



DRIP POINTS

MAGAZINE FOR INSULATOR COLLECTORS

FEBRUARY 2021 • VOL. 49, No. 1





**THREADLESS INSULATORS WANTED FOR MY COLLECTION
& RESEARCH. WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR!**

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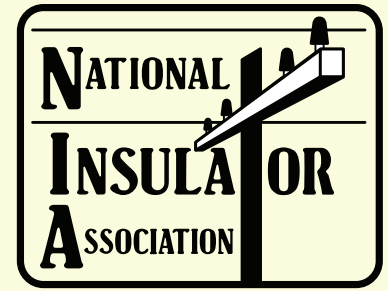
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🏠 **About the Cover** *🏠*

Brian Riecker shared this photo of a couple of old timers still mounted horizontally on an old outbuilding in Tolland, CT. The insulators are CD 156.1. Read more about the find and see more photos on page 11.

Would you like to have your photo or artwork featured on the cover of Drip Points Magazine? Contact the Editors at drippoints@nia.org.



Established in 1973, the National Insulator Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization. Visit us on the web at www.nia.org.

About Drip Points Magazine

Drip Points Magazine is published bi-monthly to all active members of the National Insulator Association.

A limited quantity of printed back issues (2018 or newer) are available for \$8 each + shipping. To order a back issue, purchase ad space or submit other content, please email drippoints@nia.org, call (406) 461-7341, or write to: Christian Willis, P.O. Box 2797, Parker, CO 80134.

Publishing Schedule

Issue	#	Deadline	Mailing
February	1	Jan. 10	Feb. 1
April	2	Mar. 10	Apr. 1
June	3	May 10	Jun. 1
August	4	Jul. 10	Aug. 1
October	5	Sep. 10	Oct. 1
December	6	Nov. 10	Dec. 1

What's in a Name?

"Drip Points" is named after the feature seen on many insulators produced from the 1890s through the 1950s. Drip points are the bumpy protrusions around the base of an insulator. Their purpose was to help draw water off of the insulator.

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NIA PRESIDENT

DARRYL WAGNER * NIA #8671

Greetings fellow members,

Hope everyone had an as enjoyable Christmas as possible and that you all are staying healthy. Not sure how quick shows are going to get back to normal, but maybe we are heading in the right direction. Had to cancel the March NW Missouri Insulator & Bottle Show due to County restrictions, but looks like another show in April is going forward. The difference being the closeness to a metropolitan area. Across the country, it seems that requirements vary greatly depending on many different factors. The only thing that I would caution is to be careful and sanitize. Our hope is that by May or so, things will start loosening up, but only time will tell.

Don't have much to say in this first issue of Drip Points for the year, but hope to have some announcements come the April issue.

Be safe & hope to see some of you at a show later this year! 🐾

Darryl Wagner

IMPORTANT DATES!

• March 1: NIA Scholarship Application Deadline

Scholarship applications are starting to arrive, and we hope to have quite a few more before the March 1 deadline. We have updated the link on the website (<https://www.nia.org/scholarship/>) to make it more user friendly. If you know a high school senior or current college student with an interest in the hobby, please direct them to the website or give them a scholarship brochure. Scholarship winners will be announced at the National. - Tammy Brewer

• April 1: NIA Outstanding Service, Lifetime Membership, Hall of Fame Nominations Deadline

Please remember to nominate your fellow NIA members for NIA Outstanding Service, Lifetime Membership, and Hall of Fame recognition! The deadline is April 1st. Forms are available on the NIA website: <https://www.nia.org/archives/index.htm>



AWARDS & RECOGNITION CHAIR

KEN WILICK * NIA #3709

Greetings, and Happy New Year to all collectors,

After many years of dedicated service to the NIA as the man in charge of Awards and Recognition Gene Hawkins has decided to step back and take on another NIA position. I have agreed to fill in where Gene left off and, hopefully, do as good a job as he did.

Just a little about myself. I have been active in the hobby since the early 1970's, with the lull of a few years here and there. I have always been an active hunter and digger of insulators and related relics, and hope to continue as long as I am physically able. I believe very strongly in anything that helps to promote the collecting hobby including research, education, and displays.

I will have two co-chairs working with me. They are Jeff Maxwell of Westerville, Ohio, and Kevin Jacobson of Phoenix, Arizona.

I know there were a lot of shows canceled last year due to the pandemic, and only time will tell how many shows and swap meets will be able to take place this year.

Show hosts- if you do plan on holding a show and need any type of awards please contact myself or one of the co-chairs.

NIA Members- if anyone has a nominee for either NIA Outstanding Service, Lifetime Membership, or Hall of Fame awards please submit your applications by April 1st 2021. Forms are available on the NIA website (<https://www.nia.org/archives/index.htm>).

Thanks, and hope to see you at a show this year! 🐾

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Ken Willick



NIA INFORMATION DIRECTOR & DRIP POINTS MANAGING EDITOR

CHRISTIAN WILLIS * NIA #5185

Welcome to our first issue of 2021! I hope everyone enjoys the wide range of articles in this issue, and thank you to everyone who submitted content. As I'm sure you've also noticed, the US Postal Service has continued to be hit especially hard, even after the holidays. If you're like me, you're probably doing a lot of your collecting by mail at this point, and have definitely noticed the slowdown. In fact, I'm still waiting on a couple of Priority Mail packages that were mailed nearly 45 days ago. I've started relying more and more on <https://informedelivery.usps.com> for tracking all of my incoming mail.

We'll probably continue to see these effects on the mail system for the foreseeable future. I sincerely hope this issue arrives to you in a timely manner, but the likelihood is it will be later than usual. Thank you in advance for your patience! As a reminder, you can always subscribe to the digital copy of Drip Points Magazine in addition to the physical copy, so you have instant access to the content on the first day of the month while you await your physical copy in the mail.

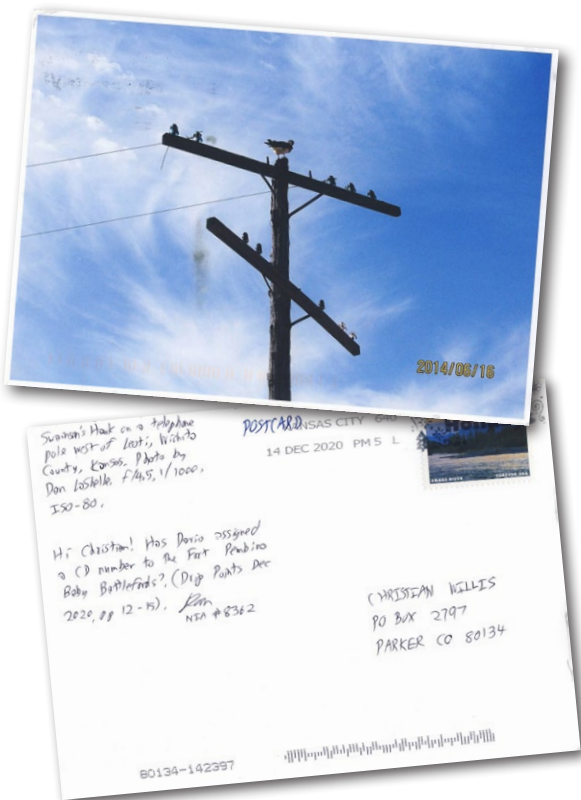
On the collecting front, I managed to add several pieces to my Hemingray and Stonehouse sign collections, including a third go-with sign mentioning high voltage insulators (pictured to the right). This inspired me to write my first Stonehouse Sign go-with article, which you can read on pages 18-21.

I would also like to take this opportunity to give a plug for Mike Green's Facebook group "High Voltage Signs and Insulator Collectors" (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/292404361172595>). If you're like me and enjoy collecting both insulators and signs, this is a great group to be a member of! 🐘

Christian Willis



MY LATEST INSULATOR GO-WITH: A 7" X 10" ENAMELED STEEL SIGN MANUFACTURED BY STONEHOUSE (THOUGH UNMARKED, NOTE THE DISTINCT J.W. STONEHOUSE FONT). YOU CAN READ MORE ABOUT STONEHOUSE SIGNS ON PAGES 18-21.

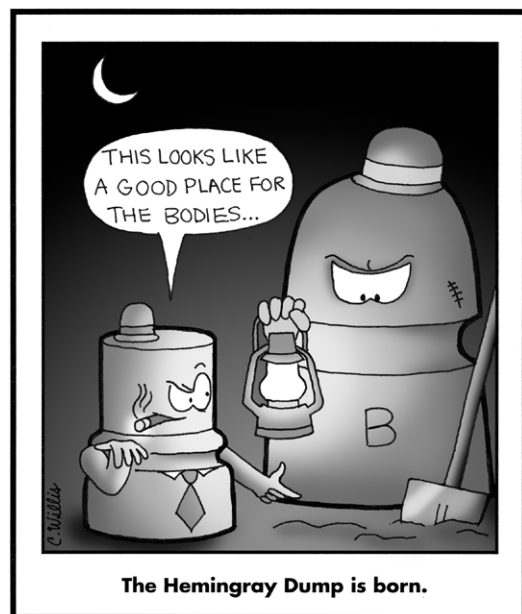


Letter to the Editors

"Hi Christian! Has Dario assigned a CD number to the Fort Pembina Baby Battlefords? (Drip Points Dec. 2020, pp. 12-15)."

— Dan, NIA #8362

Hi Dan! I loved your postcard photo so I had to post it in the magazine. Yes indeed, the Baby Battlefords were assigned CD 734.8 by N.R. Woodward many years ago. For some more in-depth history on the Baby Battlefords, I highly recommend reading "The Dominion (Battleford) Telegraph" Parts 1 and 2 by Mark Lauckner in the March and April 1997 issues of Crown Jewels of the Wire Magazine, respectively. They are available for reading online at <http://www.cjow.com/archive/year.php?year=1997> — Christian "Baby-Face Battleford" Willis 🐘





WANTED



My Goal is to form a complete collection of CD styles by June of 2021
IF YOU ARE SELLING, PLEASE GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO TOP YOUR HIGHEST OFFER!

The insulators I need are listed by their CD number in the following columns. Numbers in regular typeface are North American CD's Numbers in **Red** are Foreign CD's

I am currently building displays in my museum and am looking for oddball:

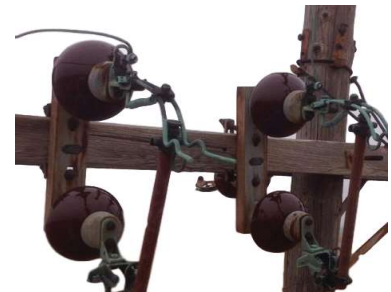
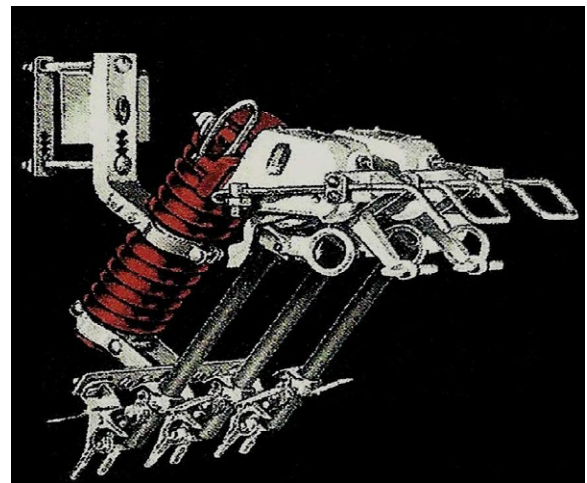


North American	Foreign	Threadless	Odds & Ends
10	334	553	700.4
12	343	563.2	701.5
25	343.5	567.5	723.5
28	350.3	570	724.5
28.5	365	571.7	728.5
29.5	370.3	583	732.4
30	374	586.5	736.3
30.5	377.4	591	738.5
33	377.7	592	740.4
45	378.1	595	784
61	378.4	607	
109.7	379.3	607.5	
136.5	380.1	610.2	
139.8	404	613	
148	404.2	625.5	
181.5	404.5	653.5	
192.1	405.5	656.8	
234.5	414	669.5	
244.5	445.4	669.8	
245-cup	451.5	687.1	
303.5	451.6	692	
313	480		
313.1	533		
	537.4		

Electric Primary Fuse Cutouts (3kv to 69kv)
 Fuse Links (high Voltage)

Mechanical Clamps (aluminum, brass) for wire & cable

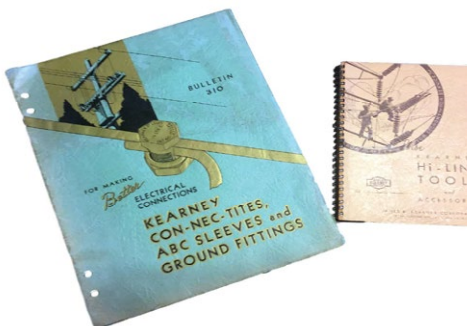
Electric Secondary Fuse Cutouts (L.M type P.S.D.)
 Mechanical Re-closing Cutouts (L.M. type R.L.O, etc)
 James R. Kearney Catalogs & Equipment



FOR CASH CONTACT:

Tommy Bolack
 3901 Bloomfield Hwy.
 Farmington, NM 87401
 (505) 325-7873

**Urgently Wanted:
 CD1053 D-519 Spools**



WESTERN REGION VP

ROGER ZIESAK * NIA #8919

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year holiday, and that the new year is better than the old. I'll bet 2021 lives up to the challenge of making a whole lot of insulator collectors happy. I've been collecting now for 13 plus years and I'm still glad I have a few mentors to help me out. Always ask questions, pick their brains, and listen to their stories. Something like this one...

So, I'm scootin' down the road not long ago to an auction where I passed on the insulators, all clear numbers and dots Hemi 9s, and bought a few things I'm still wondering about – typical auction. It was a 150-mile trip, so I had time to ponder the meaning of life. Collecting insulators is way up on the list of course along with other critical components like finding my chi. I figure I'll do that as soon as I figure out what chi really is. Some say the meaning of life is reaching a goal. OK, I can see that. I've got a few clear-cut goals and they may still yet happen but now I'm trending towards the slightly fuzzy goals. I like the idea of a little variability, seems more fun.

A good example is hitting a junk store or a garage sale on your way to somewhere important. That store or garage might have insulators or other collectible worthy stuff, so it becomes part of the mission to stop. Is it destiny or just some goober swinging into every interesting place

he sees? Bit of both, I think. Makes it all the more fun. Last year a lot of people had time to clean the basement, garage, shed, barn so they found stuff they never knew they had. It will be for sale.

There was talk recently on ICON about finding insulators in the wild and how that was the best. I've hunted here and there and have found the wily Hemi 42, but I think it's just as cool to hit a sale of some kind while you're traveling and when you ask about insulators the guy says yeah, I've got a box of them in the shed. That's still what Beth and I call adventuring and it still gives you that rush that even if you don't find anything you at least got the chance to look at some insulators that most likely no other collector has seen for umpteen years. Not many people collect insulators, but it amazes me how many people have some. So, chase those fuzzy goals when you can, (COVID makes it tougher but we're getting past it), gear up and get goin' and let's hear your stories. ▲

Roger Ziesak

CATALOG OF LIGHTNING ROD INSULATORS WITH ASSOCIATED BRACKETS

by Steve Bobb

Introducing to the insulator hobby for the first time, a catalog dedicated to the collecting of lightning rod insulators and associated brackets. This spiral bound catalog is 264 pages in length. It covers every known style LRI Glass and Porcelain. Easy to use actual size design drawings, A catalog LR system, index, with color identification, plus estimated pricing, Glass houses, patents associated with LRI's, advertisement associated with manufacturers, installers, patent owners. Color pictures and much more! Cost is \$ 35.00 per book, plus shipping. Email me at sbobb1@verizon.net, message me, or Face Book. For ordering and shipping costs. Shipping costs vary depending where you are located in the US mainland. Extra for shipping to Canada or Overseas

CATALOG OF LIGHTNING ROD INSULATORS WITH ASSOCIATED BRACKETS



WANTED

Unique & Unusual Insulator Mounting Pins & Brackets



Eucalyptus Insulator Pins
Brackets
Pole Steps

- All types of cast iron, multiple pin brackets
- Home-made pins and mounts
- Manufacturer, wholesaler and distributor catalogs

LOU HALL
THE "PIN MAN"

NIA # 7185

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(559) 284-4211 e-mail: louhall@pacbell.net





EASTERN REGION VP

GUS STAFFORD * NIA #8871

Happy New Year from the Eastern Region. For those of you without Internet access, here are two New Year's finds posted by Ken Willick and Todd Gruening in the Hunts & Finds Folder of ICON:

Todd writes, "Here is a recently dug OTIS that I believe to be a base embossed LRO 209-Recessed Top. Color is a nice straw and it is in excellent shape. The wooden holder was found with it but the point was not. This one was found in Orange County New York."



