

KETTLES

'n

COOKWARE®

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Marriages

By David G. Smith

One hazard that plagues the antiques world is marriages. Not marriages between man and woman, or man and man or woman and woman (can't leave anyone out here) but rather marriages in antique pieces. It takes a sharp eye to identify a marriage in an antique hutch, for example. Is the top original to the base? If not, it is a marriage. Is the top of a table original to the frame and legs? If not, it is a marriage. In dealing with furniture, many times it takes an expert eye to catch this. Why do marriages exist? Many times marriages were done as a practical matter. Furniture was lost or damaged; therefore, parts were "married" to complete the piece. Also, clever marriages are done by unscrupulous dealers to deceive the buyer and increase the selling price. It should be noted that the selling price increases but the true value does not. A hutch without the original top has little value, as does a Dutch oven with the wrong cover.

In a past issue of *KnC* (Vol. 7, #2), an article was done on identifying covers. This lesson can be applied to mismatches or marriages of Dutch oven covers to bottoms. How often have you seen a Griswold bottom with a Lodge or Wagner cover? Can you recognize the marriage when you see one?

Some marriages are legitimate, having been done at the factory. These marriages are, of course, done by the manufacturer of both pieces and were done for the purpose of economics. To the manufacturer, these marriages were legitimate. To the collector of today, they are viewed with suspicion and rightfully so.

The most common marriage found by the cast iron

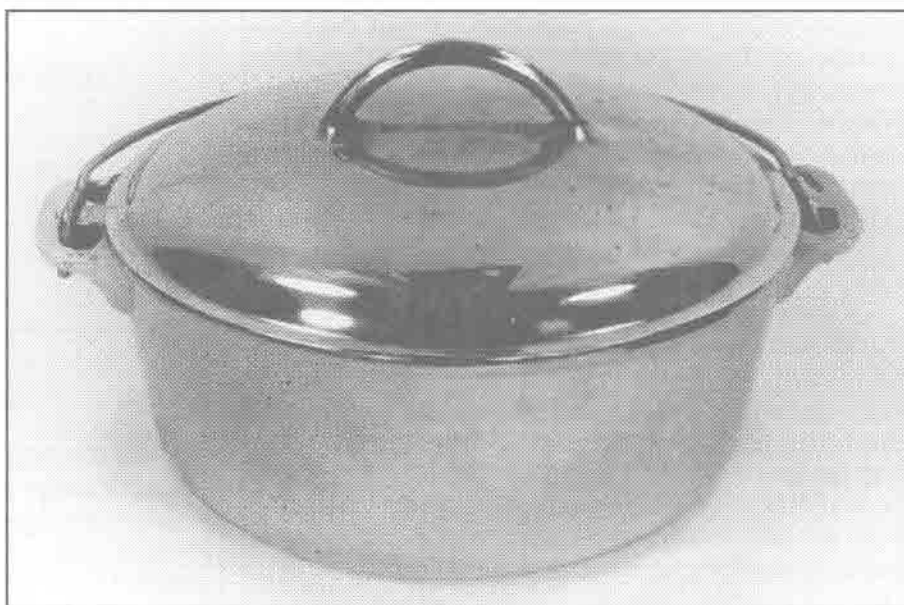


Fig. 1. Something is very unusual about this piece. Can you spot it?

cookware collector is the Dutch oven bottom and cover. A collector finds a slant logo cover on a block logo bottom - something is wrong here, or is it? The answer, I guess, is yes and no. The marriage could have been made at the factory. But, does that make it all right? The general feeling among collectors is that a marriage is unacceptable.

A classic example of a factory-made marriage is the illustration in this article. This is a lovely chrome plated No.8 Griswold Dutch oven. However, something is not right here. Can you spot it? Note the handle on the cover; it is an early applied handle. Griswold wasn't chrome plating during this early period. Nickel plating, yes, but not chrome. When you flip over the cover, you find a slant logo, another indicator of age (fig.2). Flip over the bottom and you find a block logo, the correct marking

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From The Editor

It's tough to believe the summer is coming to an end. In a way that's good. Now I don't have to get ready for shows. We did five this year. However, in reality, it puts me up against the wall. Now I have to wrap up The Book Addendum, in addition to G&CICA membership renewals, *KnC* renewals, income tax preparation, etc. I still haven't painted the trim on our house or done the landscaping I had planned to do this summer. The load of topsoil that I had delivered last summer (1997) is now like concrete. I borrowed a tiller in the spring to attack the pile of topsoil, but that didn't happen, either.

