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STANDING TALL ONCE AGAIN

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gets a new lease on life*

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RWCS CONTACTS

BUSINESS OFFICE

PO Box 50 • 240 Harrison St. • Unit #3
Red Wing, MN 55066-0050 • www.redwingcollectors.org
651-388-4004

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: STACY WEGNER
director@redwingcollectors.org
membership@redwingcollectors.org

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: RICK NATYNSKI
PO Box 198 • Pewaukee, WI 53072
414-416-WING (9464) • newsletter@redwingcollectors.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: PAUL WICHERT
W247S7000 Sugar Maple Dr. • Waukesha, WI 53189
414-731-0218 • president@redwingcollectors.org

VICE PRESIDENT: RUSSA ROBINSON
1970 Bowman Rd. • Stockton, CA 95206
209-463-5179 • vicepresident@redwingcollectors.org

SECRETARY: ANGELA SHEFVELAND
905 Hawthorn St. • Red Wing, MN 55066
816-456-2524 • secretary@redwingcollectors.org

TREASURER: DAN BECK
2215 Hill Place SW • Rochester, MN 55902
507-398-6358 • treasurer@redwingcollectors.org

HISTORIAN: NANCY LAMBERT
17 Newcastle Lane • Bella Vista, AR 72714
785-691-7213 • historian@redwingcollectors.org

REPRESENTATIVE AT LARGE: DIANA BAILEY
PO Box 170 • Cedarburg, WI 53012
414-303-2691 • repatlargewest@redwingcollectors.org

REPRESENTATIVE AT LARGE: RICHARD NATYNSKI
N50 W25078 William Dr. • Pewaukee, WI 53072
608-617-7424 • repatlargeeast@redwingcollectors.org

INTERIM AUCTION MANAGER: BRUCE SELFRIDGE
29410 River Road • Cloverdale, CA 95425
707-477-8968 • auction@redwingcollectors.org

COMMEMORATIVE MANAGER: BOB MORAWSKI
2130 S. Ridgeway Dr. • New Berlin, WI 53146
262-853-8269 • commemorative@redwingcollectors.org

INTERIM EDUCATION MANAGER: DAVID HOFFMAN
2821 Lynx Road • Wausau, WI 54401
715-355-8521 • education@redwingcollectors.org

EVENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL

PRE-REGISTRATION: HEIDI HAHLLEN
608-712-9335 • hshahlen@tds.com

SHOW & SALE: GAIL & MERV PECK
402-721-5721 • gpeck1@neb.rr.com

DISPLAY ROOM: TYLER GREEN
display@redwingcollectors.org

KIDSVIEW & YOUNG COLLECTORS: VACANT
kidsview@redwingcollectors.org

FROM THE EDITOR

RWCS Hall of Famer David Newkirk, who was instrumental in founding the Red Wing Collectors Society in 1977, passed away in St. Cloud, MN on Aug. 14 at the age of 76.

Already a collector at the time, Newkirk's passion for Red Wing was ignited in 1976 by an article that Rev. Lyndon Viel wrote about Red Wing stoneware in *The Antique Trader*. In it, Viel announced he was publishing *Clay Giants*. When the two met later that year, Newkirk shared his idea of starting a newsletter about Red Wing. Viel doubted there would be many takers, but Newkirk went ahead anyway and sent his first issue to just 53 collectors in April 1977.

Newkirk and his wife of 48 years, Lorraine, organized the first Convention in Red Wing that summer, and 99 people attended the event's banquet. A business meeting was held to make plans for the following year and Newkirk was elected the first President of the RWCS – a role he held for four years. He held membership #3 for the rest of his life. (He assigned membership #1 to Viel and #2 to the Goodhue County Historical Society, which hosted the first Convention.)

In addition to being the publisher and editor of the *RWCS Newsletter* from 1977 to 1995, Newkirk authored *Guide to Red Wing Markings Books 1 and 2* and co-authored *Red Wing Dinnerware* with fellow RWCS Hall of Famer Stan Bougie. During that time the club's membership grew exponentially, with more than 3,000 people attending Convention annually in the mid-1990s. Outside of Red Wing, he was father to daughter Emilie, an educator for more than 30 years, a member of Faith Lutheran Church in rural Monticello, MN, and he loved raising sheep and helping kids with their 4-H sheep projects.


Sadly, I never got to meet Dave. Due to personal reasons, he rarely attended RWCS events after the 1997 Convention when he was named to the RWCS Hall of Fame. I reached out to him a couple years after I became the editor in 2006, but didn't get a response. I wish I would have tried harder. Reading his newsletters cover-to-cover in the early 2000s got me more excited about collecting and surely kindled my dream to become the editor myself one day.

The passion and excitement for Red Wing that he passed on through his newsletters can never be recreated, for they came at a time when new discoveries were constantly being made and everyone was learning together. In those days, newly budding hobbyists became advanced collectors by soaking up every bit of information he shared. Today as a whole, they continue to be one of the most informative and enjoyable to read references ever compiled on Red Wing.

In addition to leaving this world as a loved husband, father, brother to four sisters and friend of many, David Newkirk leaves behind a legacy that lives on in the Red Wing Collectors Society through his writings. Whether you're a longtime collector or just starting out, get your hands on his newsletters. Longtime members, you will remember things long forgotten and see pictures of pieces you forgot exist. And new collectors, you're in for quite a treat. 🍷



David Newkirk
1943-2019


Rick Natynski, Editor

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

CALLING ALL RWCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

It's that time again! The Red Wing Collectors Society is looking for officers to serve on the Board of Directors. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the club that we all so deeply care about! In spring 2020, elections will be held for President, Secretary and the three managerial positions – Auction, Commemorative and Education. Each position carries a term of four years. Please contact me if you have any questions about what each position entails.

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. 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 2020 issue.

Voting will be done electronically. 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, 2020. 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. If you're unsure if we have your current e-mail address on file, please send an e-mail to Stacy at director@redwingcollectors.org to confirm.

You must cast your ballot online or return your paper ballot by June 30, 2020 to be counted. A member must also be in good standing as of the June 30 closing date to have his/her ballot count. The successful candidates will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting to be held at Red Wing's River Bluff School on July 10, 2020. Thank you for your interest. My contact info is on pg. 2 and I look forward to hearing from those of you who are interested in running! –RWCS Vice President Russa Robinson

MIDWINTER REGISTRATION FORM ENCLOSED; SEEKING KEYNOTE PRESENTER

This issue contains everything you need to know about registering for the 2020 MidWinter GetTogether and booking your room. After coming off a positive experience at Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, IA in 2019, we're looking forward to returning to the Quad Cities next year. We're even making a few tweaks to help make the event even better!

Turn to page 12 for more information regarding registration and room reservations. The event registration form is on page 13 and online registration should be ready to go in mid- to late-October. You will receive an e-mail as soon as it goes live. This e-mail will include a link to click on that will take you directly to a customized RWCS MidWinter booking page on the hotel's website.

RWCS Education Manager David "Yoshi" Hoffman already has several speakers lined up for the 2020 MidWinter GetTogether, but he's still looking a keynote presenter. If you're interested in speaking, please contact him and he'll let you know what's required. And if you'd like to speak at Convention next summer, or have requests for certain topics to be covered, please let him know that as well. There's a lot of satisfaction that comes from sharing your knowledge with others, and your fellow members are excited to learn!