Ken Writes, "I took a drive over to the Locke factory in Victor for my traditional New Year's Day creek walk. Pulled this U-608A Fred Locke out of the water."



I regret to inform everyone that the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club canceled its 6 March 2021, 33rd Annual Show and Sale in New Oxford, PA. The Baltimore Bottle Club moved the Baltimore Bottle Show from 7 March to 26 September 2021. We surveyed all of our usual participants, and the consensus was to remain safe and forego this year's show. We will look for additional opportunities later in the year and keep everyone informed via Drip Points, Crown Jewels, and ICON.

Planning continues for the Gettysburg National in 2022. The 53rd National Insulator Association Show in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania goes from Wednesday, July 28th through Sunday, July 31st at the Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325. We will have dealer packets and sign-ups available at this year's National in Farmington, New Mexico.

Here's hoping we have the ability to get shows up and running again soon! Stay safe and keep looking for those insulators in your local area. ▲

Gus Stafford



COMMEMORATIVE COORDINATOR & NIA PRODUCTS MANAGER

MARGARET WAGNER * NIA #8711

Greetings from Missouri,

The NIA Commemoratives are a great way to support the organization and get a variety of colored glass to display and admire. We appreciate those of you who collect these, as it enables us to continue a long tradition for the NIA. Even if you don't collect them, they also can make great gifts.

Wanted to give a brief update on the current NIA Commemorative inventory, as several are sold out or almost sold out. See the following information:



2020
REGULAR POUR

2019
REGULAR POUR

2018
REGULAR & SOLID

2017
CHAMELEON
REGULAR & SOLID

2017
ROCKY ROSE
REGULAR & SOLID

2016
REGULAR POUR

2015
SOLID POUR

Regular Pours - \$40.00 each/ppd & \$35.00 for each additional when shipped together.

Solid Pours - \$45.00 each/ppd & \$40 for each additional when shipped together.

For the 2019 issue, we have some that have ghosted impression on the top.

Special Pricing for 2015-2017 Commemoratives, please see: <https://www.nia.org/products/commemorative/>

The 2015 solid pour, the 2016 regular pour and the 2017 Chameleon solid pour are almost sold out.

As always, thank you for your support of the NIA Commemorative Series and NIA. 🍷

Margaret Wagner

History of the National Show Commemoratives: "Collecting Our History"

Being an enthusiastic insulator collector, Frank Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma went home from the First National Insulator Meet (that's what the "National" show was referred to as in 1970) held in New Castle, Indiana with an idea that collectors should have something by which they could remember the National meets. After months of struggling, he managed to have an insulator mold made. Frank said it was often referred to as "Frank's Last Folly" since he retired from teaching shortly thereafter. He also said it was worth the struggle. The commemorative insulator he designed replicated the early threadless "Pilgrim Hat" (CD 736) and is almost 4 inches high and is 3¼ inches across at the base. Since 1970, the glass commemorative has marked the National show event with new embossing for the location and a new color of glass. In 1979, the project continued on by John & Carol McDougald of Sedona, AZ. John and Carol produced the yearly commemoratives through 2009, at which time they donated the production to the National Insulator Association starting with the 2010 commemorative. Any profits made from the NIA Commemoratives go directly to benefit the National Insulator Association, a 501(c)(3).

To place your order online, please visit:
<https://www.nia.org/products/commemorative/>
 We accept PayPal.

Alternately, you can send your order and payment to:
Margaret Wagner
 14615 Skyview Ave.
 Smithville, MO 64089
 (816) 719-0801
commemorative@nia.org

Please make checks payable to "NIA".
 If you have additional questions or live outside the continental United States, please contact me by phone or email prior to your order. Thanks!

STILL IN THE WILD

BY BRIAN RIECKER * NIA #6947

I was on my way back home from an outing with the family when I discovered these in Tolland, CT. We like to take different backroad routes whenever we can. The old outbuilding as you can see in the photos is just about ready to fall over and has two 156.1 insulators about 7 feet off the ground. I could not tell if they are embossed American Insulator Co, Postal Telegraph Co, or no name. I spoke with the owner a few days after and he said that the building was actually moved from behind his house to across the street years and years ago. The building is actually set to be demolished, but he would not sell me the insulators. Still really neat to see a few oldies still up in the air.



COPPER TOP INSULATORS

BY TOM KATONAK ✿ NIA #3567

INTRODUCTION

Copper Top insulators are glass insulators with heavy copper crowns cemented onto the glass frame. These were manufactured in Great Britain by the Pilkington Brothers Ltd. company in St. Helens, Lancashire England. The purpose of this article is to review the subject and provide an update on the new styles that have surfaced since I exhibited Copper Tops at the 2014 NIA Convention in Farmington, New Mexico.

BACKGROUND

The copper tops are really just a subset of the metal top insulators made by Pilkington. I explored this subject in some detail in my March 2013 Crown Jewels of the Wire article “Metal-topped Insulators from Down Under”. As it turns out, several of the styles found with copper tops also occur with aluminum and cast-iron tops (although the cast iron ones are quite unusual).

Back in the late '80s, I developed a fascination for Australian glass insulators...all the great colors in those CD422s and 423s, not to mention the beautiful purple bells and the dozens of color variations to be found in the AGM and CCG bottles. So I put together a pretty fair collection of stuff over the years.

Since international travel was always a fun thing for my wife and I, we planned a trip to Australia and New Zealand. And in early October 1999, we flew to Australia for the start of one of the greatest adventures we've ever had. In preparation for the trip, we had been in contact with Noel Dawson (the “father of insulator collecting in Australia”), and he in turn had given us the names and addresses of many of the other insulator collectors in both Australia and New Zealand. As it turned out, we were blessed to be able to stay with a number of these wonderful folks, and it was during these visits that I found out how interesting the stuff from Oz really was.

What really caught my attention were the large multipart glass insulators with the brightly polished copper caps that every collector seemed to have one or more of. These were really pretty! I didn't have any, but I wanted one of them. Then, on the second half of our trip, when we went to New Zealand, we actually saw power transmission lines with these huge insulators in use – and many of them were glass with aluminum tops. Wow! This was the first time I had seen the aluminum ones.

Then it happened: In June 2002, I made a trade with Noel Dawson for one of his CD 370s – the largest of the copper tops - for my big Muncie. Now, finally, I was “in the game”!

By now, I knew that there were four copper tops in the series, and that one of these, the CD344, was quite difficult to obtain. Even most of the Aussie collectors didn't have one of these.

One-by-one, the other pieces in the series came to me, and finally, in

2009 Graeme Snell sent me the coveted CD344 from Christmas Island! Finally – I had all the copper-tops!

Well, I was contented until the summer of 2011: Then another Aussie collector disputed my claim of “having them all” by showing me a photograph of a tiny little copper top - even smaller than the previous little one (CD 343.2) – to prove his point, he showed me photographs of this variant. I was just devastated! I DIDN'T have them all ! Now the hunt was on! And a year and a half later, after an international multi-piece trade of epic proportions, I NOW had the complete set of copper-tops! Or did I? Could there be even more? And how did the aluminum tops play into the story? Were other metals used as caps? Why would you even need metal caps on an insulator? Who made this stuff in the first place? How many varieties were there? All of these answers can be found in the March 2013 CJ article.

After I got the small piece referenced above, I contacted Mr. “Woody” Woodward in December 2012 and found that he had already made a preliminary CD assignment for this style based on Pilkington catalogs he had in his files. The new style was designated CD 334.5. So at this point, we had FIVE copper top styles on record.

Now we get to the new styles that have been subsequently discovered - and have not been described in the “hobby press”.

In May 2018, Nathan Holmes located yet another new shape from an individual in Great Britain and was able to acquire the copper top. As it turned out, this style was also referenced in Woody's Pilkington catalog and Dario Dimare assigned CD 343 to this piece. It's most likely that this insulator was used on transmission lines somewhere in Great Britain.

So while the vast majority of copper tops were used and found in Australia and New Zealand, we know they were also used on the island of St. Kitts. (You geographers out there will know that the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, located in the Leeward Islands, is a federal two-island state in the West Indies...and a former colony of Great Britain.) Are there more than just these four countries where the copper tops were used ? Well, nothing about copper tops surprises me anymore...we'll just have to stay tuned!

The second (and last) new style to report is one found by New Zealand collector Geoff Clark on the North Island of New Zealand in early November 2020. Yes, we can call this a recent find! Geoff got this on a NZ Auction site! Size-wise, Geoff's copper top is in between a CD 344.2 and CD 344, but the “bell-shape” of the base pedestal is somewhat different. While the old Pilkington catalogs don't include this style to aid in the designation, a comparison to the other copper-top styles convinced Dario Dimare to assign the new style as CD 344.3 on 5 December 2020. The most remarkable thing about the insulator is that it's in a pretty blue-aqua color. There are very few copper tops in this color, but I'll save this discussion for later. ▲

COPPER TOP INSULATORS

(CONTINUED)



THE FIVE COPPER TOPS KNOWN IN 2013



THE CD 334.5, THE SMALLEST OF THE COPPER TOPS, AND THE ONLY NON-MULTIPART IN THE GROUP.



THE CD 343.2, THE SMALLEST COPPER TOP UP UNTIL MODERN TIMES, AND STILL THE SMALLEST MULTI-PART.



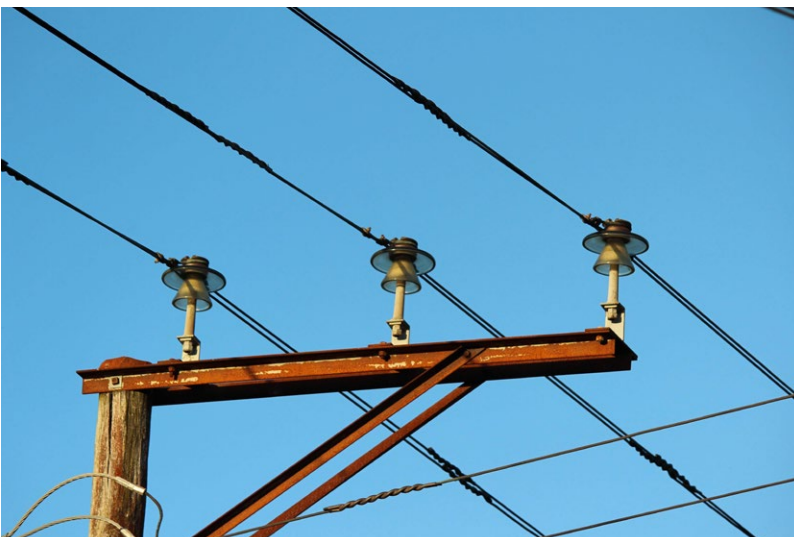
THE CD 344.2 IS THE NEXT LARGER SIZE IN THE GROUP.



A CD 344 WITH THE "TYPE A" TOP



THE CD 344 WITH THE "TYPE B" TOP



CD 344'S SHOWN ON A POWER LINE IN NEW ZEALAND
(PHOTO CREDIT: ROB WILSON)



THE LARGEST COPPER TOP, THE CD 370.

COPPER TOP INSULATORS

(CONTINUED)



LEFT:
CD 370'S ON A LINE
FROM WAIPORI TO
DUNEDIN ON NEW
ZEALAND'S NORTH
ISLAND (PHOTO
CREDIT GEOFF
CLARK)



RIGHT:
THE SIXTH
ADDITION TO THE
GROUP IS THE CD
343.



THE LITTLE CD 334.5 IN BLUE-AQUA.



CD 344.3, NEWEST COPPER TOP IS BLUE-AQUA IN COLOR.



THE ARMOURLIGHT EMBOSSING
FOUND ON SEVERAL COPPER TOPS.



TOM WITH SOME OF HIS COPPER TOPS



A CD 370 WITH THE BLUE-AQUA TOP & MIDDLE SHELLS.

NEW CALIFORNIA FIND

BY BRIAN RIECKER, NIA #6947 & COLIN JUNG, NIA #7055

A fantastic new discovery has been made in the California insulator collecting world and is the first new significant find in the past 50 years.

Now that I've got your attention; I must tell you that it is not a threaded pin type. And it is not a new Consolidated Design (CD) number.

Here are some excerpts of a historical account of the California Glass Insulator Company written by Ted Griffin and published in the - "Crown Jewels of the Wire" magazine, September 1982 issue.

"The establishment of the California Glass Insulator Company in Long Beach, California, came about through the successful culmination of a long search conducted by its founder, Robert P. Frist, for a good glass sand in southern California. On Mr. Frist's second visit to Long Beach he learned of the discovery of high-grade silica sand at Horseshoe Bend, which proved to be just what was needed. A contract was then secured from the American Glass Sand Company, which was mining the sand, guaranteeing the glass company a supply of at least five carloads of sand a day. The machinery, the patents of which Mr. Frist controlled, was immediately ordered, and work was started on the first of three proposed units.

The company's site consisted of ten acres, located in the northern part of the Long Beach harbor district, and was served by the Southern Pacific and Pacific Electric railroads..."

"Power was secured from the then new Southern California Edison plant with connections made on March 27, 1912..."

"The main building of the first unit housed the "tank", which the layman would call a furnace, in which the raw materials -- sand, soda and hydrated lime -- were melted under a heat of 2400 to 3000 degrees. Arranged around the rear of the tank were the "shops", or insulator pressing machines, of which five were in operation in May of 1912..." "Each shop required a crew of five men: one to draw the molten glass from the tank; one to cut off the exact quantity of glass required to make an insulator; another to remove the screw core; one to take the insulators from the molds; and the fifth to carry the insulators to the tempering furnace, or liear" (sic lehr).

"The California Glass Insulator Company, in May, 1912, was employing a force of nearly 50 men, most of whom knew nothing about glass making. Yet the workmen were daily gaining skill and were soon producing the full capacity of the plant -- about 15,000 insulators a day.

The Pacific Coast demand for insulators was estimated at 18,000,000 a year in 1912, representing about 7,200 tons of glass..."

"Fires were first started in the big furnace on March 21, 1912, followed by a ten day test period, which proved the equipment to be equal to

the demands that were to be made upon it. Actual production started on April 1, 1912, and shipments of their products started a couple of days later..."

"The officers of the California Glass Insulator Company in 1912 were: Arthur G. Munn, President; John G. Orth, Vice President; Robert P. Frist, General Manager; Stanley S. Stonaker, Secretary; and John Morris, Treasurer..."

"Sometime in March of 1914, the California Glass Insulator Company closed down, for reasons unknown to me at this time. Then on April 16, 1914, following a complete reorganization of the controlling company, it was re-opened. The plant was taken over by a new company which was quietly formed, and was known as the California Glass Works..." Robert P. Frist was no longer associated with the company.

"In mid-May, 1914, the new management of the California Glass

Works announced plans for improvement of an extensive and permanent nature. New larger furnaces were installed, that nearly tripled the then present capacity and enabled them to produce amber bottles and goods of a similar nature..."

