



**GREATER CHICAGO
INSULATOR CLUB
NEWSLETTER**
Rick Soller, editor



Volume 24, Number 4
October 2016

Racine, Wisconsin Swap Meet Report

Despite the threat of rainy weather, a good crowd made it to the Saturday, September 10, 2016 GCIC swap meet hosted by Randy Wesner in Racine, Wisconsin. Randy, who, with numerous previous swap meets under his belt, was well prepared with a tent, and plenty of food.

An interesting group of collectors graced the crowd. Former Racine residents Shirley and Chuck Robinson made the long drive from the St. Louis area. Seldom-seen collector Ed Peters came down from Manasha, Wisconsin, north of Milwaukee. Bruce and Sharon Laughlin, new members of the club, enjoyed the day amongst fellow collectors. Club president Bob Stahr made a brief visit with his wife, Stacey, and growing future collector Grant. I had not seen Tom Underwood from Oshkosh in a while so it was nice to be reminded of what he looked like. There were also the usual suspects and a few other new faces including Larry Beauchamp, Deb Reed-Fowler, Mike Fowler, Russ Frank, Marge Frank (some kind of relationship), Arlen Rienstra, Tina Rienstra, Dean Raymond, Dieter Holz, some guy named Austin who was there with his mom, Marna, and Marna's mom, Gene Hawkins, Iowa Dennis Seltrecht, Indiana Mike McLaughlin, South Dakota Riley Armstrong, Illinois Rick Soller, tall Richard Case, Justin "multipart" Perault, Karen Palmowski, Jason Palmowski, Steve Mattson, Jim Hoffman, Gary Glover, a dog, someone named Martin, and Peter Ledinski. I missed a few names but the estimate was that there were 39 or 40 people there, 1 dog, and several squirrels.

Oddly enough, I have crossed paths with the Laughlin's twice before recently even though I only just learned about their involvement in the hobby. The first time was when Sharon called out of the blue looking for an insulator to buy for her husband's birthday. She settled on a cobalt blue Russian insulator and we completed the deal at my house a few days later when I also let her know about the Racine swap meet. A little while later, I was at an estate sale that advertised an insulator collection of a large number of insulators. I was in the first group that got in the door and bought a couple doorknobs (sold them in the auction for a \$15 profit), a Kim Borgman specialty (CD 106 [230] Hemingray / No 9 smooth base which I sold on Facebook for a small profit), and a couple other pieces. Most of the other insulators were extremely overpriced (clear CD 257 Mickey Mouse for \$100). Nevertheless, I went back the next day to make sure I didn't overlook anything and because I thought everything was half price (turned out to be only 25% off since there was one more day to go). During this second trip, I met Bruce when we were both pawing through a table of insulators. While talking to him, I found out that he didn't live far from me and then the chips started to fall into place as the realization occurred that he was the one for whom I sold an insulator to his wife. I reminded him of the swap meet too.

A second interesting person at the show was Gary Glover. He is a young lineman (think Tim Haraf if you have been in the club long enough) who had a bunch of insulators brought home from "work." It was fun explaining to him what to look for when he is out in the field in the future. He put the insulators in the auction and saw the 6 lots sell for \$36.

Most of the quantity of insulators came from Josh Dondorf via Rick Soller. Josh listed them on eBay with a starting bid of \$100 and sold them for \$150 although the buyer backed out. I was the second highest bidder and agreed to buy them. My original plan was to take them to the Muncie National and put them on the free table but I had so much other material for the National, I wasn't able to fit anything else in the pickup. A couple days before the show, I picked a truckload up with Josh's help to load them and brought them to Racine. The night before, Riley Armstrong and Austin helped clean some of them up with a little water. Altogether, I picked up about 35 crates of insulators which I estimate equaled about 1,000 insulators. I left at least that many behind in Hinkley, Illinois so if anyone is interested in them, contact Josh before he has to unwillingly throw them in a dumpster. I'm pretty sure I lost money on the deal but I am happy they didn't end up in a landfill and I did find two porcelain wire holders for my collection.

