

THE

DIXIE JEWEL



November 2016, Issue #98

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? Your 2016 dues are good until Dec. 31. See page 4 for directions to renew, or you can pay for 2017 at the Nov. swap.

Fall Dixie Jewels Swap Meet

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016
HILLDALE BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY LIFE CTR.
CLARKSVILLE, TN
8:30-2:30 Central

The Dixie Jewels fall swap meet, hosted by Tim Baggett, will be Saturday, November 19 from 8:30-2:30 Central. It will be at the Hilldale Baptist Church Family Life Center, 250 Old Farmers Rd., Clarksville, TN 37043. The church is located not far from the Kentucky line, approximately 2 miles off exit 11 on I-24. The pavilion is located at the church's recreation area and is covered, but open. Tim advises that in case of bad weather, we'll resort to Plan B, inside a building at the same location. Bathrooms are on-site. A limited number of 6 foot tables are available, or you may bring your own. Please call Tim ahead of the swap meet date to reserve tables. There is no charge to set up a sales table, so plan to bring any insulators you wish to trade or sell and join the fun. Coffee and donuts will be available in the morning. A noon meal will be served, cooked by a three time Tennessee Grand Champion BBQ Master, so everyone is invited to eat with us. If you wish to contribute to the meal, desserts would be appreciated. We always expect collectors from all over the southeast, so don't miss it! Please contact Tim to let him know you are coming and if you need a sales table. Make plans now to spend the day with your Dixie Jewels Insulator Club friends, add to your collection and enjoy some great fellowship.

For additional show info, table reservations and other questions, please contact:

Tim Baggett, (931) 237-0290, tmbagget@gmail.com

**DIRECTIONS TO HILLDALE BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY LIFE CENTER
250 OLD FARMERS ROAD, CLARKSVILLE, TN 37043**

**Clarksville, Tennessee is located about 50 miles north of Nashville on I-24,
just a few miles south of the Kentucky state line**

From I-24:

- Take Exit 11 on I-24;
- Head west on Martin Luthur King Blvd. approximately 1 1/2 miles;
- Turn left on Old Farmers Road (signs will be posted), Beach Oil Co. will be on the right;
- Hilldale Baptist Church - Family Life Center will be on the right (*you're almost there!*);
- Go a little past the Life Center to yellow metal gates and turn in;
- Pavillion is located at the church recreation area.

The Pavillion is covered, but is open-air (Restrooms are on-site). If weather is bad, we'll set up inside a building at the same location. There will be plenty of room either way.

If you get lost, please call Tim Baggett, (931) 237-0290



Clarksville, TN Area Motels and Hotels

Exit 11: (Exit for show), Hwy. 76 - Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

- Comfort Inn (former Holiday Inn Express)..... (800) 301-7541
- Days Inn (931) 358-3194

Exit 4: (North of show site), Hwy. 79, Wilma Rudolph Blvd.

- Hampton Inn and Suites..... (931) 378-6070
- Super 8 Northeast..... (931) 645-6300
- Country Inn & Suites by Carlson..... (931) 645-2400
- Best Western Plus Atrium & Suites..... (931) 919-4997
- Quality Inn..... (931) 648-4848
- LaQuinta Inn..... (931) 906-0606
- Red Roof Inn..... (931) 905-1555

*A Google search of **Clarksville Motels** will give maps and reviews for these motels.*

*A Google search of **250 Old Farmers Road Clarksville** shows a great satellite view of the intersection of Exit 11 and westerly to Old Farmers Road. From Exit 11, head west on MLK Blvd 1.5 miles & turn left on Old Farmers Road. Signs to site will be posted.*

A Note From Your President...

It was a real treat to host the August swap meet in Soddy-Daisy, TN at the Daisy United Methodist Church. I think this was at least my fourth time hosting there. Remember that this was only three weeks after the fantastic NIA National in Muncie, Indiana and despite that we had a great crowd. Collectors were there from six states, including Louisiana and Texas. Several people set up sales tables for the first time ever and we gained some new members. Dixie Jewels members support insulator shows, and not only our own. You will find Dixie Jewels people at many other shows and swaps across the country!

At Soddy-Daisy many insulators, bottles and collectibles found new homes with some happy new owners. I managed to add two chair leg insulators to my growing mini-collection and hope to do a chair leg insulator display at a future National or at Mid-Ohio.

