, the number must be respectful of the prestige of the award. Each RWCS Hall of Fame member is listed on the RWCS website. -RWCS Historian Nancy Lambert

RWCS STILL SEEKING YOUTH PROGRAM CHAIR

The RWCS is still in need of a chairperson to coordinate KidsView and Young Collectors. Much of this program is already in place, so it will be easy to get started. The RWCS is happy to have co-chairs share the responsibilities for MidWinter and Convention, and KidsView or Young Collectors. Here are some facts about each program at each event:

MidWinter:

KidsView on Saturday 6-10 participants 2 hours of program time

Convention:

12-15 participants

Young Collectors on Thursday KidsView on Friday 40 participants max. 2-3 hours of program time 4 hours of program time

This is a great opportunity to meet the younger members of the RWCS, get your hands in some clay and have fun. There are many resources available in the office. Contact RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner if you are interested in working with Youth Programs in 2018. There is a stipend available for these positions.

HOLIDAY INN **COMING TO** POTTERY DISTRICT

Ground was recently broken on a three-story. a 71-room Holiday Inn Express in Red Wing's



historic pottery district. It will sit on a 2-acre lot where the former Sears garden store was located across the street from the old Pottery Salesroom (seen in the photo above). This site is on a portion of the former North Star Stoneware building, so RWCS Member Dan Barry and RWCS Hall of Famer Dave Hallstrom posted photos on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page and hoped to spot some stoneware shards. Neither had any luck. Dan also reported that construction workers asked him to leave when he was looking for shards on Nov. 21, which prompted some funny banter from several RWCS members:

Bret Anderson: "Why is THE MAN constantly hassling Dan Barry?" Bruce Selfridge: "I would bet there are no workers there on Thanksgiving." Crock Potterman: "Just report to the DNR that you found an endangered turtle on the property. That'll give you plenty of time to poke around."

Brian Curtis: "I think we should all go form a protest line and block them from doing any work until our diggers are done and satisfied."

RWCS Hall of Famer Gary Tefft later commented that it was unlikely any shards would be found there, as railroad spur tracks were located in that spot when North Star was in operation.

An expected completion date has not been released, but many collectors hope it will be finished before Convention. As is typical with most Holiday Inn Express WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG hotels, the property will not have a restaurant, but it will have a pool.

Plate image on cover and above courtesy of RWCS Member Michelle Mueller.

ABOUT THE COVER

Christmas came early for RWCS Member Michelle Mueller when she scored this incredible Red Wing Ceramastone plate for only \$8 at a Minnesota flea market back in September.

The phrase in the center of the plate, "L'Etoile du Nord", is French for "Star of the North", which is the Minnesota state motto. According to Wikipedia, it was chosen by the first Minnesota governor, Henry Hastings Sibley, and was adopted in 1861, three years after Minnesota was admitted to the Union. Because of this motto, one of Minnesota's nicknames is "The North Star State" and the Minnesota North Stars National Hockey League team (1967-1993) used the English translation for its name.

Many places in Minnesota owe their founding or pay homage to the presence of early French-Canadian settlers such as Duluth, Saint Paul, Hennepin County, Faribault, Voyageurs National Park and Lac qui Parle. The French language was widely spoken in Minnesota until the end of the 20th century.

The presence of four different glaze numbers scribbled on the back of the plate indicate this was made as a sample pattern - not a Lunch Hour piece. Despite its attractive color combination and design, the plate was never put into production for what was likely a couple of reasons. First, management probably decided there wouldn't be much demand outside of Minnesota for a line of dinnerware with the state motto written in French. Second, hand-painting each of the ovals on the rim of the plate would have been a costly, time-consuming process.

This wasn't Michelle's only bargain buy in 2017. She also got one of the best deals of the year made by any collector when she discovered a monumental Albany slip Lion Doorstop in an antique shop back in August. To find out what she paid for it, check out the Recent Finds & Deals on page 15.

-RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

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MIDWINTER PREVIEW

Happy Holidays Collectors! First off, the RWCS MidWinter GetTogether is coming up February 23-25 in Des Moines, IA. We have lots of exciting things going on again! If you're looking for a last-minute Christmas present for that special collector in your life, attending MidWinter makes a great gift!

You have until Jan. 30 to pre-register for MidWinter for only \$25, which includes food at the Friday Night Social and the Saturday morning breakfast. Plus, all members who pre-register for MidWinter will be entered in a drawing for a one night stay to use in Des Moines this year! You can always register onsite for \$30 if you can't commit by the end of January.

The Saturday afternoon Show & Sale still has table spots open! As we shared in the last newsletter, sellers now have the flexibility to sell a quality mixture of stoneware, pottery, souvenirs and antiques. Reserve a table today for just \$35.

I am excited to share that the RWCS will also have a raffle at MidWinter. Ticket sales will begin onsite on Wednesday. Prizes include: room night stays at the Isle of Capri in Bettendorf, IA (the location for the 2019 & 2020 MidWinter), one room night stay at the AmericInn in Red Wing that can be used for Convention, Convention and MidWinter attendee packages and a one-of-a-kind crock! There may be a few more items added to the raffle before MidWinter.

STACY WEGNER Executive Director

All registered members are invited to come meet up with fellow collectors at the Friday Night Social and join us for breakfast on Saturday morning before the keynote presentation about Red Wing in Iowa from RWCS Member Joe Grout. David "Yoshi" Hoffman reports on all the scheduled educational seminars in his article below. Special thanks to the Iowa Chapter for hosting the Wine & Cheese event on Thursday evening and the coffee and donuts on Sunday morning before hitting the road.

