



**GREATER CHICAGO
INSULATOR CLUB
NEWSLETTER**

Rick Soller, Executive Managing Editor

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Mid-Ohio Show Notes

Curt Boster has sent out several emails over the past month updating the insulator community about the ever-popular Mid-Ohio show held in Springfield, Ohio. This year marks the 50th year of the show so there are some special events planned.

In honor of the 50th Mid-Ohio Insulator Show in Springfield, USA your hosts will attempt to enhance and augment the event with cash bounties for specific display categories. \$100 rewards will be presented to the best display in the following categories:

- 1) Westinghouse glass insulators
- 2) Lightning rod insulators/balls
- 3) Seldom seen and threadless porcelain insulators
- 4) American Insulator Co.
- 5) And finally, to honor the show's co-founder Steve Blair...Lynchburg Glass

We will accept up to three displays per category. There will be an additional category for all other displays so do not hesitate to bring your best. Please let us know in advance if you intend to exhibit for cash and prizes so that we may coordinate accordingly.

This year's Community Display is being coordinated (or so the story goes) by Mark Gilmore and will feature Pennycuik glass insulators. Those are the insulators with the sharp threads that generally have a dot at the top of the pinhole.

Curt says to call him Bostradamus if you must, but he foresees what could be the greatest show of all time going off as scheduled, November 6-8, 2020 in Springfield, USA. As a result, collectors and dealers are reserving extra sales tables and hotel rooms for the event. He highly suggests making similar plans immediately if not sooner. Unless some folks don't wish to brave the pandemic in November, there will be very little room available for new dealers this year. If for some reason the show needs to be postponed, the show hosts will simply roll over your table fees to next year's 50.0 celebration or refund your cashola. But you might want to check the cancellation policy of the new and improved host hotel, the Hampton Inn when making reservations. Considering all the safety issues in place in Ohio at present, the Saturday night banquet is a bit sketchy for now, but time will decide what happens.

There will be a Friday After-Hours Insulator Auction on Nov. 6th and the show hosts encourage anyone to step forth with a decent collection, quality individual pieces, or interesting lots. Due to the magnitude of this year's audience, there will not be huge lots of slag glass and porcelain. The show hosts are not looking for four- or five-digit sale items either (but we'd certainly entertain the possibility), but they would highly recommend this year's auction for selling a collection. Contact Curt if you have some quality glass or mud to offer.

Westinghouse Research

In the last issue, there was an article indicating that Wyatt Johnson sought information on Westinghouse Insulators. The request spurred club member Dave Ramp to shake the cobwebs from his head thinker and compose a trope on Westinghouse pieces he recovered while working as a telephone lineman. The story was so good, it was submitted to the Drip Points rather than being limited to the membership who receive this tome. Look for the article in the next issue.

Update on the Ottawa, Illinois Swap Meet

As of August 30, 2020, the club swap meet at the home of Tom and Mary Nugent is still on but with some changes. The outdoor venue makes social distancing easier and transmission less likely with the air currents, so we are lucky in that regard. The primary change will take place with the auction.

In the past, auction lots were piled on tables in order of when they arrived. Bidders and auction workers crowded around the table during the auction and the winning bidder's name or number was put with each lot.

To eliminate the crowding, at least two changes will be made. First, bidders will need to sit in a chair spaced from other chairs or stand to the side and social distance during the auction. This will be similar to the Springfield, Ohio auction but with distancing added. Second, each lot will be assigned a number before the auction so bidders will know what they are bidding on. We expect that collectors do not move insulators from one box to another.

Other familiar steps to cope with the Corona virus will be expected. These include wearing a face mask and social distancing. If you are displaying symptoms of the virus, please do not attend.

Upcoming Shows

Saturday, September 19, 2020

Ottawa, Illinois

The Greater Chicago Insulator Club's annual fall swap meet will be held at the home of Tom and Mary Nugent located at 1999 N. Columbus St., Ottawa, IL 61350 from 9 a.m. - ?. 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. 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.

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