

KETTLES 'n COOKWARE®

ENDORSED BY THE GRISWOLD & CAST IRON COOKWARE ASSOCIATION

Shipping Iron

By D.G. Smith

There is nothing more disheartening than to receive that special piece you ordered, only to discover a piece broken, a handle knocked off, etc. just because the shipper failed to pack it properly. To me, it's not the money lost (we'll discuss this later) but the fact another fine piece of iron, more significantly, a piece of history, is gone. I find some solace in stating, "Well, that makes someone else's piece more valuable." In a sense it does. Let's face it, if all the pieces manufactured survived for today's market, the values (realistic or otherwise) wouldn't be so high.

I purchase a lot through the mail. Nothing frustrates me more than receiving a broken piece just because the sender didn't pack it correctly. The first fact the shipper must realize is cast iron is brittle. It does break! If you are buying from a novice, tell them that!

Let's begin with the box, or boxes. Select a good solid box of heavy corrugated cardboard. Flimsy, oriental cardboard is no good for shipping heavy objects. Also, don't use boxes that have been weakened or damaged

from prior use. Don't forget, this box is going to be thrown, dropped, kicked, and have other heavy boxes stacked on it. You want the strongest box possible to protect your piece. Finding the proper size box, particularly

for large pieces such as a #14 or #20 Skillet, can be a problem. Perhaps a TV box or a refrigerator box, cut down, will work. The box should be large enough so there is at least two inches between the piece and the sides, top, and bottom of the box. The waffle iron in Fig. 1 did not have enough clearance; consequently, the handle poked through the corner of the box



Fig. 1

and was broken off. Last year I received a CLOWS waffle iron. It was packed extremely well, with one exception: the sender placed it on the bottom of the box then packed around it. No padding underneath-the base was broken!

There is a variety of packaging or padding materials available. They all have their use. Bubble wrap and Styrofoam peanuts both work well in certain instances. Egg cartons take up space and are fairly solid. Carpet

(Continued on Page 8)

From The Editor

Here we go with Volume 4! It doesn't seem possible that I have been publishing *KnC* for three years. By entering into the fourth year we have established a milestone of sort. The average life span of newsletters seem to be three years. I know of three newsletters related to kitchen collectibles, or cast iron that didn't go beyond that point. I have been told of others that didn't make it also. I can see how that could happen. The reserve of ideas planned at the beginning could expire at about the three year point. I have been fortunate. I had three major articles submitted by subscribers, which sort of gave me a breather. Talking with other newsletter publishers, they became frustrated with the lack of response and input from their readers. Feedback to *KnC* has been a bit light. I would like to see more response to questions asked in "The Melting Pot." I am sure some of the questions left unanswered could have been answered by some of our readers. There is a tremendous pool of knowledge out there. Please share it. Last but not least, publishing a newsletter is a very time-consuming venture, but I love it!

So where are we going in Volume 4? Researching for The Book... has provided me with material to build on for *KnC*. Also, with your renewals I have received some requests. I will do my best to fulfill your requests, including information about Volrath, and G.F. Filley. I also plan to expand on Wapak. For those of you who worship at the Altar of Griswold, don't despair. Griswold will continue to be the primary topic.

I am really looking forward to the G&CICA Convention. Seventy five tables of iron at the Swap Meet—can you imagine? What a feast!

-Dave

Commemorative Jewelry

Orders will be taken at The Convention

For the Ladies:	plus S/H-\$5
Gold Heart & Star Pendant	\$140
Gold Heart & Star Earrings	\$280
Sterling Silver Pendant	\$ 95
Sterling Silver Earrings	\$190

*Remember: After the convention,
the molds for the jewelry will be broken*

For the Men:
Gold Tobacco Cutter Tie Tack - \$185 + S/H-\$5

Jewelry must be paid for at the time of ordering

Jewelry is made exclusively for the Griswold & CICA members and dated each year.

For more information, contact Sally Swanson at 814-838-1866 or Joannie Baldini at 814-868-1316

GRISWOLD & CAST IRON COOKWARE ASSOCIATION

The Convention Committee is fine tuning the program so everything goes smoothly as the 280 members and guests arrive at the Avalon Hotel in downtown Erie for the Fourth Annual G&CICA Convention. The committee requests that participants try to register on Friday from 4-7 p.m. By registering Friday, you will avoid the anticipated bottleneck on Saturday morning with both registration and setup of the Swap Meet.

The committee emphasizes that in your registration packet will be your identification badge. Convention participants must wear their badge to enter the swap meet, workshops, banquet, and meeting. This is your pass for the entire convention!

In addition to the Swap Meet, Banquet, and Meeting, four Workshops are planned: 1) Strange, Rare, and Curious Griswold; 2) Variations of Muffin Pans; 3) Interview of Panel of former Griswold Employees; and 4) Reproductions. **If you have reproductions, or a piece you might suspect is a repro, bring these to this workshop for others to view and discuss. Be sure to tag them with your name.**

NOTE: Volunteers are needed for one hour shifts at the club table.