Are you planning to have a room sale at MidWinter? Contact the office so we can list you on the website and the MidWinter program. Also, we are looking for a few folks to volunteer for registration, set up and tear down, so please contact the office today; no amount of volunteer time will be turned away. And visit the RWCS website to learn more about MidWinter. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally, the July Convention (July 12-14, 2018) will again be held at both the College and the Armory in Red Wing. The RWCS is looking to rent air conditioners for the Auction, should temperatures be like they were this past year. Look for more information as we get closer to the event.

I'm excited to announce that all MidWinter educational programs have been booked! Hopefully everyone will find something that appeals to his or her interests. Don't forget to register for MidWinter so you can join us for the fun and learning. Here's an overview of who will speak on which topics; speaker biographies can be found on the RWCS website.

Red Wing in Iowa Keynote Session: RWCS Member Joe Grout will present on the history of Red Wing in Iowa (with potteries to include Fort Dodge and Plymouth Stoneware) and provide insights to the economic reasons of why Red Wing produced in the state.

Advertising Beater Jars: RWCS Member Jeff Birchman will cover the use of advertising beater jars as a merchant premium and discuss how many different businesses offered them. He'll also cover the different styles of Red Wing beater jars and the years they were manufactured.

Collectors Round Table: RWCS Members Debra & David Giesen will lead an interactive discussion about collecting Red Wing. They are asking for a digital photo of participants' favorite RW piece so everyone can talk about the piece and ask questions like how long they've collected, what got them started, future collecting plans and how they add to their collections. Send your submissions for the session to onmy3rd50@gmail.com.

Iowa Stoneware: RWCS Member Mark Wiseman will present a history of Marion County Potteries. The presentation will include photographs of known stoneware pieces and recently dug stoneware shards and pieces from Marion County privies.

Less Common Gypsy Trail Dinnerware: RWCS Hall of Famers Larry Roschen & Terry Moe will share photos and talk about the less common items from the Gypsy Trail line.

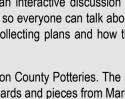
North Star Stoneware Company: RWCS Member Danae Quirk Dorr will go in-depth on a number of aspects of this company's history as well as various products that have been attributed to its potters between 1892 and 1896.

KidsView - The Work of a Potter: MidWinter KidsView participants will learn from potters about the process of making their creations from molds and wheels. Following this educational program, participants will have the opportunity to make their own pinch pot with air-dry clay. Other activities will be focused around the work of a potter. Come join the fun! Volunteers are needed to assist with leading projects during the educational seminar times. Please contact Stacy Wegner at director@redwingcollectors.org or call the office if you'd like to help out.

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POTTERY MUSEUM OF RED WING NEWS



GIVE TO THE MAX

Thanks to you and your incredible donations, the RWCS Foundation Board is pleased to announce that more than \$33,000 was raised during the 2017 Give to the Max in November! The money raised will help pay for building expenses, maintenance, improvements and continuing education programs.

The Pottery Museum was pleased to host non-profits at our site for Give to the Max. The event was successful. There was food and door prizes, and people had a chance to visit with the non-profits and learn about all the good work they do for our community. The non-profits shared positive comments in regards to how the room was a wonderful venue for the event.

A HEARTFELT THANKS & WELCOME

We want to thank the RWCS Foundation's outgoing board members for their dedication and leadership over the years. They include Carmen Selfridge, Larry Roschen and Steve Ketcham. We also welcome our new board members: Debbie Mishcke, John Duffy and Gary Tyc.

ORAL & EDUCATIONAL VIDEO PROJECT

RWCS Hall of Famer Louise Schleich recently visited the Pottery Museum of Red Wing and participated in the video project. She shared the story of the collection that she built with her late husband, Jerry, and how it came to be donated to our museum. Barb & Steve Brown also shared their knowledge of Red Wing dinnerware for the video project. We also have plans to interview the following RWCS members:

- Ron Linde Art Pottery
- Dave Hutchson Mold Room
- Steve Johnson Clay Pits
- Larry Peterson Stoneware
- Mike Becker The Dig

Our goal is to make this video available for educational purposes. Please check out the video on our website used to promote school tours: www.potterymuseumredwing.org.

OLD FASHIONED HOLIDAY AT THE MUSEUM

Visitors are enjoying an Old Fashioned Holiday at the Pottery Museum as they stroll back in time. We held an Old Fashioned Holiday for families November 18-19. Children decorated cookies, created items with clay and played an old fashioned game. They were very surprised when Santa showed up at the museum.

We also held a Holiday Bazaar during the month of November in which we raised \$1,300. We appreciated the holiday donations!

AFFAIR FOR DINNERWARE

The 3rd Annual Affair for Dinnerware will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 in the Victorian Room at the St. James Hotel. Tickets will go on sale in January. Watch for details on our website and Facebook.

The RWCS Foundation Board and I wish you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!!!

-Robin Wipperling, Pottery Museum Manager







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HAPPY 15[™] ANNIVERSARY TRAILS WEST!

The RWCS Trails West Chapter (Kansas/Missouri) is celebrating a milestone this year. The group began as collectors and now describe themselves as Red Wing family. They share enduring friendships, spirited games of FARKLE and a glass of "Red Wing", Minnesota's own Prairie Wine, whenever they are together.



Above: Trails West members pose for a photo at the Voth farm during the 2017 RWCS Convention Week. Lower left: The 2018 Trails West Chapter Commemorative Greek Key bowl. Below: Chapter members engage in a rousing game of FARKLE at the 2017 RWCS MidWinter GetTogether.

The Trails West Chapter has grown to 119

members from 12 states since its first meeting at the home of Trails West Members Bob & Vivian Perry in October 2002. Members can always be found volunteering during the MidWinter GetTogether and summer Convention, as well as helping with the Pottery Museum's annual "Wine-ing" for Red Wing fundraiser. Many chapter members arrive the Sunday before Convention so they can spend more time together.

