

RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY



Red Wing  
Collectors Society Inc.  
Founded 1977

VOL. 41 #5

OCTOBER 2016

NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF COLLECTING

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# FROM THE EDITOR

As most collectors will attest, one of the most exciting things about collecting is finding a piece that you've been searching for for a long time. Often this is tied to completing a set of a particular line, like when a Bob White collector finds a super-obscure pepper mill or a Grayline/spongeband collector acquires the hard-to-find cake stand or 12-inch bowl.

And then there's the speculation that goes into whether certain pieces even exist. That's one thing that's been fun about the RWCS Facebook chapter page – following the conversations that question the existence of pieces.

One such discussion about a year ago dealt with whether any crocks smaller than 3 gallons existed with a hand-drawn cobalt leaf. A few reliable sources said they saw a 1 gallon during Convention many years ago, but no one could supply a photo of the legendary piece until the owner kindly placed it in the 2016 Convention Display Room for all to see.



Another piece recently discussed was a 60 gallon birch leaf crock. Putting together a set of 2 gallon through 50 gallon jars is doable, but a 60 gallon crock with birch leaves isn't known to exist. While many doubt one was ever made, it's not outside the realm of possibility. One thing that has collectors holding out hope is this scan from page 122 of *Red Wing Potters & Their Wares* by RWCS Hall of Famers Gary & Bonnie Tefft, which shows that a 60 gallon birch leaf jar was pictured in an early Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. catalog. Does that mean there's one out there, waiting to be photographed for all to see? Maybe, maybe not. But that's what keeps us excited about collecting – the thrill of finding the next great piece.

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

### 2017 MIDWINTER ONLY 4 MONTHS AWAY!

The 2017 RWCS MidWinter GetTogether in Des Moines will be here before you know it, which is why this issue contains the preview and registration form on pages 12 and 13, respectively. We have plenty of promotional posters available, so please contact the office if you have an antique shop, you sell at shows or you're traveling this fall on a picking weekend. We can send you everything you need to promote MidWinter and membership in the RWCS.

### EDUCATIONAL SPEAKERS SOUGHT FOR MIDWINTER

New RWCS Education Manager Michelle Weisen is still looking for a few people to present educational seminars at the 2017 MidWinter GetTogether in Des Moines on Saturday, Feb. 25. If you're interested in sharing your knowledge and passion for collecting a specific type of stoneware, art pottery or dinnerware, please contact Michelle at [education@redwingcollectors.org](mailto:education@redwingcollectors.org) or 507-254-2210.

### RED WING STONEWARE & POTTERY BUSINESSES UP FOR SALE

The owners of Red Wing Stoneware and Pottery have announced they are soliciting prospective buyers for its business and real estate holdings. It recently auctioned off a portion of merchandise and store fixtures from the Red Wing Pottery building, which closed in December 2015. The Red Wing Stoneware Company continues to operate at its location at 4909 Moundview Drive in Red Wing.

### SPILLER'S WING AND "40" STILL AVAILABLE

RWCS Convention Potter and Pottery Museum of Red Wing Resident Potter Richard Spiller sold some wonderful pottery wings and "40s" at Convention in July and he still has some available. At 8 inches wide, they are great for trivets, wall hangings and paperweights, and would make a great Christmas gift for the Red Wing collector in your life. The cost is \$25 plus \$10 for shipping. Contact Stacy at the RWCS office to place your order.



### RWCS CONVENTION SURVEY RESULTS

#### AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR REVIEW by RWCS Member Todd Avery

We finished combining the results and responses from the RWCS Convention Survey into one easy-to-read document and uploaded it to the members-only section of the RWCS website in September. All members are welcome to read through this report to get a feel for what was shared. If you take this opportunity you'll note that there appears to be overall satisfaction with Convention based on the survey results, but the individual comments also indicate that some people seem to be ready for changes. As we all know, change isn't always easy, so the RWCS Convention Committee is brainstorming new ideas. The work we are doing is still a couple of years out. Our goal is to create an outstanding experience for everyone who comes to Red Wing for Convention. If you'd like to join this committee, please contact me at [toddnoraavery@gmail.com](mailto:toddnoraavery@gmail.com).



### ABOUT THE COVER

Red Wing advertising collectors love their whiskey jugs, but if you can overlook the fact that bean pots advertise for mostly anything but liquor, you can put together a great collection of advertising stoneware at a mere fraction of what jugs tend to bring.

Even when bean pot values were at their strongest in the mid-2000s, you could still pick up nice examples for less than \$100. Although interest waned about 5 years ago, the bean pot market looks to be on the rebound. The efforts of RWCS Member Kent Williamson will surely contribute to that, as he spent the summer working with 21 fellow collectors to assemble what is likely the largest list of known advertising bean pots ever put on paper.

But don't assume Kent's project is finished. In the article on page 8, he calls the RWCS membership to action, asking fellow collectors to review the database he created and contact him with the names of advertising bean pots that aren't on his list. While there's really no way to certify that a list like this could ever be 100 percent complete, he believes cataloging 98 to 99 percent of all the different advertising bean pots Red Wing produced is possible.

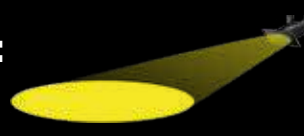
Thanks to the ease at which you can share information in an instant, he's right. Twenty years ago taking on such a daunting task would have been a nightmare. The Internet was still in its infancy, so there wasn't an easy way to build and share a list of every bean pot ever made. Any excitement generated by announcing that you were compiling a list like this would have fizzled out after a week waiting for thick envelopes to be mailed back and forth.

But today 95 percent of RWCS members have an e-mail address on file with the Society. With this new advertising bean pot database available at your fingertips, you can scan through lists of the bean pots known from every state and find out if you own any that aren't on the list in a matter of minutes. Take another minute or two to e-mail Kent a photo or type out the saying on your previously unrecorded bean pot, and there's no reason why this list shouldn't reach near completion by the turn of the year.

Who knows...if someone out there is as excited about other types of advertising stoneware as Kent is about bean pots, we might be reading about a new quest to create a list of every known advertising sponge panel bowl or beater jar in the December RWCS Newsletter.

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As announced back in April, the RWCS is heading back to Iowa for MidWinter! I can't wait to see everyone in Des Moines on Feb. 24-26, 2017. To register, call the office at 800-977-7927, sign up via [www.redwingcollectors.org](http://www.redwingcollectors.org) or complete and mail in the form on page 13 of this issue. We are looking forward to seeing our hosts – the members of the Iowa Chapter and Troy Thompson and his staff at the Holiday Inn on Merle Hay Road!



**STACY WEGNER**  
*Executive Director*

MidWinter is sure to be a social time this year! We're looking ways for members to connect, talk and share at MidWinter. Whether you have attended MidWinter in the past or this is your first time, it is a great place to network with new collectors, buy and sell, spend time with friends and learn more about all things Red Wing! From stoneware to dinnerware and art pottery to memorabilia, the 2017 RWCS MidWinter will have it all!

