



GREATER CHICAGO INSULATOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

Tina Rienstra, Club Member of the Month

Volume 31, Number 1
January 2023



Mid-Ohio Insulator Show Report

The November 4-6, 2022 Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, Ohio was as big as ever. Despite some regulars not making it to the show, the show was sold out, with regulars supplanted by new dealers like club member **Ed Peters**. Sales seemed brisk, friendships renewed, displays wowed, and a major auction held.

Dealers and displayers were let in as soon as tables were set up on Friday morning. The crew doing this was especially efficient as the doors opened by mid-morning.

This year, besides presenting ribbons to all displayers, free tables were awarded to several displays. **Elton Gish** won the people's choice award for his display of early telegraph insulators. Club member **Rick Soller** won a free table at next year's show for his display of CD 154 and CD 155 insulators from around the world. **Bill Snell** recreated part of his display from the national on Oakman insulators and won the award for most educational display. Several other excellent displays were also on hand. **Alan Stocky** showed a cut-away Ohio Brass lightning arrester. The display by **Roger Lucas** featured Hemingray signals after a rough night at the saloon. These were dug at the Hemingray factory dump and included several deformed insulators. **Don Briel's** display was a tribute to insulator collectors which showed a variety of insulators and provided reasons to collect. **Don Mecklenborg's** display showed a range of colors for the CD 176 Santa Ana insulator. Whitall Tatum: Diverse and Unusual Go-Withs was put together by **Walt Baumgardt**. **Rick Soller** had a second display showing Electro-se composition insulators.

If you received the December 2022 issue of the Drip Points, you might have read **Kim Borgman's** page 31-32 story about the rare CD 270s he and **Rick Soller** bought in an Indiana auction and how the auctioneer brought more of them to the Springfield show and sold them to Kim. Rick sold one of his five for a small profit to **Ray Klingensmith** for \$320 who sold it for \$2400 in his auction that ended a month later. Rick reports that next time he'll consign rare insulators to Ray's auction rather than sell it outright. Kim and Rick also managed to buy some CD 302s at the auction.

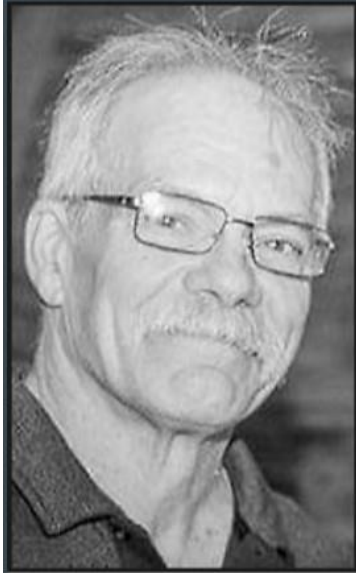
After the show closed, Friday night featured an insulator auction. Thanks to **Marge Frank** for displaying items in the auction and walking them to the winning bidder after the hammer fell on each item. Also, a big thanks should go to **Bill Rohde** who provided pizza to those attending the auction. Of note in this auction was the radio strain collection of **Lois Blair**. Some of her strains sold in the auction held a year before at the Friday night auction but the best strains were in this auction. **Curt Boster** had hinted to **Rick Soller** that such might be the case, so Rick had been saving up all year to bid and was successful on almost every lot of interest to him. Other club members, including **Cole King, Russ Frank, Les Christensen, Jennifer Alley-Fisher, Dennis Seltrecht, and Greg Delia**, found success in the auction. Results of the auction can be found on the next few pages. It wasn't possible to catch all the bids or identify all the bidders, but an extensive record was created.