From the Fund Raiser Committee: Please remember to send your stubs and money for the 50/50 tickets before April 19th so they will be here for the drawing on April 29th. We would like all of our members to participate. You do not have to be present to win. Thanks for your support. Return ticket stubs to: Joe Baldini, 3007 Plum St., Erie, PA 16508

Directions to the Avalon Hotel:

I-90 to I-79 north
I-79 N to Exit 44A, 12th St. East
12th St. E 3 miles to State St.
Left on Peach St., 2 blocks to Avalon

If you have any questions, contact Bob Mosier, Committee Chairman at (814) 763-4819.

See you in Erie!



*Welcome
Spring!*





The Melting Pot

Dave: At one time I might have agreed with Mr. Miller's opinion of what he calls a Silver Dollar pancake pan in the last issues' "Melting Pot." However, I believe the sections are not deep enough to be used for baking, and I found a piece very similar in design to the one illustrated which was marked "Assay Pan," which would be used to analyze (ore). Joel S.

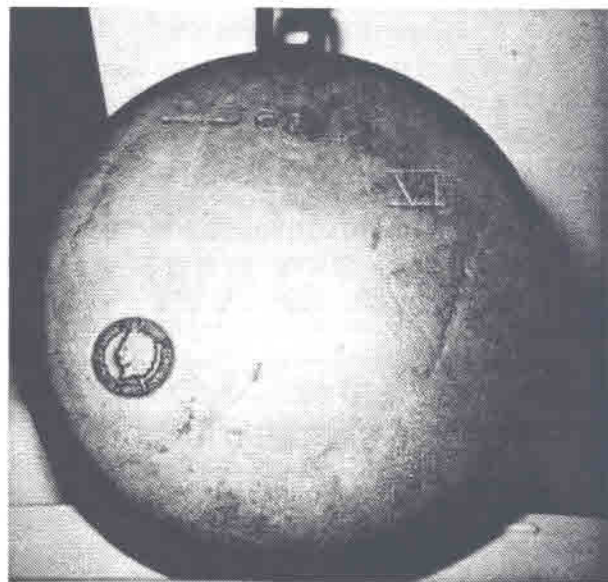
Joel: Thanks for your phone call with this feedback. It's been a long time. - ed.

Dave: Does this set a new record or just prove what can happen when 2 bidders don't want the other one to have the item being sold. I attended an auction on 3/20 at Sweet Springs, Mo., with Col. Glen LaRulas Auctioneer. The item being sold was a #12 skillet lid - raised letters on top, inside -Lg. Block T/M. Final Bid \$425. Glenn P.

Glenn: This is a prime example why auction prices should never be used in a price guide. That cover went for almost three times what it is worth. - ed.

Dear Dave: Hope you can give me some information on the skillet a friend of mine has... Note, [the] handle looks like chain links. On the bottom is a picture of Indian chief. Around the head is SUSQUEHANNA CASTING COMPANY EST 1892. To the left of the handle is stamped WILTON-COLUMBIA PA. To the right is a circle "RWP." To the right and below is roman numeral VI.

-Ken



Ken: You have a very interesting skillet. I would like to have it myself. I am sorry to say, I have no idea who made this skillet. It does have sufficient markings to make research possible. Maybe one of our readers can help. -ed.

Dave: Did you ever get any feedback on that Dutch oven or whatever it is - #1300 & #1301? Gordon D.

Gordon: No. The photo you submitted in Vol. 3, No 2 of KnC sure appears to me to be Griswold but I have nothing to substantiate it other than its characteristics. Does anyone have any info on that piece? Please share it with us. -ed.

Dear David: A lady called asking if I had any knowledge about a piece of iron belonging to her family. It was marked, O'Brien & O'Brien Stove, Chicago IL, Chicken Fryer. It is large and has a lid. She believed it is about 60-85 years old. I would appreciate any info you might have on it. Thanks. -Rilla S.

Rilla: I can't find much information on O'Brien & O'Brien. They did make a line of Skillets, Griddles, and Dutch Ovens. It appears O'Brien and O'Brien succeeded the Western Foundry. The last listing for the Western Foundry was in 1953. O'Brien & O'Brien appear in the 1955 and 1957 Chicago phone directory. The O'Brien & O'Brien Dutch Ovens are nearly identical to the Mi Pet pieces made by the Western Foundry of Chicago. It is probable the O'Brien & O'Brien pieces were made from molds originally used by the Western Foundry. -ed

Dear Dave: Enclosed are pictures of the following: 1) Front and back of a waffle iron. I think it is a Griswold although it is not marked Victor as indicated in the L-W Book for p/n 983 & 984. I must still locate the base, p/n 982, to make it complete. 2) Small pot, 3" across the top,