Tables and booth spaces will be available at the Show & Sale this year in Des Moines! Remember – the room fills fast, so reserve your table today. Tables are \$35; call the office to learn more about booth spaces.

Looking for a way to meet members and support MidWinter? Why not volunteer? The RWCS needs members for Registration, Show & Sale and event set up.

To help us promote MidWinter, post to the MidWinter event page on Facebook and hang the 2017 MidWinter poster at your local antique mall or antique show. You can download it from the RWCS website or request it from the office. It's available in two sizes – 8.5x11 and 11x17 – and can even be mounted on a foam core.

Finally, as we always like to remind you at this time of year, don't forget to give the gift of RWCS membership this holiday season! If you know someone who enjoys pottery, stoneware and/or antiques in general, why not make them a member of the largest pottery-collecting group in the nation?! We can send the new member packet and membership card to you in time to give as a Christmas or host/hostess gift. Contact the office and we'll set you up.

Story by RWCS Member Mike Back



RWCS Member Mike Robinson has been Secretary/Treasurer of the RWCS Golden State Chapter since the group's inception 30 years ago. He is a skilled and creative potter and has produced all of the chapter's commemoratives, as well as commemoratives for other chapters. He also uses his pottery skills to create and donate miniature jugs to the Pottery Museum of Red Wing's gift shop, for the purpose of helping to raise funds for the RWCS Foundation.

Mike is also the editor of the Golden State Chapter's quarterly newsletter, *Golden State Wing Nuts*, which includes writing the articles, snapping all the photos and the mundane work of printing and mailing. He's an instructor and potter for KidsView, which is a highlight of the RWCS Annual Convention for kids each summer and the beginning step for creating interest in Red Wing pottery for our next generation of collectors.

Mike is *that* member of the Golden State Chapter who continuously steps up to initiate, organize and complete projects for the benefit of the our chapter, the RWCS Foundation and the RWCS as a whole. Some of the projects our chapter has completed through Mike's direction and patience include:

- The production of three puzzles and posters featuring Red Wing pottery, which were sold to raise funds.
- Producing the first RWCS Convention Button made of pottery.
- Printing a cookbook with recipes of favorite dishes passed at the Golden State Chapter's quarterly meetings.
- Club members' assembly line approach to painting our chapter's commemorative in 2012.

Mike's aim is to have fun and promote camaraderie by including all Golden State Chapter members in a project, which is one of the reasons why we've had so much success with



Above: RWCS Member Mike Robinson has long been a fixture at KidsView, making mini jugs for participants.

our fundraisers. The chapter has raised and donated more than \$30,000 to the RWCS KidsView program and RWCS Foundation over the years.

Mike gets a lot of his ideas and support from his wife Russa, who is also extremely active in local and national RWCS activities. The Golden State Chapter has many active, contributing members to be proud of, and Mike Robinson is at the top of the list. Thanks for everything you do, Mike!

*Do you know an RWCS member who constantly goes above and beyond in their support of RWCS events and activities? Submit their name and a description of their efforts to RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski so they can be considered for recognition in a future issue.*





## GIVE TO THE MAX

This year's annual "Give to the Max" day is Thursday, Nov. 17 and our goal for 2016 is to raise \$30,000. The Red Wing Collectors Society



Foundation is grateful to those who help by making contributions to the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. Your donation helps us:

- Provide educational and outreach programs
- Preserve the archives
- Record oral and video history
- Maintain and make needed building improvements

We have welcomed visitors from throughout the United States and all over the world over the past two years. It has been our honor to share the stories and history of the people who made Red Wing's clay industry something to be proud of.

Donations during "Give to the Max" can be made in three ways:

- On the Pottery Museum website: [www.potterymuseumredwing.org](http://www.potterymuseumredwing.org)
- By contacting the Pottery Museum office at 651-327-2220
- On the Pottery Museum's page on the GiveMN website: [www.givemn.org/organization/Rwcsfoundation](http://www.givemn.org/organization/Rwcsfoundation)

Please follow us on Facebook for updates. Thank you in advance for supporting the Pottery Museum of Red Wing!

*-Robin Wipperling, Pottery Museum of Red Wing Manager*

## ARCHIVE NEWS

Our video equipment is up and running thanks to Molly Hazelton at St. Katherine University. Oral histories have begun. Several have been completed and more are scheduled. We also capture on film any museum patrons who have a story and all of our children's events. A cubicle has been assembled outside the archive to provide the space needed to edit videos.



*Archivist Michelle Weisen donates a lot of time to maintaining the archives and conducting/editing interviews. We are very fortunate to have her as a volunteer at the museum.*

The new HVAC system works perfectly. Many patrons donate documents once they realize we have an archive. Several older documents and books have been donated. We are requesting documents from the public and our first photograph identification session took place on Monday, Sept. 19.

My son owns a video production company in Los Angeles and he conducted an interview and started working on a professional film of the museum during a recent visit

*-Michelle Weisen Pottery Museum of Red Wing Archivist*

## KETCHAM POTRAYS RADAM

At right, RWCS Foundation Board Member Steve Ketcham portrays William Radam's grandson during a visit by the American Queen Steamboat passengers who toured the museum. The visitors loved hearing the story of Radam's Microbe Killer. If you ever get a chance to hear Steve depict William Radam or his grandson, you will definitely want to purchase his microbe killer that cures all ailments.



Steve gave his presentation to riverboat visitors on numerous occasions this fall. By the time you read this newsletter, the American Queen Steamboat will have visited Red Wing 21 times since July, bringing approximately 2500 additional visitors to the Pottery Museum of Red Wing this year. The following quote from Arlo Levisen, President of the Grant County Historical Society in Wilmot, SD is just one of the many positive comments we have received about the museum:

"Such a wonderful collection and a fantastic effort made with your displays and exhibits. Our hobby is to travel this country going to all sorts of museums and galleries everywhere – your museum is now very high on our list. We visit about 30 different museums each year, so we are "experienced", shall we say, in terms of how to show things."

## GIFT STORE RUNNING STRONG

Thanks to the Trials West Chapter, Golden State Chapter and all others who have generously donated money and/or inventory to the Pottery Museum Gift Store. Visitors love shopping in the gift shop, which is a wonderful revenue-generator for the museum.



## THERE WERE KIDS EVERYWHERE

What an exciting day we had in August, when more than 50 children from the YMCA Summer Enrichment Recreational program visited the museum. They learned about how a general store operated, practiced sgraffito and went on a scavenger hunt, while learning about the history of the clay industry.



