



Uhl Collectors Society

June, July, August, 2004



Did You Know? Uhl Collecting from Columbus, Indiana

I was in the eighth grade in 1968 when the UHL phenomena began in our family. My father, Lenord Sheldon, was a barber at Bob's barbershop. Bob often went to lunch at Pearl's restaurant on the corner, and on this particular day when he returned, he told my father that a man who had been in Pearl's for lunch talked about a garage that was being torn down that had a large unusual crock in it.

Dad called my mother and inquired about her interest in a large unusual crock. I guess she had no strong objections because he went and got it.

This part of the story began with dad offering a woman who came out to greet him \$15 for the crock. About the time she accepted dad's offer a man appeared on the scene and informed dad and the woman that the crock went with the house and garage he just purchased. The man accepted the same \$15, and dad brought the crock home in his John Deere Green 1954 Chevrolet pickup truck.

When dad got home, mother said, "That's big". Oh yea...this was a 50 gal. UHL crock complete with the

acorn on the side. It tips the scale around 180 lbs., and is physically larger than a 55 gallon drum.

Now we start looking for "acorn pottery". We would go to Sunday auctions, flea markets and look for "acorn pottery". In these times, we found of crocks and jugs in sizes from one to ten gallons, excepting the 7 gallon size which was harder to find. There were also chicken feeders and water containers, mugs and pitchers. The only fixed rule of purchase was it had to have the acorn on the side, or the acorn stamp on the bottom. The significance of the UHL name also present on the "acorn pottery" was not yet evident.

I started collecting in 1974 shortly after Stephen and I married and had our own home. Then it was still easy to find pieces for a few dollars.

In 1978 Stephen and I moved to the country, a larger home and we had a new attraction. There was an auction barn about two miles from us, which had an auction almost every Friday evening. Dad and I would come home with a piece or two. I quickly became most interested in mauve pieces.

I have asked that all members, new and not so new, write a short story on how they got started collection our Uhl Pottery Treasures. This story is the first of a series of "How I Got Started" stories. Please write down your thoughts and mail (or e-mail) them to me.

Thank you,
Amy Downen

In 1979 our first daughter Holly was born, followed by Allyson in 1982, and in 1987 mother, dad, and I made the trip to attend what was then the second annual UHL collectors convention. We purchased a commemorative (the first to be offered by the society) and both dad and I were able to obtain a second at the drawing after the business meeting. Starting in 1988, we all made the trip, and have continued almost every year.

Holly and Allyson quickly became recognized every year, and looked forward to seeing people they remembered from the very early days of their lives. Dale Blann..e think around 1990 gave one of Holly's earliest pieces to her. We think this was her "kick start" to collecting.

Over the next 10 years the six of us made the trip to Jasper every year for the UHL collectors society convention. We didn't all make it in 1998 because mother had cancer, but she was back with us in 1999. Mother was again unable to attend in 2002, and lost her battle with a second round of cancer in January of 2003. Dad still comes with us.

Holly is now 25 and married.
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President's Pen

Dear Uhl Society members,

The 2004 Convention is now over. I have heard a lot of good things about how it went and I hope that everyone had a great time. The cookies went over well and if we can, we will have them again next year.

We have two new Board members this year and we need to give them all the support we can. The new members are Amy and Sam Bussler, Secretary and Treasurer and Leslie Bain as a Board member.

The auction was really good the way it was set up with the items being printed out for everyone to follow along. Thanks to Chip Kugler and his workers for doing a great job and Dave Swick for his excellent help in doing the auction, also really want to thank all who worked to make everything go well.

We are already working on some special events to make the 20th year convention one to remember. Don't forget our goal this year, let's try to get one new member to enjoy the Uhl Society as we all do. I know at times some things happen that we can get upset with, but overall I have never been to a two day function whereby I can honestly say it has been good to be here.

If you need anything, don't hesitate to call any board member. Thanks to all.

Sincerely,
Patty & Jerry Schurz



Continued from front page

She still collects her favorites (purple and black) and her husband Darrin like the sports pieces (baseballs, footballs, etc.).

