



# Wagner & Griswold Society

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 **Electro Anode SS question??** (Read 1429 times)


**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Electro Anode SS question??**

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 1:49am  
Hope you can help me with this one...  
For those that use SS sheet in your electro's,,,,,  
What gauge do you recommend?  
And how long does it last if cleaned on a regular basis?

Posts: 4009

**Sam Roberts**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**


**Reply #1** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 6:05am  
As thick as you can comfortably afford. The thicker, the longer it will last, but if you have to bend it, the heavier SS will be that much harder to shape.

Lodge what? !!!

Posts: 3672

It's hard to determine how long your SS will last for there are some factors to consider.. How many amps you use when cleaning your CI. I very seldom, if ever, exceed 25-30 amps. How many pieces do you clean in a week, or how many hours do you use your Electro each week? I forgot what ga. I purchased but it's still going strong after 3 years and I would estimate that I have cleaned a couple hundred pieces in it. I don't use it as much as I once did for I also set up a Lye tank which I use on the crud encased pieces now.

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★


 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #2** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10:07am

Sam, thats an excellent reply. I totally agree. 😊

Posts: 23581


**Ed Winslow**

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #3** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10:20am  
Ditto.... The Lye tank helps a great deal...

Posts: 809

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★


 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #4** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10:43am

In my opinion, the first thing you should do when setting up an electro setup, is to set up a lye tank. 😊

Posts: 23581

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #5** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 1:18pm

Thank you all! 😊

Sigh... adding Lye to my already extensive list...  
What Have I gotten myself into?? <she wonders!>  
Thank goodness for Tractor Supply one mile away!


Posts: 4009

I am getting ready to respond to a 'for sale' ad for (4) 4ft X8ft sheets of stainless... I guess that no matter what the gauge, 128 sq feet should last me a LONG time! 😊

Sam, my new charger has 2,20,40, and 65 amp settings,,, (although I have to exchange it. It's a manual Schumacher, and the timer quit working after 1 week!) They don't build anything the way they used to! (and NOW I am showing my age).....


Hard to predict how many pieces I will end up doing in a week...Heaven Help me!!! 😊😊

**Lamar Cope**  
Ex Forum Member

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #6** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 1:54pm  
suggestion..if you have a metal recycling business in your area, they normally sell stainless for a small profit over what they pay. That's where I get my stuff.


**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #7** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 2:49pm  
Cheryl, Lamar is right on the money here, no pun intended. If you buy it like you say, you will spend a great deal of money, for NOTHING. You can get the same thing at a recycling place for a fraction of the price.

Posts: 23581


**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #8** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 4:40pm  
Thanks Lamar and Perry... I will check that out...  
The ad I'm checking out amounts to \$25 for a 4'x8' sheet.  
Not enough experience under my belt yet to judge if that's a good price or not....learning curve going straight up again!

Posts: 4009

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★


 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #9** - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 4:55pm  
Cheryl, I have told this story a few times on here. I went to this friends house and they told me that they had tried to find SS but no luck. So I went to their house, and on the way, I stopped at a recycling center and found all of the SS I would ever want, EVER. So I bought several pieces for less than 20.00, gave him two and kept the rest and still have them, cause I have never worn any out. And this recycling place was about 12 miles from his house.

Posts: 23581

And I asked them about cutting me some, you know, to the size I wanted/needed, that was costly, or I thought it was, so I just went through what they had and picked out the pieces I wanted, as long as they were small enough to go in my plastic barrel, thats all I needed. You do not need them to be a perfect size. The use the perfect size pieces to build pianos with, and we are not building pianos.

**Ed Allspaugh**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★


 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #10** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 8:47am  
There are many grades of SS. I think the 300 series is non- magnetic, which will last longer. It is non ferrous. Take a magnet along with you.  
A 4x8 sheet could be tough to cut down to size needed.  
The piece you use should be as big as the piece you are cleaning if not larger.  
Google SS if you like. Much info on SS.

LOOKING FOR IRON !

