



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

Volume 33 No. 1

Jan/Feb/Mar 2017

1890-1900 Decoy Factories: What Were They Like? *by Bill Dodge (William Albert Dodge)*

ADDRESS CHANGE
Please change your address for The Dodge Family Association and Barbara Dodge. Barbara AND the DFA office have moved to:
9556 Garrison Ct
Westminster, CO 80021

CORRECTION
In the last Journal, the parentage we had for Bayard Dodge Jr was wrong. We stated he was the son of Cleveland Hoadley Dodge. Instead, he was the GRANDSON, of Cleveland Hoadley Dodge and Grace Parish Dodge. He was the SON of Bayard Dodge and Mary Bliss Dodge.

NOTES ON THIS JOURNAL
When we received two articles from DFA members, we decided to run this article without our usual columns. They will appear in the March-April Journal.

This year, we expect to put out 5 Journals instead of four.



**The J. N. DODGE DECOY FACTORY—Jan 9, 1902
Jasper Dodge stands in front of the factory**

As can be seen here, the Detroit Oar Works was a producer of “oars, paddles, and sweeps (skulling paddles)” as well as “decoy ducks, geese, and snipe.” Although the notes on the back of the photo do not say that the well-dressed gentleman standing in front is Jasper himself, he would be the likely candidate to show up in front of his business.

The structure is apparently composed of a three-story building fronted by a one-story addition, perhaps serving as the office. While in reasonable condition, we can see several broken window panes which no doubt contributed to chilly working conditions during a Detroit winter.

It is interesting to note that the three-story structure was originally the house in which Leon Czolgosz was born in 1873. He went on to become the anarchist who assassinated President William McKinley in 1901. He was found guilty and executed five weeks later. (Justice moved more swiftly back then!) The notation on the back of the photo indicates the purpose of the photo was to document this inglorious event rather than the operation of the decoy factory, and it was taken just four months after the assassination.

On The Inside

Remembering Those who gave their all in WWII— This will be continued throughout the coming year. We are starting with Americans, and will continue with English and Canadians who sacrificed their all for Freedom of their countries. 2,3

In Memory: Henry Farwell Dodge 6

Dodges Who Fought For Their Country—World War II - The Ultimate Sacrifice

"Not for fame or reward, not for place or for rank, not lured by ambition or goaded by necessity, but in simple obedience to duty as they understood it. They suffered all, sacrificed all, dared all, and died."

There are not many left in this year of 2016. We thought it good to remember what they GAVE for our country.



Cambridge American Cemetery, and Memorial, Cambridge, England



World War II Memorial, Washington, DC



Brittany American Cemetery, and Memorial, St. James Marche), France



Epinal American Cemetery, Epinal Vosges), France



American Cemetery, Italy



Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii



Lorraine American Cemetery, France



Manila American Cemetery, Fort Bonifacio, Manila, Philippines



Netherlands American Cemetery,



Normandy American Cemetery, Colleville-sur-



Rhône American Cemetery, Draguignan (Var), France



Ardennes American Cemetery, and Memorial, Neuville-en-Condroz, Belgium



Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery, and Memorial, Henri-Chapelle, Belgium



Luxembourg American Cemetery, and Memorial, Luxembourg City



North African American Cemetery, and Memorial, Carthage, Tunisia



Rhône American Cemetery, and Memorial, Nettuno, Italy

Jack Mitchell Dodge , Rochester, New York; Entered the United States Naval Reserve from New York; Rank: Seaman, First Class; Killed in Action, Friday, November 10, 1944 and memorialized at the Manila American Cemetery, Fort Bonifacio, Manila, Philippines; Submitted by ABMC Tablets of the Missing.

Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative

Jack M. Dodge , Kings County, New York; U.S. Army; Corporal; Died, not recovered; Submitted by the National Archives: **Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative**

Jerry Elery Dodge , Morgan County, Colorado; Entered the Service From: California; Rank: Captain; Service: U.S. Army Air Forces, 419th Bomber Squadron, 301st Bomber Group, Heavy; Killed in Action, Tuesday, November 16, 1943 and memorialized at the Rhône American Cemetery at Draguignan (Var), France Awards: Air Medal with 7 Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart. Jerry was the son of William Lester Dodge and Hattie Lou Patterson.; Submitted by ABMC Tablets of the Missing. **Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative**

(Continued on page 3)

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Jestine F. Dodge , Missouri Entered the U.S. Army, Quartermaster Corps; Rank: Private First Class; Killed in action, Saturday, June 13, 1942 and buried at the Manila American Cemetery at Fort Bonifacio, Manila, Philippines, Plot: A Row: 3 Grave: 16J; Submitted by ABMC Cemeteries

Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative

John (Jack) G. Dodge , Portland, ME; U. S. Army Air Corps; Pilot c-47 Air Transport Command; Italy and Yugoslavia. died in Italy shortly after V-E day. Submitted by Mr. William Dodge, Brother. They are the sons of Ernest Leon Dodge and Ivanelle Henritta Sampson. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England thru his son, Richard

John H. Dodge ; Jefferson County, TX; U.S. Army ; Major; Status: DNB; Submitted by the National Archives

Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative

Joseph J. Dodge ; Oneida County, NY; U.S. Army; 2nd Lieutenant; Status: DNB; Submitted by the National Archives

Martin J. Dodge was born 1915 in Texas. He entered the U. S. Army from Arlington County, VA; Submitted by the National Archives; Martin was the son of James A. Dodge and Corrine J. Gregory.

Maurice Sproul Dodge, born 1918, Kennebec County, ME; U.S. Army; Submitted by the National Archives
Maurice was the son of James Munro Dodge and Mabel Gertrude Sproul. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England through Richard

Parker Bryce Dodge, Canton, MA; Enlisted In the U.S. Navy, August 10, 1942; Rank: Machinist's Mate, Second Class
Killed in action May 4, 1945 aboard Destroyer USS Luce at the Battle of Okinawa and memorialized at the Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii; Awards: Purple Heart; Parker was the son of Parker Oliver Dodge and Millicent J. Unknown. Submitted by the Canton Veteran's Service, the National Archives, and ABMC Tablets of the Missing. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England through Richard

Raymond E. Dodge, Polk County, WI; U.S. Army; S SG ; Killed in Action; Submitted by National Archives
Raymond was the son of Dewey Delbert Dodge and Anna Unknown. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England through William

Raymond N. Dodge, Priest River, Bonner County, Idaho; Inducted From: Idaho; Rank: Private First Class; Combat Organization: 161st Infantry 25th Division; Death Date: 26 Feb 1945; Killed in Action In Southeast Asia. Monument: Fort William McKinley, Manila, The Philippines; Last Known Status: Buried; U.S. Awards: Purple Heart Medal; Submitted by National Archives. Raymond was the son of John Dana Dodge and Nora Unknown. **Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative. Their information resides in our mystery file.**

Robert C. Dodge, Baltimore, MD; U.S. Army; Submitted by Polar Bear Association of WWII, 339th Regiment
Robert was the son of Albert A. and Caroline A. Dodge. **Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative**

Robert H. Dodge, Jr., South Lancaster, MA; U.S. Army; Company E, 104th Infantry 26th division. Killed in the Battle for Bezange, La-Petite, France on October 18, 1944. Private First Class; Killed in action. Submitted by Paul Dodge & National Archives. Robert was the son of Robert Henry Dodge and Veda M. Unknown. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England through Richard

Robert M. Dodge, Herkimer County, NY; U.S. Army; Staff Sergeant; Killed in Action; Submitted by National Archives
Robert was the son of Robert Dwight Dodge and Cora Belle Schell. Lineage - John Dodge, Middle Chinnock, England through William

Samuel E. Dodge, Cheboygan County, Michigan; U.S. Army; Corporal; Killed in action; Submitted by the National Archives **Lineage - If you can help us with the lineage of this family, we would be most appreciative**