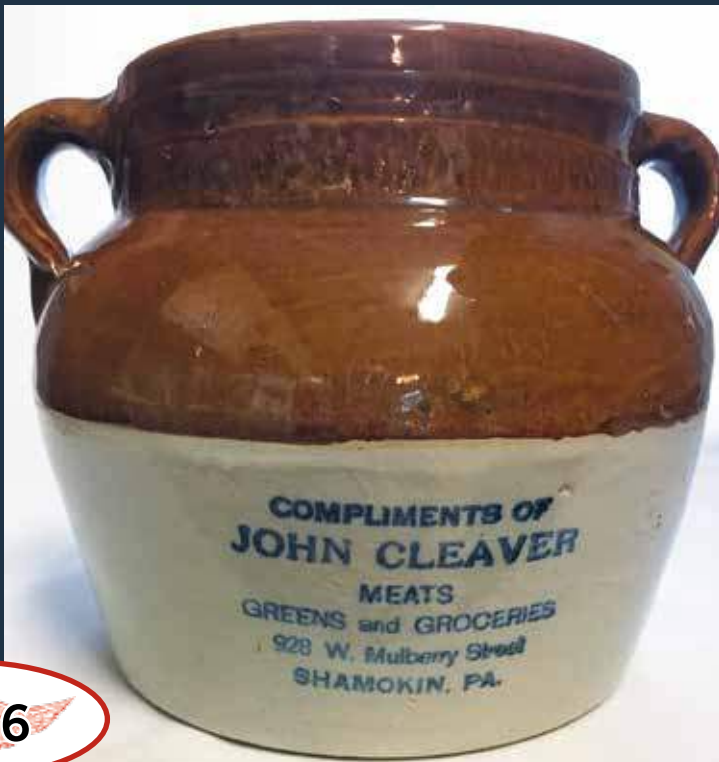
# RED WING MADE WHAT??

## Advertising from the Keystone State

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski



Photo courtesy of Henry Cross



If somebody had told me a year ago that Red Wing made advertising stoneware for businesses located in Pennsylvania, I would have politely questioned their sanity. A piece with Pennsylvania advertising has never been pictured in any of the Red Wing books, nor has it appeared in the *RWCS Newsletter* in the organization's rich 40-year history. But to borrow a line from Albert Einstein, the more we learn, the more we realize how much we don't know.

Last year, active RWCS Facebook Chapter participant Henry Cross posted this photo of a 15 gallon Red Wing crock with advertising for "S. Twitchell Co Manufacturers Pennsylvania, PA." He spotted the piece on September 4, 2014 at a flea market in Columbus, NJ.

"I was fairly new to Red Wing stoneware, but I believed that the crock was probably an uncommon one," Henry recalls. "Unfortunately it was heavily damaged – not in the front so much, but in both the sides and the rear. It was cracked to the point where I was concerned about moving it, let alone transporting it by car for the 45-minute ride to where I lived."

Henry didn't have a place to put it indoors and leaving it outside to deal with the harsh New Jersey winters wasn't an option. So he passed on it, much to the dismay of his Red Wing collecting friends, all located hundreds of miles away.

"Sadly, the crock taunted me the next several weeks as the dealer did not find anyone that could find a home for it," he adds. "Eventually, it did not reappear. Whether the dealer sold it, trashed it or kept it for himself, I do not know. Still, whenever I go to that flea market and see that particular seller, I always think about the crock that got away."

Red Wing Self Draining Jars and crocks with drain holes were used in bottling plants throughout the country and advertising examples from 5 gallons all the way up to 50 gallons exist from bottling suppliers like John Mulhern Co. (San Francisco), Bishop & Babcock (New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and St. Paul) and H.C. Schranck (Milwaukee). But Philadelphia? Get out of town!

According to his obituary that appeared in the December 1917 issue of *The American Bottler*, Selden Twitchell was "a pioneer in the soda water industry" who was one of the first to create a "complete supply depot" for bottlers. Existing from 1898 to at least the mid-1930s, his company sold a wide array of supplies including bottle washing machines, filters and siphons, carbonators and water stills, colorings, sweeteners and extracts, bottle wrappers and labels, and boxes and crates.

The discovery of this Pennsylvania advertising piece alone warranted an article, but fast forward to this past July, when longtime RWCS Member Kent Williamson reignited interest in advertising bean pots by holding an interest group session on the topic at the 2016 RWCS Convention. Kent rallied fellow bean pot collectors to help him assemble a list of every Red Wing advertising bean pot ever created. Although such a list might never be 100 percent complete, it did result in the report of a Red Wing bean pot bearing Pennsylvania advertising.

The owners, who asked to remain anonymous, supplied this picture of their Red Wing bean pot, which says "Compliments of John Cleaver, Meats, Greens and Groceries, 928 W. Mulberry St. Shamokin, PA."

Cleaver's Market advertised in the *Shamokin News-Dispatch* between 1934 and 1943, but little additional information could be found about the business. One thing is certain, however: That thing is SHAMOKIN!

To date, we know that Red Wing made advertising stoneware for businesses as far east as the Canadian province of Quebec and the states of Ohio, Virginia, New York and now Pennsylvania. Could pieces from other eastern states be out there, waiting to be introduced to Red Wing collectors? If there are, surely it's only a matter of time before we learn about them thanks to the speed and ease at which photos can be shared online.

# A GREAT TRIP WITH GREAT FRIENDS

Story by RWCS Member Jeff Floyd

The recent passing of longtime friend, RWCS Member Con Short, made my wife Paulette and me reflect upon the good times we shared with Con and his wife, Sandy. We all became good friends while Sandy, Paulette and I served together on the RWCS Board of Directors.

One of our best memories came in 2005, when we took a road trip with the Shorts. They joined us and our kids on a fun trip to Yellowstone Park a couple of years earlier, so we were looking forward to another expedition with them.

We started our trip from our home in northern Illinois by driving to the Shorts' home in the very scenic town of Beach, ND, which is exactly 1000 miles from our driveway. We had not even determined a destination with the Shorts before arriving there. Once we arrived, we briefly discussed some options and decided to head to Glacier National Park in Montana to drive the scenic "Going To The Sun Road".

After having breakfast at the local Dairy Queen the next morning (yes, they had biscuits and gravy at Dairy Queen), we headed north. We hit Montana's scenic Hwy 2 and traveled across the state until we reached the eastern edge of the Rockies. But then we received a bit of bad news. The eastern entrance to Glacier National Park was closed due to a mudslide. So without a plan B in place, we discussed our next move and decided to head north into Canada to see the Canadian Rockies located around the very scenic town of Banff, Alberta.

To get to Banff, you have to go through Calgary. About halfway between the U.S. border and Calgary was a town called Nanton, which had a couple of antique shops. As all Red Wings will attest, you can't drive past an open antique shop that you've never been to. You'll be haunted in your dreams about what you might have missed. So we stopped and fanned out to look for stoneware and other treasures.

After quite a bit of looking in one of the shops, I could not find Con. I just figured he had found someone to sit and talk with as he did so often. Then I got to the back of the building and found Con kneeling on the floor in an office, looking at the top and bottom sections of a Red Wing Success Filter with a 4-inch wing.

I asked Con what he was doing in the office and he said, "Floyd, come look at this."

I worried we were about to start an international incident by trespassing in an office that was well

across the Canadian border. But no employees were around, so I figured we were safe for at least a couple of minutes. So I dove in next to Con and spotted a 3 gallon Imperial jug with "The Prince Albert Liquor Co., Limited. Prince Albert, Sask." advertising and a 4-inch wing!

