Separating the Sectional Paragon Kiln

1. Open the lid.
2. You will find three bolts holding the back support plate to the kiln. Remove the top and bottom bolts, but leave the middle bolt in place. To aid removal, grasp the bolt heads with locking pliers and twist as you pull the bolts out.
3. Remove the nut from the center bolt. As you remove the center bolt with one hand, hold the lid with the other hand to prevent the lid from moving. Lift the lid off the kiln. The brick lid, LiteLid arm, spring and backplate lift off in one piece. Place the lid assembly on a padded surface.
4. Remove the top and bottom screws of the switch box. The box will open forward.
5. Opening the switch box will show the element cover. Remove the screws on the sides of the element cover. Lift the element cover away from the kiln.
6. Two wires run from the switch box to each collar. Note how the wires are labeled so you can reinstall them later to the correct element connectors.

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7 Remove the wires that go from the switch box to the element connectors. Remove only the brass screws. Do not disturb the stainless steel screws, which hold the elements. Grasp the element connector with locking pliers while you loosen the brass screw with a ¼" nut driver. After removing each pair of wires, loosely thread the screws onto their element connectors to avoid losing the screws.

8 You will find a wire, which splits in two at the end, attached to a ceramic block. Remove the two wires from the ceramic block using a screwdriver. (On the other side of the ceramic block is the thermocouple, or heat sensor.) Note: if your kiln has more than one ceramic block, label the wires before removing them. You must connect them to the correct ceramic blocks later.

9 Remove the nut from the switch box that holds the support arm in place.

10 Remove the two screws at the bottom of the switch box that hold the box to the kiln. Lift the switch box off of the kiln.

11 Locking spring latches hold the collars together. To unfasten the latches, lift the latch handle outward. Then turn. (Note: unfasten the latches only after removing the lid!)

12 Lift the collars apart.

Assembling the Kiln
1 Stack the collars. Fasten the locking spring latches.

2 Install the two bottom screws that hold the switch box to the kiln. Install the support arm nut.

3 Before connecting the element wires to the element connectors, examine the wires. Replace wires that have brittle insulation. Sandpaper oxidation from the ring terminals until the terminals are bright.

4 Grasp the element connector with locking pliers while tightening the brass screw. Do not let the wire terminals tilt toward the heat shield. (If a terminal is too close to the shield, it can arc, causing sparks and damage.) Make sure the wires are tight.

5 Install the thermocouple wires to the ceramic block. Attach the red wire to the minus (-) side of the block and the yellow, or black, to the positive (+). Tighten the screws securely.

6 Position the element wires so they are away from the element connectors. Install the element cover.

7 Position the thermocouple wire so that it is away from other wires. Do not bundle the thermocouple wire with the others. As you close the switch box, make sure the hinge does not pinch wires.

8 Lift the lid by the top and rear handles onto the back of the kiln. Have an assistant insert the center bolt and install the nut.

9 Install the top and bottom bolts. To help align the holes, place a screwdriver under the back support plate and tilt upward. Tap the bolts in place with the palm of a hand or a piece of wood. Install the nuts.

10 Gently lower the lid.