



GRISWOLD & CAST IRON QUARTERLY

Volume 28, Number 1

WINTER

January, February, March 2023

Page 2: President's Message, Art Chatfield. Dues Reminder And Update

Pages 3-6: Top 50 Countdown Continues, Scott McCarter

Pages 7-10: Making An Inventory Of Your Cast Iron Collection, Mary Theisen

Pages 10-11: A Piece Of Real Nebraska Cast Iron, Doug Wenz

Pages 11-13: Identifying A Lodge 'Lucky Dog' Pup, Joseph Zawadowski

Pages 14-16: Report On The Heartland Regional Chapter Meeting, Brian Wheeler

Pages 16-17: A Look Back In Their Own Words, Eric McAllister

Pages 18-19: Announcements

Page 20: G&CICA Board And Contact Information

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone, as I am writing this President's message we are packing our bags for the convention in Baton Rouge. We are in Southern Ohio and looking forward to Spring. And one big thing we are looking forward to is the 2023 national convention in Baton Rouge. If you haven't been to one of our conventions you are missing out on a great cast iron event and a great time of fellowship with other collectors. Our next issue will cover the convention with pictures and details about the various events.

I know that I have been promising the new website availability in past newsletters and this time I am happy to say that we are live with the initial version. Check it out at GCICA.net and let us know what you think about it. The members only part is still under construction but the public part is available.

Spring has finally arrived in southwest Ohio and that makes me think about trying to visit all the fine outdoor flea markets and antique shows in the area. I am always on the lookout for quality items to add to my collection. I also need to start lining up some items for the 2024 club auction in Erie, Pennsylvania. I've entered a few items in this year's auction and they are packed up and ready to go. Looking for a few good pieces to put in the club auction adds a little extra fun to my search for cast iron!

Finally stay safe and good hunting and look forward to seeing you at one of our regional meetings this summer and fall.

Art Chatfield

Email me at artchatfield@gmail.com or phone at 513-673-1875.

DUES REMINDER

Yearly memberships end on December 31st. Please renew your memberships for 2024 before that date. Dues should be sent to the secretary, Melinda Fontenot. Her contact information is at the back of the newsletter.

A dues increase was proposed, voted on, and accepted at the annual convention in Baton Rouge. A \$5.00 increase per person was approved. Individual membership for 2024 is \$30, and family membership is \$40. The student rate will remain \$10. The dues will not increase until 2024, so anyone joining or renewing late up until January 1, 2024 will pay the old rates.

And the Countdown Continues for my Top 50ish List....

Spring is here and that means convention time is here as well – convention time is my favorite season of the year. Our next newsletter will have a great recap of the convention in Baton Rouge in case you were not able to attend. We are writing the articles prior to the convention – however I am predicting the convention was a blast and everyone has an awesome time.

I sure hope all has been going well and you have been enjoying spring and the warmer weather. Hopefully, you have been able to make a few shopping trips and add some cast iron to your collection. If you want to have fun, buy some iron, and meet great people then the convention is a must attend. It will not disappoint so please make plans to attend in April.

So, in the last five or so years I have talked about my favorite pieces of cast iron/aluminum and what steps and decisions that were needed to identify that all-time favorite piece, the one I must have, would grab and secure in an emergency, dream about, and of course would never part with. I have shared the first items that I have ranked in my top 50ish – I can only guess that will change over time so please do not hold that against me – plus I have found some new items at the last few conventions that will modify the list and have extended it beyond 50 items – I think I am way past 50 now so thank you for letting me tell this story...stay tuned as this is fun to share the journey, hard to pin down the top items, with lot of debating with myself, and yet it really helps me enjoy my collection and really look at each piece and think about when and where I acquired that item.

So, after much thought and sleepless nights thinking about this, I will reveal the next **3** items (really 14 items) on my top 50ish list. Remember it is not about the retail value of an item – it is a piece that I enjoy looking at and treasure. So, some items on the top 50 will not always be high priced but they will be a treasure in my eyes.

Drum roll please for the top items to continue down the list and see that we have more items to share and try and narrow the list down. How fun is that? So, now on to the list and some of the items that have tied for the top spots and on our way to one at some point.

#2i (tie) – As you might have realized by this time, I really love the chrome and nickel-plated pieces. Today I am sharing some of my all-time favorite pieces like the awesome chrome and nickel plated #3 skillet covers/lids. Yes, we all call them lids but they are clearly marked skillet cover – made you look.

