

THE

DIXIE JEWEL



August 2014, Issue #88

Newsletter of the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club

President	Bill Haley	Historian	Michael Green
Treasurer	Cal Baker	Research Team Leader	Michael Green
Secretary	Bill Grieser	Editor	Bill Haley

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR DIXIE JEWELS INSULATOR CLUB DUES FOR 2014? Your 2014 dues are long overdue! See page 4 for directions to renew, or you can renew at the Aug. swap. GET THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY! E-mail Bill Haley at WGH@tnaqua.org with your e-mail address to be put on our electronic mailing list. Save the Club the cost of postage, envelopes and paper!

Summer Dixie Jewels Swap Meet

**SAT., AUGUST 16, 2014, 8:30-3:00
DALTON, GEORGIA**

The summer Dixie Jewels Insulator Club swap meet, hosted by brothers Bill and Mark Haley, will be held on Saturday, August 16 at the historic Dalton Freight Depot, 305 South Depot Street, Dalton, Georgia from 8:30-3:00 Eastern. The beautifully renovated 100+ year-old Freight Depot sits right beside active Norfolk Southern and CSX tracks, and numerous trains will pass during the day. This is an added attraction if you are an insulator collector who happens to be a railfan. (*Conversation is put on hold while train whistles are blowing, but that is considered a plus by many attendees.*) There is no charge to set up a sales table and there will be lots of glass and porcelain for sale. **Note: Tables will NOT be provided. You must bring your own tables.** A noon meal of assorted cold cuts and homemade pimento cheese for sandwiches with all the fixin's, as well as veggie and fruit trays will be served. If you wish to provide additional side dishes, chips, drinks or desserts, it would be appreciated. Don't miss this one! Dalton is a popular meeting location, so expect collectors from all over the southeast. Please contact Bill to let him know you are coming and what you can supply for the meal. Mark your calendar and spend a great day of fun, fellowship, trains and insulators in a historic railroad location. **See page 2 for hotels and directions.**

For additional show info and other questions, please contact:
Bill Haley - (423) 326-9248, wgh@tnaqua.org

DIRECTIONS TO DALTON FREIGHT DEPOT

305 South Depot St., Dalton, Georgia

Dalton, GA is about 30 miles south of Chattanooga, TN and about 90 miles north of Atlanta, GA, along I-75. Following are directions from I-75

- Take Exit 333 (Walnut Ave.) off I-75 and go east towards Dalton;
- Go approximately 1.8 miles and turn left on Thornton Ave.;
- Go approximately 1/2 mile and turn right onto West Morris Street;
- Go approximately 1/4 mile and turn left just before the railroad tracks;
- Dalton Freight Depot will be immediately in front of you on the right.
- For those unloading, use the south platform at the gate.

NOTE: *The old Dalton Railroad Depot, just 2-3 blocks to the north, has been turned into a restaurant. This is NOT where the swap meet will be held. We are at the Dalton Freight Depot.*

Remember - Bring Your Own Sales Tables!

PARKING: Park anywhere except in reserved spaces. There is additional parking in the parking garage on the north side of the Freight Depot.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES: There are many motels, restaurants and gas stations at exit #333. The Dalton Convention and Visitors Bureau has been very kind to provide Dixie Jewels the great venue at the Freight Depot for four years now and we'd like everyone to show support for their local businesses as much as possible.

DALTON AREA HOTELS:

- America's Best Inns**, 1529 West Walnut Ave., (706) 226-1100
- Baymont Inn**, 2106 Chattanooga Road, (706) 226-5022
- Comfort Inn and Suites**, 905 Westbridge Rd., (706) 259-2583
- Country Inn and Suites**, 903 Westbridge Rd., (706) 278-9700, (800) 456-4000
- Courtyard by Marriott**, 785 College Drive, (706) 275-7215
- Days Inn**, 1518 West Walnut Ave., (706) 278-0850, (800) DAYS INN
- EconoLodge**, 2007 Tampico Way, (706) 278-4300
- Guest Inn**, 2208 Chattanooga Rd., (706) 226-4545
- Hampton Inn**, 1000 Market Street, (706) 226-4333
- Jameson Inn**, 790 College Drive, (706) 282-1880, (800) 526-3766
- Motel 6**, 2200 Chattanooga Rd., (706) 278-5522, (800) 466-8356
- Quality Inn**, 875 College Drive, (706) 278-0500, (800) 753-6310
- Holiday Inn Express**, 795 College Drive, (706) 217-6200
- Super 8 Motel (North)**, 2107 Chattanooga Rd., (706) 226-9579
- America's Best Value Inn & Suites**, 236 Connector-3 SW, (706) 277-9323
- Travelodge**, 911 Market Street, (706) 275-0100
- La Quinta Inn & Suites**, 715 College Drive, (706) 272-9099, (800) 228-1000
- Holiday Inn & Suites**, (full service), 879 College Dr., (706) 529-6000, (800) 863-4780

Presidential Ramblings

I'm writing this a little over a week after returning home from an epic adventure out west, with the 2014 NIA National in Farmington, New Mexico sandwiched in between a whole bunch of other touristy activities. It was a show and a vacation my wife Candy and I won't soon forget! Dixie Jewels was well represented, as a number of our members made the trip west. DJIC members included: Dudley & Sandy Ellis, Keith Roloson, Jim Colburn, Dave Kingston, Gary & Elizabeth Tilson, Steve & Jana Roberts, Ken Roberts, Mike Funderburk and son (sorry I can't remember his name), Bill & Candy Haley, Roy Hale and his parents, Rick Soller, John Gasko and his grandson Chris Kinsler and his mother (John's daughter). I fear I've left out a couple of people, so my apologies if I did.

Tommie Bolack proved to be a fine and generous host, and the show, the tours of his house, his two museums and the fireworks display that show attendees viewed from his ranch were top notch. Even the unexpected events at the banquet (caterer date mixup - no prime rib - chicken "feast" put together instead in less than 2 hours) was memorable. A good time was had by all.

Our May DJIC swap meet at Mountain Home, North Carolina was another good get-together! Fred Pittman did a great job as host and I certainly appreciate his efforts. I hope everyone who attends these memorable club events takes the time to thank the people who host them. Many people in the club have hosted swap meets over the years, and my hat is off to ALL of them. This volunteer spirit is what keeps our club strong.

One thing I like about the insulator hobby is that there is always some event to look forward to. I think our club had the right idea when it was decided to have regularly scheduled swap meets every three months. It may take a bit of driving, but every quarter you have the opportunity to join fellow collectors and sell, trade, or buy insulators for your collection. I urge you to come out to one, or all four, Dixie Jewels swaps each year and get to know our many fine club members.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our August swap in Dalton, Georgia at the historic 100+ year old Dalton Freight Depot. It will take place on Saturday, August 16 from 8:30-3:00. My younger brother Mark and I will host the event. John Henderson and I hosted there 3 times. I asked to hold the swap there in August, as it has been a year since John's passing, and I thought a swap meet at the venue he originally found would be a fitting memorial to a guy we all miss very much.

A bit further into the future, we have other swap meets planned that I know you'll want to put on your calendar. On Saturday, Nov. 15, Mike, Tom and the rest of the Herron family will host our fall swap at Alto, Georgia at Jaemor Farms in the "apple barn". Don't worry, it is not nearly as rustic as that sounds. We met there several years back and it is a great venue for a swap meet.

For our winter 2015 swap, we will visit Jacksonville Beach, FL, with Paul Deriso, Jeff Edgerton and Skeeter Langford hosting. Make it a vacation and spend the weekend of February 21 at a nice hotel right on the beach in Florida!

I'm currently looking for people to host the May, August and November 2015 DJIC swaps. If you haven't hosted before, I think you'll find it a rewarding experience. Let me know if you have an interest in hosting one of those swap meets and I'll be happy to help you any way I can.

