

THE

DIXIE JEWEL



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Newsletter of the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club

President Bill Haley
Treasurer Cal Baker
Secretary Bill Grieser

Newsletter Editor

Bill Haley

EVERYONE WITH AN E-MAIL ADDRESS GETS THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY!
E-mail Bill Haley at WGH@tnaqua.org, or mail to: Bill Haley, 215 McFarland Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37405 if you would rather receive a hard copy in the mail. Benefits of electronic delivery: faster delivery, lots of color photographs and a savings on postage and mailing materials to the club.

Fall 2015 Dixie Jewels Swap Meet

Daisy United Methodist Church

Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee

Saturday, November 21, 2015

8:30-2:00

The fall DJIC swap meet will be hosted by Bill Haley at the Daisy United Methodist Church, 9508 Dayton Pike, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30-2:00. The church is about 20 miles north of Chattanooga. Dixie Jewels has met there several times previously. Everyone is invited to bring a table of insulators to sell or swap. A limited number of tables will be available on a first come-first served basis if you call ahead to reserve one. Bill will provide a noon BBQ meal. If you wish to bring something, side dishes or desserts would be welcome. Even if you don't bring anything, plan to join us for lunch. We always have plenty to eat! Please contact Bill to let him know you are coming and if you will bring something to share at the meal. Come and enjoy a day with fellow collectors while adding some jewels to your collection.

For additional info contact:

Bill Haley, (423) 326-9248, wgh@tnaqua.org

DIRECTIONS TO DAISY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

If coming from Knoxville, TN and points north (I-75 South):

- Take I-75 South;
- Take exit 4 (Hwy. 153N), stay on Hwy. 153 for a little over 12 miles;
- Take Hwy. 27N exit, stay on Hwy. 27N for a little over 3 1/2 miles;
- Take Harrison Lane exit, turn left on Harrison Lane;
- In less than 1/2 mile road T's into Old Dayton Pike, turn right;
- Church is less than 1/2 mile on right. Fellowship building is on far side of church.

If coming from Atlanta and points south (I-75 North):

- Take I-75 North;
- At I-75 / I-24 split, stay right on I-75N;
- Take exit 4 (Hwy. 153N) in about 2 1/2 miles;
- Follow directions from 3rd step above.

If coming from the west, Nashville, Huntsville (I-24 East):

- Take I-24E to exit 178, Downtown Chattanooga (Hwy. 27N);
- Stay on Hwy. 27N for approximately 17 miles;
- Take Harrison Lane exit, turn left on Harrison Lane;
- In less than 1/2 mile road T's into Old Dayton Pike, turn right;
- Church is less than 1/2 mile on right. Fellowship building is on far side of church.

If coming from Dayton, TN or points north on Hwy. 27 South:

- Take Hwy. 27S;
- Take Harrison Lane exit, (3rd exit after crossing causeway over Soddy Lake), turn right;
- In less than 1/2 mile, road T's into Old Dayton Pike, turn right;
- Church is less than 1/2 mile on right. Fellowship building is on far side of church.

MOTELS NEAREST D.J.I.C. SWAP MEET IN SODDY-DAISY, TN:

This motel is 1.6 miles away from Daisy UMC, and is at the next exit north of Harrison Lane off Hwy. 27N.

Hometown Inn

222 W. Sequoyah Access Rd.
Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379
(423) 332-7755

The following motels are all in the Hixson, TN area, approx. 9-10 miles away and are located near Hwy. 153, which is the main connecting highway between I-75 and US 27 on the north side of Chattanooga.

Quality Inn

4833 Hixson Pike
(423) 877-8388

Home Away Extended Stay

1949 Northpoint Blvd.
(423) 643-4663

Country Inn & Suites

5000 New Country Drive
(423) 308-2333

Hampton Inn

1920 Hamill Rd.

Holiday Inn Express

4820 Hixson Pike

President's Message:

November is an exciting time in the insulator hobby. The first full weekend of the month, Nov. 6-8, features the biggest insulator show in the world. The Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, Ohio is well over 40 years old and it usually boasts more sales tables filled with insulators than the annual NIA National show. I know many Dixie Jewels members will make the trip up to Ohio for this one. Come by and visit at my sales table.

Two weeks later is the fall Dixie Jewels Insulator Club swap meet - the best little show in our part of the country. If you can't make Mid-Ohio, (*and even if you can*), you'll do well to travel to Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee on Saturday, November 21 for a renewed bout of insulator excitement. I'll be your host. We've met several times at Daisy United Methodist and we always have good attendance and great walk-in traffic from the busy highway nearby. If you have some extra insulators that you need to sell, this may be your golden opportunity. Come on out and join us for a day of fellowship! I will be looking for you.