RED WING STONEWARE TO CEASE OPERATIONS

On Aug. 26, Red Wing Stoneware and Pottery owners Bruce & Irene Johnson announced the business would discontinue industrial operations as of Oct. 1. According to an article by reporter Deanna Weniger that appears on www.twincities.com, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* website, "The couple cited health issues and other business opportunities as the reasons for closing."

The Johnsons, who purchased Red Wing Stoneware and Red Wing Pottery from Scott Gillmer in 2013, issued the following statement:

Continued on pg. 4



ABOUT THE COVER

It wasn't much of a surprise when the dreamy 5 gallon double-handled salt glaze bird threshing jug pictured in the grouping above won the Dennis Yaeggi Rare Item Award in the Display Room at Convention this year. But as you can see, there were three other fascinating pieces on display, as well. In any given year, they too could win the popular vote depending on what else was being displayed.

The 5 gallon ovoid-shaped jar with birchleaves was featured on page 13 of the December 2018 *RWCS Newsletter*, but the remaining two items that were displayed also deserve some love. Standing over 2 feet tall, the monumental Red Wing art pottery "Circus Clown" figure on the cover is one of those pieces. Turn to page 7 to learn about it and the stoneware 'Lunch Hour' vase pictured in the lineup above and the interesting stories that come with them.

Then be sure to check out pages 8-9 to learn about the world-renowned sculptor of the Circus Clown, how the pottery version came to be in the first place and the other Red Wing pieces that this creator is believed to have designed. (Hint: it wasn't Charles Murphy!) 🍷

CLUB NEWS

Although I'm personally not excited about snow and sub-zero temperatures, I am excited for one thing winter brings – the RWCS MidWinter GetTogether! The 2020 event will take place at the Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, IA from Feb. 28 to March 1.

We get an extra day in February next year, so leap on over to page 12 for some important information on booking your room.



STACY WEGNER
Executive Director

You can register for MidWinter by calling the office at 651-388-4004, logging on at ERWCS.org or sending in the form on page 13. Online registration should go live in mid- to late-October. Watch your e-mail for an announcement as soon as it goes live. This e-mail will also contain a link to use to book your hotel room online. (Although cumbersome to type in, we've also provided the customized URL the hotel provided on page 12. You can also call the hotel at 800-843-4753.)

Friday night will once again kick off with an evening social. It's a great time for members to network, talk and have some casino-themed fun! We'll also have a raffle at this year's event. Raffle tickets will be sold onsite and winners will be announced on Saturday morning at the welcome session. We'll have more details on raffle prizes soon.

Volunteering at the event is a great way to meet other collectors and get involved in your club. We're looking for help with MidWinter set up, registration, Show & Sale and more. Please contact me at the office to sign up – your help is always appreciated!

Finally, you can help us advertise MidWinter by downloading the MidWinter promotional poster or requesting it from the office. It's available in two sizes – 8½ x 11 and 11 x 17; it can even be foam-core mounted. Hang a poster at your local antique mall or show and post to the MidWinter event page!

Finally, do you know someone who should be a member? Consider giving them the gift of membership this holiday season. I can send the membership packet and card to you in time for a Christmas or hostess gift. Contact the office and I will assist you.

I look forward to seeing everyone at MidWinter 2020 in Bettendorf, IA! 🍷

NEWS BRIEFS continued from pg. 3

"We have spent the last six years trying to revive and restore these iconic brands. We have enjoyed the opportunity to learn pottery and experience working with incredibly talented artists. While the pricing pressures on hand made products of this quality are hard to compete with low-cost options, we have done a good job of keeping the trademark of these brands high quality. There are several other opportunities we have been presented with and in order to focus on some of those businesses, we need to stop industrial manufacturing of pottery. We may continue to make a few custom pieces and products, but will also entertain any interest in the business and brands.

"We would like to thank all of our customers! The love and passion for the brands is so special and so appreciated. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and hope you enjoy these products for decades to come.

"We would like to especially thank the wonderful employees that are so proud of the products they produce. We have so much respect for the talent and friendship they demonstrate each day. We would also like to thank those in the community that have supported and encouraged us in this venture."

RWCS President Paul Wichert was discouraged by the news, as Red Wing Stoneware did a good job in producing the 2019 RWCS Commemorative.

"Red Wing Stoneware was a big part of the legacy of Red Wing's iconic pottery industry," he says. "Their commitment to keeping the pottery history alive in Red Wing through their unique products will be a loss to the community, as well as to collectors. Hopefully someone buys the business and carries on the tradition in Red Wing."

2015 COMMEMORATIVE OVERRUN REPORT

Over the past year, more than a dozen 2015 Stoneware Canteen Version B Commemoratives have been sold at a flea market near Cambridge, WI. The manufacturer of that commemorative, Rowe Pottery, is located in Cambridge.

RWCS President Paul Wichert, Commemorative Manager Bob Morawski and I recently had a conference call with Beverly Semmann, Rowe Pottery owner, to find out how these pieces reached the market. Here is what we learned.

Just over a year ago, Rowe Pottery moved to a new building in Cambridge. Semmann says the landlord provided six large dumpsters for Rowe to dispose of materials. More than 40 years of Rowe Pottery production pieces and materials were thrown in these dumpsters, and overruns of the 2015 RWCS Commemoratives were included. Semmann says that in the rush to vacate the building, these pieces were thrown away without confirmation of breakage.

Semmann is confident that these canteens, among other Rowe Pottery production pieces, were taken from the dumpsters. She says Rowe did not have control over when they were emptied, and she regrets that the overruns weren't destroyed like they should have been.

When we first became aware of these rogue pieces, Paul Wichert called the person who reported buying the commemoratives at the flea market to get information on the purchase. Paul asked to buy these so we could destroy them. That offer still stands.

The 2015 RWCS Commemorative was the first piece Rowe Pottery made for the Society. Since that time, the destruction and disposal of molds and overrun commemoratives has been reviewed and improved. We will continue to focus our attention on this process to help prevent an issue like this from occurring in the future. 🍷

–RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner

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POTTERY MUSEUM OF RED WING NEWS



Story by Char Henn, Pottery Museum of Red Wing Director
Photos by Larry Peterson, RWCS Hall of Famer

We were so busy at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing this summer! We welcomed 16,000 visitors to your museum in the past two months, so we are on track for 40,000 visitors this year! Seventeen different groups of people have toured your museum in the last 30 days. River cruise boats had planned 20 stops in Red Wing this year. The first two were canceled because of high water, but we have welcomed all the other boats, including a new boat this year – American Harmony.

During the middle of September, John Lauritsen of WCCO-TV (our local CBS affiliate) came to your museum to film something on the Red Wing Saloon exhibit and Prohibition for their “Finding Minnesota” Sunday feature. This aired on their Sept. 29 broadcast and is now available for viewing on wcco.com. Later that day, Cathy Wurzer of “Almanac” (a news show on our local PBS station) came to film pottery- and Prohibition-related stories for her “Stories Under the Stones” project. You will be able to see this on tpt.org/almanac.

We are incredibly thankful for all the wonderful donations we have received for the gift shop, collections and fundraisers. You have decided to share some wonderful things with us and we know that these donations make your museum possible.

We also have some great events coming up. Give to the Max Day is Thursday, Nov. 14. This fundraiser is crucial for providing the roughly \$40,000 we need to take us through the quieter winter months. To make your donation, please call us at 651-327-2220, send it through the mail, or give online at PotteryMuseumRedWing.org.

