

# THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST

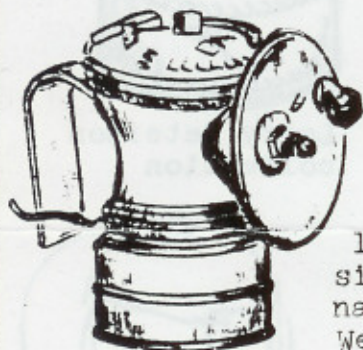


- MINERS WERE THE FIRST ECOLOGISTS -

Vol. III, No. 9

Fall, 1982

The Underground Lamp Post, devoted to old mine lamps, carbides, and candle-holders. Mini-editor: Henry Pohs, 4537 Quitman St., Denver, Colorado, 80212



Daylight Carbide Cap Lamp - The muses of duplicity have once again smiled upon our efforts to gather information about carbide lamps. Within the same week we have received data from both England and Arizona about an early DAYLIGHT carbide cap lamp. Long-time correspondent A. E. McR. Pearce in Somerset sent a 6" x 7" b-w glossy and Wendell Wilson in Tucson offered a sketch of their lamps . . . the drawing to the left has been made from the photo. The brass DAYLIGHT is similar to early AutoLite designs, but carries the raised name "DAYLIGHT" across the top of the water chamber. We have no count on the water control notches.

Specifications are: brass construction; 3-1/2" tall over the water door; 2" diameter carbide bottom chamber; 2-3/8" diameter steel reflector; wide spade hook and a wire brace.

Pearce mentions that his was his first caving lamp many, many years ago. It must be an early DAYLIGHT for at least two reasons . . . it resembles the early AutoLite designs, and our own DAYLIGHT (from Virginia City) is of a much heavier brass design similar to modern Premiers and is marked "P & H Ltd., Birmingham, England" on the bottom; it also has a 4" diameter, screwed-on, brass, ribbed (4 concentric rings) reflector. There seems to be no manufacturers markings on either of the old lamps.

COLT Carbide Generator - Steve Lofton, 5652 Kendall Dr., Nashville, Tenn., 37209, writes that he has seen a large COLT domestic carbide generator at his local flea market. It measures over four feet tall and was made by the J. B. Colt Co. in New York City. Anyone wanting more information on this item can write to Steve.



ITP Cap Lamp Handle - We wish we could reproduce the fine colored photo Norm Wagner recently sent which shows his ITP carbide cap lamp with a spring loop handle beside and below the hook. The sketch to the left will have to do, however.

Several collectors have Sun Ray lamps with this type of wire handle which has three detent positions . . . up for hanging, horizontal for holding, and down for cap use. It shouldn't be too surprising that an ITP with this handle should turn up since the Sun Ray and the ITP cap lamps are so similar in design and have usually been assumed to have been made by the same manufacturer and probably designed by the same designer. Norm's lamp also has the typical Sun Ray radial-ribbed reflector on a nickel-plated body.

Oil Wick Cap Lamps - Among many other things, Paul Kouts has recently told us about a oil wick cap lamp he has which is marked "HARDSOGG" instead of HARDSOCC. Paul says that he also has a catalog with both the "GG" and the "CG" in the advertisements.

Strange Names - Gene Calman offers the name CARBANOL from an Italian lamp and Gaetano, OLIVERA, and CTA from Portugal.



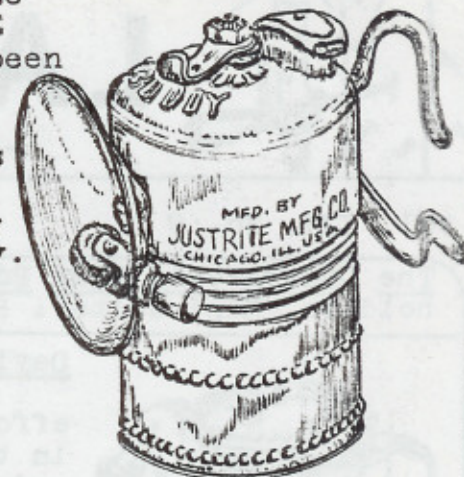
THE BUDDY Carbide Lamp - These two drawings of THE BUDDY carbide cap lamp have been shown before, but now David Crawford has reported a variation on the designs per his sketches below. The threads and serrations on the reflector are his marks of identity.

