



**GREATER CHICAGO  
INSULATOR CLUB  
NEWSLETTER**

Rick Soller, Cub Reporter

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**A Big Free Collection**

On Thursday, May 16 at 2:20:41 p.m., Mike Hawker posted a message on [insulators.info](http://insulators.info) that stated, "My entire collection, assembled in the 1970s, is available for the taking." Shortly after that, I emailed him and wrote, "I will take it." By 3:07 p.m. he emailed back that I was the first to reply and that, "It's all yours." He also indicated that the collection was at his mom's in Manchester, Iowa and consisted of possibly upwards of 15-20 boxes with some up in a loft. I then let him know I would be in the area on May 30 and 31 and could get the collection then. After Mike talked to his mother, he let me know that would work and gave me his mother's phone number and address to make final arrangements.

I planned to get there at 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 30 but the excitement about what might be in the collection got me up very early and quickly on the road so that I had to kill some time in antique stores and eating lunch so I wasn't rudely early. Nevertheless, a text from her indicated I could come earlier if I was able so by 2:30 p.m. I was pulling into her driveway.

All the insulators were in a garage across from her house. She was going to sell the house soon so the son who lives in Alaska, had to get the insulators out of there before the move. Mike's brother and a neighbor had already started bringing insulators down from the loft when I backed up to the garage which was great since I didn't look forward to the physical labor of carrying 30 pound boxes down a ladder in 80 degree plus heat. In fact, they did all the work bringing the insulators down while I climbed into the back of my truck and packed the insulators.

Right away I was worried about the quality of the collection since all I could see were CD 147s, CD 145s, and Hemingray-42s. Eventually, some good insulators were spotted and I hoped buried in the boxes were some gems. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to look for treasures as I was focused on getting the boxes loaded.

While handling a few boxes, I found ants streaming out of the sides so a few of the containers were reboxed. This gave me a chance to see what else was in the collection. Right away I was delighted to find several nice pieces including a couple Mickey Mouse insulators, a CD 175, and a CD 258 Cable.

With all the boxes from the loft in my truck and room remaining, I thought I could take a break. Then Mike's brother said there were more boxes under a work bench. That's where another 15-20 boxes were stored. I had not piled the boxes to the ceiling of my truck so that I could see out the back but now had to restack everything to the ceiling plus fill up the seats behind the driver's seat and fill up the front passenger seat. Somehow everything fit and I was off to the show.

I kept about 50 pieces from the collection and put the rest in the club auction. My favorite pieces were two CD 145 H.G.CO. // PETTICOAT insulators in jade, several CD 152 Brookfields in shades of green, a couple CD 147s with different embossing errors, and several different CD 156.1 Whitall-Tatums in different colors.

## Saturday, June 1, 2019 Tama, Iowa Show Report

The 22nd Annual Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet held at the Tama Civic Center is in the history books now. The event once again maintained its standard of excellence in socialization, food, and insulators.

My socialization began on Thursday before the show. I picked up such a large and free collection on the way to the show that there wasn't any reason to go antiquing for the rest of the day since there wasn't any room in my truck for additional purchases and I needed time to go through the collection before the show. As a result, after I loaded the Manchester, Iowa collection on Thursday afternoon, I headed straight to my hotel in Tama. Dave Shaw wasn't home so I spent a couple hours with his across-the-street neighbor, Tom Murphy, who helped me find some boxes that weren't ant infested and to look through the collection with me. I'm glad he helped me because he found some pieces I would have overlooked such as a CD 106 [250] Hemingray No. 9 in a yellow green and a couple clear CD 160 [020] H.G.CO. // PETTICOAT insulators with a smooth base in clear.

On Friday morning, I helped Dave Shaw set up the show hall and spent time organizing the truckload of insulators for the auction. I spent a lot of time doing this as I also tried to create a record of every insulator since most were found in Iowa. I wanted to know what insulators were used in Iowa. I eventually had to give up on doing this because I ran out of time. The auction netted \$1507 so the buyer's premium netted the show host \$150 to help pay for the show hall and food.

Friday evening a big group of collectors made the trek to the local casino and enjoyed the extensive buffet. I remember laughing and joking a lot and the time spent there was dragged out to enjoy the company as much as possible. After two hours, however, we all went our separate ways to meet up in the morning at the show.