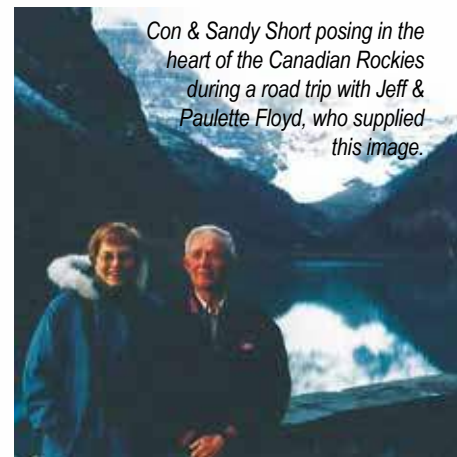
Con was all excited about the Success Filter, but I told him I thought the Canadian jug was the better piece and since he found them, he should try to buy them. After finding an employee, we learned the pieces were recently acquired and hadn't been priced yet. Unfortunately the owners were on a buying trip in New York and didn't answer their phone. Con and Sandy left their contact information, and at that point, I figured I'd never see the jug again.

We drove on to Calgary where we toured the Winter Olympic Park and headed west to Banff. There we enjoyed a couple of days in one of the most beautiful places the four of us had ever been. (For those of you who knew Con, you know he wouldn't fly, so the list of scenic places he could realistically visit was limited.)

Eventually all trips end, so we headed east on Canada Hwy, 1 where you travel through the Canadian towns of Medicine Hat, Swift Current and Moose Jaw. While in Medicine Hat, we toured the Medalta Pottery Museum where, just like Red Wing, they fired a lot of clay for a lot of years. We eventually arrived back at the U.S. border crossing. As many of you know, Con liked to talk a lot and to anyone, but this was not too long after 9/11 and the border guards had no sense of humor. So as we approached the gate, this was one of the times that Sandy told Con "shut up and let Jeff do all the talking" since I was driving. I managed not to get us arrested and we safely returned to Beach, ND.

A couple of months later, Con called and said "Hey, Floyd - I bought those pieces we saw up in Canada, so will you drive back up there and get them for me?" After I stopped laughing, I still wondered if I would ever see that jug again.

Two or three YEARS passed by and the stoneware was still in Canada.



When talking to the Shorts at later date, I found out that a connection had finally been made to pick up the stoneware. Con had talked with fellow RWCS Member Manny Moore, who lives in Montana, and it turned out that he knew someone who traveled to the States from Calgary on a semi-regular basis. The stoneware got to Manny and he brought it to Convention the following summer. All the pieces went back with the Shorts to Beach, ND.

A couple of years later, the Shorts and most of their collection moved to Marshalltown, IA. We visited them several times and the jug was always present. I was really surprised when they brought it to the 2014 RWCS Convention for me. It is now a memory jug living in Northern Illinois, never to be sold and a constant reminder of a great trip with great friends.

Con & Sandy Short were inducted into the RWCS Hall of Fame in 2005. Con passed away this summer at age 77. They auctioned a portion of their collection in April, and word has it that Sandy is planning to sell another round in the coming months.



Jeff Floyd (right) proudly became the owner of this Canadian advertising jug when Con Short brought it to the 2014 RWCS Convention for him.

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The reference to automobiles above and Goodyear Tires below makes these bean pots highly desirable.



Even advertising companies had to advertise, so why not give away advertising bean pots?



A "shoe-in" for the catchiest ad on a bean pot.

Photo courtesy of RWCS Member Dan Barry



A bean pot that actually advertises for beans? Go figure!

Stories by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski

## BEAN POT DATABASE NEARS 500 LISTINGS

When longtime RWCS Member and Southwest Redwings Chapter President Kent Williamson saw collectors enthusiastically posting about Red Wing advertising bean pots on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page this past spring, he offered to host an interest group on the topic at the 2016 RWCS Convention. Considering he amassed a collection of about 300 bean pots since 1989, there couldn't have been a better person for the job.

Twenty fellow RWCS members attended the meeting and discussed various aspects of collecting advertising bean pots. Then Kent announced he had an ambitious goal.

"The main goal of assembling this group was to combine inventory lists and see if we could determine how many advertising bean pots were made for the various states," Kent explains. "I also wanted to provide a master list so bean pot collectors could buy, sell and trade with each other to fill the holes in their collections. So far I have combined lists from the various states and we have 21 members in the special interest group who have shared their lists."

Attempts to compile lists like these in the past have met with mixed results, but as RWCS Historian Nancy Lambert learned when she put together the *Kansas & Missouri Advertising Stoneware from Red Wing, Minnesota* book, success can be achieved when a passionate group of collectors come together for a cause. Thanks to the fervent support of fellow RWCS Trails West Chapter members, the book contains photos and information from more than 80 different businesses that ordered advertising stoneware from Red Wing.

Kent hopes to get the same involvement from bean pot collectors, and he's off to a good start. Between the interest group and participation from the RWCS Facebook Chapter, several people have shared the lists of pieces they own and pieces they're aware of that they don't have. To date, the database that Kent maintains has 486 different advertising bean pots listed, including examples from 12 different states.

"I'm hoping this article persuades more collectors to share a list of the bean pots they own and a list of the bean pots they want," Kent explains. "I'm sure there are a

lot of pots missing from this list. Let's say we've recorded 85 to 90 percent of the bean pots made thanks to the 21 people who have shared their lists. If that's the case, just think how much progress we can make if another 25 to 50 people share their lists. In addition to increasing their knowledge base, participating in this can help people find the pieces they've been searching for."

E-mail Kent at [rwscokent@juno.com](mailto:rwscokent@juno.com) to share the list of advertising bean pots you own and the ones you're seeking. Even if you don't want to share an entire list of your collection, review the database he's compiled and check to see if you own any that aren't listed. If you do, please share what the ad says or send him a photo of the examples that are missing. If you'd prefer to remain anonymous, Kent will keep your name private.

### HOW TO ACCESS THE BEAN POT DATABASE:

- Visit the "Files" section of the RWCS Chapter Facebook page and download the lists, which are separated by state.
- If you have access to Google Drive, e-mail Kent and ask to be added to the share list. Then you can access and download the most current lists.
- If you don't have Google Drive, e-mail Kent and ask him to e-mail you the lists. Due to cost and time constraints, printed versions will not be offered at this time.

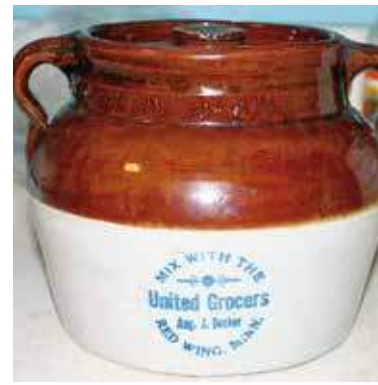
### MEET KENT WILLIAMSON

Kent acquired his first bean pot from his brother while staying with him in Prescott, Wis. during the 1989 RWCS Convention. After being asked what the event was for, Kent showed his brother the *Red Wing Collectibles* book and a piece on one of the pages caught his attention.