There were many other insulators and go-withs at the show that were much better. Arlen Rienstra had an interesting wall bracket that held three insulators, and Dennis Seltrecht had a rare CD 190/191 transposition in a grayish color. There was a green CD 206 castle on one dealer's table and Riley Armstrong brought a huge line post in a crate. A couple CD 257 Mickey Mouse



insulators adorned another table. These were greenish, caused by amber mixing in with the aqua. I also remember a long porcelain wall tube, some Surge side pins, LSV commemoratives, and colorful CD 162 signals on various tables.

The commission on items sold in the auction plus donations paid for a big chunk of the cost of the swap meet. \$1028.75 worth of insulators and related goods was sold netting \$98.55 in commissions and \$51.45 in money via donations for a total of \$150. The most expensive insulator in the auction, a threadless glass egg, sold for \$390 with the next most expensive lot going for \$45. Sellers included Mike McLaughlin, Rick Soller, Russ Frank, Ed Peters, Steve Mattson, Mike Fowler, Larry Beauchamp, Gene Hawkins, Riley Armstrong, and Gary Glover. Below are the results of the auction.

#	Seller	Description	Price	Buyer
1	Mike McLaughlin	Box #4 Hemingray	\$3	Dennis Seltrecht
2	Mike McLaughlin	Box of insulators	\$3	Dean
3	Mike McLaughlin	Box of glass insulators	\$8	Dennis Seltrecht
4	Mike McLaughlin	3 CREBs, underpour, 133s	\$3	Dean
5	Mike McLaughlin	Box of pins, brackets, rubber ins	\$9	Dennis Seltrecht
6	Mike McLaughlin	Box of glass insulators	\$7	Dennis Seltrecht
7	Mike McLaughlin	Box of glass, GNW	\$4	Pete
8	Mike McLaughlin	Plastic rack, 10 poinies	\$13	Richard Case
9	Mike McLaughlin	Cable top	\$6	Dean
10	Mike McLaughlin	Cable top & CD 251	\$13	Richard Case
11	Mike McLaughlin	CD 280, 2 piece, Cable top	\$4	Riley Armstrong

12	Mike McLaughlin	CD 281 Cable	\$20	Dennis Seltrecht
13	Mike McLaughlin	Porcelain "G", Lynchburg, Postle	\$19	Dieter Holtz
14	Mike McLaughlin	McD book & price guides	\$22	Rick Soller
15	Mike McLaughlin	Cross Arms Mags, Misc. books	\$2	Dieter Holtz
16	Mike McLaughlin	Fake, Can. Ponies	\$3	Rick Soller
17	Mike McLaughlin	Woodward Guide to Porcelain	\$1	Rick Soller
18	Russ Frank	Glass, Amber WT, Hemi 19, Frog	\$6	Bob Stahr
19	Rick Soller	Crate of porcelain	\$3	Mike McLaughlin
20	Rick Soller	Crate of porcelain	\$6	Austin
21	Rick Soller	Box of porcelain	.50	Austin
22	Rick Soller	Box of glass, Lynchburg, 7up	\$31	Dennis Seltrecht
23	Rick Soller	104, 128, diamond, Lynchburg, Bfld	\$3	Arlen Rienstra
24	Rick Soller	168 Amber, green	\$14	Shirley Robinson
25	Rick Soller	Australian glass	\$42	Dean
26	Rick Soller	Cable, amber, WT 216	\$22	Mike Fowler
27	Rick Soller	133 milk swirl, #15, 19 smooth base	\$8	Dieter Holtz
28	Ed Peters	Green star, 145s, 168	\$15	Russ Frank
29	Ed Peters	162 chair ins., 151	\$2	Dieter Holtz
30	Rick Soller	Crates of glass and porcelain	\$6	Justin Perault
31	Steve Mattson	Donation, 145s, 162s, 154s	\$13	Mike Fowler
32	Steve Mattson	152, 164, Bar/Bar, CN	\$4	Marty
33	Rick Soller	Pyrex	\$21	Shirley Robinson
34	Rick Soller	Wall tubes	\$2	Riley Armstrong
35	Mike Fowler	Donation-hi top, metal bracket, white porcelain	\$6	Shirley Robinson
36	Rick Soller	3 skirt porcelain multipart	\$16	Shirley Robinson
37	Rick Soller	Crate of porcelain	\$1	Richard Case
38	Rick Soller	Composition insulator	\$7	Shirley Robinson
40	Rick Soller	Box of porcelain, blue pony	\$14	Shirley Robinson
42	Larry Beauchamp	Donation-Box of glass	\$1	Dennis Seltrecht
43	Larry Beauchamp	Donation-Box of Hemingray-17s, clear	.25	Austin
44	Larry Beauchamp	Donation-HK Porter, Hemi 40, beehive	.50	Dean
45	Larry Beauchamp	Donation-rubber, composition, Lynchburg, CD 126	.50	Dean
46	Rick Soller	CD 175 doorknobs, clear & aqua	\$45	Mike Fowler
47	Rick Soller	Gingerbread man	\$25	Dean
48	Rick Soller	2 piece tramps	\$21	Dennis Seltrecht
49	Rick Soller	Crates of insulators	\$8	Bruce Laughlin
50	Rick Soller	Crates of insulators 3@\$2 each	\$6	Justin Perault
51	LUNCH BREAK	11:50 A.M.		
52	Mike Fowler	Donation-145 beehives	\$1	Karen
53	Gene Hawkins	Donation-Box of glass	\$7	Karen
54	Rick Soller	Glass egg	\$390	Riley Armstrong

