



International Association of

R.S. Prussia

Collectors, Inc.

March 2009

*Prussia Points*© by Allen Marcus

# Cracker Jars Featured in Many R.S. Prussia Collections

*This article is dedicated to George Kandel*

**R**.S. Prussia cracker jars (and their continental cousins, the biscuit jars) demonstrate the skill and artistry of the Reinhold Schlegelmilch factories of Suhl and Tillowitz. These items are seen in various molds, colors and decors. These objects are rarely used in modern times, as they are arguably more decorative and delicate than they are utilitarian. And yet, collectors view cracker jars as choice pieces that represent the best of RSP workmanship and form.

Cracker jars were manufactured in many of the stylish molds and colors that were also used for elaborate RSP bowls, chocolate sets and sugar and creamer sets. The term “cracker jar” is used synonymously with “biscuit jar”, and perhaps the distinction between the two is that cracker jars have handles whereas the biscuit jars do not. A small number of biscuit jars have silver plated rims around the openings that

*continued on page 8...*



President  
Terry Coy, Kentucky  
502-244-5391  
[user258442@aol.com](mailto:user258442@aol.com)

Vice President  
Allen Di Marco  
570-547-2113  
[ajdglid@aol.com](mailto:ajdglid@aol.com)

Secretary  
Karla Hartzheim  
262-642-5460  
[rhartzheim@wi.rr.com](mailto:rhartzheim@wi.rr.com)

Richard Hartzheim  
262-642-5460  
[rhartzheim@wi.rr.com](mailto:rhartzheim@wi.rr.com)

Past President  
George Kandel, Indiana

Directors  
Larry Bazaar, Illinois  
847-228-1799  
[labazaar@comcast.net](mailto:labazaar@comcast.net)

Harold Dodds, Jr., New Jersey  
908-713-1655  
[dodds@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:dodds@mailbox.sc.edu)

Allen Marcus, Virginia  
703-912-3044  
[AAMarc99@aol.com](mailto:AAMarc99@aol.com)

Tim Nance, Florida  
239-455-2283  
[nanceg@earthlink.net](mailto:nanceg@earthlink.net)

Linn Schultz, Iowa  
563-678-2658  
[lschultz@netins.net](mailto:lschultz@netins.net)

Beth Vander Meer, Michigan  
269-792-9284  
[bvandermeer@fnwusers.com](mailto:bvandermeer@fnwusers.com)

Historian  
Mary Lou Bougher, Kentucky  
502-247-7155  
[mlkbougher@msn.com](mailto:mlkbougher@msn.com)

Newsletter Editor  
Linda Titus, Iowa  
Phone 563-785-4438  
Fax 563-785-4673  
P.O. Box 983  
Durant, IA 52747-0983  
[imagesinink@iowatelecom.net](mailto:imagesinink@iowatelecom.net)

## Note from the President

Terry Coy

I am glad that the winter hum drums are about over! Here in Kentucky we have been hit by the worse power outages in recorded history.

There has not been much going on in the Prussia world, either at auctions or on eBay. In our area there have not been any antique shows for the past several months. Woody had a sale in Earth City, Missouri the last of February. There were many nice pieces of cobalt, birds and very attractive florals. Needless to say, we did not get anything. As Jason Woody said to me "You sat on your hands all day after driving that far. Go ahead and bid." It was good meeting with old friends that have the same interest. Conversation and fellowship were great.

Would you believe on our way back from St. Louis we ran into snow, and my thoughts were, "Here

we go again", but nothing became of it.

I have been in discussions with two hotels in the St. Louis area for the 2010 convention. I should have proposals from them within the next couple of weeks.

With July not that far away, the Ohio group is ready for another great convention in Dublin, Ohio, at the Embassy Suites. Make your reservations early by calling direct, 614-790-9000. The cut off date is June 29, 2009.

Don't forget to send articles or photos to Linda for future newsletters. It doesn't have to be lengthy, it can be very short, if you so desire. Members do like to read and see what is going on with other members.

Continue to give applications to non-members! Have a nice spring.

