



**GREATER CHICAGO
INSULATOR CLUB
NEWSLETTER**

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Wyatt's Wonderings and Wanderings

Club member Wyatt Johnson, who lives in Wisconsin, recently posted an email indicating he was researching the glass Westinghouse CD 102, 113, 134, and 162 since he knows some were found in Wisconsin (as well as other states). He is in need of information and any help would be appreciated. Some of his questions are where were they used, specifically, where were they used in Wisconsin as he's attempting to research insulators and their history in his home state), what lines used them (telephone or telegraph), and why were they made in such small quantities and thus so scarce (Too expensive? Unpopular?). Any related information would be appreciated. You can contact him at wyattjohnson1926@gmail.com.

I have talked to a couple club members about Westinghouse insulators before and have a little information. Several club members have indicated that Westinghouse insulators were used in Indiana on GTE lines.

In terms of Wyatt's Wanderings, he was recently wading through listings on EstateSales.net and found a listing from Rockford, Illinois that included several teal and green Ohio Brass saddle tops. The seller would not ship the insulator, and knowing I lived nearby, he let me know about the listing. Richard Case lived even closer, so I gave him a call to see if he was interested or was willing to pick up the pieces I was interested in. He didn't mind picking pieces up, so I made an online purchase of 8 insulators from the sale. One seemed to be a fizzy aqua CD 162, two were smooth base CD 162 Hemingray-19s, one was a CD 162 Hemingray, one was an aqua insulator on a patent dated metal pin, and three were teal Ohio Brass saddle top porcelain pieces (2 dark teal, 1 lighter green). When Richard went to pick the insulators up, he managed to get a couple more of the teal pieces.

Wyatt also had the opportunity to go through a collection near his house and bring home several pieces. The collection was appraised by Rick Soller and Russ Frank the previous summer. Some of the pieces in the collection were reported in an issue of this newsletter (Yellow Mickey Mouse slip cast salt shaker, bubbly bullet, CD 120 Pony). Recently Russ heard from a friend about the collection, not knowing Russ had already seen it. Russ let Rick in on the funny happenstance and Rick decided to forward the contact information for the collection to Wyatt. Wyatt contacted the owner immediately and arranged to see the collection that Saturday.

Several of the pieces were no longer available. The yellow salt shaker in the shape of a CD 257 Mickey Mouse was kept as was the bubbly bullet. The CD 120 Pony in blue was still there as well as several other nice pieces. On the next page are some pictures of what Wyatt brought home. The pieces included a CD 175, a couple bullets, CD 190/191 tramp, CD 196, CD 213, CD 252, CD 133 in green, CD 145 in jade, CD 257 clear, and many more. Wyatt was even nice enough to sell a couple of them to me, so I bought a purple side-tab LRI, a purple cross-top LRI, the blue CD 120 Pony, a U-401, and a U-634. A lot of common pieces were left behind but I understand that Wyatt agreed to take them to the next club swap meet and put them in the auction. I can't wait!



Survey of Wisconsin Antique Store Insulators

In mid-February, I visited numerous antique stores between the Milwaukee area and the Illinois/Wisconsin border. My mission at the time was to distribute post cards promoting the April 2020 Wheaton show (the one that has now been cancelled). In the course of my travels, I also gathered information on insulators for sale in various shops. I didn't have my price guide handy at the time so the descriptions are a little general in places or may not be completely accurate.

The analysis of the data on the next couple pages reveals a few unsurprising observations. First, the CD 106 was the most commonly found glass insulator with 17 reported examples, followed by the CD 154 with 11 examples, and the CD 112 and CD 164 tied for third with 4 examples. In porcelain, the hat shape was most common with 13 examples found followed by saddle tops and wireholders tying for second with 4 examples identified. Second, 15 different CD numbers were identified. As might be expected, they were the CD 102, 106, 113, 115, 122, 128, 145, 152, 154, 155, 162, 164, 203, and 213. Third, the glass insulators were pretty much either clear or aqua. Porcelain was primarily brown.

