



VOL. 40 NO. 5

N E W S L E T T E R

OCTOBER 2015

Dick Gistner
~ Nov. 20th ~
Red Wing Pottery's


LAST PLATE
1877-1967

RED
WING'S
FINAL FIRING

Pages 7-9

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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 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

CONVENTION KEYNOTE PRESENTATION AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON DVD

The RWCS records many of the educational presentations made during Convention and members can rent them from the RWCS Video Library free of charge (minus return postage). This year, several members have asked if they could purchase the Little Brown Jug presentation made by Ken Magee, the author of *The Little Brown Jug: The Michigan-Minnesota Rivalry*. The price of this DVD will depend on how many people order it, so please contact Stacy Wegner at the RWCS business office and she'll add your name to the list of interested parties.

TRAVELING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER? CHANGE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

If you're one of the lucky RWCS members who has a winter residence somewhere warm, please contact Stacy in the office and update your mailing address during that time so your copy of the *RWCS Newsletter* arrives faster. The deadlines for changing your address for the December and February issues are Dec. 1 and Feb. 1, respectively. Then make sure you change your address back in the spring; April 1 is the deadline for the April issue.

ADD/UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS ON THE RWCS WEBSITE

We ask all members to make sure they update their contact information whenever they get a new e-mail address or phone number. It can be done by logging into the "Members Only" section of the RWCS website. If you need help with that, please call Stacy in the office. Your contact information will remain private. The RWCS does not sell its membership list.

RWCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS

There are many ways that members can help strengthen the Society and further its mission. One way is to serve as a Board member. One of my duties as Vice President is to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee, consisting of four other members, at least three of whom shall not be members of the Board of Directors. In that capacity, I am asking any members who might have an interest in serving on the Nominating Committee to please contact me.

In spring 2016, elections will be held for President, Secretary and the three manager positions: Auction, Education and Commemorative. Each position carries a term of 4 years. Please contact me if you have any questions about what each position entails.

Nominations and bios of all candidates for the election shall be published in the *RWCS Newsletter* at least four months prior to the election. Therefore, they will appear in the February 2016 issue.

Voting will be done electronically for the first time. A link to the online RWCS election ballot will be e-mailed to all primary and associate members in good standing as of April 15, 2016. If you don't have an e-mail address on file with the RWCS, you must contact the office to request a paper ballot be mailed to you. You must cast your ballot online or return your paper ballot by June 30, 2016 in order to be counted. A member must be in good standing as of the June 30 closing date to have his/her ballot count.

The Representatives at Large will be responsible for the auditing and counting of ballots. The successful candidates will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting to be held at Red Wing High School on July 8, 2016. Thank you for your interest. I look forward to hearing from those of you who are interested in running!

Paul Wichert

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Photos courtesy of the Goodhue County Historical Society

ABOUT THE COVER

One of the things I enjoy most about being the editor of the *RWCS Newsletter* is writing a story that comes alive after finding a number of historical details from different sources and putting them together like they were pieces of a puzzle. Such was the case with this issue's cover story – "Red Wing's Final Firing."

Thanks to interviews with former Red Wing Pottery employees, longtime collectors and members of the Gillmer family who long-owned a piece of Red Wing's pottery business, we now know a lot more about what came out of Red Wing's kiln the last time it was fired. Thanks to everyone who helped out with this story, including the Goodhue County Historical Society for providing pictures of the "Last Plate" ever made at the Red Wing Potteries.

To learn all about this magical series of "lunch hour" plates created by longtime Red Wing Pottery employee Betty Olson, turn to page 7. Even the most die-hard stoneware collectors should get a kick out of these pieces. If not, don't worry...you'll find some stories for you in here, as well. In fact, one of the coolest Red Wing stoneware pamphlets ever made appears on pages 10-11.

-Rick Natynski,
RWCS Newsletter Editor



Looking for that perfect Christmas gift? Give RWCS Membership!

Do you know someone who should be a member of the Red Wing Collectors Society? Instead of tube socks or a blender, give them the gift of RWCS membership this holiday season. We can send a membership packet and card to you in time for Christmas or as a hostess gift. Contact the office and we can assist you.

NEWS FROM YOUR POTTERY MUSEUM OF RED WING

Story by Dave Hallstrom, RWCS Foundation President



A huge “thank you” needs to go out to RWCS Member Althea Voth for the hundreds of hours she has spent on preparing and writing our grants. Her expertise and commitment has made possible some great opportunities to receive equipment, financial assistance and programs for the RWCS Foundation and the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. Thank you, Althea! We could not have done this without your help. Here is an update on the grants we have been awarded:

Red Wing Area Fund Grant

We gratefully received a grant from the Red Wing Area Fund to cover equipment costs for our archival room so we can properly preserve our fragile historical catalogs and paper items. Our contractor just completed installation so we can now control humidity and temperature accurately. It is so wonderful to know that these unique items will be cared for properly.



The Red Wing Area Fund also gave us a challenge to help us pay down our Contract for Deed. If we can raise \$50,000 by Dec. 31, 2015, they will match that amount dollar-for-dollar. This is a huge challenge, but such a great opportunity. We currently are well on our way and need approximately \$25,000 more to make this possible. With your continued support, anything is possible.



Jones Family Foundation Grant

The Jones Family Foundation granted us \$10,000 to use for outdoor directional signage and signage inside the museum. There will be three new signs installed for us like the one pictured at left; two of them on Old West Main St. and one on Harrison St. Interior signage will consist of many of the signs needed in the museum and office spaces.

Red Wing Housing and Redevelopment Grant

Starting this month, exterior work will begin on numerous projects at the museum. This is a joint-grant application between us and the Red Wing Area Seniors for needed repairs, which include all new energy-efficient windows in the atrium, permanent siding on the atrium and

roof vents. Other work will include painting of all soffit and fascia boards, and excavation for proper water-drainage behind the entire length of the building. Also included will be automatic shut-off faucets and motion lights in both restrooms. The large pylon sign viewable from the highway will also receive new facing and electrical upgrades. With these repairs, the building will be in top condition and reduce any maintenance for many years to come.