And, as always, if you are in the area, please stop in and say, “Hi!” The Red Wing Saloon exhibit has been very popular and it will close when we start commemorating the 100th anniversary of the beginning of Prohibition in 2020! 🍷



Above: John Duffy guiding one of our many bus tours.



Above: Steve Ketcham dressed in period bartender clothing, conversing with John Lauritsen of WCCO News. John was here on Sept. 17 to film a segment for his “Finding Minnesota” series, which aired on Sept. 29. View it at wcco.com.

Below: Members of the Minneapolis Aquatennial Committee took a bus to Red Wing to tour your Pottery Museum of Red Wing.





give
TO THE
MAX
NOV. 14, 2019

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

“GIVE TO THE MAX”

IS OUR ONLY ANNUAL

FUNDRAISING

CAMPAIGN

Its success is critical to the continued operations of your Pottery Museum – exhibits, programming and monthly expenses. Gift store sales and our other special fundraising events are not enough.

THE 2019 GOAL IS \$40,000

Last year we raised more than \$48,000 and we need your help to do it again. Support YOUR museum with a donation through the mail or online at PotteryMuseumRedWing.org – you make YOUR museum world-class!

WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG

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Family Connections TO THE POTTERIES

Story by Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor



Each of us has a story about how we acquired our first piece. Some collectors received it as a hand-me-down, while others report being drawn to it at an antique shop, auction or yard sale. But very few can say a piece was made specifically for them.

At least one RWCS member can. Red Wing native Alice Carol Ohme (Dosdall) received the 'Lunch Hour' plate with her name on it at left from her aunt, Frances Swanson, in 1948 when she was only 11 months old. Frances created the plate when working as a painter on the production line at the Red Wing Potteries. She also made the plate with a dog for her nephew – Alice's older brother, Robert. Both plates are signed and dated April 12, 1948 on the back.

"I remember my mother had my plate wrapped carefully in a drawer when I was young, and I had it hanging on the wall in my bedroom when I was a teenager," Alice recalls. "Now it's displayed in my kitchen, and some day I'll pass it on to my granddaughters."

Frances worked at the Potteries for at least two years. Another 'Lunch Hour' plate she painted dated March 30, 1946 is pictured at bottom left and on pg. 194 of *Red Wing Art Pottery 2* by RWCS Hall of Famer Ray Reiss. Clearly she was quite talented.

Frances wasn't the family's only connection to the Potteries. Alice says another aunt – her father's sister Laura Larson – also painted dinnerware on the production line at the Potteries around the same time. When her mother Marion Swanson was young, Alice's grandfather Richard Swanson worked for the Claybank Railroad, which delivered clay to the pottery. And longtime RWCS Members John & Bernice Schwartau, who were instrumental in creating the John Paul/Red Wing Pottery Industry Historical Marker outside town on Hwy 58, were Alice's godparents.

Growing up in Red Wing, Alice says most locals viewed the Potteries as another factory. It wasn't as prominent as the Red Wing Shoe Co. But it obviously played an important role in the economy through all the jobs it provided. And nearly everyone in town had a set of Red Wing dishes.

"My mother grew up with nothing when she was young," Alice explains. "They were very poor, so she and her friends often picked up factory-seconds when they were tossed out behind the pottery. I remember her telling me that employees didn't give her a hard time about it. They had no problem with kids picking stuff up, but they didn't like adults doing it."

A realtor by trade, Alice says business in Minneapolis was tough in the winter, so she and her husband Larry moved to Florida more than 30 years ago. But they return to Red Wing to visit family every summer, and they've attended Convention the past few years.

Alice figures she owned less than a dozen pieces of Red Wing until about 15 years ago, but then the collecting bug bit her. Since then, she's acquired hundreds of pieces of art pottery, which hasn't been easy considering her location. In addition to her plate and items she inherited from her mother, she considers pieces from the Prismatic line to be her favorites. She has at least one color in every shape.

"Red Wing is difficult to find in Florida," she says. "I come across it in antique malls on occasion, but most of my finds have been through eBay and more recently, from other collectors on the RWCS Facebook Chapter page."

Alice doesn't own the plate pictured at left, but she would love to know who has it. She can be reached at alice@aliceohme.com regarding this, or any other piece signed by her aunt, Frances Swanson.



Above: RWCS Members Alice & Larry Ohme pose for a picture at the RWCS Facebook Chapter Social at Convention in July.



Below: Another Red Wing 'Lunch Hour' plate signed by Frances Swanson. Photo courtesy of RWCS Hall of Famer Ray Reiss.



A CLOSER LOOK AT TWO RARE ITEMS Story by Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor



The impressive Red Wing art pottery "Circus Clown" pictured here and on the cover of this issue stands a staggering 25 ½ inches tall. Despite having a somewhat tragic provenance, it finally saw the light of day again in the Convention Display Room after about 30 years.

RWCS Hall of Famer Dave Hallstrom remembers seeing the statue for the first time many years ago when he visited the home of Tom Arnold, who was the chief ceramic engineer at the Red Wing Potteries from 1942 to 1967. Due to the important role Arnold played at the Potteries, he definitely would have had a hand in the manufacturing of the piece and likely brought it home from the pottery himself.

"It was years and years ago when I was in Tom's house," Dave recalls. "He had a ton of unbelievable stuff, and that clown was sitting on the hearth of his fireplace."

RWCS Charter Member Willie Safe eventually bought the clown and many other pieces from Arnold, as the two were friends and they lived close to one another in Red Wing. Dave says that Safe, who founded a moving company in Red Wing in 1974 – Will-Do Truckin' – was an avid collector of stoneware, pottery and a general line of antiques, and he often accepted those items as payment for his moving services. Since he moved a number of clients into Red Wing's then newly built high-rise senior living complex in the 1980s, he took in many unique pieces.

Safe loaned the clown and a number of other unusual pieces to the Goodhue County History Center for an exhibit in the late 1990s. It was during that time that RWCS Hall of Famer Ray Reiss visited the museum and photographed rare items for his book, *Red Wing Art Pottery 2*. The clown is pictured on pg. 180.

That's when the fate of the clown took a turn for the worse. At some point after Reiss photographed it, Safe went to collect his items and take them home. Hallstrom was serving on the Goodhue County Historical Society's Board of Directors at the time and he just so happened to be at the museum the day this was taking place. In fact, he had stepped into the elevator just as Safe was coming down the hall.

"Willie was rolling a cart onto the elevator and he had the clown standing straight up on it," Dave explains. "That elevator had a substantial lip, and when the cart's wheels caught it, the clown fell over



and broke in half. I was just heartbroken. I would have been crying had it been mine, but Willie just put the pieces in a box and took it home."

Unfortunately, Safe never had the figure restored and the pieces sat in that box until 2015, when Hines Auction Co. in Ellsworth, WI had a series of auctions to sell off his estate. As the photo from the auction at lower left shows, the damage could have been far worse.

As critical as condition is when it comes to pottery and stoneware, RWCS Member Jacob Becker recognized that in the case of rare items like this one, the fact that something still exists is far more important.

Knowing he'd likely never have another chance to own an example of the hard-to-find piece, Becker jumped on the opportunity to add it to his collection. He ended up getting a great deal at the auction and hired fellow RWCS Member Keith Klindworth to put Humpty Dumpty back together again. Keith did a remarkable job, and after all was said and done, Jacob had less than \$450 invested into the special piece.

Check out the next page to learn more about the Circus Clown statue.