Lot #	Description	Price	Buyer
101	Box of porcelain	\$25	#15
102	Blue porcelain suspension, Lapp 3 skirt, white porcelain	\$35	Cole King #193
1	Aqua sombrero, 9 pieces, oil bottle, radio strain	\$5	Cole King
2	5 pieces of glass, CD 210, W-T amber, CD 152, tramp bottom	\$15	#15
3	5 insulators, blue porcelain signal, CD 210, W-T amber, aqua cable	\$10	Cole King
4	5 insulators, two green CD 152s, CD 145, tramp bottom	\$10	Cole King
5	5 insulators, CD 152 green Hemingray, CD 145, CD 143	\$17.50	Cole King
6	5 insulators, CD 145, Hemingray Double Petticoat, CD 126, CD 162	\$12.50	#15
7	5 insulators, two milk glass Maydwells, signals, blue, green	\$50	Walt Baumgardt #199
8	5 insulators, 2 beehives, CD 133 aquas	\$25	#15
9	5 insulators, gingerale CD 154, CD 160	\$20	#105
10	5 insulators, aqua CD 167, beehive, CD 154	\$35	#195
11	5 insulators, two green CD 145s	\$35	#15
12	5 insulators, CD 126, CD 124, CD 121	\$25	#193
13	5 insulators, CD 104s	\$20	#197
14	5 insulators, 5 ponies, amber, straw, exchange	\$17.50	Walt Baumgardt
15	3 insulators, CD 210, signal, PRR dark aqua	\$95	#105
101	Green CD 101 Brookfield	\$30	#193
#2	WGM toll, light aqua	\$35	Walt Baumgardt
#3	WGM light purple CD 145	\$50	#151
#4	WGM purple CD 121	\$30	Cole King
#5	CD 124 Hemingray ambered up	\$165	#105
#6	Hemingray-19, dark amber	\$50	#191
#7	Muncie with pin	\$175	#191
#8	Pyrex carnival	\$110	#191
#9	Royal purple CD 121 WGM	\$35	Cole King
#10	2 piece diamond, purple	\$200	Cole King
#11	CD 162 green Star	\$15	Cole King
#12	WGM purple	\$40	Walt Baumgrdt
#13	B beehive	\$20	#180
#14	CD 162 yellow olive	\$270	Dennis Seltrecht
#15	Rootbeer CD 162	\$50	#191
#16	Coolie with base, no pin	\$170	Rick Soller #179
#17	CD 302 Muncie	\$55	#15
#18	CD 731 aqua	\$275	#191
#19	Old Familiar Strains book	\$75	#4
#20	Insulator W/2	\$70	Rick Soller
#21	Cornflower blue radio strain	\$85	Rick Soller
#22	Cobalt blue Twin-a-Leak	\$50	#159

#23	Ink blue radio strain with base	\$275	Rick Soller
#24	Dark green radio strain	\$50	Rick Soller
#25	Green panelled radio strain	\$180	Rick Soller
#26	Western Auto radio kit	\$25	Rick Soller
#27	Pyrex radio strain with box	\$30	#191
#28	Opalescent glass radio strain	\$120	Rick Soller
#29	Clear radio strain	\$25	Rick Soller
#30	ESS porcelain radio arrestor	\$35	#3
#31	Blackglass radio strain	\$50	Rick Soller
#32	Birnbach radio kit	\$70	?
#33	Gray M-4395 porcelain multipart	\$1400	#192
#34	Thomas porcelain	?	?
#35	McLaughlin blue bottle	\$175	#191
#36	12 Edison oil bottles	\$170	#191
#37	Weathered San Francisco wood insulator	\$225	#151
#38	2 racks, 2 angle pins, composition ramshorn	\$55	#7
#39	Copper clad U-1743, missing inner skirt	\$260	Rick Soller
#40	CD 145	\$25	Rick Soller for Curtis Erickson
#41	CD 162 orange amber	\$300	Dennis Seltrecht
#42	CD 408 green	\$35	Walt Baumgardt
#43	CD 162 cobalt blue	\$230	#191
#44	CD 143 Royal purple	\$70	Rick Soller
#45	15 pieces, CD 162 cobalt	\$525	#195
#46	Blackglass radio strain	\$80	Rick Soller
#47	Milkglass radio strain	\$100	Rick Soller
#47x	Teal panelled glass radio strain	\$1300	Rick Soller
#48	Cobalt radio strain	\$140	Rick Soller
#49	Green radio strain	\$50	Rick Soller
#50	Clear radio strain with cobalt streak	\$130	Rick Soller
#51	Philco radio set	\$45	Walt Baumgardt
#52	Choice of lightning arrestor two x \$27.50	\$55	Les Christensen
#53	Choice of lightning arrestor, three x \$27.50	\$82.50	Jennifer Alley- Fisher
#54	Choice of lightning arrestor, two x \$15	\$30	Les Christensen
#55	Choice of arrestors with box, two x \$25	\$50	Walt Baumgardt
	Choice of arrestors, two x \$15	\$30	Les Christensen
	5 arrestors	\$25	Les Christensen
#56	Choice of aqua radio strains, three x \$30	\$90	Rick Soller
#57	Radio strains, three x \$30	\$90	Rick Soller
#58	Green radio strains, seven x \$30	\$210	Rick Soller
#59	Purple radio strain	\$40	Rick Soller
#60	Radio strain	\$35	Rick Soller
#61	Clear radio strain	\$5?	#198
#62	Dog bone clear glass insulator	\$85	Russ Frank #146