Schmidt Foundation Grant

The museum's research library will soon have two new computers, which will be used for research. We received \$3,500 from the Schmidt Foundation to purchase them and they will enable researchers to find and access information.

Give to The Max

Mark your calendars NOW for Give to the Max Day, which is Thursday, Nov. 12. This is one of the museum's most important days of the year. For every dollar given that day, it will be matched to equal two dollars for the museum! The money raised will go towards the Capital Campaign to pay off our Contract for Deed. Remember, your deduction is tax deductible and your donation, in any amount, will make a huge difference on paying off the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. Thanks again to everyone for their continued support! 🍷



The Walnut Antique Fall Festival

Photos by RWCS Members Chris Tincher, Andrea Lustgraaf & Scott Spompinato

We saw you there!



RWCS Member Roxie Lockard and her husband, Tim, founded and organized the first Fall Antique Festival in Walnut, Iowa in 2011. The event continues to get bigger and better every year. This year's show took place Sept. 19-20, and more than 80 quality dealers attended.



Clifford & Allison Olson brought stoneware and fresh Wisconsin cheese curds to the show.



Chris Tincher had a well-rounded selection of stoneware and furniture on display.



Local repurposer Sandy Carlson was in her element in Walnut.



Bob Morawski on the prowl for good Red Wing.



Longtime dealer Scott Spompinato reported good overall sales at Walnut.



Larry Schwartz scored this sweet 10 gallon Ice Water.



Lori Miller & Todd Grams admiring some fine salt glaze.



Mike & Jodie Toby sold at the event and also added some new pieces to their collection.



Tim Suhr owns & operates the Granary Antique Mall with his brother, Troy.



Heidi Patterson staffed a booth to recruit new RWCS members.



Sandra & Lee Elder



This photo shows why "Jim Hackett" and "big load of stoneware" are often mentioned in the same sentence.



Dan Allers & his wife, Jo, offered a nice selection of primitives.



Larry Peterson and Dave Hallstrom made a satisfied customer out of John Germann.



Bill Prock made the haul from NW Wis. As always, he brought a quality selection of Red Wing and more!



Wanda & Charles Bane

THE GAS GENERATOR JUG

Story by Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor

When the RWCS Foundation released printed copies of the *Red Wing Potteries' Ledger* back in 2007, its contents cleared up a lot of questions about pieces that weren't easily attributed to Red Wing. The Gas Generator jug was one of those pieces.

First off, many Red Wing collectors weren't able to form an opinion about this jug prior to the release of the *Ledger* because they had never even seen one. Although 600 of these jugs were ordered back on Jan. 14, 1907, they're a lot harder to find than the *Ledger* entry leads people to believe. Surely many were broken or discarded due to their industrial application.

Of the people who had seen this jug, some were certain that Red Wing made it while others were thrown by the jug's unique shape and lack of a company signature. But the order for "600 ¼ gal spec. turned jugs" to be stamped "Gas Generator Manufactured Under Naylor & Gerrard's Patent No. 836495" that appears on page 65 of the *Ledger* sealed the deal.

Collectors who enjoy learning about advertising stoneware will usually tell you that determining its origin is the easy part. Finding details about the companies that commissioned pieces from Red Wing is often a more daunting task. But in this case, a big clue appears on the jug itself: the patent number of 836495.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website reveals that Clarence L. Gerrard of Columbus, Nebraska applied for a patent for his Gas Generator on Feb. 23, 1906, which he claimed was "new and improved" over his previously patented model.

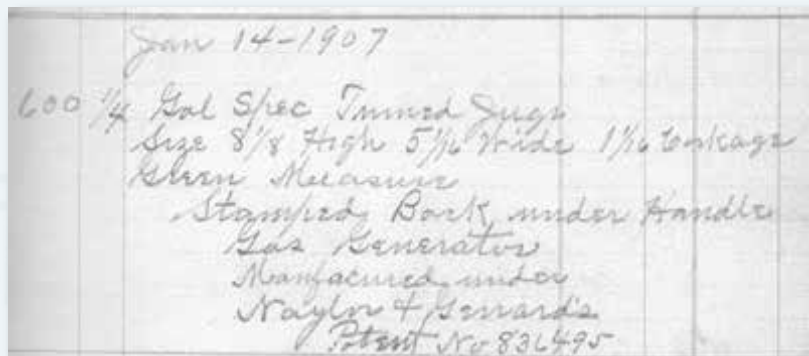
Per the patent application, the Gas Generator "is intended especially for use in connection with the treatment of wheat or flour wherein the nitric oxide or other gas is mixed with air and the mixture brought into intimate association with the flour or wheat while the gases are in a nascent condition."

The patent application also describes "a jug or receptacle for holding the nitric-acid solution. This receptacle is formed, preferably, of porcelain or some other refractory material and has an open neck which is adapted to fit in the opening in the under side of the head."

Fred D. Naylor doesn't appear anywhere on the patent application, but he and Gerrard are mentioned in Volume 125 of the *United States Patent Office Official Gazette* as 50/50 owners of a patent for a flour refining machine that utilized their Gas Generator.