"My brother thought he had a Red Wing bean pot in the basement of his office, so we went over there and sure enough, there on a shelf was a Paul Hortenbach, Bay City, Wis. advertising bean pot," Kent recalls.

"I decided to look for more of them on the way home to California that year, because what other types of Red Wing advertising pieces could be bought in the \$20 to \$40 range back then? I found a few more along the way. That brought my total to five and I was hooked."





Only one Californian ad is known to appear on a Red Wing bean pot. The same holds true for Colorado and Pennsylvania.

If you have a special Phillip in your life who collects Red Wing and loves to bake, you need to find them one of these.

Curiously, most of Red Wing's advertising bean pots aren't signed. But this one is debossed "Red Wing USA" on the bottom.

Bean pots with advertising from Red Wing proper have brought more than \$500 when offered for sale.

## USE YOUR BEAN: Collect Red Wing Advertising Bean Pots

Red Wing's advertising bean pots fit well into any stoneware collection, whether you're an advanced collector or just starting to collect. Like any type of advertising, it's fun to find bean pots that have a family name on them or a connection to a particular town, state or product line. They're small and easy to display since the advertising is on the side. And compared to other forms of Red Wing's advertising stoneware, bean pots are generally the most affordable. Common bean pots with lids can usually be acquired for \$50 to \$100, with harder to find examples reaching \$200 or more when two collectors compete at auction.

Bean pots promoted the most diverse line of businesses of all the different types of advertising stoneware that Red Wing produced. They carry ads for businesses like hardware and grocery stores, lumber companies, seed and feed suppliers, dry cleaners, service stations, fuel providers, banks, furniture retailers and undertakers, creameries, coffee and car dealerships. A wide variety are pictured on these pages.

As a result, some bean pots have catchy slogans, such as Walston's Shoe Store in Spirit

Lake, Iowa, which used "A shoe for every foot, a price for every purse" on their bean pots. A particular favorite among stoneware collectors is the bean pot that E.K. Husband commissioned for his hardware store in Gresham, Neb., which says "Hardware as lasting as stoneware."

While some businesses gave advertising bean pots away to their best customers during the holiday season, many followed a recommendation given in a 1931 Red Wing Union Stoneware Company sales brochure to resell the bean pots at or slightly above cost. Citing one example, the brochure says "One of our customers purchased one thousand stenciled bean pots and, by offering these at a very little over cost, induced a large attendance at a very successful sale."

Advertising bean pots are most often found in the 2 quart size, but 1 pint, 1 quart and 3 quart sizes can also be found with advertising. According to company literature from 1930, Red Wing also made 23 ounce, 1 gallon and 2 gallon bean pots as standard production items, but they aren't prevalent and the existence of examples with advertising couldn't be confirmed for this article. 🍷

In subsequent trips to Convention from his home in Phoenix, Kent found lots of bean pots at antique shops along the way and in Red Wing. He wrapped them up and put them under the seats in his mini van.

"Upon arriving home, I would unpack and find I had purchased 25 or more on each trip," he says. "So in a few years, I quickly had over 100 bean pots from various states."

Displaying his collection became a challenge, so Kent used 2x10s to build some heavy-duty shelving in his family room that allowed him to stack them three-high. By 1998 he had amassed 250 advertising bean pots – more than 300 Red Wing bean pots in all when adding in the pieces without advertising from

various stoneware and dinnerware lines like Saffron Ware and Reed.

"In 2000, I moved to a retirement park in Mesa, AZ and was limited for shelf space," Kent says. "I built smaller shelves out of 1x6s and now have shelves in the family room and both guest bedrooms. Double stacking accommodates 200 bean pots. I took the remaining 50 northern Minnesota bean pots up to my cabin about an hour outside of Duluth and display them in the gazebo off the living room."

Now in 2016, Kent has decided to downsize. His examples from northern Minnesota are near and dear to his heart, but he's slowly started selling bean pots from other areas that

### RED WING ADVERTISING BEAN POTS BY THE NUMBERS

**-486-**

Total number of bean pots listed in Kent Williamson's Bean Pot Database as of Oct. 2.

**-12-**

States that at least one Red Wing advertising bean pot is known to exist from. (MN, 151; WI, 137; IA, 69; ND, 48; SD, 41; NE, 7; MI, 6; IL, 3; KS, 2; CA, 1; CO, 1; PA, 1)

**-19-**

Advertising bean pots that are classified as "unknown" in the database because they have yet to be attributed to a specific state.

**-20-**

Red Wing bean pots known to exist with Christmas greetings in the advertising.

**-0-**

Bean pots known to advertise for businesses in ID, MO, MT, UT, WA or WY – all of which Red Wing made other advertising pieces for, like crocks, jugs or spongeware bowls.

don't mean as much to him. There's still one bean pot on his want list though: "Weisbeck Lumber Co., Lumber and Coal, Aitkin, MN." He'd love to strike a deal with anyone who has one that they'd part with. E-mail him at [rwscokent@juno.com](mailto:rwscokent@juno.com). 🍷

*Kent Williamson leading the Bean Pot Interest Group at the 2016 RWCS Convention.*



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# THROUGH MARIE'S EYES

## THE LIFE & TIMES OF CHARLES MURPHY

*Red Wing dinnerware and art pottery collectors will never have a shortage of items to collect thanks to the tireless work of longtime Red Wing Designer Charles Murphy, who designed hundreds of pieces during his time at the Potteries. Information about the man himself isn't as plentiful, but RWCS Hall*

*of Famer Ron Linde learned a lot about his life and times by developing a friendship with him and interviewing him on different occasions before Murphy passed away in 1994. And back in March of 2000, an interview was conducted with the only person who might have known Charles better than the artist himself – his wife of nearly 60 years.*

*Former RWCS President Corrinne Reed and former RWCS Rep. at Large Wally Armstrong sat down with Marie Murphy at her home in Sedona, AZ and video recorded their discussion. Artistic in her own right, Marie met Charles in Ohio when she took an art class he taught. She could have had a successful career herself, but she happily dedicated her life to Charles and their adopted son.*

*Appearing in the RWCS Newsletter for the first time, here are excerpts compiled from their 2-hour interview. A special thanks goes out to Corrinne for making the video available.*

### **Q. What was a regular day for Charles when he worked at the Pottery?**

**A.** Well, he got up and had breakfast – he loved breakfast. He probably worked at the Pottery from 8 to 5 with an hour lunch break. He usually came home for lunch. He liked my cooking (she laughed). After work he'd come home and if the weather was nice we'd go out on our boat to fish or go out on the river in the summer. He played a lot of bridge. We had friends we saw at least once a week.

I remember looking at the calendar one month and we didn't have one day between the time he got home from work and the time we went to bed that we weren't involved in something social – either at our house or going out. Most of our friends were not involved in the Pottery. We had a great group of doctors and accountants and lawyers. It was a very social town and we had great times. The St. James Hotel was like the clubhouse. It was a very social life and we had great fun.