Posts: 3365

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**


**Reply #11** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:00am  
Thanks Ed,  
Adding Magnet to my purse for my shopping trips! (now I will be able to find all my key rings! stuck to the magnet!)

Posts: 4009

As far as cutting down goes, I figured that between my Ryobi Reciprocating Saw, and my Michigan Sawzall, and my WIS M3 I should be able to get thru it... unless I need to buy special cutting blades... I have a good selection of metal blades already.... (I also have a cordless B&D hacksaw thingy that my Electrician uses whenever he does work for me!)


I Googled SS before I posted the question....and felt like I was reading Latin.....although your info about 300 series has helped tremendously!

**Lamar Cope**  
Ex Forum Member

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #12** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:27am  
Cheryl, my tank is a 50 gal plastic barrel with a sheet of SS (3 feet by 5 feet) lining the inside of the barrel. I hang my iron in the middle, and it is surrounded by the SS. I do not know what gauge SS I have, but it is non ferrous, and thin enough to easily bend around the inside of the barrel. I have been using it constantly for about a year and the SS has minimal wear.

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #13** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 12:03pm  
Thanks Lamar,,,

Even though I am so new to all of this, I have already figured out that suspending my skillets worked better than setting them in a square container with bottom anode only!

Posts: 4009

I have now experimented with 4 different size plastic containers,,,,, garage looks like a mini science lab! I need to stay a bit smaller than 50 gal.... I am a wee person that would fit inside that!

Do you have a piece on bottom also? On top?

After doing 5 pieces, I quickly realized the my thin little ole anodes were dissolving away

to nothingness... hence my realization that stainless was the best way to go, for me.

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #14** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 12:11pm

Cheryl, what you are discovering, we have already went through the painstaking efforts of trial and error. And we attempt to spare those that want some help, from having to endure all that trial and error. It sounds like you are coming along quite well though. Some folks on here waited YEARS before they even tried electro. But you jumped right into it, good for you. 😊

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #15** - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 12:46pm

Ha Ha Perry,  
And now I will also try a lye bath... to supplement!

Did I forget to mention how much everyone here has helped me to "jump" right it?? (pulled me in with very long, cast iron <shepherd's> hook! 😊😊)

Ya forgot to tell me how darned DEEP the water is! 😊😊

I have been attempting to go back and read older postings.... to Learn.... there are just SO MANY of them!

BTW... I will heed your advice and check my local 'recycle' scrap dealers! I AM paying attention to all this great advice!

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #16** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 12:23pm

Well... I guess I need to go live in another state!!!

😞😞😞😞😞😞

Not a single one of the scrap metal places sells anything to the general public.... they bundle, bale, and ship everything.

😞😞😞😞 Back to having to buy stainless I fear.....  
Jeez.....

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #17** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 4:41pm

Cheryl, you are not getting the straight scoop, in my opinion, try someplace else. 😊

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #18** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 5:18pm

I have contacted all 3 metal recycling businesses in our area.... same song and dance....

Referred to a supplier, who only sells to businesses, directed to a fabrication business, waiting for a call back.... am now contacting local machine shops to beg for some SS pieces!

I am going back to craigslist... was leery of the 'origin' of some of the stuff on there... but... gosh... I Want to Pay a Fair Price and am hitting a wall....

Not to worry... OCD>>>OCD.... I will prevail! I am inventive...

I am even willing to call the crowd from the steel mill where I used to work, many moons ago... see if they can snag me any! <scrap pieces>

Lamar Cope  
Ex Forum Member

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #19** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 6:07pm

Actually, \$25 for a 4'x8' sheet is not a bad price. You may want to go with that and skip the hassle.

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #20** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 7:34pm

Cheryl, if push comes to shove, I think Lamar is right, the 4 by 8 sheet ain't priced too bad, as long as its not so thin you can crumple it up. Your recycling places there must be pretty snotty. The ones I contacted were glad to sell it.