"In an article on July 7, 1914, it was stated that they had a monthly payroll of \$4,000, with 65 employees, and they planned to install machinery to make flint ware and amber, and then business would be doubled. At that time business was limited only by facilities..."

"On January 18 or 19, 1916, the Long Beach harbor district was completely flooded..." "...A stretch of ground 50 feet wide and running the length of the street frontage of the glass company was washed out to a depth of ten feet or more. The filling of that hole was estimated to cost \$14,000 or more..."

Additional recent research updates and corrects information found in Ted Griffin's 1982 magazine article. On August 26, 1913, Charles L. Eshelman replaced Robert P. Frist as general manager. Eshelman was a 20-year veteran of Chicago Heights Glass Works. Frist and his lawyers subsequently brought an "attachment" (order to seize property) against California Glass Insulator Company, which was settled before the new company, California Glass Works (CGW) was formed in January 1914. CGW absorbed the assets and liabilities of the California Glass Insulator Company.

By July 31, 1914, the Long Beach glass plant closed permanently and was severely damaged by the flood of January 1916. In 1917, CGW was purchased by Pacific Glass Casket Company of Santa Monica, CA. In 1922, William McLaughlin of the McLaughlin Glass Company purchased the CGW factory assets from Pacific Glass Casket Company before the City of Santa Monica foreclosed on Pacific Glass Casket.



BOTH OF THE TWO KNOWN RPF EGGS.

(CONTINUED)

The Discovery

Ian Macky emailed me in May 2019 about a California CD 1131 with an unusual embossing. At the time it was not for sale by the finder. I patiently waited and emailed Ian in November of the same year to see if he had acquired it. He had not. I asked if he would connect us and he agreed.

After many emails back and forth and trying to find a local collector I could trust to pick them up for me; they offered to mail them to me. I love that there is still trusting people in this world as we are talking about well over a thousand dollars worth of glass. I received them on December 9th 2019 and shared some pictures with a few close collector friends.

Enough teasing! You already know that these are some form of large California egg strain insulator. They are both new colors that were previously unknown in the CD1131's: Smokey Olive Green and Light Yellowish Green. Both of the "birthmarks" or mold pour ports are not ground flat and stick out about a quarter of an inch.

The most fantastic part is the previously unknown embossing. It will be a new primary embossing in the price guide.

(F-Above wire groove) 15/R.P.F. (F-Below wire groove) PAT APL'D FOR. At first I did not know what the R.P.F. stood for as I was lacking in my California Glass Insulator Company history. I soon learned that it stood for the founder and first general manager of the company Robert P. Frist. He held many patents for glass making machines and was formerly associated with the Brookfield Glass Company. The glass strain insulators were found at a Long Beach, CA construction site. Four to five vertical feet of soil was removed from the site as well as some large concrete foundation piers. There was a large pocket of glass under about two feet of topsoil consisting of broken bottles and insulators. The two eggs were found in this pocket among other whole specimens of threaded pin types marked CALIFORNIA. A few pieces were kept by workers, but the majority of shards and specimens are in a local collector's possession. It is not known by the authors what else was found. That information has been withheld by the local collector.

As none of these strain insulators with the R.P.F. embossing have been found in the wild, I believe they are experimental pieces that were not meant for distribution. All in all, I am very happy to add these two pieces to my collection. Even if more surface eventually; I am content with the price I paid as it is getting very hard for me to add new pieces to my glass wire strain collection. ▲



COLOR SPECTRUM OF KNOWN EGGS. TOP RIGHT AND BOTTOM THREE ARE MARKED CALIFORNIA.

NEW CALIFORNIA FIND

(CONTINUED)



SIDE VIEW SHOWING THE PROTRUDING POUR PORTS.



EMBOSSING DETAILS



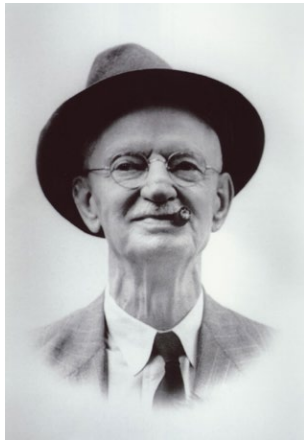
ABOVE: THE LARGE FOUNDATION PIERS REMOVED FROM THE SITE

LEFT: SOME COOL RANDOM FINDS AT THE SITE.

GO-WITHS: STONEHOUSE SIGNS

BY CHRISTIAN WILLIS ✿ NIA #5185

A couple of years after I started collecting insulators at the age of 9, I also started noticing and collecting danger signs — after all, I would typically see these go-withs at almost every insulator show I attended, and even antique shops. Specifically, the “danger in a red oval” drew my interest. Even more specifically, danger signs with a certain font were my favorite. It wasn’t until the late 1990s and the Internet that I learned more about who was behind these cool signs with the distinct font: Stonehouse Signs of Colorado. Much like collecting insulators, little did I know at the time how little of the surface I had scratched...



J.W. STONEHOUSE

James Wesley (J.W.) Stonehouse was born in 1869. Like his father William, J.W. was a sign painter by trade—he got his start painting signs in the late 1890s to help fund his search for gold in the Victor, Colorado region. Around 1903, he made his way down to Douglas in the Arizona Territory to work his trade there, and also began on investing more in mining operations. During this period, he quickly recognized the need for standardized bell signals within the mines, and his signs were almost universally adopted.



THE STONEHOUSE STEEL SIGN CO. AT 9TH AND LARIMER, DENVER, CO

Around 1910, he moved back to Colorado, and in 1914, J.W. formed the Stonehouse Steel Sign Company and moved to Denver. Seeing opportunity beyond mine safety, he was a founding member of the National Safety Council; his designs for the Danger, Caution, Notice, Think, and Safety First header panels are the basis for the ones we still see and recognize to this day. His signs were sold all over North America to electric companies, mines, railroads, hospitals, factories, government, and countless other industries. In 1926, the company was renamed to Stonehouse Signs, Inc., and in 1968 the company moved to Arvada, where it operated continuously by the same family until 2020, when the company was sold to ACP International (acpinternational.com).

For the insulator hobby specifically, the most common Stonehouse signs that one typically encounters are related to electrical hazards. In the early days of high voltage electricity, deaths were unfortunately all too common, and Stonehouse’s easily recognizable danger signs helped warn engineers and linemen, undoubtedly saving many lives in the process. These signs can still be found on fences surrounding substations, inside and outside powerhouses, and even posted on the power poles and transmission towers themselves.

Like insulators, there are many variations to be aware of when collecting Stonehouse signs: dimensions, material & gauge thickness, grommets, manufacturer’s markings, and font styles. Many of these factors can help determine the sign’s age and rarity. Many Stonehouse signs are not marked, but if they are, the manufacturer’s mark is typically in the lower right corner. If you’re lucky, you may even encounter a Stonehouse sign that mentions our favorite subject—*insulators!* To date, I have 3 such signs in my collection (pictured on the next page), though there were many more produced. The hunt continues...

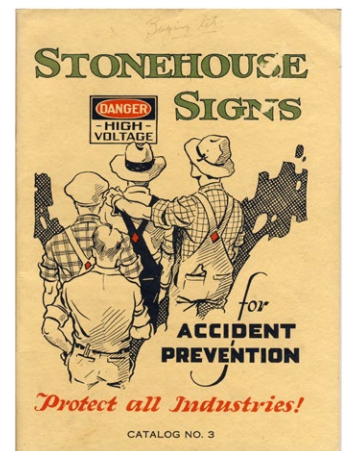
Once I got ahold of several Stonehouse Sign catalogs dating from the 1920s-1950s, my eyes were opened to just how prolific the company’s signs were, and I truly got the collecting bug! I own about 180 signs now. But, since Stonehouse made hundreds of stock wording signs and countless “specials” (custom worded signs), I’ve made peace with the fact that I will simply never have a complete collection. However, it’s not so much about having “one of everything”, but the thrill of discovering new signs. I’ve learned to apply that same principle to collecting insulators and it’s taken a lot of the stress out of collecting—simply collect what you love, and you will have years and years of enjoyment ahead of you.

Now, to solve the issue of having enough wall space for all these signs...



AN EARLY AD FROM C.1912 FEATURING J.W. STONEHOUSE'S "UNIVERSAL DANGER SIGNAL"

These signs can still be found on fences surrounding substations, inside and outside powerhouses, and even posted on the power poles and transmission towers themselves.



CATALOG NO. 3, DATED 1928

GO-WITHS: STONEHOUSE SIGNS

(CONTINUED)



THE EARLIEST SIGN IN MY COLLECTION, C.1912 (PRE-COPYRIGHT) IN A NON-STANDARD SIZE (9" X 16")

UNIVERSAL DANGER SIGNAL SIGN
Design Patent Applied For
J. W. Stonehouse - - - Denver, Colo.

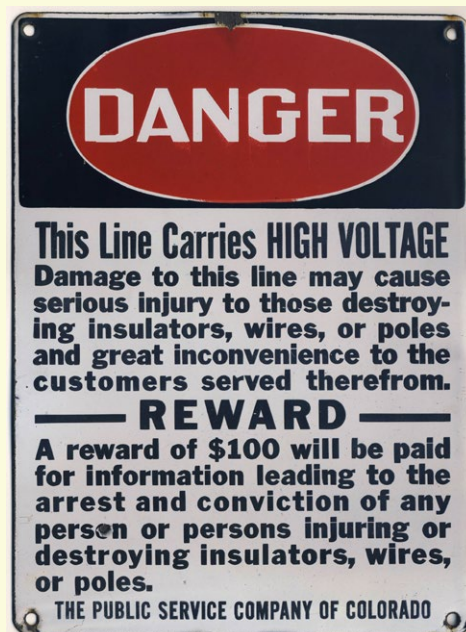


THE SKULL AND CROSSBONES AND FIST OF ZEUS VISUALS APPEARED ON SEVERAL STONEHOUSE SIGNS, AND REMAIN POPULAR WITH COLLECTORS.



PROTECT THOSE INSULATORS!

AS WE ALL KNOW, INSULATORS WERE CRUCIAL TO THE PROPER OPERATION OF POWER LINES. THESE THREE SIGNS ARE MY CLOSEST INSULATOR "GO-WITHS" TO DATE. THE SIGNS TO THE LEFT AND RIGHT ARE VERTICAL 10" X 14" AND LIKELY DATE TO THE C.1920S, WHILE THE SIGN BELOW IS A MORE MODERN 7" X 10".



VARIOUS 7" X 10" SIGNS MADE BY STONEHOUSE. NOTE THE DESIGN & FONT TRANSITION FROM THE 1920S-30S (LEFT & CENTER) TO THE 1940S-50S (RIGHT).

GO-WITHS: STONEHOUSE SIGNS

(CONTINUED)



LEFT: THE ELECTRICAL HAZARD SIGNS PAGE FROM THE 1928 CATALOG NO. 3. SEVERAL SIGNS HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH ELECTRICAL HAZARDS, BUT CLEARLY THEY WERE TRYING TO FIT IN AS MANY SIGNS AS POSSIBLE. I WOULD JUST LOVE TO GET MY HANDS ON SOME OF THESE, INCLUDING: "THINK: USE THE INSULATED STOOL" AND THE MULTILINGUAL "DANGER: ELEKTRIKA"!



CUSTOM FOR NORTHERN STATES POWER CO, 10" X 14", C.1920S



18,000 VOLTS, 14" X 20", C.1930S



CATALOG # 144, 10" X 14", C.1940S



4600 VOLTS, 10" X 14", C.1920S



6900 VOLTS, 10" X 14", C.1940S

GO-WITHS: STONEHOUSE SIGNS

(CONTINUED)



LEFT: PAGE EXCERPTS FROM THE 1949 CATALOG NO. 9, FEATURING ELECTRIC HAZARD AND POLE SIGNS. NOTE THE UPDATED HEADERS AND THE MODERN J.W. STONEHOUSE FONT.



ABOVE: MY FIRST STONEHOUSE SIGN, WHICH I PURCHASED AS A KID AT AN INSULATOR SHOW. THIS IS A CUSTOM, DOUBLE-SIDED 10" X 14" MADE FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON. THESE WERE MOUNTED ON TRANSMISSION TOWERS ALL OVER SOUTHERN CA. BELOW: A MORE MODERN STONEHOUSE SIGN MADE OF ALUMINUM.



I could write page after page on other categories of Stonehouse Signs, but this is an insulator magazine after all! I know many insulator collectors, like myself, have these types of signs adorning their walls, displays and sales tables. Hopefully I have given just a taste of the wide range one can find, and some history on the pioneer of safety signage, Mr. J.W. Stonehouse.

Special thanks to Jeff Stone and Becky Roche of the Stonehouse family for permission to use these photos. For more information about J.W. Stonehouse and Stonehouse Signs, visit jwstonehouse.com and stonehousesigns.com. 🇺🇸

296	295	296-8	296-9	296-11
296-14	296-16	296-18	296-7-A	299

DESCRIPTION

PRICES

Size: 9x10-inch. Made of 26-gauge, rust-resisting galvanized steel, baked flexible enamel finish. These signs have rounded corners, with a hole in each corner for tacking to poles, and will bend easily to fit poles.

1 Sign	\$1.76
6 Signs of the same wording, each	1.21
12 Signs of the same wording, each88
25 Signs of the same wording, each71
50 Signs of the same wording, each55
100 Signs of the same wording, each49

Your Company Name can be placed on any stock worded Pole sign at an extra cost of \$2.20 for any quantity up to 24. When 25 or more are ordered there is no charge for adding the Company Name.

SOUTH WALES POWER LINE HUNT

BY JAKE RIDEOUT * SUBMITTED BY JACK NESBIT



JAKE RIDEOUT POSING WITH THE NOW RECOVERED BULLERS SHACKLE

Hello again from the UK! Hopefully all of you reading this are well and have been having fun collecting, hunting and/or attending shows. For this month's issue I thought I'd send along an excellent write up by my friend and fellow collector Jake Rideout, who I've known since my early years of collecting. This details his first proper power line hunt in, you guessed it, Wales again – and shows an interesting use of early large dead-end shackles, previously unseen in the UK.

Thanks,

Jack Nesbit

DRIP POINTS UK STAFF WRITER

The Tredegar Iron & Coal Co. Line Hunt – South Wales by Jake Rideout

Constructed during 1911 – 1913, the transmission line owned by the Tredegar Iron & Coal Company began at the Southern end of the Sirhowy Valley, South Wales, where the power was generated from a company owned power house located within the grounds of an existing colliery. The primary purpose of this transmission line was to supply electrical power to a newly constructed all-electric colliery owned by the company a few miles up the valley. Through the years this transmission line was upgraded and expanded, with a second newer line built alongside the original during 1930 to supply power to collieries all up the valley until the demise of the South Wales Coal-

field in the later part of the 1980s. Although most of the transmission line was removed after closure, a small section of the original right-of-way was discovered by fellow collector Jack Nesbit on a hunting trip to the South Wales area in early 2016 which yielded a good amount of Bullers Ltd made P.5064 deltas and some other unusual power insulators. A few months later after discussing with Jack about a family holiday to the South Wales area which was planned for late spring he very kindly informed me of the location and provided a helpful amount of information and maps for me to plan a hunt of my own to the location during my holiday, my first true power line hunt.



THE FIRST CROSSARM FOUND BURIED IN THE BRACKEN

SOUTH WALES POWER LINE HUNT

(CONTINUED)

Day 1:

With the weather looking promising for the day, we set off from our hotel at around 9am and made our way to the site of the hunting location at the Southern end of the Sirhowy Valley, approximately an hour's drive from the hotel. Following the instructions given to me by Jack, we made our way to the suggested parking area which was the original access road for the colliery which was based near this site in the valley. This road has recently been landscaped with a small picnic area with stone benches and a few parking spaces for dog walkers and, today, insulator hunters! A large metal gate further along the lane prevents vehicular access into the former colliery site, with a small passageway next to it for hikers and cyclists to access the area. A quick cup of coffee from our thermos flask and tool check in the back pack (I had brought a pair of adjustable spanners for unbolting insulators, hacksaw for any cutting needs and a few scrap items of clothing and bags to wrap any potential finds in) and we set off on our hunt.