November is always prime time in the insulator hobby with two of the best shows around. The Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, Ohio, to be held this year November 4-6, is always the "can't miss" show of the year. If you've ever attended this show you know what I'm talking about. You always want to come back again. We often joke that Dixie Jewels has better attendance there than at many of our quarterly swap meets. I know I'll see a lot of you up in Springfield, Ohio the first weekend in November.

Just two weeks later will come the next biggest show in November - the Dixie Jewels fall swap meet on Saturday, November 19. Tim Baggett will host us at the Hilldale Baptist Church Family Life Center in Clarksville, TN. He advises that he has secured some 6 foot tables, but please call him at (931) 237-0290 to reserve BEFORE the swap meet day. You'll find more information about the Clarksville get-together on pages one and two of this newsletter. For lunch, Tim has asked a friend - a three-time Tennessee Grand Champion Barbecue Master to prepare the meats. That makes my mouth water just thinking about it! I hope many of you plan to be there.

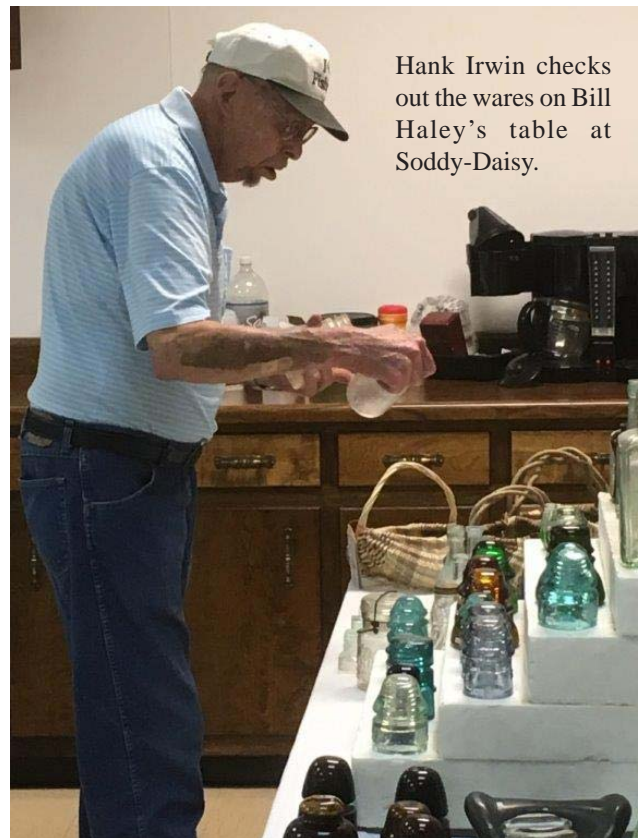
I'm excited to announce that our May 20, 2017 swap meet will be held in Loudon, TN. The swap will be at the Bethany Baptist Church and will be hosted by Steve and Robin Ruppel. Access should be easy. It is only 1 1/4 miles off exit 72 on I-75. Thanks to the Ruppels for stepping up and volunteering to host their first DJIC swap.

I am still searching for swap meet venues and hosts for the third Saturday in February, August and November. My goal is to schedule every 2017 swap meet in brand new places with new hosts! I have been working hard to make that happen, but I need your help. Please consider giving something back to the hobby you enjoy so much. I think you'll find that hosting is a rewarding experience. If you have held back because of the cost, the club will help with your expenses for the meeting place, rental and food. I will certainly do whatever I can to help you along the way.

- Bill Haley, President, DJIC



No shortage of insulators at a Dixie Jewels swap meet! This long view up Dudley Ellis' table shows some of the goodies he offered for sale from a recent purchase of a collection.



Hank Irwin checks out the wares on Bill Haley's table at Soddy-Daisy.

Soddy-Daisy Report: The swap meet on Saturday, August 20 at Soddy-Daisy was very well attended. Collectors from all over the southeast showed up expecting a good variety of insulators, bottles and other collectibles and they weren't disappointed. Bill Haley, the host, set up 14 sales tables inside because the weather forecast called for rain. Some folks showed up the day of the show wanting to set up and there was no room left inside so they decided to chance it outside. There were at least eight tables out there. Not a drop of rain, so everything was good! They helped draw in folks from the highway and we had a great deal of walk-in traffic.

