

THE
DIXIE JEWEL



May 2016, Issue #95 - (#96) *

Newsletter of the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club

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

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR DIXIE JEWELS INSULATOR CLUB DUES FOR 2016? Your 2016 dues are long overdue! See page 4 for directions to renew, or you can renew at the May swap.

Spring Dixie Jewels Swap Meet

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016, 9:00-3:00
MOUNTAIN HOME, NORTH CAROLINA

The 2016 Dixie Jewels Spring swap meet, hosted by Fred Pittman, will be held on Saturday, May 21 at the Mountain Home Fire and Rescue on U.S. Highway 25 in Mountain Home, North Carolina. The swap will begin at 9:00 am and will continue until 3:00 pm. Mountain Home is always a popular meeting location and we'll expect collectors from all over the southeast, so don't miss it! Bring a table and any insulators you wish to trade or sell and join the fun. There is no charge to set up a sales table. In the morning, a place will be provided in front for unloading sale items. After unloading sales stock, everyone is asked to please park in the back of the building. Add to your collection and enjoy a day of fun and fellowship in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. A noon meal will be served and side dishes to go along with that or desserts are appreciated. Everyone is invited to eat with us. Please contact Fred to let him know you are coming and what you can supply for the meal. Make plans now to spend a nice spring day in the North Carolina mountains with your Dixie Jewels Insulator Club friends!

See page 5 for hotels and things to do in western North Carolina.

For additional show info and other questions, please contact:

Fred Pittman - (828) 768-5060

trailat@bellsouth.net

** While looking back through the many Dixie Jewels newsletters I've published, beginning with Issue #59 in Feb. 2007, I discovered I'd inadvertantly labeled both the Feb. and May 2008 newsletters as Issue #63. Therefore, I'm now correcting that error, and this officially becomes Issue #96. (See header.) - Editor*

DIRECTIONS TO MOUNTAIN HOME FIRE AND RESCUE

If coming from Knoxville, Tennessee:

- Take I-40 East into North Carolina;
- Get on I-26 South;
- Follow I-26 to U.S. 25, Exit 44;
- Take Hwy. 25 south;
- Excluding lights at interstate, go through 3 more lights (2nd light is at GB Shoes);
- Continue on U.S. 25 South to Mountain Home;
- Mountain Home Fire and Rescue is on the left, about 200 yards past Post Office (on right).

NOTE: *Total distance from I-26 to fire department is 2.3 miles.*

If you are coming from the Atlanta area and points south:

- Exit I-85 to Georgia-South Carolina line;
- Take Hwy. 11 to U.S. 25;
- Exit U.S. 25 to I-26 and continue to Exit 44;
- Follow directions above.

If you get lost, please call Fred Pittman at (828) 768-5060

The Transcontinental Railroad, Part 2

Central Pacific Railroad vs Union Pacific Railroad

(continued from Feb. 2016 DJIC newsletter)

BACKGROUND:

In the February installment on the building of the Transcontinental Railroad, the focus was mainly on the efforts of the Union Pacific Railroad, which was tasked with extending the railroad westward from Omaha, Nebraska into Utah Territory. Scant mention was made of the other railroad working on this project, building from west to east, the Central Pacific Railroad. Part two tells the "rest of the story". But first some background.

The Transcontinental was built by three different railroad companies, the Western Pacific - between Oakland and Sacramento, California, (132 miles); the Central Pacific - eastward from Sacramento to Promontory Summit, Utah, (690 miles); and the Union Pacific - westward from Council Bluffs, Iowa to Promontory Summit, Utah, (1085 miles). The Union Pacific is credited with building nearly two-thirds of the Transcontinental.

During the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad an intense rivalry developed between the two main competitors, the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific. This was actually a driving theme in the book, "Trouble Shooter", from which I'll once again draw ex-

cerpts to give some spice to the story. You may have noticed the little teaser at the very end of the original installment: "*And that day the wires from Ogden were full of the Central's newest trick.*"

Pride and "bragging rights" played a part in the bitter rivalry, but money and politics played a larger role. Each railroad would be paid according to the mileage of track they laid. There were spies on each side keeping close watch on the progress of the other railroad's crews. These passages while the Union Pacific crews were stuck in Echo Canyon give an idea of the pressures felt on the Union Pacific side. "*Time pressed them cruelly and they were getting nowhere. Each night the Union scouts over in Nevada wired the day's work of the Central. The Central, still free of heavy snow, pressed across the high desert, their construction crews forging through low passes of the Pequop and Toano ranges. They were doing a mile a day; they were doing two - and sometimes three. Huntington, the Central's driving force had some wily plan up his sleeve. His instructions to the Central's engineers were common knowledge. 'Come right on as you can and leave good road behind.'*"

(Cont. on pg. 6)

A Word From Your President...