Speaking of shows everyone looks forward to, I'm sure I am not the only one in the club that has the dates of Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and 2, 2014 marked on their calendar. Those are the dates for the granddaddy of all shows, the Mid-Ohio in Springfield, Ohio. It may be a *little* smaller than this year's National - but not by much. People throughout the hobby acknowledge that if they had to choose only one show to attend each year, it would be Mid-Ohio. I've already got my tables and banquet paid for and am eagerly looking forward to their 44th annual show. I know I'll see a sizeable contingent from our club there too.

April 17-18, 2015 will be the 2nd annual International Lineman's Museum show in Shelby, North Carolina. It'll be bigger next year.

Each summer at the annual NIA membership meeting on NIA day at the National, the site is announced for the next year's show. The 2015 National will be hosted by Bob Stahr and Jason Townsend in Sandwich, Illinois on July 3, 4 and 5. While I don't have any tables reserved *yet*, I have already figured out the best route from Chattanooga to Sandwich and know it's about 650 miles from home. Guess I'll have to start planning another little road trip!

I will be looking for y'all in Dalton soon!

Bill Haley, President, DJIC

Dixie Jewels Insulator Club Meeting Minutes Mountain Home, NC, May 17, 2014

President Bill Haley called the meeting to order and graciously thanked our host, Fred Pittman, for once again holding the meet at the Mountain Home Fire and Rescue. It's always great fun to hang around an operating fire station for awhile.

We discussed the upcoming DJIC schedule, noting that the meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 4 months per year. The current schedule looks like this:

- August 16th meet will be hosted by Bill Haley and his brother Mark, in honor of John Henderson, at the beautifully restored Dalton, GA Freight Depot. This depot is next to the very busy mainlines of two Class 1 railroads so the railfans among us will experience a real treat.

- November 15th, hosted by Mike and Tom Herron in Alto, GA.

- February 21, 2015 to be hosted by Paul Deriso, once again, in Jacksonville Beach, FL.

Also, don't forget about other large upcoming gatherings including the NIA National in Farmington, NM and the well-known Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, OH.

Officer elections are upon us and Dave Kingston nominated the current slate. Cal Baker has been our treasurer since 2003 and announced that this will be his last year. Bill Haley accepted his nomination to continue as president, and Bill Grieser will continue as secretary.

Treasurer Cal Baker announced our club's account balance is now at approximately \$8,200.

In new business we discussed the idea of the DJIC having some club T-shirts made. There appeared to be a lot of interest with much discussion, but no firm decisions were made.

Keith Roloson brought up the subject of somehow using the club's funds to benefit and further our hobby. The example he used was our DJIC funds being made available as a loan for upfront costs associated with last year's NIA National in Tennessee. Of course, the National was successful and the club's funds were paid back in full.

Dudley Ellis stated that the engraving company that he had been using for the club's annual Jim Overstreet Memorial Award has ceased operating. However, he announced that he has located a suitable replacement and all will be fine for this year's award.

Bill Haley welcomed visitors and the meeting was adjourned with no further discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Grieser, Secretary

May 2014 Dixie Jewels meeting attendees:

Fred Pittman	Mountain Home, NC
Dudley & Sandra Ellis	Stockbridge, GA
Dave Kingston	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Cal & Barbara Baker	Hendersonville, NC
Ken & Lesa Roberts	Huntsville, AL
Jim Colburn	Greenacres, FL
Kerry & Carolyn Lavendoski	Tamassee, SC
James Mixon	Aiken, SC
Stephen Drake	Mills River, NC
John Gasko	Augusta, GA
Stephen & Robin Ruppel	Loudon, TN
Marge Krutulis	Murphy, NC
Charles Lyne	Lebanon, VA
Bill Haley	Chattanooga, TN
Bill Grieser	Kernersville, NC
Rebecca Grieser	Kernersville, NC
Mike & Eli Herron	Toccoa, GA
Mike Wright	Asheville, NC
Dan, Shirley & Dasan Goodrich	Dana, NC
Keith Roloson	Kingston, GA

MEMBERSHIP IN THE DIXIE JEWELS INSULATOR CLUB

A membership in the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club runs from January 1 to December 31. Dues are \$10 annually, and they are due on January 1st of each year. Please mail a check or money order made out to our Treasurer, Cal Baker. The mailing address is Cal Baker, 230 Carriage Summit Way, Hendersonville, NC 28791.