Trails West Chapter President Debbie Mischke and her husband Brent joined the RWCS in 1980. They said they were aware of

the chapter when it formed, but didn't make an effort to join. On Thursday, July 10 during the 2008 Convention, a line of storms including a tornado rolled



through southwestern Minnesota and much damage was reported. That evening they watched the news out of Minneapolis and one report focused on the damage at the farm of Trails West Members Marty & Althea Voth outside Red Wing. It reported that a group of people in town for the RWCS Convention had come out to the farm to help clean up the damage. Debbie said, "As we watched this report, we both realized that we recognized some of the folks – they set up at the Show & Sale every year behind us. Larry & Kay Salisbury, the nicest people you would ever know, were on TV. I told Brent that night that I wanted to join the group once we retired and had more time. In July 2010 that became a reality. We have met so many nice people in the Trails West Chapter and it has been my honor to serve as Chapter President for the past three years."

Congratulations to the Trails West Chapter on its 15th Anniversary! -RWCS Historian Nancy Lambert



2018 AMERICAN ART POTTERY ASSOCIATION TO CONVENE IN AMES, IA

The upcoming National Convention and Show & Sale of the American Art Pottery Assoc. will be held in the Midwest this spring for the first time in more than 10 years. The event will be held April 25-28, 2018 at the Gateway Hotel & Convention Center in Ames, IA and will feature a tour of the Iowa State University campus art collection.

In the depths of the depression, Grant Wood and the colony of artists from Stone City, IA spent time beautifying the campus with murals and sculpture. What's left is an enduring grouping of masterpieces situated throughout the campus along with more



contemporary works. On display for attendees at a lunch gathering will be the pottery produced at the college by Professor Paul Cox and Mary Yancey in the 1920s.

On Thursday, April 26, members will give seminar presentations on Handicraft Guild Minneapolis, Abingdon Pottery and an afternoon program exploring the sculptor Christian Peterson by Lea DeLong.

Friday morning will discuss the world of collecting art pottery in an interactive talk moderated by our *APA Journal* editor and a major pottery expert regularly featured on Antiques Road Show. That afternoon, the greatest art pottery show in the country will open for convention attendees only. The show will open to the general public at 9 a.m. on Saturday and run until 4 p.m. Admission is free.



If you have an interest in art pottery, you are welcome to investigate further by visiting the organization's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AmericanArtPotteryAssociation or website, www.aapa.info. Licensed to . Copyright Red Wing Collectors Society

Red Wing Sample & Test Plates

Story & photos by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski Plates appear courtesy of RWCS Members Steve & Barb Brown

The Red Wing Potteries fired thousands upon thousands of dinner plates in its kilns between the mid-1930s and 1967. Most of these were standard production line items, but a small fraction were made for internal purposes and not intended for the public. These, of course, are highly coveted among collectors who focus on dinnerware or Red Wing Potteries history in general. These plates generally fall into three categories:

Sample: Although the "sample" and "test" terms are often used interchangeably, sample pieces are viewed more as factory prototypes. They usually carry one-of-a-kind patterns that weren't put into production, or similar variations of patterns that were produced. Sometimes they were marked "sample" like the plate at right, but they're also found only with glaze numbers like the plate on the cover of this issue.

Test: These are usually viewed as standard production line items that have glaze numbers scrawled on the back or front of the plate. This was done simply to check the final coloring of a pattern to make sure the glazes came out of the kiln as intended.

Lunch Hour: Decorated by Potteries employees on their lunch break or after hours, many collectors consider these to be a form of folk art. They often have elaborate decorations and were usually given away as gifts or made for personal use. Sometimes they were made to commemorate an event like a wedding, anniversary or birthday. Other times they were just a simple white plate signed by all the co-workers in a department and given as a going away or retirement gift. Many Lunch Hour pieces have been featured in the *RWCS Newsletter* over the years and many more will be discussed in the future, so this pictorial focuses only on sample and test pieces.

This sample piece is considered by

many collectors to be the best Christmas-themed Red Wing plate ever created (Lunch Hour pieces included). Painted by iconic Red Wing Designer Charles Murphy, it bares his name on the back and was pictured on the cover of the December 2004 RWCS

SAMPLE MURPHY

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Newsletter. It's too bad it wasn't put into production – collectors today would love to have a set! But, it was likely determined to be too time-consuming of a pattern to replicate.



NON-PRODUCTION SAMPLE PLATES

Neither unnamed pattern was mass-produced. The plate on the right had a hole drilled and metal handle inserted at the Pottery Salesroom and was sold as a tid-bit tray.

PRODUCTION VARIANT SAMPLE PLATES

Above, the standard Smart Set pattern is on the left and an alternate variant on the right Below, the standard Lute Song pattern is on the left and an alternate variant on the right



The Tip-Toe patterned plate on the left has glaze numbers on the front, while the Dynasty patterned plate on the right has glaze numbers on the back. Licensed to Copyright Red Wing Collector



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Editor's note: Known as "Skyland Ryder" on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page, RWCS Member Aaron Bliss posted a version of this story online back in autumn. It appears here for all RWCS members to enjoy.

The Reminder of a Special Friendship in Big Sky Country

Story by RWCS Member Aaron Bliss Photos by Brandon Bliss

This jug is probably one of my most prized Red Wing possessions. A very close neighbor/friend of mine named Bob dug it from a little dump at an "ancient" homestead, just a few miles from where I live in northwestern Montana. He knew how I loved Red Wing, and greatly enjoyed giving me grief over the fact that he had the jug, and I didn't. Being a carpenter by trade, he enjoyed collecting old wooden-handled carpentry tools, so he sorta understood the collecting bug!

