

The Bronze Idol

A Newsletter Published by The Cash Register Collectors Club

Letter From the President

By Todd Crook

Another summer has flown by and with it some exciting CRCC club events. The members who attended the Fall Meeting in California, hosted by Dan Lewis, had a really great time. I personally could not attend but I really regret missing the viewing of Dan's collection. He is a great host and a lot of fun to be around. The fall swap meet at the Holiday Inn Express, St. Charles, IL, again we had a great turnout of vendors and buyers. The weather was a little chilly but no rain. There were some great deals to be had. I was fortunate enough to find a 400 class electric top sign for a 442-E-L and an original pair of 300 class key ring pliers. One of the best deals there was a 52 1/4 Dolphin case machine with an extended metal base for \$1700. One just like it sold on Ebay for \$2200. I would strongly suggest attending upcoming events, as you see some neat machines and get to meet new interesting people. The next meeting and swap meet will be on Thursday March 30th 2006 at the Holiday Inn Express, St. Charles, IL

In the next few weeks you will be noticing some changes with the website. Rick Bradberry, a new club member, has volunteered to help us out with the site. We will be moving the site to a new server. Hopefully, it will be more reliable with no downtime. The Message Board is being changed to Forums. Questions about Registers, Recent Finds, CRCC Club News, For Sale and Wanted Items, etc. will be under this page. This should make the topics a little easier to follow. Also, you will be able to create and update your own profile. You will be able to change your email address and password without re-registering and contact other members privately.

We are still looking for someone to volunteer to host our 2006 fall meeting. We will need someone ASAP, as we will need to have a place picked out by our March 2006 meeting. If you have any questions or comments about the website, fall meeting or any other club business, please feel free to contact me at rvkapp1@aol.com or 618-345-5411 (days). Thank You and Happy Hunting! **Todd Crook, President**



Ramblings From The Pasture

By Mike Hennessey

Our Club

In a letter I mailed in my previous capacity as Treasurer, I stated that your membership dues provided you three newsletters a year, two meetings, swap meets, access to the Member Only section of the Club's web-site and other services. A member questioned me on what other services the Club provided. In a way, I believe, the other services are of more value than all the items listed above. For one thing, it's the opportunity to know a group of individuals who share your interest in cash registers. Although there's competition between members, as we all want that special register; we're still there to help one another. Bill Hall, Tim Harbin, Bill Heuring, Dan O'Neill, Dick Witcher and host of other members are always willing to help you repair or restore your cash register. Other members are willing to help you move the register you purchased or for that matter sold, to its new home. I picked up a register in Springfield, Ohio for Mike Zitowsky and took it to our spring meeting in St Charles and other members were doing the same thing. Did you read the article in the August 2005 newsletter? I firmly believe the \$30.00 dues we pay, to be a real bargain; however, to get the most for your money; you need to PARTICIPATE in Club's events.

Why not consider hosting the 2006 fall meeting? Information on this subject was also in the August newsletter. Here's a way you can really participate and not even leave town. Consider writing an article for the newsletter, another way to participate and don't need to leave the comfort of your home.

Fall Meeting

For the first time in the existence of the Cash Register Collectors Club I missed a meeting. This was a very difficult decision for me; however, due to many obligations here, it just was not feasible. I want to thank Dan for hosting the meeting and for that matter

for all he has done to help our Club grow and better serve the cash register collecting community. Dan is a real asset to our Club and all of us need to let him know how much his involvement is appreciated.

Swap Meet

As in past years, there was a swap meet in St. Charles on Thursday, November 10th in conjunction with the Chicagoland Show. This is the first time in some years I have attended the fall show and I was amazed at the turnout for our swap meet. Those of you, who have not attended one of our Chicago swap meets, should try and do so, as they just keep growing. There is always a swap meet scheduled for both the spring and fall Chicagoland shows, behind the Holiday Inn Express.

Meetings

It's not too early to begin making arrangements to attend the spring meeting. Plans are in the work for this meeting, as well as, for the fall 2006 and 2007 meetings. It was decided that members should have more time to plan, so we will begin advance scheduling, always adding another year. Be sure to get your request in now to host a future meeting. All that is required is the opportunity to view your collection and selecting a motel to use as headquarters and hold the swap meet. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PROVIDE ANY FOOD**; however it would be nice if we all could eat together on Saturday. Just find a simple restaurant that could accommodate the group.

100 Club

Ok, so you question my accounting, well, believe it or not, it's correct. One place in the last newsletter I listed we paid \$600.00 on our debt and in another \$700.00. The actual check written was \$600.00; however the debt was reduced by \$700.00, due to Dan Lewis allowing me to deduct his 100 Club membership from the balance due him for our web site.

Please consider your support of this effort to reduce our web-site debt. Information on joining the 100 Club for 2006 is enclosed in this newsletter.

Montgomery County Historical Society/Dayton History

The merger between the Historical Society and Carillon Park did take place with an official launch celebration on August 24, 2005. I will be serving a one-year term on the board of Dayton History and am honored that I was selected from Board Members of

the Montgomery County Historical Society board, to serve this new entity.