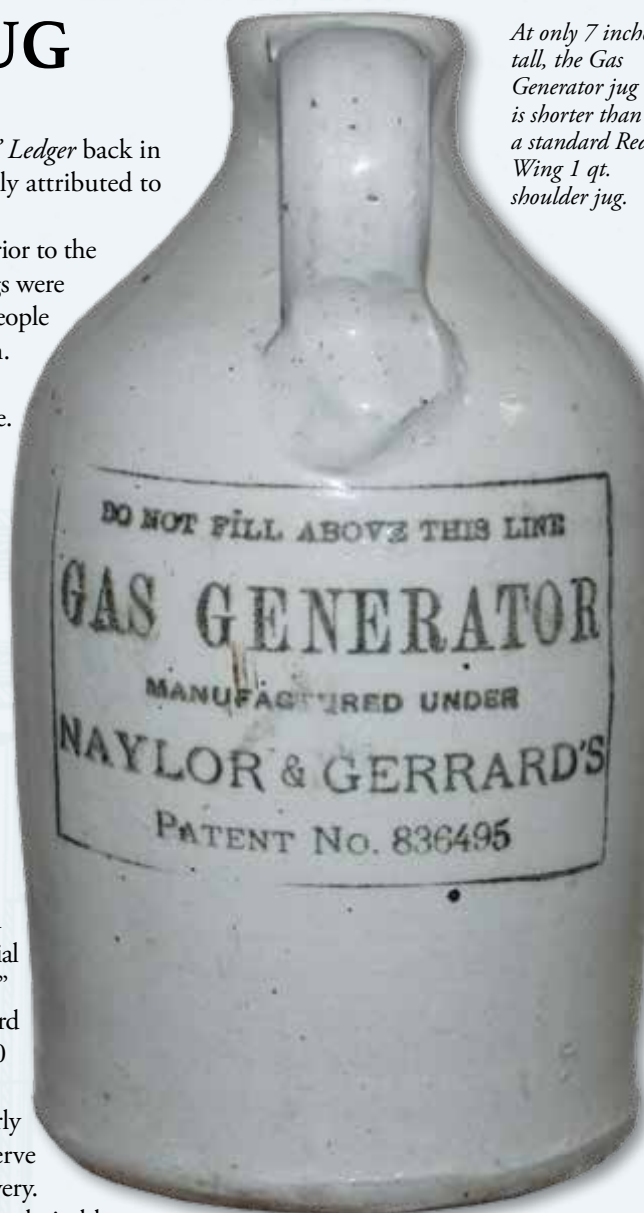
Further research shows that nitric oxide was used to bleach flour in the 1890s and early 1900s. Recent studies show that treating leafy vegetables with nitric oxide can preserve freshness and increase shelf life. It also assists athletes with endurance and muscle recovery.

Advertising stoneware that fulfilled more of an industrial purpose typically isn't as desirable as pieces that advertised for liquor dealers, grocers or general merchants. But there are exceptions to that rule, and the Gas Generator jug is one of them – mainly because it measures only a quart and it's hand-turned. Quart-sized advertising jugs often bring a premium because the advertising stamp takes up more real estate on the side of the jug. And hand-turned advertising jugs tend to get more love from collectors due to their attractive appearance and rarity. Add in the fact that this piece advertises for a Nebraska company, and you have quite a desirable little piece of Red Wing stoneware.



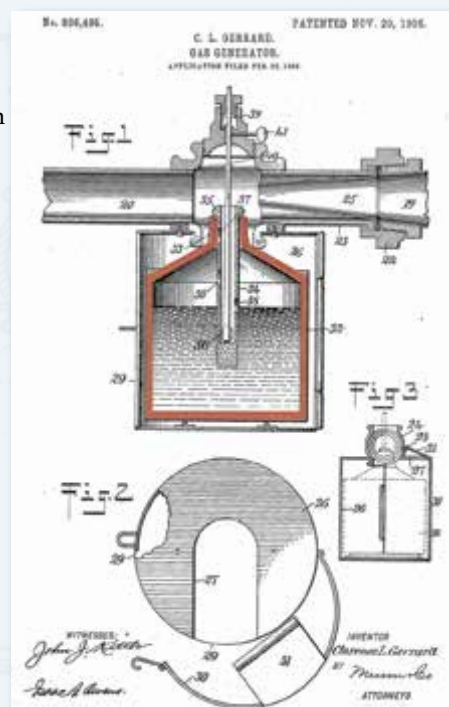
Above: Exact green measurements were provided with this order entry, which appears on pg. 65 of the *Red Wing Potteries' Ledger*. Making the jugs this size ensured that they would fit inside the Gas Generator's case after the clay shrank from being fired in the kiln. Note that the order specified for the jugs to be "stamped back under handle" – likely so the ink stamp could be read when the jug was placed in the case.

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At only 7 inches tall, the Gas Generator jug is shorter than a standard Red Wing 1 qt. shoulder jug.

At right: This technical diagram of the Gas Generator that Clarence L. Gerrard submitted with his patent application on Feb. 23, 1906 shows the placement of the Gas Generator jug outlined in red. The patent was issued on Nov. 20, 1906.



Red Wing's Final Firing

Story by Rick Natynski,
RWCS Newsletter Editor

Although she didn't know it at the time, Red Wing Potteries artist Betty Olson created some of the most interesting and highly coveted "lunch hour" plates in the history of the Red Wing Potteries.

As is well-documented by newspaper articles of the day and the 1968 book *Death Of A Business* by Richard S. Gillmer, the Red Wing Potteries closed in 1967 after employees went on strike for higher wages and the company was unable to meet their demands. Historical accounts of what happened in the months following the Potteries' closure get kind of cloudy, but one thing is certain: some of the coolest "lunch hour" dinnerware plates in existence were actually made after the company officially closed its doors.

Red Wing Potteries shareholders voted to liquidate the company's assets on Aug. 24, 1967 as a result of the strike, which started on June 1 of that year. But as RWCS Hall of Fame Members Terry Moe and Larry Roschen stated in the final article of their "Introduction to Dinnerware" series, a lot of unfired pottery was left when the Potteries closed.

Red Wing Potteries President Richard A. Gillmer, who was the largest shareholder of the company, purchased the building and much of the remaining stock at a judge-ordered auction. Then he opened the Red Wing Pottery Salesroom, where he sold Red Wing's seconds and surplus stock long after the Potteries closed.

To make the unfinished pieces saleable, Gillmer was allowed to retain some of the factory workers, who were directed to apply whatever glazes were left and fire the remaining greenware over a few months. Then the finished product was sold to the public at the

* "Red Wing Dinnerware & the End of the Line", pg. 10,
February 2015 RWCS Newsletter.

Pottery Salesroom. As Moe and Roschen explained in their article, this is why a variety of authentic Red Wing dinnerware pieces exist in non-standard colors.

At left: Former Red Wing Pottery owner Scott Gillmer poses with the two Betty Olson-painted plates he owns. The one on the left includes the names and birthdates of himself, sister, Jenifer, and brother, Matthew. Their youngest brother, Jason, has a plate with a cartoon-like man on it, similar to the plates pictured on the next two pages.