Side legends are:

Mfg. by  
Justrite Mfg. Co.  
Chicago, Ill. U.S.A.

- and -

Patents  
Dec. 17, 1901  
May 7, 1912  
Oct. 28, 1913  
Others pending



Larry Peterson collection

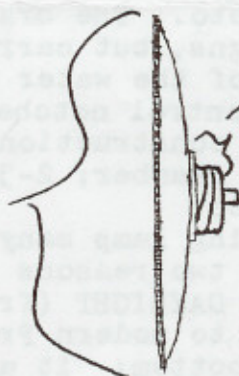
3-5/8" tall

2" dia. reflector

Cap hook  
different than  
Matthew's Lamp

Larry Mathews collection

Serrated edge  
Very much  
Like a dime



Threaded

Burner Tip  
Extends back into  
Lamp



Trade Talk - Paul Kouts, P. O. Box 813, Franklin, W. Va., 26807, writes that he has a Davy lamp, a Phoebe (double crusie), some oil wick lamps including Frostberg, G. Anton, J. Anton, Hardsogg, Gill, Dunlap's, and Husson plus several carbide lamps all for trade. Paul wants to trade only for other carbide lamps.

Part Wanted - Robert J. Gossett, 106 Norwood Rd., Nitro, W. Va., 25143, needs a Defender bottom as he has access to a good top.

Traders and Wants - Skip Older, 1421 Birch St., #8, Canon City, Color., 81212, wants to trade for a Davy lamp (any make) and needs a reflector for his Wolf #900 hand lamp. His trading material includes the following: reproductions of old Cripple Creek and tri-state photographs; a Kohler flame safety lamp (key lock - 1930's); Stonebridge folding candle lantern (poor condition); Carbon Coal and Coke Co. trade tokens (marked "One Stick Powder", "12½ cents Powder", and "25 cents fuse"), and a Guy's Dropper cap lamp with the wrong dates and a left-hand hinge.

Items for Trade - Mike Puhl, 3165 Countryside Dr., Springfield, Mo., 65807, has some items for trade including the small candleholder sketched below. Scaling his sketch, it would be about a 3/4" diameter candle. Also for trade are: Acme hand lamp, chrome, supervisor's grips; two ITP hand lamps, hook and bail type; X-Ray cap lamp; a Varney-style candleholder; one Everhart safety lamp; a Frostburg sunshine lamp; Dunlap's sunshine lamp; Dunlap's oil wick lamp; a tall-tank Guy's Dropper carbide hand lamp; a bottom for a Hansen or Force Feed; and a few common lamps. Mike wants cap or hand carbide lamps he doesn't have.





BOOK CORNER

Second Edition of Porezag's 1st Book - As many of you already know, our personal friend Karsten Porezag of Wetzlar, West Germany, published a fine German-language old mine lamp book in 1980. We say "personal friend" because we had the privilege of meeting him and were the beneficiary of his fine hospitality while we were in Europe in June, 1981. His kindness is rivaled only by the quality of his lamp collection. For ease of ordering, Karsten has reviewed and has authorized the following item:

MINE LAMP BOOK- Des Bergmanns Offenes Gelucht - Unschlittlampen, Öllampen, Kerzenlampen (The Miner's Naked Flame Lamps) by Karsten Porezag, 1982, 127 pp., 105 illustrations, in B-W hard bound. A West German book on Old Oil Lamps, Candle Lamps, and Greese Lamps usen in world-wide mines. Illustrations include not only the lamps, but historical pictures of the miners, mine shots. In German. \$20.00 post free from Tony Oldham, Rhychydwr, Crymych, SA41 3RB, Dyfed, Great Britain. (Ed. - That's a Welsh address)

First Edition of Porezag's 2nd Book - And now in 1982 Karsten's second book has become available, this one covering carbide lamps. We don't have the translation of the publicity note yet, but here is the information:

Des Bergmanns Geleucht - Offenes Geleucht: Karbidlampen, Von Karsten Porezag, 204 Seiten mit 222 Bildern, 19 cm x 24 cm, preis: 58 DM.