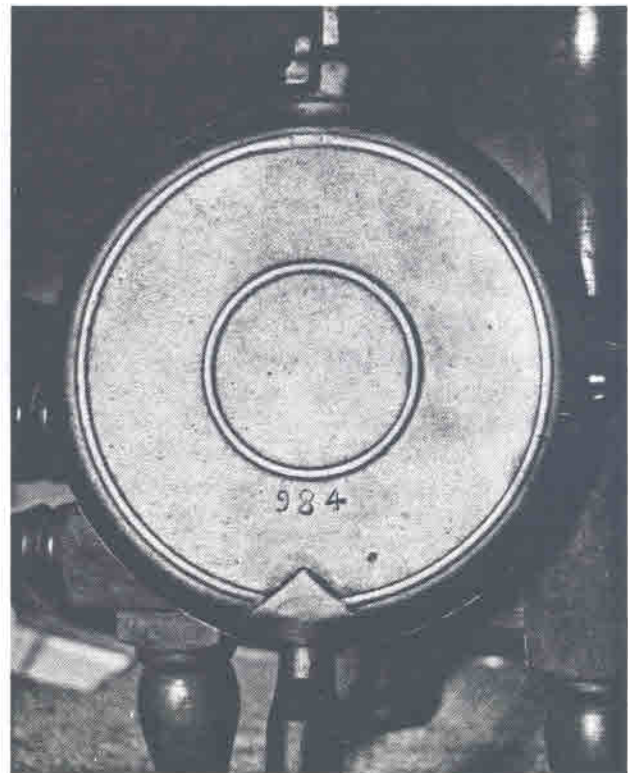
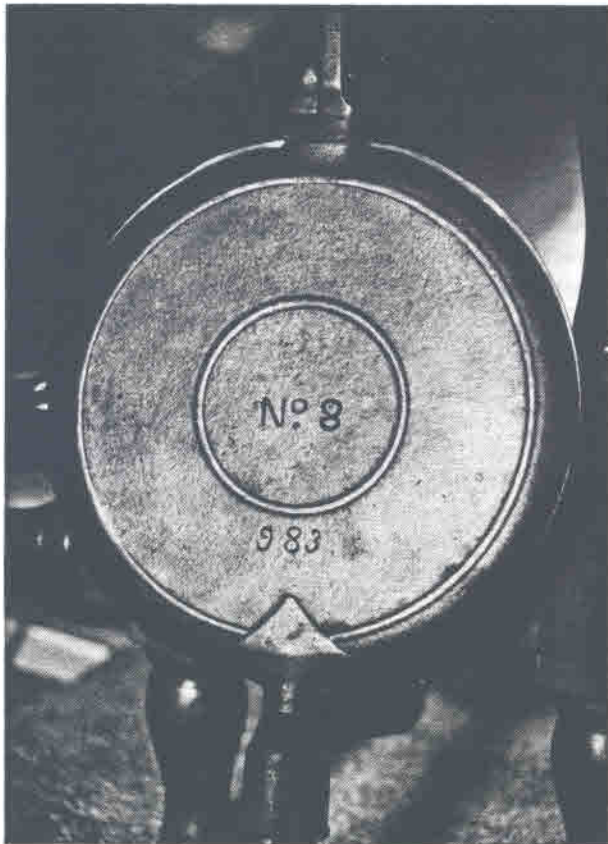
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The Melting Pot

(Continued from Page 3)

2 5/8" high, marked with a swastika on the bottom. What do you know of this item and its approximate worth. 3) Workers button from Skinner Engine Company from Erie, Pa. It seems that I have read that there was a connection between this company and Griswold. 4) A '0' skillet and an unmarked skillet, as to size and pattern. The finish is good on the unmarked skillet, but with no pattern number, I wonder if it is a reproduction piece or if it was made by Griswold. I would appreciate having your opinion of the pieces in these enclosed pictures. Also, enclosed is a picture of a Victor waffle iron p/n 395. Could you tell me what time frame this item was manufactured? - Larry C.

Larry: I'll give it a try: 1) It is a Victor Waffle Iron made by Griswold. Two characteristics tell us that: a) the pattern numbers, b) the hinge. It is not unusual that Griswold pieces were not marked.



2) This small pot appears to me to be the insert of a Glue Pot. I conferred with Joel Schiff, who has a tremendous amount of knowledge of cast iron cookware, including historical development and trends. He stated that the swastika was considered a good luck sign prior to the German's military use. He also informed me that this motif was used frequently in German and Dutch cultures as good luck. I don't know if this answers your question, but I guess it dispels a military association.



MOVING?

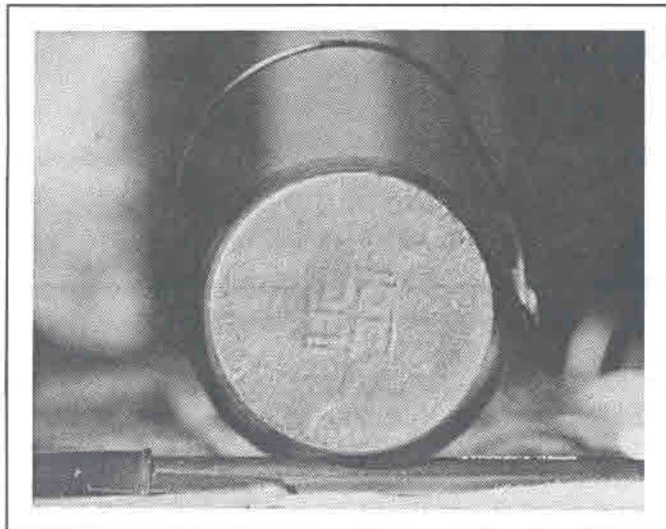
**Send Your Change of Address to
Kettles 'n Cookware**

Drawer B, Perrysburg, NY 14129

(Continued on Page 5)

The Melting Pot

(Continued from Page 4)



3) I am not aware of any connection between Griswold Mfg. Co. and Skinner Engine Co., at least no more than any other business in Erie had with Griswold. I believe any manufacturing business in Erie had some dealing with Griswold at one time or other, although probably insignificant in the total picture.