If you are not sure whether you've paid your dues for 2014, you can e-mail him at calb@bellsouth.net or you may phone him at (828) 697-9410 to find out.

IMPORTANT: If your e-mail address, mailing address or phone number should change, please contact Treasurer Cal Baker *and* Bill Haley, the newsletter editor, to furnish the new information. Bill's e-mail is WGH@tnaqua.org. We must have a current e-mail address to send a newsletter electronically.

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!

**DJIC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY IS PLANNED
FOR THE NOVEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER**

It has been several years since a directory of all Dixie Jewels Insulator Club members was published and I'd like to put a current one together. It will go out in the November 2014 newsletter.

I received a new DJIC membership list two days ago and it has come to my attention that some of the information currently on that list is outdated. I know people change addresses, phone numbers and e-mails and it is often difficult to remember to update with everyone....thus this request. I want to make sure that the information printed is accurate! If you do not wish your information to be made public, let me know that, but send it anyway so we can update our club's membership list with up-to-date info.

***I need to hear from EVERYONE
who receives this newsletter.***

Here is what is needed:

- Your name(s)
- Your current mailing address
- Your preferred phone number
- Your current e-mail address

Please e-mail your current contact info to:
WGH@tnaqua.org

Or you can mail to this address:
**Bill Haley
215 McFarland Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37405**

I will make sure to forward all new information to our treasurer, Cal Baker, so he can update the DJIC membership list.

Deadline: August 31, 2014

Thank you,
Bill Haley, DJIC President

UPCOMING INSULATOR SHOW:

**Fri., Oct. 31-Sun., Nov. 2
Mid-Ohio, Springfield, OH
Clark County Fairgrounds, Exit 59 off I-70,
(approximately 30 miles east of Dayton, OH)**

The 44th annual Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, Ohio will take place Oct. 31-Nov. 2 at the Clark County Fairgrounds, located at exit 59 off I-70, about 30 miles east of Dayton. Hosts will be Lois Blair and Curt Boster. There will be 150 sales tables and 20 displays. Hours will be Friday from 3:00-6:00, Saturday 8:00-4:00, and Sunday 9:00-?. Dealer setup begins promptly at noon on Friday.

There are plenty of additional activities during the show. A community display of CD134 Diamond P insulators, and a "mini-seminar" will be on the stage area of the hall. An insulator collection will be auctioned on Friday afternoon after the show closes. The banquet will be held Saturday evening at the fairgrounds near the show hall, and will feature barbecue. Ray Klingensmith will also present a program featuring vintage photos of insulators in service.

At www.insulators.info/shows/springfield you will find access to sales table and banquet reservation forms, or you can register online.

The **Comfort Suites**, 121 Raydo Circle, Springfield, OH 45506 has a block of rooms reserved at \$79.00 per night group rate. **Call (937) 322-0707** to reserve a room, and be sure to mention you are with the Mid-Ohio show. It is located on the north side of I-70 at exit 54, five miles from the show.

There are other hotel accommodations also at exit 54. Several are listed below:

- Super 8 (937) 324-5501
- Motel 6 (937) 322-4942
- Hampton Inn (937) 325-8480
- Quality Inn (937) 323-8631
- Red Roof Inn (937) 325-5356

Curt Boster's contact info:
cboster@wowway.com, (614) 301-5125

Some photos from Mountain Home, North Carolina



Dave Kingston and Bill Grieser share a story.



Checking Ken's sales table: Ken Roberts always has a good assortment of affordable, as well as high-end, glass for sale.



Decisions, Decisions: Long-time collector James Mixon, of Aiken, SC, looks over the sales stock. There were plenty of nice insulators to choose from.



Jeff Kraemer and friend chat with Mike Herron.