For some reason I have always liked the #3 lids and have enjoyed collecting and admiring the great workmanship of the lids and just how cool they display. Plus, the bonus of the small size of the lids makes them easy to display and move around if needed.

Starting with the top left and moving to the right for each row – all are chrome or nickel plated.

Row 1: a. #3 lid – low dome, smooth top, chrome and not polished, normally see this lid highly polished.

b. #3 lid – low dome, smooth top, chrome and highly polished.

c. #3 lid – high dome, smooth top, chrome and highly polished.

Row 2: a. #3 lid – high dome, hammered, hinged, and nickel plated.

b. #3 lid – high dome, hammered, hinged, and highly polished chrome.

c. #3 lid – high dome, hammered, hinged, and nickel plated, highly polished.

Row 3: a. #3 lid – high dome, button logo, and nickel plated – seldom see nickel plated button logo.

b. #3 lid – high dome, button logo, and chrome plated and polished.

c. #3 lid – low dome, full writing, chrome plated and polished with (double loop handle versus the standard single loop on a #3 lid – very rare version with chrome and double loop handle)

Row 4: a. #3 lid – low dome, full writing, chrome plated and polished.

b. #3 lid – low dome, full writing, nickel plated with double loop handle – super cool and rare with nickel plating and the double loop handle.

c. #3 lid – low dome, full writing, chrome plated and not highly polished.



#2j (tie) – And next on the list today is the large 5-tiered Dutch oven rack, or in this case the Tite Top Baster rack. This beautiful rack has amazing, nickel-plated feet and then 3 gorgeous, crafted plates mounted at the top of the rack proudly promoting the Griswold brand and Erie, PA.

I am imagining walking into the local hardware store to buy a skillet or Dutch oven and seeing this rack holding the 6-10 Dutch ovens or basters and thinking; I need that full sets of Dutch ovens, plus how do I get the rack as well. I bet the owner of the hardware store had many offers to purchase the display piece over the years and most likely declined by saying I need to be able to display my goods so not for sale at this time.

Super cool item and still functional today. Once again delighted it was preserved for us to enjoy and see that beautiful craftsmanship and plating still intact.



#2k (tie) – And next on the list today is the #3 oval roaster in black porcelain with smooth lid – block logo. The #3 oval roaster came in several variations - you will see them in aluminum, black iron, red and cream porcelain, quaker ware, and yellow porcelain.

This is the first version of the #3 oval roaster I have come across that is in the black porcelain. Have seen a few skillets, lids, trivets, and ash trays in the black porcelain as well.

This roaster is in great shape – someone must have stored away and wanted to keep this jewel clean and used only for special occasions.



And for **#1** – well you will have to wait just a bit longer to our next couple of Newsletters to see the big reveal, and what is next in the top 50ish countdown...

I also believe when you mix in some chrome, porcelain, aluminum, and nickel in the collection it helps add a little pop to the collection and really stands out well within the black iron.

So, you start to see the dilemma on identifying that one favorite piece – is it possible and how do you decide on that? Whatever your answer and however you can get to one favorite piece it really is about the journey, the stories, and the amazing times.

So please share your list, bring that favorite item to the next convention in April 2023 - Baton Rouge, LA, and we would love to hear the story, take a few minutes, write a quick story & send to Joseph for the next newsletter

Please feel free to contact me with your ideas, concerns, your passion to volunteer, ideas for a future article, or wanting to host a convention.

Take care & see you soon in Baton Rouge - My contact info is: Phone/text: 479-866-2421, evenings & weekends are best. Email / slmccarter@cox.net

Thanks Scott McCarter

Page 6

Making an Inventory of your Cast Iron Collection

By: Mary Theisen 3.23.23

Spreadsheet Programs: Excel, Numbers, Sheets

When I had a substantial amount of cast iron cookware, I kept an online inventory using an Excel spreadsheet. It's easy, free, and it helps to keep track of what you have, where it is, what you spent, and its value. You can easily add to the spreadsheet when you add pieces to your collection.

If you sell or otherwise gift or dispose of a piece, you can also document that action. This is important not only for your own records, but for insurance and tax purposes. An inventory of the collection – what the pieces are and their value – would also be extremely helpful in the event of your collection being evaluated in your absence.

You can create categories on the spreadsheet for whatever is important to you.