What a time we had in L.A. at the first Dixie Jewels swap meet of 2016! The winter Dixie Jewels swap was held in L.A. (**L**ower **A**labama) at the Butler County Fairgrounds, located in Greenville, Alabama, on Saturday, February 20. Roy Hale was our gracious host, and as always, he did a fantastic job. Thank you Roy!

While there is always a worry about what the weather *might* do in February, it couldn't have been more pleasant on the day of the swap meet with partly cloudy skies and temperatures in the low 70's. The spring peepers (tiny little early spring tree frogs) were in good voice in the nearby wetlands. Insulator collectors were in good voice also, as there was lots of great fellowship. There were quite a few tables full of insulators for sale or trade and quite a few insulators went home with new owners.

I often make the point that Dixie Jewels members are well-known around the insulator hobby because we support so many insulator events with our presence. We had collectors from seven states in Greenville.

It was a real pleasure to get to visit with some folks that came a bit further than our southeastern Dixie Jewels members. I believe the prize for the most distance traveled went to our friend Jim Hoffman, from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Jim reported the weather was a bit better in Lower Alabama than back home. He hadn't been to an insulator show in four months and just thought he'd drop by.

Jim wasn't the only long-distance guest. Jeff and Anne Markwart, from Pearland, Texas were also there, having decided to take a little road trip in their Corvette. It is always a delight to spend time with the Markwarts. Jeff picked up a sweet little multi-part that'll be a nice addition to his porcelain collection. Ann was thrilled to find a "two-tone" Hemingray-42 on the free table. I told her that I'll look forward to seeing it in a future "Insulator of the Month" feature in Crown Jewels.

I don't want to short-change any Dixie Jewels "regulars" either. Many of them made some pretty long trips to get to Greenville. Dave Kingston and Jeff Kraemer drove over from South Carolina; Paul and Betty Deriso came up from Fleming Island, Florida; Gary and Elizabeth Tilson and Bill and Candy Haley came down from Tennessee; Cal and Barbara Baker represented North Carolina; and there were a good number of folks from Georgia and Alabama. The list of attendees can be found on page 4.

Rick Soller has suggested a challenge for the 2016 National in Muncie, Indiana this July. All entries must be Hemingray-made insulators. Some Dixie Jewels members brought possible entries and we had fun at the Greenville swap looking at our club's "contenders". There will be five parts to the challenge. Each person doesn't necessarily need to have an entry in each category. Maybe you have just one, but it is a prize-winner. If you are not going to the NIA National show in Muncie, perhaps you could loan that

insulator to someone who will be there. The categories are listed below:

1). Most dots following the year date on a clear date-marked insulator. Example: **49:::** = 9 dots. Paul Deriso is the leader with a CD165 Hemingray-20 with 17 dots! Bill Haley brought a CD214 with 13 dots.

2). Most drip points. Roy Hale had a Muncie with 97 drip points, to claim top position. Second best was a CD151 H.G. Co. with 72 drips.

3). Most letters in an embossing. Punctuation and numbers don't count. Bill Haley had a CD168 with 35 letters.

4). Heaviest Hemingray / No. 9 [250], the one with Patent / May 2, 1893 on the reverse. Dudley Ellis had the heaviest (Sorry, I can't remember the exact weight).

5). Most dome glass. A CD133 H.G. Co. owned by Bill Haley was tops at 1 3/16" of dome glass. Dudley had a Hemi No. 9 that was a close second.

Plan to bring any contenders to the May swap. There will be a prize of some sort for the club with the highest score at the National.