School Days Antiques Mall, Sturtevant, Wisconsin. This was one of the few places where

I found something that I bought:

General Electric refrigerator bottle, no cap, green, \$30
CD 154 Hemingray, light green, round drip points, dome dings, \$4
CD 113 Hemingray-12, aqua, base bruise, \$6.50, booth #79
CD 164 H.G.Co./Patent May 2 1893 // Petticoat, inner skirt chip, \$10
CD 155 Hemingray, clear, mint, \$7, booth #41
CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, VNM, \$8, booth #41
Lapp / 1928 saddle top, pumpkin, \$12, booth #85
CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, VNM, \$3.10, booth #78
CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, \$6, booth #9
CD 152 Hemingray // No. 40, aqua, vnm, \$6, booth #9
Four CD 106 Hemingray-9, clear, \$3 each, booth #9
Five CD 106 Hemingray / No. 9 // Patent / May 2 1893, \$3 each, booth #268
Three CD 113, Hemingray/No. 12 // Patent May 2, 1893, aqua, \$3 each, booth #268
CD 154 Hemingray-42 // Made in U.S.A., rdp, aqua, chip, \$4, booth #268
Porcelain cable top, ME 93, 3 skirt, gray with black radio treatment, \$28, booth #81
Post with three brown wireholders, \$29, booth #81
Telephone fuse block, white porcelain, \$28.50, booth #79
CD 128 Pyrex CSA, clear, VNM, \$12, booth #79
CD 106, aqua, \$3, booth #59
Hemingray TS, chip, \$6, booth #59
CD 122, clear, mint, \$4.75, booth #59
CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, \$12, booth #78
CD 106 Hemingray-9, clear, \$6.90, booth #78

Dairyland Antiques

CD 121 Am. Tel., aqua, \$2, booth #256
Two CD 164s, aqua, \$2.50, booth #256
Three CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, \$7.99, booth #232
CD 154 Whitall-Tatum, aqua, vnm, \$10.99, booth #232
CD 155 Hemingray-45, 38 date, clear, big base chip, \$5, booth #69
CD 106 Hemingray/No. 9//..., aqua, \$4.99, booth EMD
Two Hemingray-9s, clear, \$4.99, booth EMD
CD 164 Hemingray-20, aqua with base chip, \$6.99, booth EMD
2 brown porcelain signals, \$10, booth BR380
Hemingray-56, clear, \$15, booth BR380
CD 102 Brookfield, aqua, \$15, booth BR380
CD 106, aqua, \$20, booth BR380
CD 213 Hemingray-43, clear, mint, \$7, booth 555
CD 106 Hemingray-9, aqua, \$8 firm, booth 555
CD 115 Hemingray-10, aqua, \$8 firm, booth 555
CD 106 Hemingray/No.9//..., aqua, vnm, \$5, booth SMB
CD 154 Hemingray-42, clear, \$8, booth GG
CD 154 Hemingray-42, aqua, \$10.50, booth GG
CD 162 Hemingray-16, clear, \$5, booth GG

Dairyland Antiques (continued)

Two U-296 speckled brown NN, \$13, booth C28
U-296 Thomas, \$10, booth LLC
CD 145 H.G.Co., \$2, booth LLC
Seven brown porcelain signals, \$10 each, booth DGT
Porcelain truncate, OB embossing, \$8, booth JAS
Bracket and truncate, \$30, booth JAS
Porcelain hat, orange/brown, \$5.95, booth GCH
Gray wireholder, \$9, booth GCH
CD 154, Hemingray-42, ice, \$5, booth FMF
CD 122 Hemingray-16, blue, \$8, booth DCS

I think if someone went around to various antique stores with a variety of common insulators priced at \$1 each or less, they might be able to sell a box load. Greater variety and better-quality insulators in antique stores might get more people in the hobby. It might not be too hard to include some color in the selection, e.g., a root beer amber 512-U, or clear, ice, aqua, and Hemingray-blue pieces. In porcelain, the dated Lapps in orange and various mottled shades would add variety.