We know enough to report that there are 204 pages with 222 illustrations in this 19 cm x 24 cm size book and that the 58 Deutschmark price is about \$25.00. Write: Verlag Glückauf GmbH, Verkaufsbteilung, Postfach 10 39 45, D-4300, Essen 1, West Germany and be sure to emphasize Band 2 - Karbidlampen

Paul Kouts - Paul has now completed publishing of six volumes in his carbide lamp identification series. They are as follows:

- Vol. I - A Research of R cords of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office;
- Vol. II - Auto-Lite
- Vol. III - Guy's Dropper
- Vol. IV - Springfield
- Vol. V - Zar
- Vol. VI - Duplex Lamps
- Others to come

A lamp cataloging system has been devised and used; other subject lamps are in the research stage. Order from: Paul L. Kouts, P. O. Box 813, Franklin, W. Va., 26807. Days: 703-731-3549. Nights: 703-921-2767.

Bottom Guide - The Second Edition of Wendell Wilson's Nearly Complete Bottom Guide for Carbide Cap Lamps is now available revised and updated from the First Edition. Order from Wendell Wilson,  $\frac{1}{2}$  The Mineralogical Record Inc., P. O. Box 35565, Tucson, Arizona, 85740.

Book Review - Wendell Wilson publishes at least six times a year with his lavish Mineralogical Record Magazine, but it is his latest finely-detailed book which has caught our attention. For your records its bibliographical notation is as follows:

Frog Lamps, by Wendell E. Wilson, Published by the Rushlight Club, copyright 1981, Library of Congress Catalog Number 81-84374.

Charles F. McGurk, President of the Rushlight Club, writes that "It is with particular pride and pleasure that the club offers this book as a gift to its members, and to the public for purchase, in commemoration of our 50th anniversary." Inquiries should be directed to the club Corresponding Secretary, The Rushlight Club, P. O. Box 3053, Talcottville, Conn., 06066.

Wendell specifically defines his subject as being miner's frog lamps with a miner's hook, a shield, a single oil pan, and a half-bail. He includes sections on the history of the lamps, parts diagrams, regional classifications, non-frogs, a bibliography, and a sources reference list. This book includes over 100 exquisite pen-and ink line drawings from Wendell's own hand, several historical-political maps, and specific museum references.

Wendell has corresponded with many persons around the world to



Frog Lamps - continued -

amass this volume of information about what he, and probably many of us, consider to be one of the more romantic types of miner's lamps. Many of the innumerable types and designs of these quaint European lamps are here recorded by Wendell's words and pen. The famous museum pieces, especially those we have personally seen, are clearly delineated with appropriate detail and description. Indeed, a broad and relatively comprehensive review of these lighting devices.

We are tempted here to mention some of the more exotic lamps shown in the book. But, upon prudent reflection, we feel it better to recommend that each serious collector add this valuable reference work to his collection and to discover its delights by direct experience.

Softbound, 6" x 8½", 110 pp.

The Market Place

For Trade - Len Gaska, 1723 W. Ninth St., Pomona, Calif., 91766, offers the following for trade: Helmholz and Pauli German lamp enclosed within steel case with glass windows, complete in very good condition; Guy's Dropper tall boy, complete and in good condition, very slight stress cracks in the water chamber, with 7" reflector; Dewar hand lamp, 8-hour style with blade and swing-out handles, cast aluminum reflector, complete and in good condition; Justrite hip flask, bright steel, very good condition; Oil cap lamp, marked "Trade Mark Registered 'Crown'" on bottom, Pat. May 26, 1908 on top, with wire loops to receive a candlestick holder, dented, but in good condition; several carbide bicycle lamps for trade - write for details; anyone want to trade their extra carbide lamps for antique cameras and/or stereo photo equipment? Len wants a push-on reflector in excellent condition for a nickel-plated Baldwin supervisor's lamp, a push-on reflector for an early Guy's Dropper, and early and uncommon Justrite lamps. (714) 622-1473

More Trades - Ralph Blankenbecler, Rt. 3, Box 46, Coeburn, Va., 24230, offers many good items for trade. He emphasizes that they are for trade only, not for sale, and only for a good lamp that he doesn't have. He writes that he will try to make a good deal for a cap lamp he wants. Available: baby Wolf; Zar cap lamps; Bluefield Hardware oil wick cap lamp; brass no-name oil wick cap lamp; Husson candleholder removable stick; mint Buddy carbide cap lamp; Prethaway Bros. oil lamp; no-mane safety lamp, all gauze, no glass; Wolf carbide lamp with ball; E. Thomas and Williams safety lamp; two mint Brilliant Search Lites; 1921 Justrite belt generator lamp; 1914 Justrite belt generator lamp; Justrite #10 carbide lantern, mint, in can; #12 Justrite carbide lantern minus globe; large detonator; and small brass detonator.