Speaking of challenges; I would like to suggest a little challenge for all our members. If you've enjoyed reading my two-part story about the building of the Transcontinental Railroad, please consider submitting an article of your own for a future newsletter. I would welcome any insulator-related or historical articles for *The Dixie Jewel*. It doesn't have to be long, and it doesn't have to be strictly historical. It could be news of a recent find, an interesting hunt or antique mall find, or maybe a story about your particular insulator specialty. If you are unsure of your grammar, I'll be glad to proofread and suggest possible changes. Of course the last say will be yours before I publish it. I'll be waiting for submissions. I would love to feature your article in the August issue!

Our club has recently made two \$100 donations. One was to support Bill Meier, the webmaster of insulators.info and the ICON listserv. Bill's website contains a wealth of information and he helps publicize all our DJIC swaps as well as shows around the country.

The other donation went to Howard and Linda Banks, editors of *Crown Jewels of the Wire* magazine. They have an "Insulators for Kids" program, where they send out a box of insulators to any youngster who has an interest in the hobby as long as an adult pays the shipping charges. The \$100 donation will be used to buy purple insulators so they can put at least one in each box. I suspect many future collectors are encouraged to continue in the hobby when they receive such a package.

Mark your calendars now and plan to be in Mountain Home, North Carolina on Saturday, May 21. We always have a good turnout there! Host will be Fred Pittman.

Lastly, my condolences to Glenn Drummond on the passing of his wife Sandra, who he has taken care of for the past several years.

- Bill Haley, President, DJIC

June 24-25, 2016

Insulator Collectors of America Washington, Pennsylvania

The Insulator Collectors of America 2016 Insulator Expo will be in Washington, PA (just south of Pittsburgh) on Fri., June 24 and Sat., June 25 at Washington Fairgrounds, Hall One. Host will be the Western Reserve Insulator Club. Sales tables are \$35 for 1st table, \$65 for 2 tables, \$90 for 3 tables, \$110 for 4 tables. There will be a Friday evening BBQ banquet. For contracts and more info contact John Hovanec, (216) 392-3622, jrhovane@ymail.com. Bill Haley has a few more show information booklets for this show available at Mountain Home, NC. It looks like this will be a good show!

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NIA National Show:

July 29-31, 2016

47th Annual NIA National Show and Convention

Muncie, Indiana

*Home of the Hemingray Glass Company and
the Ball Fruit Jar Company*

Show hosts:

Bob Stahr, (630) 793-5345, Bob@hemingray.com
Rick Soller, (847) 782-8602, Com574@clcillinois.edu

Show Info: nia.org/national

Sales Tables: 8' tables, one table \$55, two tables \$105, three tables \$155, electricity \$20. You must be an NIA member to set up a sales table Friday.

Display Tables: 8' display tables & electricity are free.

Awards Banquet: Sat., July 30, adjacent to show hall. \$35 adult, \$15 ages 5-7, under 5 free. Banquet meal will be a plated dinner.

Admission to show: \$3, good for all three days. Friday is NIA day, you must be an NIA member to enter show.

Show Hotel:

Courtyard at Marriott at the Horizon Convention Center, 601 South High Street, Muncie, IN 47305.

Hotel Reservations: Call Amy Logan at (765) 760-4077. Block of 100 rooms are reserved until June 28, but will probably fill much earlier. \$105 per night for single (king size bed) or double (2 queen size beds). When making a reservation, please state you are with the NIA to receive this price.

All Show Reservations Forms & Payments:

(Dealer tables, displays, directory and banquet):

Mail to Bob Stahr, 360 South Kenilworth Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

All Checks Made Payable To: Rick Soller.

Greenville, AL Swap Meet Attendees List:

Ken Roberts	Huntsville, AL
Dave Kingston	Chester, SC
Jeff Kraemer	Easley, SC
Michael Green	Mableton, GA
Roy Hale	Greenville, AL
Paul & Betty Deriso	Fleming Island, FL
Bill & Candy Haley	Chattanooga, TN
Jeff & Anne Markwart	Pearland, TX
Sandy & Dudley Ellis	Stockbridge, GA
Gary & Elizabeth Tilson	Madisonville, TN
Horace Jackson	Prattville, AL
Larry Richards	Mobile, AL
John Gasko	Augusta, GA
Teddy, Susan & Laighton	Mitchell Robertsdale, AL
Jim Hoffman	Cedar Rapids, IA
Cal & Barbara Baker	Hendersonville, NC
Judson & Marian Epel	Dadeville, AL
Ralph Dean	Milton, 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 \$5.00 annually, and they are due on January 1st of each year. Please mail a check or money order made 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 2016, 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. You will NOT get a newsletter electronically if you have not furnished a current e-mail address.