Sherman M. Dodge, Winchester, Massachusetts; U.S. Army; 1st Lieutenant. A B-17 Pilot Assigned To The 331st Bomb Squadron, 94th Bomb Group, Stationed In Bury St. Edmunds, England. His Aircraft Was One Of The 60 U.S. Aircraft That Was Shot Down On 'Black Thursday' October 14, 1943. He Is Buried At The Lorraine American Cemetery, St. Avold, France, Plot: C Row: 13 Grave: 41. **Lineage - Can you help us with the lineage of this family?** Awards: Silver Star, Purple Heart Awarded The Silver Star And Purple Heart Medals For His Bravery.
Submitted by William A. Dodge, III, nephew, and ABMC Cemeteries. Sherman was the son of Frederick Allen 'Fred' Dodge and Mildred Sherman. Lineage: John Dodge of Middle Chinnock, England thru his son, Richard

(Continued from page 1)

We knew as soon as our book, *Detroit Decoy Dynasty: The Factory Decoys of Petersen, Dodge, and Mason*, was published, new material would surface that should have been in the book; and that is exactly what happened! In addition to our receiving additional photos of many great decoys, Jim Marsh provided us with information that Jasper Dodge had been a world-class dog trainer, having won top awards for English Pointers, English Setters, and Beagles.

However, the most exciting new find was our obtaining two photos of Jasper Dodge's decoy factory, one of which includes a dapper looking man standing in front of the building, probably Jasper himself. Related to this factory operation, records are available to tell us quite a bit about what it was like to work in a decoy factory in the "good old days."

As we know, in 1894 Dodge no longer operated as the J. N. Dodge Decoy Company. This was necessary to satisfy Sears, Roebuck and Montgomery Ward (his biggest customers) that he was not competing directly with them. At first, his business was known as the "Detroit Oar Works," and then it became the "Detroit Canoe and Oar Works."

Studying this photo, it seems unlikely that the production of decoys, oars, and canoes took place in the available space in this facility. And since the Detroit City Directory lists Jasper Dodge's business address as 141-143 Benton Street, it is probable the business occupied the two-story building we see adjacent to and apparently attached to the Dodge factory. As a result, quite a bit of movement of materials and resulting inefficiency was probably involved.

In addition to the chimney, a smokestack can be seen. No doubt this was for the boiler, which provided steam power for the manufacturing equipment. The obvious poor maintenance of the windows implies the working conditions inside the factory may have been neglected as well.

Statistical Information for the Dodge Decoy Factory: 1894 & 1896

Additional interesting information is available from records of the Michigan Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics. This predecessor of OSHA surveyed manufacturing operations as early as 1884, recording employment data and citing negligent working conditions. The first information to be found on Jasper Dodge's decoy business is reported in a survey done in 1894. Similar data was reported for 1896. (Here, we have made a decision to not include the data as it is exceedingly time consuming to set the format in Microsoft Publisher which is what is used for publishing our Journals.)

The data tells us quite a bit about decoy factory operations one-hundred-plus years ago. For instance, a full work week was ten hours per day and six days per week -- fifty percent more than the current standard. The reports indicate the two surveys were done in March, with the factory running "part time" and only 9 and 12 employees versus a full staff of 15. Does that imply that orders were typically low in March? We would expect the plant to be running at full capacity during the summer, to meet expected demand for the fall hunting season.

While no children were employed, three of the employees were females. We know from the interview of Jasper Dodge in *Detroit Decoy Dynasty* that he considered women to be the best painters, and this was probably the role of those three female employees. With a payroll of \$500 and then \$325 per month, the average hourly wage was approximately twenty-one cents. The survey also tells us there was a fair amount of scrutiny of safety issues, more than you would expect for 1894. The only negative issue identified in the operation that year was dust collection. Apparently that problem was corrected by 1896, but restrooms were then considered unsatisfactory. Amazingly, no accidents were reported in 1896