Our trip to Brimfield about three weeks ago was nice. We bought a few things and sold a few. It was a nice show. I have started collecting repaired pieces (old repairs) and found a couple of interesting pieces in that category. Some repairs are quite ingenious! And, usually the price is right!

After Brimfield we ventured on to Boston. We camped outside of Boston (Concord) and took the transit into the city. I spent the day at the Boston Public Library attempting to find documentation about Nathaniel Waterman and his business. I was successful only to the point that I verified he was not a manufacturer - he ran a house furnishing business. That pretty well proves that pans marked Waterman were not actually made by Waterman. I will cover more on that in a future issue of *KnC*.

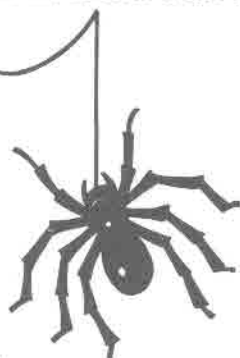
I also had an idea that Alfred Andresen, president of the Western Importing Co., might have wound up in Boston after leaving Minneapolis. I got the idea a couple of years ago when I found a plett pan marked Scandinavian Importing Co. Boston. It was the early Andresen style with the Griswold 2992 pattern number. I was completely unsuccessful at proving that theory. I did discover, however, that the Scandinavian Importing Co. began before Alfred Andresen disappeared from Minneapolis in 1915. Oh well, you win some and you lose some.

The following day we ventured off to Salem where my mother had an ancestor hung as a witch in the colonial period. We went from Salem to Gloucester, a historical ocean community on the rocky coast of the Atlantic. There we found a quaint restaurant on a wharf where we enjoyed a lobster lunch and watched the lobster boats unloading their catch.

We arrived home on Wednesday after a hectic return trip. Our van overheated and boiled all the way home. After arriving home I took it to the garage - they couldn't find anything wrong with it. I know, however - we were towing the Trailer from Hell - now it has cast its spell on our van!!

Happy Halloween!

- Dave



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If you would like your name and e-mail address listed, send it to *KnC*!

Marriages

(Continued from Cover)

for a chromed period piece. Did someone perform a marriage here? Yes, but in all probability it was done at the factory. The chrome on this piece was very professionally done. the cover and bottom definitely belong together.

At the G&CICA Convention in 1995, part of the program was a panel of past Griswold employees. It was most informative! During the discussion about production, mismatches were discussed. In summary it went sort of like this: When manufacturing Dutch ovens for example, the covers and bottoms were not necessarily cast at the same time. If there was a significant inventory of one part, covers for example, then just a run of bottoms was done. The covers were drawn from the existing inventory. If the covers were of an earlier marking, what difference did it make? They certainly were not anticipating the critical eye of collectors a hundred years in the future. These were practical items to be used, not gazed at and worshiped on a shelf; not to be doubted or criticized because the logos



Fig. 2

didn't match. They were to be used to cook "the cheaper cuts of meat" which "may be made as tender, juicy and nourishing as the more expensive ones" (advertisement in *Good Housekeeping* magazine -1920s).

Should collectors avoid marriages? The answer is usually yes, but be aware, there are legitimate ones which were matched at the factory. The illustration in this article is very unusual and a wonderful piece, to be enjoyed for what it is.

As it has been stated in the past, "the most consistent thing about Griswold was their inconsistency".



The Melting Pot

Dear Dave: The pan pictured in Vol.7 July/Aug of 1998 with markings W&B Co., was manufactured up here in Maine by the Wood & Bishop Co. of Bangor, Maine. Wood & Bishop were known for their Clarion line of stoves & furnaces (very ornate). Other pieces I've found over the years are #8 fry pans, iron kettles, and Dutch ovens #s 6, 8,10, 12, as well as a #14. - JohnArabacz

John: Thanks for the feedback!! It is people like you that make KnC work! -ed.

David: Enclosed are pictures of things in question. Please feel free to use pictures. - JC

JC: I will do my best:

1) Markings are plain. Is this old or new?