Things to do in Western North Carolina:

- **Biltmore House & Gardens.** Built by George Vanderbilt. It is the largest privately owned house in the U.S. George Vanderbilt one time owned as far as he could see out his back door. They have a winery and restaurants. Tour could take up a whole day. (Rather pricey, but an experience!)

www.biltmore.com

- **Great Smoky Mountain Railroad.** Runs from Bryson City to Nantahala Outdoor Ctr. and back to Bryson City.

<http://www.gsmr.com>

- **Harrah's Cherokee Casino** located on the Cherokee Reservation. This is the only casino in N.C.

<http://www.harrahsherokee.com>

- **DuPont State Forest** is probably the best day hike and you can see 3 really nice waterfalls.

<http://abcnews.com/Travel/WireStory?id=8454716&page=1>

- **Blue Ridge Parkway.** The prettiest drive in the world. It is 450 miles long, and very easy to access in the Asheville area.

www.blueridgeparkway.com

- **Great Smoky Mountains Natl. Park.** There is so much that people never see. Easy to get to through Cherokee that goes to Gatlinburg.

www.great.smoky.mountains.national.park.com

- **Chimney Rock State Park** is a very nice day trip.

<http://www.chimneyrockpark.com/>

- **Appalachian Trail** has 10-15 access points, most about 2 hours from Hendersonville.

www.appalachiantrail.org

- **Historic Downtown Hendersonville** has lots of antique stores and restaurants. They cater to tourists and it is a very nice downtown.

www.hendersonville.com

Some Hotels in the Mountain Home / Hendersonville / Asheville area

Mountain Inn & Suites

447 Naples Rd.

Hendersonville, NC 28792

(828) 684-0040

Fax (828) 684-0030

(closest to Mountain Home Fire Dept.)

Econo Lodge - Asheville Airport

196 Underwood Road

Fletcher, NC 28732-8634

(828) 684-1200

Fax (828) 684-2839

Budget Motel

250 Underwood Road

Fletcher, NC 28732-9634

(828) 684-2200

Holiday Inn Express

111 Commercial Blvd.

Flat Rock, NC 28731-7747

(828) 698-8899

Fax (828) 698-8622

Quality Inn & Suites

201 Sugarloaf Rd.

Hendersonville, NC 28792-9386

(828) 692-7231: Fax (828) 693-9905

Ramada

150 Sugarloaf Rd.

Hendersonville, NC 28792-9236

(828) 697-0006

Fax (828) 697-0006

Days Inn

102 Michelle Drive

Hendersonville, NC 28792

(828) 697-5899

Fax (828) 697-5999

(Transcontinental, continued from pg. 3)

As the saga continues, another mention is made of the challenges telegraph workers faced against severe conditions. *"At New Year's the storm swung off. The first week in January it struck again. The sundered telegraph wires remained down."* It continues, *"In that merciless cold their heavy clothes helped them little and they had to build a chain of bonfires along the road to keep alive. There was no wood except the ties painfully hauled from the higher Wasatch canyons. Laid down on the grade, those ties cost six dollars apiece."*

It was against these seemingly insurmountable odds that the Union Pacific crews finally heard of Central Pacific's newest trick. While they were caught in the grip of an unrelenting winter in the Wasatch Mountains, *"The wily Huntington, playing his trump card, had filed on the right of way all up the Weber and Echo canyons in Washington, claiming government subsidy on it, claiming a prior right to it."*

One of the Union Pacific's head men stated, *"Huntington's smart. Our steel covers the ground he's claimin'. But the administration doesn't like the Union and it may allow his claim. If it does we've built sixty miles of track that he'll say belongs to the Central, which is just another way of shutting us out from Ogden"* (Utah).