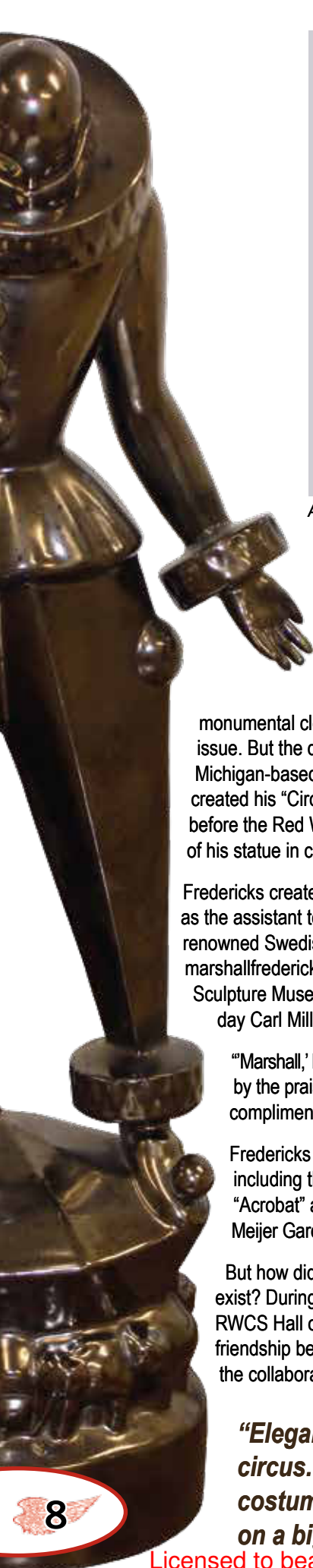


Owned by RWCS Members Ann & James Tucker, the incredible 9-inch 'Lunch Hour' stoneware vase pictured above was another fascinating piece exhibited in the Convention Display Room this summer. Ann bought the one-of-a-kind piece in the Pottery Place parking lot during the 2018 Convention. The dealers she purchased it from, who found the vase in Red Wing, included the following information about it:

This vase was "purchased from a junk dealer who periodically opened his garage on the weekend to sell the things he had picked up. Occasionally he would have some Red Wing pieces, which is why we stopped whenever we could, given the infrequent times he was open. We noticed the vase behind some other things in a locked case and when we looked at it closely, it was apparent that the glaze of the vase was identical to the stump found on the Red Wing figure of the boy carrying a crock.

"The junk dealer told us he bought it from some people whose grandpa had worked at the pottery. These people lived on Spruce Drive when it was first being built up (at that time the road was still gravel). He bought it in 1970-1972 and at the time he purchased it, he told us there were several other stoneware knick-knacks that he did not buy."

The dealers have been unable to reach the man for the past year and aren't sure if he's still alive. As stated in the letter, the vase clearly has a close resemblance to the highly coveted "Boy with Crock" 'Lunch Hour' figures, which were made in the 1890s or early 1900s. Its handles are fashioned to look like tree branches and the front is embellished with three applied roses.



A 28-inch bronze Circus Clown.



Image courtesy of the Marshall M. Fredericks Archives, Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, Michigan.

Three of Marshall Fredericks' other clown sculptures: Lovesick, Acrobat and Juggler.

Circus Clown: Cast in Bronze Long Before Clay

Story by Rick Natynski, RWCS Newsletter Editor

Many collectors might assume that artist and longtime Red Wing Potteries designer Charles Murphy created the monumental clown figure pictured on the cover of this issue. But the design actually originated with prolific Michigan-based sculptor Marshall M. Fredericks, who created his "Circus Clown" sculpture more than 20 years before the Red Wing Potteries cast a pre-production run of his statue in clay.

Fredericks created Circus Clown in 1938 when serving as the assistant to the Cranbrook Sculptor-in-Residence, renowned Swedish Sculptor Carl Milles. According to marshallfredericks.org, the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum's website, "He loved to tell about the day Carl Milles first saw the sculpture."

"Marshall,' Milles exclaimed, 'I wish I'd done that.' Thrilled by the praise, Fredericks considered this the greatest compliment he could have received from his mentor."

Fredericks also created other similar clown designs, including three enlarged sculptures – "Lovesick", "Acrobat" and "Juggler" – which are at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, MI.

But how did the Red Wing pottery version come to exist? During a 1992 interview with Charles Murphy, RWCS Hall of Famer Ron Linde learned that a friendship between Murphy and Fredericks sparked the collaboration in the early 1960s.

"The idea was that Red Wing would create molds of Fredericks' metal sculptures and cast them," Linde explains. "In Charles' words, it was going to be a 'healthy-priced' line."

Murphy told him Red Wing cast a figure from Fredericks' "Saints and Sinners" line and about two-dozen Circus Clown statues, but the line didn't gain traction and wasn't officially put into production. Perhaps there were fears that the market ultimately wouldn't support the high-end figures.

Interestingly, Circus Clown wasn't Marshall Fredericks' only ties to the Red Wing Potteries. RWCS Members Mary & Otto Bang presented an educational session about Charles Murphy at the 1992 RWCS Convention with Linde, as they visited with the Murphys in 1991. During that session, they revealed that Charles told them Fredericks also designed the Drum and Pumpkin cookie jars, which appear in the Spring 1963 *Red Wing Art Pottery Catalog*. Commonly referred to as "Drummer Boy" and "Jack Frost", they continue to be popular with collectors today.

It's unknown how many Red Wing Circus Clown statues still exist. RWCS Member Jacob Becker says that in addition to the one he owns in the Mica Bronze glaze, he has heard rumors of a green one belonging to someone living in the Red Wing area. There's also one with a White Crackle glaze on permanent display at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing. That one belonged to Murphy, and he and his wife, Marie, displayed it prominently in their home in Sedona, AZ for many years.

"The funny thing about it is that Marie didn't like the look of it because she thought the clown's head was too small," Linde

"Elegant and inviting, Circus Clown beckons us to the mysteries and excitement of the circus. Fredericks' bronze casting captures both his poise and the perfection of his costume. With his arms outspread in welcome, Circus Clown is delicately balanced on a big top, encircled by marching elephants and a circus train." -marshallfredericks.org

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Image courtesy of the Marshall M. Fredericks Archives, Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, Michigan.

A photo from Fredericks' studio showing plaster models for his clowns, including Circus Clown in tan.

says. "So, she made a hat out of plaster of Paris and it's been on there ever since."

Charles Murphy passed away in 1994 and RWCS Hall of Famers Jerry & Louise Schleich purchased the White Crackle Circus Clown statue from Marie in the early 2000s. It was on display in their museum in Lincoln, NE for more than a decade before Louise and her family donated it and the rest of the Schleich Pottery Collection to the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.

Incidentally, six of Marshall Fredericks' most popular sculptures were cast in bronze in limited editions of 15 each after his death in 1998. They were sold for \$25,000 each to support the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University in University Center, MI, and Circus Clown was one of those six.

Special thanks to Geoffery Haney, Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum Collection Manager, for providing photos and information for this article, and RWCS Member Corrinne Reed, who provided a significant gathering of research materials.