As the cart loads of unfinished greenware became fewer and fewer, it was determined that the Red Wing kiln would be fired up for one final batch on Nov. 20, 1967 – nearly 3 months after the Potteries closed. At this point, longtime dinnerware painter Betty Olson took it upon herself to make several special, one-of-a-kind "lunch hour" dinnerware plates. Although she didn't know it at the time, she would end up creating some of the most interesting and highly coveted "lunch hour" plates in the history of the Red Wing Potteries.

Susan Gillmer, daughter of Richard A. Gillmer, says she and her father weren't aware that special pieces had been made for them until Olson surprised them with the plates. Olson made her a plate that features the words "Born to Love" emanating from a cauldron being stirred by a cartoon-like witch character; "Sue" is written on the back.

She presented Mr. Gillmer with the plate pictured on the cover of this issue. Although misspelled, it reads "Dick Gillmer – Nov. 20 – Red Wing Pottery's LAST PLATE 1877-1976" with a wing sketched in the middle.

"Betty might have asked my dad for permission to decorate some plates for herself, but he didn't know she was making special pieces for our family and longtime employees," recalls Susan, who took over the Red Wing Potteries Salesroom in 1978 when her father retired. Susan was in her early 20s when the Potteries closed. She remembers Olson as a kind woman and loyal employee who had been painting dinnerware in the Potteries' art department for as long as she could remember.

"She was a really bubbly, friendly person," Susan says. "When I first saw the plate she made for me that said 'Born to Love', I said 'that's so Betty.'"

Susan donated these plates to the Goodhue County Historical Society during the 1992 RWCS Convention so people could see them in person long into the future. Her nephew, Scott Gillmer, who took over the Potteries Salesroom when she retired, has two plates from Olson's batch and each of his siblings have one, as well.

Susan never saw the other plates that Olson decorated and doesn't know how many she made. But between the ones owned by Scott's siblings and the ones pictured on the following pages, we know at least 22 of these plates exist today.

As you'll see when admiring these creations, it's clear that they all came from Betty Olson's creative hand. In addition, each were finished with white or beige fleck glaze on Ceramastone blanks, which made up the majority of the greenware that remained when the Potteries closed. Therefore, we can say with confidence that all of these pieces were likely a part of the same batch of plates that were fired in the final kiln load.

Olson also made two plates with the phrase "Red Wing's Years of Joy" (pictured at the bottom of pg. 9) for longtime Potteries employee Joy Nygaard. Exactly how the rest of these plates were

Story continued on next page



Red Wing's Final Firing

Pictorial by Rick Natynski, Stacy Wegner, Scott Gillmer
& Casey Mathern



This pair of plates appears courtesy of the Goodhue County Historical Society.



These two plates belong to Scott Gillmer, grandson of Richard A. Gillmer.

doled out remains a mystery, but it's likely that Olson shared them with family, friends and other longtime Potteries employees.

Two plates escaped a trip to the dumpster thanks to Joy Nygaard's son, RWCS Member Cary Nygaard. He also worked at the Red Wing Potteries and Pottery Salesroom as a teenager. One day he found two of the plates pictured above when cleaning out the old Potteries building in the late 1960s – one being the plate with a rat biting a Sunkist orange.

Believe it or not, a dozen of the plates pictured here belong to one RWCS member – a fervent collector of anything and everything related to Red Wing's pottery industry. He acquired most of them in separate two- or three-plate lots from different sellers within a 5-year time span.

While some of the plates Betty Olson made are fairly tame, others

get a little racy. With phrases like "LSD: Life, Sex, Drugs" and a picture of a sword through Julius Caesar's chest, she probably didn't intend for them to make up the 8-piece place-setting she put out for holiday dinners. Although we'll never know what inspired her to decorate some of these plates they way she did, anybody who appreciates the history of Red Wing pottery will tell you they're grateful that she made them. These amusing and imaginative pieces represent a tumultuous time in the history of Red Wing's pottery industry and the United States as a whole. And in the process, they cap off nearly a century of high quality wares made in Red Wing by hard-working Americans who possessed a wide range of creative talents. Thank you, Betty. 🍷

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Editor's note: If you own a plate from Red Wing's final firing that isn't pictured here, please send a photo to NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG so it can be shared in a future issue.



Above:

The "Flower Child" plate that appeared on the cover of the February 2007 RWCS Newsletter sold on eBay for more than \$1,300 in December 2006. That plate is a different variation than the Flower Child plate pictured above left.

At left: These plates were made for Joy Nygaard, who worked at the Potteries from 1947-1967.



When Kitchen Utensils Are Ornaments



— The tale is on the inside

To Our Friends—Old and New

—and to Those We Hope to Make—Here is

A NEW MESSAGE

FROM

America's Greatest Stoneware Potteries

We want to tell you about a Valuable Permanent Advertising that costs nothing—and why

A beautiful piece of kitchenware with your business card stamped under the glaze—an appealing message as long as the article is in existence. What housewife would not be interested in any one of the articles shown on the front page?

Used as a Trade Stimulator for Premiums, Special or Anniversary Sales and Complimentary Gifts

We offer on the following page a few tried and proven suggestions as to the various manners in which your cost can be passed on to your customer, besides receiving a good deal of favorable publicity.

“When Kitchen Utensils Are Ornaments”

Story by Brent Mischke,
RWCS Member © Copyright 2015

This fantastic brochure from the Red Wing Union Stoneware Company dates to about 1931. It was made to sell businesses on putting their names on Gray Line items, “petals” shoulder bowls and bean pots to use as promotional items.

We’ve always been under the impression that businesses gave these pieces away to their best customers during the holiday season. While that certainly was the case in many instances, the 2nd and 3rd pages of this pamphlet show that Red Wing also recommended selling these pieces at or slightly above cost to get more customers into the store during special sales. This is the only official Red Wing documentation I’ve seen that suggests such a practice, and the coupon shown here from Dvorak’s Food Market in New Prague, Minn. validates it.

The 3rd page also includes several testimonials and provided many suggestions for advertising slogans, many of which are familiar to Red Wing collectors. Give it a read – it’s really neat. In addition, all the pieces available in the Gray Line are pictured on the 4th page of the brochure.