Both railroads were now in direct conflict, with mostly Irish workers on the Union Pacific and Chinese workers for the Central Pacific. They were both now in Utah Territory and heading for Ogden, which is located a short distance north of Salt Lake City. *"At Devil's Slide the Union track layers came upon the Central graders working up the canyon, tangible evidence that Huntington meant to make his threat good. But the Union, gathering momentum, broke through Weber's gateway with a rush on the last days of February, to see the glitter of Ogden Town's lights, ten miles away, shining across the valley. And on March third, with the military band from Fort Douglas blaring out a welcome tune and Captain Wadsworth's artillery booming it's salute, the Union's first train rolled through Ogden. They had won the thousand mile race for Ogden."*

The jubilation of the Union Pacific's perceived victory at reaching Ogden first didn't last long. That very evening the weary Union staff was gathered together for some bad news. *"the Secretary of the Interior has approved Huntington's claim of the whole sixty miles from Ogden to the head of Echo. The bonds, totaling \$1,333,000, have been issued the Central. The Central hasn't laid an inch of track there - our steel covers the whole distance. But we don't get a dime of it, and in addition we have been told in so many words that our entry into Ogden is illegal."*

The next day was the inauguration of President Grant, and while outgoing President Johnson had not been a supporter of the Union Pacific, Grant was.

"Have we got to fiddle around and wait?" said Casement. He never liked inaction.

"Dodge shook his head. 'If the Central wishes to play that kind of game we'll play it with them. They intend to lay track east of Ogden, paralleling ours - shutting us out of this town. Very well. We'll build west of Ogden and make our claims to shut them out.'"

The race was now officially on. *"On March the fourth Casement's Paddies aroused by the thought of competition, swung out of Ogden with a yell. The track raced northward along the borders of the lake. Spring touched Salt Lake Valley and the rigors of the Wasatch winter became a memory. The Central's steel was seventy-five miles away but the Central's graders were coming down the lake beside the Union's steel; whereupon Casement's terriers only laughed and ran out the rails and hurried on."*

Moving forward in time a couple of months, we near the end of the story. *"On May the ninth a single rail's length separated the Union and the Central, and a polished mahogany Last Tie and a golden Last Spike waited in the Central's headquarters safe for the final ceremony. All the wires were humming with the news of the great ones of the East and West on the way for the morrow's celebration."*

On May 10, 1869, *"A high wind whipped up the bunting of the special trains gathered at Promontory; A pickup group of track-layers had placed the last pair of rails in position, and across this narrow space the straight-stacked Rogers of the Union faced Central's Jupiter, whose bell-shaped funnel rolled out a heavy smoke. Fifteen hundred spectators of all degrees crowded around - Irishmen, Chinese, Mexicans, tourists, Promontory's sports and the officials of both lines."*

And where was the telegraph operator? It turns out he played an important role too. *"A telegrapher's rig had been set up by the track, hooked to a waiting world; and the operator stood nervously by, watching the Central's president, Leland Stanford, awkwardly poise the sledge over the golden spike."*

"Stanford swung the sledge down on the spike. The telegrapher's nervous fingers tapped "Done!" out along three thousand miles to an expectant America".

Interestingly, the account I found on the internet differed a bit from the book. It says the hammer and spike were wired to the telegraph line so that each hammer stroke would be heard as a click at telegraph stations nationwide, but the hammer strokes were missed, so the clicks were sent by the telegraph operator. The entire country erupted in celebration upon receipt of the message, "Done!"