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The Melting Pot

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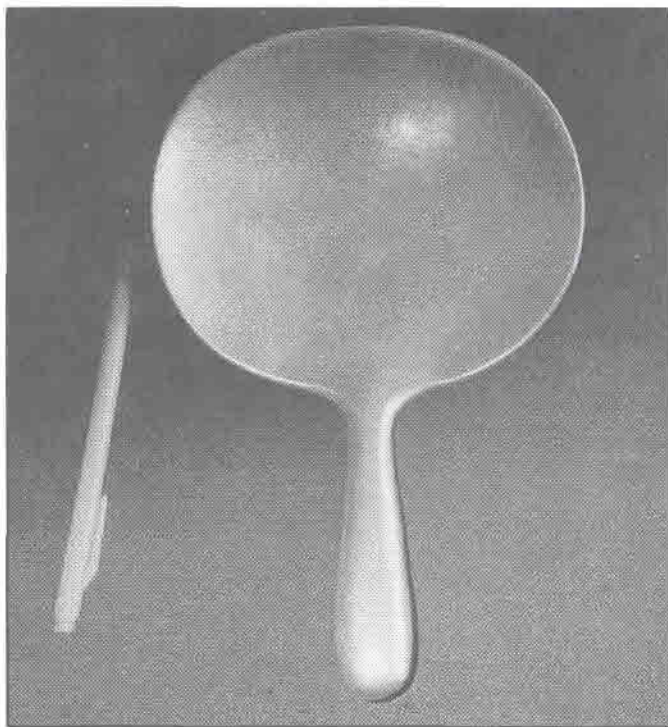
It is interesting this skillet is marked National Aluminum Skillet. We know that Wagner started using the stylized logo about 1914 and went to the four digit catalog number in 1923. Using those two facts, I would date this skillet between those dates (1914 to 1923).

2) This has some kind of sprayed on or cooked on lining. bottom marking is AK& Sons or AKU Sons, 4 Pint



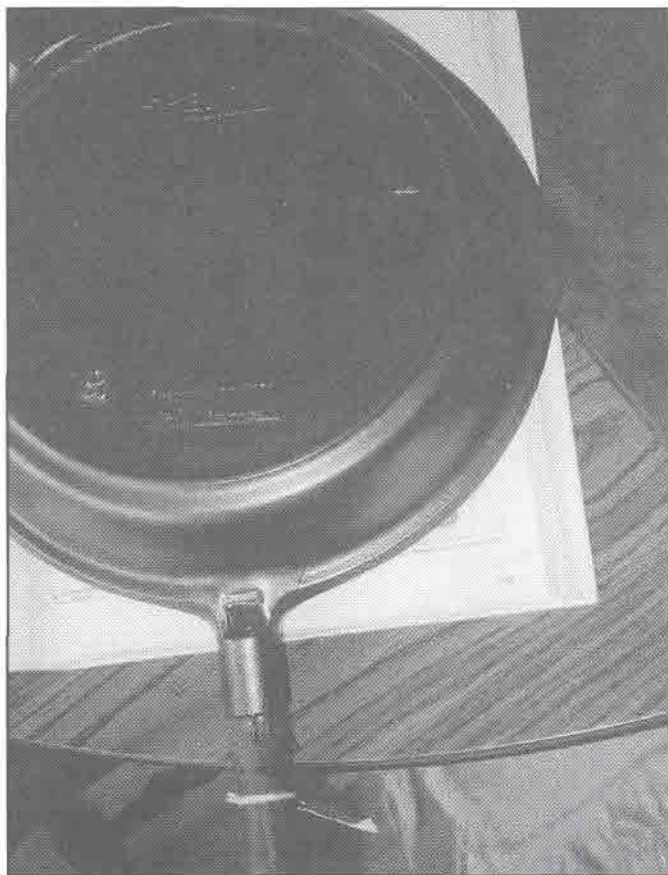
This is a very interesting pitcher, which I believe it is, even though it has no pour spout. It appears to porcelain lined. I am not familiar with the maker but I believe it is probably European.

3) This piece is marked Wagner Ware but it is not listed in any book. What is it?



This Wagner Ware piece is illustrated in a 1915 Wagner catalog as a Lard or Transfer Ladle.

4) Sperry Wood Handled Skillet #8. The handle is held on with a nut inside an open slot in the handle. It is marked Pat July 25, 1887.



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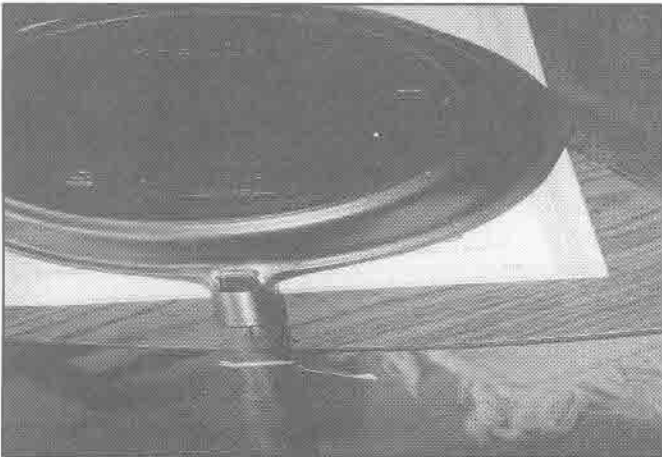
The Melting Pot