I am sorry to report that our friend, Claudia Watson, has resigned her position with Dayton History to pursue other interests.

I will keep you posted as to events regarding NCR at Dayton History.

Comment

Should you have a question regarding how our Club got started or the early days, it's over eight years now, I would be pleased to answer them. From the start, our Club was formed, not for anyone's gain, only to serve you, the collector. Suggestions on how to improve our club are always welcomed by your officers.

Mike Hennessey

Mhenne2002@aol.com



 **Club News**



Reminder...

New Treasurer to CRCC – Jack Dietrich

Effective immediately *any questions regarding status of dues payments and membership should be directed to me.*

IMPORTANT - The Club's new PO Box for mailing of membership dues is:

CRCC

P.O. Box 31-1061

Detroit, MI 48231

My email address is troff@msn.com

I have opened a checking account. There will not be any credit cards issued through this account as it requires my signing for it. I did get a check card for the account which should accomplish the same thing. Again, if you have any questions, please write or email me...**Jack**

*****CRCC POST OFFICES*****

It is important to **AGAIN** note that we now have **TWO Post Offices**. It was decided a few years back that we would never give up our Dayton P.O. whenever the new Treasurer was elected who was located outside the Dayton area. Therefore, I am listing the two post offices with their purpose...

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL DUES PAYMENT SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

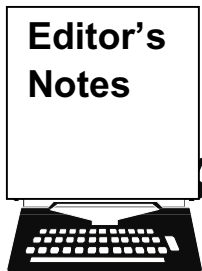
CRCC
P.O. Box 31-1061
Detroit, MI 48231

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO JACK DIETRICH, troff@msn.com

ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

CRCC
P.O. BOX 20534
DAYTON, OHIO 45420-0534

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Dietrich or Todd Crook...Joan



Please note that as of this issue, the **CRCCI web site** will be posted on each cover for your convenience. The Holiday Inn Express in Chicago address and phone no. will also be listed on the inside cover page. Feedback is that members don't have this information recorded and depend on the newsletter to be their

source of information.

Unfortunately Bud and I couldn't go to California. We hesitated to raise our hands when asked at the Aug. meeting if we were planning on attending because we knew of our personal obligations that were coming up. But a lot of people said they were interested and didn't go. Only when you host a personal party or meeting will you appreciate how important it is to get responses from people you invite. Bud and I too are in the category for the first time not attending one of these fall meetings. These meetings are very important and enjoyable to us. So you can imagine my disappointment when I have heard nothing about the meeting. Who was there? How many were there? Dan Lewis' fabulous collection I'm sure is

something to really hear about! Your officers try to inform members what happened at Chicago and fall meetings with photos and articles.

This ain't going to be pretty... Reading Mike Hennessey's article this month, I am saddened to hear when some members *question what services does the Club provide?* But I have to look on the bright side or I just wouldn't be able to continue being Editor. When I approach members to write a short article I hear so many times about them being so busy, etc., etc. Does that mean members who contribute aren't busy? I am always open to suggestions for the newsletter but it's hard to take suggestions from members who wouldn't think to share an experience with us for the newsletter. I have to thank Bud who has graciously shared his archives of magazine cash register photos with each of you for the covers of the newsletter since I have taken over as Editor. We have also added a photo at the end of the newsletter with a cartoon-type remark under the photo. We put our heads together trying to come up with something great for the cover – we have fun with it. And when we do the cartoon, we comment... wait until so and so sees this! I don't know if anyone has ever even wondered or asked where I get these covers or comment about the cartoons! We are sharing something from our collection with you. Some of you would never have seen some of these great photos. So I ask this month... *what services are you doing for the Club? What are you contributing?* Imagine – the Editor has the nerve to ask you to share your wonderful and sometimes disappointing experiences with the rest of the members regarding collecting these beautiful registers, or that you traveled across the country or are lucky to live in the California area to see one of the greatest cash register collections in the country and all we've heard is that you had a great time! Think about it! Well I believe that the journey we experience and the people we meet along the way are just as enjoyable and memorable as the collecting itself.

Thank you to all of you who unselfishly donate your time and efforts to the newsletter. What would I do without you? **Thank you** Rick Bradberry for your help with the web site – I'll be working closely with Rick re: the web site newsletter. I hope you all have noticed we have a new column that reports about Ebay. I think Rick Petty is doing an outstanding job of taking the time to report to us on the latest on Ebay. Great Job Rick, and I also appreciate the photos and notes about his collecting and refinishing! I can see his collecting growing along with his enthusiasm. It's great to be updated by our President's column and our loyal consultant Mike. I haven't forgotten Dick - thanks for your diary and tech column. Can you

imagine this month's newsletter if Dick would have lost all his diary & tech notes when his computer crashed?

*Being the Newsletter Editor and the Club are very important to me and I take it very seriously. I only want this newsletter to be the very best it can be and I invite you all to be a part of that by participating. Have a safe and healthy holiday and New Year!
Joan*

Tech Talk

All members are welcome to reply or add additional comments or call/write to the individuals who sent in technical questions. Please send a copy to the Editor to include in the newsletter.