I took care of everything at home. If the house needed a repair, I'd schedule it. He didn't like yard work or gardening. It was funny – he didn't write one check the entire time we were married. He didn't like paying the bills and he always asked me for money. I would tell him his name was on the account and he could write out a check himself, but it didn't bother him to ask me for money – of course it was his and he earned it. So I was in charge of the

household. But that was fine with me – he did what he liked to do and I did what I liked to do.

When we moved to Minneapolis and he designed out of his home studio, he went down to Red Wing whenever he needed to – sometimes two or three times a week. But most of the time he was able to work at home and he really liked it.

### **Q. Did Charles get any of his design ideas from employee suggestions?**

**A.** He was always open to ideas, but he once made a statement that everybody from the floor sweeper to the third vice president thought they could design. Charles made it very clear to (Red Wing Potteries President) Varney when he started that 'You hired me to design and I'm open to suggestions, but I want to have a free hand. If what I produce doesn't sell and what I produce is not what you want, then you get a new designer.'

He knew what you could do with clay and what you couldn't do. He knew about mold making and the technical part. So he wouldn't design something that couldn't be made.

### **Q. Other than the giraffe planter he designed, what was his favorite piece and what did he like the least?**

**A.** Charlie was never disenchanted with anything he designed (she laughed). I think he liked his cookie jars (Pierre chef, Friar Tuck monk and Katrina Dutch girl). As far as we knew, there were no decorative character cookie jars when he did them. He thought they were cute.

I was his best critic. Sometimes he would bring something home and ask me what I thought of it. I would say 'I absolutely love it. It's one of the best things you've ever done.' But he might as well have scrapped it because a lot of the things I often liked were not commercial successes. They were maybe a step too sophisticated, perhaps, for the buying public.

But often I didn't see anything until it appeared in the catalog. For awhile he would design the (sales) brochures and I wrote the copy. It was kind of fun playing around with words and working up a brochure that you thought was snappy. But eventually they got a man at a company in Minneapolis to do them and he became a friend of ours.

### **Q. What were your favorites of Charles' pieces?**

**A.** I liked his fruit set (a pattern from the Concord dinnerware line) and I also liked his cookie jars. When they wanted him to do a commemorative plate (for the 1965 Major League Baseball All-Star Game in Minneapolis), he thought of making it shaped like a home plate, and I thought that was very clever. It worked great when they served dinner on it at the banquet.

*Marie Murphy sculpted this bust of Charles, which is on display at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. Photo courtesy of Museum Manager Robin Wipperling.*



Charles knew all of the salesmen and they were always friends. But some of them were very fixed in the mind about what they wanted to sell. When Spruce (a pattern from the Contemporary dinnerware line pictured at left) came out, one salesman didn't even show it to Dayton's (Department Store).

I liked Spruce and I had a set because the big plates were wonderful for a buffet dinner. We were entertaining a new man that came into Dayton's as the head of all advertising. We had a cocktail party and buffet supper and I served on Spruce. When he saw it, he said 'Where did you get my pattern?'

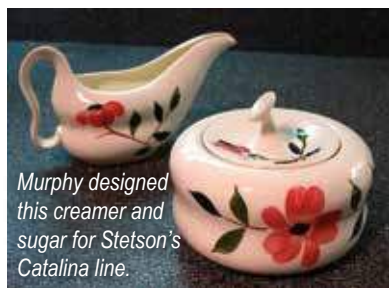
I said, 'Your pattern? How's that? Charlie designed it, you know.' Apparently he had purchased a set of Spruce before moving in from California, but never saw the pattern at Dayton's.

Charles and I once went to a department store in Palm Springs and the only domestic setting they had on their display tables in the China department was Spruce. And yet one salesman just didn't like it and he thought it was too modern and he didn't even show it to Dayton's. In fact, I remember the salesman telling us that once! He said, 'To tell you the truth, I just didn't care for it so I didn't show it.'

**Q. Is there anything Red Wing did that frustrated Charles?**

**A.** Yes, he was disappointed sometimes in the quality. When you used the pottery every day, you realized it wasn't as sturdy as some other pottery was. It didn't seem to hold up (as well). Sometimes it would be hard for him to get a certain color, and yet the ceramic engineers did a good job. There were a lot of outstanding glazes made, I think, and a good variety. But he loved his work. He looked forward to every day and really thoroughly enjoyed it.

**Editor's note:** By 1949, Murphy and Red Wing Potteries President H.H. Varney were no longer on agreeable terms, so he accepted an offer to become the art director at Stetson China in Lincoln, IL.



**Q. Were there differences between working for Red Wing and Stetson?**

**A.** Perhaps this isn't very flattering to say, but I should be frank in saying this. He had a written agreement with Red Wing which (President) Varney did not honor, based on the understanding that as he worked there and he produced, his salary would be increased. He was getting offers from California and all over at two and three times what he was making. But we didn't want to live in California or out East; we always thought the quality of life was paramount. Red Wing was a wonderful place to live. Where else could you leave work and 10 minutes later be out on your boat? But a man can take it just for so long – not getting pay raises when you were promised them. I was always supportive of whatever Charles wanted to do and eventually he decided to go to Stetson. The working conditions were very pleasant there. Stetson stood by everything they agreed to and they treated him with an awful lot of respect.

**Editor's note:** President Varney died while Murphy was working at Stetson. The new Red Wing Potteries President, Harry Barghusen, wanted Murphy to come back. He did so in 1953, but the Murphys moved to Minneapolis instead of Red Wing, where Charles worked out of his home.

**Q. It's been rumored that as an art student at one time, that you might have had something to do with the design of some of the pieces. What do you have to say about that?**

**A.** I did creative things and I always was sort of creative. But I think people just assumed that. I really had nothing to do at all with the designs. In fact, other than giving feedback when he asked for it, I never really offered suggestions. I think this rumor came from when (Red Wing Potteries President) Barghusen wanted him to come back. There was a suggestion made by some of the salesmen that he could send in designs and say that I had designed them because he was still working for Stetson. But he told Stetson that Red Wing wanted him to do some designing and asked if they had any objection to it, provided it was on his own time and not in any way competitive. They said it was fine.

After awhile, he went to them (Stetson management) and said 'You hired me and you wanted to upgrade your style and all. But basically you're wasting your money, paying me to design the stuff that I know you really don't have your heart in.' So he told Stetson he was going to go back to Red Wing and he parted company with them, but they understood and it was on good terms.

**Q. What are your thoughts of Charles' days as a prolific painter of nature scenes?**

**A.** Well, Charles always wanted to get back into painting, especially when the Pottery closed. He had some offers (from other potteries), but he wasn't interested. He studied fine art, you know, and graduated from the Cleveland School of Art. He didn't take ceramics in college. His foundation was in drawing and portraiture. The last thing he ever wanted was to work in the pottery business. His father worked at a pottery, he grew up in a pottery town and he worked there in the summers...no – he was going to have a totally different life. But (after studying portraiture for a year in Germany) he came back in the midst of the Depression. You weren't going to make a living painting portraits back then. (Pottery) was our bread and butter.

