

6th Annual Pottery on the Square

June 25, 2011
8:00 am—Noon

Celebrating Monmouth, Illinois' historic tradition of creating quality stoneware and pottery is the idea behind our annual Pottery on the Square Swap Meet event on June 25th, 2011 starting at 8:00am and running until noon, on Monmouth's Public Square. Activities will include a pottery and stoneware swap meet, pottery demonstration, pottery auction, and window displays of rare pottery pieces.

The pottery/stoneware consignment auction will begin at 10:00am. The public is welcome to bring vintage items the day of the event for the auction or can register them ahead of time and have them advertised on the auctioneer's website www.burnsauctionservice.com. Auction fees are 10% for a sale, 3% no sale, and \$5 per item or set check in fee. Swap meet and consignment auction participants are not limited to Illinois pottery, but pottery items must be vintage.

The pottery appraisal clinic will begin at 8:30am, where knowledgeable Illinois pottery collectors will be on hand to examine pieces of Illinois pottery brought by the public. Rare items have been seen at the appraiser's booth and it is exciting to see what prized item might show up.

In conjunction with the event the Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce is offering to the public an opportunity to purchase a handcrafted limited-edition, blue spongeware water cooler replica that is molded after an existing original blue spongeware miniature Monmouth Pottery Co. water cooler. Like the original Monmouth Pottery Company mini water cooler, this water cooler is hand turned. The replica, created at Maple City Pottery, measures approximately 4 inches tall and 3 wide. Stamped on the side is "Monmouth Pottery Co, Monmouth, ILL" in black. The Maple City Pottery logo is impressed on the bottom. Also included is a miniature non-functional spigot to make the water cooler look complete. Orders are currently being taken for the Monmouth Pottery Company water cooler, that will be available the day of the event. The **deadline for orders is May 16th, 2011**, and they are priced at \$35. Shipping charges vary based on quantity.

Monmouth Pottery Company was formed on February 1, 1893. They manufactured all kinds of stoneware and survived a few plant fires. Monmouth Pottery Company used their name on their products in different fonts and different designs along with various logos. Then on November 29, 1905 Monmouth Pottery Company was sold and by 1906 was merged with six other pottery companies to form Western Stoneware.

For more information on the event or the commemorative Monmouth Pottery Company water cooler please contact the Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce at 309-734-3181 or e-mail maccdir@maplecity.com. You may also go to the tourism page of the Chamber's website, www.monmouthilchamber.com.



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Monmouth, Illinois**