He proudly displayed the jug on top of his fridge, where I couldn't help but covet it every time I visited. Attempts to buy it were met with such comments as "Ahhh... it's not hurting anything sitting where it is," or "Well, you know Bernard made me a pretty good offer on it a couple weeks ago." Bernard my toe...he just knew how to have fun.

Well, one day probably 20 or so years ago, Bob called and said that he and his wife were going to be leaving for Arizona for the winter, and that I should come over for coffee before they left. "Yep," I thought, "one more chance to fondle that jug!"

To make a long story short, after coffee and some horseshoe throwing, Bob surprised me by saying he decided it was time to sell the jug. It took only \$100 to buy the jug and a perfect 12 gallon wing crock that he kept in his shop. Seriously...\$100. It was never about the money with him; again it was just the fun. That jug finally got to come home with me, and I was elated!

A short time later, Bob and his wife left for Arizona. A couple weeks after that we received a call telling us that he had suffered a massive heart attack while out riding his bike, and had died probably before hitting the ground. A big chunk of color in our community was suddenly gone. The man who had been instrumental in building my folks' home, who taught me how to build picture frames from old

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Above: A spot of snow lies next to a little hollow in the ground where the poor jug sat for decade after decade until Bob found it. The rest of the homestead can be seen in the background.

barn wood, who taught half the community how to throw horseshoes, who could infect *anyone* with his sense of humor and ability to fart at will, was gone.

Bob had a great life. Only time I saw him truly mad was when we were up at a lodge by our cabin and an old crusty cowboy showed up outta nowhere and whipped him at a game of his beloved horseshoes. He was seriously MAD! Rest of us about died laughing....

I still look up his driveway every time I'm over that direction, half expecting to see him wave. I did it again recently when my son and I went to take these pictures. The photos are of the homestead where the jug came from. Square nails in the construction, sod inside the walls for insulation; it's old...very old.

I know a very cool guy from Utah who wants a Gies jug for his collection, and I owe him a favor. I *will* find one eventually, but hope he now better understands my reluctance to let this one go. Hope you enjoy the photos...it was a beautiful Big Sky morning! *****





Above: A few old wooden planks are the only thing keeping you from falling into a very cool old stone-lined well.



Above: A sod-walled barn is also on the property.



Above: Open-air concept homes aren't very popular in Montana this time of year.

Aaron is always looking for Montana advertising crocks and jugs to add to his collection. You can reach him at adbliss@3riversdbs.net or 406-788-7851.

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

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Pieces That Don't Appear in any Books

There are a number of excellent books available on Red Wing pottery and stoneware. *Red Wing Potters & Their Wares, Red Wing Stoneware Encyclopedia, The Clay Giants* series, *Red Wing Stoneware, Red Wing Collectibles, Red Wing Art Pottery 1 & 2* and *Warman's Red Wing Pottery* all serve as great resources to both beginners and advanced collectors alike. Each of these books are packed with photos of rare and one-of-a-kind items, but as is the nature of collecting Red Wing, pieces continue to surface that aren't pictured in any book.

Thanks to the RWCS Facebook Chapter page, auction web sites like eBay and other online resources, a lot of interesting pieces appeared over the past year that you won't see when paging through these books. I always keep photos of these items on file, so here are several of my favorites from 2017.

Many thanks go out to all of the RWCS members and others who shared these photos from their collections.

-Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor



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RWCS Member and mega collector Jim

Sondeland joined the RWCS Facebook

Chapter page in 2017 and wowed fellow

members with exceptional pieces day after

day. My personal favorite was his 10 gallon

salt glaze ribcage cooler, complete with lid,

mug and the riser, which probably caused



An avid collector of Red Wing stoneware shoes, RWCS Commemorative Manager Bob Morawski shared this photo of not one, but two original Minnesota Stoneware **black** shoes! Bob says this glaze color isn't photographed or listed in any literature that he's aware of.

RWCS Member & butter crock guru Jim Stiller posted this photo of his immaculate Lake



City, MN butter crock earlier in the year. The crock is mint, the advertising is incredibly crisp and it's only one of two that he's aware of; the other is severely damaged.

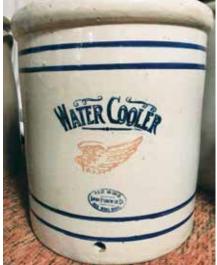
This cute little stoneware baby shoe turned up on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page at the end of 2016 and was quickly scooped up.



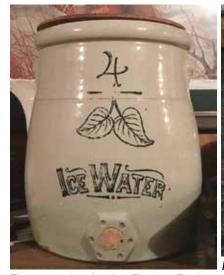


Red Wing ¼ gallon blue sponge pitchers aren't rare and they're pictured in a few different books, but not one with a "ski" oval on the bottom! RWCS Member Bruce Selfridge describes how he found it at a past Convention: "This piece was purchased after the close of the Show & Sale while the dealer was packing up. I just by chance looked at it and was blown away when I turned it over. Had it been on its side during the sale, it would have sold 10 times over.

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There are other 4 gallon Elephant Ear Ice Water coolers out there, but not like this. The combination of the screw heads on the hex bung and extra bulbous shape at the bottom make it super attractive. Thanks to RWCS Member Laura Beall for sharing her photo.



It's hard enough to find a Wyoming advertising jug, but a mug? No way! Congrats to RWCS Member Cade Cottle for scoring this scarce example. He posted it on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page in November for all to enjoy.



Collector Mary Reck shared this eye-popping zinc glaze hot water bottle in red tint. These are typically seen in Albany slip and a rare blue tint version is pictured in Red Wing Stoneware, but this one takes the cake.