Allyson will graduate this December with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, and she her high school sweetheart Caleb plan to marry the following April. Caleb graduated this past December, and is now employed at Jasper Engines (you know, the place right next to the Holiday Inn where we meet). This will be the first year Caleb will attend. Wonder which pieces will give him the "wants"?

Stephen works for Cummins Engine Company, and has been the Director of the Military Department for about 12 years. He started collecting the tanks (which look just like the one in the Indiana Jones movie where they search for the Holy Grail) several years ago, and now has a fleet of four. He thinks that is enough for now as they are getting a bit pricey.

We have found some unique friends in the UHL Collectors Society (our favorite pair have the last name UHL), and we have shared in the thrill of acquisitions at the annual auctions. Who knows, in a few years I may have grandchildren who choose to make the annual trip with us to Jasper.

Thank you for letting us share over 30 years of UHL collecting with you. Happy hunting.

Stephen A. Hewitt, Jr. Ph.D.
Barbara J. Hewitt
Holly and Darrin Brown
Allyson Hewitt
Caleb Loper

**E-mail your Buy, Sell, Trade
items to:
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Special Welcome
to all new
Members!

Special Thanks to
all who helped our
Convention be a
huge success.

20th Annual Convention
will be held in Jasper
Holiday Inn June 24 -
25, 2005. Let's make it
the best *ever!*

BUY — SELL — TRADE

We are starting a new item for our newsletter!

Please help us get it started.

Do you have an item you want to:

BUY, SELL or TRADE?

Just e-mail us at: SAE102568@AOL.COM

And we'll add to the next newsletter!

Downen's Reflections

2004 UHL Convention

As I started out for Jasper for what would be a busy weekend the Uhl Convention and a family wedding on Saturday afternoon.

I was so excited about the new name tags and Uhl cookies and how everyone would be so surprised. When I arrived in Jasper I was greeted by Jerry and Patty Schurz who were also excited about their first convention as President. The first order of business was to get all those name tags stuffed with meal tickets. The task was completed with the help of all the board members and a couple of volunteers and a great deal of verbal abuse from Stormin' Norman Patmore.

After all our work a tour of the rooms that were selling our Uhl treasures was a must. I made one purchase for my wife, Amy, who wasn't able to be with me because she had to work. But as a surprise, I had for her a Glenmore Distilleries shoulder jug to add to our collection. I turned in early on Thursday knowing that Friday would be a very busy day.

Friday morning Norman, Sharon and myself put up signs for the registration, auction, commemorative and room sales. After that we worked on the display cabinet for the animal display. Jerry and Patty Schurz, Dan and Lee Hadley helped put the finishing touches on the display room. The rest of the day was devoted to getting the registration table set up for the 2 to 6 p.m. registration sign up. I want to thank all who helped with the passing out of name tags, an easier task than we had anticipated.

I would also like to thank all those who helped judge the Uhl items for the auction. Our sincere thanks to Chip Kugler and Dave Swick for a well orchestrated auction after the meal. As for the meal, what a delicious dinner and there was plenty to go around for everyone. The day went smoothly, thanks to all the Board Members and a huge thanks to all the members who helped make this special day a huge success.

P.S.. Thanks, Lloyd Martin for your comment about the Uhl cookies.

Saturday morning, myself, Stormin' Norman, Rick Wilson, Norman Dodson and Sharon Patmore took down the tables and chairs so the 18 dealers could set up for the morning sale. Jackie Wilson guarded the door, not letting anyone in until the allotted hour.

After the sale was over, President Jerry called the meeting to order with Barbara Barnes reading the minutes and giving a treasurer's report. President Jerry challenged each member to acquire one new member for the upcoming year. A question and answer session followed with a huge question about insurance. Did the Society have insurance in case of a disaster (like the near disaster at the auction when the table fell forward. Luckily nothing fell and got broken.) President Jerry answered an immediate yes to the Society was covered by insurance in case of accident or breakage of some sort.

We bid a fond adieu to Barbara Barnes, outgoing secretary/treasurer and Dan and Lee Hadley, outgoing board member. Amy and Sam Busler were elected as the new secretary/treasurer and Leslie Bain was elected as a new board member. The rest of the meeting was dedicated to the drawing for the Happy Uhling commemorative which was won by a very surprised Felinda Farris who was attending her first convention. (Felinda worked for Clay City Pottery for many years and helped make our commemorative.) The rest of the 2004 commemoratives were also sold at that time. The meeting was then closed by President Jerry and another convention was history.