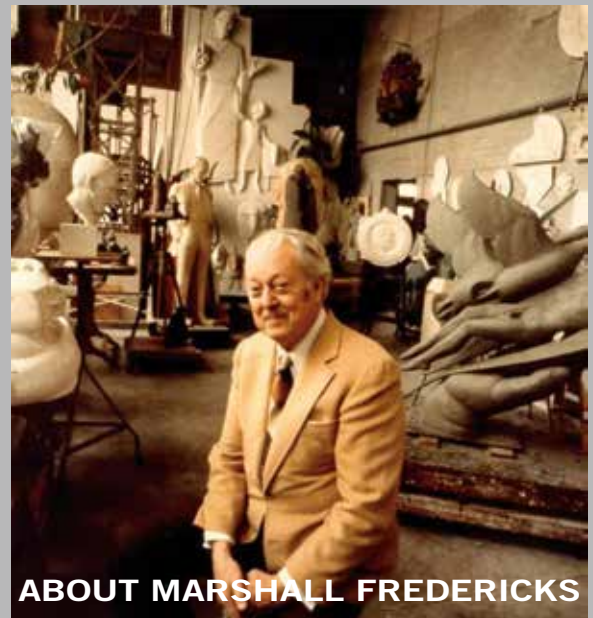
Photo by RWCS Executive Director Stacy Wegner.

Above: The Red Wing White Crackle Circus Clown statue that once belonged to Charles & Marie Murphy, complete with a plaster of Paris hat, is on permanent display at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.



Image courtesy of Red Wing Art Pottery by RWCS Hall of Famer Ray Reiss.

At left: The Drum and Pumpkin cookie jars Marshall Fredericks designed, as they appear in the Spring 1963 Red Wing Art Pottery Catalog.



ABOUT MARSHALL FREDERICKS

One of the most prolific sculptors of the 20th century, Marshall M. Fredericks (1908-1998) is known in America and abroad for his monumental figurative sculpture, public memorials and fountains, portraits and animal figures.

His sculptures are located in more than 150 public and corporate locations like parks and gardens, government embassies, royal palaces, museums, zoos, universities, hospitals and libraries in seven countries, 17 states and Washington, DC.

Fredericks was born in Rock Island, IL on Jan. 31, 1908. He spent his youth in Cleveland, Ohio where he graduated from the Cleveland School of Art in 1930 and then journeyed to Sweden on a fellowship to study with sculptor Carl Milles (1875-1955). He also studied in other academies and private studios in Denmark, Germany, France and Italy, and traveled extensively in Europe and North Africa. In 1932, Carl Milles invited Fredericks to join the staffs of Cranbrook Academy of Art, Cranbrook and Kingswood Schools in Bloomfield Hills, MI where he taught until he enlisted in the armed forces in 1942.

After WWII, Fredericks worked on commissions for fountains, memorials, free-standing sculptures, reliefs and portraits in bronze and other materials. Many of his works have spiritual intensity, lighthearted humor, and a warm and gentle humanist spirit, like that found in Fredericks himself, attributed to his Scandinavian heritage.

Fredericks was the recipient of many American and foreign awards for his artistic and humanitarian achievements, including the National Sculpture Society's highest award, the Medal of Honor, in recognition of his distinguished body of works in the United States and Europe. He resided in Birmingham, MI with his wife Rosalind Cooke Fredericks until his death in April 1998.

Biographical information and image courtesy of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum and the Marshall M. Fredericks Archives, Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, Michigan.

WWW.REDWINGCOLLECTORS.ORG

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LESS COMMON

Gypsy Trail



CHAPTER 4: JUGS, GRAVY & RELISH

© Copyright 2019 RWCS Hall of Famers Larry Roschen & Terry Moe, along with RWCS Member Marilyn Moe.

Photos by the authors and www.redwingdinnerware.com and used here with permission.

This series is designed to remedy the lack of published information about Gypsy Trail, Red Wing's earliest full dinnerware line and the least familiar to collectors.

There are some truly strange items in Red Wing's Gypsy Trail Line and the #182 Plain Monastery Jug is one of them. Why would Red Wing include two jugs – one of 8 oz and one of 16 oz – in a dinnerware line? Pictured in Figure 1, they didn't last very long because the 1938 sales brochure was the first and the last brochure to feature this gorgeous piece. The joint in the middle (Figure 2) and the pouring spout (Figure 3) are two outstanding characteristics of these jugs. We have not seen any examples with marks, nor have we seen a White/Ivory jug. Royal Blue seems to be the most common color and the 16 oz jug the most common size.

The #147 Reed Gravy Boat with Attached Stand (Figure 4) was also introduced in 1938 and was only found in this brochure. It too is very difficult to find and we were going to say that no one had all five of the main 1938 Reed colors, but as Figure 5 shows, it would have been a mistake to make this claim.

The third less common item highlighted in this article is the #175 Reed Individual Relish Dish (all five colors pictured in Figure 6). It was also introduced in 1938, but unlike the other items, it was still available as late as the February 1943 sales brochure. But despite this longer production life, it's still not easy to find. We think it would have been more popular if it had been packaged with a #166 Chevron 15" Sandwich Tray as the under plate and the #173 Reed Small Ramekin as the dressing holder, as shown in the photo.





MORE S/A CROCK REVELATIONS

Story by RWCS Member Janice Strike

Editor's note: The article on S/A decorated stoneware in the April 2019 RWCS Newsletter inspired several members to reach out to its author, RWCS Member Brad Booth, to share compliments and insights into his theory. One of the most significant responses came from RWCS Member Janice Strike, a stoneware collector who enjoys researching genealogy online. She discovered some interesting information about David A. Butler, an Akron Stoneware shareholder in the early 1880s, including a bombshell that lends further credence to Brad's theory that the Akron Stoneware Co. used the S/A decoration on its wares – not Red Wing's August Sandberg as first suggested in Clay Giants by RWCS Hall of Famer Lyndon Viel. Here is her story.

I like most any crocks, especially salt glaze. So far I don't have a S/A crock, but I looked at one longingly at Convention back in July. I do a lot of volunteer genealogy research, so after reading Brad Booth's article in the RWCS Newsletter on the S/A-decorated stoneware, I got curious to find more about D. A. Butler.

As Brad reported in his article, David A. Butler was listed as a general agent for the Akron Stoneware Co. in Akron, Ohio business directories from 1879 to 1885. Since the "D.A.B" initials appear on the 3 gallon crock pictured on the cover of that newsletter, Brad felt this helped support his theory that Akron Stoneware was responsible for the S/A decoration – not Red Wing. Knowing much of his research was limited to in-person visits to libraries and historical museums in Akron, I did some searching online and learned two things about Butler that weren't in Brad's article:

- **Mar. 26, 1879:** It was stated in the *Summit County Beacon* (Akron, Ohio), "Yesterday at the Secretary of State's office, the Akron Stone Ware Company with a capital stock of \$12,000, was incorporated by Henry A. Gibbs, John C. Richardson, Norton C. Estey, Lycurgus K. Force and David A. Butler. The shares are \$250 each."
- **Dec. 10, 1884:** According to a note on the cover of the *Summit County Beacon*, David A. Butler died on Oct. 30, 1884. He was 42 years old and died due to a tumor of the cerebrum.