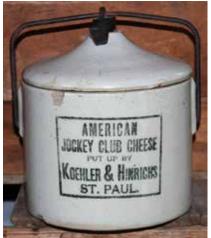


Three gallon salt glaze beehive jugs with a cobalt target aren't too difficult to find and most weren't made by Red Wing. That's almost definitely the case with this one, but it's still in a league of its own. A face and stick figure is incorporated into the "3" and decoration, and the word "mild" is written above it. With the buyer's premium included, it sold for \$3,900 on Oct. 21 at Cowan's Auctions in Cincinnati.



RWCS Member Gary Markham had this odd piece in his collection for

many years before parting with it during Convention Week. Similar to the style of jug made for Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey, it certainly wouldn't pass for a Red Wing piece if it weren't for the "Souvenir of Red Wing" stamp on the side. But the fact that it came from a mold indicates that Red Wing must have produced at least a small run of these jugs. Since few, if any, others are known with the "souvenir" stamp, it's unlikely this particular piece wasn't made for retail. Perhaps a Potteries employee put the stamp on and gifted it to a friend to who was in town visiting.



Ball lock advertising cheese crocks were made in high numbers by other potteries, but for some reason Red Wing versions like this one are seldom seen. Koehler & Hinrichs commissioned a number of other advertising pieces from Red Wing, so it's surprising that there aren't more of around. these This 5-pounder sold on eBay in November.



Well hello, Beautiful! RWCS Members Kevan & Terri Stepp landed this special Red Wing 1/2 gallon hand-turned blue and rust sponged jug towards the end of 2017. A few different "Lunch Hour" and bailhandled blue sponge jugs are pictured in different books, but jugs with blue and rust sponging were far from being a standard production item, thus they're uber rare.





Wing-shaped ashtrays in red glaze are plentiful, but no green versions are pictured or referenced in the books. In addition to the unique color, it has the seldom-seen advertising for Jim Ormerod of Franklin Park, IL. The side reads "Income Tax Service" and "All Types of Insurance". It sold on eBay over the summer.

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No, I did not stretch this photo with Photoshop and no, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you. RWCS Members Cliff & Ali Olson happen to be diehard 6 gallon crock collectors, so they were elated to score this squatty 6 gallon Elephant Ear in 2017. A 2 gallon squatty is pictured in a couple of the books and squatty 6 gallon crocks were made in salt glaze, but proportionately this crock is guite alluring with the large decoration filling up the front.

THE STORY OF SUNDANCE'S CHAS. SACKETT

"All I ask is, that my friends can say that I was a Square Shooter." -C.H. Sackett

Research compiled by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

An image of Sundance, WY taken in the mid- to late-1910s.

Often depicted as a place where the rules didn't apply and scores were settled with gun slinging and shootouts, the Wild West holds a special place in American history. Established in 1879 during the Black Hills Gold Rush, Sundance, Wyoming is often referred to as the heart of the Wild West. It was home to such outlaw legends as Harry Alonzo Longabaugh, aka the "Sundance Kid".

Of course, Sundance was also filled with many hardworking, albeit less captivating residents like Charles Sackett. Here is the story of the man who in 1910 commissioned the Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. to make what ended up becoming very desirable and valuable advertising jugs that bear his name:



Born in Dubuque, IA in 1860, Charles Henry Sackett was orphaned at age 13 and worked on riverboats before moving to Dakota Territory to work on government survey crews. Then he worked as a cook, stage driver and messenger until the stagecoach line was put out of business by the advance of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. For the next five years he worked as a bartender in Rapid City, SD before moving to Sundance in 1889 and establishing his own saloon less than a year later. Although his wasn't the only bar in town, it was the leader with an elaborate back bar and oak furniture. He was named one of the first directors of Sundance State Bank in 1905.

C.H. Sackett

According to the *History of Wyoming, Volume* 3, which was written in 1918, Sackett foresaw the coming of Prohibition and sold the saloon in 1917. Then he opened the Sundance Garage, an agency for the sale and service of Dodge Brothers and Hupmobile cars.

When he retired from the saloon business, one of the local papers said: "Perhaps no name in Crook County is more familiar throughout the county and this section of the Black Hills than is that of Charley Sackett.



He has been identified with the history and development of Sundance and vicinity since 1889 and will be greatly missed at the old stand by the hundreds of friends whom he has greeted these many years. Herever, Mr. Sackett has said for several years that he desired to retire from the business.

"He has also been one of the few saloon men to discern and admit the

certain approach of the great prohibition wave which bids fair to engulf Wyoming at no distant future. To the credit of Charley Sackett it can be said that he conducted a

To the credit of Charley Sackett it can be said that he conducted a notoriously orderly saloon, and if his example had been emulated by all other men engaged in the liquor traffic the prohibition agitation, no doubt would have longer failed of results. His successor cannot reasonably hope for such a career. Mr. Sackett has during recent years invested quite heavily in other lines in Sundance, having built up a splendid garage business, and his friends are pleased to learn that he intends to remain here."

RWCS Mer

Chris Osterhol:

L. SA(

According to *Wyoming Tales and Trails**, Sackett and Dr. J.F. Clarenbach went fishing on Sand Creek on Sunday, July 4, 1937. They had a good catch and about noon took a break for lunch where two hunters from Lawrence County, SD were in the nearby woods.

One of the shots from the two hunters came perilously close to Sackett and Clarenbach. The doc yelled out to the hunters, but then another shot came. Charlie's last words were "Doc, I'm shot." He was 76 years old.