A few days prior to the hunt, I had printed off a home-made map of this end of the valley using an image editor and a screenshot of Google Maps satellite view to guide us to the correct footpath to use to access the valley top where the transmission lines were located. This area of the valley is definitely not short on the amount of small footpaths heading off in all directions, and with a limited time to hunt it would obviously be best to reach the hunting site as quickly as possible.

After walking through the pedestrian passage-way next to the modern gate, the road continues gradually downhill before reaching a small open area which has been roughly landscaped; a tarmac cycle path crosses the road here, which follows the original London & North Western Railway track bed in each direction of the valley. At this point the road makes a gradual 90° turn to the left to reach the other side of the valley. A new telephone line has also recently been installed here and follows the original road towards the colliery site, suggesting the installation of some new telecommunications equipment in the colliery site. Unfortunately, due to the excitement of the trip, we accidentally turned left too early and began walking along the cycle path in the wrong direction. After about 10 minutes of this, we realized we had made a wrong turn and turned back to where the road crossed the cycle path and located the correct route to take. After my promise to brush up on my map reading skills, we proceeded.

Continuing along the road, another gate prevents access across a small over bridge which crosses the Sirhowy River at the valley bottom and enters the old colliery site; first a large open and level area which originally had railway sidings and was where wagons were loaded with coal mined by the colliery, then up a short but steep hill which brought us up to the site of the colliery yard and the locations of the pit shafts, now blocked and fenced over. Here, the path split again; the concrete lane turning right into the large open area of the colliery yard and fading away, and another path forming and turning left into the forest – this being the path our map instructed us to take. Shortly after entering the forest, we were on the lookout for a path which branched off on the right hand side and headed up the valley side to the location of the poles, though we somehow missed it and continued walking along the main path at the bottom of the valley. After about quarter of

an hour of walking, we pondered whether we had took another wrong turn and then walked past a friendly dog walker, who advised us to continue following the path for a short distance and then taking a path on the right which proceeded up the valley, we assumed that this was the path we were looking for. After another 20 minutes of uphill walking we came to a crossroad on the path which strangely didn't appear on the map; the left path appearing to head back down the valley side, ahead continuing along the level and the right path continuing to climb upwards, so we decided this was the path to take.

Once we reached the valley top, the scenery still did not match what was shown on the map, so we began to think that we had came the wrong way – which we had. Despite us not being where the poles were located, I had a quick scratch around and surprisingly pulled a short steel cross arm out of the bracken which was complete with two heavily damaged 1930 dated P.5064 insulators, one of these being a rare variant with an unusual ink stamp on the top shed which featured the Bullers Ltd logo and a Kite Mark symbol in a box. Jack had mentioned about these unusual insulators, which clearly show how highly regarded Bullers were with their production of insulators, and I was hoping to find one of these 'Kitemarkers' in good condition for the collection. Unfortunately the years of being half buried had taken their toll on the pin nut which was seized and I couldn't loosen it, it was too heavy to carry the whole steel arm back down the valley so we had to leave this one.

We then spent another half an hour scouring the area for the correct



CLOSE-UP OF THE 'KITEMARK' LOGO ON THE DAMAGED P.5064

location to begin the hunt with no luck and eventually gave in and began to descend the valley in search of the correct location. After passing the small cross road and continuing to walk back down the path, we luckily noticed in the distance on the valley top one of the still-standing 'Corner poles' from the original line, now we definitely knew we had went the wrong way! Once again at the bottom of the valley, we headed back the way we had came towards the colliery site and were luckily able to locate the correct path we were supposed to take up the valley. By this point a considerable amount of valuable hunting time had already passed, we were hot, sweaty and extremely tired; with temperatures now around 20°C we were not looking forward to having to climb the valley side for a second time!

This new path up the valley side was rather narrow compared to the

SOUTH WALES POWER LINE HUNT

(CONTINUED)

last and was considerably muddy and slippery from the previous day's rain and was lightly tattooed with footprints of rabbits, deer and a few mountain bike tyre tracks. The path travels up the valley side at a rough diagonal angle to the hill and zigzags up the valley side before levelling out towards the top, where the trees clear away around the former transmission line right-of-way. Just before reaching the top, a small number of old telephone poles can be made out still standing in the forest, originally from a telephone line which followed part of the transmission line, which still contain a pair of crossarms and two small side brackets below and the remains of damaged insulators. According to Jack, these poles contained a mix of different small telephone styles including bright white glaze No.1s (U1540), newer cream glazed No.8s (U1564) and occasionally older Bullers made No.3 Cordeaux (U1565) in a nice shade of brown glaze with the Bullers Trade Mark logo, assumed to be the original insulators used on this line. With my interest lying mainly with the old transmission lines, we reached the valley top where the trees clear and the path turns left and follows along the tree line, passing by a couple of standing single poles still wearing their damaged P.5064 insulators on side brackets.

At this point, while the rest of the group followed the path to reach the standing 'Corner poles' for a well deserved rest, I strayed off the path to the right where there was another single pole standing nearby. After walking through the newly growing ferns I found the four side brackets lying on the floor underneath the pole, which had somehow burned at the top causing the brackets to fall, each still with a damaged P.5064 attached, these all being 1941 dated examples. Not wanting to carry a damaged insulator with me I left them where they sat and found my way back to the path to meet up with the rest of the group at the next set of poles. The two corner poles were of particular interest and I was sure to take many pictures of their construction and their insulators. Unfortunately the older 1913 setup had been caught in a wildfire and one of the poles had burned away and left the structure precariously standing on its two remaining poles, however it still retains its interesting array of insulators; these being a total of 8 large Bullers made shackles in a mix of early and unusual dark grey, a lone white and several newer brown units, some of which still had their copper tie wires in place showing nicely how the line was terminated onto the shackle. Behind each shackle a P.5064 remained (though all appeared damaged in some way or another) except for the lowest cross arms which had a pair of smaller delta types, also made by Bullers, which are believed to be the original type used when the line was first constructed; these are both also damaged with one suffering from a split bottom shed. The setup from the newer 1930s line has fared a lot better except for a few damaged insulators and still retains its Bullers made suspension discs, which were used instead of the large

shackles. After a short rest from walking, a drink and taking photographs we finally set off on our hunt!

Continuing along the path, the first few poles we encountered were slightly disappointing; these being a couple of older single poles and a 1930s A pole which all were lying nearer to the path. Unfortunately all of the insulators were either missing or severely damaged, many suffering from 'popped tops' which may have been a result of the awkward angles the insulators have laid for the past few decades. The next A pole we came across had fallen away from the path and after climbing the bank we found the top portion held slightly above the ground on the limbs of a small tree. To our delight this pole contained a good condition 1930 P.5064 and brown glazed anti-bird spike however due to the precarious nature of the pole we did not attempt to recover the P.5064 (We had to partially lay underneath one of the cross arms to reach and weren't sure if the pole would shift while undoing the nut) though we were able to remove the bird spike – our first recovery. Shortly down the path we spotted a older single pole lying against a tree around 15ft down the valley from the path (The single pole line was located down from the path and most of the poles have either become buried under bracken and undergrowth or landed out of sight in the tree line when they were cut) and figured it was worth descend-



TYPICAL FALLEN 'A' POLE COMPLETE WITH INSULATORS

ing for a closer look. This proved easier said than done and as a result I did end up slipping a good distance of the way down on the uneven terrain, stopping myself by grabbing a hold of a nearby branch which happened to be a bramble vine – ouch! After picking myself up I made my way to the top of the pole and looked over the insulators; this pole containing four 1941 dated P.5064s on side brackets and one of these was in perfect condition. This insulator was quickly recovered, the side bracket easily removed by unscrewing four coach screws which held it to the pole, and it was now part of my collection. When heading back up the valley towards the path, I did also notice this pole retained its enamel DANGER sign (These being of a simple design with a white background, red outline and the word Danger in red placed vertically down the sign) however it wasn't in the best of condition with around a third of the enamel rusted away, so I left it with hopes of finding a better one on another pole.

After looking at the watch, we realised how much time was creeping on so decided to proceed straight to a location further along the path where another pair of 'Corner poles' were located, these ones being both cut down and on the ground. The head of the older structure was closest to the path and still contained a small number of large shackles, though badly damaged, and a couple of P.5064s which were also damaged. The structure from the 1930 line had been cut down the other side of the path and was also easily accessed. On his trip to the

SOUTH WALES POWER LINE HUNT

(CONTINUED)

location, Jack had recovered a pair of the white glazed suspension insulators in good condition from this pole and informed me that there was still a few left at this pole site to recover, all with smaller areas of damage. Upon reaching the top of the pole, we easily found these and recovered our one of choice; easily removed from its fittings by using a screwdriver to push the copper split pin out of the cap. I also regretably agreed to have the original line hardware removed to make the insulator lighter and less awkward to carry back.

Day 2:

After talking to Jack that night I decided that a return trip would be very useful and would give me a second chance to recover a 1930 dated P.5064 which had evaded me the previous day, plus anything else different that I may spot. I pitched the idea to the rest of the group who unenthusiastically agreed, despite all of the mistakes we had made with locating the poles in the first place! The weather for the next day was also looking good, with slightly cooler temperatures and the occasional chance of misty rain. We left the hotel at a similar time to the previous day and parked at the same location, beginning the trip with the same cup of coffee from the thermos flask and we set off once again. As a result of the previous day's mistakes we now knew exactly where the paths were located that we needed to take to reach the valley top, this allowed us to reach the hunting site in around 20 minutes, a definite improvement.

After a 5 minute rest in the shadows of the standing 'Corner poles' we proceeded on our second hunt; our first target being the single pole that I recovered the P.5064 from the previous day with hopes of saving the enamel DANGER sign which I had spotted. Despite not being in good condition, we didn't spot any on other poles and it would make a good specimen example for if I didn't find any others. After locating the pole and descending down to it the sign was removed very easily; originally being secured to the pole with 4 large iron nails which had pretty much rusted away so required very little effort to remove. Once saved, the sign was passed back up to the path to be placed safely in the back pack and we continued.

Next on the recovery wish list was a 1930 dated P.5064 and I had a rough mental note as to where a fallen A pole was located that may have still had a good condition one to save. After finding the pole, we dug around through the bracken roughly where the end of one of the crossarms was located and to our delight unearthed a 1930 P.5064 in good condition. The nut securing the bracket to the cross arm was pretty solid, though a combination of hammering and brute body force on the spanner did eventually loosen the nut, and a few taps on the end of the pin to break the rust seal released it from the cross arm and allowed me to add it to my collection. With this success fuelling

us, we located the P.5064 on the opposite end of this cross arm, which was also in good condition, and attempted the recovery which turned out to be a lot easier than the previous. The nut on this second bracket did not require as much force to loosen and once removed, the bracket easily came free from the crossarm gaining me a second 1930 dated example. We then hid the two insulators in the bottom of a tree close to the pole to pick up on our way back.

I was now on the lookout for some of the ink stamped P.5064 variants, which included 1930 dated types in a unusual brown ink color and later 1930 dated types which had a lovely large Bullers logo with date stamped on one side of the insulator in thick black ink, and if I was lucky, a rare 'Kitemarker'. Every pole I spotted from the path I inspected thoroughly for any of these types however none showed up, most still containing impressed 1930 types including damaged ones. Further along the path the terrain changes slightly with the path becoming



1941 DATED P.5064 PART WAY THROUGH RECOVERY

very narrow and the valley rather steep on the one side, also the new growing ferns and lighter bracken changes to brambles and thicker undergrowth which made spotting fallen poles and trekking off the path more difficult (and painful!). We eventually came to a point where we weren't spotting any poles and therefore decided to begin turning back to pick up the P.5064s we recovered earlier. Just before reaching the two fallen 'Corner poles' I noticed a older single pole not far down from the path which I hadn't spotted when walking the other way; after making my way down to it found it to still contain its four 1941 dated P.5064s with one in good condition. I attempted to recover this one however after I wasn't able to get the spanner onto one of the coach screws which was trapped under the bracket; the pole was too heavy to move

and so I had to leave it. I also noticed that this pole also had an enamel DANGER sign but was in far worse condition than the one I recovered earlier. After this defeat, I climbed back up to the path and we decided to call it a day, we picked up the P.5064s we recovered earlier and wrapped them up safely and placed them into the bag and we headed back down the valley and waved goodbye to the location one last time.

Day 3 – Bullers Spool Recovery:

In the week previous to our hunting trip, Jack had informed me of a location further down the Sirhowy Valley where he was lucky enough to accidentally locate a fallen lattice tower which contained a small number of the large Bullers made shackles as used on the older 'Corner pole' setups. He was able to recover a white glazed example in perfect condition and had tipped me off that there was still another in good condition to be saved, only missing a couple of small chunks on one side, and sent me a couple of illustrated maps to guide me to the location. Unfortunately in all of the excitement of the two hunting

SOUTH WALES POWER LINE HUNT

(CONTINUED)

trips I had completely forgotten about this location until a couple of days later and still figured it was worth having a look to see if I could possibly add this unusual style to the collection. Luckily this idea was once again unenthusiastically agreed on by the rest of the group and was promised we would head there the next day weather dependent. When the next day came around the weather was great, quite sunny and warm temperatures, and so we set off towards the Sirhowy Valley for the third time.

Leaving around the same time as previous, we parked the car in a small village approximately 2 miles from the original parking site which was closer to the new location. After the now compulsory tool check in the back pack and quick coffee we set off, this hunt described as being easier on the feet compared to the previous since we were mostly following a tarmac lane which serves fields and a private residence on the other side of the valley (It still included over a mile of walking up and down steep hills, so the rest of the group were a bit quiet about it!). After leaving the car, we crossed over the main road which runs along the east side of the valley and continued along a country lane which meanders down the valley side and over the Sirhowy River, then climbs back up the shallower valley side and underneath the original mineral railway which served the collieries of the area which is now a walking/cycle path. After passing below the railway, the road veers right and comes level to the trackbed and splits; one lane continues ahead to the private residence and one turns left to continue up the valley.

Following the instructions given by Jack, we turned left up the valley and were on the lookout for a small public gate into the field which was on our right which put us onto the correct footpath to find the tower. By now, the tarmac lane had become a gravel track and the climb became very steep which made it hard work and we were unfortunately unable to find the gate into the field. After looking again, we walked back down the track (Which was harder than climbing up!) and after



THE BUSINESS END OF THE OLDER 'CORNER POLE' SHOWING THE LARGE SHACKLES

studying the maps sent by Jack we decided to head for the footpath on the mineral railway and follow this South in hopes of possibly finding the correct path from the other end. This also proved unsuccessful and after walking for a mile or so we turned back and were thinking of admitting defeat; the temperature was now rising above 20°C and we had already encountered several dog walkers which showed this area of the valley was busier and less undisturbed than the valley top where the poles are located.

While the rest of the group all had a small break and drink where the footpath joins onto the country lane, as a last resort I decided to follow the late towards the private residence and was surprised to find a public gate which lead into the correct field. After entering the field the footpath then split into two; one which continued up the field and another which turned and followed behind the residence and beyond. I followed the path behind the house and after walking for 5 minutes was delighted to find the remains of the lattice tower and the remaining Bullers spool awaiting my recovery! After returning to reunite with the rest of the group we then followed back along the new footpath to the tower site and they were surprised and equally delighted that I had managed to locate the tower. Just as we relocated the tower site we met a friendly gentleman on the path who was walking his dog and stopped for a chat; he described that we were the first people he had seen on this footpath in over 2 years! (More than likely the reason that this tower has survived undisturbed for all these years).