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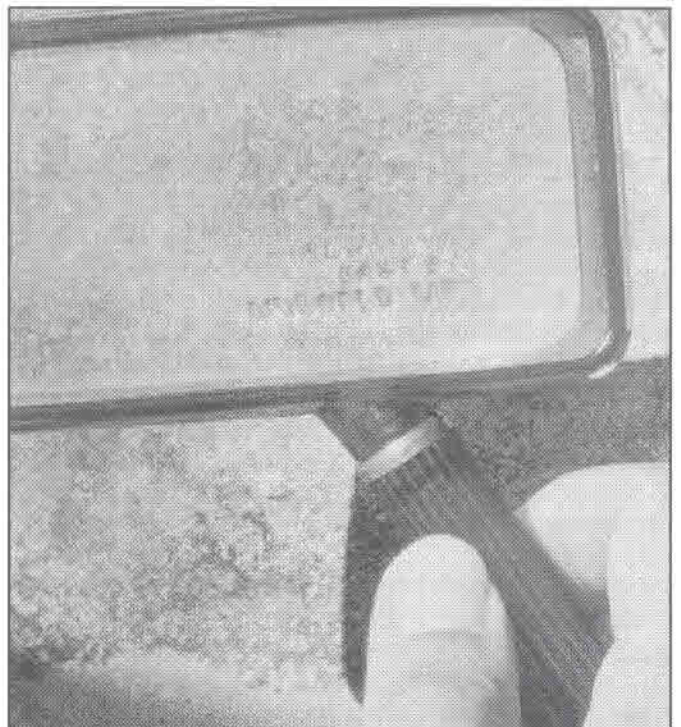
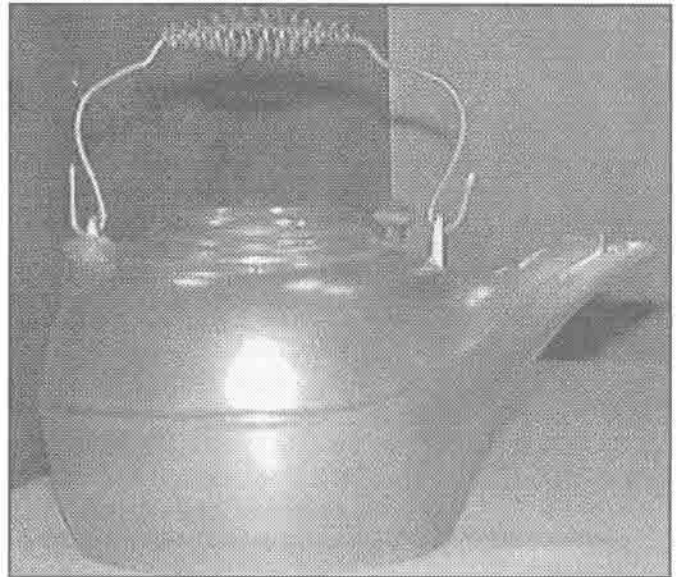
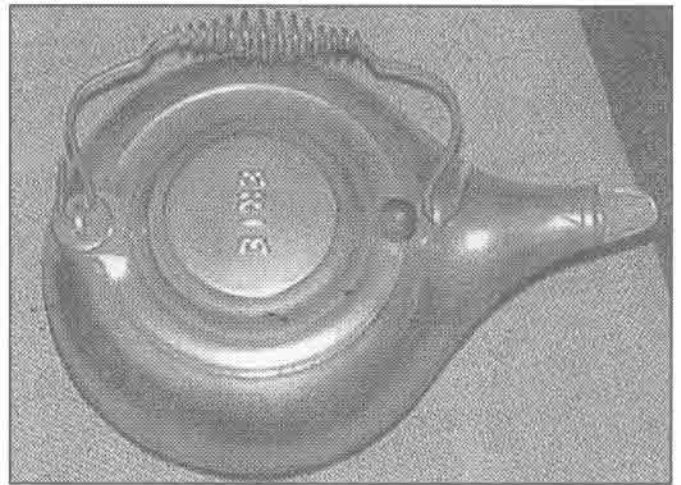
Sperry skillets seem to be turning up lately. They are good quality. I checked with Chuck Wafford regarding this company. He advised me that they were an Illinois company. Chuck says he has seen skillets, griddles and Dutch ovens by Sperry. They also made a Bread Stick pan. -ed.