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What Others Are Doing

One of our customers purchased one thousand stencilled bean pots and, by offering these at a very little over cost, induced a large attendance at a very successful sale.

Another merchant offered a better jar at cost to every one bringing in a case of eggs.

One wise grocer just had his name and telephone number stamped on the inside bottom of a casseroles and distributed eight hundred at 30 cents each—he said it paid.

A hardware firm have had four orders of mixing bowls within six months. Each order was for a different size so the housewife could make up a set buying one size at each special sale.

Combination offers with all kinds of merchandise will work out profitably.

HOLIDAY REMEMBRANCES

More acceptable than a calendar and, of course, more permanent. It pays to advertise and our kitchenware makes a fine vehicle.

IMPORTANT SUGGESTION

Make a window display three or four days before your sale date, when putting on special bargains or premium sales—it will pay dividends.

A FEW SUGGESTED SLOGANS —Add the Name and Town

It pays to mix with
Compliments of
Merry Christmas from
Make our store your store
Compliments of the season
From the store of quality
We are so close to you as your telephone
You beat eggs, we beat prices
Service and quality
We sell for less because we sell for cash
It pays to trade with
Mix with us

The busy corner store
No motto—just service
A suggestion to call again
We mix price, quality and service
Mix around with us
Use your bean, shop at
Another service
Our telephone number is
Our aim is a satisfied customer
Keep stirring for phone number
Let us prove our claim
If it is in hardware, we have it

Two Special Sales Assortments of beautifully glazed Vases—illustrations enclosed. You cannot afford to miss this offering.

Use attached post card, no postage required, for further information.

Red Wing Union Stoneware Company

RED WING, MINNESOTA

Red Wing Gray Line Kitchen Utensils



MIXING BOWLS Eight sizes—4 to 11 inch inclusive	CUSTARD CUPS Two sizes—4 and 5 ounce	BEATER JARS Large size for Standard Beaters
PITCHERS Two sizes—1/2 and 1/3 gallon	HAILED REFRIGERATOR JARS WITH COVERS Two sizes—3 and 5 pound	CAKE STAND 16 inch diam. across top
FRUIT JUICE EXTRACTOR 6 inch diameter	COOKIE JAR WITH COVER 8 1/2 inch diam. at top, 5 inch height	
KITCHEN SALT SHAKER Large size	CASSEROLES WITH COVERS Four sizes—4 1/2, 5 1/2, 7 1/2 and 8 1/2 inch	HAILED BATTER BOWLS 9 inch size only

SEEKING INFO ON DATED RED WING GRAY LINE & SAFFRON WARE ADVERTISING

The Red Wing companies used molds from many of the Gray Line (spongeband) items shown above to also produce Saffron Ware. Were Gray Line and Saffron Ware items produced at the same time? Dated advertising pieces from both lines might be able to answer this question. So far, I've seen dates on spongeband advertising pieces that have ranged from 1928 to 1935. The dates on Saffron Ware advertising pieces I've seen have ranged from 1936 to 1940.

Red Wing collectors, I need your help! Would you please share information with me about your spongeband and Saffron Ware pieces with dated advertising? If you would, please provide a description of the item, the date and merchant's name (with town and state if available). A photo of the advertising would be a plus!

Contact me at BVMISCHKE@CENTURYTEL.NET. I will summarize the information in a future newsletter article. Thank you!

-Brent Mischke, RWCS Member

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MIDWINTER 2016

Crocktoberfest

FEBRUARY 5-7, 2016
OCONOMOWOC, WIS.

Guten tag, von Red Wing RWCS members! The MidWinter "Crocktoberfest" will be in Oconomowoc, WI February 5-7, 2016! To register, visit www.RedWingCollectors.org, call the office at 800-977-7927 or mail in the form on page 13. Bring some stuff to sell! We are expanding Show & Sale opportunities to include booth space in addition to sellers tables.

Get involved this year with the *volksfest* and volunteer! The RWCS needs members for registration, Show & Sale and set up. Also, if you have some Oktoberfest decorations we can use, call the office or e-mail me at SWEGNER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG.

Thanks in advance to our Crocktoberfest host, the RWCS Badger Chapter, which was quite hospitable last MidWinter! I am looking forward to seeing everyone wearing their traditional German outfits (*schönsten dirndls* and *lederhosen*) this year at the *Freitag Nacht* (Friday Night) Crocktoberfest Reception. Who knows, you might even see me in a *dirndl*! *Ausgezeichnet*!

Start your Oktoberfest fun out right at MidWinter by ordering a 20 oz. commemorative ceramic stein, which will have the artwork from the original Red Wing "Bratwursthaus" mug pictured above! Order yours today for \$15 and pick it up in Oconomowoc. A limited number of steins will also be for sale onsite at MidWinter for \$18.

We look forward to wishing you a big *willkommen* at MidWinter in Oconomowoc this February! *Auf Wiedersehen*!

-Stacy Wegner, RWCS Executive Director

MidWinter Crocktoberfest Stein: *Ein prosit!* It wouldn't be Oktoberfest without your own beer mug, so we're having them made to commemorate MidWinter! Based on the original Red Wing design shown above, these 20 oz. mugs will not be personalized – every one will be the same. Order one in advance for \$15 and pick it up at the event. A limited quantity will be available onsite at MidWinter for \$18 each. We're still finalizing the design, but a sample is pictured at right.

Lodging

Location: Olympia Resort Phone: 800-558-9573 or 262-369-4999
1350 Royal Mile Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066
E-mail: INFO@OLYMPIARESORT.COM Web: www.OLYMPIARESORT.COM

For reservations: Call the hotel and indicate you are a Red Wing Collectors Society MidWinter attendee and/or a room seller.

Deadline: January 4, 2016 (Reservations made after Jan. 6 will be based on availability only)

Types of Rooms:

Resort Guest Room \$79.⁰⁰

Resort Suite \$179.⁰⁰

Rates are per-night and do not include 11.1% tax. All rooms have a refrigerator, and all guests attending MidWinter will have free access to the resort's spa.



