



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



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Neopolis Auction & Strongsville Show Report

Two events concatenated to make a trip to Ohio worth the travel. First was a Friday auction in Neopolis, Ohio that offered twelve M-2470 Locke lily shell insulators. This sequenced nicely with the Strongsville, Ohio show the next day.

Given the potential windfall to a lone bidder at the auction (mint M-2470s list for \$150-\$200), it was understandable that collectors who planned to attend the auction did not query other collectors to determine if they would be in attendance since this would tip them off as the potential bonanza. As a result, several collectors learned that the secrecy didn't matter as most of those that were hoped to be absent, in fact, were not. Those present included Glen & Dale Glendenning, Rick Soller, Dave Ramp, Curtis Erickson, Jamie Howdieshell, and a collector with the first name Ryan. Missing from the expected attendees was Jack Snyder and Andy Wadysz.

Superior knowledge might have given Dave Ramp an edge but Dave gave up that advantage by revealing what Robert Winkler had told him about the pieces. They were used on the Toledo, Wauseon, and Southern interurban line that opened 1906 and went out of business in the 1930s. Given the date the line opened, the insulators were probably made in the summer of 1906 at the Victor plan by Locke. Interestingly, the dimensions of the insulator do not match the dimensions in Elton Gish's identification book. The insulators in the auction had a top shell that was 8 inches wide, a bottom piece that was 6.25 inches wide, and a height of 8.25 inches. Robert said this was not unusual for Locke pieces to be a variety of sizes. Many of the insulators seemed to show fingerprints in the glaze on the top and underside of the umbrella. The insulators reportedly came out of a barn in Bowling Green, Ohio.

With secrecy failing, collusion was tried. At a previous auction that both Dave and Rick attended, they managed, with Robert Winkler, to not step on each other's toes too much so Dave and Rick initiated the same negotiation with the multiparts. When Curtis showed up, long experience with him eased his inclusion into the understanding. Glen & Dale departed soon after arriving since Dale was exhausted from work and they realized, with so many bidders, there wasn't much chance of bargains. Ryan was unknown to two of us and recognized only by face by Curtis so a conversation was started with him to get his name and assess his interest. Finances were a greater concern for Ryan so it was understood he would be interested in one of the pieces in less than mint condition. Jamie's name was known and some past positive dealings were recalled but a chance to strike of a conversation did not arise so a bidding monopoly was not possible.

Without a monopoly, superior bidding was needed. Dave was the designated buyer and successfully won the first round of getting his choice of one, some or all of the insulators for \$120 (plus 7.5% tax). He picked the four in the best condition. The second round resulted in his choice of four more for \$100 each. Round three resulted in a choice of three for \$55 each with the last one going for \$30. His superior bidding netted him all 12 insulators. Jamie was bidding

up the mint ones, Curtis upped the bid on some of the lesser ones, and Ryan put a couple bids on the worst ones. The oligopoly worked to some extent but there was not a perfect understanding as to how the bidding would work.

Despite some confusion about the bidding, dividing the spoils went smoothly. Dave's wife, Josephine, wanted one of the better ones with more of a purple cast to the glaze on the bottom section. Rick selected a mint one in a light tan color. Curtis picked one of the remaining mint ones. Ryan left shortly after the auction for the insulators so there wasn't a chance to offer him one at approximately what Dave paid. Rick got a second mint one and a round third piece. Curtis added two second round pieces to his pile and Dave ended up with the rest.

Merrillville, Indiana Swap Meet

There was not a meeting at the swap meet but Arlen Rienstra, the club treasurer, sent me a financial update after the show indicating that, after the recent deposit from the show, the club's balance stood at \$3,177.64. I think we are doing very financially, especially compared to other clubs. The week before, I was at the Strongsville, Ohio show and during their club meeting, the treasurer reported that their account held an amount that was a couple hundred dollars.

At this swap meet, the auction generated \$65 in commissions, \$271 in donations of cash or insulators, \$140 from the sale of 14 dealer tables for a total of \$476. The hall cost \$200 to rent and food/supplies were another \$191 so net expenses were \$391. This left \$85 to be deposited into the treasury of the club. About 40 people, including dealers, attended the swap meet. Incidentally, \$220 was collected in club dues.