5) This (Chuckwagon Dutch oven) says all the right things but no emblem. I assume it is a late model.



This piece was manufactured in the Wagner Foundry by General Housewares Corp. after 1972. -ed.

Dave: I picked up a cast aluminum tea kettle exactly like the one you have on page 79 of your book in the southwest corner of the page. It has a "7" on the top of the spout and bottom is stamped in very small letters, 6 or 7 point type, on the bottom center: "Aluminum Cast by Griswold Mfg Co." There may be two initials above these letters, perhaps an "E" and "R" but I really can't tell for sure. I was told this may be one of the first aluminum kettles cast. Could you give me your opinion on it and the approximate value. -LG



(Continued on Page 51)



The Swap Shop

KEY:

p/n	=	pattern number
w/	=	with
SR	=	Smoke Ring
HR	=	Heat Ring
ISHR	=	Inside Heat Ring
TM	=	Trade Mark
btm	=	bottom
EPU	=	Erie, Pa. USA
var	=	variation
emb	=	emblem
mkd	=	marked

No.50 Hearts Star for sale \$1750. Some pitting on btm of one cup, other than that it is excellent. Call Larry Foxx, (717) 243-9231

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: Square Fry Skillet Set, p/ns 2103, 22106, 2108, \$325; All ten Decorative Trivets, large and small, \$375 for the set; #775 Sq. Toy Skillet \$200; Wafer Iron \$375. All items in exc. condition.

GRISWOLD WANTED: #8 Erie Spider; Cast iron and/or aluminum miniatures, #20 fully marked Hotel Skillet. Scott Lamb, (814) 237-3303 or email slamb@keyfin.com

GRISWOLD FOR SALE OR TRADE: #3 high smooth skillet lid \$250; #11 slant Erie Skillet \$125; #11 lg block HR \$145; #34 Plett, var 4 \$20; #18 popover var 5 \$65; #8 Gem Pan var 1 \$55; #4 red & cream porcelain skillet \$75; #9 blue porcelain skillet with low raised letter Lid \$100; #5 slant EPU Skillet \$55; #6 Vienna Roll pan var 5 \$100. **GRISWOLD FOR TRADE ONLY:** #13 Tite-Top Dutch oven lid, raised letters w/hairline; #2 Erie Toy Tea Kettle; #2 block EPU smooth skillet; 4 cup Vienna Roll pan (exactly like Griswold except no feet, gate marks on outside frame, hairline in frame). **GRISWOLD WANTED:** #3 hinged/hammered Skillet Lid w/wo skillet; #2,4,7 20 large block HR Skillets; #5 full writing Victor Skillet; base for fisce handle fluter; Lid for #8 Erie Chuck Wagon Dutch oven; #s 3, 5, 6, 13, & 14 low raised letter Lids; Es 3, 4, & 10 low smooth lids; #s 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 10 high w/logo lids. All hinged lids except #5 & #8. Don Starkey, 11500 E. San Ramon, Clovis, CA 93611. (209) 299-2818.

WANTED: "Loner" Chuckwagon Dutch Oven Lids, any size from 8" to 16" or fractions thereof. Old, new, marked, unmarked, but must be CHEAP. Wanted to complete chuckwagon sets for scout troops. Also interested in chuckwagon bottoms that have lost their lids. Mary Anne

Stein, 8401 Pan American NE, No.290, Albuquerque, NM 87113. (505) 823-2513

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: Iron Mt. chicken Pan, p/n 1034, nice \$57.50; Alfred Andresen & Co KornuKopia Drum Kake, base mkd 975 /w Co., No.8 paddles mkd 2423 - 2424, small chip on pouring spout on base \$480; No.12 Skillet Lid p/n 472, smooth \$250; No.4 Skillet, sm Emb. \$35; No.3 Lg Block smooth btm \$27.50; No.6 Skillet, sm emb, \$30; No.9 Skillet, lg block, w/HR, p/n 710 w/ Lid, p/n 469, low dome raised letter \$130 for both; No.6 smooth btm, lg block \$50; No.570 (00 Ashtray) \$55.