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #21** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 8:30pm

"Snotty" is too polite of a word! 😊

I have had a frustrating day.... could not accomplish what I wanted to.. 🤖

Complicated by the buckets of rain that keep coming from the sky 😞😞  
The ducks have even moved on!

I am thankful that I do not live along the Mississippi, but Pennsylvania is becoming depressing 😞

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #22** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10:20pm

Cheryl, if you live in Pennsylvania, there are plenty places for you to buy that SS scrap. I thought you lived in the middle of Wyoming or someplace like that, not that anything is wrong with Wyoming, I think its a beautiful state, but I have never been there before. But as populated as Pennsylvania is, I would certainly think there would be plenty of places. I live in a very small town, 12,500, but its too big for me. Anyway, I could get a TON of this stuff

TOMORROW, give me two days and I could get another TON. I don't see why its so hard to get. 😞

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #23** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:17pm

I do not understand it either! 😞😞 I could check the Lancaster and York areas, but then I have to drive the F150 to pick it up.... at 8MPG the gas will cost me as much as the scrap stainless!!! It will not fit in the Stang... I fear.

Pennsylvania is a big state... could go to Philly area.. but then I add tolls to the gas expense 😊

But, I have a few other tricks up my sleeve... one of the recyclers I talked to said that when I bring my aluminum cans in, I should "check" with the guys to see if any SS came in that day, and 'maybe' they'd sell it to me.....

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #24** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:33pm

Cheryl, if no SS comes in 'that' day, ask them to save you some and when they get you some, have them to call you, and then go and get it. If this is too obvious, I'm sorry, I'm just trying to help. The road to hell is paved with good intentions you know. 😊😊

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 4009

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #25** - May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:44pm

[Quote from C. Perry Rapier on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 11:33pm:](#)

The road to hell is paved with good intentions you know. 😊😊

Yup... gotcha... I would definitely be trying that anyway.... however this particular recycler is located in a not great part of the city... and the crew there... well... not sure I wanna give em my phone number! 😊 But will see if they are willing!

And right now the road to hell is paved with stainless steel!!!!!!!

**C. Perry Rapier**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 23581

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #26** - May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, 12:03am

Don't give them your phone number, take theirs and call them. You keep goin Cheryl, I got ALL the answers. 😊😊

**Bryce King**  
WAGS member  
★★★★★

Posts: 1214

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #27** - May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 3:43am

Agree with Cheryl about SS being hard to find in Pa. I live about 35 miles SE of Pittsburgh. Have called every scrapyard, recycler within 50 miles and none of the sell to the public. Just bundle it and sell it in bulk.

Have not tried any machine shops or the one fabricator in my town of 4500 yet. Will see what they might have.

Finding SS is the only thing keeping me from getting into electro.

**Tom Neitzel**  
Forum Administrator  
★★★★★

Posts: 1214

**Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #28** - May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 9:46am

I drove buy an appliance repair shop yesterday and they were selling the stainless steel tubs from old washing

machines as burn barrels. Didn't stop, buy it might be another source.

So - What do they do with the rest of the mole?

Tom

Posts: 4559

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator

WAGS member



 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #29** - May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 9:46am

Bryce,

I am relieved to hear someone else confirm my experience... Called the Craigslist guy... Gone! Said it sold within 15 minutes!

I have one more trick up my sleeve to try.... (Fabricator never called back,,, guess that means None).

Posts: 4009

**C. Perry Rapier**

WAGS member



 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #30** - May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 4:14pm

I STILL can't get over that you all there in PA can't find SS. Hard to believe, hard to believe, hard to believe, but I believe you have not found any yet, but what I find hard to believe its not there to be found. 😞😞

Posts: 23581

**Cheryl Watson**  
Forum Administrator

WAGS member



 **Re: Electro Anode SS question??**

**Reply #31** - May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 5:37pm



Posts: 4009

Drum Roll.... just got response from second Craigslist poster . Turns out lives a distance away, retired Science teacher, ..... of my Kids! Kismet???

Still has SS, so, have to work out details, some of it is pretty heavy gauge... need to find correct circular saw blades, etc! And agree to price....

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