This is a technical column. It will include questions you may have about restoration, what is wrong with your machine, problems you're having with your machine, or you may have technical expertise you'd like to share with the members. You may send your questions to Dick Witcher, (Dick's Diary) who will try to answer them and we will include his response in the next newsletter, or send your questions/responses to The Editor, who will also include them in the next newsletter. We invite all members to respond to the questions and/or responses. EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT FROM THIS IMPORTANT COLUMN, SO PLEASE - EITHER SHARE YOUR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE OR THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO ASK THAT QUESTION YOU'VE WANTED ANSWERED!

Dick...Service Manuals - anything different on repairs and/or breakdown of the 300/400/500 class machines? Books or tapes.

Regards **Jacobus** aguardente.monjolo

Hi Jacobus,

As far as I know they didn't have service manuals for the 300, 400 & 500. They were taught by working in the factory. The 700, 800, 900 and 1000 are the same thing only newer. The 800 manual even shows the brass cabinet with part #'s, also the lighted top sign and goose necked lights.

I have operator's manuals for some of these but the 300 has no pictures. The 700 shows all of the keys and how to use them so it is really better to have. I have just released for sale a 2 tape (VCR or DVD), over 3 hours on the teardown and restoration (repair) of the detail adder (shows the #2 and #8). \$39.95,

includes shipping in the USA but I'll have to check on other countries.

I'm close to releasing the 300 and 400 videos. About 2 months, I think. I haven't started on the 500 or 1000 class yet. They may depend on how well the others are received. I'm also getting a web site ready? Within a month? brasscashregister.net. SOON.
Dick.

Dick...My father-in-law has an NCR model #235 that he would like to have appraised. May we email the photos and info to you, or would you rather they be mailed. Please advise.

Thank you. Laura Humble
laurahumble@optonline.net

You can e-mail them or send photos. If you send photos include a stamped self addressed envelope. I will also need the serial # (usually where the model # is). Pictures should be front, back, sides, and with the drawer opened. Test to see if everything works? Tell me anything that you know about it? Also, where do you live? In some parts of the country they are scarce and may affect the value. I will need a check for \$10 made out to:

CRCC
c/o Richard Witcher
451 Century Vista Dr
Arnold MD 21012

Hi Laura,

I received your check yesterday. Thank you, on behalf of the Cash Register Collectors Club. Your register was built by National Cash Register Co., in Dayton, Ohio. It was a consignment machine to the New York City warehouse. The salesman should have filled out the guarantee paper under the drawer with the date and to whom it was sold. (Sometimes they were filled out but the fountain pen ink fades with age). Unfortunately he did not or it faded out. Just having the tag is great and not being filled out doesn't hurt it at all. Most are missing or damaged. The serial number 579340 dates it as having been built in 1907, according to the factory list. The finish "C" is bronze. The cabinet is called a fine scroll pattern. It has an original (three hump) top sign. Also a locking gold coin box in the drawer. It is a total adder mechanism.

National standardized their model numbering system in 1907 and the mechanism is the same as the 35 principle. The 200 cabinet is slightly different in that the 35 had a fine scroll cabinet with a chicken scratch back ground. As to value, yours is grade 3, or average condition. It is on the high side of average, which is a wide category. National built a great many

brass registers in that era, and they are not as rare as might be thought. Due to it's durability and appeal, a lot have survived. I base my appraisal on how much I see them sell for, not what I see people asking for them. I do think that the cash register as an antique is a wonderful work of art and really under valued. The original top sign is probably worth as much as the register by itself. Both together will sell for \$600 to \$1000. Dealer price would be the low and retail the high. The Northeast has an abundance of early cash registers but yours should do well, if you wish to sell it. As always, this is an opinion and not an offer to buy. I would be interested in the top sign if you would sell them separately. As part of this appraisal, it includes an ad in the CRCC web page. Let me know the price that you would like, even if it is not in the range that I set. **Good Luck, Dick**

Hello, Dick Witcher... I was referred to you via email from Les Owen
I Need some advice and help repairing an old NCR.
I have acquired an old NCR S/N 1986204 933 (3) N-E-2C that I would like to repair. The machine is jammed and I have no manual crank. The brushes on the motor are shot. The armature? (Where the brushes ride) is fairly worn. When plugged in, it hums. I have some pictures I can send if it would help. I have only 1 key.
I would like to know if I could find out the history behind it including who it was originally sold to. Can I get keys for it? An operations Manual? Parts? Etc. I am aware that its worth is nominal.....I would still like to get it functioning.
Thank you for your time. I am in Wyoming
Shawn

Hi Shawn,
I have reprints of operator and service manuals for the 900 series. I do have many 900's that I use for parts when I repair the 500 series which is brass. I have cranks, motors, keys, etc.

I would suggest that you buy an operators manual, service manual, and a crank so you can check it out. Then we can determine what parts that you need. I would need a picture of the crank area to determine which handle you need.