55	Rick Soller	Crate of porcelain	\$3	Dennis Seltrecht
56	Rick Soller	Crate of porcelain	\$3	Karen
57	Rick Soller	Crate of transposition brackets	\$4	Riley Armstrong
59	Steve Mattson	Donation-box of glass insulators	\$5	Marty
60	Rick Soller	Choice of crates	\$7	Karen
61	Rick Soller	Crate of insulators 3 @ \$1	\$3	Richard Case
62	Riley Armstrong	3 JD blue suspensions	\$8	Justin Perault
63	Gary Glover	Porcelain lot	\$1	Austin
64	Gary Glover	Glass & Tie wires	\$1	Justin Perault
65	Gary Glover	Glass suspension string	\$26	Justin Perault
66	Gary Glover	JD odd shape	\$1	Shirley Robinson
67	Rick Soller	Brackets	\$7	Richard Case
68	Rick Soller	Porcelain 2 @ .50	\$1	Shirley Robinson
69	Rick Soller	2 multiparts	\$5	Shirley Robinson
70	Club Donation	Table of glass	\$5	Shirley Robinson
71	Rick Soller	3 suspensions	\$3	Riley Armstrong
72	Rick Soller	Pail of porcelain--small pineapple spools	\$27	Riley Armstrong
73	Rick Soller	Crates of glass 3 @ \$7	\$21	Austin
74	Rick Soller	Glass bottle	\$2	Austin
75	Rick Soller	Crate of insulators	\$1	Justin Perault
76	Rick Soller	3 crates and a bucket	.50	Justin Perault
	TOTAL		\$1028.75	

Upcoming Shows

Springfield, Ohio

Friday – Sunday, November 4-6, 2016

The 46th Mid-Ohio Insulator Show will be held November 4-6 at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Springfield, Ohio. Show hours are Friday 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Saturday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday from 9:00 AM to closing. Info: CURT BOSTER email: cboster530@att.net or 614-301-5125 or LOIS BLAIR 740-852-3148. Additional info at: www.insulators.info/shows/springfield

Strongsville, Ohio

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Western Reserve Insulator Club's 18th Annual Winterfest / Swap Meet & Club Meeting at the Spyglass Hill Recreation Center, 13201 Compass Point Drive, Strongsville, OH 44136. Dealer Setup: 9:00am; Show Hours: 10:00am-3:00pm. Club Meeting and Lunch: 12-1:30pm. There are no admission or table charges, but space is limited, so please contact us ahead of time if you plan to set up! Info/RSVP to JOHN HOVANEC 216-392-3622, email: jrhovanec@ymail.com