THE ITEMS RECOVERED ON THE TRIP

After wishing the gentleman good day we then continued with recovering the spool; after looking it over the damage that Jack had described turned out to be a few chips and larger chunk missing from one of the top 'sheds' of the unit, possibly caused by someone removing the copper wire, though these weren't too bad and the insulator still had a good side to display from. The tower also contained one more spool in parallel with this one, though heavily damaged, and possibly another 3 which were trapped under the tower and crushed. To our delight, the nut on the large bolt which secured the spool into the irons was nowhere near as rusty as those we removed from the poles on the valley top and we got the nut spinning with very little effort and in no time the spool was now part of my collection. After a quick "hunters trophy" style photograph we safely packed the spool into the back pack and began to make our way back to the car, which felt like it took no time compared to walking the other way. Once back at the car, the spool was secured for the journey and we made our way to a nearby town for a rather late lunch. This called the end of our hunting in the Sirhowy Valley for 2016, however it was promised that we would make time and revisit the location on our next holiday to the South Wales area, whenever this may be! 🐾

INSULATOR SPOTLIGHT

BY MATTHEW WILLETT * NIA #9550

BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

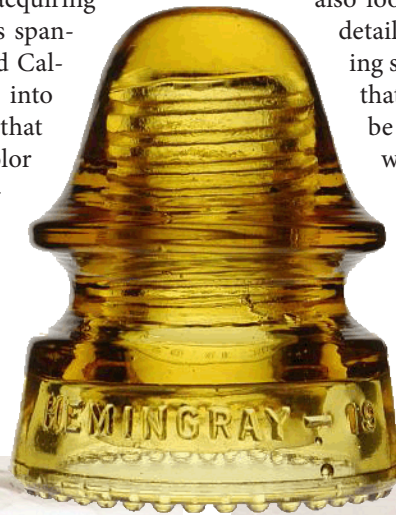
If you ask 100 different insulator collectors the question “why do you collect the specific pieces you do and what about that niche is so interesting to you?”, you will get 100 different answers. You will receive responses ranging from “I collect threadless because of the history behind them,” “I collect tolls because my dad did,” “I collect all different CDs because I love the different shapes,” or “I collect COLOR because of their beauty highlighted by a backlit case or on the window sill.” And if you have been in the hobby for any time, you know these reasons will likely develop and change, to ensure things stay fresh and interesting.

I wanted to start by briefly sharing how I got started with collecting signals (CD 162s), how my interests have morphed and more specifically what now peaks my interest, all in the short 9 years I have been collecting. As with many, the variety of color found in the CD 162s was the original factor that drew me to them. I could see the vast opportunity to perpetually add new pieces. I began acquiring them solely based on color from all manufacturers spanning Hemingray/HGCO, NEGMCO, WGMCO and California, just to name a few. Approximately 3 years into this way of a bit aimlessly collecting, it was clear that Hemingray/HGCO made 162s offered the most color options. It was at this point I decided to further specialize based on manufacturer: HGCO/Hemingray made 162s only. This is when the real fun started! As my collection grew exponentially over the next several years, I became increasingly attentive to the small and large differences in mold shapes, embossing styles and lettering/number alignment.

Likely within one of my frequent communications with Michael Green from Alabama, he directed me to very well written and research laced articles by Gary Kline featured in the 1998 August and September editions of the Crown Jewels of the Wire magazine. Uncanny how many of the same nuances had been seen and documented nearly 20 years earlier! It was and still is a wealth of information regarding manufacturing time periods, rarity of embossing style colors and detailed mold differences. Established terms like New Script, Transition and Stamp embossed came alive. If you haven't read his articles, I encourage you to...and view the articles alongside this one. My main goals for this article is to supplement Gary Kline's work and make them come to life with COLOR, give you a window into my current interests and show you that collecting signals can be more than just about color.

Have fun viewing the color photos! As you do, I challenge you to also look beyond the color and follow me into the world of detail that will have you seeing the differences in embossing styles, mold shapes and alignment of lettering/numbers that makes each piece unique! At the very least, you may be able to use this information to convince your spouse why you need so many orange ambers or cobalt blues.

*Special thanks to Michael Green, Shaun Kotlarsky, Brent Burger and Gary Kline for information contributions. And always a special thanks to my wife Erin who puts up with me and the time and money I put into collecting.



BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)

H.G.CO. SMOOTH BASE MOLD



Produced late 1880's to shortly after 1893. Notice differences in dome shape, spacing of lettering, omission of a period after the 'O', crown slope and wire rim prominence. Can you spot the outlier, an insulator that can't quite decide what CD it wants to be??

Found in exotic colors; featured on the left are orange amber, honey amber, depression green and peacock blue. Keep an eye out for the elusive yellow amber and purple!

SHAY, STEVENS & COMPANY



Take a quick detour with me away from the HGCO embossed units to these uniquely embossed with S.S. & Co/CHICAGO/No 19. Believed to have been made by the Hemingray company for only 2 short years: 1889 and 1890. Even in this short production run, 3 unique mold styles can be seen in this photo. The differences are subtle however if you study the alignment of the lettering (where the period after Co aligns over the "A" of Chicago): #2 and 3 match (period is left the A) and #1, 4, and 5 match (period is direction over the A). The most obvious mold style difference is the more squatty yellow green to the far right characterized by much smaller S.S.&Co lettering, period after Co is to right of the A and the pin hole only threads a typical pin 1/2 way on (thread diameter is 1 1/16" compared to 1 3/16" of the others). A couple other known colors not featured here are the aqua and lemon.

BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)

H.G.CO. TRANSITION MOLD



Estimated years of production: 1893-1895.

How many different distinct mold styles do you see in the photo? Make sure to take into account lettering size, spacing/alignment with PATENT MAY 2 1893 and mold shape. What other mold styles or colors do you own beyond what you see here?

H.G.CO. NEW SCRIPT MOLD



Estimated years of production: 1895-1898.

Many likely are drawn to the bright colors of the blues and ambers, however would it be surprising to hear the toughest among them is the green, RARELY seen within the H.G.C.O. embossing.



To date, these are the 3 colors known in this distinct New Script mold style with the sharp wire rim.



Photo to show the nuances that can be seen within “amber” of a single EIN and embossing style. Left to right: oxblood, red amber, red/orange amber and orange amber.

BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)

H.G.CO. PRISM MOLD



Produced from 1898-1902. Begin to add in 'character' and the unique additions beyond mold/embossing styles becomes endless. As few as 4-5 of the odd mold style featured far left are known to exist with the fang drips.

This represents the near full spectrum of color known to exist in the prism embossed style, other than the small variances within the aqua realm (i.e. blue aqua, green aqua, light aqua, etc). Although, how cool would it be to see a prism embossed purple?!



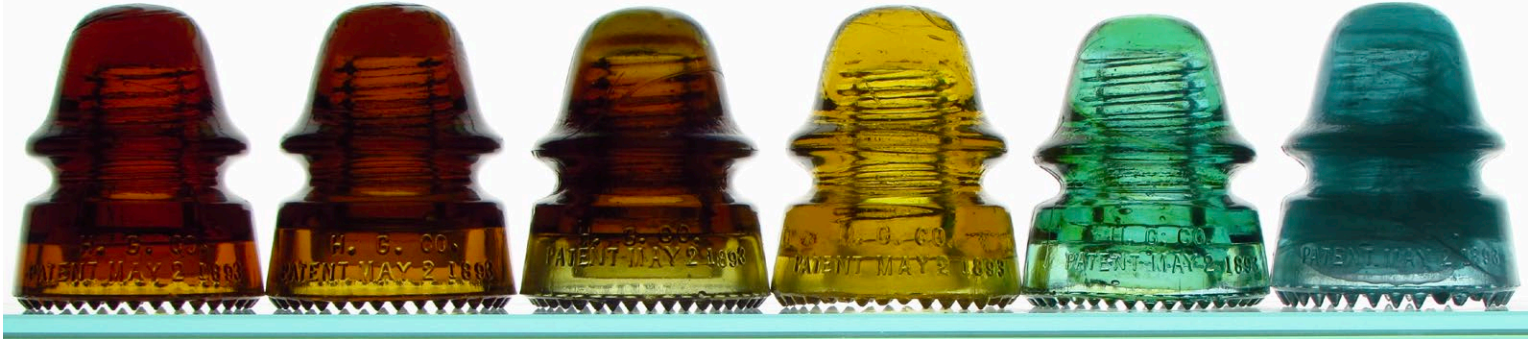
No period yellow HGCO prism flanked by identical H.G.C.O. prisms with periods mold.



BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)

H.G.CO. STAMPED MOLD



Estimated production years: 1902-1909.

ABOVE, TOP ROW: Red amber, orange amber, whisky amber multi-tone, yellow, ambered aqua, milky aqua

ABOVE, BOTTOM ROW: Electric blue, milky electric blue, peacock blue, lilac/lavender, dark purple, royal purple



LEFT: Identical mold. See how the H.G.CO. including the periods align exactly over the PATENT MAY 2 1893 below. Also view the inclining nature of the ENT of PATENT.

BELOW: Don't forget to count the number of drips. Left to right: 37, 37, 33, 34.



LEFT: To date I have only seen these 3 colors to exist in this mold style with the more spaced out drips and rounded wire rim. All have only 33 drips.

BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)

HEMINGRAY MOLDS

Produced from 1910-1940s.

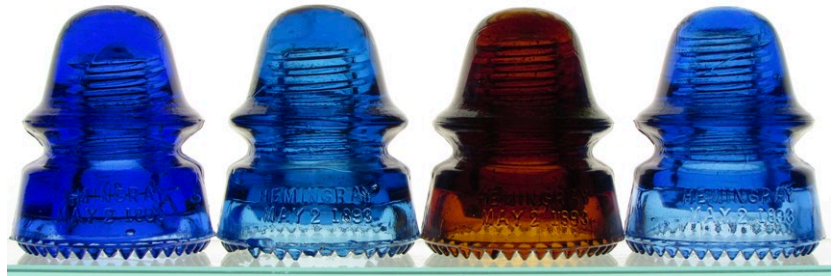
As you get started, take note of the overt lack of color variation seen with the CD 162s marked HEMINGRAY until the EIN (HEMINGRAY-19 RDP) known to be produced last starting in the 1920s up until approximately 1940. I and other well known Hemingray collectors are currently unaware of the chronology of these other EINs or even why all of the variety.

GROUP ON RIGHT:

Front: HEMINGRAY/MADE IN U.S.A.; Rear: No 19.
Bottom row have large # 1 on dome.
Defining feature is the large/wide wire rim.

GROUP BELOW:

Do you see the differences in the mold shapes?
Look at the wire rims and crown shape.



GROUP BELOW: Front: HEMINGRAY; Rear: No 19.

GROUP ABOVE: Front: HEMINGRAY/MAY 2 1893; Rear: PETTICOAT.
Believe it or not, the toughest among them is the red amber!



BEYOND THE COLOR OF SIGNALS

(CONTINUED)



① Front: HEMINGRAY-19; Rear: MADE IN U.S.A. SDP.

② Elusive dark yellow green HEMINGRAY No. 19 with SMOOTH BASE. At this point, I believe there are still less than 5 known!

③ Front: HEMINGRAY/PATENTED; Rear: PETTICOAT.

④ Front: (Blank); Rear: No 19.

⑤ Front: HEMINGRAY/PATENT MAY 2 1893; Rear: PETTICOAT. I note only 2 different molds: view how the G of HEMINGRAY aligns with the Y of MAY

⑥ Front: HEMINGRAY-19; Rear: MADE IN U.S.A. RDP. The return of COLOR! These Hemingray-19 RDP units have lots of color options however you won't be wowed by the overt lack of mold variations.



THE RAMSHORN/CROSSARM CONNECTION

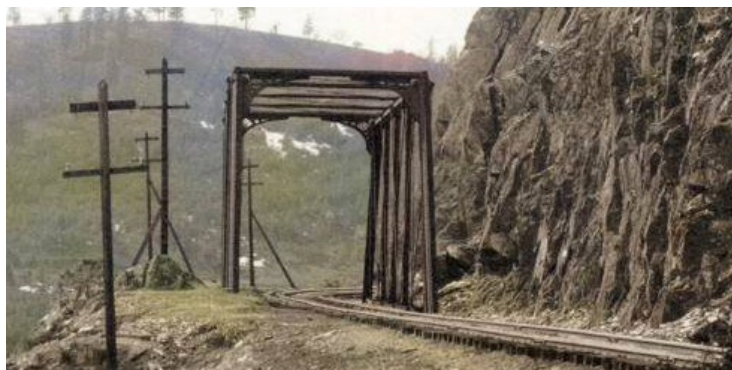
BY MICHAEL TUCKER * NIA #4051

The ramshorn is a well known insulator type, but whose identity is not, as of yet, been classified into a nice and neat numbering system. There are several variations of ramshorn insulators and their respective parts: the outer shell (if there is one, the inner body (which holds the metal hook) and variations in the wire hook itself as well as the separating materials (for instance, what is separating the metal hook from the glass insert). For the sake of this article, we will focus on what I consider to be the "standard" and most common of these insulators.

The simple or "common" ramshorn insulators were used on the Central Pacific Railroad in the western United States and comprised the western half of the Transcontinental Railroad from Sacramento, CA to Promontory, UT (circa 1863-1870). These insulators are very popular among collectors as examples of Transcontinental Railroad insulators, or just plain old insulators, reaching back into the threadless era (pre-1870). They received honorable mention in: Milholland Bicen-

ennial Edition of Most About Glass Insulators. Another publication that devoted a large section to them was: Unique Collectible Insulators-Non-Glass/Non Porcelain by Gerald Brown, 1975.

I've included a couple of pictures of these insulators in service. An interesting historical note: the Central Pacific had access to an abundance of lumber from the Sierra Nevada Mountains and they milled or shaped their poles with squared off sides. You will notice in the pictures that the sides of the poles were squared off as well as some of the tops being peaked. By contrast, looking at the Union Pacific's poles, some were rough and scrubby looking (still having bark on them!). This was from a lack of lumber materials on the barren prairies of the Great Plains.



THE RAMSHORN/CROSSARM CONNECTION

(CONTINUED)

One of the items I would like to focus on in this article is how the "standard" tube type ramshorn was secured into their respective crossarms. Without closely examining pictures of some of the original crossarms that had been found or the patent design drawings, I personally was under the impression that the installation was accomplished by boring a hole all the way through the crossarm, slightly larger than the metal tube and sliding it down into its hole and finally turning the tube until the spike or cleat comes to rest into a small notch, not only to keep it from falling out the bottom, but to keep it oriented parallel to the direction of the telegraph wires.

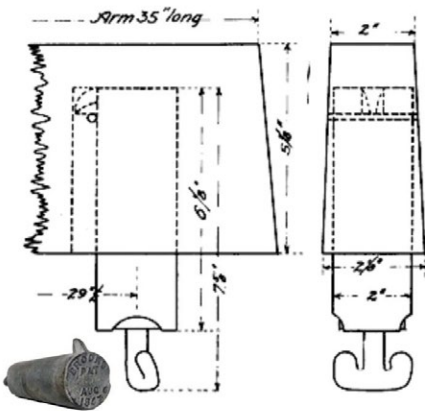
To my dismay, that was not the case! I was still correct in one count; my assumption that the purpose of the cleat was to keep the insulator

parallel to the telegraph line and to keep it from turning.

The reality is that the hole for the tube was bored from the bottom of the crossarm (I'm going to say about 4 1/2"-5" (based on photographic evidence of the body or tube slightly showing). Overall length of the ramshorn tubes is about 6". Also, there is a "key" slot channel cut for the cleat or spike. At a level just below where the bottom of the cleat or spike, is a hole cut for the insertion of a metal pin (a retaining pin) to prevent the ramshorn from sliding out downwards. I am uncertain as to whether or not the hole for the pin was drilled all the way through the crossarm, but my guess was that it was not (this was impossible to say in the photographs). In some cases the locking pin may be a square nail or a heavy wire.