Here's an example:

Cast Iron Inventory							
Item	Date acq'd	From	Cost	Sold date	To	Price	Notes
Griswold Santa mold	3/21/19	eBay	295	3/23/23	eBay	420	
Gris 8 LBL EPU	2/18/18	Bob Johnson	30	3/23/23	Sally Jones	125	Pitted
Total			325			545	

The “sum” function of the excel spreadsheet enables you to quickly see how much money you have into your collection, and how much you have made in sales (if you sell). That is important, of course, for tax purposes. If you wanted to keep track of the content and value of your collection for your own information (e.g. to avoid buying duplicates and/or for insurance purposes), you could also have a column for “Value” and “From.” The “From” column would be to document where you pulled the value of the piece from – e.g. eBay sold prices, an auction's realized price, the Blue or Red book, your personal opinion, your uninformed neighbor's offhand comment, or some other source.

Here's another example, with items organized by maker:

Cast Iron Inventory				
Item	Cost	Value	From	Notes
Griswold				
8 skillet LBL EPU PN 704E	40	125	eBay "sold" price	
6 skillet small logo PN 699J	0	40	my opinion	Gift
Wagner				
10 skillets stylized 1060	40	130	auction realized	
Unmarked				
5 skillet HR B on handle	5	15	my opinion	pitted bottom
TOTAL	85	310		

You could also have categories for skillets, cast iron and aluminum, kettles, etc. Basically, you can organize it in whatever way makes sense to you.

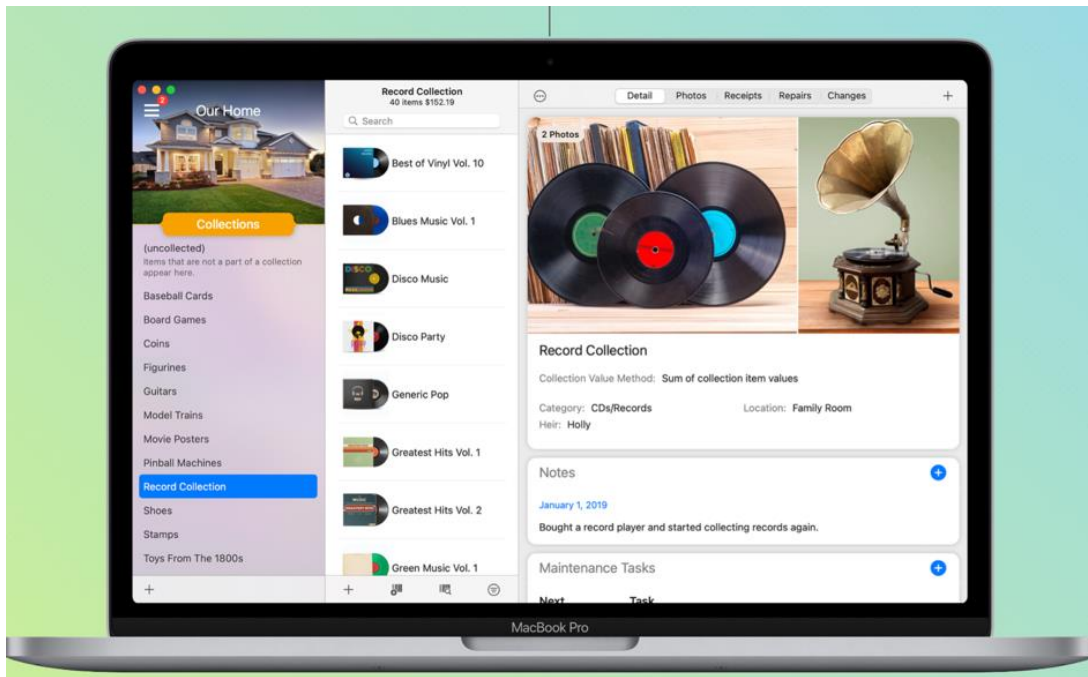
“Under My Roof” App

I have a small collection of silver flatware, and I wanted to catalog the collection and add photos, both for insurance and my own identification purposes. I did a little digging and found a fee-based application called “Under My Roof.”

The app costs \$24.99 per year. It is designed to keep track of items in and around your home and is easily modified to enable you to keep track of your cast iron collection. It works on iPhone, iPad, and MacBook. Entries and changes seamlessly sync between all three.

Instructions about how to use the app are on the app’s website. You can also download the user manual there and see video tutorials. <https://undermyroof.app>

The app allows you to take photos of any item you choose, and to attach it to information about the item.



Collections

Under My Roof is a collector’s dream with flexible valuation methods, photos, receipts, notes, and other important information.