WAGNER FOR SALE: :Wagner Ware Sizzle Server c/ n 1095 \$87.50; Wagner Ware No.7 Oval Roaster, lid mkd Drip Drop Baster "Wagner" \$250; "Wagner" No.14 Bail Griddle \$100; "Wagner" Sidney O. No.8 Skillet w/HR \$75; WagnerWare No.9 Skillet w/HR, c/n 1059 \$80; Wagner Ware Krusty Korn Kobs Jr, c/n 1329, 2 for \$60; Sidney No.9 Skillet w/HR \$85; Wagner Ware center logo No.8 Skillet w/HR \$62.50; Wagner Ware No.9 Skillet Griddle \$87.50; Wagner Ware E Breadstick Pan, c/n 1326, nickel \$65; "Sidney" No.11 Skillet w/HR (Erie mold) \$150; Wagner Ware No.12 Skillet, sm btm, c/n 1062 \$85; Wagner Ware No.0 Skillet w/HR \$70. **OTHER:** Martin Stove Works NO.8 Griddle (rect.) \$100; Puritan No.8 Skillet w/HR \$62; Favorite Piqua Ware No.7 Smooth btm Skillet \$47.50. Doug Brown, 8520 McDougal, Thornton, CO, 80229. (303) 288-5910

YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE - \$2.00 per 100 words, including numbers

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: Patty Molds in boxes #1 \$30, #2 \$40; Erie Popover #10 p/n 948 \$60; Popover #10 p/n 949C \$30; #18 6-cup 6141 \$100; No.32 Apple Cake Pan \$40; No.00 Ashtray \$30; No.273 Crispy Corn Stick pan p/n 930 \$35; No.8 Deep Skillet w/cover p/n 777A \$110; No.7 Oval Roaster (no cover) p/n 2631 \$220; No.8 Waffle Iron (no base) p/n 1641 \$40; Skillets w/smooth btms: #3 sm emb, p/n 709L \$15; No.4 lg. emb, p/n 702A \$60; sm. emb. #702C \$40; #5 sm emb w/hinge \$55; sm emb #2505 \$20; No.9 lg emb p/n 710F \$40; Deep Patty Bowl No.72 \$60; Tote Grill in box (unused) \$45. **WAGNER WARE:** Popover #1323 \$30; No.2 Skillet \$120; **FAVORITE PIQUA WARE** No.3 Skillet \$20. Sophie Dryden, 4265 Asher St. #51, San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 275-1715 before noon.

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: #9 Tite-Top Dutch oven w/ self basting, raised logo cover \$95; Seven large block
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The Swap Shop

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logo skillets w/smooth btms #s 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9 \$270; Cliff Cornell Breakfast Skillet \$440; #12 small logo skillet \$75; #10 skillet & High domed smooth cover, both small logo \$85. **OTHERS FOR SALE:** #7 Wagner round Drip Drop Roaster w/raised letter cover \$87; #8 Merrit Dutch Oven \$75; #8 Favorite Piqua Ware Dutch oven \$65; Mi-Pet #3 Skillet \$45. Lamar Smith, call mornings (318) 325-2224; email: pblamar@linknet.net, web site: <http://www.pblamar.com>

GRISWOLD FOR SALE: #15 Oval Skillet \$350; #15 Oval Skillet Cover \$950 (both for \$1200); #11 block EPU \$165; Lamb cake Mold \$125; "Standard" Tobacco Cutter \$195; #65 Snack Skillet \$65; Wafer Iron, casting flaw on one paddle, repaired base \$275; #9 Waffle Iron w/finger hinge \$95; #9 Waffle Iron with ball hinge \$65; #4 Skillet, lg block EPU, chrome \$65; #2 Deep Patty Mold set in box \$35; Sq. Egg Skillet #53 or #129 \$40; #768 Sq Skillet \$45; #28 Sq Skillet \$75; #55 Sq Skillet \$45; #57 Sq Skillet \$45; Colonial Breakfast Skillet \$45; Cliff Cornell Breakfast Skillet \$195; Cliff Cornell #3 Skillet \$195; #7 Erie Skillet, nickel \$15; #11 Erie Skillet, minor pitting on center of btm \$95; #6 Skillet cover, high dome plain \$95; #8 Skillet Cover, high dome logo \$45; #8 Handle Griddle, single hole handle \$65; Tree Platter #A1082, aluminum \$75; Deer Platter w/wood frame \$125; Sad Iron, Griswold Erie \$95. **WAGNER FOR SALE:** #9 Wood handle Griddle, stylized logo \$65; #12 Skillet w/ raised letter cover, nickel \$165; #8 Deep Skillet w/5 ring cover \$65; #9 Skillet, HR, w/raised letter cover \$75; Fat Free Fryer \$35; #7 Skillet, sm btm w/4 digit number, nickel \$45; #9 Skillet, sm btm w/f digit number, nickel \$45; #9 Skillet w/4 digit number, black iron \$65; 1129 Angus Broiler Skillet, double mark \$35; #11 Skillet, stylized logo, nickel \$75; #5 Oval Roaster w/raised letter Cover, nickel \$225. **OTHER: FAVORITE:** Puritan #8 Skillet w/cover \$65; #10 Skillet Cover \$65; Mi-PET #3 Skillet \$45; AMERICAN IRON & BRASS #12 w/Paddle Wheel Boat \$65. Buyer pays shipping. Dave Smith, POB 247, Perrysburg, NY 14129. (716) 532-5154; email panman@utec.net. Web page: www.panman.com.