As shown in the picture below, the show hall was well lighted and filled with dealers. There was easy access through the door at one end of the hall which did not involve any steps.



There were a couple notable memories I have of the show. The first item sold in the auction went for \$27. Russ Frank remarked that he had the walking stick for sale for \$10 but no one expressed an interest so he was surprised it went for so much in the auction. I had lunch with a couple that were new collectors and lived on a farm. It was fun to talk to people just starting out in the hobby. Another new collector at the show was Ephraim who lives in Michigan City, a few miles from Robert Winkler, so I called Robert up and put the two of them in contact. Dennis Weber had a beautiful CD 127.4 [Hemingray] for sale on his table that I added to my collection and Dave Shaw had a mint CD 293 gray purple Locke that also went home with me. I have had a chance to buy the CD 293 many times but have always held out for a mint one. I'm glad one finally came along. Andy Wadysz said he would have bought it if I did not and Dave remarked that he originally bought it from Andy.

#	Seller	Description	Price	Buyer
1	Russ Frank	Walking Stick with insulator on top	\$27	Dennis Seltrecht
2	Dave Shaw	Commemoratives & Bell	\$5	Todd Baumgartner
3	Dave Shaw	Arrestors	\$20	Riley Armstrong
4	Dave Shaw	JD Unipart	\$12	Richard Bell
5	Dave Shaw	Carnival Pyrex	\$40	Todd Baumgartner
6	Dave Shaw	Box of signals	\$40	Arlen Rienstra
7	Dave Shaw	Box of signals	\$105	Russ Frank
8	Dave Shaw	Price Guide, timetables	\$5	Tom Murphy
9	Dave Shaw	6 power pieces	\$5	Ephraim
10	Josh Dondorf	Green CREB	\$1	Ross Berndt
11	Rick Soller	2 aqua Brookfields	\$8	Ross Berndt
12	Rick Soller	2 purple CD 102 BGMs	\$40	Mike McLaughlin
13	Rick Soller	Small suspension	\$26	Deb Booker
14	Rick Soller	CD 147s	\$1	Andy Swanson
15	Rick Soller	CD 162s	\$1	Todd Baumgartner
16	Rick Soller	Hemingray-109 spool	\$10	Dennis Seltrecht
17	Rick Soller	Postal	\$4	Todd Baumgartner
18	Rick Soller	CD 125	\$5	Ephraim Podgorski
19	Rick Soller	Green Lynchburg + W-T	\$11	Dennis Seltrecht
20	Rick Soller	Blue American + Green B	\$24	Dennis Seltrecht
21	Rick Soller	Purple CD 162 signal	\$225	Tom Murphy
22	Rick Soller	CD 126.x	\$40	Ross Berndt
23	Rick Soller	Purple California	\$15	Josh Dondorf
24	Rick Soller	Olive star	\$16	Ephraim Podgorski
25	Rick Soller	CD 133.2	\$15	Josh Dondorf
26	Rick Soller	2 boxes of bottles	\$15	Arlen Rienstra
27	Rick Soller	Box of signals, Postals	\$6	Ephraim Podgorski
28	Rick Soller	Box of glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
29	Rick Soller	Box of CD 257 Mickeys	\$60	Russ Frank
31	Rick Soller	Box of CD 152s	\$9	Dave Shaw
32	Rick Soller	Box of 7ups, green Hemi-42	\$35	Dave Shaw
33	Rick Soller	Box glass	\$1	Andy Swanson