4) The skillet on the right is a repro. Notice the 'C' rather than 'G' in Griswold.



5) This Victor waffle iron was manufactured in the 1940s.

Dear Dave: Here's a good one for you. Perhaps others have seen this but it surprised me. While watching a "Little Rascals" video with my young daughters, I almost fell off the couch! As Spanky, Alfalfa, Buckwheat and Darla put on a talent show in the episode entitled, "The Pinch Singer," their dog has a mallet tied to his tail and hits a pan which serves as a gong to end a performance.

Lo and behold, the dog hits a Griswold frying pan! Without any strain, it is easy to see the label of what must be at least a number 12 iron pan with smoke ring. If the video tape is moved slowly, it is almost possible to read the part number, the picture is so clear.

What a treat it was to see this, and good laugh we had as this appeared! Best wishes always. - The Rev. David G. Bollinger

David: Thanks for this tidbit of information. I am sure we will all look for this now! ed.

Dear David: I recently went to Jolfo Springs, Florida for Pioneer Days. There was a large selection of iron. Several bundt pans were available but priced at three to four hundred. I purchased a Griswold lamb which I had to try and it worked out fine. Hope the show in Erie goes good. - Red H.

Red: Thanks for your little report. A Griswold bundt pan for three to four hundred would be a steal. However, I find most other bundt molds are consistently overpriced at shows. We have often wanted to try one of the cake molds but never have. I have heard that getting the cake out of the nose of the Lamb is difficult. I wonder if there is a trick for doing that? -ed.

Dear Dave: I have purchased a Vienna Roll Bread Pan, No. 6, with raised lettering (inside) and no writing on the back. If possible please tell me who made this and what its value is (picture enclosed).

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The Swap Shop

KEY: p/n = pattern number
w/ = with
SR = Smoke Ring
HR = Heat Ring
TM = Trade Mark
Btm = bottom
EPU = Erie, Pa. USA

WANTED: Any unusual cast iron Muffin Pans. Especially want: Griswold Muffin #s 14, 130, 5, 6, 28; Wagner Muffins #s K, L, M, N, O, and Handled 1 and 2; Filley Muffins #s 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,12; Davis 7 cup; any 3 cup Waterman. Craig Dinner, P.O. Box 4399, Sunnyside, NY 11104. (718)894-4185 (or 718-729-3850)

FOR SALE OR TRADE: "40 year old collection", 1000+ Griswold and Wagner items for sale or trade. I will trade for Griswold (only) cast iron, Roseville and Watt-Ware pottery, Red Wing Stoneware and Salt-Glaized Jugs (3 gallon and larger). **WANTED:** #12 Griswold Dutch Oven complete, and #10 & #11 Trivets. I will NOT deal with inflated prices nor do I expect you to!! Send your "Want List" and what you want to buy or trade to: John Dougherty, PO Box 309, Tyle, MN. 56078. All Correspondence will be answered.

WANTED: Base (Hi or Low) for Griswold #11 Sq. Waffle Iron p/n 2148 & 2149. Call or write Lavon Deatsman, 609 First Street, Lake Odessa, MI. 48849, (616) 374-5482

WANTED TO BUY FOR OUR COLLECTION: No.10 p/n 1512 Puritan Popover Pan; Fat Fryer w/lid; #10 Chicken Fryer w/correct lid; No. 2 Skillet, slant/smooth btm; No. 34 p/n 969 Plett Pan; No. 9 High Smooth Top Skillet Lid No. 1099, Lg. Emblem. Please, no rust, cracks or pitting. Joe Valenti, 222 South Chancellor Street, Newtown, PA. 18940, (215) 968-4493

FOR SALE: Reprint of Griswold Catalogue—S, which is a 20 page catalogue, dated November 1, 1895. It contains information regarding the origin of many items in the Griswold line and illustrations of several products we have not seen in catalogues previously known. In addition, information is revealed which specifically dates the "Worlds Fair" griddle. Copies are available from Grant & Pat Windsor, P.O. Box 3613, Richmond, VA. 23235-7613, (804) 320-0386. The price of each copy is \$11.50 which includes shipping and handling.

YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE \$2.00
100 Word Limit including numbers

GRISWOLD: #11 Griswold's "Erie" Food Chopper \$25; #10, p/n 839, Flat D.O. Lid \$50; #11 French Roll \$65; #262 Cornstick \$90 each; #12 small logo Skillet \$65.