Candleholders - Write Ted Bobrink, 12851 Kendall Way, Redlands, Calif., 92373, (or call) 714-794-5518 for information on the following items: Fielding and Peterson folding candleholder, patented August 4, 1903; Montana; Crescent; Varney-style Menlo; Occident; Royal; Imperial; and two Miner's Favorite as pictured in the 1902 Sears catalog.

Wanted - Al Hockel, 5409 Lanai St., Long Beach, Calif., 90808, has a Stone-bridge folding candle lantern in good condition which he would like to trade for a marked Varney-type candleholder.

Lunkenheimer - Several years ago Larry Matthews, 105 Stillhouse Road, Hendersonville, Tennessee, 37075, sent us a description, dimensions, and a colored slide of his Lunkenheimer Royal No. 5 carbide lamp. It is a belt unit, apparently fashioned from a brass artillery shell casing. The head unit and hose are missing, but the generator unit itself is complete (no belt). Larry is now willing to do the following: 1) sell the Lunkenheimer for \$\$\$ (we hesitate to use specific values in the Lamp Post) write Larry for details; 2) trade it for a lamp of equal rarity; 3) trade it for a carbide lantern that he doesn't have in mint or near-mint condition; 4) trade for 2 or 3 lamps he needs.



Lamps, etc., for Trade - Write Tony Moon, 2763 Willow Wick Dr., Sandy, Utah, 84092, for more information on these items. Tony says that these are guaranteed items as described. He will trade for lamps that he needs for his collection.

### CANDLESTICKS

Sholder patented candlestick marked "PAT JUNE 17, 1890" in very good condition and plainly marked. 10 inches long.

Butte pistol-grip candlestick as shown in Pohns book on page 16. Simple construction with sheet metal candle thimble held on with brads.  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. OLD; not a reproduction; scarce item.

Two Varney-style candlesticks,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. One marked VARNEY and the other RUSSELL.

One machine made candlestick with one piece point, handle and hook construction with candle holder made of sheet metal and wrapped-around hook (see sketch); 11 inches long.

One IDEAL style (not marked) candlestick, 10 inches long but point broken.

Two hand-made candlesticks; 10 and 11 inches long. Nothing special, but OK.



### CARBIDES

Brilliant Searchlight belt generator and headpiece with leather strap. Leather in good condition and 80% of black paint intact. No dings and dents. Nice Item.

Brilliant Searchlight headpiece; leather in rough shape but metal part OK.

Two 8-hour brass BIG BOY lamps. Last style made by Universal Lamp Co. One excellent, but other dinged and has wrong reflector brace.

8hour galvanized steel DEWAR lamp; excellent condition

Justrite cap-lamp-size, nickel-plated superintendants lamp (missing handles) with early patent dates and bottom with two rows of horizontal dots.

Various Justrite and Dropper cap lamps; nothing special.

### MISCELLANEOUS

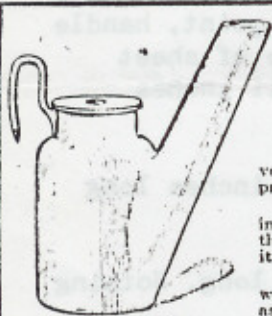
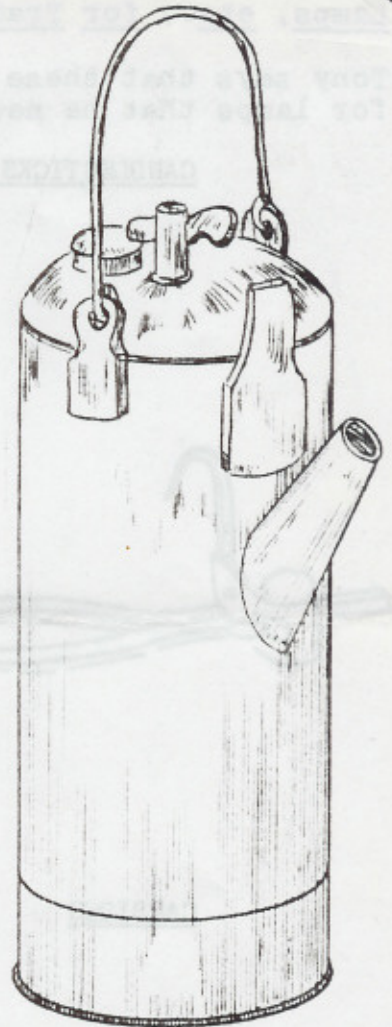
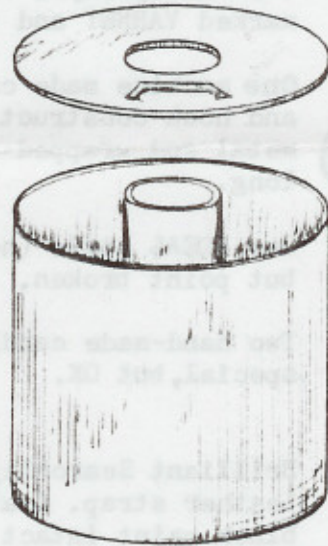
Oil cadger (for rock drills) made by Donnelley, SF, Cal, with fancy screw and swivel cap.