## 2009 RS Prussia Convention Dublin, Ohio Tentative Schedule

<b>Wednesday</b>	3 – 5pm	Registration
22 July		Early Birds – Rooms Open
<b>Thursday</b>	10 – 11:30 am Boardroom 3 2nd Fl.	Board Meeting
23 July	1:30 – 3:00 pm Salon 1	Round Table Meetings
	3:30 – 5:30 pm	Registration
	7:00 -7:30 pm Salon 1	First Timers Meeting
<b>Friday</b>	8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration
24 July	8:30 – 10:00 am Salon 1	Welcome/Business Meeting
	10:30 am - ?? Salon 1	Do-It-Yourself
	1:15 – 2:00 pm Salon 1	Seminar
	2:15 – 3:00 pm Salon 1	Seminar
	3:00 – 4:30 pm	Registration
	3:30 – 5:30 pm Salon 2, 3, 4	Auction Viewing
	7:00 - 9:00 pm	Room Viewing
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00 – 9:00 am Boardroom 3 2nd Fl.	Board Meeting
25 July	9:00 – 10:00 am	Registration
	9:00 – 10:30 am Salon 2, 3, 4	Auction Viewing
	10:30 am – ? pm Salon 2, 3, 4	Auction
	After Auction	Room Viewing
	6:00 pm To be determined	Banquet

### Newsletter Policy

*This newsletter is the voice of the members of the International Association of R.S. Prussia, Inc. We welcome articles from members. We ask that articles be constructive and contribute positively to the welfare of the club and its members. The newsletter is printed four times a year. Publication mail dates are January 15, April 15, June 15, and October 15. Articles submitted for publication are due to the editor by the 15th of the month prior to publication and are subject to editing. (For example, items for the April issue would be due by March 15th) We look forward to hearing from you!*

# 2009 Annual Convention July 23 - 26 2009

Embassy Suites

Columbus - Dublin

5100 Upper Metro Place

Dublin, Ohio 43017

**Tel: 614-790-9000**

Ask for the RS Prussia Convention price of \$119.00/night which includes breakfast.

Each of our generous guest suites also features a comprehensive selection of luxurious amenities, including:

- Two 32" HD LCD televisions with cable, HBO® and Movies On Demand®
- Work desk with ergonomic chair
- Wet bar, mini refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker
- Two telephones with voicemail
- Private bedroom with one king or two double beds
- Pets are allowed. \$75 deposit required.

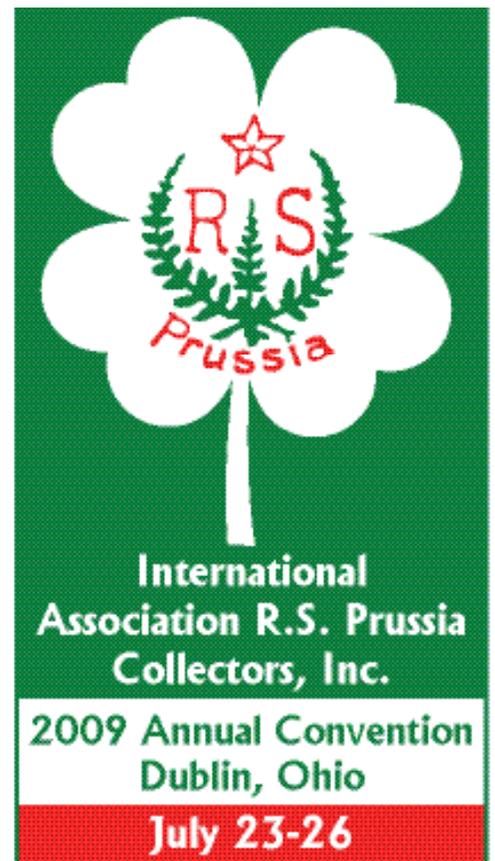
Hotel-wide amenities include:

- Nightly Manager's Reception
- A walking track
- In-hotel Fitness Center featuring cardio theater equipment by Precor®
- Complimentary local area transportation, within a five mile radius
- Hotel indoor/outdoor pool and a whirlpool
- Recently completed \$6.5 million renovation.
- Business center with complimentary services; including faxing, copying and remote printing.
- Complimentary high-speed wireless internet throughout the entire hotel.



## Directions

Take I-270 to Exit 17A Dublin/Rt. 161. Turn right on Frantz Rd., go one block to Upper Metro Place. The hotel is on the right.