Golden Spike Ceremony, May 10, 1869

A History of Dixie Jewels Insulator Club Swap Meets

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Host(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Host(s)</u>
Sept. 1992	Cumming, GA	Keith Roloson	May 2008	Soddy-Daisy, TN	Bill Haley & John Henderson
Nov. 1992	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet	Aug. 2008	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred & Becky Pittman
Feb. 1993	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet	Nov. 2008	Phenix City, AL	Jimmy Hobbs & Greg Stratford
May 1993	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Feb. 2009	Jax Beach, FL	Paul Deriso
Aug. 1993	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet	May 2009	Huntsville, AL	Ken & Lisa Roberts
Nov. 1993	Jasper, GA	Steve & Tammy McBride	Aug. 2009	Tellico Plains, TN	Gary & Elizabeth Tilson
Feb. 1994	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet			Howard & Lillie Choat
May 1994	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Nov. 2009	Alto, GA	Tom & Mike Herron
Aug. 1994	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet	Feb. 2010	Greenville, AL	Roy Hale
Nov. 1994	White, GA	Bill & Kay Barlow	May 2010	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred & Becky Pittman, Cal & Barbara Baker
Feb. 1995	Atlanta, GA	Jim & Joann Overstreet			Steve & Jana Roberts
May 1995	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Aug. 2010	Madison, TN	Bill Haley & John Henderson
Sept. 1995	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Nov. 2010	Dalton, GA	Roy Hale
Nov. 1995	Jasper, GA	Steve & Tammy McBride	Feb. 2011	Greenville, AL	Ed Holland
Feb. 1996	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	May 2011	Carrboro, NC	Mike, Casey & Tom Herron
May 1996	Cumming, GA	Keith Roloson	Aug. 2011	Toccoa, GA	Bill Haley & John Henderson
Aug. 1996	White, GA	Bill & Kay Barlow	Nov. 2011	Dalton, GA	Paul Deriso, Skeeter Langford, Jeff Edgerton
Nov. 1996	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Feb. 2012	Jax Beach, FL	Fred Pittman
Feb. 1997	GA Power, Atlanta	Bob Willis	May 2012	Mtn. Home, NC	Jeffrey & Larry Kraemer
May 1997	Perry, GA	Jerry & Inez Bopp	Aug. 2012	Seneca, SC	Mike, Casey & Tom Herron
Aug. 1997	Huntsville, AL	Ken & Lisa Roberts	Nov. 2012	Toccoa, GA	Roy Hale
Nov. 1997	Juliette, GA	Don Lindsey, Jim & Chris Wright	Feb. 2013	Greenville, AL	Bill Haley & John Henderson
Feb. 1998	GA Power, Atlanta	Bob Willis	May 2013	Dalton, GA	
May 1998	Walhalla, SC	Ed & Zandra Overstreet	Aug. 2013	No meeting	
Aug. 1998	White, GA	Bill & Kay Barlow	Nov. 2013	Eatonton, GA	David & Geny Collins
Nov. 1998	Tifton, GA	Steve & Shirley Millette	Mar. 2014	Soddy-Daisy, TN	Bill Haley
Feb. 1999	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	May 2014	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred Pittman
May 1999	Madisonville, TN	Gary & Elizabeth Tilson	Aug. 2014	Dalton, GA	Bill & Mark Haley
Aug. 1999	Waleska, GA	Mike Santos & Linda Snavelly	Nov. 2014	Alto, GA	Mike & Tom Herron
Nov. 1999	Huntsville, AL	Ken & Lisa Roberts	Feb. 2015	Jax Beach, FL	Paul Deriso, Skeeter Langford, Jeff Edgerton
Feb. 2000	GA Power, Atlanta	Bob Willis	May 2016	Tellico Plains, TN	Gary & Elizabeth Tilson
May 2000	Madisonville, TN	Howard & Lillie Choat	Aug. 2015	Madison, TN	Steve & Jana Roberts
Aug. 2000	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Nov. 2015	Soddy-Daisy, TN	Bill Haley
Nov. 2000	Walhalla, SC	Ed & Zandra Overstreet	Feb. 2016	Greenville, AL	Roy Hale
Feb. 2001	Ozark, AL	Jackie & Sarah Shaver	May 2016	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred Pittman
May 2001	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			
Aug. 2001	Inverness, MS	Charles & Dee Bibb			
Nov. 2001	Easley, SC	Zane & Susan Hendrix			
Feb. 2002	Winston, GA	Ben & Sabine Kelly			
May 2002	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred & Becky Pittman and Dan & Shirley Goodrich			
Aug. 2002	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			
Nov. 2002	Alabama Forestry	Glenn & Sandra Drummond			
Feb. 2003	Tifton, GA	Steve & Shirley Millette			
May 2003	Easley, SC	Zane & Susan Hendrix			
Aug. 2003	Madisonville, TN	Gary & Elizabeth Tilson			
Nov. 2003	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			
Feb. 2003	Ozark, AL	Jackie & Sarah Shaver			
May 2004	Waleska, GA	Mike Santos & Linda Snavelly			
Aug. 2004	Huntsville, AL	Ken & Lisa Roberts			
Nov. 2004	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred & Becky Pittman			
Feb. 2005	Ozark, AL	Jackie & Sarah Shaver			
May 2005	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			
Aug. 2005	Tellico Plains, TN	Gary & Elizabeth Tilson and Howard & Lillie Choat			
Nov. 2005	Phenix City, AL	Jimmie Hobbs			
Feb. 2006	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			
May 2006	Mtn. Home, NC	Fred & Becky Pittman			
Aug. 2006	Panama City, FL	Fred Schmidt & Paul Deriso			
Nov. 2006	Soddy-Daisy, TN	Bill Haley & John Henderson			
Feb. 2007	Lakepoint, AL	Jackie & Sarah Shaver			
May 2007	Canton, GA	Mike Santos & Linda Snavelly			
Aug. 2007	Madison, TN	Steve Roberts			
Nov. 2007	Walhalla, SC	Ed & Zandra Overstreet			
Feb. 2008	Stockbridge, GA	Dudley & Sandy Ellis			