Lot	Seller	Description	Buyer	Price
1	Dale Glendenning	Box of grey spools, wireholders	Rick Soller	\$2
2	Dale Glendenning	Box of glass Bfld-145, Lt blue pony	Richard Case	\$17
3	Dale Glendenning	Carnival, Postal, Tramp	Greg	\$5
4	Dale Glendenning	Postal, Grey Porcelain, Clear	Ben	\$1
5	Dale Glendenning	Beehive, pony's Jade CD 145	Richard Case	\$3
6	Dale Glendenning	145s, 125s, Beehives, 128s	April Cook	\$4
7	Mark Gilmore	Mickey, CD&P, Fairmount	April Cook	\$35
8	Dale Glendenning	Misc. Porcelain, white beehive, Locke	Ben	\$1
9	Dale Glendenning	Pin Base Ohio Brass	Greg	\$12
10	Dale Glendenning	Cobalt OB Porcelain, NN blue	Rick Soller	\$27
11	Dale Glendenning	Knox, OB, unglazed pinhole	Greg	\$16
12	Dale Glendenning	Kerr box + 11 insulators	Kirk	\$1
13	Dale Glendenning	Glass	Dave Shaw	\$2
14	Dave Ramp	Glass 40's, 42's – donation to club	Greg	.25
15	Dave Ramp	CD 160	Kirk	\$10
16	Russ Frank	Glass Jade 164, Frog, 133, 102	Les Christenson	\$22
17	Russ Frank	Glass	Kirk	\$20
18	Russ Frank	Glass, RB signal, 205 tramp, 133	Richard Case	\$39
19	Russ Frank	Glass 168 Amber, Bfd. Drips, 133, 145	Dieter Holz	\$14
20	Kirk	Glass beehives	Les Christenson	\$1
21	Kirk	Glass Hemingray-40s	Ben	\$1
22	Kirk	Glass Hemingray-40s	Ben	\$1
23	Mike McLaughlin	Books, Milholland/McD Price Guides	Richard Case	\$5

24	Mike McLaughlin	Books, catalogs	Rick Soller	\$22
25	Mike McLaughlin	Vol. 1+2 McDougalds previously owned by Chuck Dittmar	Kirk	\$40
26	Mike McLaughlin	Multipart book signed by Elton Gish	Les Christensen	\$11
27	Mike McLaughlin	Krupka & Bruner books	Les Christensen	\$24
28	Mike McLaughlin	Multipart	Ben	\$1
29	Mike McLaughlin	3 metal pins	Greg	\$1
30	Mike McLaughlin	Crown Jewels	Jay	\$4
31	Mike McLaughlin	Tibbets & Collector books	Jay	\$22
32	Mike McLaughlin	Green Bfld, 160 McL Spool	Dave Shaw	\$4
33	Mike McLaughlin	Spool Tie wire 145 42s	Greg	\$1
34	Mike McLaughlin	Square-D Dump stuff	Arlen Rienstra	\$5
35	Mike McLaughlin	Pink porcelain, white cleat, spool	Greg	\$32
36	Mike McLaughlin	Display stand	Dave Shaw	\$8
37	Mike McLaughlin	Cross Arm display	Gene Hawkins	\$5
38	Club donation	12 insulators, 147s, 42s, 45s, 2 boxes	Tom Nugent	\$2
39	Club donation	42s and 45s	Tom Nugent	\$1
40	Gene-donation	Insulators	Ben	\$1
41	Karen	2 crates of porcelain	Ben	\$2
42	Karen	Glass, choice box, beehives	Dave Shaw	\$1
43	Karen	3 boxes glass	Tom Nugent	\$1
44	Karen	Clear glass, Hemi 42 blue	Russ Frank	\$1
45	Karen	Sixteen 122s in clear	Dave Shaw	\$2
46	Karen	Hemi 45s clear	Greg	.50
47	Karen	Hemi 9s and 10s	Jay	\$8
48	Karen	Porcelain, glass, 145 Double B	Dieter Holz	\$8
49	Karen	Pyrex, carnival, porcelain	Dieter Holz	\$16
50	Karen	Pointy dome star 145, Macomb, rubber spool	Jay	\$13
51	Club donation	Josyln Simplex matchbooks, belt buckle	Rick Soller	\$32
52	Mark Gilmore	254, 102, amber and rock	Tom Nugent	\$20
53	Rick Soller	Porcelain ponies, 14 of them	Greg M.	\$2
54	Rick Soller	Porcelain	Ben	\$1
55	Rick Soller	Sediver glass suspension, green	Kirk	\$5
56	Rick Soller	7 porcelain, OB, Lapp	Ben	\$2
57	Rick Soller	Hi top 670, Green Bfld, 122, #9	Greg	\$3
58	Rick Soller	Box of glass	Kirk	\$5
59	Rick Soller	Hi-top, bubble	Russ Frank	\$1
60	Rick Soller	Ponies	Greg M.	\$2
61	Rick Soller	19 Hemi 42, H.G.Co.	Greg	\$1
62	Rick Soller	Pins	Greg	\$19
63	Rick Soller	Box porcelain, Imperial, British, Westing	Greg	\$9
64	Rick Soller	Box of 6 Bell paperweights	Richard Case	\$16
65	Rick Soller	Box of 6 Bell paperweights	Gene Hawkins	\$19
66	Rick Soller	Bell, London commemorative	Richard Case	\$20