## The Rare & Unusual Seminar is Back for 2009!

*Beth Vander Meer,*

*Jon Houserman and Tim Nance*

Now is your time to pick out that Rare/Unusual/What the heck is it? item for the 2009 The Rare & Unusual seminar.

We are asking club members to bring one or two items for discussion at this seminar. These items will be placed individually on a podium with a camera focused on the item to enlarge it for all to see. The owner is more than welcome to tell a short story about how they located or stumbled upon their treasure, they can also open up short discussion with the audience so that others can offer their expertise.

This seminar is an excellent chance for new and senior members alike to see and enjoy unique items that they may rarely see.

Please add to your convention packing list an item to share at this seminar.

Remember our club is centered on the beautiful R.S. Prussia porcelain. What a super way to share your porcelain, knowledge and enjoy fellow Prussia members' camaraderie. ★

## WANTED

A mold 642 green cracker jar with the flowers in a glass bowl decor.

Contact Judy White at  
**858-456-6293**

or e-mail:

**wjudykazoo@san.rr.com.**

## From the Editor

*Linda Titus*

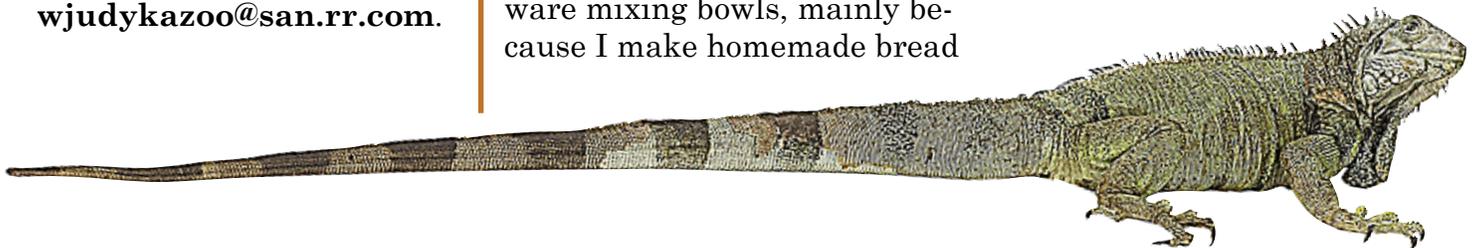
Hope this newsletter finds you happy and in good health. With this issue you will find your little roster books. We make an effort to be accurate but sometimes things slip through the cracks. If you find an error in your address, phone or e-mail, please let me know and I will print a correction in the next issue.

Have you been out hunting for antiques lately? It sure seems like work wading through mountains of quite questionable "stuff" classified as antiques or collectibles. On a recent trip to Florida, John and I went to a shop and were greeted by a very large iguana basking in the sun in a courtyard between the main building and the back building. I was surprised to see it, staring to see if it was real when suddenly the owner scooped him up and gave him a big kiss! She introduced us to him and pointed out his co-habitant in a cage on top of an oak table.

We had planned to visit shops that we normally haunt only to find several shops were no longer there. One was now a consignment furniture shop, one was now a coffee/sandwich shop and others were simply vacant with large "for lease" signs in the windows.

I recently bought a few items on eBay. I love antique stoneware mixing bowls, mainly because I make homemade bread

and they work so well. Just run hot water in them first and they hold the warmth, providing a good environment for the dough to rise. Well, the first bowl arrived with a big chunk broken out and a long hairline. The second bowl arrived in about 50 pieces. The third bowl arrived intact, but the inside was as though it had an acid wash... no glaze left at all. The fourth bowl was good. The fifth bowl was good. The first three were not double boxed. They were also packed so poorly with only a few Styrofoam peanuts. I could literally count the number of peanuts on two hands. The fourth bowl was not double boxed but it was wrapped in several layers of bubble wrap. Bowl number five was double boxed with lots of bubble wrap and peanuts. I was then left to battle with the owners and the post office to try and recover my money. I was only fortunate enough to get a partial refund on bowl number one. So much for my continued shopping on eBay. Sellers do not seem to be too bright. Don't they know that postal employees can play football or soccer with these packages while on lunch break? Can you imagine if these items would have been R.S. Prussia? More than likely they would be in 200 pieces. I'll save my R.S. Prussia buying sprees for convention! ★



## From the Secretary and Treasurer

Dick and Karla Hartzheim

As of March 19, 2009, we have 268 paid memberships and 126 unpaid memberships. We welcomed back 3 returning members at the convention in Louisville and 8 new members since convention. We are happy to have all these new and returning members with us. We are hoping that many will be able to attend the convention in Dublin this year.