The order below for Chas. Sackett jugs that appears in the Red Wing Potteries' Ledger was placed on Feb. 14, 1910.

these many years. However, Mr. Sackett has said for several ors Swerey mingtales and trails.com © G.B. Dobson, 1999-2015

THE CURT MEYER & SONS "SMOKER'S COAL BUCKET"

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

Although foreign competition and a labor dispute ultimately caused the Red Wing Potteries to close in 1967, the ceramic hobby industry was booming at the time. Some hobbyists simply worked with clay for fun, while others like Curtis Meyer made a side business out of it. One of his creations was the "smoker's coal bucket" pictured at right – a project that longtime Red Wing Potteries' chief modeler and moldmaker Teddy Hutchson assisted with in the late 1960s. Here's the story of how it came to fruition.

The Red Wing Potteries drew a fair share of its workforce from local residents back in its day, but there were also many people who moved to town specifically to work there. One of those people was Curt Meyer, who moved to Red Wing from North Dakota in 1948 with his wife, Jean.

"I believe my dad started off working with the glazes before becoming a boiler engineer at the Potteries," explains Mike Meyer, the second of Curt & Jean Meyer's six children (Frederick, Michael, Christopher, Sylvia, Randall and George). "He was very creative and quite artistic. He painted a number of pieces on his lunch hour when he worked there and gifted them to family members."

Curt left the Potteries in the 1950s and became a boiler room engineer with agricultural processor ADM in downtown Red Wing. Then he took a job with Pittsburgh Paint and Glass in 1961 and worked there until his retirement in 1985. But his interest in ceramics didn't end when he left the Potteries.

"My dad spent a fair amount of his spare time creating things from clay and other materials like leather and wood," recalls son Randy Meyer. "He also painted signs for local businesses. I was around 10 years old when he converted our basement rec room into his workshop and started Curt Meyer & Sons, which he later renamed Curt Meyer Studio.

An avid pipe smoker, Curt designed a ceramic ash receiver fashioned after the coal buckets that were used to remove ashes from fireplaces. He equipped the design with a cork on the inside to enable quiet pipe tapping and a handle that was formed with a notch that could hold a cigarette.

Dave Hutchson, son of Red Wing Potteries' moldmaker Teddy Hutchson, recalls that Curt initially tried to sell his idea for the smoker's bucket to the Red Wing Potteries prior to its closing, but management wasn't interested in pursuing it – likely since accessories for pipe smokers was such a niche market. So, Curt decided to take on the project himself.

"My father and Curt did a lot of things together," Dave Hutchson says. "Dad bought some property from him at one point and then helped him make the molds for a few of his projects, including his smoker's bucket. He also helped set up the kiln in the Meyer's garage in Hager City, about 10 minutes away from Red Wing."

Randy says it wasn't long before his father's project became a family affair. He and his mother poured the molds and he used a form to hand-bend the wire handle. His older brothers and sister assisted with assembly and other tasks when they were available. In addition to the black version with the red wing, which Curt likely sold locally as a souvenir, he experimented with different glazes as shown by the brown and yellow bucket pictured here. SMOKER'S COAL BUCKET Por Incommite Pine Stockard Mar Meyer & Sons Andre Meyer & Sons Andr

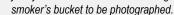
Above: The label that appeared on the bottom of the bucket. Photos courtesy of RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner.

"Dad marketed the bucket by sending mailings to pipe and tobacco stores across the country,"

Randy concludes. "They never took off like he had hoped and sales were fairly limited, but he got a lot of enjoyment from creating it and other things, and it was a great way for us to spend time together as a family."

Editor's note: Many of the Lunch Hour pieces Curt Meyer made at the Red

Wing Potteries were passed down in the family, so we'll share photos of them in an upcoming issue of the RWCS Newsletter. You'll be impressed by his artistic talents! Special thanks to the Becker Family of Hager City, WI – longtime RWCS members who put me in contact with Randy Meyer and offered their "Red Wing"





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.

Ads are divided into the following sections: Red Wing For Sale, Red Wing Wanted, Other Pottery For Sale, Other Pottery Wanted, Events, Auctions, Clubs & Publications and Websites, Announcements and Services. You will not be charged for these words, but please indicate which section your ad should be placed in. If ad is to run in more than one issue, please indicate at time of placement. (Note: the small number at the end of an ad tells when the ad expires, e.g., 12/18. Ads without dates are one-time ads.) Please type or print clearly and proofread before submission.

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

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

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

DEADLINES

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Ads</u>	Editorial	Mail Date			
February	Jan. 10	Jan. 1	Feb. 15			
April	March 10	March 1	April 15			
June - Contact Stacy Wegner at 651-388-4004.						
August	July 25	July 15	Aug. 31			
October	Sept. 10	Sept. 1	Oct. 15			
December	Nov. 5	Nov. 1	Dec. 5			

EDITOR ADDRESS

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Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads:

Rick Natynski, RWCS PO Box 198 Pewaukee, WI 53072

You can also submit ads by e-mail. Send to newsletter@redwingcollectors.org and send

checks separately. Or, call Rick at 414-416-WING (9464).