Start by removing the cabinet (after you study the book) and spray everything except motor with WD 40 or Liquid Wrench. Let it sit for a couple of days and repeat. Then wiggle everything to see if it is free. Some parts only move a hair but all parts should move. The main problem with most machines is that the grease has hardened so parts that need to move by spring tension can't move.

Also most people don't know how to operate them.

900 operator's manual, 70 pages. \$25
900 service manual, 274 pages \$50
Crank \$40
Shipping ?? \$25
Total \$140
Send to :(international money order?) With a copy of this email.

Richard Witcher

Man oh Man am I happy to find someone who says YES I have what you need.....the parts are good; your wisdom is the priceless part. I will be in touch. Oh....How do I find the keys for it? Do all the 900s have the same keys...??? **Shawn**

I have reproduction keys. They are \$10 each. The counter reset wrench is not reproduced and an original is \$35. Look yours over and let me know which ones you need. **Dick**

Hello Richard, Good day. I have sent you a few photo's of what I see as the problem area. The handle is broken in this area. I have looked for a place to use a crank and cannot see one. I would order the repair manuals from you....I do not want to sink a lot of money into this register if it will cost me hundreds to repair. Please understand that I say this because I am told it is not worth much even operational. I would like to try though if possible. I do not know what keys to even ask you for. How do I find out what keys to order from you? I have one key, a 1018. Some others that do not work on this register, 123, AX1, 2, 4, 5, 6. I also have a wrench that fits the counter. Thanks for your help. Shawn I can send you any pictures you may need. Thank you very much for all of you time!
Shawn

Hi Shawn,
The 900 is not real valuable. I buy them for \$50 to \$100 for parts to fix the model 500 brass registers. Sometimes the case on the 900 is solid brass under the wood grain finish, so they can be attractive if stripped. It is under appreciated because everyone is oriented toward the brass machines. I get more inquires about the 900 than any other machine. Check all parts of the cabinet with a magnet.
The part that is broken may not be the real problem. It was probably broken by someone trying to move it. If you have someone that can weld, clean it good and weld it back.
On the right just in front of the paper window, you will see a bubble or bump in the cabinet. It should have a plug that comes out by pulling the arm that feeds the paper. The handle is an extra long one and hard to find.

That's about as far as I can go unless you have a book and crank. I will also be making a video on the 500/900 next year. **Dick**

Dick,

I talked to you at the coin op show in Chicago about this cast iron item.
I feel it was for an NCR CPC convention in Chicago. Made by arcade which is in Chicago. Highway 41 takes you to Chicago. No detours says the only way to get there is by selling 100% of your quota. What do you think? I feel it was made in 1922. Any information would help answer the big question. Thanks, An ole NCR man of forty plus years. Now retired. **Charles Meeks**



Hey Charles,
You inquired about this before and I'm not sure of anything. The 41 might be 1941, not route 41. Or the CPC meeting might have been in Chicago that year? Try to find out if there is a list of where the CPC meetings were held each year.

The NCR retirees also have a newsletter.

"To CPC" might not even have anything to do with NCR but I think you are right. Try contacting the Montgomery Historical Society in Dayton. Their web address is <http://www.daytonhistory.org/> Contact Jeff. (I'm forwarding this to him now) Be sure to tell him that you have already talked to me or he might just refer you back to me.

If you contact NCR, they will forward you to Jeff. What makes you say that it was made in 1922? I'm going to forward this to the Cash Register Collectors Club newsletter. Maybe one of our members would know? It is really a nice piece for your collection. If you ever want to part with it, let me know. If you find out anything, also let me know.

Good luck, Dick

Hi Charles,

Dick Witcher forwarded me your email with his response, I might add a little to that. Being a former NCR person, I am guessing that you are familiar with CPC, the Century Point Club. Dick is right; it might refer to the year 1941, or the Highway 41 going to

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Chicago. If it were the year 1941, the CPC meeting was in Dayton. If it was Highway 41 heading to Chicago, the year would be 1934 - NCR had their convention there in connection with the World's Fair that was going on at the same time. That is the only time that I have recorded that they had a meeting in Chicago. I have seen one of these objects once before, but never actually seen a photograph or article that tells me what it was for exactly. I wish I had a more specific answer for you, but I hope this helps some. Please write if you have more questions.

**Sincerely, Jeff Opt, NCR Archivist
Dayton History**



Members' Articles

Sent in by Dick Witcher



35 Autograph by Dick Witcher





Interesting Photo by *Ralph Hoer*
 Interesting picture I bought on Ebay



Model 13 by *Rick Petty*



Just wanted to share with you a photo of a register I just finished. It has been hard work (thanks Dave). This was a boat anchor when we started. This is a Model 13 with an original top sign. I got it off Ebay last summer when it didn't sell. I didn't realize how nice these machines could look. Now to find a Model 11 to go with it.



Final Photo of Rick's Model 13 by *Rick Petty*



He got all the right key checks for it now and carried it upstairs to his register room.