If you talk to any of our members, please ask if they have renewed their membership and if they have not, please ask them to do so ASAP. We appreciate any help that we can get!

New and renewal memberships are \$50.00. Checks should be made out to the International Association of RS Prussia Collectors, Inc. Checks should be sent to:

IARSPC, Inc.  
PO Box 583

Mukwonago, WI 53149

We can hardly believe that it is now time to start sending in Convention Registrations! Dick and I would greatly appreciate it if you would send in your Convention Registration ASAP! Early regis-

tration helps us to plan a better convention for all. Also, early registration means that you will be eligible for a drawing for a FREE night's stay at the convention hotel.

Thanks to all that have renewed their memberships and welcome to all our new and returning members. We are looking forward to springtime, green grass, flowers and our convention in Dublin. Finally, we have had a few warmer days here in Wisconsin. It has been a long, cold and snowy winter here and we are hoping that the nice weather is here to stay.

**Important:** Our term as Secretary/Treasurer is up in 2010. If anyone is interested in replacing us, please give us a call and we can show you what the secretary and treasurer's duties are. You can even work with us at convention if you'd like to try it out. We did this with Linn and Leslie Schultz the year before we took over. It was **EXTREMELY** helpful to us. Think about it and let us know! ★

## With Sympathy

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of*

**Bea Gatewood**, Michigan, who passed away March 2009,

**Tom Mathis**, Indiana, who passed away February 2009 and

**Betty Fleming**, Ohio, who passed away July 2008



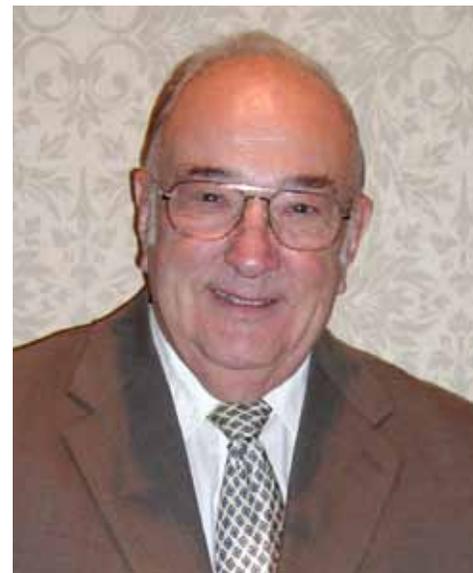
## From Gwyn Kandel and Family

The George Kandel family has truly appreciated all of the cards and words, etc. expressed telling us of how George influenced you.

While we grieve over his loss, it has been a blessing to have others share with us at this time.

May you all keep the torch going in the RSP organization.

God bless you all.



## In Memoriam by Terry Coy Our Past President, 2002 - 2006,

### George V. Kandel Passed Away February 11, 2009

George was a very dedicated man to his church, his wife, his family and to his community. George was a man that always had the other person in his thoughts. George never met a stranger and was a good friend to all who knew him. For those of us who knew George, he was a strong advocate for the organization; always trying to recruit members, whether it was at an antique shop, mall or auction, he was persistent. George enjoyed going to many of the state club meetings and visiting with his friends and fellow collectors. I had joked many times with George about the fourth bowl that he needed to make the set that he had been working on for several years. Neither one of us ever found that fourth bowl.

George will be very much missed by myself and many other fellow members. We met George at our first convention in Ohio in 1989. George had asked us if we would like to sit with them at the Banquet. That began a great friendship between our two families.

George is now with God in heaven. ★

# The Charming

In Eileen Barlock's book, the charmers are referred to as another set of four seasons. As charming as they may be, they are quite hard to find. If it had not been for other club members, we would not have our collection of charmers. At this time we have only seen them in three molds and these three molds are quite common. The molds are what we call the scroll mold, which is finished in gold and the stippled or beaded mold, which is also finished in gold. The third is the octagon mold. They all measure 8½" in diameter.