A special thanks to my wife, Amy, who had to work but made it to the dinner in record time from Terre Haute. I know she hated not to be part of all the convention but at least she got to enjoy some of it.

Frank Downen



**Frank Downen and
"Stormin'" Norman Patmore
"The Cookie Men"**

BUY *** SELL *** TRADE

A NEW ITEM FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!

PLEASE HELP US GET IT STARTED.
DO YOU HAVE AN ITEM YOU WANT TO:

BUY, SELL OR TRADE?

JUST E-MAIL US AT
SAE102568@AOL.COM

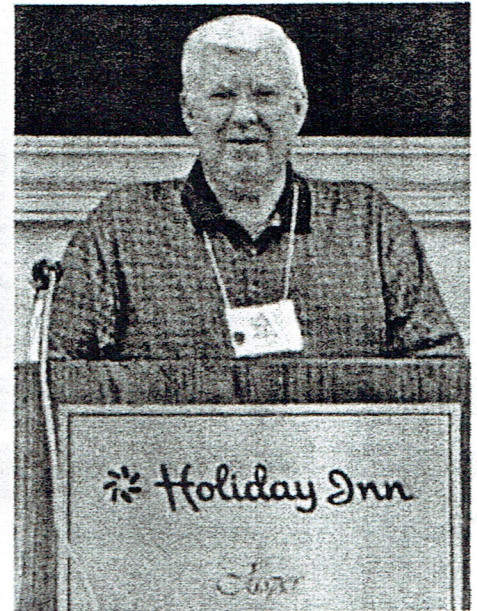
AND WE'LL ADD TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

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*President Jerry
presiding over Dinner.*

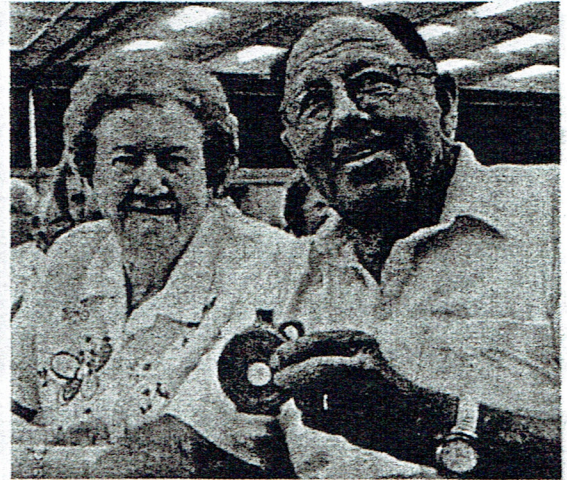


Board Members. Hard at work!



*New member Belinda
Englert and future
member Chelsea Englert.*

The Auction!



JUN



MEMBERSHIP FORM



The Uhl Collector's Society is a not-for-profit organization open to anyone who is interested in Uhl Pottery and/or Stoneware.

Membership in the Society entitles a person/family to receive a one-year subscription to the Uhl Collectors Society newsletter. Members also receive a membership card and the right to attend the annual Uhl Collectors Society Convention held in Jasper, Indiana in June.

The annual convention is "closed" to anyone but current members. The convention includes social time, a member's only auction, special preview of the Uhl Show & Sale and attendance during the business meeting as well as any extra events scheduled.

Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. The cost of membership is \$15.00 per family.

Complete and return this form:

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

This Membership is New

Make checks payable to:

Uhl Collectors Society

AMY & SAM BUSLER, SECRETARY/TREASURER

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SANTA CLAUS, IN 47579

(812) 544-2987

E-MAIL: casabusler@psci.net

Uhl Pins \$5⁰⁰

Available



Contact:

Sharon Patmore

812-544-2069

Felinda Farris, Winner of the One and Only 2004 Happy Uhling Commerative!





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Thank You! To all our out going officers!



Don & Lee Hadley



Barbara Barnes