Soddy-Daisy, TN Swap Meet Attendees:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Fred Pittman | Flat Rock, NC |
| Shiela Savage | Flat Rock, NC |
| Hank Irwin | Hixson, TN |
| Mike Funderburk | Franklin, TN |
| Phil and Scott Ball | Ooltewah, TN |
| Roy Hale | Greenville, AL |
| Patsy Ging | Athens, TN |
| Bill Haley | Chattanooga, TN |
| Rachel Howell | Harrison, TN |
| Dudley Ellis | Stockbridge, GA |
| Gary & Elizabeth Tilson | Madisonville, TN |
| Greg, Colin & Will Phillips | Chattanooga, TN |
| Stephen & Robin Ruppel | Loudon, TN |
| Ray & R.J. Harris | Kennesaw, GA |
| Sterling McCauley | Ooltewah, TN |
| Clifford & Vicki Hudgins | Cleveland, TN |
| Tim & Lindsey Baggett | Clarkville, TN |
| Roi & Debbie Shannon | Soddy-Daisy, TN |
| Ralph Dean | Milton, GA |
| Robert & Martha Johnson | New Orleans, LA |
| Gerry & Pamela White | Huntsville, AL |
| David & Geny Collins | Eatonton, GA |
| Howard Hackleberg | Clarksville, TN |
| Johnnie Barns | Aiken, SC |
| David Beaver | Hendersonville, NC |
| Mike & Eli Herron | Toccoa, GA |
| Sean McAusland | Asheville, NC |
| Stephanie Frankum | Clarksville, GA |
| Steve & Jana Roberts | Madison, TN |
| Tom Blatnik | Woodstock, GA |
| John Gasko | Augusta, GA |
| Mark Haley | Knoxville, TN |
| Jeremiah Spurling | San Antonio, TX |
| Paul Willis | Town Creek, AL |
| Bill Nifing | Bakewell, TN |
| George & Judy Dxapac | Cleveland, TN |
| Angela & Tony | Chattanooga, TN |
| Paul & Rosie Mayer | Soddy-Daisy, TN |
| Marc & Mindy Benton | Soddy-Daisy, TN |
| Annette & Brian Drake | Ringgold, GA |



Display Photo: Bill Haley set up a display of Insulators Found In Soddy-Daisy for the swap meet. This old photo, probably taken in the 1950's, shows the Daisy Service Station, which was less than a mile north of the church. Note the 5-6 crossarm pole line that used to exist along old Hwy. 27 (now called Dayton Pike). An old-timer told Bill and John Henderson where all the insulators were dumped when it was torn down. They investigated several years ago and easily found the insulator dump, but the area had been burned several times and every last insulator was broken.



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.****

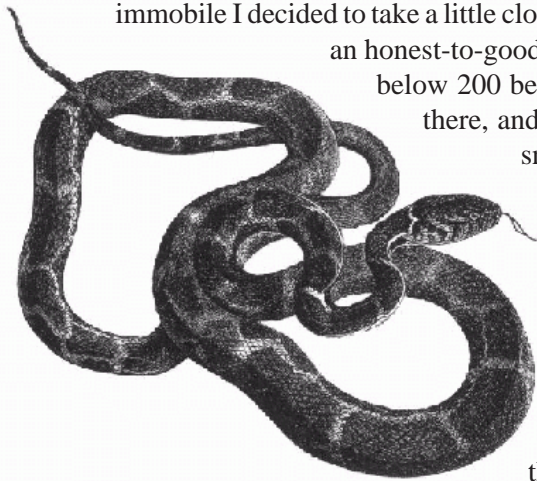
Snake Tales!

It's fall, sometime in the mid-1980's, the leaves on the trees have traded in their summer green colors for the reds, greens, oranges and yellows of fall. I've finally got a day off work and my plans are to go insulator hunting. The area to be searched is near the north end of Missionary Ridge in Chattanooga, TN. This area has quite a bit of history associated with the Civil War. September of 1863 saw one of the greatest of the Civil War in the South, Chickamauga, Georgia. After this great battle the Union forces moved north and occupied the town of Chattanooga. In November of 1863, the Confederate army, under the command of General Braxton Bragg held all the high ground in Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and a small hill north of the city, separated from Missionary Ridge and named many years after the war, Billy Goat Hill. Bragg's idea was to try and starve the Union forces and when they too weak to properly fight, attack. President Lincoln, aware of the dangers of a Confederate victory, contacted General William T. Sherman. Within a very short time General Sherman had established from Bridgeport, Alabama, a supply line for the Union forces. Well-fed, armed with new supplies, the Union forces attacked and over-ran the Confederate lines, and as they say, "the rest is history".