**Figure A**  
In what we call "winter", she wears a red cape and is feeding birds. She is portrayed in the keyhole design, encased with a gold outline. Roses are on both the left and the right sides of the keyhole and the octagon shape is bordered by green Tiffany finish.



**Figure B**  
In what we call "spring", she wears a light blue dress with a white scarf or collar around her neck. She is also portrayed in a keyhole design (note the difference of the keyhole design from Figure A.) There are flowers behind her with roses on a trellis on both the right and left. We have referred to this as a scroll mold, which is highlighted in gold.

# Charmers Terry Coy



**Figure C**

In what we call “fall”, she wears a tan dress with a red belt or sash around her waist and a white collar around her neck. She is holding what appears to be apples in a wooden bowl. There are surreal dogwood at the bottom in a green Tiffany. In the upper left is the fruit on the branches. We also refer to the mold as the scroll mold.



**Figure D**

In what we call “summer”, she wears a soft white dress with collar and a red sash around her. There are flowers in the background with surreal dogwood at the bottom in a soft green finish. In the upper right there appears to be flowers or some kind of fruit. The mold is beaded and normally has gold on them, but this is easily worn off.

All the plates have what appears to be clouds in the background. There may be other molds, but as of this date we have not seen them. Should anyone have or know of them, please send a photo and a brief description to Linda.

Thanks to the Gregorys for helping me with this article. ★



# Grady and the RSP Sail On Through

Annette Hite

We sailed from Montreal having found no Prussia but not lack of trying. Docking in Quebec our luck was to change. We are adventurers who usually are the first off the ship or plane, anxious to explore a new venue. Arriving so early the streets were quiet with only a few (friendly!) locals meeting friends in jovial cafes. We wandered on, happening upon a large bustling farmers' market. What fun and didn't we need another breakfast (rhubarb pie!)? We meandered more, having seen numerous antique shops that would open later; occasionally we'd spot others from our ship.

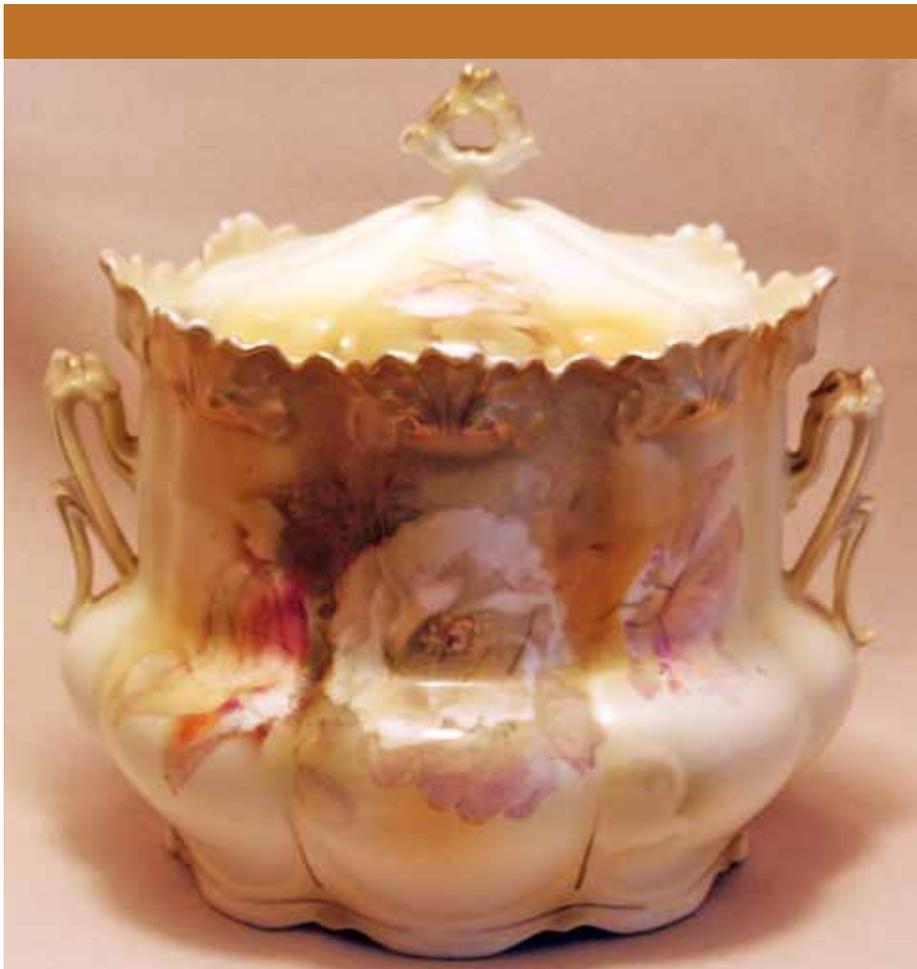
As we walked and talked we had stopped briefly at an alleyway too narrow to be a modern street. An elfin man overtook us as we paused. A fedora rakishly angled framed a smiling, dimpled face.