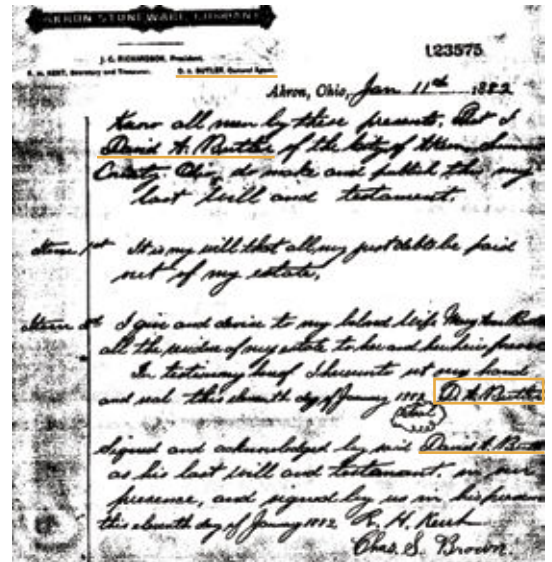
After sharing this info with Brad, he excitedly thanked me and asked if I'd be willing to keep looking for information about Butler and one of the other Akron Stoneware incorporators, John C. Richardson. I'm glad he did, because two days later, I found the best piece of evidence yet to support Brad's theory – Butler's last will and testament from Jan. 11, 1882 hand-written on Akron Stoneware letterhead that has his name and title printed at the top! This letterhead helps solidify the fact that Butler was indeed a man of stature in the company, and further points to the "D.A.B" initials on the crock indeed being his.

If Butler himself applied his initials on the crock, this would mean the crock was made between 1879 and 1884. If the initials were applied to memorialize his death, it likely would have been fired in the kiln in late 1884. Either way, it narrows it down to a 5-year window.

According to the obituary of Butler's widow, Mary Ann, she retained her husband's "large interests" in Akron Stoneware when she died of cancer at her Akron residence on June 10, 1891. She was 54. Her will directed that all but \$500 was to be left to Elizabeth Butler – the daughter she and David adopted about 12 years earlier. R.H. Kent, the secretary and treasurer of the Akron Stoneware Co., was the executor of her will. Elizabeth died in 1913 and left two minor children, but efforts to find a living relative were unsuccessful.

Although this information doesn't explain why the "D.A.B" crock was made or how it left the Butler family or Akron Stoneware, it surely adds to the intrigue of the crock and helps support that Akron Stoneware used the S/A decoration on its wares. 🍷

At right: Brad Booth was also rewarded for the time and effort he put into the article by fellow RWCS Member Dave Sinclair, who bought this 10 gallon S/A crock at an auction in Knightstown, Indiana. Brad had never seen such a large piece decorated with the "S/A", and he was elated when Dave sold it to him at Convention this summer.



Above: There are similarities and differences when comparing David A. Butler's signatures on his will with his initials on the crock. The "A" especially looks like the handwriting on the crock, while the "D" and "B" don't have the additional loops his initials have. Although the "B" on the crock lacks the additional stroke that his signature has, a close inspection of the crock shows that this stroke might have been wiped off prior to firing.



MIDWINTER 2020

FEB. 28 - MAR. 1

ISLE CASINO HOTEL
BETTENDORF, IA



After a spectacular experience at the Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, IA last February, we're returning there for the 2020 MidWinter GetTogether. In fact, attendee feedback was so positive that the RWCS Board of Directors decided to "double down" and add an additional year to our contract, so we'll be there in 2021, as well!

As anyone who has attended MidWinter can attest, this event offers a great opportunity to buy and sell, connect with old friends and new, and learn more about all things Red Wing! From stoneware to dinnerware, to art pottery and memorabilia, MidWinter 2020 will have it all! Here are some important notes about registering for the event and booking your room:

- Online registration will open in mid- to late-October. Please watch your e-mail for an update to let you know as soon as it is live.
- The discounted MidWinter lodging rates and benefits published here are only available to current RWCS members who register for MidWinter 2020. This means your RWCS membership must be current as of March 1, 2020, or else the hotel will charge you their regular lodging rates. The hotel is sharing the block list with the RWCS to verify membership status.
- The lodging rates below include breakfast at the Farmer's Pick Buffet for up to four registered RWCS members per room from Thursday through Sunday and at Keller's Express from Monday through Wednesday.
- If you have a special request when booking your room, including

LODGING

LOCATION: Isle Casino Hotel, 1800 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, IA 52722

FOR RESERVATIONS: 800-843-4753 or online at <https://islebettendorf.reztrip.com/ext/promoRate?property=1759&mode=b&pm=true&sr=444089&vr=3>. Identify group code "RW20" & request NORTH TOWER. If you plan to sell out of your room, please mention this when making your reservation. Please note there are a limited number of double queen rooms in the north tower.

DEADLINE: Feb. 21, 2020 for the room block.

TYPES OF ROOMS:

SINGLE KING*: Mon. & Tues. \$69.99...Wed. & Thurs. \$89.99...
Fri. & Sat. \$99.99...+12% tax & \$10 facility fee.

DOUBLE QUEEN*: Mon. & Tues. \$79.99...Wed. & Thurs. \$99.99...
Fri. & Sat. \$109.99...+12% tax & \$10 facility fee.

JUNIOR/PARLOR SUITE*: Mon. & Tues. \$119.99...Wed. & Thurs. \$139.99...Fri. & Sat. \$169.99...+12% tax & \$10 facility fee.

a specific room number, please contact Ann Klundt Isle sales representative, at 563-441-7115 or ann.klundt@islecorp.com.

- Yes, pets are welcome! There was confusion about this last year, because the hotel typically doesn't allow dogs. However, the Isle made this exception to earn our business. If you'd like to bring your pet, don't call the hotel's general reservation line, as they might tell you that they aren't allowed. Instead, book your room directly through Ann Klundt.
- If you plan on selling out of your hotel room, please mention this when booking your reservation. Hotel staff will make every effort to place you on a lower floor. Also contact the RWCS office and your room number will be printed in the MidWinter event program, which is included in attendee packets. Just be aware that the program is printed in advance, and your room number might change if you check in earlier than planned. (Some attendees arrived a day or two early to beat the forecasted snow this year. Since their rooms weren't available early, they were placed elsewhere.)

I look forward to seeing everyone at MidWinter 2020 in Bettendorf, IA!

-Stacy Wegner, RWCS Executive Director

DEADLINES

PRE-REGISTRATION: Feb. 7 (mail) & Feb. 14 (online)
SELLERS TABLE CONTRACT: Request by Feb. 7 & return by Feb. 14

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Board of Directors Meeting | 1:30 p.m. | Rivera Room |
| Iowa Chapter Hospitality | 5 p.m. | St. Croix Room |

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Registration | 3-6:30 p.m. | North Tower Lobby |
| Room Sales | All day | North Tower Rooms |
| Member Meet Up | 6-8 p.m. | Salon B-C |

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Registration | 8-9:30 a.m. | Ballroom Lobby |
| (Buffet breakfast for hotel guests* served at Farmer's Pick Buffet) | | |
| Welcome/General Session | 8:15-9:20 a.m. | Salon B-C |
| Education Seminars Session 1 | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Rivera, St. Croix, Monte |
| Education Seminars Session 2 | 10:40-11:40 a.m. | Carlo & Rio De Janiero |
| Show & Sale Seller Move-in | Noon-1 p.m. | Salon B-C |
| Show & Sale | 1-3 p.m. | Salon B-C |
| Auction Preview | 3-4:15 p.m. | Salon A |
| Auction | 4:30 p.m. | Salon A |

* Guest room rate includes breakfast for each registered RWCS member up to four members per room. Copyright Red Wing Collectors Society



REGISTRATION FORM

MIDWINTER GETTOGETHER

Feb. 28— Mar. 1, 2020 Isle Hotel Bettendorf, IA

DEADLINES:
MAIL REG FEBRUARY 7, 2020
ONLINE REG FEBRUARY 14, 2020
SELLERS TABLE FEBRUARY 14, 2020

ALL REGISTRATIONS AFTER DEADLINES WILL PAY THE ONSITE \$35 REGISTRATION.