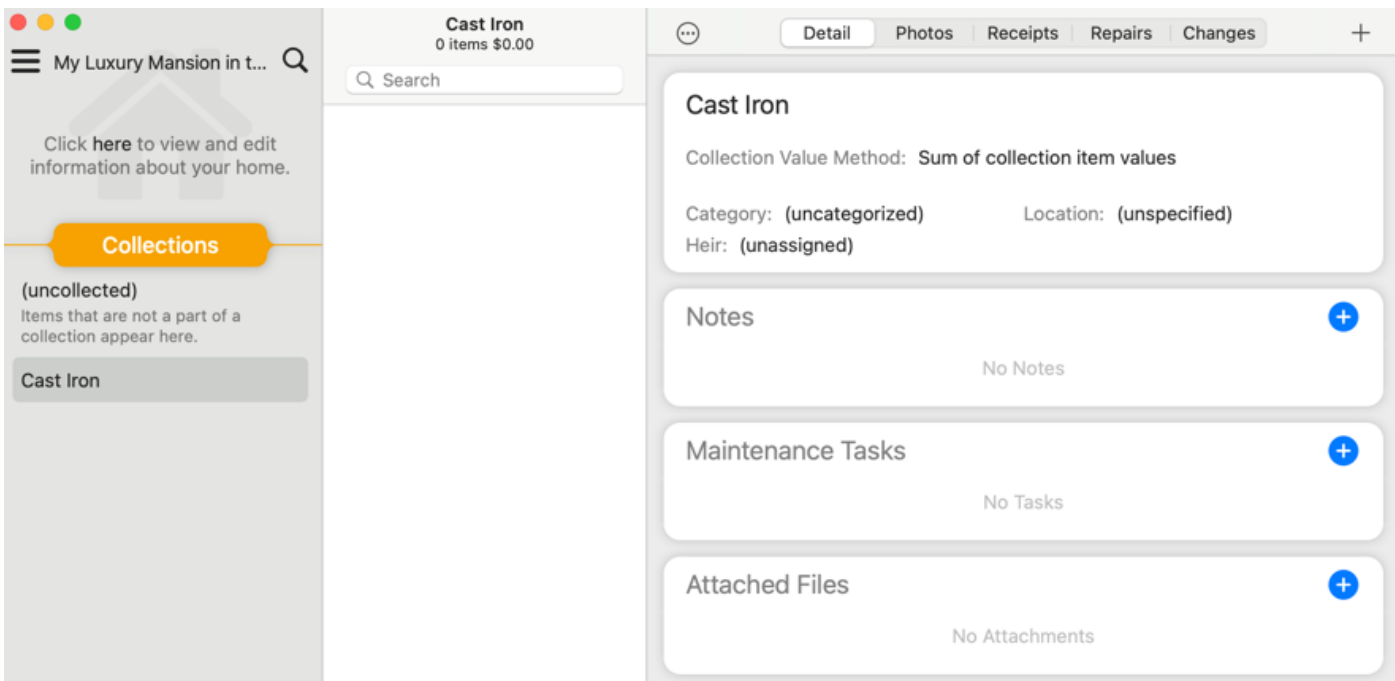
From the User Manual:

For Collectors

Under My Roof also helps you keep track of your collections by:

- Grouping related items, such as records, stamps, or figurines, into collections.
- Giving you special valuation options to value the collection as a whole. For example, a complete collection of baseball cards for a specific team may be worth more than the sum of each of the cards individually.
- Keeping detailed notes about your collections.
- Storing photos and receipts for your collections.
- Storing relevant documents, such as letters of provenance and copies of certificates of authenticity.

Here are a few screenshots to show it could be used to inventory your cast iron collection.



New Item

Photos
Receipts

Name

Serial Number

Make

Model

Price

Value

Quantity

Purchase Date

Purchased From

Add Photo

I hope that this little writing is helpful to you. If you have found additional online methods that work well to catalog your cast iron collection, please share them with the rest of us!

THIS IS REAL "NEBRASKA CAST IRON"!

By: Doug Wenz

This pot or kettle is for a "Perfection Cooker". The bottom is marked "PATENTED JULY 14, 1908" and "NO. 893483".

I did a Google search on the patent number and found that the pressure cooker was invented by William Gray of Lincoln, Nebraska. It was manufactured at a foundry in Omaha.

After I did a patent search and realized what it was, and that it had ties to Nebraska, I went back to the store where I bought it to see if there was anything else in the booth. Unfortunately, I was not able to find the cover or clamping apparatus.

I have included photos of the pot or kettle and the Patent drawing.