His subtle fashionable tweed coat and gold crooked cane reminded us of Irishmen we'd met in Belfast's pubs. "Good morning to you English speakers and where might you be going? Don't you love my city? I always come back to her." (His profession: an international trainer of travel guides) "Modern Quebec cleans its streets and gathers its garbage everyday! We're standing in the street (at most three feet wide) that leads to old Quebec. Do you have time to see her?" Did we!

We wouldn't ordinarily have gone down a deserted, dark alleyway with a stranger but our elfin man was off and we were right behind! What he showed us was the Quebec of early colonization with the remains of its fort and carriageways, only locals now transverse these alleys. As

the church bells begin the eleven o'clock chimes he reaches to shake our hands and says with a twinkle in his eyes, "I know you'll find a treasure or two in our shops!" His cane points towards an exit alley, his hat is tipped and he's gone.

Magically, we find a double handled cobalt RSP portrait ewer and a child's mannequin head (we collect everything!). Both are boxed and we lovingly carry our treasures to the ship, prepared to go through X-ray as we board. Grady and the RSP "lady" sail right on through security. Now it's my turn. As the box with my mannequin baby is positioned on the scanner my security screener is screaming, screaming. He is so horrified he forgets English is his second language! His colleagues rush over. Then they're laughing, laughing as they point at him, "It's a doll! It's a doll!" Reluctantly he allows the doll and me to board. ☆



## Cracker Jars continued

originated in England.

The styles are predominantly from the art nouveau and art deco periods; therefore, it appears that most of the RSP production of these items spanned from 1905 through 1917. For collectors who continuously search for RSP, cracker jars are found less frequently.

The following photos show an assortment of RSP cracker jars. Most have the red wreath and star mark and can be attributed to documented mold numbers. Many more examples, including the most elaborate and rare pieces, can be seen in the collectors' books and auction flyers. Undoubtedly, these items enhance the RSP collectors' enjoyment. ☆



# Auction Results

On Saturday, February 21, over 500 lots of R.S. Prussia and Royal Bayreuth from the collections of Helen Bailey, Missouri and Bob and Lani Harper, Florida were auctioned.



**Item 50** \$600  
10" RS Suhl round plaque scene of four women dancing in meadow.



**Item 92** \$700  
11 1/4" RSP iris mold dresser tray - white & green w/spring season portrait.



**Item 181** \$500  
18 1/2" Prov Saxe two handled vase iridescent bronze & green tones w/medallion portrait of "oriental girl".



**Item 45** \$450  
4 1/4" vase, with ostrich decor.



**Item 4** \$1,650 RS Steeple Mold 15, chocolate set with six cups and saucers, heavy gold, pink rose decor.



**Item 20a** \$700  
10 1/2" Heart shaped picture frame, Lily of the Valley decor.



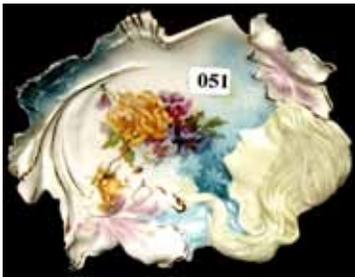
**Item 34** \$850  
9" pedestal ewer, cobalt with mill scene.