Deadline for next issue: November 10th

MOVING?

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Write: Kettles 'n Cookware
 P.O. Box 247, Perrysburg, NY 14129

The Melting Pot

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LG: The Alcoa advertisement published in KnC Vol.5 No.4 pretty well establishes that the style tea kettle you have was the one first manufactured by the American Reduction Company (now Alcoa) for Griswold. Being yours is marked as being cast by Griswold, it is my opinion that you could have one of the original aluminum pieces actually cast by Griswold. I wonder if the letters you indicate by "E" & "R" could be part of ERIE? I think you have a very good piece and would value it at about \$250. I hope the stamping under your magnifying glass shows up in this column. -ed.

Dear Dave: I enjoy collecting not only Griswold cast iron cookware, but actively seek out their other iron products. One in particular is the "ERIE" fire shovel as pictured on page 190 of *The Book*. The shovel appears to be an item seldom found or displayed. Do you have any more information on this article Dave, and given its apparent scarcity, is the \$200-\$300 price range still a reasonable estimate of its value? With all best wishes and thanks for your excellent work. -DB

*DB: The earliest record of the Fire Shovel I have seen is an 1883 catalog. The coal shovel with a wood handle is illustrated in the 1890-91 catalog. No doubt it is scarce but scarcity doesn't always make an item valuable. It all goes back to supply and demand. If the demand is not there, then the value stays down. I think our value is on target. In addition, because of additional research I have done since *The Book* was published, I, personally, am not 100 percent certain that piece was produced by Griswold. -ed.*

David: I have a question about cleaning a pan. I bought a #11 NES muffin pan and it seems to have been painted with a clear lacquer or acrylic-type substance. I would like to know the best way to remove it without damaging the pan. Can you help me? -MH

MH: I would use paint stripper, then oven cleaner. -ed.

Dave: A pan question for you. I bought a #4 block logo skillet, by mistake (that's another story) and it has the size in inches on the bottom of the pan and doesn't feel right as far as weight goes. Is this a common fake or not? Are there other skillets with inches on them? Are these fake? Any help would be appreciated. -JF

JF: Your skillet was made in the Wagner foundry by the General Housewares Corp, who owned the Griswold trademark rights. They manufactured several size skillets with inches on them. Your skillet is not a fake, just not made in Erie, PA. It also has little to no collector value. -ed.

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The Melting Pot

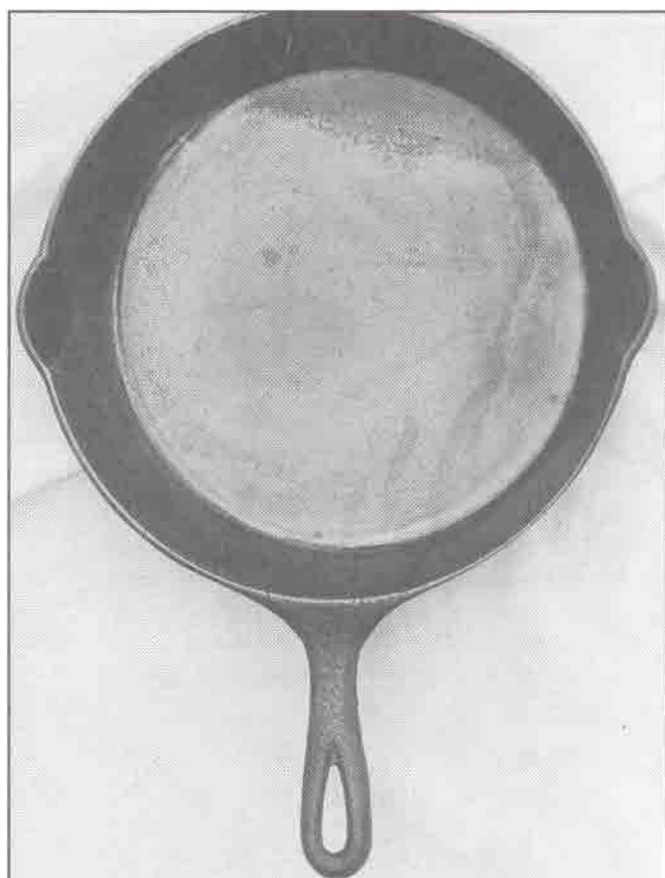
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David: I am hoping you can help me with identification of the skillet that I have enclosed photos of. As you can see, it is hammered on both sides of the handle and the outside of the skillet. It measures 3 1/4" in diameter. It is thick and heavy for its size. Also, it is very finely crafted. On the bottom of the skillet is a triangle marking. The skillet came as an extra piece to a turn-of-the-century stove that was not part of the original cookware. -JM



JM: Your photos aren't too clear but by your description and photos, I believe our small skillet was made by the Lodge Mfg. Co. -ed.