WAGNER: Magnalite alum lid for sauce pan, 8 1/2" lip \$10; #1318 lg Cornstick Pan \$50 ea.; Toy Tea Kettle \$180. **OTHER:** #6 R&E Mfg Co. Gem Pan \$40; No name wheat pan marked "Corn Bread Stick Pan" \$60; #3 R&E Mfg Co. Gem Pan \$40; No name Gem Pan marked "Muffin Pan No. 8" \$50; No name #14 Skillet marked "Cast Iron Skillet 14" \$95. Shipping extra. Gary Franzen, 3243 SE Hathaway Drive, Corvallis, OR. 97333, (503) 757-7673

GRISWOLD WANTED: #5 Skillet Lid, black iron, low dome/raised letter, p/n 465, Also looking for #s11,13,14 in same series; Iron Mountain Skillets (unmarked except for size & p/n on btm), #14 p/n 1085, #10 p/n 1083, #9 p/n 1082, #8 p/n 1033, #5 p/n 1030, and #4 p/n 1029; Iron Mountain Skillet Lids, raised number on top and 4 digit p/n on inside; Best Made S.R. and Co. Skillets & Lids; Merit Skillets (and Lids?). John & Donna Myers, 215 W. Washington Ave, Nanpa, ID. 83686-2721, (208) 466-2935

GRISWOLD WANTED: Btm for Erie Double Broiler; #10 Small TM w/grooved handle; #6 & #7 Hinged Lids p/n 2596 & 2597. **GRISWOLD FOR SALE OR TRADE:** #4 Block w/smooth btm; #4 small TM, late w/grooved handle; #9 Slant/EPU w/heat ring. Mike Mueller, 760 Hwy O, Pacific, MD. 63069, (314) 271-3745 after 6:00 C/T

FOR SALE: New Book on Griswold Cast Iron Muffin Pan Variations. 195 Variations are illustrated in loose leaf form. This book is a must for collectors/traders/dealers of muffin pans for identifying and describing the variations. Available from Jon B. Haussler, 1806 Brownstone Ave, SW, Decatur, AL. 35603. The price is \$23 which includes shipping and handling.

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: #3 Oval Roaster, Raised letter lid, w/trivet, excellent cond. \$735; No. 32 Plett Pan, p/n 962, fine, \$30; #9 Muffn Pan, 12 cup, Early loop handles, only markings: p/n 947 on handle & cup \$74; #22 Bread Stick, fully marked, exc. \$35; #6 Skillet, Lg Block, exc. \$25; 12" Round Stove Pipe Damper, exc. \$38; #80 Double Skillet (Lid only), Lg Block, Fine/Exc \$38.

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The Swap Shop

(Continued from Page 6)

Prices include UPS. Robert Karle, 344 Rt 147, Middlefield, CT. 06455, (203) 349-1212. Best time 8-9PM EST.

WAGNER FOR SALE: "Wagner" Aluminum #5 Oval Roaster, Drip Drop Baster, not raised letter, w/trivet \$88; Wagner 11 cup TurkHead Muffin Pan, open frame, only marking is letter C, exc. \$165; WagnerWare Style R, 8 cup Popover Pan, solid frame, exc. \$38; Wagner "Original Sizzling Steak Platter", aluminum, fine \$20; Wagner Ware Sidney O #16 Rd Griddle w/bail, fine/exc \$55; Wagner #2 Scotch Bowl, exc. \$35; WagnerWare Sidney O Bacon & Egg Sq. Breakfast Skillet, exc \$25; Wagner #12 Round Griddle w/bail, exc. \$38, #10, exc. \$35. Prices include UPS. Robert Karle, (203) 349-1212. Best time, 8-9PM EST

GRISWOLD FOR SALE OR TRADE: #140 Muffin Pan, p/n 635 \$200; #2 Vienna Roll Bread Pan \$1000; #6 Flat Bottom Kettle, Slant/ERIE, p/n 809 \$165; #5 Hammered skillet (not hinged), nickle, p/n 809 \$165; #9 Oval Roaster w/raised letter Lid \$625; #5 Oval Roaster w/raised letter Lid \$450; Odorless skillet, p/n 869 \$85. Tom Sheley, 6904 Avery Rd, Dublin, OH 43017, (614) 793-9682 after 7 PM.

WANTED: #20 fully marked Griswold Turks Head Muffin Pan, #2 block letter w/smoke ring, #2 muffin pan with or without pattern number, #50 heart and star, #24 Erie 6 cup muffin pan, and 2800 muffin pan. Wagner, Favorite unusual muffin pans. Wagner pans with diamond around logo. #13 Tite Top Dutch Oven. **TRADE:** #270 Griswold muffin pan, #24 p/n 7 cup muffin pan, 272 muffin pans, Wagner Bundt Pan, Wagner Picnicer, #14 Griswold Turks Head Muffin Pan, #13 Wagner pan w/diamond around logo, Griswold #3 fully marked muffin pan, #9 Brownie Muffin Pan (fully marked), #21 Muffin Pan, #5 and #6 block letter w/SR, #27 & #28 whole wheat. Dennis Hart, (704) 294-9180 evenings or weekends.