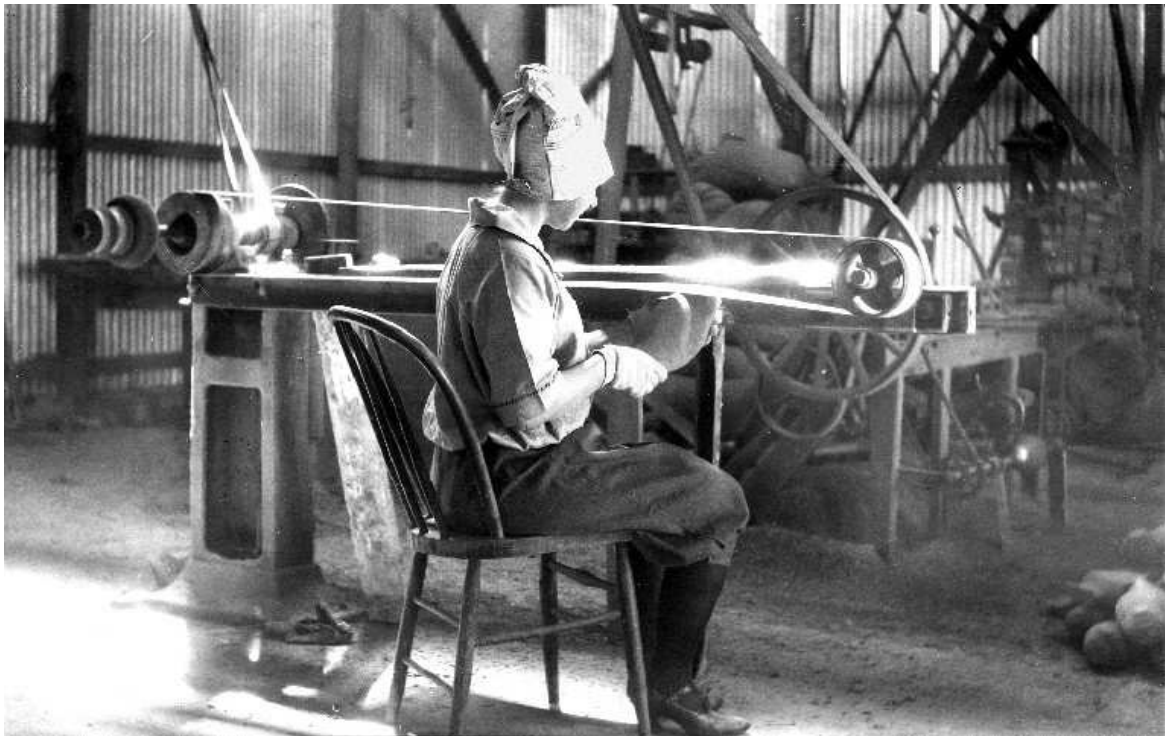
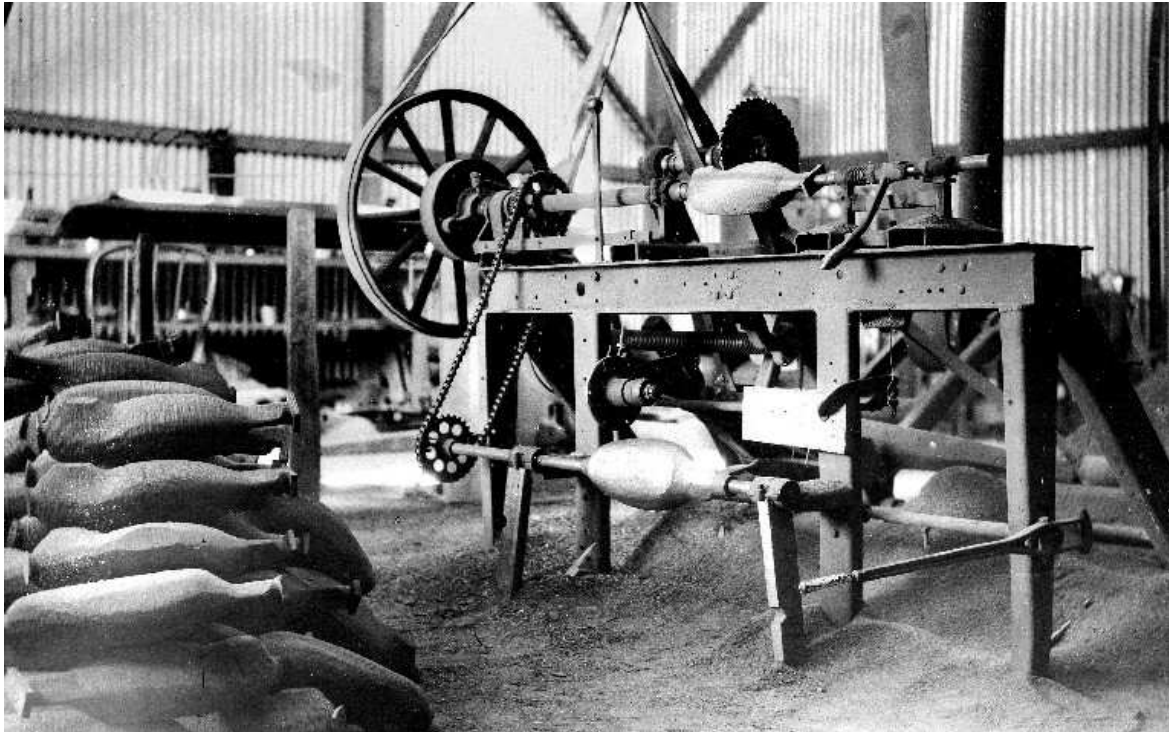
Photos #3 & #4: Inside a Decoy Factory (view on page 5)