Here is the Patent info from Google: <https://patents.google.com/patent/US893483A/en>

US893483A - High-pressure steam and water cooker. - Google Patents



No. 893,483.

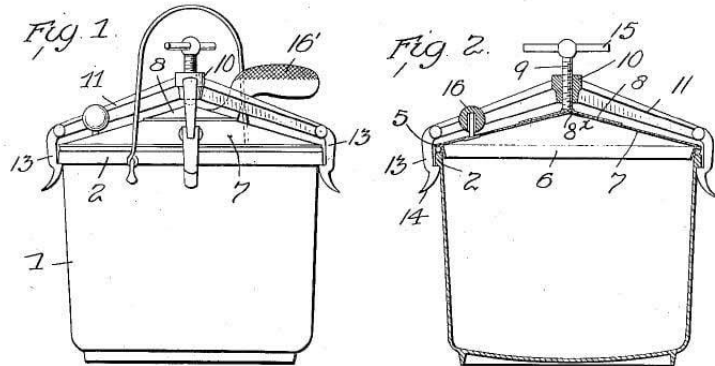
PATENTED JULY 14, 1908.

W. GRAY.

HIGH PRESSURE STEAM AND WATER COOKER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Doug Wenz

Cell Phone 308.530.8507
doug.shpro@yahoo.com

IS IT A LODGE LUCKY DOG?

By: Joseph Zawadowski

Since the Lodge Lucky Dog pup is not marked, I have always been curious if there might be a way to identify one using specific weights or measurements, but have never been able to obtain a certifiable Lucky Dog to examine. As explained in this article, this pup has been identified as a Lodge Lucky Dog. It looks like many other unmarked, plain pup paperweights with indented pupils.



Recent posts and comments on Face Book by visitors to the Lodge Museum and the Cornbread Festival have provided a significant lead for identifying the Lodge Lucky Dog pup. Cindy Ohm Lubahn posted a photo of a pup pattern displayed in the Lodge museum. Her photo is copied here. Eric Shankles noted that the bottoms of the pups had rows of dots like the dots seen on Lodge hammered toy skillet. I believe he made a significant observation towards identifying Lodge Lucky Dog pups, and that these dots were used by Lodge to track individual parts cast from a 'gang' pattern.

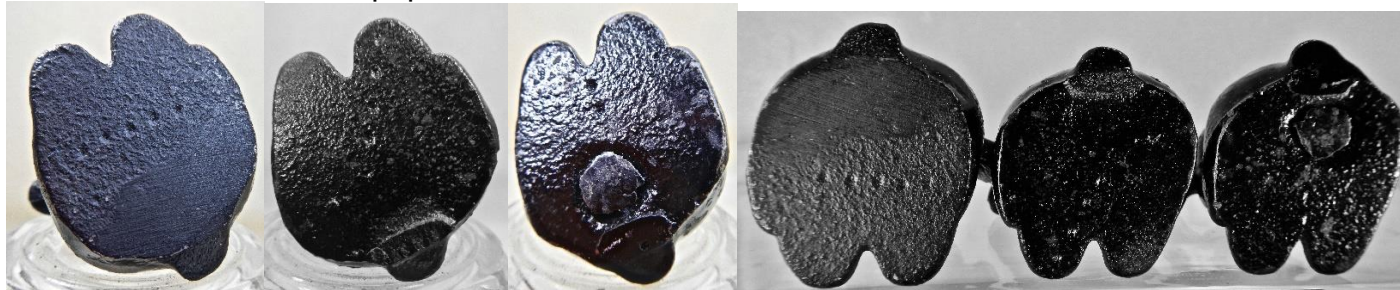


I went through the unmarked pups with pupil eyes in my collection and found three that have dots on the underside. One has five dots running from side to side. One has five dots running from the left foot at an angle towards the right side of tail. One has two dots running from between the feet straight

up towards a casting flaw near the tail. The first one corresponded with the dots seen on the pattern.

Ron Haines and Cindy note that the bottoms of two rows of pups on the pattern cannot be seen. It is probable that the dots on those pups run vertically from between the feet towards the tail and from the right foot at an angle towards the left side of the tail. Thus, there are four different dot lines of from one to six dots that individually identify each of the twenty-four pups on the pattern. After discussing these dots with other collectors, they have gone through their collections and found pups with vertical and angled dots corresponding to the unseen ones presumed to be on the pattern.

The dark lacquer on the pups in the photos made it hard to get good photos of the dots, but they are truly there. The full body photos at the start of this article are the pup with five dots running from side to side. The other two pups look like it.