Above: Red Wing made this hand-colored mug for the Bratwursthaus between the 1940s and 1960s. Bottom-signed "Red Wing USA", it was also made in brown glaze.

Deadlines Sellers Table Contract: Jan. 21
Pre-registration: Jan. 13 (mail) & Jan. 15 (online)



Front & back

Schedule

Times and room locations are subject to change. Visit the RWCS website for updates.

Friday, February 5

Board of Directors Mtg.	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	TBA
Registration	1-8 p.m.	Olympia Lobby
Room Sales	All day	
RWCS Board Meet & Greet	3-5 p.m.	TBA
Friday Night Lights Reception	7-9 p.m.	Olympia Center

Saturday, February 6

Registration	7-10 a.m.	Olympia Center Foyer
Continental Breakfast	7-8:15 a.m.	Olympia Center
Welcome/General Session	8-9:30 a.m.	Olympia Center
Education Seminars Session 1	9:40-10:30 a.m.	Breakout Rooms
Education Seminars Session 2	10:40-11:30 a.m.	Breakout Rooms
Show & Sale	1:30-4 p.m.	Olympia Center
Auction	6 p.m.	Olympia Center

Sunday, February 7

Continental Breakfast	7-9 a.m.	Room 212
(Hosted by Badger Chapter)		



REGISTRATION FORM

MIDWINTER GETTOGETHER

Feb. 5-7, 2016 Olympia Resort Oconomowoc, WI

DEADLINES:

MAIL REG JANUARY 13, 2016

ONLINE REG JANUARY 15, 2016

SELLERS TABLE JANUARY 21, 2016

ALL REGISTRATIONS AFTER DEADLINES WILL PAY THE ONSITE \$30 REGISTRATION.

MEMBER #1: _____ MEMBER # _____

ADDRESS: _____

☐ CHECK HERE IF YOUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED. PHONE #: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): ADULT = \$25 ONSITE = \$30

CHILD REGISTRATION: ☐ KIDSVIEW

UNDER 15 FREE DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH/YEAR) _____

MEMBERSHIP: PRIMARY = \$35 FOR 1 YR OR \$70 FOR 2 YRS

ASSOCIATE = \$15 FOR 1 YR OR \$30 FOR 2 YRS

TOTAL #1 _____

SURVEY QUESTIONS MEMBER #1

MEMBER SINCE ____/____/____ AGE: ____ DOB: ____

COLLECTING INTEREST (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): ☐ STONEWARE ☐ DINNERWARE ☐ ART POTTERY ☐ MEMORABILIA ☐ OTHER _____

WHAT WAY WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE CONTACTED BY THE FOUNDATION (CIRCLE ONE)? EMAIL MAIL BOTH NONE

MEMBER #2: _____ MEMBER # _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): ADULT = \$25 ONSITE = \$30

CHILD REGISTRATION: ☐ KIDSVIEW

UNDER 15 FREE DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH/YEAR) _____

MEMBERSHIP: PRIMARY = \$35 FOR 1 YR OR \$70 FOR 2 YRS

ASSOCIATE = \$15 FOR 1 YR OR \$30 FOR 2 YRS

TOTAL #2 _____

SURVEY QUESTIONS MEMBER #2

MEMBER SINCE ____/____/____ AGE: ____ DOB: ____

COLLECTING INTEREST (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): ☐ STONEWARE ☐ DINNERWARE ☐ ART POTTERY ☐ MEMORABILIA ☐ OTHER _____

WHAT WAY WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE CONTACTED BY THE FOUNDATION (CIRCLE ONE)? EMAIL MAIL BOTH NONE

MEMBER #3: _____ MEMBER # _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): ADULT = \$25 ONSITE = \$30

CHILD REGISTRATION: ☐ KIDSVIEW

UNDER 15 FREE DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH/YEAR) _____

MEMBERSHIP: PRIMARY = \$35 FOR 1 YR OR \$70 FOR 2 YRS

ASSOCIATE = \$15 FOR 1 YR OR \$30 FOR 2 YRS

TOTAL #3 _____

SURVEY QUESTIONS MEMBER #3

MEMBER SINCE ____/____/____ AGE: ____ DOB: ____

COLLECTING INTEREST (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): ☐ STONEWARE ☐ DINNERWARE ☐ ART POTTERY ☐ MEMORABILIA ☐ OTHER _____

WHAT WAY WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE CONTACTED BY THE FOUNDATION (CIRCLE ONE)? EMAIL MAIL BOTH NONE

STONEWARE STEIN



FRONT RED WING-BRATWURST HOUSE MUG DESIGN
BACK RWCS LOGO AND EVENT DATE.

steins(s) x \$15 = _____

***A LIMITED NUMBER OF STEINS WILL
BE AVAILABLE ONSITE FOR \$18.

SELLER'S TABLES & BOOTHS (SEE CONTRACT FOR MORE DETAILS)

TABLES & BOOTHS ARE SOLD ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS. CONTRACTS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE OR VIA EMAIL. TO RECEIVE A PAPER CONTRACT, PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.

SIGNED CONTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 21, 2016.

☐ SOUVENIRS (75% SOUVENIRS) ☐ ANTIQUES (60% STONEWARE)

BOOTH SPACE

SINGLE BOOTH - 10ft - 6in W x 8ft D (\$55.00)
BOOTH & A HALF - 15ft 9in W x 8ft D (\$80.00)
DOUBLE BOOTH 21ft W x 8ft D (\$100.00)

TABLE RENTAL

table(s) x \$35 = _____
Price TOTAL

REGISTRATION, STONEWARE STEIN, & SELLERS \$ _____

RWCS FOUNDATION DONATION (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

NO ONLINE SERVICE FEES

WAYS TO REGISTER

1. ONLINE: www.RedWingCollectors.org
2. PHONE: 800-977-7927
3. MAIL: PO Box 50, Red Wing, MN 55066
4. FAX: 651-388-4042

Method of Payment:

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ CHECK/CASH

NAME: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____

LAST 3 DIGITS ON BACK: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

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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., 4/16. Ads without dates are one-time ads.) Please type or print clearly and proofread before submission.