The area I chose to hunt was near where part of the Western and Atlantic Railroad ran through Chattanooga. The hunt had lasted over an hour before my first find, a small SCA glass jar, which I would later learn was used for snuff. My next find would be a CD 145. Nice find, but not the older stuff I was looking for. A couple of hours later the hunt continued and as I was working my way through some of the brush I saw it. NOT AN INSULATOR, BUT A LARGE SNAKE! My first reaction was to retreat as fast as possible, but since the snake seemed to be immobile I decided to take a little closer look. Suddenly I realized that the snake was not your local variety, but

an honest-to-goodness COBRA! I jumped back and after my heart rate finally dropped to below 200 began to wonder how in the world a Cobra had managed to find its way there, and how it had managed to survive, but most of all how to dispose of the

snake. Normally I don't kill snakes but this was a far from normal situation. I picked up a large stick and threw it at the snake. Nothing happened, so I moved a little closer, and after a few minutes I began to laugh. If someone had seen me at that very moment, they probably would have thought me crazy, standing in the woods, staring at a very venomous snake, laughing. Finally I walked over and picked up the very real-looking toy snake. That was the end of my hunting for the day. Not a lot of insulators, but one heck of a story. I've often wondered if another insulator or relic hunter deliberately left the snake there. Bill did you do it?



My office had a large bookcase and the case had minerals, fossils, old bottles, insulators and one large toy snake. When people came in to see my collection they all seemed to want to know about why the snake was there. I always replied, "Let me tell you a story."

- Billy Ewing, Nortonville, KY

Billy's great snake story brought to mind an incident that happened several years ago when John Henderson and I were hunting a line up in Kentucky. I was down near the base of a pole, hoping to find some glass on the ground when John shouted, "Watch out Bill, there's a snake real close to you!" I looked about 3 feet away and there was a beautifully-marked Hognose Snake about 3 feet long. Many of you know I work with non-venomous snakes all the time, and I was familiar with this species, both in the wild and with one we used for education programming for awhile. I knew it was not venomous and really didn't pose a danger to me, so I said, "Wow! It's a Hognose. That's one of my favorite snakes!" I planned to try and catch it, but it was too quick for me and disappeared under a nearby pile of old crossties. At this point, John came up with my very favorite snake quote of all time. He simply said, "I don't think I have a favorite snake!"

- Bill Haley, Chattanooga, TN

Upcoming Insulator Shows

Fri., Nov. 4 - Sun., Nov. 6, 2016

46th Annual Mid-Ohio Show

Held at the Clark County Fairgrounds, exit 59 off I-70, this is the largest insulator show on earth. Many Dixie Jewels Insulator Club members make the trip up there annually. Show hosts are Lois Blair (740) 852-3148 and Curt Boster (614) 301-5125 or cboster530@att.net. At least 125 sales tables and 20 displays are expected. (Sometimes they have even more sales tables!). Show hours will be Friday from 3:00-6:00, Saturday 8:00-4:00, Sunday, 9:00am until ??? A community display featuring Mexican insulators is planned. A Friday night banquet, catered by Rudy's Barbecue will happen after the close of the show. After the show on Saturday, they'll have an auction of insulators, with two collections auctioned off.