Brothers Photos by *Rick Petty*



Finally got the "three brothers" back together. It took awhile but they are reunited. They all came out of a barber shop in Celina, Ohio. How they ended up by Fort Wayne, Indiana I don't know. Two of them have serial numbers in sequence. The other one skips one. I have the original keys for them and also all three have their own reset wrench.



Letters to the Editor

No letters this month.



Dick's Diary By Dick Witcher

The worst thing that could happen to Dick's Diary happened. My computer hard drive crashed and almost 4 months worth of writing went down the tube. I'm going to try to reconstruct it but I'm sure that I'll miss a lot. I bought a new computer with a media center that will let me copy movies, CD's, DVD's etc. I never really understood how to use the old one but I hope that I can learn a lot more about this one.

I'm also working hard to getting a web site up and running. It will be www.brasscashregister.net. I will have machines for sale and all of my books and DVD's, plus a lot of information. I was lucky that the guy who is doing my web page copied a lot of my files that had to do with the web page to a CD the day before.

We had been planning a visit to Jimmy Filler's for a while. When you go that far I try to make it a full trip. I have an American register that Jack Fuller had repaired for me last year. When I got it back home I had the case polished and assembled it. It promptly jammed and I couldn't figure out the problem. I called Jack and all he could say was "bring it back". That is a long ride for a repair. We also wanted to see Danny and Dorothy Shelby and Al Carter wants me to stop by and try to fix a National 500 floor cabinet register that he has. Everything was sort of planned but not the exact date.

Jack has to take the registers to his basement and it is a serious hill getting down to his work shop. He is also in his 80's so I strip the cabinet off to make it lighter and easier for him. I tore it all apart and was refreshing my memory about what was wrong. It would trip and cycle, but not release the clerk key and not let you press any amounts. I started to try to figure it out more and found out what was wrong. When I put it back together, I had put NCR grease on all of the cams and arms. The grease was making a stud slip by the hole that it had to drop in to restore the

transfers. I wiped the excess grease off and it worked fine now. That saved a big side trip.

7-25. we were also planning to stop at Danny Shelby's but they were going to pick up his father. The morning that we set off for Jimmy's, it rained real hard. Joan yelled for me to get up quick. Water was running out of the microwave. When we remodeled the kitchen, we had a vent run through the roof for the stove and microwave. I had to climb up on the roof and caulk the flange around the vent. Joan was worried about leaving, but we got on the road around 10:00.

We went to Jimmy's first. We arrived early and did a little sight seeing. At Jimmy's we looked at his collection while he finished some work. I was able to read a few of his books from the 1890's about NCR. They were really informative. We had a pleasant visit. Carol is really doing great after her health problems last year. Their daughter was home from college and is a nice young lady. I had planned to do a trade with Jimmy for a nice National # 6. I took a lot of top signs to trade. We made a deal and I got a fine scroll #6. I really wanted a National # 1 but I just can't get anyone to sell a good one, at least not at the price I can afford. I couldn't afford this one either but the items I traded helped.

We left around 12:00 for Al and Joyce Carter's. We should have gotten there by 6:00 but there was a four truck pile up on the Atlanta beltway. I took a few short cuts and we got to the Carter's around 8:00. They held dinner for us. We had a nice social evening. The next morning, Al and I went over to his warehouse. He has a few machines at his house but most of his machines are at a show room/workshop, in his warehouse. He has been after me for a few years to try to fix this 500 floor cabinet. Bill Huring is a great friend of Al's and has been down about 3 times to try to fix it, with no results. I had real misgivings about trying it. I have restored a number of these but they are all different. We tore it apart and I knew right away that it was jammed in the penny row. After a few hours, I realized that it had 3 separate jams. If you press an 8, the latch stops at the 8 and locks the nose of the latch into a notched detent. If you press a 5 the next time, the cam arm picks up the latch and drives it back to zero and then up to the 5. The latch has to be flexible to get past the 5 on the way down, but jump back up to be able to stop when it comes back up to the 5. The flexible pawl was stuck down. It got by all of the keys on the way up and there was no positive stop at the 9 position (they later added one for this condition) and it went to 10, which is a no-no. It was jammed, first on the indicator liner. The gear on the indicator has 9 notches but none for the 10. When the liner came in, it hit a high spot and jammed tight. There was no way to back it up. It also has a motor and drawer selecting

mechanism hiding the liner. I took a chance and pried the liner finger off to the side. That took care of the first jam and I was able to crank it a short way. Now the cam comes down to pick up the latch but it can't. I also had to pry the latch out of the detent and move it down to a lower position. Then put it back in the detent so it was picked up. I really hadn't figured out that the flexible pawl on the latch was jammed down and I proceeded to get it jammed again. After getting it released again, I found that all of the latches were jammed. I used almost a whole can of Liquid Wrench to get them free. We took a lunch break with the girls and then got back at it. Bill had taken the counters out and I had taken the motor off, so there was a lot of work putting it back together. We knocked off without finishing. We were planning to finish the next day and then go up to their lake front house and do some fishing. Joan loves to fish. We woke up to all day thunder storms. Al and I finished the 500 and had it running by motor with the electric top sign wired up. It worked great and looked nice. Joan was worried about our roof leak, so we decide to forgo the fishing and headed home, with the promise of a future return visit to the lake. I was happy that I didn't fall on my face and not be able to fix it. I had a thought about Bill, maybe I messed him up by fixing the machine. He got a 3 day visit at the lake each time he tried to fix it?? If you read this Bill, I'm only kidding.