MEMBER #1: _____ **MEMBER #** _____

ADDRESS: _____

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

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): **ADULT = \$30** **ONSITE = \$35** _____

CHILD REGISTRATION: _____

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 _____

MEMBER #2: _____ **MEMBER #** _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): **ADULT = \$30** **ONSITE = \$35** _____

CHILD REGISTRATION: _____

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 _____

MEMBER #3: _____ **MEMBER #** _____

REGISTRATION (MEMBER #1): **ADULT = \$30** **ONSITE = \$35** _____

CHILD REGISTRATION: _____

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 _____

SELLER'S TABLES & BOOTHS

NO PERCENTAGE RULES WILL BE APPLIED FOR THE 2020 MIDWINTER SHOW & SALE. VENDORS SELLING AT MIDWINTER SHOW AND SALE WILL HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY TO SELL A QUALITY MIXTURE OF STONWARE, POTTERY, SOUVENIRS, AND ANTIQUES.

IT IS ENCOURAGED THAT VINTAGE POTTERY AND SOUVENIR PIECES SOLD AT MIDWINTER BE AMERICAN-MADE. STONWARE OR POTTERY THAT HAS BEEN REPAIRED, RESTORED, IS A KNOWN FAKE, OR IS DAMAGED, IS TO BE LABELED AS SUCH IN COMPLIANCE WITH RWCS REQUIREMENTS. THE SELLER AGREES NOT TO MISREPRESENT ANY MERCHANDISE OR TO USE THE NAME OF RED WING COLLECTORS SOCIETY ON ANY ITEMS NOT PRODUCED BY RWCS.

OTHER ANTIQUE ITEMS OR FURNITURE MUST BE GOOD QUALITY AND MADE PRIOR TO 1970.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---|-------|---|--------------|
| TABLE: 2 1/2' X 8' AND ONE CHAIR | # table(s) _____ | x | \$35 | = | _____ |
| | | | Price | | TOTAL |
| BOOTH SPACE: 10 FT WIDE X 8FT DEEP | | | \$55 | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you need a table for your booth space. | | | | | |

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 FEBRUARY 14, 2020.**

RWCS FOUNDATION DONATION (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$ _____

NO ONLINE SERVICE FEES

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>WAYS TO REGISTER</p> <p>1. ONLINE: www.ERWCS.org</p> <p>2. PHONE: 651-388-4004</p> <p>3. MAIL: PO Box 50, Red Wing, MN 55066</p> | <p>Method of Payment:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD <input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK/CASH</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>CARD NUMBER: _____</p> <p>LAST 3 DIGITS ON BACK: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE: _____</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

AD RATES

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

Ads are divided into the following sections: Red Wing For Sale, Red Wing Wanted, Other Pottery For Sale, Other Pottery Wanted, Events, Auctions, Clubs & Publications and Websites, Announcements and Services. You will not be charged for these words, but please indicate which section your ad should be placed in. If ad is to run in more than one issue, please indicate at time of placement. (Note: the small number at the end of an ad tells when the ad expires, e.g., 12/19.) Please type or print clearly and proofread before submission.

DISPLAY ADS

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

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

DISPLAY AD DIMENSIONS

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

Display ads are accepted on a first-come, 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. 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 | Contact Stacy Wegner at 651-388-4004. | | |
| August | July 25 | July 15 | Aug. 31 |
| October | Sept. 10 | Sept. 1 | Oct. 15 |
| December | Nov. 5 | Nov. 1 | Dec. 5 |

EDITOR ADDRESS

Make checks payable to RWCS and mail with ads:

Rick Natynski, RWCS
PO Box 198
Pewaukee, WI 53072

You can also submit ads by e-mail. Send to newsletter@redwingcollectors.org and send checks separately. Or, call Rick at 414-416-WING (9464).

CLASSIFIEDS

RED WING FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 9 RW Patio line supper trays & cups - 3 Ming Green, 3 Chartreuse, 3 Mulberry (missing one cup) and 3 Copper Glow. Mint except for chip on 1 green plate. Also Copper Glow Quartette sugar & creamer and metallic brown Concord beverage server without lid. Pickup in St. Cloud. Call Margie at 320-266-1093. (12/19)

FOR SALE: 50-year collection of Village Green & Oomph dinnerware. 70+ pieces in excellent condition including mixing bowls, pitchers, casseroles, divided dishes, teapots, coffee server, mugs, water cooler, meat roaster, bean pot, gravy boat w/underplate, butter dish, salt & pepper and several restaurant pieces. Pick up in Stillwater, MN. Contact bevj@paulbunyan.net or 612-202-9210 for photos/price.

FOR SALE: Cookie jars: King of Tarts (yellow), Chef Pierre (1 as light blue speckled, 1 as pink speckled), Monk (blue). All are in mint condition. Will discount if all sold together. Mason fruit jars in 3 sizes and varying condition. Beater jars. Call or text 952-221-5869.

FOR SALE: All RWCS Commemoratives including duplicates for 1977 thru 2018. Excellent condition with three specials. Total of 109 pieces for these 42 years. Sold together. Many Red Wing collecting books including 1st & 2nd Viel Clay Giants books. Newsletters dating back to 1980. Many of the original storage boxes. Best offer considered. Call or text 952-334-0000.

FOR SALE: SPONGEWARE: 7 bowl set of panel bowls, \$1400; sponge baking dish with advertising, \$400. SPONGEBAND: Gray Line "Cookies" jar, \$1250; Lennox, South Dakota casserole, \$295; 8" spongeband bowl, \$150. Call 715-377-2616 (cell).

RED WING WANTED

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

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

WANTED: Bob White 4 1/4" true coffee mug. Contact Rob at rkuklasr@hotmail.com or 920-222-1363.

WANTED: 2 and 3 gallon Elephant Ear Ice Water coolers and any other 2 gallon Ice Water. Call or text 907-252-6799. (12/19)

WANTED: Ash receivers, rooster vases and any other animals. Call or text 907-947-1765. (12/19)

WANTED: Montana born & raised - looking for Montana advertising jugs & crocks. Call or text 406-945-0434. (12/19)

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

WANTED: Seeking quality jugs & crocks with North Dakota advertising. Butter crocks & churns, too. The more rare the better! Will pay top \$\$ for the right pieces. Contact beehive@polarcomm.com or 701-270-0242.

WANTED: Red Wing advertising bean pots from Shamokin, PA & Frazer, MT. Also mint #687 Blue Chromoline vase. Contact Rick at 414-416-WING or newsletter@redwingcollectors.org.