#63	Christmas tree radio strain, cobalt "Air Pocket"	\$50	Rick Soller
	Choice of insulator, ladder line	\$40	#199
	Choice – Pyrex box	\$25	#191
	Choice – radio strain box	\$10	#191
	Choice, three x \$10	\$30	Greg Delia #163
	All the rest	\$30	#191
#64	Surge can	\$10	#116
#65	Purple Brach radio strain	\$65	Rick Soller
#66	Mulford & Biddle	\$65	#2?
#67	Opalescent CD 121	\$65	#196
#68	E-14B opalescent and milk glass CD 121	\$275	Rick Soller
#69		\$80	Walt Baumgardt
#70	CD 135	?	#173
#71	Knowles	\$190	?
#71x	Two cobalt Ukraine insulators + green	\$135	Rick Soller
#72	No embossing purple transposition top	\$70	Rick Soller
#73	Phone	\$50	#189
#75	Light purple radio strain, large tab on end	\$140	Terry Drollinger
#76	Aqua radio strain	\$70	Rick Soller
#77	Blackglass radio strain	\$50	Rick Soller
#78	White milk radio strain, sharp edged ribs	\$120	Rick Soller
#79	Two green radio strains	\$50	Rick Soller
#80	Light green panelled radio strain	\$290	?
#81	Purple radio strain	\$60	Rick Soller
#82	2 diamond radio strains	\$60	Russ Frank
#83	14 colored radio strains	\$350	Rick Soller
#84	Purple Brach radio strain	\$50	Walt Baumgardt
#85	LRI 12	\$60	#191
#86	Seltzer bottle	\$30	#198
#87	Five foreign warning signs	\$180	Rick Soller
#88	Date nails	\$120	#198
#89	215 issues of Crown Jewels	\$30	#191
#90	Arc, brackets	\$40	#7
#91	Brackets	\$30	#192
#92	TH-E aqua, milk	\$20	Cole King
#93	Fizzy CD 162, aqua, pat date	\$10	#193
#94	Lynchburg, McLaughlin CD 252s	\$35	#191
#95	Two CD 252s Hemingray-62s	\$55	#191
#96	Four No 2 Cables, Knowles CD 252	\$55	#191
#97	CD 208	?	?

Don Archer, Rest in Peace



Former club member Don Archer passed away on July 7, 2021 at the age of 62. Don lived in Churubusco, Indiana. I tried to contact him a couple years ago but with no success. I only learned about his death through a listing for an auction that included U-908A metal top J-D insulators. It turned out that the auction was for his estate.

At the time, the U-908A insulator had only been reported on a line along State Route 205 that ran from Churubusco to Columbia City, Indiana. Over the years, upgrades to the line resulted in some of these insulators coming down and Don managed to acquire them and introduce them to the hobby. In December of last year, I drove that section and saw at least 61 of them still on the line although there once were many more. Mike McLaughlin reports that there is another line in Indiana that features these insulators.

Josh Dondorf Insulator Finds

Josh Dondorf frequently digs for insulators and scours antique stores around the area. In the last year, he has managed to find some impressive pieces (at least to some people). Two of these are covered here.