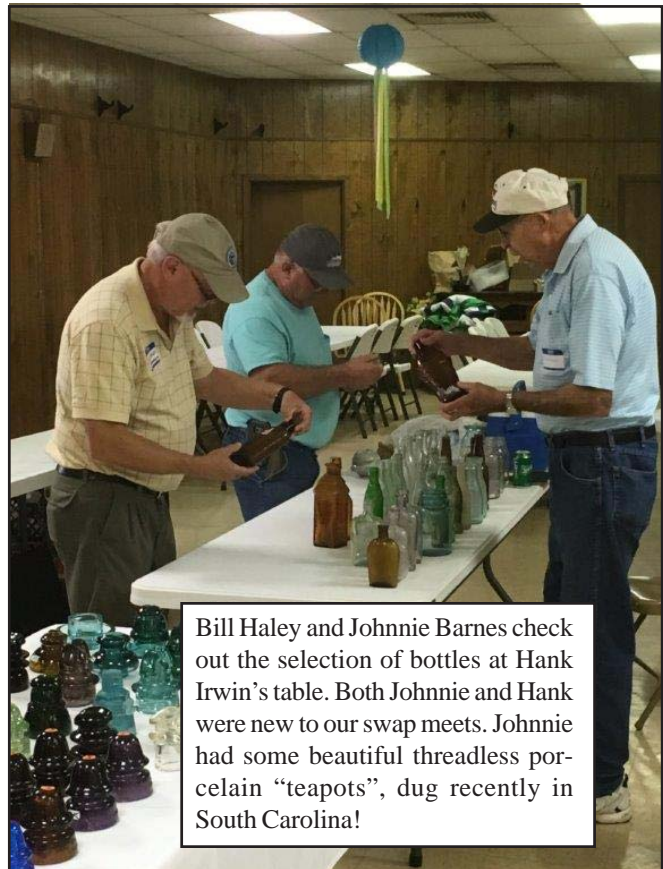
LODGING: The host hotel is Comfort Suites, at exit 54 off I-70 (only 5 miles from the show). For reservations please call (937) 322-0707. A special room rate of \$82.00 plus tax has been reserved. Be sure to mention you are with the Mid-Ohio Insulator Show. There are a good number of other hotels at exit 54 and several restaurants as well. For more info, visit:

www.insulators.info/shows/springfield

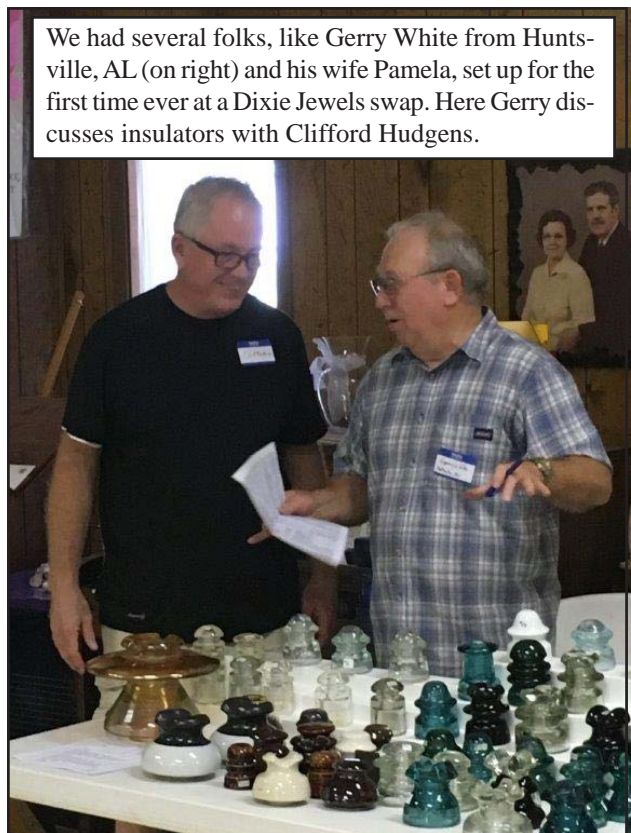
The Insulator Hobby Was Alive and Well at Soddy-Daisy, TN in August. *You should have been there!*



Paul Willis, from Town Creek, AL, (2nd from right in the background) joined our club at Soddy-Daisy. It was his first time to set up at one of our swaps. As this photo shows, he had plenty of lookers and buyers at his table. Welcome Paul and family!



Bill Haley and Johnnie Barnes check out the selection of bottles at Hank Irwin's table. Both Johnnie and Hank were new to our swap meets. Johnnie had some beautiful threadless porcelain "teapots", dug recently in South Carolina!



We had several folks, like Gerry White from Huntsville, AL (on right) and his wife Pamela, set up for the first time ever at a Dixie Jewels swap. Here Gerry discusses insulators with Clifford Hudgens.