Local North Carolina guys: Cal Baker, our DJIC Treasurer, who lives in nearby Hendersonville, and swap meet host Fred Pittman, of Mountain Home, share a moment together. Fred and Cal have hosted at Mtn. Home several times, and we always have a good crowd.



Hey Buddy, can you spare a bite of that donut? Fred Pittman's golden retriever was very well-behaved among the glass, but those donuts people were carrying around seemed to grab his attention way more than the insulators did.

More Mountain Home Photos



Father, Daughter Duo: Bill Grieser and daughter Rebecca, of Kernersville, NC, admire the insulators.



Is Eli Herron checking the insulator website? Probably not, but he is one of several young collectors in the club. (He already owns a Jumbo.)



Another Young Collector: Sorry that I can't remember the name of this young man, but he had a ton of great questions and you could tell he was really enjoying learning about insulators and the hobby. He added several nice insulators to his steadily-growing collection.



Study Time: James Mixon and Kerry Lavendoski look up a suggested value in the price guide.



Mountain Home Fire and Rescue vehicle. The swap is held in a working fire station. Fred is a part of this fine organization and we thank them for letting Dixie Jewels use their station house for one day.



Picking Fresh From the Truck Bed: An old tradition at insulator swap meets is the gathering around and trying to get the first look as a truck bed full of insulators pulls up. Here Jim Colburn, Stephen Drake and James Mixon look over the wares.

-All photos pages 6-8 courtesy of Dudley Ellis

Photos from the 2014 National Farmington, New Mexico



Duane Davenport Display: Petticoats. Jim Overstreet Memorial Award Winner

At each NIA National show the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club awards the Jim Overstreet Memorial Award, which is voted on by all members in attendance. It is given for the best use of North American threaded CD's in a display. There were many fine displays this year and the vote came down to the wire. Duane Davenport's eye-catching and extremely colorful display of Petticoat embossed insulators in many different CD's was the winner of this year's award. Duane's display featured insulators made by Hemingray (H. G. Co.), American Insulator Company and Western Flint Glass Company. His emphasis was on the wide range of color and character of the diverse Petticoat insulators, "much akin to a women's wear store of multi-colored, multi-patterned, gingham, plaid or solid color array of dresses." The top photo is an overall view, the bottom shot is the beehive section alone. You should have seen it in person! In addition to the Jim Overstreet Memorial Award, the Missouri Valley Insulator Club also presented him the Best Use of Midwest Colored Insulators in a Display award.

It happened on the way to the National...Dudley's Moab, Utah Adventure

Sandy and I stopped by a rock store in Moab, Utah during our 12 day trip to the Southwest to get our grandchildren some southwestern rocks since two of them are now interested in rocks. After looking around in the store with ridiculously high prices, I noticed a small room off to the side behind a locked gate. Two sides of the walls were glass windows with insulators hanging down on pins so they would glisten in the morning sun. I asked one of the clerks whose collection it was, and he told me it was the store owner's collection. I was directed to the store owner's son (who had an aroma about his presence).

I asked him the normal questions about how long his daddy had been collecting, if he knew about insulator shows, clubs and books. I asked if I could go look at the insulators. The son's facial expression changed to what I perceived to be an angry look. I was frightened to say the least. He told me the last person they let into the room, stole an insulator. He described the insulator to me and I told him what it was and the current worth of about \$250. The expression on his face changed and reluctantly, the scruffy-looking fellow let me enter the room.

It wasn't long before I looked up and another grizzly-looking character entered the room. It was the 86 year-old father. Somehow we hit it off and we had a nice conversation about his life as a rock hound and a digger. Come to find out the old codger had dug up some dinosaur bones and had a dinosaur named after him. He had a framed copy of a page out of a book attributing the find to him and its new name. In the picture the son is in the middle and his father, Lin Ottinger, is on the right. You never know what you will find on a trip!



Left: Dudley and his new buddies, the Ottingers, in their rock shop in Moab, Utah.

Right: Page from dinosaur book with Lin's dinosaur discovery, *Iguanadon Ottingeri*.