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 7/8
1/4 page	3 5/8 x 4 7/8
1/8 page	3 5/8 x 2 1/4

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

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

DEADLINES

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

EDITOR ADDRESS

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads:

Rick Natynski
PO Box 198
Pewaukee, WI 53072

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

RED WING FOR SALE

For sale: RWCS Commemoratives 1992-2014, \$1200 OBO. Contact Lynda Davis at 402-525-8553 or ENLDAVIS4@GMAIL.COM.

For sale: ADVERTISING PIECES: including cherry band pitcher ("Philip Carlson", Grantsburg, WI); grey line pitcher ("C.W. Schmelling", Brownsville, WI). Small refrigerator crocks: ("Guttmann Bros. Co", St Paul, (1# w/lid); 1# "Model Dairy", Chicago; 1/2 # "Fischl's", Manitowoc, WI; 1# "Hazel Lard", Chicago (w/lid and handle); 20# "Hruska & Co" butter crock, Chicago (hairline on back of crock w/4 gal RW crock lid chipped for ladle); "Ed Maske" fancy bean pot, Milwaukee.

Bowls: "Columbian Metal Products", 7" Albany slip milk pan, Chicago; 9" white bowl w/blue bands, "Adam Kroner Company", La Crosse, WI; 7" blue/pink band, "Miller's Grocery", Elkhorn, WI; 9" blue/pink bands, "Lomas, Tuckwood & Eisele", Fennimore, WI.

Shoulder jugs: fancy 2 gal "John Sexton & Co", Chicago (chip on lip); 2 gal "Steuben County Wine", Chicago (chip on bottom, bottom stamped Minn Stoneware; 1 gal "Gunther's Natural Fruit Syrup", Chicago.

Advertising probably not RW: cream colored 1/2 gal vinegar jug, "N.J. Bottling Co. Summerville Branch, NJ."; 7 1/2" spongeware bowl, "Gabe's Quality Store", Oxford Jct, IA.

NON ADVERTISING RW PIECES: Very good to excellent condition, except as noted.

Water coolers: 5 gal birch leaf "Ice Water" (no oval cooler w/hex spigot hole (no lid or spigot); 5 gal "Water Cooler" small wing, original handles and spigot (central) w/lid (lid chipped in back for ladle); wonderful 10 gal salt glazed lazy 8/target straight sided water cooler w/large round ring around spigot hole (no lid or spigot).

Crocks: 3 gal salt glazed North Star crock (upturned leaf); 4 gal salt glazed crock w/ rib cage and target; 2 gal salt glazed double P/target (bottom stamped Minn Stoneware); 2 gal salt glazed double P/target (bottom stamped Minn Stoneware, cracks and lard stains); 2 gal elephant ear bottom stamped Minn Stoneware (hairline crack); 2 gal small wing, Union oval; 1 gal (bottom signed Minn Stoneware); two 2 gal crock lids (petal and bar, both perfect on top, one has chip on underside).

Other: 1/2 gal blue and white "Refrigerator Jar" (w/lid and handle); two 1/2 gal Stone Mason Fruit Jars, one w/black label and Atlas metal top, one w/ blue label and Ball metal top; 1 quart Stone Mason Fruit Jar w/blue label and no marking on rusting metal top; 6" stacking "Red Wing Refrigerator Jar"; matching Albany slip "iris" pitchers 1/2 gal and 1 qt (smaller has chip on lip and is bottom signed); 1 gal and 1/2 gal fancy shoulder jugs with 2" wings (chip/flaking on shoulder of smaller jug); 3 gal Koverwate; 10" Ko-Rec Feeder (no base or handle); small 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" bean pot w/handle, small side chip (no lid),

bottom signed Union Stoneware oval; wide mouth Albany slip 1/2 gal beehive fruit jar (bottom marked Minn Stoneware); 1 gal Albany slip snuff jar (no lid; slip was applied OVER large paper label for "Polaski Snuff", Chicago which is still readable; 9" spongeware wide rim bowl; 9" and 6" spongeware panel bowls; 8" blue band saffron bowl; blue band "Red Wing Beater Jar" ("eggs, cream, salad dressing"); white 10" art pottery rose bud vase bottom signed Red Wing USA 1557; 1/2 # white refrigerator crock with four floral side panels and lid.

PROBABLY RW BUT CAN'T VERIFY: very common fancy spittoon

NICE PIECES PROBABLY NOT RW: 1/2 gal Albany slip grape cluster pitcher with 5 point star on bottom; 11" wide rim spongeware bowl; 7" straight side spongeware bowl (hairline crack); 9" white with blue bands bowl; white banded stoneware cooking pot with light blue interior, bottom stamped "Dutch Cooking Ware"; 3 gal salt glazed crock stamped "J Burger Jr." with nice cobalt multiple leaf design, early upstate NY (Rochester?) piece.

CONTACT: Paula at PANDRIES@HOTMAIL.COM for more details: advertising, condition and pictures.

RED WING WANTED

Wanted: Cover for the Red Wing pottery cookie jar pictured here. E-mail information to Marlene Nihart at MARNIHART.4@GMAIL.COM.



Wanted: Pink Spice trivet and soup tureen to complete a set. If you have either of these items and you're willing to sell, please contact Steve at 507-351-9142 to discuss a price.

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: Xmas advertising bean pots for W&E Nichols - Loyal, WI. Any condition considered. Also looking for 9-inch blue and white panel bowl. Will consider any condition. Contact REDWINGR@GMAIL.COM or 414-731-0218.



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

Wanted: 2 gallon salt glaze ribcage churn. Also seeking Red Wing #687 & M3006 blue/green Chromoline vases in mint condition. Contact Rick at NEWSLETTER@REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG or 414-416-9464.