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Thanks to Dudley Ellis for providing this history of all Dixie Jewels swap meets, locations and hosts. Our club has a history spanning many years. Be sure to look over this list and thank anyone who has hosted previous swap meets. Due to their dedication and service, your club has grown strong and is seen today as one of the most active in the insulator hobby. Any member of Dixie Jewels Insulator Club can host a swap meet.

Bill Haley, DJIC President



Insulator Shows and Bottle Shows The "Old Glass" Connection

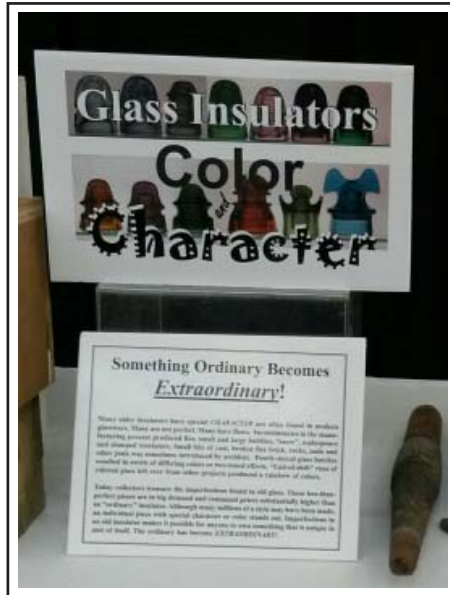
OK, I'll admit it. I've kind of gone over to the "Dark Side". Insulator shows and swaps were just not enough - I had to put bottle shows on my to-do list. And I'm happy I did. (*I am well aware I'm not the only Dixie Jewels member to share this "affliction"....but I won't name names - right Dougie, Stephen, Mike and David?*)

First, it was the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors 2015 National show in Chattanooga last August. I couldn't *not* do that one, since I live less than two miles from the venue. The hometown logistics made it easy to set up a display in addition to my sales table. What a great opportunity to showcase our hobby with a display titled, "Glass Insulators: Color and Character" and a lightbox full of neat insulators! It's a fact that people who like old glass bottles also like old glass insulators.

Some people were so intrigued by all the different shapes and colors that they made their first insulator purchases ever. Most memorable was a color-blind gentleman who decided he needed at least three. He bought a carnival Pyrex, purple Canadian pony and a nice green Brookfield toll. Not a bad color lineup for someone who claimed he still saw colors, but probably not quite like I do.



Photo at right: My sales table at the Rome, Georgia bottle show, Jan. 30, 2016



Signage and light box display "Glass Insulators, Color & Character" at the FOHBC 2015 National show, August 2015.



All photos by Bill Haley

Never missing a chance to plug our Dixie Jewels club, I made up a flyer to pass out and had quite a few takers. I also had a few commons to give to kids. Who knows, maybe they'll get bitten by the "insulator bug"? There might be a few future insulator collectors among them.

In early April Candy and I traveled to Wilmington, Ohio, about 50-60 miles north of Cincinnati on I-71 for the annual Wilmington Bottle Show. I'd never done a bottle show in that part of the country, but I quickly felt at home. There were a number of insulator collecting friends who stopped by during the show. Jaime Houdeshell, an insulator guy, was one of the hosts, and we were set up right beside Rick Baldwin. Bill Rosato got lost that morning and set up a little late, but he had plenty of good insulators.