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: #7 lg block, smooth btm, wood handle, nice \$125; #8 Muffin Pan, marked ERIE, 946, nice \$145; #8 Muffin Pan marked 946, \$100; #7 Skillet, lg block, w/HR \$60; #109 Skillet Griddle, sm. emb., p/n 202, \$55. **WAGNER:** #6 smooth btm skillet \$40; Fat Free Fryer #1102 \$45; Skillet handle griddle #1109 \$20. **FAVORITE PIQUA:** #9 Skillet w/Lid \$50; #3 Skillet \$25. Doug Brown, 8520 McDougal, Thornton, CO. 80229, (303) 288-5910.

DEADLINE FOR ADS FOR NEXT ISSUE:

MAY 15th

If all goes as planned -

THE BOOK OF GRISWOLD & WAGNER

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You can get your autographed copy of *The Book...* at the Convention for \$29.95.

**-For Those Not Attending
The Convention-**

Orders will be accepted
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Griswold Catalog Reprint

138-page reprint of a c.1910 Griswold Mfg. Co. catalog showing the complete product line of that period.

This catalog reprint is a must for any serious collector.

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**The Griswold
- Mfg. Co. -
ERIE, PA.**



TRADE MARK

CATALOGUE No 45

Shipping Iron

(Continued from Front Cover)

padding, used in carpet installations, is light and quite dense. It makes great padding. Your local carpet dealer/installer may be able to provide scraps. Wadded newspaper is the old stand-by and certainly works well. It is a bit heavy, however, if used sufficiently.

I prefer to wrap the piece in bubble wrap. This pads the piece and makes it more bulky, therefore less liable to travel inside the box. I build at least two inches of padding in the bottom of my shipping carton with Styrofoam. After placing the wrapped piece in the box, I check to see there is at least two inches clearance all the way around. I then fill the box with Styrofoam peanuts. They are light and work well. It is very important to wrap the iron piece in something to increase its density to prevent it from traveling through the Styrofoam peanuts. A griddle, for example, will work its way through the Styrofoam to the edge of the box during shipping. The 5-in-1 Breakfast Skillet (Fig. 2) did exactly that, working its way through the loosely packed newspaper, eventually cutting through the side of the box (indicated by the arrow). Also notice how loosely the paper is packed. It should have been wadded tightly. If the skillet had been wrapped first in bubble wrap or layers of paper, that wouldn't have happened.

The best way to package is the double box method. Pack the item in one box, then pack that box, padding all around it, in another box. This is by far the safest method. When shipping a valuable piece, isn't it worth the extra effort?

When shipping more than one item, wrap them separately, padding well between them. I once received a box of iron, about nine pieces, all stacked together. Imagine how disappointed I was to find a chunk the size of an orange out of a Griswold No. 11 skillet cover, caused when it collided with the nose of a lamb cake mold. There were two other broken pieces also. Your package should include a receipt stating the price/value of the item(s). This could be used to verify value if it becomes necessary, if filing a damage claim. A slip of paper with the name of both the sender and receiver should also be included.

When sealing your package, be sure to tape the joints with strong sealing tape. Nylon reinforced tape is best. Masking tape or adhesive tape just don't cut it. I recently received a double boxed package with the flaps of both boxes also glued. It sure made a solid package. In my frustration to get into the second box to retrieve my newly acquired broiler, I cut my thumb with my knife. That's another story.

Insure your package for the full value. Do not use the word "antique" on your insurance form. I have heard of instances when the carrier refused to insure "antiques." I use "cast iron cookware" and have never had a problem. If the package arrives damaged, notify the driver immediately. It is important to establish the damage upon receipt. If the package has been delivered in your absence, notify the local post office, UPS, etc. to report the dam-

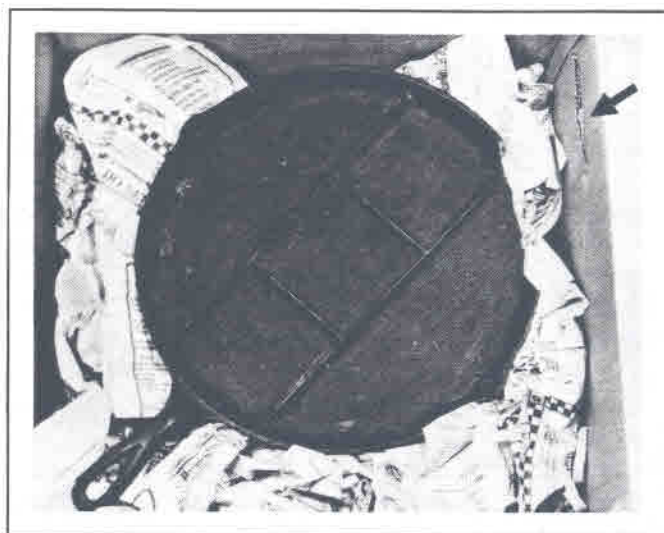


Fig. 2

age and to obtain claim forms. Be sure to keep the box and packing materials. The carrier may want these, and the damaged piece returned to them. This is another reason to pack the item properly. The carrier may try to avoid paying the claim if they can establish neglect in the way the item was packed. The carrier may also request the sales slip and the receipt for shipping, so have these available. Notify the sender immediately so he may initiate a damage claim, if appropriate. This also makes them aware that perhaps the piece should have been packaged more carefully.