Date ?? I have 2 Renaissance machines that are mixed brass and bronze. I got a couple of parts from Danny Shelby and a few more from Jack Dietrich. One is all bronze now but the other still needs the back and the right side that has a printer. I really opened a can of worms on this one. You think they are the same machine but Danny asked a question. "Milled or un-milled?" What? They made one style that had a sheet metal piece that holds the glass and a later one that the side piece, held the glass. The tin glass piece makes both sides and the back different. I guess that's milled. Then Jack sent me a left side and I found out that they made these different also. My lid overlaps the side cabinet. The one he sent me has a lip on the side where the lid just sits on top of it. Mine overlaps the sides. I had to grind off the edges to make it work. The part I kept was ground off. It was only a spare part for Jack, so he was willing to trade anyway. I also made some rubber molds of lid lettering for him. He is trying to get all of the letters copied so he can make any name on a lid. Sounds like that still will be a big job.

8-23. there was a 441 on E-Bay. It had a wood printer service box with tools included. It was in New York and I was thinking, NY City which would be a 4 hour drive. I bid on it and got it for \$375 plus buyer's premium. I then found out that it was in Syracuse, NY. That is 400 miles away. Joan was not pleased but she went with me anyway. I combined

another task with the trip. There is a guy about 50 miles south of Syracuse who can't do them cheap enough. His shop was one mile off of the interstate. I took 80 key arms and dropped them off. I saw his operation. He had orders in from Rick Petty and Tom Karaffa. We picked up my machine and got home the same day.

9-12. I had just finished loading the truck for the DC show when I heard a knock on the door. It was one of my old NCR customers. When I used to service his store, he had a couple of brass registers on display. I always asked about them. He and his sister retired many years ago and I haven't seen them for a long time. He asked if I were still interested in buying them. I showed him my display room and explained that I really didn't need any more. He only lives 3 blocks away and insisted that I have a look. As I was going out the door, I assured Joan that I wouldn't buy them. They were in the sister's garage under a piece of plywood. Mice had built a nest on the keyboards but not really messed on them. One was a National 445 and the other was a 332. As an off handed remark, I said that I would give him a ridiculous offer. I offered \$100 each and naturally he said "OK". I had to go home and get the wind up cart. Joan wasn't happy but the price helped. The 445 was all bronze and worked. It was missing the levers that move the extra type wheels, but I think it looks better without them. The 332 was all nickel and also worked. I later took both of these apart and did a clean & oil on the 332 and will leave it un-restored. It looks great. The 445 will get polished and restored.

9-16. We set up at the D. C. Big Flea in Chantely Va. I took a bunch of restored machines as well as 4 un-restored ones with original top signs. These were cleaned, oiled and repaired. Boy, what a waste of a weekend. We sold nothing and have no prospects of future sales. We decided that we are done with this one.

One good thing happened at the show. I met Don Marsters. We traded tips. I had a lady in Va. who called about 2 more machines. She had a 441 and a 346. She was moving and was going to give them to Good Will. I told her that I really didn't need them and travel cost would kill any deal. She said her son lived in Md. And she could get him to bring them as far as his house. I told her that I would give her the same ridiculous offer. She also said "OK". Don said he was interested in a winter project, so I let him go get them. He gave me a tip on a register in Clifford, Pa. It was a farm auction. Don had a picture of the machine. It was a cast iron National 137. It was a ball of rust. The saving grace was that it has a personalized breast plate and a matching personalized back plate. The machine was brown and the signs were green, so I knew that the signs were bronze. Even Joan was excited to go see it.

9-24 We left early to get there before 10:00. It was 250 miles from the house. We got there in plenty of time and looked it over good. It was jammed but I definitely wanted it. There was another flat metal register and a lot of bar signs. It was really out in the country but they had a large tent and all the items were in the barn. I looked at every car that pulled up, thinking it would be a club member. They brought it out and I started the bidding at \$50. I thought it would go high but I got it for \$100. They had a picture of the owner in uniform from WW 1. I bought it for \$35. Also, I bought a couple of beer lights. I took it home and tore it apart. I was really worried about getting the screws out but they were fairly easy. The cabinet came off good except for the comb liner around the keys. It was rusted to the key arms. I used Liquid Wrench to no avail. I finally used a brass punch and drove it off. When it came off, I heard a Ka-Ching. The No Sale key was pressed down. The only thing holding it was the rusted key arms. It works fine and the insides are nice and clean, even the indicators were not rusted. It had been in a basement but up high where condensation on the outside was what caused the rust. I glass beaded it and I'll have to replace the key arms. The signs were bronze. I'm toying with the idea of having the machine nickel plated but leave the signs, patent plate and the serial # polished bronze.