Brooks Ramshorn Crossarm Details



Helena Mt 1874



UPRR Original Brooks next to woodblock



THE RAMSHORN/CROSSARM CONNECTION

(CONTINUED)



Obviously, the manufacturer of the ramshorns had to maintain certain product consistencies to streamline installation (pre-boring the holes and the key slots of the crossarms as well as the locking pin hole). One of these being the orientation of the spike or cleft with the orientation of the ramshorn hook.

This use of this insulator type was quickly scrapped and usage discontinued. My theory of the failure (electrical leakage) of this type of insulator, was that the mechanical telegraph line stress broke the inner glass tube. If that was the case, it would be nearly, if not impossible, to detect by visual inspection. Also, replacement does not look like an easy task, especially removing a retaining pin corroded to the crossarm in order to remove the damaged ramshorn. The Central Pacific Railroad shifted to the state of the art, at the time, threaded glass pin-type insulators and the closest manufacturer was the Electrical Supply and Maintenance Company of San Francisco (affectionately known by collectors as EC & M!) The fact that there are quite a few of the tube type ramshorns around as well as crossarms tells me that when these were scrapped, the crossarms and ramshorns were simply thrown down to the ground, as they were replaced. The large bore holes, in my opinion, for the ramshorns would have greatly weakened the structural integrity of the crossarm and made it more vulnerable for breakage or rot, so new crossarms for the EC & M's had to be installed.

I hope this information proves to be enlightening as we have looked at this strange and atypical insulator. 🐉

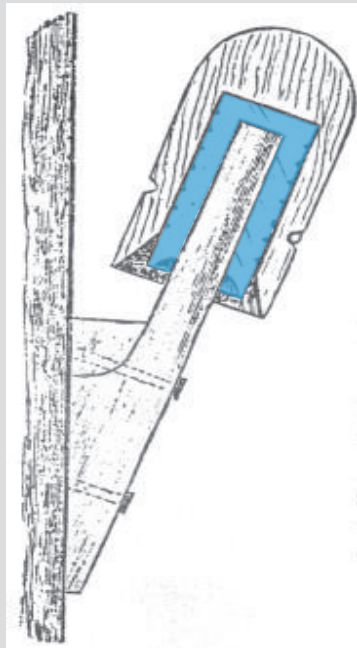


Wade Insulator



Jephtha Wade

Jephtha Homer Wade was born on August 11, 1811, in Seneca County, New York. In his early years, he had various jobs, starting with a job in a brickyard. He later became a carpenter, and still later a portrait painter. Wade became involved with the building of telegraph lines, starting in 1847 with the Erie & Michigan Telegraph Company, and many other lines over the next two decades. He was instrumental in the formation of the Western Union Telegraph company, and eventually went on to lead Western Union in 1866.



The Wade Insulator

Largely used in the Western States, although insulator has been found in CA, PA, OR, and AL. Known as the "Wade Type" because of the widespread use of them on lines built in association with Jephtha Wade. Likely had its origin in Erie, PA., and possibly produced by S. McKee & Co. The glass sleeve was covered with a wooden shield to prevent fracture from stones and other causes. It is believed that the dot-dash wade (upper right picture) exterior features were intended to keep the wood cover securely in place. It has been observed that the repeated pattern of three dots and two dashes represent "S" and "M" in Morse code, possibly Referring to S. McKee & Co.

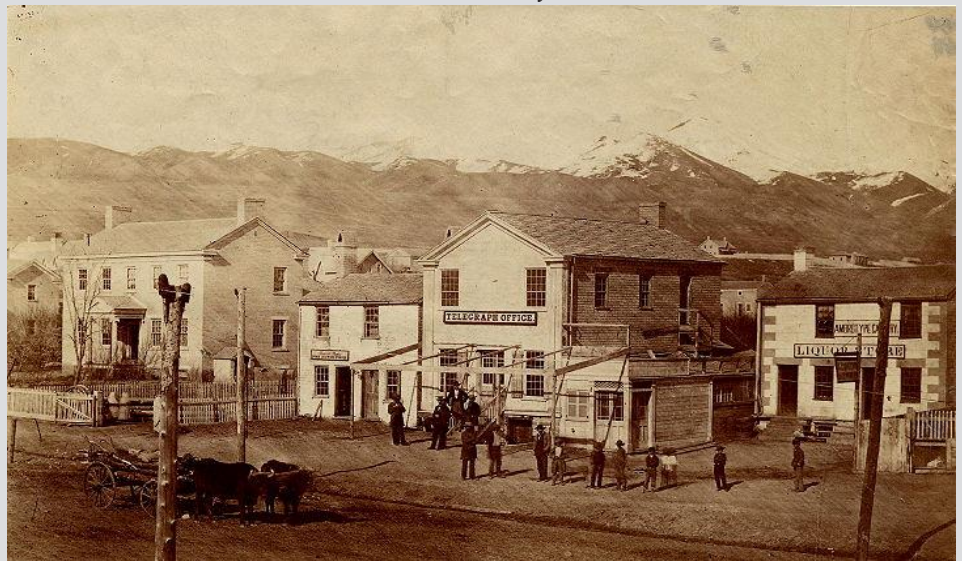
John J. Speed, who was a close associate of Ezra Cornell and Wade in the late 1840's and 1850's is credited with inventing a wood-covered glass insulator in 1849. It was adopted, modified in form by Wade, and largely promoted in the 1850's and 1860's. One of the more well-known lines making use of this insulator was the 1861 Transcontinental Telegraph Line. Also known to be used on the Collins Overland Telegraph line in Oregon.



CD 723 Wade Insulator
Other "Wade" styles include CDs 721, 722, and 723 variants.



The U.S. transcontinental telegraph line linked the Atlantic and Pacific coasts by connecting the "Eastern connection" at Omaha, Nebraska with the "Western connection" at Carson City, Nevada.



The site where the east and west sections of the transcontinental telegraph were joined. East side of Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah with telegraph office, ca. 1862 (telegraph pole in foreground).

Courtesy of the Church Archives, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Salt Lake City, Utah. (Reprinted from "Wiring a Continent" by James Gamble).

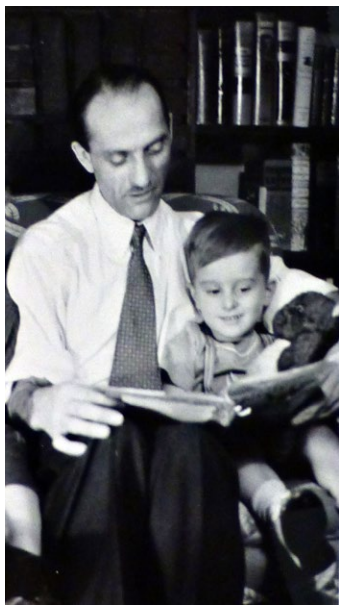
COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK * NIA #3567 * BY MIKE GREEN

He had resisted the invitation a few times before finally accepting. What in the world was a weatherman doing strapped into this thing? The roar of the turbine engine signaled the start of the takeoff. A few moments later a sudden burst of thrust pinned Tom into his seat as they began a near vertical climb. The clouds ahead began to spin as the F-106 Delta Dart quickly gained altitude. Designed to be our primary interceptor aircraft from the 1960's through the 1980's this was a hell of a plane. Several wild stunts followed each one pushing Tom to near blackout. In one maneuver the plane raced skyward exerting several positive G's. When they reached the top of the climb the G forces went negative as they fell back toward earth in weightlessness. It was the wildest ride of Tom's life. The Pilot was Colonel Walt Gresham, Commander of the 486th Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Castle AFB. He was a decorated WW2 Ace and loved pushing the limits of a "rookie" like Tom. So how did a weatherman end up on that ride? Read on...



TOM SIX MONTHS OLD



DAD READING TO TOM



COWBOY CHRISTMAS 1948



FATHER LOUIS KATONAK NATIONAL GUARD 1938



WITH BROTHER DAVE



SNOWSTORM 1944

COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK (CONTINUED)

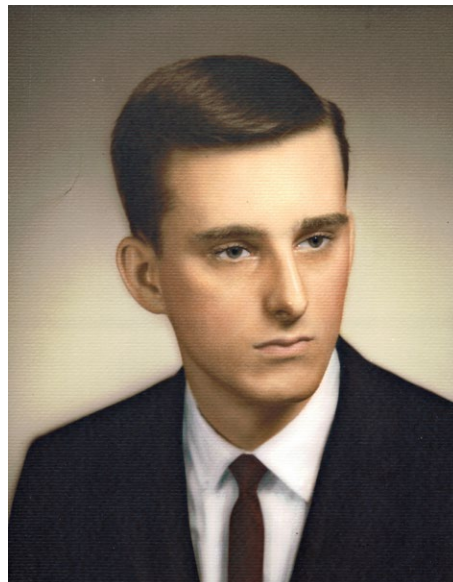
The memories of growing up in Canton, Ohio are fond ones. It was an almost Norman Rockwell kind of traditional America. It began in 1942, the very same year a future sweetheart was born. As Tom grew up, he began to see how technology was changing our world and became fascinated about how things worked. Going to Jimmy Jamison's house in 1949 to watch the television was amazing! He saved up money from his paper route and selling vegetables to buy a Zenith handheld transistor radio. He learned about early solar cells and other break-

throughs in technology. Other interests included science fairs, geology, stamps, and coins. Tom remembers going through pocket change with his Dad searching for the elusive 1909 S VDB penny. As Tom's curiosity about things grew, he got the perfect job after school at the Canton Library shelving books. The work wasn't that fun but access to all that information was fantastic! It was a boring 4-mile walk from school to the library so to make things more interesting Tom started running to work! Tom attended Lehman High School where he was involved in Jazz band (string Bass), Junior Orchestra (viola), and broke records for the track team. He had a love of music that came from his Mom who played Piano and his Dad who played the Violin. In addition to his musical activities at school he was also bugler for his scout troop. While in high school he also met the love of his life Lynda. As they began dating, Lynda's father took Tom under his wing and taught him all about firearms. He would often be at Lynda's house learning how to shoot, build guns, and reload ammunition while enjoying a pizza.

After High school Tom attended Bowling Green University where he majored in geology, physics, chemistry, and geophysics. He worked at the Bowling Green Library and became enthused with science. Tom worked very hard to keep up with the "smart kids". Tom jokes that he was a slow starter and was voted least likely to succeed in high school. After Bowling Green, it was time to marry his high school sweetheart Lynda. It was June of 1964 and they have been together ever since. Lynda had graduated from Kent State the previous year with a degree in education. After the wedding it was off to New York where Tom would pursue a doctorate in Geophysics at Columbia University. During this period, he also had the opportunity to study and do research at the Lamont Dougherty Laboratory on the Hudson River. He took part in some of the first efforts to do underwater mapping of the oceans. He worked on a seismograph program designed to detect nuclear tests conducted by the Soviets. Perhaps the coolest project was helping to build and design a seismograph that went to the moon on Apollo 17. Tom personally knew astronaut Harrison "Jack" Schmitt who placed the unit on the surface of the moon.



LYNDA HIGH SCHOOL 1960



TOM HIGH SCHOOL 1960



TOM AND LYNDA WEDDING JUNE 1964

COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK (CONTINUED)

Tom got a tip from a family friend and judge named Paul Perkins. Tom was about to be drafted. Tom decided to take matters into his own hands and went to see recruiters. The Air Force wanted him to be a meteorologist and Tom signed up. It sounded like more fun than the rice paddies of Vietnam. The military journey began with officer training school where Tom played the Flugelhorn in the military band. Tom says it got him out of a lot of "unpleasant" duty. Meanwhile back in New York the Army was demanding that Lynda "cough up" Tom. They were not too happy that the USAF had grabbed him first. After OTS Tom and Lynda were in for a little surprise. Instead of heading back to New York Tom was being sent to Oklahoma to study meteorology at the University of Oklahoma. Tom says that recruiters always leave something out. A little apprehensive at first it turned out to be a great assignment. Tom worked in Norman, OK when they first started using computers to model weather. He worked in the severe weather lab and was part of the first teams sent out to collect data.

After earning his Meteorological degree Tom was assigned to Castle AFB in California as a weather forecaster. Castle was a B-52 base and part of the Strategic Air Command. It didn't take long for Tom to become Wing Weather Officer. He and his team had to accurately predict the weather so the bomber wing could conduct critical training exercises. One of the toughest things to predict was fog in the Central Valley. If the B-52's came back from a long mission and couldn't land it caused big problems. It was a high stress job that Tom worked very hard at. At one point the Wing Commander decided it would be good for Tom to get flight certified. Tom soon found himself on low level radar evading missions that could last up to 10 hours. He said the turbulence at 200-1000 feet and the duration of the flights were brutal. Can you imagine flying low level B-52 missions during the height of the cold war? Wow! Tom did enjoy his first trip to Alaska on a KC-135. Especially bringing back hundreds of pounds of crab and salmon in the "Boomers Compartment". Tom also flew on many KC-135 tanker missions often watching the refueling of B-52's from the boomers compartment. After being flight certified and earning the respect of the Wing Commander Tom was invited for that amazing ride in the F-106 Delta Dart.

A wonderful twist of fate occurred many years after Tom had joined the Air Force. The man who had helped Tom out, Judge Perkins, lost his wife at nearly the same time that Tom lost his Father. Tom's Mom and Judge Perkins ended up falling in love and getting married. They spent many happy years together. Paul became Tom's Father-in-law and Paul's Son, Paul Jr., (Tom's best friend in high school) became Tom's Brother-in-law!



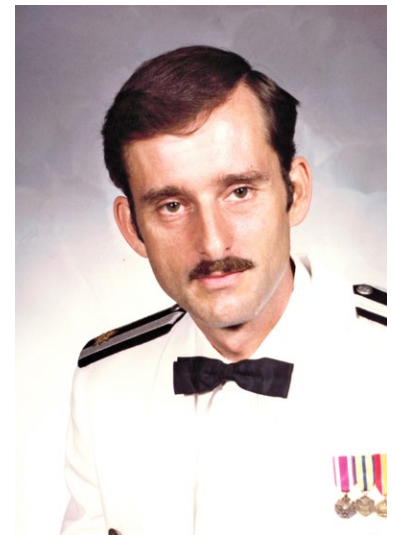
TOM AND LYNDA 1979



TOM AND LYNDA 1978



TOM AND LYNDA MID 70'S



TOM DRESS UNIFORM 1979

COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK (CONTINUED)

After Castle Tom was assigned to the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio as an instructor and to pursue a master's in engineering physics. Tom said he had to work his you know what off to learn about things like quantum physics. The AF had need of physicists for highly technical weapons programs and Tom wanted to be a part. Following Dayton, the AF sent Tom to Kirkland AFB in Albuquerque to be part of the Airborne Laser Program. This led to an amazing 6 months of running a 250 person field-test operation atop a mountain peak overlooking the White Sands Missile Range in southern NM. There Tom developed lasers that could track missiles at up to Mach 3. This was cutting edge stuff right out of a sci-fi movie. Because of it's remote location Tom even had access to a helicopter! In their spare time the pilot would take Tom for wild rides through remote canyons. They even flew down to the Trinity Site where the first atomic bomb was detonated to search for "green glass" known as

Trinitite that formed when the bomb exploded. The stories from this assignment could fill a book but we must move on. After assignments at Randolph AFB and Maxwell AFB it was off to Space Command in Colorado Springs. Tom worked at the Chidlaw Building where he regularly briefed General Hartinger who was the North American Aerospace Defense Commander. Tom was involved with next generation early alert systems, GPS, and optical systems. He would also regularly go to NORAD deep inside Cheyenne Mountain during alerts. After a final stint at Kirkland in Albuquerque Tom retired as a Lt. Colonel in Jan of 1986. Following his military career Tom worked in the defense industry until 2001. He was part of developing advanced technology for tracking and optical systems. Much of his work was for Reagan's Starwars systems which played a part in bringing down the Soviet Union and an end to the cold war. Not bad for a slow starter voted least likely to succeed in high school!