The reports for 1897 and 1901 may have reflected less rigorous inspections, but it is possible that the reporting was just less detailed. For 1897, the employee count was 14, just one less than full capacity; but the date of the inspection was not found. By 1901 the number of employees was down to ten. With the inspection date of November 8, this may have been late enough in the waterfowl hunting season that the consumer demand was down.

The average payroll in 1897 was down to \$400 per month. That averages just \$0.13 per hour compared to \$0.21 in 1894-6. In 1901 Dodge reported one superintendent, which was himself, and declined to indicate his wage. He also indicated the operation was established in 1874, which probably refers to the year Petersen started his factory. Dodge bought out Petersen in 1883, providing for continuous operation since 1874.

It was indicated the plant worked on steam power even though electricity was available by then. We also see that in those days employees were not provided with workman's compensation insurance, let alone health insurance. No data was available for the earlier Petersen operation, but we did find some survey data for the Mason decoy factory. Page 174 of the 1907 report indicates Mason employed 19 male employees (no females), with five of these under 16 years of age. By 1908 (page 251), the total was the same, with only one under 16 years old. On October 30, 1909, Mason employed 18 men, two of whom were under 16 years old. No other details were reported.

In summary, the factory photos and labor statistics give us quite a good picture of what it was like to work in a decoy factory back then. Decoy makers worked long hours in fairly tough conditions for a pay rate that got lower over the years, perhaps reflecting a poor economy. (Sounds familiar!) We know that decoy prices had gotten lower. As reported in *Detroit Decoy Dynasty*, Sears sold a dozen Dodge decoys for \$2.95 in 1902 versus \$3.90 in 1894. This amounted to a price decline of 24 per cent. (Jasper's retail price in 1885 was \$9.00 per dozen.) Who says those were "the good old days"?



Photos #3 & #4: Inside a Decoy Factory

The conditions we see in these two photos (from the Woodward Decoy Factory, Sacramento, California, c. 1920, courtesy of Ron Sharp) show the need for dust collection and cause us to be surprised by the reported lack of accidents. The unshielded cutting blade and the exposed drive chain and sprockets on the duplicating lathe almost seem to invite worker mishaps, as do the flywheels and drive belts on the sanding machine. And the pile of sawdust beneath the lathe and swirling in the air around the worker at the sander seem to cry out for dust collection and protection for the workers.

(Editor's note: Readers wishing to contact the author of this article may do so by calling 815-281-0441 or emailing duxndolz@mchsi.com. The book, *Detroit Decoy Dynasty*, is available in the "Book Store" pages at the back of this magazine.)



**In Memory-
Henry Farwell Dodge
by
daughter, Cindy L. Dodge**

Henry was born to Edward L. and Gertrude P. Dodge on January 16, 1935 in San Diego California. Henry has a surviving sister Margaret Williams and a Brother Edward Dodge. Robert Livingston Dodge, Henry’s Uncle, was one of the three founders of the Dodge Association. Uncle Robert

also did a 1998 Dodge genealogy upstate.