9-28 we went to the Wednesday auction. They had a National 451 and we decided to stay. I bought a commercial hot dog machine for \$5 and sold it for \$20. A lady gave Joan a gumball machine. We bought a \$5 typewriter and had another one given to us. Both turned out to be junk. We got the register for \$170. They put a chamber pot with it and I sold it for \$10 also. I didn't need it but???

9-30 A friend of Joan's called. She saw an ad in the Penny Saver about a cash register. It said a small brass Standard Cash Register. A Standard is usually an autographic wood box register. I called and he insisted that it was brass, small and a Standard. I looked in the book and saw, see American and see Western. I hurried over to see it. It was a National 313. His father worked for Standard Cash Register Co. It was OK but the sale said Saturday only. This was Friday so I offered him \$400 if he sold it right now. He said OK so fast that I knew I could have gotten it cheaper.

I should have known that my computer was close to dieing by the way it was acting. Well it died right in the middle of our work on my new web page. We bought a new HP Media center computer and also got the old one fixed. That started all the problems. We wanted to move the files from Joan's old computer to my old repaired computer. Everyone always says, "Oh that's easy". Well it took a while but a friend was able to do it. I'm trying to juggle a dozen things and

getting way behind. This new web page, computer set ups, printing new books and trying to get 3 new machines ready for Chicago. I am doing a 441-E with two lighted top signs. This you'll have to see. It is a National, model 79, Empire design, with an original top sign. Or a lighted top sign? A 39 Renaissance with glass key checks, etc.

We missed the meeting at Dan Lewis's home in California. It was a combination of things went wrong. Joan's dentist gave her an estimate of \$21,000 to fix her teeth. After the screaming stopped, we decided on about \$5,000 worth of work. She also refuses to fly anymore. Just because the last plane ride she took lost an engine. It only had two. If we drove, it would take 3 days each way and would be over 6,000 miles total, at 15 miles per gallon and \$3.25 per gallon. That comes to a lot of money. We decided not to go. I know that Dan was disappointed. I think they had a poor turn out. I really wanted to see his collection and meet the guys on the west coast.

This is missing a lot of small talk but I've got to get it to Joan for the newsletter. Nov. 3 is the due date.

As always, feel free to call, write or E-mail me about anything and everything.

**Dick Witcher, 451 Century Vista Dr, Arnold Md
21012 410-647-9451, ncrinfo@comcast.net**



My First Cash Register" – whether you purchased it, it was given to you, or whatever the circumstances were – everyone likes to hear how the other guy got started – what did you buy – what prompted you to buy that first register – what got you "hooked" on collecting. The NEWSLETTER WANTS TO KNOW! Joan

My First Cash Register

Nothing to report.

Ideas for Articles

Look What I Found? *** My Favorite Cash Register *** What I am Doing Lately? *** Where I've Been?? *** What Did You Think of the Chicago Show *** The Latest Swap Meet? ***Send Photos ***For Sale ***Wanted ***Questions *** OR....
Your Opinions – I Like This About The Club or I Don't Like This About The Club!!
The Club Members Want To Know!

Thanks Joan

**Look What ...
I Found!
I Missed!
I saw at Auction!**

No one found anything. No one went to an auction.
No one missed anything.



If anyone follows Ebay and notices something of interest, please send info to Rick or the Editor... Thanks.

Ebay has been fun to watch this summer. There have been quite a few good items on that would have been nice to get. Half the fun of writing this article is paying closer attention to what is up for sale. I try and store the items in my Ebay section till I write the article. You do not realize until you review it all the good stuff that was on. Here are some of the summer items I have been talking about. There was a floor model with a

personalized top sign, a side facing clock and a tape reel. It was located in Indianapolis. It went for \$2928. Next was a model 216 in original condition with a very rare top sign. It too was located in Indiana. It had a buy it now for 1000. (I bought it and two others just like it off of the same guy) All three had the early top sign, original keys and original reset wrenches. Early bird gets the worm. Another good buy was a model 313 with a personalized top sign that went for \$1427. Also a model 75 fine scroll went for \$1255 a model 332 with the wrong dust cover, wrong base went for \$880. Man go figure that one out! There was a very nice original receipt box that was nice that had 17 bids and went for \$327. For the small collector a letter opener from 1916 went for \$33. A top sign for a fine scroll machine that could take a clock did not get an opening bid at \$4500. A model 43 ½ -2 went for \$312 with a personalized breast plate. (Way to go Jim) Many top signs were available this summer. Some were personalized others were not. An original 313 top sign went for \$287 with 15 bids. A few larger model top signs went for an average of \$450. Most of these were great buys. Another nice register I saw was an original 215 with a top sign. It went for \$1225.01. It sure looked nice.

The month of September had many great items. A model 2 wide scroll went for \$836 and had 27 bids. Another 216 with a personalized top sign went for \$2300. It was a beauty. One of the nicest 47 ¼ Woody saw a lot of action. The register sold for \$2850. I bet Mike is enjoying it. A very rare 321 came along and was sold for \$2655.75. This register had 20 bids. These extended base machines are wanted by all.