SUMMIT OF GANNETT PEAK, WYOMING WITH "CHINA" BOB



TOM AND LYNDA SUMMIT OF WILSON PEAK, COLORADO



MINERAL COLLECTING SOCORRO, NM



MOTORCYCLE DAYS 1960's

COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK (CONTINUED)

During his time in Colorado he first learned about insulators. He spotted them at a flea market and became fascinated by them. He soon learned about resources like Crown Jewels and found out about the Triple Ridge Insulator Club. He began attending meetings once a month and meeting other collectors. This soon led to shows and a much greater involvement in the hobby. Tom helped found the Enchantment Insulator Club in 1986 which has held many great shows over the years. Tom was also very involved with the NIA and served as President from 2002 to 2004. Tom has done extensive research and exploration of old telegraph lines in New Mexico, Arizona, and California forming the basis for several articles and exhibits. A leader in bringing foreign insulators into the hobby, most of the beautiful Ukrainian insulators around today came from Tom with the help of Ukraine friend "Commie" Mike. He also brought in many fine Mexican and Australian pieces.

Mountaineering, hiking, skiing and running have always been a part of Tom's life. Among his favorite ascents are the Matterhorn, Gannett Peak, and Mt Shasta. He has backpacked and hiked in many remote locations including the Grand Canyon, Nepal, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, and Alaska. His running accomplishments include 5 marathons. Other interests include an amazing mineral collection and a fine array of historic maps. Tom and Lynda share a beautiful collection of Mata Ortiz pottery from Mexico. A visit to the Katonak home is like a friendly little museum. Always something interesting to see and learn about.



ATLANTA NATIONAL INSULATOR SHOW



LYNDA'S PIANO INSULATORS



KATONAK GRAPES... YUM



A SMALL PART OF TOM'S COLLECTION

When asked about the best moment of his life Tom immediately mentions marrying Lynda. He also excitedly recalls a moment he and Lynda shared when they became two of the first people to enter the Cave of the Giants in Mexico. The largest Selenite crystals in the world are in this cave and Tom said it was simply unbelievable. The temperature inside the cave is 136 degrees so they couldn't be inside long, but it was worth every minute. When asked about the most difficult moment Tom describes coming face-to-face with mortality in December 2020. Tom had a serious fall in his shop which fractured his leg, pelvis, coccyx, and L4 vertebra. The injuries were quite severe, and he couldn't walk for a long time. In the middle of it all a large blood clot that could have killed him was discovered just in the nick of time. Being that close to death has made him appreciate life all the more.

Throughout his life one person has always been by his side. Tom describes Lynda as his "lifelong partner in everything". Whether it is an insulator show or a climbing adventure, a geology field trip or a ski trip, it is almost always together. They used to hunt a lot and ate only meat they had harvested together for over 15 years! As they approach their 60th anniversary I can think of few couples who have done so much. Their Christmas letters are better than reading National Geographic.

COLLECTOR THREADS

FEATURING TOM KATONAK (CONTINUED)



LYNDA'S INSULATOR EARRINGS



HALIBUT FISHING IN ALASKA



TOM "LIBERATING" SOME GLASS



AMAZING MINERAL COLLECTION



BACKPACKING IN THE GRAND CANYON



LYNDA'S GARDEN



FOREIGN BEAUTIES



TOM AND LYNDA WERE AMONG THE FIRST PEOPLE IN THE CAVE OF THE GIANTS



TOM ABOVE THE BOLACK RANCH

Tom is never idle. He is always busy maintaining, learning, creating, and doing. He can build or fix just about anything in his shop and has the knowledge and ability to live off the grid if needed. The definition of a Renaissance Man is "A person with many talents or areas of knowledge". If there is anyone who fits that description it is Tom Katonak. Tom wanted this story to end with a quote from George Washington Burnap, "The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for" Tom, your life has been filled with all three and we salute you. Please join me in thanking Tom and Lynda for sharing their amazing story.

Happy Collecting and Power Off 🏠

UNLISTED & ODDITY INSULATORS (PART 3)

BY MICHELLE ARMAND * NIA #9757

I am excited to share with you the submissions per my request on ICON for insulators that are either not listed in the price guide or those with peculiarities (oddy insulators).

*Disclaimer: Prior to publishing in Drip Points magazine, the authors/owners/collectors of these insulators featured have reviewed and approved this article as is. This article is composed of views expressed through remittances of individuals in his/her personal capacity and do not reflect the views of the NIA. Anyone wishing to use any of the photos in this article should contact the owner as the copyright is solely that of each individual identified. It should be noted that 'price guide' in these articles refers to the North American Glass Insulators Identification, Reference, & Price Guide by Donald (Don) Briel. Order yours today at www.InsulatorPriceGuide.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In Part 3, we will be featuring all of James Doty's submissions! See the October 2020 issue for Part 1 and December 2020 issue for Part 2. I was very impressed at the overwhelming response that Michelle received for her request on undocumented & oddity insulators. She received so many responses, in fact, that we simply couldn't fit them all in one issue! Thanks to Michelle for gathering all of the information and to everyone who submitted their pieces; stay tuned for Part 4 in the April 2021 issue!

JAMES DOTY



102 BTC MONTREAL,
ROSY SCA



102 NWBIT,
DARK SCA



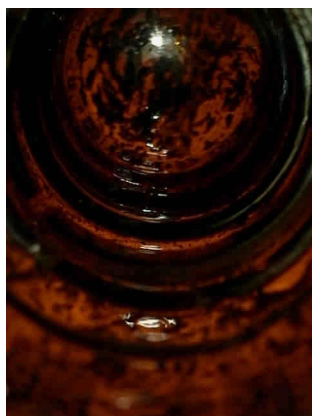
102 DIAMOND,
MILKY MUSTARD



102 DIAMOND,
BLACK JUNK



102 DIAMOND,
VERY DARK SCA



102 DIAMOND, SUPER
BLACK JUNK IN BEER
BOTTLE BROWN



102 STAR,
WANT-TO-BE JADE



102 WESTINGHOUSE,
CLEAR AND BLUE
DOME

UNLISTED & ODDITY INSULATORS (PART 3)

JAMES DOTY SUBMISSIONS (CONTINUED)



102 BROOKFIELD,
AQUA WITH BLACK
SPECKS



102 BGM,
VERY DARK SCA



102 BAR DIAMOND,
(?) JADE



102 DIAMOND,
MILKY SCA



102 DIAMOND,
DIRT GRAPE (?)



102 CREB MILKY



102 BROOKFIELD
FIZZ



102 HAWLEY 2-LINE,
BLACK SPOTS,
HEAVY SNOW



102 PENNY, FIZZY
JADE (?)



102 PAT DATED,
MILKY DOME



102 HAWLEY ODD
MOLD, MILKY
BLUE



134 BROOKFIELD,
MILKY



130 MILKY JADE-
LOOK WITH
WHITE JUNK



PICTURE 1 OF 2
130 AQUA WITH
BLACK JUNK



PICTURE 2 OF 2
130 AQUA WITH
BLACK JUNK

UNLISTED & ODDITY INSULATORS (PART 3)

JAMES DOTY SUBMISSIONS (CONTINUED)



PICTURE 1 OF 4
130.2 MILKY +
HUGE BUBBLE



PICTURE 2 OF 4
130.2 MILKY +
HUGE BUBBLE



PICTURE 3 OF 4
130.2 MILKY +
HUGE BUBBLE



PICTURE 4 OF 4
130.2 MILKY +
HUGE BUBBLE



260 CALIFORNIA,
PEACH WITH PINK
EARS



PICTURE 1 OF 3
123 FOAMY



PICTURE 2 OF 3
123 FOAMY



PICTURE 3 OF 3
123 FOAMY



102 BTC, MILKY



102 BAR DIAMOND,
MILKY LAVENDER



101 MILKY OLIVE
GREEN



101 MILKY GREEN



101 MILKY AQUA



CD 102 DIAMOND,
LIME GREEN WITH LOTS OF WHITE STUFF IN
GLASS AND PIN HOLE.



UNLISTED & ODDITY INSULATORS (PART 3)

JAMES DOTY SUBMISSIONS (CONTINUED)



102 WESTINGHOUSE BLUES



102 WESTINGHOUSES. TOP SHELF PIC JUST AN FYI FOR COLORS OTHER THAN BLUE.



CD 130 CAL. ELECT. BLUE AQUA. LOTS OF MILKY LINES AND MILKY JUNK.



CD 140.5 THREE COLORS OF COBALT



CD 130 CAL. ELECT. WORKS. RIGHT IS YELLOW GREEN.



CD 130 CAL. ELECT. WORKS. YELLOW GREEN CENTER.



LEFT:
CAL ELECT DISPLAY

TOP SHELF, FAR RIGHT:
TWO STANDARD
COLOR GREEN CALS.

THIRD SHELF DOWN:
SECOND INSULATOR IN
YELLOW GREEN CAL.



CD 123 ECM WITH FOAM AND BUBBLY.

Be on the lookout for Part 4 in the next issue of Drip Points! Do you have an unlisted insulator or oddity? Let us know! drippoints@nia.org



Dear Friends and Fellow Insulator Collectors:

As you may know, it is with great disappointment that the 2020 NIA Convention and Show has been cancelled due to COVID-19 Shelter-In-Place requirements. We are all sad about the news of course, and we all owe a big thank you for all of the hard work and careful planning that the show hosts - Don & Jeanne Briel and Arnold & Linda Smith – put in to plan what would have been a great event this month. Hopefully by this time next year, the restrictions will be lifted, therefore...

We – Tommy Bolack and Lou Hall - are deeply honored and pleased to invite you to participate in the 52nd National Insulator Association (NIA) National Convention and Show, July 2 – 4, 2021, in Farmington, New Mexico! We are looking forward to your attendance at the McGee Park Convention Center and we are working diligently to make sure you experience the BIGGEST and BEST National Show yet.

The McGee Park Convention Center facility is a 49,000 square foot air conditioned space that includes an elevated ADA accessible stage. The area includes restrooms and a concession area for close access to food and beverage. The floor plan allows for at least 250 sales tables and 39 exhibit tables. The General Membership Meeting will be held in the same facility and will accommodate seating for 200+ participants. The Sunray Casino is immediately adjacent to the Conference Center and provides additional dining and lounge facilities.

Tours will be available Monday, June 28, 2021 thru Saturday, July 3 for the Bolack Museum of Fish and Wildlife, and the Bolack Electromechanical Museum. Tommy Bolack's insulator collection may be seen by appointment only. Shuttle service will be provided to and from B-Square ranch starting at the McGee Park Convention Center Friday, July 2, and Saturday, July 3. The Awards Banquet will be held in the ballroom of the headquarters hotel (Farmington Courtyard by Marriott), and will feature awards for both years, 2020 and 2021. You're also invited to celebrate the 4th of July Sunday evening by watching Tommy Bolack's annual fireworks display from the B Square Ranch.

The Farmington Courtyard by Marriott is located in the southwest part of Farmington, within walking distance of historic downtown and is just 2.2 miles from the airport. The room block will open in August 2020. This hotel has a smoke-free policy. The facility has 121 rooms, 4 suites and includes a fitness center, indoor swimming pool, free high speed internet, and meeting rooms. The Bistro is your food and beverage destination for refreshing breakfast choices in the morning, and a variety of dinner, beer and wine options in the evening. The Bistro also offers specialty beverages made with Starbucks® coffee to help you get a jump on the day. The Patio area faces the river walk along the Animas River. Other services also include complimentary parking and airport shuttle, laundry and dry cleaning services and business center services.

Plan a longer vacation stay with your spouse, family or friends and take in the tourist attractions of this portion of the southwest. Chaco Canyon Cultural Park, Mesa Verde National Park (cliff dwellings), Monument Valley, Four Corners National Monument, the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, the Farmington Freedom Days Celebration and many other attractions are all within easy driving distance.

Please sign up for your-dealer and/or exhibit table(s), bring your displays you were making for this year, and get ready for a great event. Everything you need to sign up (including some free things!) are on our website www.nia2021.com and www.nia.org.

We look forward to seeing you in Farmington, New Mexico – July 2-4, 2021!

Tommy Bolack, NIA #3756
Show Host

Lou Hall, NIA #7185
Show Committee Chairman

DEALER PACKET

NATIONAL
INSULATOR
ASSOCIATION



YOU'RE INVITED

52nd Annual NIA
Show & Convention
in Farmington, NM

Friday, July 2 thru
Sunday, July 4, 2021

Hosted by Tommy Bolack

Committee Chairman: Lou Hall

**BIGGER & BETTER
than the 2014
National Show!**

Visit: www.NIA2021.com
for event details and to sign up for a FREE* table!

*\$30 Table Deposit Returned at the 2021 Show.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2021 – AUGUST 2021

February 6, 2021 (Saturday) Yuma, Arizona, USA

Well it's official! The 2021 Grand Canyon State Insulator Club tailgater in Yuma Arizona is on the schedule! It will be held on Feb 6, at Riverside Park (by the Territorial Prison) Officially starting at 9 AM (realistically about 5:30 AM) until 2 PM. This show keeps growing and growing. Last year, there were more than 20 dealers and 35 tables. We will be organizing a dinner Friday night before, followed by an infused Vodka tasting event held in Nathan Smack's honor, supplied by Daryl Stahler. For more information contact Daryl Stahler email: dwestahler@gmail.com

April 10, 2021 (Saturday) Wheaton, Illinois, USA

The Dupage Collectors Expo will be held Saturday, April 10th, at the Dupage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, Illinois, Hours are 9:00 to 3:00. Items for sale & trade include: Insulators, Lightning Rod items & Weathervanes, Telephone & Telegraph items, Bottles, Jars, etc. Info: BOB STAHR: bob@hemingray.com (630) 793-5345 and RICK SOLLER: com574@clcollinois.edu (847) 782-8602.

May 22, 2021 (Saturday) Bovey, Minnesota, USA

The North Western Insulator Club invites all to our Spring Sale and Swap Meet in the beautiful Lake Country of northern Minnesota. Rick and Mary Augustyn will host the meet at their home at 34879 Scenic Hwy, Bovey, Minnesota 55709. Hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Rick and Mary have plenty of room to spread out so we can follow COVID precautions and catch up with old and new friends. Please bring your own tables and chairs and we will be outdoors but will have protection from any spring showers. "Go-withs" are welcome and there is usually that unique piece or two that no one has ever seen so be sure to bring those along. Lodging and camping are available near by if you want to enjoy the lakes or do some fishing. Please RSVP to Rick and Mary at augies9ers@gmail.com or 952-240-3960. We'll see you in May!

June 12, 2021 (Saturday) Perkiomenville, Pennsylvania, USA

48th Annual Pennsylvania insulator Show and Sale, Saturday June 12th. Hours 9 AM till? FREE ADMISSION. This is an Outdoor Show held at Arlene Wambold's large side yard for all these years! 1837 Perkiomenville Rd., PA 18074. Lunch provided, Steve's famous pulled pork and other goodies! Please get a hold of either Arlene or myself when we get closer to the show date if you want to contribute food. Bring your own setup table and chairs. For more information contact Steve Bobb at sbobb1@verizon.net, call or text 610-639-1308, Arlene Wambold acwambold2@verizon.net, call 215-234-8413.



July 2-4, 2021 (Friday-Sunday) Farmington, New Mexico, USA

The National Insulator Association's 52nd Annual Show and Convention will be held in Farmington, New Mexico, at the San Juan County Fairgrounds McGee Park Convention Center, located at #41 CR 5568, Farmington, NM 87401. There will be plenty of dealer table space and exhibitor space plus a multitude of

things to do in the area. The headquarters hotel is the Farmington Courtyard by Marriott. Complete show information including dealer, exhibitor

and banquet reservation forms plus hotel reservation directions are now available online at www.NIA2021.com or www.NIA.org. Your Show Host is TOMMY BOLACK, (505) 325-4275 or (505)325-7873. Contact Show Planning Committee Chairman: LOU HALL, (559) 284-4211, louhall@pacbell.net.