In addition to the dots, all three pups have tails beveled up on the underside and all are black lacquered or jappaned. Where it can be seen, the line between the mold halves appears to correspond to the line on the front half pattern in the photo.



I asked on FB if any GCICA members or readers had Lucky Dog pups confirmed to have come from Lodge. Anita Dunham posted this photo of two Lucky Dogs given to her in recent years by former Lodge CEO Bob Kellerman. There are no dots on either of them. The tail that can be seen does have the upward bevel. So, not all Lucky Dogs have dots on their undersides. Some were made using different patterns than the one displayed in the museum. Patterns that lacked the tracking dots on the bottoms of the pups. Whether the dotted pattern was used before or after ones without the tracking marks is not known.

I believe that at least some genuine Lodge Lucky Dog pups can be verified using the presence of the tracking dots. Those without them must be verified by provenance or documentation.

REPORT ON THE HEARTLAND CHAPTER MEETING, SEPTEMBER 30TH AND OCTOBER 1ST AT CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO

By: Brian Wheeler

The 2022 Heartland chapter meet took place in the town of Cape Girardeau, Missouri and was hosted by Chris Kendall.

On Friday evening we gathered at the Mary Jane Bourbon & Smokehouse for dinner. They provided an excellent catered buffet including pulled pork, brisket and ribs. The food was great and the evening including lots of laughter and many cast iron stories.

Saturday was our official meeting at the Hampton Inn meeting area. It was attended by 18 members including 1 new member. Doug Jurgens, current chapter president, began the meet with the business portion. Brian Wheeler elected as chapter director. The new secretary/treasurer position was postponed until the current secretary could be there in person. Brenda Bernstein filled in for the secretary at the meeting. No other positions needed any changes. Russel Howser volunteered to host the 2023 chapter meet with Doug & Kathy Wenz volunteering to host the 2024 chapter meet. We had a very informative Show & Tell session with some very unique and rare items that everyone wished were in their own personal collections. We had a quick lunch from Jimmy Johns and then got to the fun portion of the meet – the swap meet. Lots of great iron was put out for all to see – and purchase too!

A big thanks to Chris Kendall for hosting the meet. We all are looking forward to the national conference in Baton Rouge.

HEARTLAND MEETING PHOTOS







A Look Back, In Their Own Words

G&CICA the 1st 25 years

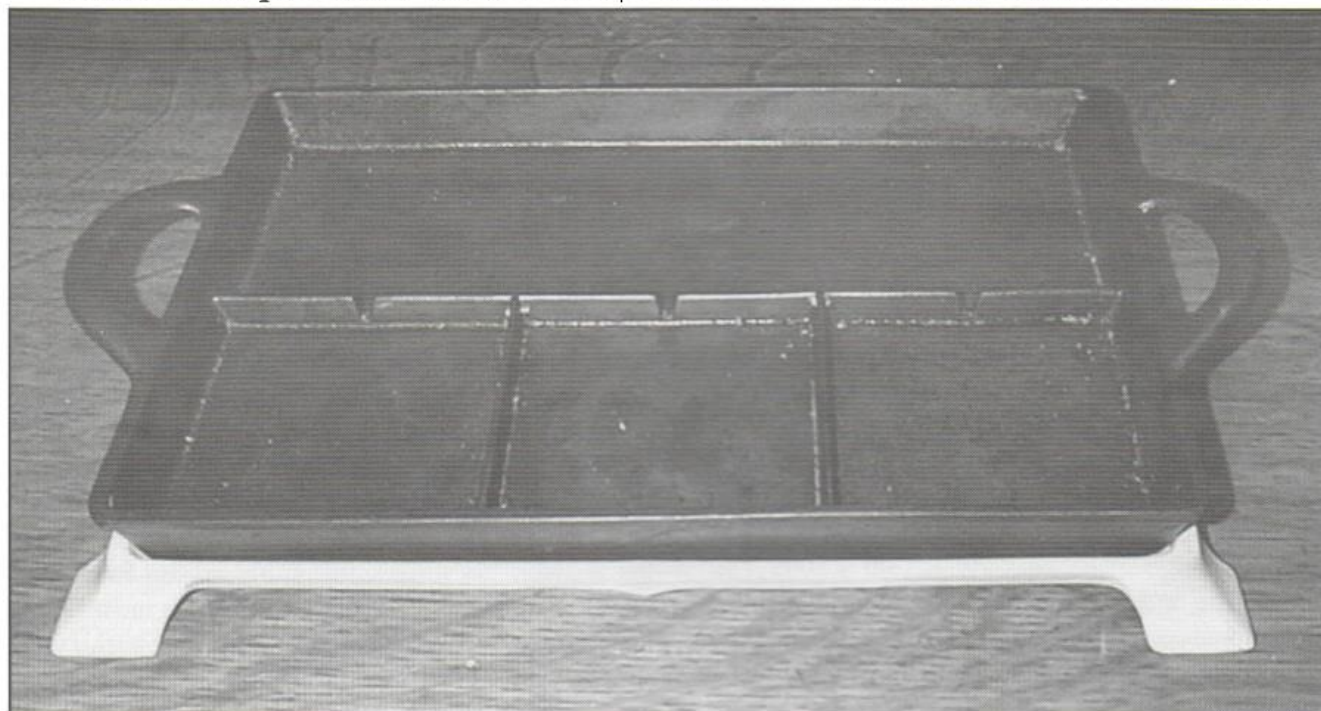
As we go forward as a group, I wanted to take a look back in the rear view mirror. There was so much knowledge from those early years that continues to help us today. As I share these stories, I will not add, edit or change any wording. Please let me know what you think or if you have a specific write-up from the early years that you would like to see shared in future issues. My contact info is listed in the Griswold quarterly inside the back page.. Eric McAllister