34	Rick Soller	Box of clears	\$3	Todd Baumgartner
35	Rick Soller	CD 145s	\$1	Gene Hawkins
36	Rick Soller	CD 133, 134	\$1	Andy Swanson
37	Rick Soller	CD 147, 154, mystery box	\$1	Andy Swanson
38	Rick Soller	Two D-514s	\$1	Riley Armstrong
39	Rick Soller	CD 145s	\$1	Andy Swanson
40	Rick Soller	CD 152s and 133s	\$5	Andy Swanson
41	Rick Soller	Ponies	\$9	Dennis Seltrecht
42	Rick Soller	Canadian 143s, 145s	\$4	Todd Baumgartner
43	Rick Soller	145s, 152s	\$5	Andy Swanson
44	Rick Soller	Ponies	\$25	Dennis Seltrecht
45	Rick Soller	Ponies, kegs, CD 104	\$7	Andy Swanson
46	Rick Soller	Beehives	\$1	Andy Swanson
47	Rick Soller	Carnival & Green sombreros	\$21	Deb Booker
48	Rick Soller	2 boxes	\$1	Andy Swanson
49	Rick Soller	Clears	\$1	Andy Swanson
50	Rick Soller	CD 121s	\$38	Blaine Maus
51	Rick Soller	42s box + wood box	\$4	Todd Baumgartner
52	Rick Soller	Power Piece #17 Locke	\$12	Richard Bell
53	Rick Soller	Power piece	\$16	Josh Dondorf
54	Rick Soller	Power piece, small Muncie	\$13	Ephraim Podgorski
55	Rick Soller	Box of Rubber insulators	\$1	Rick Soller
56	Rick Soller	Box of CD 147s	\$6	Andy Swanson
57	Rick Soller	CD 122s, 121s	\$5	Dave Shaw
58	Rick Soller	Carnival insulator	\$13	Ross Berndt
59	Rick Soller	Carnival insulator	\$15	Richard Bell
60	Rick Soller	Carnival insulator	\$9	Ephraim Podgorski
61	Rick Soller	Coolie	\$25	Daryl Lawrence
62	Rick Soller	Muncie	\$7	Ephraim Podgorski
63	Rick Soller	CD 151s	\$1	Andy Swanson
64	Rick Soller	Power pieces	\$3	Ross Berndt
65	Rick Soller	Pyrex 271	\$7	Ross Berndt
66	Rick Soller	Stacker	\$28	Daryl Lawrence
67	Rick Soller	Big box of CD 147s	\$8	Andy Swanson
68	Rick Soller	Box of glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
69	Rick Soller	Root beers, corning, Maydwell	\$5	Ephraim Podgorski
70	Rick Soller	CD 160s	\$3	Russ Frank
71	Rick Soller	CD 152 California purple + misc.	\$8	Dave Shaw
72	Rick Soller	CD 160s	\$3	Russ Frank
73	Rick Soller	Misc.	\$7	Riley Armstrong
74	Rick Soller	2 boxes of 12s	\$7	Andy Swanson
75	Rick Soller	CD 154s	\$3	Todd Baumgartner
76	Rick Soller	Box of China dishes	.25	Arlen Rienstra
77	Rick Soller	Green porcelain	\$11	Riley Armstrong
78	Rick Soller	Box of crackeled glass insulators	\$1	Ephraim Podgorski

79	Rick Soller	12s and 9s	\$1	Andy Swanson
80	Rick Soller	2 boxes of beehives	\$5	Andy Swanson
81	Rick Soller	Box of beehives, jade	\$5	Andy Swanson
82	Rick Soller	Postals	\$1	Deb Booker
83	Rick Soller	Box of beehives	\$28	Dave Shaw
84	Rick Soller	Box of glass	\$7	Andy Swanson
85	Rick Soller	2 boxes of glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
86	Rick Soller	CREBs	\$11	Riley Armstrong
87	Rick Soller	Box of glass, milk Maydwell	\$5	Riley Armstrong
88	Rick Soller	Walnut wood circles	\$6	Arlen Rienstra
89	Rick Soller	Transpositions	48	Ephraim Podgorski
90	Rick Soller	Box of glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
91	Rick Soller	Climbers and hooks	\$5	Tom Murphy
92	Rick Soller	Brackets	\$5	Deb Booker
93	Rick Soller	2 boxes, crosstop	\$20	Tom Murphy
94	Rick Soller	Box of fruit jars	\$1	Tom Murphy
95	Rick Soller	Box of misc. porcelain	\$1	Riley Armstrong
96	Rick Soller	2 boxes of glass	\$4	Andy Swanson
97	Rick Soller	Box of misc.	\$13	Dennis Seltrecht
98	Mike McLaughlin	Box of misc.	\$6	Ephraim Podgorski
99	Mike McLaughlin	2 smooth base signals	\$1	Andy Swanson
100	Mike McLaughlin	Crate of porcelain	\$5	Todd Baumgartner
101	Rick Soller	5 boxes	\$11	Andy Swanson
102	Rick Soller	CN ponies	\$42	Chuck Moylan
103	Rick Soller	Power	\$7	Riley Armstrong
104	Dave Shaw	Phone Sign	\$30	Arlen Rienstra
105	Dave Shaw	Box of glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
106	Dave Shaw	Box of glass	\$11	Daryl Lawrence
107	Dave Shaw	151s	\$1	Andy Swanson
108	Dave Shaw	151s	\$1	Andy Swanson
109	Dave Shaw	151s	\$1	Andy Swanson
110	Dave Shaw	Porcelain ponies	\$1	Ephraim Podgorski
111	Dave Shaw	Porcelain kegs, 3 boxes	\$23	Andy Swanson
112	Dave Shaw	Misc porcelain	\$1	Riley Armstrong
113	Tom Murphy	Picture	\$13	Gene Hawkins
114	Dave Shaw	Box of glass	\$11	Andy Swanson
115	Dave Shaw	CD 160s	\$17	Andy Swanson
116	Dave Shaw	Beehives	\$3	Andy Swanson
117	Dave Shaw	Glass	\$3	Andy Swanson
118	Dave Shaw	Glass	\$5	Gene Hawkins
120	Steve	Glass	\$1	Andy Swanson
121	Steve	Glass	\$5	Andy Swanson
122	Steve	Glass	\$5	Andy Swanson
123	Steve	Glass	\$5	Andy Swanson
		Total	\$1507	