Dave: It was great to see you at the Long Branch Show and hope your luck held up through Bouckville and that you are home and taking care of the lawn again - and especially that you are busy on that second book. First we asked about the "double stamp" and I mentioned you had one in the book. Isn't it the #12 on page 19 (which isn't numbered along with 18). Also, the #11 on top of next page (pg. 20) or are they camera problems? Being a novice in cast iron it was of interest to me. The reason for this letter of course, is to send you the pictures of the two pans we brought in. The Griswold was not seasoned or cleaned for the picture - my neighbor had used it for 35-40 years and thinks it was her mother's before - so whether it was a slip-by or lunch box carry out, there is no way of knowing. By the way, does the "no crack" add to or subtract from the Griswold? - RN



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Kettles 'n Cookware

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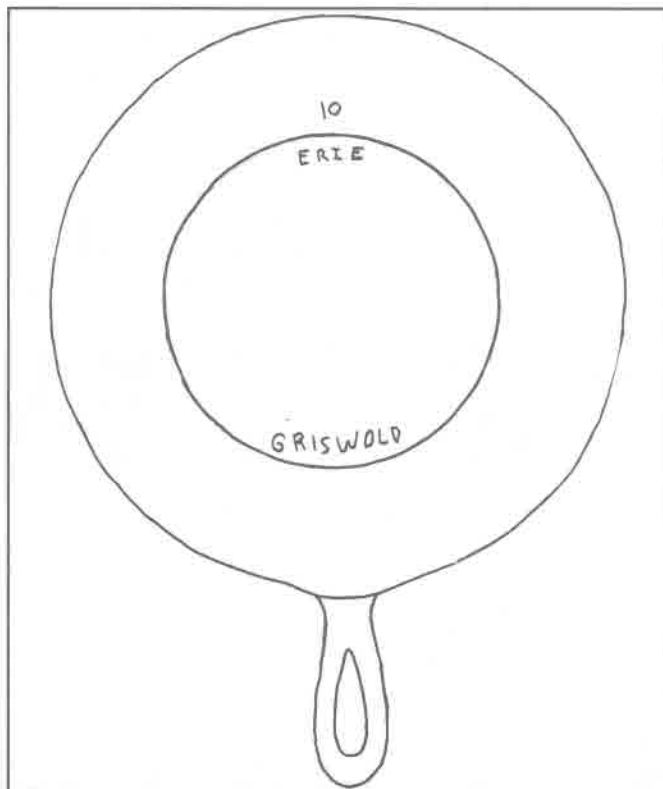
The Melting Pot

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RN: Thanks for your note. What you call a double stamp, I call a ghost mark, or back mark. These were created by using an older pattern and changing the inscription. The old inscriptions were filled in with a plaster like substance. When it dried, it shrunk slightly, consequently showing up on future castings. The "no crack" skillet you have sure is interesting. It of course is a casting flaw, not a crack. In this case, being it is a No. 8 skillet, I think the flaw adds to the value. It certainly adds interest. The Kenrick skillet is nice! -ed.

Greetings: I recently found this pan along my travels. It is similar to the pan shown in the May-June Casting Call but this is slightly different. There are very faint "X" reinforcement marks also on this pan but no sign of logo markings. Any information on this pan would be appreciated, as there is none in your book. Thanks. -MR



MR: The picture in the May/June issue of KnC was a #10 Bail Griddle. It is interesting to see you have a Handle Griddle with the same markings but not so clear ghost marks. Apparently the prior markings were more effectively filled in. It is variations like this that make Griswold so interesting. -ed



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*Casting
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Chuck Wafford submitted this. It is an unusual marking for this Mi-Pet skillet: "Quintuplet Cooking Utensil." The accompanying rubbing is the common marking.

If you have a special piece you would like to share with our readers, send in a clear photo and a brief description.



WANTED

Wagner Store Display Ad

for use on cover of The Book 2

Will purchase or pay to
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Contact Dave Smith
or Chuck Wafford.

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