**THIS ARTICLE IS FROM THE MARCH, 2000 NEWSLETTER.
IT WAS CALLED 'THE PANHANDLER' IN THOSE DAYS.**

This Favorite BAK-N-EGG Pan was recently offered for sale on EBay. The Black Cast Iron Griddle is also marked PAT. APPR'D FOR. It is a high grade casting with a nice sheen and finish. The enameled cast iron base is marked only B-E. For Bake and Egg perhaps? It fits the griddle like a glove and mimics the half diamond pattern found on the edge of the griddle. This can be seen on close inspection of the middle upper picture. The enamel is more an ivory cream color than white that shown up in the picture. The base is not shown or discussed in the "Blue Book". Charlie Wafford, when queried about it, seemed to doubt its validity and did not have any prior knowledge of its existence. That in itself makes a fairly strong statement about its rarity.



► Favorite Piqua Ware BAK-N-EGG Pan with Enameled Cast Iron Stand



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIG NEWS!

The long-awaited, renewed website is now open; gcica.net Improvements and additions are ongoing. There will be results of discussions and suggestions from the National Convention in the next Quarterly. Meanwhile, check it out and enjoy.

FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS:

2024, ERIE, PA. March 14-17

2025, ST. LOUIS, MO May 1, 2, 3. Embassy Suites, St. Charles, MO

2023 G&CICA NORTHEAST REGIONAL CHAPTER MEET

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY – OCTOBER 6 AND 7, 2023

Where: Comfort Suites Camp Hill-Harrisburg West
100 Bar South Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17001
Phone # (717) 857-8800 or (717) 857-8811

Friday: Grateful Goat Brewing & Provisions
1300 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011
(717) 904-4628

Menu: gratefulgoatbrewing.com

Reservations made for 6pm

Saturday: 8:30-9:00 am – Join everyone in the hospitality room at the Comfort Suites for donuts/pastries, coffee, tea and juice.

Show & Tell: 9am - Bring any special and unique items you may want to share with the group.

Business Meeting: Review yearly items and choose next year's host.

Luncheon: 12pm - Simply Turkey & More will be catering our group

Swap Meet After Lunch: Bring those special items for sale.

**Rate for Comfort Suites is \$109 plus tax per night. Room rate applies from Thursday 10/5-Sunday 10/8/23. Guests can make reservations 2 ways: Calling 717-857-8800, press "0" and mention GCICA or by using the online booking link <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/EK53B1>
Cut-off date for this rate is 9/13/23. After that date the block will be released to the public.

PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING ASAP SO RESERVATIONS CAN BE CONFIRMED WITH THE RESTAURANT AND CATERING SERVICE

Name(s) _____

Number Attending Friday 10/6/23 _____

Number Attending Saturday 10/7/23 _____

PLEASE MAIL, EMAIL OR TEXT WITH NAMES & NUMBER ATTENDING BY 9/23 to

Annette Long, 773 Lancaster Avenue, Enola, PA 17025; (717) 856-9756; Email: theannettelong@gmail.com

DIXIE CHAPTER MEETING, NOV. 3 AT PM-2023 NOV 4 AT 5PM

2023 G&CICA Dixie Regional Chapter Meeting

Location: Echo Mountain Inn

2849 Laurel Park Hwy, Hendersonville, NC 28739

828-693-9626

Friday: Dinner and Social

Saturday: 8:30am-9am Breakfast

Show and Tell: 9am. Bring any special and unique items you wish to share with the group.