Better get ready for another trip to L.A. next February. That's right folks, the Dixie Jewels winter swap meet will be in Lower Alabama. Roy Hale has invited us down to Greenville, Alabama on Saturday, February 20, 2016. Mark your calendars and plan to come.

Some folks have expressed interest in possibly hosting in May and August, but nothing has been finalized as of now. November 2016 is currently up for grabs. Please contact me at wgh@tnaqua.org or (423) 326-9248 if you would like to try your hand at hosting one of our quarterly swap meets. I'll gladly assist you in any way possible to make it happen. You'll find it is a bit of work, and a LOT of fun.

Our summer swap took place at Faith Baptist in Madison, Tennessee on August 15. My thanks to Steve and Jana Roberts, who were wonderful hosts! It was a chance to visit with some members we don't get to see very often, as well as catch up with the "regulars" who try to make every swap meet. We had collectors from seven states, and everyone enjoyed the day.

If you weren't at the swap, you missed a real treat. Steve displayed his impressive CD123 E.C. & M. Co. collection in a light box. It was quite interesting to see the variations in height and colors, and more than a few people had the opportunity to drool over the many nice specimens displayed there.

After a great lunch we met briefly to discuss some ways the money in our treasury will be put to use. Your officers agreed we would do things that will benefit ALL club members and the hobby in general. A number of good ideas were put forward, more of which may also be adopted in the future. For now we will:

1). The club will subsidize expenses incurred in hosting a swap meet, (within reason), such as facility rental fees and food costs. This can be in excess of the \$200 limit we'd adopted awhile back. Our swap meets have grown so large that it is impractical to have them at people's homes and often a place must be rented. It will be at the discretion of the individual host if they wish to be reimbursed for their expenses.

2). Starting with 2016 memberships, ALL Dixie Jewels club memberships will be reduced from \$10 per year to \$5 per year.

3). We believe strongly that young collectors should be encouraged when entering the hobby. Howard Banks, editor of *Crown Jewels of the Wire* magazine, has a program called "Insulators for Kids", in which a box of insulators will be sent to young collectors under the age of 12 as long as someone is willing to pay for postage. He usually includes at least one purple insulator in each box. Dixie Jewels will donate \$100 annually to the Insulators for Kids program, which could buy at least 5 purple insulators.

4). Our club has previously donated \$50 annually to Bill Meier, the webmaster of insulators.info and the *ICON* listserve. Bill's website not only introduces many people to insulators, it also provides free advertisement of upcoming shows and swap meets. Many times people tell me they read about a DJIC swap on this website. Going forward Dixie Jewels will increase that annual donation to \$100.

The implementation of these ideas was made possible in part thanks to generous donations by Ms. Sally Smith to the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club. Sally, who lives in Nolensville, Tennessee is unable to make many of our swap meets, but she was at Madison. Despite the fact she had recently spent 12 days in the hospital, Sally still had a smile on her face and was a joy to visit with. She and her husband were a driving force behind the Middle Tennessee Bottle Club, which disbanded several years back. There was money in a bank account and most members have passed on so Sally decided to donate that money to our club. She also donated \$1000 to help with expenses when we hosted the NIA National in 2013. It was a real treat for me to present her with a nice plaque expressing our clubs appreciation for her generous support.

Good collecting and I'll see you at Mid-Ohio or Soddy-Daisy in November.

Bill Haley
DJIC President

Attendees at the August 2015 swap meet:

Dave Kingston	Chester, SC
Mike Funderburk	Franklin, TN
Ken Roberts	Huntsville, AL
A.W. & Susan Anthony	Vidalia, GA
Steve & Jana Roberts	Madison, TN
Tim Baggett	Clarksville, TN
Dudley & Sandy Ellis	Stockbridge, GA
Gary & Elizabeth Tilson	Madisonville, TN
Ronnie Gaylord	Chilhowee, MO
Bill Haley	Chattanooga, TN
Dan & Shirley Goodrich	Dana, NC
Cal Baker	Hendersonville, NC
Ben, Barbara, Austin Gee	Hopkinsville, KY
Stephen & Robin Ruppel	Loudon, TN
Raleigh Sanford	Millington, TN
Matt Scrip	Millington, TN
Jim Wright	Bell Buckle, TN
Don Garwood	Hendersonville, TN
Sally Smith	Nolensville, TN
Rick Harris	Lavergne, TN
Roy Hale	Greenville, AL
Melody Ewing	Nortonville, KY
Ciara Ewing	Nortonville, KY
Cheyenne Ewing	Nortonville, KY
Billy Ewing	Nortonville, KY
John R. Bass, Sr.	Hendersonville, TN
Patsy Bass	Hendersonville, TN
Ray & R.J. Harris	Kennesaw, GA



E. C. & M. Co. S.F.
 This is what had everyone's attention. For the past few years Steve Roberts has been putting a specialty collection of E.C.&M. Co. insulators together and since he was hosting the August swap, he decided to bring them for everyone to enjoy. We all got a great chance to see many very nice pieces, including some extremely desirable colors. Thanks Steve!