67	Rick Soller	Amber, 147, 168, #9	Greg	\$6
68	Rick Soller	High top, porcelain	Ben	\$5
69	Rick Soller	Amber, 125	Kirk	\$7
70	Rick Soller	9 insulators	Greg M.	\$1
71	Rick Soller	Box with VMR Napoli	Kirk	\$10
72	Rick Soller	Multipart	Ben	\$1
73	Rick Soller	Multipart	Ben	\$3
74	Rick Soller	Crate full	Kirk	\$6
75	Rick Soller	Bucket full	Greg	\$5
76	Rick Soller	Crate of glass	Greg M.	\$7
77	Rick Soller	Crate full	Richard Case	\$4
		LUNCH BREAK AT NOON		
78	April	Donation		\$1
79	Ben	Donation		\$5
80	Les Christiansen	Donation		\$2
81	Mark Gilmore	Donation		\$5
82	Rocky Florida	Donation – Muncie	Greg	\$58
83	Rocky Florida	Donation-CD 143, Bfld, Hemi	Dave Ramp	\$21
84	Rocky Florida	Donation-McL, Maydwell, 145, star	Dave Ramp	\$25
85	Rocky Florida	Donation-160 Bfld	Russ Frank	\$6
86	Rocky Florida	Donation-Hemi, 164, green	Richard Case	\$12
87	Rocky Florida	Donation-Purple tramp top	Richard Case	\$12
88	Rocky Florida	Donation-Purple W-T	Russ Frank	\$30
89	Rocky Florida	Donation-Australian glass, Pittsburg	Dave Ramp	\$16
90	Rocky Florida	Donation-2 CALs, Maydwell	Dieter Holz	\$27

LaPorte Auction Report

The last newsletter included a notice that there would be an auction of some of the last of the Jim Crandall collection of insulators. The auction took place on Sunday, Feb. 12 in LaPorte, Indiana and consisted of mostly low end insulators in the \$5-\$20 range.

There were lots of colored porcelain pin-type insulators but also plenty of glass as well as a few oddities. The website of for the auction showed over 75 images of the various lots. Oddities included a G.E. fuse cutout, blue J-D suspensions, and a sky gray station post. Some of the class included CD 202s and CD 162s that were frequently found in the Chicago area. Unique mushroom top, sky grey porcelain pieces manufactured from about 1974-1985 were also available. Chicago was one of the few places where these were used.

Collectors bidding in the auction included Mike McLaughlin, Dave Ramp, and Gene Hawkins. Robert Winkler was also in attendance and indicated that the auction grossed about \$1700 in sales.

A few days after the auction, Colin Jung posted a notice about an estate sale in LaPorte, Indiana that included unsold lots from the auction or lots purchased by the auction company. The estate sale was taking place from Thursday, Feb. 16 to Sunday, Feb. 19. From the pictures of items in the estate sale, there were over 50 glass insulators (mostly CD 162s), at least one table of brown porcelain, a sky gray substation insulator, and a few white porcelain insulators. The auction company apparently thought they could make some money on insulators that collectors were not interested in.

Mike McLaughlin sent in more information for the next newsletter.