Shelley's Creations Machine Embroidered Towels



- Made in Minnesota
- Designs can be mixed & matched
- Custom orders available

shellange@hotmail.com

507-830-0022

Facebook: Shelley's creations



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RECENT FINDS & DEALS

Did you find a rare piece or a great deal worth sharing? Briefly describe the item, date purchased, city and venue (store, auction, etc.) and price paid. Send to editor Rick Natynski via e-mail or mail (contact info on page 2). Multiple submissions result in multiple entries in the Newsletter Special Commemorative drawing. All submissions received between July 2019 and June of 2020 are eligible whether published or not. Please keep submittals with purchase dates within six months of the newsletter issue.

| ITEM | LOCATION | DATE | VENUE | PRICE |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|--------------------|
| Nassau dinner plate with glaze test numbers on back | Wisconsin | 10/18 | Thrift store | \$1. ⁰⁰ |
| Small blue RW Rooster casserole | Eastern MN | 4/19 | Thrift store | \$7. ⁰⁰ |
| RW Saffron Ware bean pot | Southern MN | 5/19 | Thrift store | \$1. ⁵⁰ |
| RW Saffron Ware Cookie jar | Blue Earth, MN | 5/19 | Rummage sale | \$5. ⁰⁰ |



375
380
370-
238-1

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FIRST KNOWN EXAMPLE OF P.M. POULSEN OGDEN, UT ADVERTISING JUG DISCOVERED

I found this jug while digging with my father in an old dump. I yanked a large roll of fencing wire out of a sagebrush and began digging through some tin, wood and other miscellaneous junk underneath until I got to a pile of old inner tubes. Just underneath the edge of the pile I saw the bottom corner of the jug and immediately my heart started pounding. I started lifting the pile and it appeared whole. I saw the edge of the border and my heart was really racing now. I carefully rolled it over and was thrilled to see it was a local Ogden piece and had the distinct Red Wing top to boot. I pulled the cork and dumped out the water that was inside and snapped the pic of it on my knee and quickly send it to my dad who was on his way over to this spot. Needless to say, he doubled his pace. He forwarded it to a local Ogden jug expert and he told us it was listed in the *Red Wing Potteries Ledger*, but no examples were known to exist. We dug like crazy after that and ended up finding a Red Wing stoneware Mason jar and a Coca Cola sign, but nothing to compare to the jug. All in all, it was one of the most fun digs I've ever done.

Editor's note: A big thanks goes out to the anonymous collector who found this jug and submitted the story and photos to the RWCS Newsletter for publication. According to RWCS Member David Emmett, the longtime Utah advertising collector who wrote a three-part series on Utah advertising stoneware that appeared in the RWCS Newsletter in 2015 and 2016, 14 different Utah businesses are known to have placed orders with Red Wing for stoneware stamped with their name. Dave had never seen an example of two of these ads (this one and The People's Co-op in Lehi, UT), but orders from both are recorded in the Red Wing Potteries Ledger.

P.M. Poulsen ordered 200 ½ gal standard "dark top" jugs and another 100 1 gal dark-top jugs from Red Wing on Feb. 7, 1910. Although Denver's Western Pottery also made advertising jugs for Poulsen in different sizes, this is the first Red Wing version to appear publicly.

According to Dave's final installment of Utah advertising articles, which appeared on page 11 of the April 2016 RWCS Newsletter, Peter M. Poulsen was born in Utah around 1870. When the 1910 census was taken, he was living at 362 23rd street in Ogden with his wife, son and daughter and was registered as a retail liquor dealer with his own saloon. A city directory from the time period lists him as proprietor of the Brown Palace Saloon at 2486 Washington Ave. in Ogden.

At one time Poulsen was the proprietor of a theater called the Pastime, which he closed in 1904 hoping to find a larger, suitable building to fix up as a first-class theater. It was later opened as the Joie Theater, but it closed in 1911 so the space could be remodeled for a wholesale liquor firm. He eventually took on a partner, as an ad in the 1914 Ogden Standard newspaper promotes Poulsen & Blosser Liquor Co.



Last Call for Alcohol! Pottery Museum of Red Wing's Prohibition Exhibit

Story by RWCS Member Steve Ketcham

A new exhibit focused on the advent of Prohibition in America opened this summer at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.

When the museum board became aware of the impending centennial of the 18th Amendment (Prohibition Act), discussions began regarding its design and what the exhibit would feature. The exhibit was designed to explore the impact of Prohibition on the potteries of Red Wing and features dozens of different liquor advertising jugs, all made in Red Wing. Also featured in the exhibit are age-appropriate bottles and advertising items. Because saloons often offered cigars to their patrons, an assortment of early cigar boxes is also on display.

The roots of the Prohibition movement in America date to the Colonial Era. By the early 19th century, decades before the state of Minnesota was established, various religious and cultural groups were encouraging abstinence from alcoholic beverages. The Women's Christian Temperance Union, established in 1874, proved to be a driving force toward Prohibition in America. Carrie Nation, its most famous member, went beyond simply protesting the consumption of strong drink by putting her beliefs into action as she violently attacked saloons with her hatchet. Her actions caused many a saloon owner to post a sign behind the bar, which read: "All Nations Welcome, Except Carrie."

Despite the efforts of lobbying groups like the United States Brewers Association, the Prohibition movement eventually took hold in Washington. The U.S. Senate proposed the 18th Amendment in December of 1918. Once approved by 36 states, the amendment was ratified as a part of the Constitution in January of 1919. Congress passed the Volstead Act, authored by Minnesota's own Senator Andrew Volstead, in October of 1919, and the law took effect in January of 1920. The act established the legal definition of intoxicating liquors and penalties for producing them.

The effects of Prohibition were far reaching. It is important to note that many immigrants brought a culture with them to America, which included a social gathering place where conversation was enjoyed over an alcoholic beverage – think German beer halls. Prohibition would impact that custom as well as the jobs many of those immigrants held.

Hundreds of breweries and distilleries were closed, resulting in unemployment for thousands of American workers. Supporting industries



Photo above and below courtesy of RWCS Hall of Famer Larry Peterson.

Above: The "Red Wing Saloon" Prohibition exhibit at the Pottery Museum of Red Wing.

from farmers to barrel makers were also affected. Glasshouses and potteries faced reduced demand for their products.

Before Prohibition, hundreds of saloons and liquor dealers ordered stoneware liquor jugs stamped with their names from the potteries of Red Wing. A Minneapolis city directory shows that in 1918, 326 saloons existed in town alone. Many of these saloons used Red Wing jugs as product containers, filling them from liquor barrels at their establishments.



Steve Ketcham

And just how many jugs are we talking about? The orders for jugs stamped with liquor dealer names from January of 1910 alone, as found in the ledgers of the Red Wing Union Stoneware Company, numbered 6445 pieces. Prohibition would cause such production to cease.

Some would suggest that bootleggers pushed the demand for unmarked stoneware jugs throughout the Prohibition Era. After all, Stearns County, Minnesota, was home to a popular Prohibition moonshine known as "Minnesota 13". During Prohibition, it was in high demand at blind pigs and speakeasies in Minnesota and beyond. The chances that such products were transported in jugs made at Red Wing are quite high. Minnesota 13 was so significant that St. Cloud State University professor Elaine Davis wrote a book telling its story in 2007.

Once Prohibition was repealed in 1933, federal laws forbade the filling of liquor jugs at the point of sale. Stamped Red Wing liquor jugs became a thing of the past.

Our thanks to the many Red Wing collectors who helped put the Prohibition exhibit together through their labor and the loan of jugs and other artifacts. The exhibit will remain at the museum for at least two years, with the emphasis changing to moonshining and bootlegging in January of 2020. Drink up, friends; Prohibition is just a few weeks away!



Pre-Prohibition back bar decanters (at right) and jugs like the Sterling Wine House example from St. Paul (at left) are on display in the exhibit. Red Wing records show Sterling ordered 1000 1/2 gallon jugs and 300 gallon jugs in Feb. 1907. Photos courtesy of Steve Ketcham.



Photos courtesy of Pottery Museum Director Char Henn.



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