Buying and selling by mail to or from persons totally unknown to you can create another dilemma. The seller wants payment up front; the buyer wants the goods first. What do you do to break this stalemate? If no one will give, try sending the piece COD. The buyer pays for the package when he receives it. There of course is no guarantee to the buyer, of the quality or condition of the contents of the package, but both parties are protected to this point. When sending payment of an item before it is shipped, I write a letter stating my position: As the buyer, I reserve the right to return the piece if it is not as represented to me. It of course is not foolproof, but at least it establishes some ground rules. Be sure to keep a copy of your letter for future reference.

Buying and selling through the mail is a fine way to enrich your collection. By remembering these basic procedures, it should be a very productive experience.

What works for you? I would like to hear your ideas and suggestions.

• KnC ADVERTISING •

Rates are \$2.50 per column inch (or fraction thereof)-Minimum \$5.00 (Column Width: 3.5")
Your Business Card or

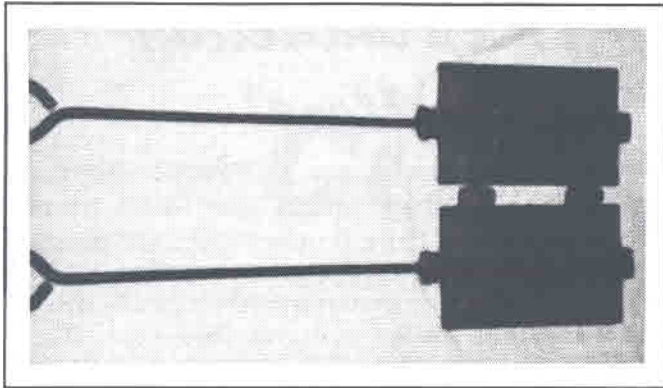
2" Display Ad	\$ 8.00
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1/2 Page (7" x 5")	\$ 22.00
Ads with Photo	\$ 6.00 extra

Rates are for Camera-Ready Copy

The Melting Pot

(Continued from Page 5)

I also have a waffle iron - the top is marked DC inside a circle, and at the bottom is 481 2 on both sides (picture enclosed). I also appreciate knowing who made this and what its value is. - Ray D.



Ray: Your Vienna roll bread pan was made by Griswold. This pan was featured in Volume 1, No. 4 of KnC. Value: \$150. I did not print your photo because it just wasn't clear enough. Re: your waffle iron, I am not familiar with this mark and, this style was fairly common. Value: \$75. -ed.

Dear Dave: I talked with Bill...from Brownsville, Texas the middle of last week. He was telling me of telephone conversations that he had with some people from Florida. These folks were telling him that they had received their March issue of KnC. Since I still have not received mine, I am wondering why. I am sure that my subscription is paid through the next issue and I haven't moved since receiving the December 1994 issue, therefore my address hasn't changed. This seems to be an ongoing occurrence, not just a one time problem, as in the past I have answered ads that were listed in your new issues of KnC only to find that the item had been sold two weeks prior to my telephone call. Please let me know why there is such a time difference in the delivery dates of KnC and what measures you are taking to correct this problem. Would there be a different price for a faster delivery method? Larry C., IL

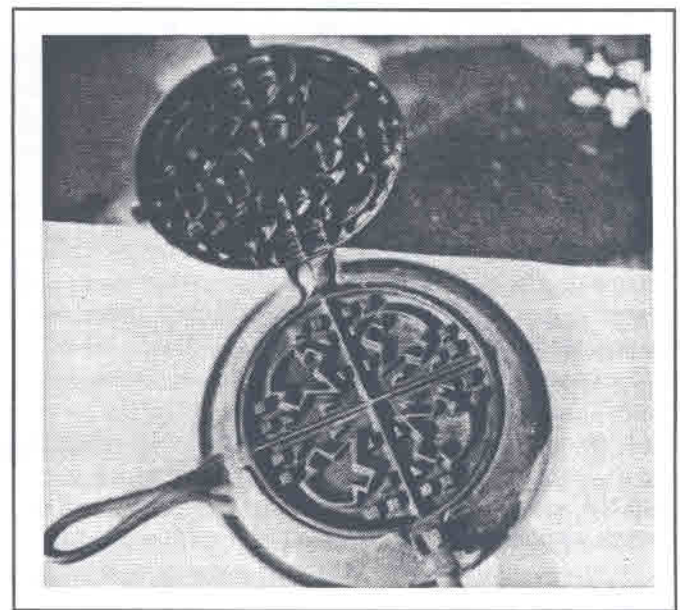
Larry: Kettles 'n Cookware is sent third class mail for a couple of reasons. The first is cost and weight. It would cost almost double to send an eight page newsletter first class than third class. If I went to ten pages which it frequently is, the postage would increase another third if first class. Despite this cost I have thought of going to first class but was thwarted by the second reason for third class. I cannot preprint the postage for first class mail. Each envelope must be stamped individually. To prepare a mailing now, takes about four hours. I just don't have the time for the extra step of affixing stamps to each envelope. This is the first complaint I have had from Illinois. The states I have had trouble with are Florida, Texas, and the worst one, believe it or not, Pennsylvania. PA is