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 2016 Convention. All newsletter submissions received between July 2015 and June of 2016 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE
#672 RW Stereoline covered candy dish, mint	Elkhorn, Wis.	5/15	Flea market	\$35. ⁰⁰
RW 7-inch sponge panel bowl w/rare Nampa, Idaho adv., mint		7/15	eBay	\$98. ⁸⁵ (shipped)
8 gal RW primitive butterfly crock, mint	Central Iowa	8/15	Garage sale	\$100. ⁰⁰
Rare hand-painted "Red Owl" dish bottom-signed "Red Wing USA #M-2006", small chip		8/15	eBay	\$290. ⁰⁰ (shipped)
RW #M-3010 Green/blue Decorator Line vase, mint		8/15	eBay	\$324. ⁹⁹ (shipped)
Small RW "Hall Boy" brown sponge pitcher, base flake	Fox Valley, WI	8/15	Yard sale	\$9. ⁰⁰
Salesman's sample or "lunch hour" mini 20 gallon churn	St. Paul, MN	9/15	Auction	\$2,357. ⁵⁰ (includes 15% buyer's premium)
20 gal salt glaze primitive lily crock, mint	NW Minnesota	9/15	Auction	\$4,900. ⁰⁰



10 GALLON RIBCAGE COOLER FOUND IN IOWA

Recently shared on the RWCS Facebook page, this is only the third 10 gallon triple ribcage salt glaze water cooler known to exist. Here's the story of how this incredible piece was discovered:

After meeting on the RWCS Facebook page, new Red Wing collector Jeremy Adkins invited RWCS Member Chris Tincer to go "crocking" with him in central Iowa before the Walnut Fall Antique Festival. After hitting a few shops, Jeremy suggested they try a small shop in a small town that was closed the last time he stopped in. Although it was open this time, they came up empty at the shop. But the owner divulged that he had some stoneware at his house. After talking with him for awhile, Jeremy was able to convince him to let them come over.

"So we walk into a packed house full of early Americana," Chris says. "Lots of Eastern stoneware, baskets, firkins, sugar buckets, a robin blue grain bin, etc. Overall no real Red Wing...to go nuts over till I stepped into the family room and half hidden by the arm of the couch with a dead plant not growing in it was the most unlikely piece you would expect to find! It was like seeing an apple in a basket of bananas."

The man didn't want to sell the cooler at first, but Chris finally got him to put a price on it. He wanted \$6,000 for it and said he wouldn't budge. It had a crack in the back and a crow's foot hairline on the side, but Chris knew he might never have another chance to buy one. He was able to get the owner down to \$5,900 and he took it back to Kansas. Another great reminder that you never know what you might come across when out hunting for Red Wing!



THIS MINNE-HA-HA CROCK IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

This piece was listed for sale on Craig's List in Minnesota on July 26 for the unbelievably low price of \$500. But after being inundated by a ton of phone calls and being

offered more than the list price, the owner pulled the listing. The crock found its way to a longtime collector less than two weeks later, who was pleased to get it despite having to pay quite a bit more than the original \$500 asking price. Until this piece surfaced, the new owner wasn't aware that a Minne-ha-ha advertising crock existed with a Minnesota Stoneware oval. Usually this desirable advertising crock is found with a Union Stoneware oval, or no oval at all.





This 1 gal Potters Excursion jug was the star of the show, selling for \$6,600. Other than a few shoulder flakes, it was in excellent condition and it boasted a nice dark ink stamp.



Standing 13½ inches tall, this rare bail-handled sponged cream jar sold for \$2,900 (small chip). Although it was missing a lid, the winning bidder had a correct one at home that fit it perfectly.



2 gal North Star salt glaze jug, \$625.



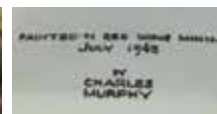
"Lunch hour" Badger on Foot-ball signed "Bets", \$70 (chips).



Aug. Becker white cherryband pitcher, \$1,200.



Union Sewer Pipe salesman's sample, \$200. Minne-ha-ha adv. crock, \$1,250.



Hand-painted and signed pieces from Charles Murphy are seldom offered for sale. Despite a small rim chip, this incredible platter was a great buy at \$500.



Pictured on page 180 of Red Wing Pottery II, Dave Hallstrom remembers watching in horror when this iconic 25½ inch-tall clown met its demise. It happened when Willie was carting it off the elevator at the Goodhue County History Center. The Mica Bronze glaze from the Concord dinnerware line dates it to the 1940s or 1950s. Willie acquired it from Tom Arnold, former ceramic engineer at the Red Wing Potteries. The broken pieces sold at the auction for \$130; the new owner plans to have it professionally restored before putting it on display at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.



Figure of an Indian mother with baby in papoose on back, signed "Stenwick Red Wing" \$370. Like the Murphy platter above, Stenwick pieces don't come up for sale very often.



Rare "No. 17 BMIU" mini jug with wing, \$2,400.



MN Federation of Labor Convention mini jug, \$475.



"Redmen" mini jug, \$330 (small chip).



#231 Nokomis console bowl, \$180.

Nokomis & bisque candlesticks, \$110.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WILLIE SAFE RED WING COLLECTION AUCTION

Red Wing collectors were treated to a great selection of rare and unusual pieces back on June 20 when Hines Auction Service auctioned off the collection of RWCS Charter Member Willie Safe in Ellsworth, Wis.

A collector of Red Wing and other antiques, Willie owned and operated a moving company in Red Wing. Longtime RWCS Member Dave Hallstrom says when the high-rise senior living complex was built in Red Wing in the 1980s, Willie moved most of the tenants into the building so he was in a good position to acquire a lot of unique pieces as payment for his services.

If some of these pieces look familiar, it's because RWCS Member Ray Reiss photographed many of Willie's rare and one-of-a-kind items for his book, *Red Wing Art Pottery II*. Note that the prices listed here do not include 5.5% Wisconsin sales tax or the buyer's premium of 14% (4% discount when paid with cash or check).

This peculiar "lunch hour" piece sold for \$240. It consisted of a shoe signed "Minn SW Co" and a stoneware marble on top of a small Ceramastone plate. Seeing that the pieces were only attached by glue, the winning bidder pried them apart and was rewarded with a test glaze number scrawled on the bottom of the shoe.



3½-inch long Albany slip Elephant, \$440.



Odd stoneware bowl bottom-signed "Red Wing Oven Ware", \$110.

COMING IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE...

UTAH ADVERTISING STONEWARE, PART I



CHARLES MURPHY:
THE FIRST IN A SERIES

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