



**GREATER CHICAGO  
INSULATOR CLUB  
NEWSLETTER**

Ephraim Podgorski, Club Member of the Month

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**Platte City, Missouri Show Report**

The Saturday, March 11, 2023 show in Platte City, Missouri drew collectors and dealers from near and far with 85+ tables filled with insulators, bottles, jars, telephones, porcelain signs, lightning rod balls, and more. Unfortunately, a massive snowstorm that was projected to hit Gurnee, Illinois on the Friday led me to cancel my table a few days ahead of time, so I am writing this report with the help of some of those who made it to the show including Gene Hawkins and Riley Armstrong.

The show was open to the public from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday but dealers were able to setup on Friday. I didn't realize that dealer setup on Friday started at noon so my original plans to leave Gurnee around 7 a.m. were changed to a 4 a.m. plan before I cancelled the trip altogether.

Leaving from much farther south and out of the path of the storm that hit Gurnee, Illinois, Mr. Gene Hawkins and Mr. Kim Borgman faced light traffic, a couple construction sites, and little troubling weather until their return trip when they drove through some rain and snow. Along the way to the show, they stopped at the Brass Armadillo where they saw, but did not purchase, \$90 purple WGMs. By 5 p.m. they arrived at the show and got their table set up.

At the show, there was a mixture of results. There was good walk-in traffic to the show, although Gene did not report having a lot of sales and did not buy much for himself. He did indicate he had a lot of fun. Gene estimates that about 30% of the wares at the show were bottles, some table-top antiques, and the rest insulators.

Some of the attendees included area collectors, some club members, and some distant travelers. Besides Gene and Kim, club members Dave Shaw, Riley Armstrong, and show host Darryl Wagner were there. Others from the area included several Whitlocks (Matt, Jeff, Deana, Mason) and Dennis & Jeannie Weber. Texas was well represented with Ross Baird, Dave Hall, and Bob Berry gracing the aisles and sitting behind sales tables.



Show host Darryl Wagner. Photograph by Riley Armstrong.



Craig Scheloski and Scott Miller had a 50% off sale on their table. The big cobalt blue substation piece was not included in the sale and, in fact, was not for sale. To the left of this table was the sales table of Riley Armstrong and Dave Dahle. There was lots of white porcelain under their table. On top were polymer insulators, green porcelain, a cable spacer, and other glass and porcelain.

### **The Wheaton, Illinois Show – Less than 1 week away**

With the DuPage Collectors Expo show in Wheaton, Illinois less than one week away, the show hosts are very busy with preparations.

Two collections will be for sale in the dealers-only auction on Friday evening and numerous other lots will be provided by others. LRB dealer Marie Masiarchin let the show hosts know about a collection in Hustisford, Wisconsin that was going to be in an estate sale. Photographs were sent of the collection and Rick drove up to the farm and bought the collection. The collection included both glass and porcelain pintypes, 2 multiparts, three lightning rod insulators, and more.

The second collection comes from club member Ephraim Podgorski. Ephraim's family is moving and he is attending College soon so decided to down-size a great deal of his collection. Included in the auction from him are glass and porcelain pintypes and a couple multiparts.



This is about one-third of Ephraim's collection that will be in the auction. Some of it got packed before a picture was taken.

Rick bought several lots of insulators and lightning rod balls recently that will be in the auction. The insulators came out of an Iowa sale and include some nice LRBs and a large number of radio strains (both porcelain and glass). Pictures of both are shown below. The gold mercury LRB will not be in the auction but the white milk glass "ELECTRA," the purple swirl, the white ceramic staircase, and the two purple Electra Cones will be sold with no reserve.




**PROBABLY** in no other country do insulators have to meet such varied requirements as in the United States. From the cold Northwest, through the torrid alkali desert to the hot, damp Southern swamps practically every variety of climatic or service condition exists. And in the United States

Deep Groove Double Petticoat. Teats on Petticoat prevent moisture creeping up pin.

## HEMINGRAY

### Screw Glass Insulators

are standard for all telephone, telegraph, railroad or power purposes —because they prove the most lasting and efficient.

The two insulators here illustrated are for Street Railway or Lighting Service. Get our free catalog showing our many other styles of insulators. Mailed free on request.

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 (3) Covington, Ky., U. S. A.



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 JUNE 17 1890 MAY 2 1893  
 CABLE INSULATOR

American Exporter (November 1915), p. 28.

## HEMINGRAY

### STANDARD SCREW GLASS INSULATORS



HEMINGRAY.  
 No. 9

Have proved their superiority by their successful use in every condition of climate and service throughout the United States.

Excessive cold or heat does not affect them. They are very strong and substantial.

No. 9 Single Groove Pony Insulator.

### ABSOLUTELY WATERPROOF

The teats on the petticoat collect moisture or rain and prevent the water from creeping up the pin. All Hemingray Insulators have this exclusive feature.

The three insulators shown are exclusively for telephone use, for which they give the best service.



HEMINGRAY  
 No. 12  
 PAT. MAY 2 1893



HEMINGRAY  
 PAT. MAY 2 1893  
 Long Distance Regular Insulator.

Write for big free catalog

## HEMINGRAY GLASS CO.

No. 12 Double Groove Pony Insulator

COVINGTON, KY. U. S. A.

American Exporter (September 1915), p. 28.