CLASSIFIEDS

RED WING FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Bob White and Tampico coffee mugs and tumblers. Bob White marmites. Call Orville at 509-780-1860. 12/17

FOR SALE: 2 gal brown top "Deer Park Co. St. Paul" adv jug, \$260; 1 gal "Morris Fink St. Paul" adv jug, \$340; 1 gal "Banner Liquor Co. Winona, MN" ad jug, \$300; 1 gal "Sandell Bros. St Paul" adv jug, \$300; Hamm's Bear Bank, \$800; Hamm's salt & pepper shakers, \$200; Cherryband Lake Benton, MN adv. pitcher, \$280; 20 lb. butter crock w/wing, \$900; 1 gal large wing crock, \$600; 1 gal small wing crock, \$600; 8 gal butter churn w/4" wing, \$2000; Red & Blue Sponge Umbrella Stand, \$2500; 3 gal wing beehive jug, \$425; 4 gal wing beehive jug, \$500; 5 gal wing beehive jug, \$550; 2 gal wing brown top ball lock jar, \$800; 1/2 gal wing brown top shoulder jug, \$250; 1 gal wing brown top shoulder jug, \$200; 2 gal wing brown top shoulder jug, \$725. Cal Sid at 701-749-2586. 2/18

FOR SALE: Lexington Rose Dinnerware: 13 six-piece sets, plus extra pieces. Also have water pitcher, covered butter dish, salt/pepper shakers, sugar bowl, creamer, relish and celery dishes, gravy boat, vegetable serving bowls and casserole bowl (no cover). Please inquire with Maggie at snyderjm@comcast.net or 651-633-7752. I am located in New Brighton, MN.

FOR SALE: 18 RWCS Commemoratives: 1990, 91, 92 (2,) 93 (2), 96-2007, includes boxes. \$600/OBO for set plus shipping. Fargo, ND 701-361-8402.

FOR SALE: 25 gallon wing crock w/bail handles, \$250; 2 gal crock w/4" wing \$75; 2 gal crock w/4" wing (cracked) \$50. Or, \$300.00 for all three. Located in Winneconne, WI near Oshkosh. Contact Vicki at jvs4141@gmail.com or 715-570-1010.

FOR SALE: Complete set of RWCS Convention Commemoratives 1977-2017, \$5500. Complete set of RWCS Convention badges 1977-2017, \$250. Complete set of Red Wing panel sponge bowls 5" thru 11", \$1000. Will deliver to MidWinter or Summer Convention. Contact 515-225-3024 or clreedinwdm@mchsi.com.

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. BEST OFFERS CONSIDERED! Call Billie at 573-231-6727.

FOR SALE: RW Orange Chromoline: #682 vase (mint), \$450; #673 vase (factory rim flaw), \$275; #674 vase (small base chip), \$250; #676 footed bowl (small outer rim chip), \$250; #671 candy dish (faint interior hairline on lid), \$275. Can deliver to MidWinter. Contact Rick at 414-416-WING or

RED WING WANTED

WANTED: 1986 RWCS Convention SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE – Acid Proof Pitcher with blue sponging. E-mail grandmagretah@yahoo.com or ca or text Greta at 847-372-1000.

WANTED: Bob White: 4 oz. juice tumblers and supper sets; Delta Blue: coffee mugs & beverage mugs; Tampico: tall beverage mugs, water cooler base & lid; Capistrano: 2 dish tidbit tray; Roundup: 2 mugs; Reed: white & ivory tumblers: Water Cooler bar petal lids, winged 2, 8 & 10 gal; Wing crocks: 40, 50 & 60 gal with or without lids. Contact Herb at hdaniels000@gmail.com or 417-876-7104. 12/18

WANTED: Red Wing Brewing 3-4 color glass, any etched glasses, tokens, signs, ball tap knobs, foam scrapers, letterheads, etc. from Remmler, Midwest, Cokins, or Red Wing Brewing. Contact 651-564-0200 or minnbeer@gmail.com. 12/17

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

WANTED: Green Iris Pitcher, any size. Also need 6 inch size Iris Pitcher in Burgundy and yellow. Contact Lee at Lee.elder47@gmail.com or 785-738-8363. 12/17

WANTED: Still, and always looking for jugs and crocks with Montana advertising. Working hard to improve my collection. Contact Aaron at adbliss@3riversdbs.net or call (406) 788-7851. 12/18

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 Daisy Chain dinner plates and salad/cereal bowls serving pieces. Contact Nancy a nancy194805@gmail.com or 785-691-7213.

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

WANTED: Red Wing bean pot w/ "W&E Nichols – Loyal, WI" advertising. Contact David at 715-355-8521 or education@redwingcollectors.org.

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: #687 Blue/Green Chromoline vase in mint condition and Red Wing advertising bean pots from Shamokin, Pennsylvania and Frazer, Montana. Contact Rick at newsletter@redwingcollectors.org o 414-416-WING.

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RECENT FINDS & DEALS

Did you find a rare piece or a great deal worth sharing? Briefly describe the item, date purchased, city and venue (store, auction, etc.) and price paid. Send to editor Rick Natynski via e-mail or mail (contact info on page 2). Multiple submissions result in multiple entries in the Newsletter Special Commemorative drawing. All submissions received between July 2017 and June of 2018 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

<u>ITEM</u>	LOCATION	DATE	<u>VENUE</u>	PRICE	
Red Wing Albany slip Lion Doorstop, MINT!!	Central MN	8/17	Antique shop	\$26.10	
Red Wing #M3011 Green Crystalline Decorator Line Vase, small base chip.	Washington State	8/17	Antique shop	\$80	
Red Wing Stoneware Trade Card w/girl in crock.	Washington State	8/17	Antique shop	\$150	
Red Wing All-Beige Fleck Trader Vic's Hula Girl Tiki Mug (without painted reliefs), mint.		10/17	eBay	\$44.05 shipped	
7" RW spongeware bowl w/ Polk, NE adv., mint.		10/17	eBay	\$90 shipped	
Hand-turned RW brown-top mini jug, 2.5", mint.	Red Wing	10/17	Pottery Place Antiques	\$32	-
Red Wing beater jar w/Darlington, WI adv., mint.	Western WI	1017	Auction	\$450	
White RW #725-L Jolly Jar with lid, mint.		11/17	eBay	\$85.57 shipped	
6" Red Wing spongeware panel bowl with "Bronson Folsom Co., Stillwater, Minn." adv., mint.		12/17	eBay	\$68.09 shipped	A.