## Upcoming Shows

### **Perrysville, Ohio**

**Saturday, July 20, 2019**

1<sup>st</sup> Mohican Country Insulator Swap on the lawn of the Perrysville Church of God. Saturday, July 20, 2019 from 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM (Setup At 8:00 AM). 988 Rice Street & State Route 39, Perrysville, Ohio 44864. Insulator auction by Rick Soller! Tables chairs available by donation to benefit the Church Memorial Garden or bring your own table! No setup fee! Hot dogs served for lunch, grilled by host! Rain location: Perrysville Community Center, 131 N. Bridge Street, Perrysville, Ohio 44864. Contact Tom Nelson to reserve a spot. Phone: 330-231-9579 or [tomnelson1960@yahoo.com](mailto:tomnelson1960@yahoo.com)

### **Ottawa, Illinois**

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**

The Greater Chicago Insulator Club's annual fall swap meet will return for the second time to the home of Tom and Mary Nugent although one week later than in previous years. Their home located at 1999 N. Columbus St., Ottawa, IL 61350. Bring a table if you can. Free lunch. Club auction with Rick Soller taking bids. For more information or to RSVP, contact Tom at (815) 434-5157 or [tnugent@ivnet.com](mailto:tnugent@ivnet.com).

Although the address is listed as 1999 Columbus Street, attendees need to turn on Alexis Street to get to this address. You cannot see the house from Columbus Street and you have to travel to the end of Alexis Street to get to the address of the swap meet. Coming from I-80, Alexis Street is one mile south on Columbus Street/U.S. 30 and is the first right turn after Reynolds Manor Dr. You will be going west when you make the turn. Tom will have signs up to make it easier to find his domicile.

### **Springfield, Ohio**

**Friday – Sunday, November 1-3, 2019**

The 49th Mid-Ohio Insulator Show will be held November 1-3 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](mailto:cboster530@att.net) or (614) 301-5125 or LOIS BLAIR (740) 852-3148. Additional info at: [www.insulators.info/shows/springfield/](http://www.insulators.info/shows/springfield/)

### **Wheaton, Illinois**

**Saturday, April 4, 2020**

The Dupage Collectors Expo will be held Saturday, April 4th, at the Dupage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, Illinois, Hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Items for sale & trade include: Insulators, Lightning Rod items & Weathervanes, Telephone & Telegraph items, Bottles, Jars, etc. Info: BOB STAHR: [bob@hemingray.com](mailto:bob@hemingray.com) (630) 793-5345 and RICK SOLLER: [com574@clcillinois.edu](mailto:com574@clcillinois.edu) (847) 782-8602.

### **2019 Price Guide Deal**

The new price guide from Don Briel is for sale at swap meets for a discounted price (\$45 vs. \$49), order one by sending a check for \$45 to Rick Soller, 4086 Blackstone Ave., Gurnee, IL 60031 or use PayPal and send \$45 (friends and family no fee) to [com574@clcillinois.edu](mailto:com574@clcillinois.edu) .