the closest, yet many times is the last to receive KnC. I have complained to the Post Office, and in fact, the PA problem was discussed at a regional meeting. The answer: PA has always had a problem. I can empathize with your problem. I run into the same issue with the Antique Trader. I had delivery of that checked/monitored. The post office concluded it arrived within their guidelines. I tried for second class delivery, which is a little quicker, but KnC doesn't qualify. With third class mail, each post office may hold third class for up to three days. Apparently some do, and some don't. I will talk again with the Post Office. -ed.

Mr. Smith: Thank you for the "KnC Newsletter." I appreciate your writing style, the variety of articles, and the wealth of information they provide. Your untold hours of labor has produced a quality product which is generating new interest in cast iron cookware. Thanks again for your efforts. -John M.

John: Thanks for your compliments. Publishing Kettles 'n Cookware is quite a project. Much more of a project than most people could imagine; particularly while at the same time writing a 320 page book. Thanks again. -ed.

David: Enclosed are photos of a Simmons #7 iron with a decorative pattern in the plates. The two halves are not the same. What can you tell us about this item, and approximate value? Also, I am interested in value of a 14 inch gas or vapor stove griddle by Detroit Stove Works, similar to Griswold #14. The griddle comes out of the tapered base and has a sheet metal baffle inside. -Arnold R.



Arnold: Simmons Waffle Irons were made by the E.C. Simmons Hardware Co., St Louis, MO. This style piece was probably produced in the 1920s-1930s. Value of this piece: \$500+. Be careful, Simmons and Keen Kutter pieces are being reproduced! And-the reproductions are good!

(Continued on Page 10)

The Melting Pot

(Continued from Page 9)



Regarding your Detroit Stove Works Vapor Griddle: Value \$100+.-ed.

Dear Dave: Am sending this information to you for your ongoing "duplicate pattern numbers" list for Griswold. I guess I was not clear enough in the wording from my ad in the most recent *KnC*, as it came out that I wanted a "flanged lid for a dutch oven" rather than for a chuck wagon style dutch oven. Any way, I got several calls, one of which was from Joe Noto who has a No. 13 regular style dutch oven and a lid for same...after considerable discussion, he went down in his basement and looked at his regular No. 13 dutch oven and it is also number 2635 as is mine...his lid is a p/n 2637, and therefore, the flanged lid I need is probably also a No. 2637 (duplicate numbers). In other words, both the three legged style (mine) and the flat bottomed style have the same p/n 2638. The measurements for both styles are apparently identical in sizes 9-13 as illustrated in the catalog pages (Catalog 55)...only difference is that there was a three-legged, flanged lid style and the regular flat-bottomed style with usual dutch oven lid. I have had several people tell me that there was **not** a No. 13 "chuck wagon" style made...Sorry, but there was. Now all I need is a lid! -Mary Anne S.

Mary Anne: Your letter raises one significant fact about Griswold: The only thing consistent about Griswold was inconsistency. I guess you could call your illustration of the regular and chuck wagon dutch ovens having the same pattern number, duplicate pattern numbers. But are they really? It appears that the chuck wagon dutch oven was made by using the regular dutch oven pattern, then adding feet. As a result, they had two different dutch ovens with the same pattern number. They then marketed the bottom with feet, with the flanged cover. Here comes the inconsistency: not all regular dutch ovens have the same pattern number as their chuck wagon counterpart. It appears that early on, the pattern numbers may have been the same for some sizes then changed as production of the chuck wagon increased. I strongly believe that the cover for the regular dutch oven and your chuck wagon dutch oven are not the same. They are a completely different casting. In fact the cover for your chuck wagon

may not have a pattern number. It is common to find the cover with the Griswold slant logo (found on all chuck wagon covers—even those made in the 1950s) and only the size number (no p/n). Good luck in your search for a No. 13 chuck wagon cover. The Book of Griswold and Wagner, soon to be released, lists a No. 13 chuck wagon. -ed.

Reproduction Alert!

Reported by Dave Lange, Erie, PA: Recently acquired was a Salesman's Sample "Erie" Skillet. It was almost purchased through (a national trade paper) from the Wilkes-Barre, PA area. Upon arrival, it was discovered to be very porous around the handle area—also, about .08 smaller in overall dimensions. The "ERIE" mark was fainter than most and there was a slight sprue mark across the bottom. It is not known if this particular piece was ever logged or spotted before. The quality is getting better than before, so be extremely cautious. Thank God for return privileges and the dealer's trust in the purchaser. The only loss was UPS costs.

Editor's Note: Reproductions are usually not cast through a gate in the bottom. In this case, perhaps the gate mark was not the actual casting point, but was only an impression of the gate mark from an original skillet used as a pattern(?)

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