Mine & Smelter Supply Catalog No 24; Assay supplies; 1912 with lots goodies - over 500 pages - 6 pages of lamps.

Postage - Many thanks to many persons for postage help for this issue. This thoughtful help came from California, Nevada, Virginia, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Utah, Australia, England, Washington, Alabama, Colorado, West Virginia, Kentucky, Oregon, Missouri, and Penna.



Mysterious Lamp - Last year Herb Dick sent us information about a strange lamp he had found. This is the first time we have had space to cover it. Details: copper wire bail; 4½" tall body with a seam at the back; inside threads on the water door body opening; gasket in the bottom; copper body and spout; inside threads on the spout; brass thumb-screw; name stamped on bottom is STERSCHUTZ.



**Headlamps that Last a Lifetime**

Your ordinary tin headlamp doesn't last very long. In fact, in a very short time, it is pretty well worn out, leaky and unreliable. The "Indestructible" is all that its name implies—it cannot be broken, barring accidents, the spout and hook cannot be melted off, and it never leaks. It is made from aluminum, holds the heat well and burns solid and semi-solid illuminants as well as ordinary oils.

The price is 50c each, postpaid—higher than tin lamps, of course—but then, they last a lifetime!

American Safety Lamp and Mine Supply Co.  
SCRANTON, PA.

L. KLUN.  
MINER'S LAMP.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 23, 1909.

953,093.

Patented Mar. 29, 1910.

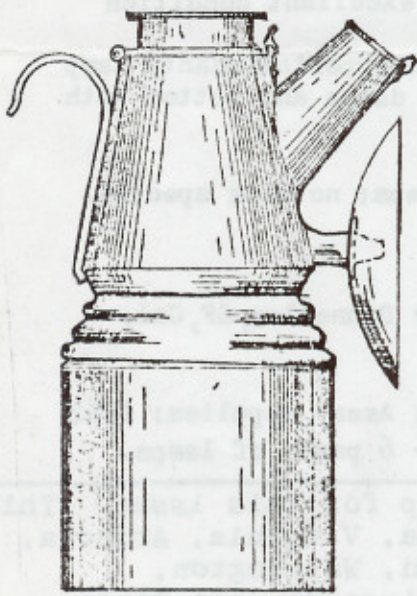


Fig. 1.

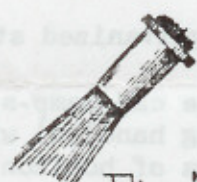


Fig. 3.

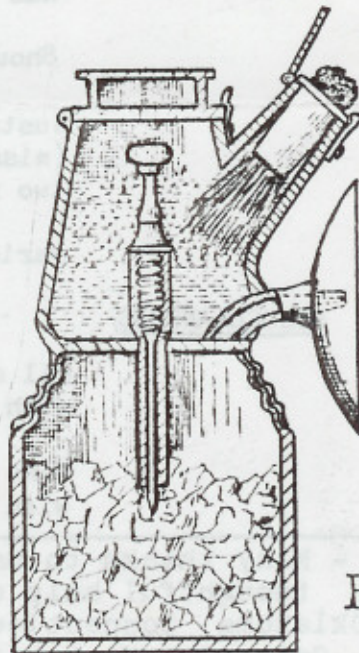


Fig. 2.

Inventor  
By LOUIS KLUN.  
Atty. N. Du Bois.

Witnesses.  
G. P. Richards  
W. H. Watson