On January 30, 2016, I once again immersed myself in the bottle world at the annual Rome, GA bottle show. I was the only insulator dealer there, so I attracted quite a bit of attention. People came to the show to look at the bottles, but it was fun to talk to the great crowd and show off our "old glass" hobby too. Many attendees weren't real familiar with insulators and were surprised people collected "those things". Most had to admit they were very pretty and quite interesting too. Some didn't want anything to do with them, as they'd only tried to sell ultra-commons like clear Hemi-42's and B beehives in aqua. (*Do you suppose their difficulty is because those commons were made by the gazillions and everyone already has one or two?*)

My next foray into bottle shows will be Gray, TN on May 7. I even confess that I shopped for bottles for my sales table on a recent trip to Pensacola, Florida. Pictured below are three small "mystery bottles" I bought.



- Continued on pg. 10, Bottle Shows

Photos from the Greenville, Alabama Dixie Jewels Winter Swap Meet



Dixie Jewels swap meets are always a good time to visit with fellow club members. Here is some of the action before everyone got set up.



Elizabeth Tilson talks with Jeff and Anne Markwart at their table. The Markwarts drove all the way from Pearland, Texas for this swap, and it was sure nice to visit with them!



Photo by Dudley Ellis' camera

The Gang's All Here! Our club recently made a \$100 donation to Crown Jewels for their Insulators for Kids program. Howard Banks, the editor, wanted a group shot of Dixie Jewels members for future inclusion in the magazine, so everyone lined up for a photo. Pictured from left are: Cal Baker, Jim Hoffman, Barbara Baker, Jeff Kraemer, Mike Green, Mike Funderburk, Bill Haley, Gary Tilson, Candy Haley, Elizabeth Tilson, Dudley Ellis, Sandy Ellis, Ralph Dean, Paul Deriso, Horace Jackson and John Gasko.



Looking for contenders and having fun with the "National Challenge". At left, Dudley Ellis measures dome glass on a very fizzy Hemingray No. 9. At right, Cal Baker counts drip points on a Hemingray Muncie. (Read *A Word from Your President* on pg. 3 to learn more about this challenge.)



All photos this page by Dudley Ellis

More shots from the Feb. swap in Alabama



Some people will do anything to get out of Iowa in the winter-time! Jim Hoffman (on left) drove from Cedar Rapids, Iowa to enjoy the 60+ degree temperatures and shop for insulators. Here he looks over the offerings on Mike Funderburk's table. Jim, a long-time club supporter, attends at least one or two Dixie Jewels events each year!



Judson Epel chats with Bill Haley. Attending swap meets is a chance to chat with old friends and to make some new ones.



Horace Jackson lives just a little way up the road from Greenville, in Prattville, Alabama. Here he looks over the insulators on Gary and Elizabeth Tilson's table. As you can see from the row of tables in the background, there is always a good assortment of insulators at any Dixie Jewels swap meet.

Dixie Jewels has a new website!
insulators-dixiejewels.com

Kudos to Ralph Dean, who has invested a lot of time to create a brand new Dixie Jewels Insulator Club website. Go to the address above to check it out. Ralph has recently been adding photos from past swap meets, and you can also find recent information about our club, such as swap meet announcements, information about joining the club and more.

If you should mistakenly go to the club's old website on insulators.info you'll notice that it had not been updated since 2003. We have been looking for several years for someone who could take on the task of an updated site and Ralph volunteered. Ralph has done a great job with both the look and content of our website, and it is a big improvement. Thank you Ralph!

Ralph would like to know what you think about the website. If you have any ideas for what you'd like to see there, or constructive thoughts on ways to improve it, please contact him at Ralph.dean@att.net.

VOTE! The annual DJIC officer election will take place at the May meeting. There are only three elected positions in our club. Current officers are President - Bill Haley, Secretary - Bill Grieser and Treasurer - Cal Baker. This is your chance to serve your club by stepping up if you are interested in one of these positions. Think about it!

Bottle Shows, cont. from pg. 8



If you think we insulator collectors have the market cornered in color, step into a bottle show and you'll quickly learn otherwise. I've included a shot from the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors show in Chattanooga to give a small taste of some of the colors that are available.