WHAT'S EVERYONE LOOKING AT? *If you missed the Madison, Tennessee swap meet in August you missed a rare treat to see some rare insulators. Look at the top of the next column to see what is drawing everyone's interest.*

**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 annually, and they are due on January 1st each year. Please mail a check or money order made payable to our Treasurer, **Cal Baker**. His mailing address is: **230 Carriage Summit Way, Hendersonville, NC 28791**. If you have any questions about your dues, you can e-mail him at calb@bellsouth.net or you may phone him at **(828) 697-9410**. Perhaps the easiest way to renew a membership is at any Dixie Jewels swap meet.

IMPORTANT: If your e-mail address, mailing address or phone number should change, *please* contact Treasurer Cal Baker (contact info above) and newsletter editor Bill Haley, e-mail WGH@tnaqua.org to furnish the new information. If we don't receive new contact information, we can't send a newsletter.

HAWKS AND INSULATORS BILL'S EXCELLENT PENNSYLVANIA ADVENTURE

One thing I enjoy about the insulator hobby is the opportunity to see the country while traveling to insulator shows. It's a win-win, you get a vacation and an insulator show - all in the same bundle!

This story's about a win-win-win situation. I incorporated two hobbies I love, hawkwatching and insulators, with travel to a beautiful area of Pennsylvania.

First, a little history lesson: Prior to 1934 a jumbled mass of rock at a peak on the Kittatinny Ridge, locally known as Blue Mountain, was visited regularly by men carrying shotguns. This spot in southeast Pennsylvania was along a major migratory route down the Appalachians for raptors. The gunners perched on the rocks and blasted any hawk that came within range.

Conservation groups found out about the slaughter and petitioned the Audubon Society to put a stop to the shooting. When that organization drug their feet, a tiny little firebrand and conservationist named Rosalie Edge proceeded to buy the entire top of the mountain. She posted the land and hired a husband-wife team, Maurice and Irma Broun, to police the property and keep the shotgunners from accessing the rockpile. That rockpile is now famous and has come to be known as the North Lookout at Hawk Mountain.

That first year, Maurice would go up to the lookout when he had a chance and take a pair of binoculars to watch the passing hawks. He kept track of what he saw. Thus was born the sport of hawkwatching. Ever since then the annual hawk migration has been monitored at Hawk Mountain.

Today there are hundreds of hawk lookouts across the country, including the one I founded in 1993 near Soddy-Daisy, TN. (Do a search for Soddy Mountain Hawk Watch on the internet). To all hawkwatchers interested in history, a trip to the North Lookout where it all began is like a pilgrimage to Mecca.

When I discovered that the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club was holding the first annual Mechanicsburg, PA insulator show on Saturday, Sept. 19, I began studying my calendar. I had Wednesday-Sunday off that week and I knew mid-September is the peak of the Broad-winged Hawk migration through Pennsylvania. These crow-sized raptors are long-distance migrants headed for Central and South America. In good conditions, thousands might pass in one day.

The small town of Hamburg is only about 65 miles north of Mechanicsburg and less than 10 miles from Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. I set out from home at 6am on Sept. 16 and exactly 12 hours later I arrived at my motel in Hamburg, PA. I was primed for adventure!

The next two days were spent atop the North Lookout at Hawk Mountain, which you reach by hiking 2/3 of a mile over a rough, rocky trail. Believe me, it is a good cardiac workout to get there!

What did I see at Hawk Mountain? The two day total was over 2,250 Broad-wings, 25+ Osprey, 7 Bald Eagles, 1 Peregrine, 3 Merlin, 40+ Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks, several Ravens and a smattering of other raptor species. Not too shabby!

(My friends and I at the Soddy Mountain lookout saw over 8,100 Broad-wings come past from mid-September

to early October, our best year yet. This was over 2,500 above Hawk Mountain's final total.)



North Lookout, Hawk Mountain, PA

Photo by Bill Haley

Friday, after a 9:00-6:00 stint on the "soft rocks" at Hawk Mountain, it was time to drive south to Carlisle, Pennsylvania so I would be closer to next morning's insulator swap meet at Gus Stafford's new home in Mechanicsburg.