Henry was raised in El Cajon California; he attended the only school in El Cajon, Ballantyne Grammar School grades 1-8. In 1953 Henry graduated from Grossmont High School, now known as the Grossmont District Building (an old rock building) right next to Grossmont High School (still standing and used today). My dad told me that he was in the first Mother Goose Parade in El Cajon California as a young boy. He put cards on his bike tires with clothes pins to make noise; he rode his bicycle down Main Street, El Cajon in the parade. The Mother Goose Parade just had their 70th year so my dad was about eleven years old at that time.

Henry joined the United States Air Force on October 22nd, 1956, serving 8 years as an electronic technician. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force on January 17th, 1964. Soon after Henry joined the Air Force he married Patricia Louise Jones. They had three daughters (from oldest to youngest) Cynthia Louise Dodge, Denise Louise Dodge, and Rebecca Marie Dodge. I remember as a child going camping in the Cuyamaca Mountains almost every weekend with my dad, mom, and sisters. We were involved in Girl Scouts. My mother was our Girl Scout leader and my dad was our assistant Girl Scout leader. As a child I had a lot of fun camping and hiking with my dad as he loved the mountains.

After his service he worked for San Diego State University for about 15 years as an electrician. He calibrated lab equipment and work helping scientists among other things. He moved to Orofino, Idaho for a couple of years and had a fourth child, a girl named Kimberly Dodge who was born on September 9, 1997. She had medical complications and died at five years old. My dad never really got over this loss.

Henry moved to Jamestown California where he worked for the state and played as an old gold prospector at an old mine for tourists. He was on television as an old gold prospector and was interviewed by Larry Himmel, explaining about the gold rush in Jamestown. At this time, he also received his pilot’s license and bought an ultra light plane which he enjoyed flying.

Henry leaves behind 3 granddaughters, one grandson, and four great grandchildren. Later in Henry’s life he lived in Lewiston, California, where he was a summer camp host in the Trinity Mountains. Henry was happy and healthy living in the beautiful Shasta-Trinity National Forest until he was 80 years old. He died last year on December 28, 2015, two and a half weeks before his 81st birthday, of melanoma cancer on the brain. He had previously had melanoma cancer when he was younger and it was not treated properly. Melanoma cancer took him in two week time.

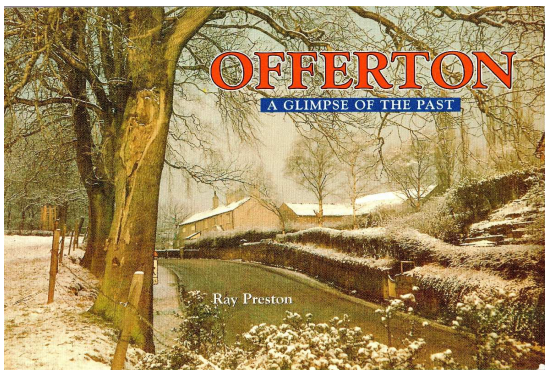
P.S. I am now a melanoma cancer survivor for seven years. Please wear sunscreen.

Coming in the March—April Journal

We will have a very interesting article about a diary that was written by the mother of Theron Royal Woodward. Theron, a Dodge in the Tristram Dodge line, compiled a Tristram Genealogy which he published in 1904. The Dodge Family Association reprinted this genealogy in 1988 and it is now sold out. However, all of that information and much more on Tristram Dodge lines that have been found since 1904, are incorporated in our two volume set of Tristram Dodge Genealogy that was compiled by Norman E. Dodge and Jim Bailey (himself a Tristram Dodge descendant). We published this two volume set December of 2008.

We have those for sale for \$110 for the set Post Paid, so there is no extra cost for shipping. This set makes a great gift for anyone in the Tristram Dodge line.

Offerton, Stockport, England was an early home for many, many Dodges, and DNA shows that the Tristram Dodges are most closely related to this ancestral line.



We have just 2 sets of these books done by Ray Preston (now deceased) of Offerton, Stockport, England. The books are photos with descriptions from postcards of Offerton that Ray collected over the years.

The cost post paid, is \$15 and the first 2 people to reserve a set by emailing us at: barbvddodge@dodgeoffice.net will receive one of the sets.