CD 233 Pyrex Carnival Insulators in Use

I sold some insulators on eBay to a collector and we started emailing each other about insulators. One email he sent me included photos of a small substation that looks like it might be on the roof of a brick building. The area is surrounded by a chain link fence and has a transformer nearby. He is working on getting the insulators in the substation since the building is abandoned and the substation no longer connected to the outside. The insulators are CD 233 Pyrex carnival glass insulators. A pipe clamp secures the pin to a matrix of pipes. It is not clear what the cob looks like. What looks like a one-inch conductor rests in the saddle groove of each insulator with a tie-wire holding the conductor in place. The book value on these is \$50-75 and it looks like there are 27 of them clamped to the pipes shown in the pictures on the next page. Outside the fence, there appear to be porcelain versions of the CD 233 used to hold the conductor leading to the transformer.

I didn't think the collector had been in the hobby very long, so I immediately emailed back with some advice. First, I said that collectors would pay a substantial premium to have a length of the conductor and the tie-wire holding it kept in place attached to the insulator. Second, I advised that collectors would also love to have the pin that was used with the insulator. I estimated that the \$50-75 insulator could then be easily be sold for at least \$100.

Jim Crandall once followed this line of thinking with some CD 233 Pyrex carnival insulators he found. Rather than the insulators being secured to the conductor with a metal tie wire, however, the insulators he found were secured to the conductor with string. I managed to buy one of these from him and always delight at looking at it.



Upcoming Shows?

It is difficult to know how many of the upcoming shows will actually take place so keep that in mind when planning to attend one of these. Even if the show takes place, there may be special guidelines to follow or situations to be aware of. For example, some shows may require masks or may not have food available at the facility.

Saturday, June 27, 2020 Perkiomenville, Pennsylvania

46th Annual Pennsylvania insulator Show and Sale, Saturday June 6th. Hours 9:00 AM till? FREE ADMISSION. This is an Outdoor Show held at Claude and Arlene Wambold's large side yard for all these years! Address: 1837 Perkiomenville Rd., Perkiomenville, Pa. 18074, Lunch provided, Steve's famous pulled pork and other goodies! Bring your own setup table and chairs. For more information contact Steve Bobb at sbobb1@verizon.net, call or text (610) 639-1308, Claude Wambold acwambold2@verizon.net, call (215) 234-8413

Saturday, July 11, 2020 West Leechburg, Pennsylvania

The Western Reserve Insulator Club's 20th Annual Allegheny Valley Insulator Show & Sale, RESCHEDULED from original April 4 date, at the W. Leechburg Fireman's Recreation Hall, 1116 Gosser St., W. Leechburg PA 15656. Show Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Dealer setup 7:30 AM. 8' table \$20. Info: RON BARTH 724-845-8439 rktbarth@windstream.net

Saturday, August 22, 2020 Nisswa, Minnesota

The North Western Insulator Club invites you to join us for the Annual Summer Swap Meet and Show at the home of Colin and Karen Yennie, 1126 Ebert Drive, Nisswa Minnesota. Set up is in the yard, the garage, the driveway and anywhere else you can find. Please bring your own table and chair. We will have canopies in case of rain. Colin will be grilling burgers, hot dogs and brats-please bring a side dish to share. Hours are 9 AM to 3 PM. RSVP to Karen or Colin at klyennie@hotmail.com or (507) 271-3457. All are welcome-bring a friend and introduce them to a fun hobby with friendly people.

Friday to Sunday, November 6-8, 2020 Springfield, Ohio

The 50th Mid-Ohio Insulator Show will be held November 6-8 at the Clark County Fairgrounds, 4401 South Charleston Pike, Springfield, Ohio. Exit 59 off I-70. Show hours are Friday 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Saturday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 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