But when we moved to Sedona (in 1973), he was finally being treated with respect as a good artist, which hadn't happened before. He really enjoyed and appreciated that, and he was really happy. He walked into that studio every morning and he just loved it.

**Q. What drew you to Sedona?**

**A.** An artist Charles worked with at the art instruction school in Minneapolis had a one-man show at a gallery here in 1972, so we came down to see it. We drove down through the canyon and it was gorgeous – the sun was shining down and the clouds were rolling through...it was so beautiful. So we went to the show, and we were in town for less than 24 hours before we bought an empty lot. I knew that we would come back to Sedona if we bought a lot because we had sold our home in Minneapolis in 1970 and we had a year left on our lease at a duplex in the Lakes of the Isles.

On our way out of town after buying the lot, Charles was concerned about leaving Minnesota and said 'I have to make a living'. I said to him 'You are so lucky. Writers and artists are two of the only people I know who can live wherever they want to. You can paint whatever you want to paint down here.'

He was truly very fortunate. So many people go to work and hate their job, but he never worked in a job where he didn't like what he did. He had a really, really good life. 🍷

**Editors note:** Wally and Corrinne gleaned more information about Charles' life from their interview with Marie, which will be shared in future articles. Marie died in April 2014 at age 102.

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# RED WING MIDWINTER 2017 RED WING



**FEBRUARY 24-26, 2017 • DES MOINES, IOWA**

After a two-year hiatus, the Red Wing Collectors Society's MidWinter GetTogether is returning to the Holiday Inn on Merle Hay Road in Des Moines, Feb. 24-26! If you're as excited as we are, we hope to see you there. We'd love to reach an attendance of 250-300 people like we had in Des Moines in the mid-2000s. Let's make it happen!

To register for MidWinter, visit [www.RedWingCollectors.org](http://www.RedWingCollectors.org), call the office at 800-977-7927 or mail in the form on the next page. Looking to sell this year? Sellers Tables are just \$35. Limited booth space is also available for dealers who would like to bring in furniture or other items that don't fit on a traditional table. Contact the office for details.

We thank the RWCS Iowa Chapter for hosting this year's event and the always-enjoyable Friday Night Member Meet Up, which will feature

food, auctions and cash bar. We're celebrating the Society's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, but no particular theme will be observed. So for those of you who have enjoyed dressing up over the years, you can take this year off. Or, you can dress up in whatever attire or theme you want. You only live once, right? Have at it!

As always, the office is looking for members who can assist with Registration, Show & Sale and set up at MidWinter. If you're interested, please call the office or e-mail me at [swegner@redwingcollectors.org](mailto:swegner@redwingcollectors.org).

We look forward to seeing you in Iowa for MidWinter once again. While it might be cold outside, the camaraderie of friendships made with fellow collectors and the excitement of finding that special piece will keep it warm inside. -Stacy Wegner, RWCS Executive Director

## DEADLINES

**PRE-REGISTRATION:** Jan. 20 (mail) & Jan. 23 (online)     **SELLERS TABLE CONTRACT:** Jan. 27

## LODGING

**LOCATION:** Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, IA 50322. Phone: 515-278-4755

**FOR RESERVATIONS:** Call 515-278-4755 and indicate you are a Red Wing Collectors Society MidWinter attendee and/or a room seller.

**DEADLINE:** Jan. 30, 2017 for the room block (up to 4 guests/room).

### TYPES OF ROOMS:

**STANDARD:** 2 queen beds or 1 king bed at \$70 per night + 12% tax

**JUNIOR SUITE:** king bed and sleeper sofa at \$100 per night + 12% tax (About 1½ rooms with large bedroom and small living room)

**EXTENDED STAY SUITE:** king and sleeper sofa at \$100 per night + 12% tax (About 1½ rooms with small bedroom and large living room)

**FAMILY OR PARLOR SUITE:** king and sleeper sofa at \$149 + 12% tax (The size of two rooms with a big dining room table and kitchen area)



## SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Board of Directors Mtg.	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Iowa Boardroom
Registration	1-7:30 p.m.	Lobby
Room Sales	All day	
Member Meet Up	6-8 p.m.	Ballroom

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Registration	7-10 a.m.	Lobby
Continental Breakfast	7-8:15 a.m.	Ballroom
Welcome/General Session	8-9:30 a.m.	Ballroom
Education Seminars Session 1	9:40-10:30 a.m.	Room TBA
Education Seminars Session 2	10:40-11:30 a.m.	Room TBA
Show & Sale	1:30-4 p.m.	Ballroom
Auction	5 p.m.	Ballroom

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Continental Breakfast (Hosted by Iowa Chapter)	7-9 a.m.	Room 513
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# REGISTRATION FORM

## MIDWINTER GET TOGETHER

Feb. 24-26, 2017 Holiday Inn, Des Moines, IA

**DEADLINES:**  
MAIL REG JANUARY 20, 2017  
ONLINE REG JANUARY 23, 2017  
SELLERS TABLE JANUARY 27, 2017

**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):  STONWARE  DINNERWARE  ART POTTERY  MEMORABILIA  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM THE RWCS FOUNDATION?** YES NO  
**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):  STONWARE  DINNERWARE  ART POTTERY  MEMORABILIA  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM THE RWCS FOUNDATION?** YES NO  
**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):  STONWARE  DINNERWARE  ART POTTERY  MEMORABILIA  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM THE RWCS FOUNDATION?** YES NO  
**WHAT WAY WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE CONTACTED BY THE FOUNDATION (CIRCLE ONE)?** EMAIL MAIL BOTH NONE

### SELLER'S TABLES (CHECK TYPE OF TABLE BELOW)

**ALL SELLERS MUST HAVE AN PERMANENT IOWA SALES TAX NUMBER!**

**ANTIQUES** (90% ANTIQUES)  **SOUVENIRS** (90% SOUVENIRS)  
\_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_  
# table(s) Price **TOTAL**

Booth Space: 10 ft, 6inch wide x 8ft deep \$55 \_\_\_\_\_

LIMITED SPACE, ALL TABLES 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 27, 2017.**

**RWCS FOUNDATION DONATION (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$**

**NO ONLINE SERVICE FEES**

**GRAND TOTAL \$**

#### WAYS TO REGISTER

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

#### Method of Payment:

VISA  MASTERCARD  DISCOVER  CHECK/CASH  
**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CARD NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**LAST 3 DIGITS ON BACK:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXPIRATION DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG**

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## AD RATES

Classified ads are 20¢ per word for members and 30¢ per word for non-members; \$4 minimum charge and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to appearing in the newsletter, classifieds and display ads are posted on the RWCS website.

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., 8/16. 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	\$425
1/2 page (horizontal or vertical)	225
1/4 page	125
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, 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, RWCS  
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).

## CLASSIFIEDS

### RED WING FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Red Wing Christmas Tree Holder. Best offer plus shipping from CT. Contact kathybrot@gmail.com for photos.