RWCS MIDWINTER AUCTION

5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018 Holiday Inn & Suites, 4800 Merle Hay Rd. Des Moines, IA

ZINC, SALT GLAZE, BIRCHLEAF AND ELEPHANT EAR CROCKS: SALT GLAZE & ZINC JUGS; JAR; WATER PRESERVE COOLERS; REFRIGERATOR JAR; BUTTER CROCKS; CHURNS AND CHURN LIDS; ADVERTISING BEAN POTS; ASHTRAYS; MINI JUGS; BRUSHWARE UMBRELLA STAND. LARGE BRUSHWARE URN AND BRUSHWARE TUMBLER; NORTH STAR ALBANY BOWLS; PITCHERS; RED WING SPONGED BEATER JAR ADV. FROM BIRD CITY, KS; MAMMY CLOCK; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ART POTTERY: PINK BLOSSOM DINNERWARE AND OTHER PIECES. DINNERWARE PLUS MUCH MORE. CATALOGS \$5.00 EACH AFTER JANUARY 15[™]. SEE WEBSITE FOR PHOTOS.



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ADVERTISING BEATER JAR LIST TOPS 300 ENTRIES

There were two significant outcomes after **RWCS Member Kent Williamson announced** at the 2016 RWCS Convention that he wanted to create a list of all the different Red Wing advertising bean pots known to exist. First, it generated a lot of excitement among bean pot collectors that helped create a list of more than 500 different examples. Second, it set off a ripple with advertising beater jar collectors, prompting them to set a similar goal.

The quest to assemble a list of all the different Red Wing advertising beater jars started at the end of 2016 when RWCS Member Jeff Birchman tried to find out how many existed with Wisconsin advertising. He owned 60 to 65 different examples at the time, but wanted to know how many he was missing.

"I posted on the Red Wing Collectors Society Facebook Chapter page and asked if anyone knew how many beater jars were made with Wisconsin advertising," explains Jeff, who's been collecting Red Wing for more than 35 years. "I had heard about the advertising bean pot list, but didn't know if anyone had a beater iar list."

Nobody could provide a number, but fellow RWCS Member Grant Radke contacted Jeff and suggested combining each other's lists (they came up with 196). Then RWCS Member Frank Korosec joined the conversation and offered to maintain the list, add photos and search the internet for more examples. The three joined forces, posted a list of 262 known jars on Facebook and asked other collectors to help add to the list. Since then, thanks to contributions by more than 20 people, it has grown to 304 different examples - most of which are photographed in the list.

"Frank deserves a lot of the credit for the success of pulling this together since he maintains and updates the list and pictures," says Jeff, who now has 83 different Wisconsin advertising beater jars in his collection. His favorites are the two from Fennimore, WI, where he grew up, and the example from "Dawson & Trine IGA Store" in Bagley, WI, Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

which started off his collection many years ago. The top beater jars on his want list are from Darlington and Hollandale, WI. He can be reached at jbirch1@tds.net.

"I'd like to stress for people to help us identify the jars from merchants that don't list a city or state," Jeff adds. "The current list has 47 beaters that list a merchant, but no city or state. We would like to identify them all if possible. Someone out there has the answers."

Frank has collected Red Wing for about 25 years and attended his first RWCS Convention in 1993. He was drawn to advertising beater jars by the variety of ads and the fact that they can be nicely displayed in a small area due to their size. He collects them from all states as long as they're in mint condition and the ads are clear and dark. Although he doesn't have any favorites, he recently started to prefer the jars with a thick single blue band near the top, like the one pictured at right.

Frank encourages everyone to review the list to see if they own any that aren't included. If you do have one, please e-mail him at fkorosec@me.com with the name and/or a photo.

"It is great seeing all the beater jars that exist," Frank concludes. "The number and variety far exceeded my expectations. Putting together and maintaining the photo album has taken a lot of time and effort, but it has been enjoyable connecting with people via Facebook and e-mail. It has been a great effort by many people, but I am very excited about the outcome. We never know when and where the next one will appear from."

Editor's note: Jeff Birchman will host an educational session on Red Wing advertising beater jars at the RWCS MidWinter GetTogether in Des Moines in February. Be sure to attend!

RED WING ADVERTISING BEATER JARS BY THE NUMBERS

-304-

Total number of beater jars listed in the Advertising Beater Jar List as of Dec. 6.

-97.3-

Percent of the advertising beater jars that are photographed in the list. Of the 304 beater jars listed, only 8 still need a photo.

-10-

States that at least one Red Wing advertising beater jar is known to exist from. (WI, 108; IA, 68; MN, 37; NE, 23; ND, 7; SD, 6; MI, 3; MT, 2; KS, 2; MO, 1)

-47-

Advertising beater jars that are classified as "unknown" in the list because they have yet to be attributed to a specific city and/or state.

-3-

Red Wing beater jars pictured in the list with Christmas greetings in the advertising.



HOW TO ACCESS THE BEATER JAR LIST:

· Visit the "Files" section of the RWCS Chapter Facebook page and download the list in PDF format.

• If you're not on Facebook, e-mail Frank at fkorosec@me.com and ask for the list to be e-mailed to you. Due to cost and time constraints, printed

versions are not available. Licensed to . Copyright Red Wing Collectors Society

More than 80 advertising beater jars on the list don't include the merchant's location in the advertising stamp. The city and state has been identified for nearly half of those, however. The business on this jar was located in Arnold, NE, but many have yet to be identified. Please contact Frank Korosec or Jeff Birchman if you can help identify any of these.