Upcoming Shows

Coon Rapids, Minnesota Saturday, March 25, 2017

The North Western Insulator Club invites you all to the first ever "North Suburban Insulator Show" at the Coon Rapids VFW Post 9625, 1919 Coon Rapids Boulevard in Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Hours are 9-3 and admission is free! Contact Daryl Lawrence at 763-300-4071 or at (dlaw116@msn.com) or klyennie@hotmail.com for more info. Bring some food if you like (optional), the kitchen should be open. Also bring your auction items, there will be an auction at noon. This will be the first show in Coon Rapids so come one come all and let's make this show a good, no-a GREAT show.

Yorkville, Illinois Friday & Saturday, April 7-8, 2017

Antique Insulators, Lightning Rods & Bottle Show at the Kendall County Fairgrounds in Yorkville, IL will be held Friday, April 7th and Saturday, April 8th. Friday from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Early buyers: \$50. Saturday from 8:00 to 2:00. Free admission all day. Info: JASON TOWNSEND 630-667-3357 or jtins76@gmail.com. This is a huge facility in a great location! 115 tables are available @ \$20 each. No rules.

Columbia City, Indiana Friday & Saturday, May 5-6, 2017

This is a new date for the show since the facility was already booked on the traditional date. This year's show will have a Friday night auction. One of the bigger little shows! Columbia City Insulator and Collectibles Show, Whitley County 4H Center, 581 West Squawbuck Road, Columbia City, Indiana. Dealer setup Friday noon to 3:00; public from 3-5 PM. Pizza @5PM. Show & Tell 6:00 PM-Bring something awesome to share! Saturday dealer setup 6:00 to 8:00 AM and open to public from 8:00 to 3:00. First 8-foot table is \$28. Two tables for \$48; 3/\$60; 4/\$75; 5/\$80; 6/\$85. Info: GENE WAWKINS gene.hawkins@mchsi.com

Austin, Minnesota Saturday, May 6 2017

The North Western Insulator Club will host a Spring Swap Meet at the American Legion, 809 12th St SW IN Austin, Minnesota. Hours are 9-3 and the kitchen will be open for breakfast, coffee and lunch. This is a roomy hall with lots of tables available for all and easy loading and unloading. There is space outside for display if the weather cooperates and we will plan to have an auction at noon. Gordy Cassidy is our host and if you would like more info, contact COLIN YENNIE at cryennie@hotmail.com or 507-289-1095.

Tama, Iowa Saturday, June 3, 2017

The 20th Annual Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet will be held at the Tama Civic Center on Saturday, June 3rd from 8:00 AM-3:00 PM. Dealers can set up starting at 7:00 AM. The Civic Center is located at 305 Siegel St. in downtown Tama, IA just two blocks off Highway 63. There will be no cost to set up and lunch will be provided to those in attendance. Over the past 19 years, many Midwest collectors and friends have joined us for this fun and relaxed annual event and this year should be no different. We look forward to hosting you again for a great time in the Hawkeye State and look forward to seeing you this June. For additional information you can contact show host DAVE SHAW at (641) 484-5463 or can e-mail me at dashaw@mchsi.com. Please contact show host for table reservation.

Join the Greater Chicago Insulator Club!

You are invited to join the Greater Chicago Insulator Club (GCIC) or renew your current membership. Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 and costs \$10. If you are 16 or younger, dues are \$5. Checks should be made out to the Greater Chicago Insulator Club and sent to Bob Stahr, 360 S. Kenilworth Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Your dues entitle you to a variety of benefits:

- Newsletter 6-8 times a year
- Free food at swap meets
- Club directory of members and their specialty
- Club hunts
- A network of club members looking for insulators to sell or trade to you
- Free ads in the newsletter
- Notification of insulators free for the taking
- Discounts on the prestigious club patch
- Collectible membership card
- Input into the hobby
- Opportunities to serve in positions of leadership
- Promotion of the hobby so you can share your collection with others
- A chance to practice your public speaking skills

Join or renew today by completing the following form. Check the box before any line if you **don't** want that information printed in the club directory.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E-mail: _____

Do you want to receive the newsletter via email _____ or in printed form sent in the mail _____?

Interests/wants/specialties: _____

(Mail to Bob Stahr, 360 S. Kenilworth Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137)