Business Meeting: Review yearly items and choose next year's host.

Lunch: 12 Noon

Swap meet after lunch: Bring items to sell and trade.

2023 WEST COAST CHAPTER MEETING, SEPT 15 AT 5PM-SEPT 16 AT 5PM

2023 G&CICA West Coast Regional Chapter Meet

Location: Albany, OR

Friday: Dinner and Social

Saturday: 8:30am - 9am Breakfast

Show & Tell: 9am. Bring any special and unique items you wish to share with the group.

Business Meeting: Review yearly items and choose next year's host.

Lunch: 12 Noon

Swap meet after lunch: Bring items to sell and trade.

Friday's meet and greet will begin at 3:00pm at the home of Chuck and Tina Foster. 503 10th Ave SW, Albany, Oregon 97321.

Saturday's gathering will take place at the Eagle's Lodge 150 SW 1st St.. Activities will start at 9:00am and will include a show and tell, table sales and our chapter business meeting.

Please email our chapter secretary Mary Ousnamer at neil@nomomilling.com or Rick Hoxmeier at rhoxmeier@hotmail.com to confirm attendance.

2023 HEARTLAND CHAPTER MEETING, SEPT 22 AT 5PM-SEPT 23 AT 5PM

2023 G&CICA Heartland Regional Chapter Meet

Location: Fulton, MO

Friday: Dinner and Social

Saturday: 8:30am - 9am Breakfast

Show & Tell: 9am. Bring any special and unique items you wish to share with the group.

Business Meeting: Review yearly items and choose next year's host.

Lunch: 12 Noon

Swap meet after lunch: Bring items to sell and trade.

Hosted by: Russell Howser

Friday evening social dinner at restaurant to be determined near Fulton.

Afterwards Russ will be sharing his collection at his place for those who would like to see.

GRISWOLD & CAST IRON COOKWARE ASSOCIATION, FOUNDED 1992
2023-2024 NATIONAL OFFICERS & BOARD

President, Art Chatfield, 2120 S Wynn Rd., Okeana, OH 45053
513-738-4841 cell 513-673-1875 artchatfield@gmail.com

Vice President, Josh Delp, 1113 Ryebrook Rd, Sinking Spring, PA 19608
610-698-1417 joshualukedelp@gmail.com

Secretary, Malinda Fontenot, PO Box 87327, Baton Rouge, LA 70879
225-772-0071 malinda99fontenot@gmail.com

Treasurer, Brenda Bernstein, 7131 199 Ave NE, New London, MN 56273
320-354-4736 bbernste@tds.net

Director, Eric McAllister, 10231 Langston Dr. Denham Springs, LA 70706
225-939-1536 eric10980@yahoo.com

Director, Blake Williams, 3863 Kinderlou Forest, Valdosta, GA 31601
229-740-1219 bwilliams2236@yahoo.com

Director, Sonny McCarter, 4372 St Rt 123, Franklin, OH 45005 smccarter@roadrunner.com

Dixie Regional Director, Joseph Zawadowski, 503 Valley Dr., Durham, NC 27704
919-471-3079, cell 919-280-1415 bogwalker49@gmail.com

Clayton Mitchell, Chapter President clayton@brcoxmail.com

Heartland Regional Director, Brian Wheeler, 314-452-9567 be.wheeler@yahoo.com
Doug Jurgens, Chapter President, 515-240-7981 vintageironshed@gmail.com

Northeast Regional Director, Ed Botsford, 1627 SR 93, Berwick, PA 18603
570-854-9351 ebots@dyco-inc.com

Annette Long, Chapter President theannettelong@gmail.com

West Coast Regional Director, Rick Hoxmeier, 32708 NW Eagle Crest Dr., Ridgefield, WA 98642
360-263-2188 rhoxmeier@hotmail.com

Rick Hoxmeier, Chapter President rhoxmeier@hotmail.com

Immediate Past President, Scott McCarter, 1200 SW Edinburgh, Bentonville, AR 72712
479-866-2421 slmccarter@cox.net

Historian, Brad Schwarting, 7007 Snell Road, Lowville, NY 13367
315-376-6328 castironmailman@gmail.com

Membership Chairman, Doug Wentz, 203 N. Bryan Ave., North Platte, NE 69101
308-530-8507 wenz415@gmail.com