**Item 41** \$275  
10" RS Germany wall plaque old man in the mountain & swan scenic.



**Item 57** \$800  
Two handled vase with swan and sheep herder decor.



**Item 51** \$150  
7 ¼" Unmarked  
Prussia hidden image  
oval shaped candy dish.



**Item 260** \$800  
11" bowl, poppy decor  
with iridescent Tiffany  
and gold highlights.



**Item 10** \$1,400  
Carnation mold  
cracker jar with gold  
stencil highlights.



**Item 491** \$120  
10½" Unmarked Prussia  
bowl white, blue & cream  
w/wild floral decor



**Item 58** \$475  
10 ¼" Unmarked  
Prussia Mold 9 bowl  
winter season portrait.



**Item 80** \$625  
8 ¾" RSP jewel mold two  
handled fish shaped vase w/  
skirted base dark green tones  
w/opal jewels & gold high-  
lights - melon eater scenic.



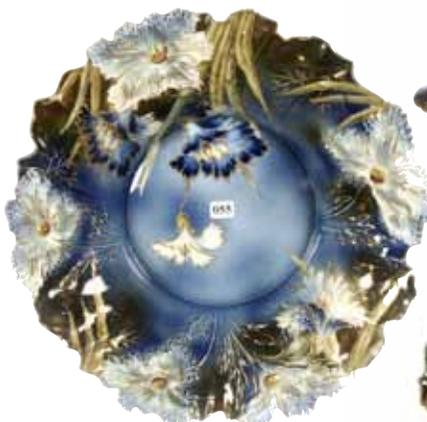
**Item 177** \$350  
10" RSP mold 938 two  
handled vase, green tones  
- shepherd scene.



**Item 68** \$225  
11" RSP mold 79 bowl -  
white and gray toned satin  
finish w/fruit decor.



**Item 44** \$1,350  
6 ¾" pillow shape vase,  
parrot decor.



**Item 55** \$5,000  
15" Carnation mold bowl,  
cobalt, gold stencil.



**Item 20** \$3,100 Seven piece carnation mold cake set with six plates, gold stencil.

## RSP Get-togethers Are Great

Linn Schultz

Leslie and I returned last Sunday from the Heartland's spring meeting held in Elk Horn, Iowa. We, along with 30 some other people, have belonged to this Midwest RSP collecting group for many years. The stories about "the hunt," "the prizes," and "those that got away" are always shared during our social time together. We are encouraged to bring some of our prized possessions for "show and tell" and even try to have some educational seminars along with our meetings.

A real highlight of these twice yearly meetings is meeting and greeting all of our friends who also love RSP. We feel very fortunate to have this Midwest group as it keeps us in direct contact with RSP collectors three times a year instead of only once at the International Convention.

The biggest problem Heartland Club has is that we are all getting older and the membership is starting to decrease. New members don't come easily. The same is true with the International Association. In these uncertain economic times, younger people may not be able to invest in RSP, or they may not have the time to attend meetings. We don't have an answer to the membership decline, but, if we at the International level just keep doing what we have done in the past, our future is certain and our decline will only accelerate.

So what can we do? Here are our suggestions. What are yours?

First, our membership must care enough to actually become involved in membership growth. Do we care enough?

Second, we must improve the

## The Marble Effect

Beth Vander Meer



My obsession with marbled pieces began several years back when I found this unique color combination at the Indy convention. I was eyeing the large cake plate to the left of the picture, when a lady came into the room where it was for sale. She spotted this cake plate and exclaimed "What an ugly piece of R.S. Prussia, who would want that?" I guess it goes back to the saying "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder". I wanted it! Since that convention I have acquired several pieces (Thanks to a fellow R.S. Prussia buddy of mine who has found me two of them!). My collection of this style contains three different styles of vases, two completely different chocolate pots, a celery tray, toothpick holder, sugar (minus the lid) and two cake plates. All of my items have the lilacs in the center, but I have seen other pieces with the grape leaves. I will continue my hunt for this unusual decoration pattern, maybe it will be at the Ohio Convention or along the way. You never know when the next treasure will be found! ☆

image and desirability of RSP in the eyes of new collectors. Presently, eBay is the portal through which a large number of beginning collectors first discover and buy RSP. Have you recently looked at what passes for and sells as RSP? Yes, every once in a while there are several nice pieces, but the items for sale aren't representative of the RSP quality that is available.

Third, our conventions must be more conveniently formatted so that new members can attend.

Fourth, we must provide an

overwhelming showcase of attractive RSP pieces for new members to view and drool over at convention, just like we all did sometime in the past. So, how about bringing your best RSP to convention and strutting your RSP "stuff."