I hoped you have enjoyed my report.

Please email me at thcashregister@msn.com if you see anything on Ebay that you want me to report on. I hope to see you all at St. Charles in Nov.

*******CLASSIFIEDS*******

Wanted

FREE ADVERTISING.....No one wants anything - everybody has all the parts they need.

FOR SALE

Hey guys,

I have just completed a 2 tape video on How To Restore and Repair "The Detail Adder." It includes an introduction, an operators guide to the detail adder, shows many different registers, and a great teardown and explanation of the National # 8, #2, and a Signature #2 – over four hours long. Even if you don't plan to restore one, it is a great learning tool to see the different changes to occur as they evolved.

I'm offering this on Video or DVD. Both are two tapes or disk sets. Only \$39.95, includes shipping. Be the first on your block to own one.

I'm working on a 312/311 tape and a 442-E (with the model 79 included,) tape now as well. If these tapes go well, I will do all models including some of the "other than National registers."

Coming soon: I will do a tape on "How to Collect and Value Your Cash Register." From A to Z, well almost! The really rare ones won't be available. This will be better than the book because it will show the changes and variations of each model. Also it will include a pricing guide.

Send checks to:

**Richard Witcher, 451 Century Vista Dr
Arnold MD 21012 410-647-9451**

FOR SALE - #6

Dick...

Enclosed are pictures of a register I would like appraised and also list in your web site "For Sale" section. I will sell to the best offer. I am putting a check in the mail today for \$10 to cover cost of "For Sale" listing and appraisal. Keys in side are original and it has the original top sign. Please **contact Roger at 626-792-4461.**

Hello Richard:

The Stupars sent you the photos of the rare model 6. It came out of a large collection of slot machines and old west artifacts that were acquired in the 1940's. A lot of the items were on display at the Last Frontier



Village Western Museum in Las Vegas during the 1940's and 1950's. Many of the items were put in storage by the owner, Doby Doc in several buildings he owned on the old highway, (now the STRIP), in the 50's and 60's. My partner bought many of the old upright slot machine and this register in about 1966.



He had it polished and lacquered about 30 years ago. There is a label in the bottom showing a National distribution point in San Francisco. The town it went to was Carlin, (there is a Carlin Nevada). The hand written date is 2-25-? The year is not there. It is all original, and as you know, a quite scarce model. You can call me at: 626 792-4461.

Thanks,
Roger Kislingbury, Pasadena, Calif.

Hi Roger,

Dating by the factory list, the serial # shows that it was built in 1907. The first series of registers built by the new National Cash Register was the 0, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3, & 4. These were the fine scroll pattern and go back to 1880's. National replaced these with the models 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10. The 1 was replaced by the 6. The 6 was built in the fine scroll pattern also (with a metal base and a wood base) but was switched to the Fleur-de-le in the 1890's. Yours was built late in the history of the # 6 which was replaced by the # 50 Renaissance pattern and the Dolphin pattern. Both were also built in the early 1900's. Just because National came out with a new machine or pattern,

didn't mean that they quit building the old ones as some customers wanted to keep the same machine type.

The outsides look good (grade 2) but the insides are a little on the average side (grade 3). I grade machine from 1 to 5, 1 being completely restored, 2 being previously restored, 3 being average, 4 being poor and missing replaceable parts, 5 being a parts machine.

Your machine is a model 6, fleur-de-le, all bronze, metal base, with an original top sign, in grade 2 condition. I would place the value at between \$4 and \$5,000. Having said that, the people that spend that kind of money may be few and far between. Be flexible and good luck. I will list this on our web site as soon as we receive the check, and forward it to a few select people.

Good luck, Dick

FOR SALE

I obtained your name from the antique section of NCR. I have an early four drawer manually and electrically operated cash register – each drawer having a different tone, with a paper tape of each transaction. The register is brass but the four drawers are oak. I am unable to get the serial number at this time but will be able to get it when the bookcases blocking it are moved. I will be interested in disposing of it and would be interested in the listing in your newsletter. I would also be interested in your advising me where I can go to get an estimate of the value of the register in order to have some inkling of how to price it. As soon as practicable, I will also have it photographed in order to have any interested party see what it looks like. **Reuben M. Ginsberg**

214-744-0044

**600 Signature Place, 14755 Preston Rd., L.B. 65,
Dallas, Texas**



PHOTO/MISC. Attachments

Photos – from Rick Petty

Cowan Auction Report - from Mike Hennessey

Photos – from Dick Witcher



Happy Holidays To All

**Articles Due By
March 5
For March 2006**



More Photos from Rick Petty



I have had a great cash register weekend. I just finished this total restoration of my 321. This is what I am developing a love of doing. Tag matches, original top sign drawer was also completely taken apart, stripped and sanded, then stained and clear coated. Top sign is original. Do you like the underside of the lid???



Here is the latest register that I just finished. It is a total restoration of a 211. I did everything to it. This is the first time I have ever done a machine like this.