## Upcoming Shows

**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. \$50 for the first table, \$45 for each additional table. Electricity is \$10. For more information, contact BOB STAHR at [bob@hemingray.com](mailto:bob@hemingray.com) or (630) 793-5345 and RICK SOLLER at [rdmershon@aol.com](mailto:rdmershon@aol.com) or (847) 782-8602.

**Saturday, April 29, 2023**

**Strongsville, Ohio**

The Western Reserve Insulator Club's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap Meet and Club Meeting will be at the Clubhouse (formerly Spyglass Hill Recreation Center), 13201 Compass Point Drive, Strongsville, OH 44136. This show formerly our 'Winterfest' but shifted to 'Springfest' last year. Dealer Setup: 9:00am; Show Hours: 10:00am-3:00pm. Club Meeting and Lunch: 12-1:30pm. There are no admission or table charges, but space is very limited, so please contact us ahead of time if you plan to set up! Info / RSVP to JOHN HOVANEC (216)392-3622, E-mail [jrhovanec@ymail.com](mailto:jrhovanec@ymail.com)

**Friday & Saturday, May 5-6, 2023**

**Columbia City, Indiana**

The 2022 Columbia City, Indiana Collectibles Show is May 6 & 7 at the Whitley County 4H Center, 581 Squawbuck Rd., Columbia City, IN. This is one of the least expensive shows to attend or be a dealer. A single table is \$30, two tables are \$55, three tables are \$75, and four are \$90. Show info, contact Gene Hawkins [gene.hawkins@mchsi.com](mailto:gene.hawkins@mchsi.com) or Mike McLaughlin 574-377-5490 for other show info or for dealer tables. Friday dealer setup noon-2 PM Open to public at 2 PM Friday 5 PM Pizza. Friday 5:30 PM Show & Tell, where folks bring really cool stuff with special stories. Always interesting stuff comes off collector's shelves for discussion, things you won't see unless you visit them as it often isn't for sale, just special! PLEASE Bring something with a story to share with us! Saturday doors open for dealer set up at 6 AM, public at 7 AM. Saturday at 10 AM will be another auction, so clean out the closet & bring your clutter! Dealers can pack up whenever they need to do so.

**Saturday, May 13, 2023**

**Bovey, Minnesota**

The North Western Insulator Club Spring Show and Sale will be at the home of Rick And Mary Augustyn on Saturday, May 13 located at 34879 Scenic Highway in Bovey MN. This is an outdoor event in the Augustyn's spacious yard under the Northwoods pines. Canopies are welcome if you have them. Hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Rick will be grilling for lunch. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Bring your own tables and chairs as you need. This is a great location with plenty of room to spread out your inventory and finds and all are welcome. No fees for this meet. Please notify Rick if you are coming or if you have questions at [augies9ers@gmail.com](mailto:augies9ers@gmail.com) or 952-240-3960. Bovey is 3 hours (190 miles) north of the twin cities.

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**  
**Berlin, Ohio**

The Amish Country Insulator Show & Swap Meet will be held at the Comfort Suites Hotel & Conference Center, 4810 TR 366, Berlin, Ohio 44610 on Saturday, May 20, 2023. Setup time is 9 a.m. with the show running from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables are 6 feet by 30 inches. One for \$10 or two for \$15. Work is under way for a block of rooms. The show is in the heart of Amish Country with multiple antique stores and great Amish cooking! Lunch is provided. For more information or to reserve a table, contact Tom Nelson at (330) 231-9579 or email him at [tomnelson1960@yahoo.com](mailto:tomnelson1960@yahoo.com).

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**  
**Tama, Iowa**

The 26<sup>th</sup> Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet will be returning to Tama and is being held at the Tama Civic Center on Saturday, June 3rd from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The Tama Civic Center is located at 305 Siegel St, Tama, IA 52339. Dealers planning on setting up can do so starting at 7:00 AM. There will be no cost to those planning on attending though dealers wishing for table space will need to contact the show host in advance. This event tends to attract collectors from Iowa and surrounding states and is a very relaxed atmosphere which is greatly enjoyed by those attending. We look forward to hosting you again and wish to provide you with some Hawkeye hospitality. For any additional information and to request table space, please feel free to contact Dave Shaw at (641) 484-5463 or e-mail at [dashaw@mchsi.com](mailto:dashaw@mchsi.com)

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 9-11, 2023**  
**Logan, Utah**

The National Insulator Association's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Show and Convention will be held at the Cache County Fairgrounds in Logan, Utah. The fairgrounds is located at 450 South 500 West, Logan, UT 84321. There will be plenty of dealer space and exhibit space plus a multitude of things to do in the area. Complete show information will be available in 2023 at the Gettysburg National and subsequently online. Show Hosts are: DON & JEANNE BRIEL, (435) 753-5786, [Don.Briel@comcast.net](mailto:Don.Briel@comcast.net) and BRIAN & CATHY WEESE, (801) 201-5187, [brianlweese@gmail.com](mailto:brianlweese@gmail.com)

**Saturday, July 8, 2023**  
**West Leechburg, Pennsylvania**

The Western Reserve Insulator Club's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Allegheny Valley Insulator Show & Sale will be held in the West Leechburg Fireman's Recreation Hall, 1116 Gosser St., West Leechburg, PA 15656. Show Hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM with dealer setup starting at 7:30 AM. 8' tables are \$20. Free Admission Contact: Ron Barth [rktbarth@windstream.net](mailto:rktbarth@windstream.net) (724) 845-8439.