The first is a spool (embossed on the top)(arc) TYPE E (reverse arc) PATENTED NOV.23 1915 AND MAY 16, 1916. It has a diameter of 3.85” and a height of 2.78” (not including the teat rest). The first date refers to design patent D48,174 for the shape of the insulator. The second date refers to utility patent 1,183,182 for the use of the spool as part of a trolley hanger. The inventor, Alexander Lee Fox, was from East St. Louis, Illinois. This is the first example of the insulator reported.



A brief search on Newspapers.com uncovered some information about the inventor. The Belleville Daily Advocate (June 3, 1914) indicated Alexander Fox was an official of the East St. Louis and Suburban Railway Company. This would explain his interest in trolley wire hangers.

The second insulator found is probably of interest to more collectors. It is a block-style lightning rod insulator. Although the shape is well known to LRI collectors, the red contamination in the glass is probably unique. So much contamination is in the glass that most of it is red. I am guessing that the contamination was iron which turns red when it rusts.



References

“Suburban Officials on Outing.” (June 3, 1914). Belleville Daily Advocate, p. 4. Also printed in the Semi-weekly Advocate. (June 5, 1914). P. 6.

Saturday, January 28, 2023 Crown Point, Indiana

The 15th Annual Greater Chicago Insulator Club "Beat the Winter Blahs" Insulator swap meet will take place on Saturday, January 28, 2023 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 889 S. Court St., Crown Point, Indiana. Gate 2, 4-H building. Tables are \$30, with each additional one \$15. Lunch will be provided. The facility is bright with plentiful space, and electricity. The famous GCIC auction will be featured again. The show location is close to I-80/94 and I-65. RSVP: Arlen Rienstra. ariens@att.net (219) 671-8816.


Saturday, March 11, 2023 Platte City, Missouri

The 2023 NW Missouri Insulator and Bottle Show & Sale is scheduled for Saturday, March 11, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the Platte County Fairgrounds, 15730 Fairgrounds Rd., Platte City, MO 64079. This is a large Antique show with 85+ tables of insulators, bottles, jars, telephones, porcelain signs, lightning rod balls & arrows and other miscellaneous collectibles. FREE insulator & bottle appraisals available. For information: Darryl Wagner, insulators@dwagnerkc.com, 816-719-080.

Saturday, April 1, 2023 Wheaton, Illinois

The DuPage Collectors Expo Show will be held Saturday, April 1st, at the DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, Illinois, Hours are 9:00 to 3:00. Items for sale & trade include Insulators, Lightning Rod items & Weathervanes, Telephone & Telegraph items, Bottles, Jars, etc. Info: BOB STAHR: bob@hemingray.com (630) 793-5345 and RICK SOLLER: rdmershon@aol.com (847) 782-8602.

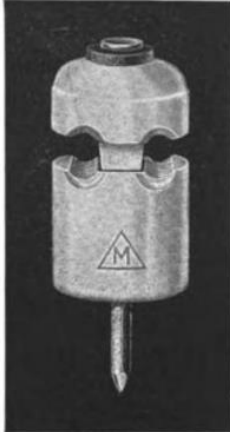
The best insulation is **PORCELAIN**



The best Porcelain Tube is the
“WEDGE”

Tube. Provided with sharp edged projections which cut into the wood when the tubes are driven, and prevent the tubes being pulled out of the holes when drawing wires, or from vibration of buildings.

The Best Porcelain Split Knob is the
“PLUG”



Caps, Bases, Leatherheads, Nails, all assembled, ready for use. Wire-ways can not get out of alignment. Saves time, labor and profanity. Code Standard and then some.

Packed in Boxes of 500.
MADE BY

Illinois Electric Porcelain Co., - Macomb, Ill.

PATENT PENDING

(Patent Pending)

The New
“Triangle”
Strain
Insulator



50 per cent greater
Leakage Distance

ILLINOIS ELECTRIC PORCELAIN CO., Macomb, Ill.
Manufacturers High Grade Electrical Porcelain
Pacific Coast Distributors
BAKER-JOSLYN COMPANY
71 New Montgomery St.
SEATTLE SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES

This ad was found in The Journal of Electricity, Power, and Gas. (November 27, 1915). Page 3.

I wonder if the Baker-Joslyn company is related to the Joslyn company.

You can see the triangle-M marking on the end of the strain.