I arrived at Gus' home a little before 9:00. Several folks had already set up tables. Many of them are friends I've gotten to know by attending shows over the years, but I met some new friends too. It proved to be a fun day and you'll see by the photos that there were many nice insulators to be purchased or traded for. I would encourage Dixie Jewels members to try other shows around the country. Taking a little vacation? You may be pleasantly surprised to find an insulator show that you can incorporate into your trip!



Jim Frustieri's colorful sales table, with Claude Wambold's table in the background.



Gus had a nice, open backyard, with huge oaks to provide shade. This picture was taken when only half the sales tables were set up.

Mechanicsburg photos by Gus Stafford

Mechanicsburg, PA show, continued



Karl Furr and Greg Druck's table

Third row from top has a lot of threadless!



It was a picture-perfect day for the first annual Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania swap meet. Everyone there took home some new glass, and the noon meal was yummy too!

You may not know Gus Stafford's name, but you are almost certainly familiar with some of his work. He produces all the line drawings of insulators for the Insulator Price Guide. Gus informed me that he plans to hold the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club's September swap meet at his place "for years to come". He invited all Dixie Jewels members to come up next year.

If you go to insulator shows, you'll recognize some of the people who were there. Those in attendance were: John Sheehan, Daniel Wright, Greg Druck, Karl Furr, Jim Frustieri, Bill Rosato, Ed Szymala, Larry Baughman, David Bronson, Mark Evans, Claude Wambold, Allan Brown, Quinn Witherspoon, Reed Campbell, John Kelly, Steve Gosciminski, Cheyenne Gosciminski, Becky Morrison, Veronica Manuel, Frank Baldwin, Connor Stoem, Dante Dimidio, Mary Ann Pike, Joe Vangieri, Rich Wentzel, Doug Knouse, David Fertig, Bill Haley, Gus and Debra Stafford.

Thanks to Gus and Debra Stafford for a fun day!

Photos from the August Dixie Jewels swap meet in Madison, Tennessee



At the club meeting Bill Haley presented a plaque of appreciation from the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club to Sally Smith for a very generous recent donation. Sally explained she had held the position of treasurer for the Middle Tennessee Bottle Collectors Club for many years. The club was disbanded a number of years back and most of members have since passed on, so she decided to donate the remaining funds to the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club. Your club officers agreed that this money should benefit all club members, so they voted to reduce the membership dues for every DJIC member from \$10 to \$5 annually. We also wanted to help the hobby in general, so part was also used to increase the club's annual donation to Bill Meier for his great work on the *insulators.info* website to \$100, and we also donated \$100 to Howard Banks for his *Insulators for Kids* program, which sends boxes of insulators to help encourage aspiring young collectors below the age of 12.



You can always tell when someone hasn't set up a sales table at a swap meet in awhile. Ben, Barbara and Austin Gee showed up with boxes of glass and the "vultures" descended, hoping to get first dibs on what they brought! Ben says he still has lots of insulators in boxes and needs to go through them, so we can look forward to more of his "new" insulators at future swap meets.



The news that Mike Funderburk had just bought a collection shortly before the swap meet insured a big crowd around his table. It seems Bill was busy guarding his “pile” from snatchers and grabbers.



Elizabeth Tilson and Sandy Ellis “chillin’ out”



What’s with that black bag? Looks like Steve Ruppel is making a house call at Tim Baggett’s sales table. Actually, the bag is Steve’s specialized ICS (insulator carrying system).



Bill Haley set up a \$2 table and quite a few people picked up some bargain glass.



Got any bullets? If not, it is probably because this man has already picked them up. Gary Tilson loves CD 132 and 133.4 “bullets” and has amassed quite an impressive specialty collection the past few years.



Long-time member Raleigh Sanford and his young helper Matt Scrip came to the swap from Millington, TN.

All photos this page by Dudley Ellis



Dave Kingston, who has recently relocated to South Carolina from South Florida, ponders the meaning of life while gazing into an insulator.



It was good to see the Ewing clan, Melody, Billy, Cheyenne and Ciara, from Nortonville, KY.



Dudley Ellis was "Priced for Quick Sale". Unfortunately the price was too high and Dudley was still there at the end of the swap meet. The good news is that some of his insulators found new homes.



Front row: Ben, Austin and Barbara Gee, From Hopkinsville, KY, with Steve Ruppel, from Loudon, TN in the background.



Every host needs the help of a good hostess and Jana Roberts teamed up with Steve to do a fine job of hosting the Dixie Jewels summer swap meet. Thanks for all your efforts Jana and Steve!