- More Soddy-Daisy photos



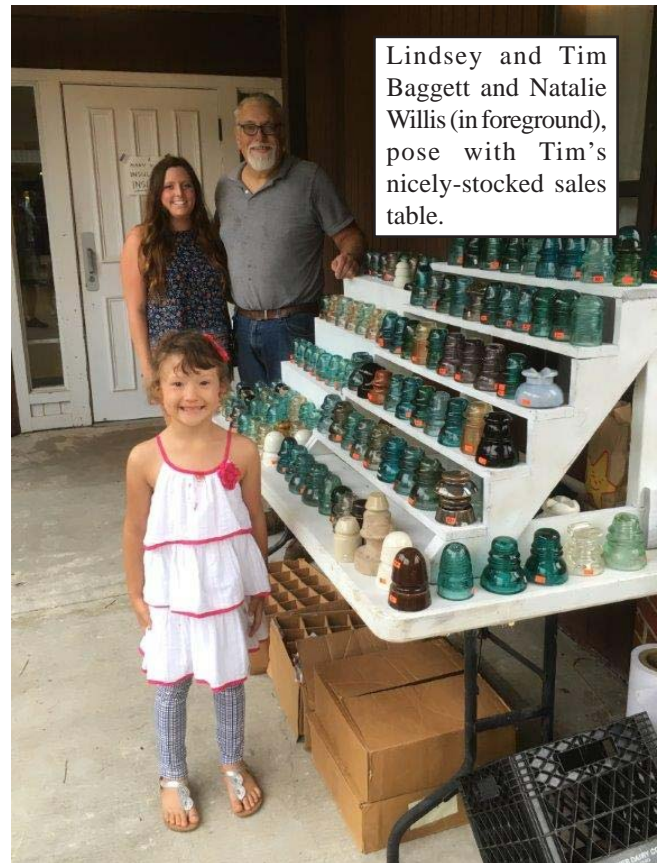
Dave Collins visits with DJIC Webmaster Ralph Dean.



Bill set up a display of insulators he and his brother Mark found in the Soddy-Daisy area, mostly in the early 1970's. Some within one mile of the church.



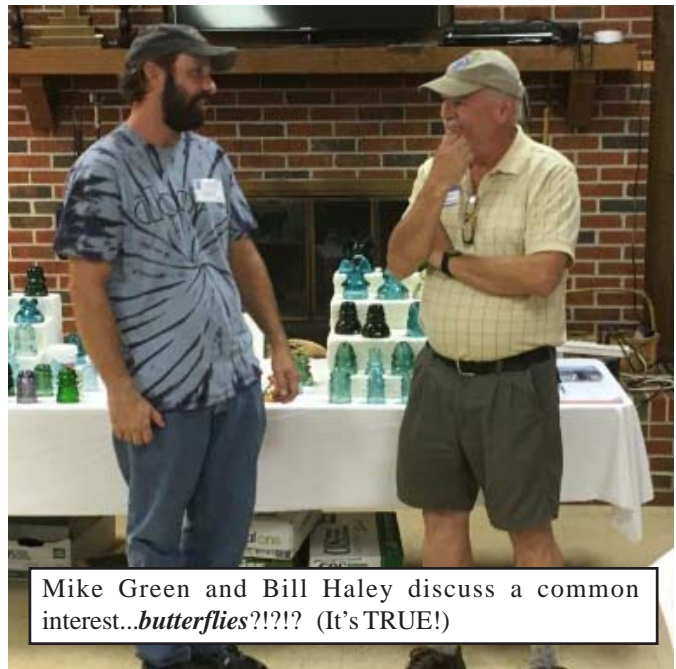
Marc Benton, Bill Haley's son-in-law, Mark Haley, Bill's brother and Jeremiah Spurling, Bill's nephew (and Mark's grandson), look over Dudley Ellis' table. Jeremiah was visiting from San Antonio, Texas.



Lindsey and Tim Baggett and Natalie Willis (in foreground), pose with Tim's nicely-stocked sales table.



Erika Green looks after the sales table while new husband Mike visits with friends.



Mike Green and Bill Haley discuss a common interest...*butterflies*?!?!? (It's TRUE!)



It was nice to see Martha and Robert Johnson, all the way from New Orleans, Louisiana, at Soddy-Daisy. Here they visit with Ralph Dean.



Scott and Phil Ball set up a sales table for the first time at Soddy-Daisy. Phil had a couple of cobalt-swirled CD155 Kerr DP1's that he traded.



Stephen Ruppel checks out the insulators in boxes under Howard Hackelberg's sales table, looking for hidden gems.

Get in on the fun! Swap meet hosts are needed for February, August and November 2017. Contact DJIC President, Bill Haley, wgh@tnaqua.org or (423) 326-9248 if you would like to be a host in the coming year. **Our goal:** Four new hosts, four new venues in 2017!