FOR SALE: Red Wing Lotus 39-pc. collection. Includes many serving pieces. Selling full collection for \$500 + shipping. Contact Nancy at nhunter1358@gmail.com or 970-260-4484.

FOR SALE: RW Spring Song dishes. Contact sandra.linn@comcast.net for more information.

### RED WING WANTED

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

WANTED: 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: L. Borserini, Atchison, Kansas

advertising jug – contact julibug@cox.net, or 479-283-9889.

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: MOOSE JAW, Saskatchewan, Canada advertising. Will consider any condition. Please contact Greg at 307-543-2010 or ghouda@wyoming.com 12/16

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

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

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SPELUNKING FOR STONWARE

I was in the Black Hills of South Dakota awhile back and I got talked into going to Wonderland Cave. When I was underground in this cave getting the big tour, I got to this one level where I could not even stand up. There is water running down the rocks inside this cave and there before me was a backlit 20 gallon Red Wing crock overflowing with water. I had no camera in this dark cave, of course. No picture for you. How they even got it down there, I will never know. I was just glad to get out.

-RWCS Member Frank Schank

**Editor's note:** Luckily RWCS Member Laura Beall has us covered on this one, Frank! Laura had her picture taken with the crock during a visit and says "The water it collects is very pure, and it gathers 20 gallons every 9.5 days."

According to [www.southdakotacaves.com](http://www.southdakotacaves.com), Wonderland Cave first gained notoriety in 1929 when two loggers found the upper room of the cavern when searching for a lost dog. That same year the two men tried to mine in the cave for gold. The search lasted for a year before they began work on the cavern, and started giving commercial tours during the summer of 1930.

Today a large variety of stalactites, stalagmites and crystals can be viewed in more than two dozen rooms in the cave, which is located just north of Nemo, SD.



Photo courtesy of Megan Deteman

# 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 2016 and June of 2017 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

ITEM	LOCATION	DATE	VENUE	PRICE
RW Albany slip Bulldog, chipped toes, glued foot	Albuquerque, NM	1/16	Antique shop	\$44
RW 5", 6" and 11" sponge panel bowls	Dayton, OH	5/16	Estate sale (2 <sup>nd</sup> day)	\$33.60
RW Saffron "Triumph, MN" adv. casserole w/lid	Mankato, MN	5/16	Thrift store	\$5
Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. mini jug	Central WI	6/16	Antique sale	\$20
RW 6½ inch Saffron pitcher, mint	Sauk City, WI	6/16	Yard sale	\$5
RW #200 Nokomis vase	Brimfield, MA	7/16	Antique show	\$50
RW bean pot w/ "Hardware as lasting as stoneware, E.K. Husbands Hardware, Gresham, NE" adv.		7/16	eBay	\$139.04 shipped
Pair of green shoes signed "MINN SW CO"	Hancock, WI	7/16	Garage sale	\$2
9" North Star bowl	Boise, ID	8/16	Auction	\$33.35
3 gal wing crock with 3 gal salt glaze petal lid	Boise, ID	8/16	Auction	\$148.35



## THE DOCTOR'S ORDERS: THREE SELF-DRAINERS WITH LIDS

While on a recent visit to the Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco, Texas my daughter, Gretchen, and I noticed these crocks high up near the ceiling, obviously used in the manufacturing of Dr. Pepper. Of course we were all delirious about seeing them tucked way up in the high rafters. They had no information on these. In fact, when I asked the nice person seated at the admissions desk she had no clue what I was babbling about when I was talking about "Red Wing crocks"! Not a huge surprise, since there aren't all that many Red Wing crocks that show up in the local antique shops in Waco unless brought there by former Minnesotans!

-RWCS Member Linda Hemberger

## \$25 ESTATE SALE FIND

I got a very different piece of stoneware on an estate sale back before Xmas for \$25. It's stamped "12" on the bottom and took a 12 gallon crock to place it in to remove the blue paint that was all over it. It is bottom marked "RW Union Stoneware Co." the salt glaze is a golden brown – very different and feels like sand paper to your hand. It's a wonderful piece. Can somebody can tell me what it is?

-RWCS Member Carlyle Stender

**Editor's note:** RWCS Charter Member Jim Norine offers the following answer:

"The #130 shape pieces, which were designed to be hanging flower pots, are referred to as "Indian Pots" in circa 1926 Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. literature. The literature also states they were made in diameters of 8, 10 and 12 inches and finished in Bronze-Tan glaze. Assuming excellent condition – meaning no hairlines, chips or impossible cleanup issues – I would evaluate the 8 inch at \$75, the 10 inch at \$100 and the 12 inch at \$125.

"I have the unusual one pictured here in zinc glaze that has a green tint that starts about halfway up the side and gets darker towards the top."



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# ALMOST TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL...PART 2!



## SIX SCHOOL SUPPLY COMPANIES that put their Names on RED WING WATER COOLERS

Story by RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski



The June 2016 *RWCS Newsletter* featured a story about five different school supply companies that ordered advertising water coolers from the Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. Thanks to RWCS Member Tim Broetzmann, we now know there's a 6<sup>th</sup> company in this exclusive club.

Tim sent in photos of this circa 1917 5 gallon "Red Seal Beckley-Cardy Co. Chicago" advertising water cooler, which he bought at an auction in Montana several years ago. While certainly more were made, Tim notes that it's the only Red Wing version he's ever seen or heard of. (Buckeye Pottery also made a water cooler bearing the Beckley-Cardy name.) Here's some history on the company:

### BECKLEY-CARDY CO. ★ Chicago, IL

With 20 years of experience in the school supply industry, M.H.E. Beckley founded the M.H.E. Beckley Manufacturing Co. in Chicago in 1907 and began producing a line of artificial slate blackboards.

According to the September 1911 issue of the *American School Board Journal*, Beckley took on Fred Cardy as a partner that year after Cardy sold his interest in St. Paul's Atlas School Supply Co. They reorganized as the Beckley-Cardy Manufacturing Company and Cardy established the school stationery side of the business.

Eventually the company published books and offered a wide variety of school supplies ranging from pencils to bleacher seating and everything in between.



Beckley-Cardy was acquired by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich in 1972 and changed hands again in 1987 and 1992. Its annual sales were in the \$175 million range when it was acquired and absorbed by its rival, School Specialty, Inc. in 1998.



At right: Tim found a stamped Beckley-Cardy Co. spigot and drinking fountain while checking out the antique shops during Convention last July.

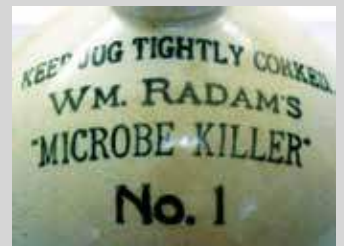
Below: These are the stamps used by the six school supply companies known to have ordered advertising water coolers from Red Wing. If you know of any not pictured here, please contact RWCS Newsletter Editor Rick Natynski at [newsletter@redwingcollectors.com](mailto:newsletter@redwingcollectors.com).



## COMING IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE...



### WILLIAM RADAM'S MICROBE KILLER: A SCAM FOR THE AGES



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