August 13-14, 2021 (Friday-Saturday) Bend, Oregon, USA

The annual Jefferson State Insulator Club's Tres-Amigos Insulator Show & Sale in Central Oregon will be held August 13-14 starting with dinner Friday evening followed by our traditional bonfire and story-telling time. On Saturday the show will begin early. Tables will be provided. If you would like a table, please let us know beforehand so the correct number can be ordered. There will be a BBQ lunch at 11:35 AM. Side dishes are welcome. Be sure to bring your "Go-Withs" and any other treasures along with your hunting and adventure stories for the Friday evening bonfire. Please RSVP. Lodging and camping available at nearby Tumalo State Park or camp on site. Our location is 64420 Research Road, Bend, OR 97703. Info: JIM SINASEK (541) 383-8067 (oregonjim@q.com). You may also contact Tres-Amigos Howard Banks at 541 761-9456 (hbanks@budget.net) or Tim Wood at 541 923-4116 (cewtim@gmail.com). Your RSVP is appreciated and will help us with knowing how much food to order and serve.

THE UPCOMING EVENTS LIST APPEARS COURTESY OF:

<https://allinsulators.com>

TO SUBMIT AN UPCOMING INSULATOR SHOW:

https://allinsulators.com/hobby/shows/submit_show/

IMPORTANT NOTE: This list was accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of publishing. Due to uncertainties caused by the Coronavirus / COVID-19, please contact the show host(s) prior to attending any of these shows in case they have been canceled or rescheduled. Thank you.



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July 2 - July 4, 2021

Hosted by Tommy Bolack

Committee Chairman: Lou Hall

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Insulator Collectors Directory

Now available, the 2020 printed Insulator Collectors Directory

Sponsored by the National Insulator Association

We are excited to release the 1st "Insulator Collectors Directory". Due to the great response we received regarding a directory, this new option has been created for all insulator collectors.

This tool can help you find other collectors in a specific area, find a mentor, find other collectors with specific interests, etc. Both online and printed versions are available for your use.

Several features are:

- | | |
|--|--|
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| First time for online website registration | First time collecting interests included |
| First time with online directory version | Additional awards now listed |

There were 342 pre-orders and we only printed a limited amount of extra copies. If you did not pre-order, don't delay and go to www.nia.org to order on-line, or you can order through NIA Products.

To register and list your online & printed preferences, along with your collecting interests, go to www.insulatorcollectors.org.





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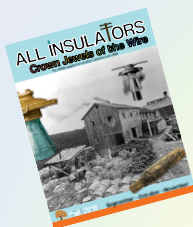


ALL INSULATORS

Crown Jewels of the Wire

The official magazine for Insulator collectors since 1969

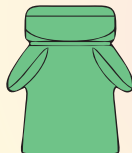
For more than 50 years Crown Jewels of the Wire has been the leading publication for glass and porcelain insulator hobby news, history, articles with columns devoted to worldwide insulators, show reports, in-depth research articles, meeting announcements, photos and other insulator information. There is something for everyone who enjoys insulators!



Being a quarterly publication allows the contributors to create some amazingly rich, well-researched articles. It is like getting a new book on insulators four times a year.

Some of the topics regularly covered are:

- Threadless insulators
- Porcelain insulators
- Insulators from around the world
- North American glass insulators
- Lightning rod insulators
- Research on historic lines
- Hunts and finds
- Upcoming insulator show information



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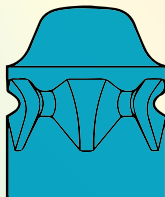
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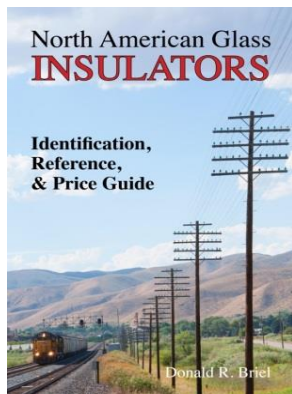
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Paper Edition w/Price Guide Browser -- \$79 ppd* in U.S.

*** For delivery outside of the U.S. please contact Don Briel for current shipping cost and payment instructions**

Access Price Guide information on your phone or computer
 Visit: www.PriceGuideBrowser.com for a demonstration of the Price Guide Browser produced by Bill Meier

To order, visit: www.InsulatorPriceGuide.com or mail a check or money order to:

Donald R. Briel

P. O. Box 188 • Providence, Utah 84332
 Contact: Don.Briel@comcast.net or (435) 753-5786

CD COLLECTOR & MORE

Please contact me for a copy of my want list

also looking for:

- Mint CD 206 Castle in Green
- M-2795 Gutter Top with Glass Base
- M-2636 Turquoise New Lexington

Spencer Garten
 7087 Saddle Creek Lane
 Sarasota FL 34241

PH 859-351-2617 (Call or Text)
Spencer.Garten@gmail.com



WANTED

Looking for a Conductor Clamps like these designed for CD259's or 260's or 252's



Also wanted **CHARACTER CABLES** the Nastier the Better



Michael Deloia
 Contact info
 Cell 508-922-9713
 Email: michaeldeloia_2@msn.com



FREE NIA MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

KERRY LAVENDOSKI: Seeking dark colored CD736 NYERR damaged or repaired--will also consider aquas with condition issues. kerilyncottage323@gmail.com 864-784-4479

STEVE GOFF: (NIA #4436), P.O. Box 7, Charing Cross, Ontario, N0P 1G0 (Canada) Please send for my latest want list. If we can't work out a deal at anytime, I love to exchange letters!

BOB BERRY: Cash paid for worldwide glass and porcelain insulators – looking for unusual single items as well as whole collections. (512)-779-7018 / pyrex553@aol.com

DAVID CAMPBELL: Looking for Star tramps & cables, California tramps & cables, all EC&M's, all Calif. Elec. Wks. Must be nearly mint or better. Call 971-240-8968. Write 131 5th St., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

DID YOU KNOW? ALL NIA MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED TO A **FREE 25-WORD AD** EVERY YEAR IN DRIP POINTS. PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR OR AD MANAGER TO GET YOUR AD LISTED.

DRIP POINTS Advertising Information

Help support the NIA's Drip Points by advertising. New rates below include discounts for multiple runs. We now offer classified rates also.

# of Issues	Covers*	Full Page (8" x 10")	1/2 Page (8" x 4.5" or 4.5" x 10")	1/4 Page (4.5" x 3.9" or 8" x 2.1")	1/8 Page (3.9" x 2.1" or 2.2" x 4.5")	1/16 Page (2.2" x 1.8")
1 Issue	\$135	\$90	\$50	\$30	\$18	\$12
2 Issues	\$257	\$171	\$95	\$57	\$34	\$23
3 Issues	\$379	\$252	\$140	\$84	\$50	\$34
4 Issues	\$497	\$331	\$184	\$110	\$66	\$44
5 Issues	\$614	\$410	\$228	\$137	\$82	\$55
6 Issues	\$729	\$486	\$270	\$162	\$97	\$65

* Back Cover (8.5"x8.5") Inside Back Cover & Inside Front Cover (8.5"x11")

Classified Ads:
10 cents per word, **15 cents per bold word**, \$2.50 min./per Issue

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Please supply camera ready artwork; preferred file formats include: PDF, TIF, JPG, DOC, DOCX.

Ads can be designed for an additional fee (please contact Doug Rusher at admanager@nia.org).

To receive the multi-issue discount, ads must run in consecutive issues with no changes.

Ads must be pre-paid. We accept PayPal (treasurer@nia.org) or checks payable to the NIA.

Ads must meet all postal regulations that govern publications mailed at Non-Profit Standard Mail postage rate.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St, zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

To place an ad, send form with payment to:

Doug Rusher

3370 Chance Ct.

Helena, MT 59602 admanager@nia.org

DRIP POINTS Publishing Schedule

Issue	#	Deadline	Mailing
February	1	Jan. 10	Feb. 1
April	2	Mar. 10	Apr. 1
June	3	May 10	Jun. 1
August	4	Jul. 10	Aug. 1
October	5	Sep. 10	Oct. 1
December	6	Nov. 10	Dec. 1



2021 DONORS & SPONSORS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Name

From

Level

Additional Information

WHOSE NAME WILL BE HERE THIS YEAR?

You can donate to specific areas:
Education • National & Regional Show Support
Drip Points • Scholarship Fund • Technology
Or the General Fund

Donations help the NIA to expand benefits for Members, such as the Drip Points expansion and several technology advances that are currently being explored.

Since the NIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, your donations may be tax deductible.

Please see donation form on page 64.

Thank You for your support!



NIA AFFILIATED CLUBS

THE FOLLOWING INSULATOR CLUBS ARE MEMBERS OF THE NIA



Central Florida Insulator Club
Jacque Linscott Barnes
3557 Nicklaus Drive
Titusville, FL 32780-5356
321-480-1800
bluebellwt@aol.com



Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club
Larry Novak
12604 Eldrid Court
Silver Spring, MD 20904
301-680-8910
cbic@clubs.insulators.info



Dixie Jewels Insulator Club
Bill Haley
215 McFarland Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37405
423-756-4106
djic@clubs.insulators.info



Greater Chicago Insulator Club
Bob Stahr
360 S. Kenilworth Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
630-793-5345
gcic@clubs.insulators.info



Golden State Insulator Club
Bob McLaughlin
2327 E. Goshen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93720
559-790-0194
rdmclau@comcast.net



Huron Valley Bottle & Insulator Club
Rod Krupka
2641 Echo Lane
Ortonville, MI 48462
248-627-6351
rod.krupka@yahoo.com



Insulator Collectors On the Net
Bill Meier
103 Canterbury Court
Carlisle, MA 01741-1860
978-369-0208
icon@clubs.insulators.info



Lone Star Insulator Club
Chris Renaudo
15707 Brookforest Dr.
Houston, TX 77059
lsic@clubs.insulators.info



Missouri Valley Insulator Club
Darryl Wagner
14615 NW Skyview Ave
Smithville, MO 64089
816-719-0801
mvic@clubs.insulators.info



North Western Insulator Club
Colin Yennie
504 White Birch CT NW
Oronoco, MN 55960 2030
507-289-1095
nwic@clubs.insulators.info



Triple Ridge Insulator Club
Dan Gaaron
P.O. Box 1721
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
719-266-0181
danielgaaron@yahoo.com



Western Reserve Insulator Club
John Hovanec
13009 Ridge Road
North Royalton, OH 44133
440-237-2242
wric@clubs.insulators.info



Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club
Bill & Jill Meier
103 Canterbury Court
Carlisle, MA 01741
978-369-0208
ypcic@clubs.insulators.info

Do you represent a local insulator club or other related organization? Become an NIA Affiliated Club today! See next page to apply for or renew your membership.



NIA MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

Prospective members may join the NIA at any time; however, the "membership year" begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st. New memberships issued within three months of the beginning of the new membership year (October – December) will be good for the following calendar year. New members are entitled to all membership privileges immediately upon acceptance by the NIA. **If you are joining the NIA during the months of January through September, your membership will expire on December 31st of this Calendar year.**

Submit payment (**Payable to the "NIA" in U.S. funds**) to:

Andrew Gibson

5997 Springwater Rd.
Dansville, NY 14437-9772
membership@nia.org

Check class of membership:

- _____ Single/Family Membership w/Electronic Drip Points..... **\$30.00**
- _____ Single/Family Membership w/Printed Drip Points..... **\$40.00**
- _____ Single/Family Membership w/both Electronic & Printed DP... **\$45.00**
- _____ Junior Membership (under 18) w/Electronic or Printed DP..... **\$ 5.00**
- _____ Club or Organization..... **\$50.00**

Check years of Payment:

- Single year _____
- Multi-year _____

Please Print Legibly

Name _____
 NIA # (if renewal) _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Zip/Postal Code _____ (+4) _____
 Country (if not U.S.) _____
 Telephone Number _____
 E-Mail Address _____

Additional Family Members residing in the same household at no additional cost.
 (e.g.: spouse, minor children or dependents)

Name	NIA # (if renewal)
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____

(An e-mail address is required for electronic version of Drip Points)

Include me in NIA Hobby Directory: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my USPS Address in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my Email Address in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my Telephone Number in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

You may pre-purchase the next printed Hobby Directory for \$7.00 Yes

Fees to be submitted

Membership Amount: _____

Directory Amount.....: _____

Donation Amount.....: _____

If it is OK to list you as a donor, check here:

Signed _____ Date _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____
 Make Checks Payable to the NIA

NIA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Revised March 1, 2020

- Connect to a worldwide network of over 1000 insulator collectors sharing information, history and the latest news on insulator collecting.
 - Receive electronic notification of upcoming events and current activity in your region of the country through the bi-monthly electronic distribution of the Drip Points Magazine (Also available in printed form).
 - Receive members only access to an enormous digital library of insulator catalogs, patents and insulator manufacturer history.
 - Find and meet other NIA members in your area for mentorship, visit & share collections and swap stories in person or on the NIA Facebook page.
 - Receive guaranteed early exclusive access to NIA National Shows to display, buy and sell insulators.
 - Compete for National Awards and Recognition for your displays, research and contributions to the hobby.
 - Start your own insulator reference library with the "NIA Resource Page", "Fake and Altered Insulators" and "What is an Insulator?"
 - Advertise your hobby passion through your complimentary NIA Decal, Membership Bars, Membership Card and free ad in Drip Points.
 - Use your membership to run for the National Insulator Association Board of Directors to shape the future of the hobby.
 - Contribute to a National Scholarship Program and financial support for NIA Show Hosts in your local area.
 - Continue membership to sustain these benefits and help raise the next generation of insulator collectors through your knowledge & engagement.
- Note: The NIA Member Handbook is available on the NIA website (www.nia.org/membership/index.htm).
 Hard copies of the Handbook are available upon request to the NIA Membership Director (membership@nia.org).



MERCHANDISE

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH CLOTHING, BADGES & MORE



Embroidered Logo T-Shirts

Hanes Adult T-Shirt, Embroidered logo on front

Colors: Smoke, Smoky Graphite, Sky Blue, Electric Blue, Aqua, Dark Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Med Amber, Rootbeer Amber, Lt Olive Green, 7 Up Green, Dark Olive Green, Yellow, Golden Amber, Oxblood, Deep Red Amber

Price: \$17 (S-XL) \$20 (2X-3X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____

Shirt Sizing Chart			
S	32-34	XL	44-46
M	36-38	2X	48-50
L	40-42	3X	52-54

Special Orders: If you don't see a size or color that you'd like, contact us for availability and price.



Gildan Adult T-Shirt – Small logo on front, large logo on back



Screen Printed T-Shirts

Colors: Smoke, Smoky Graphite, Steel Blue, Peacock Blue, Dark Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Med Amber, Olive Amber, Rootbeer Amber, Apple Green, 7-Up Green, Olive Green, Yellow, Golden Amber, Flashed Amber, Oxblood

Price: \$17 (S-XL) \$20 (2X-3X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Button Down Shirt

Port Authority SanMar Blend, embroidered logo on front

Colors: Dark Smoke, Aqua, Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Yellow, Flashed Amber

Price:
Short Sleeve: \$32 (S-XL) \$34 (2X)
Long Sleeve: \$34 (S-XL) \$36 (2X)

Short or Long Sleeve: _____

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Hooded Sweatshirt

Gildan Adult Full-Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, embroidered logo on front

Colors: Medium Smoke, Cobalt

Price: \$32 (S-XL) \$36 (2X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Denim Button Down Shirt

Sierra Pacific, Short or Long Sleeve

Color: Aqua

Price:
Short Sleeve: \$33 (S-XL) \$36 (2X-3X)
Long Sleeve: \$36 (S-XL) \$39 (2X-3X)

Short or Long Sleeve: _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Crew Neck Sweatshirt

Gildan Adult Crewneck Sweatshirt, Screen print with small logo on front & large logo on back

Color: Smoke
Price: \$29 (S-XL) \$33 (2X)

Size: _____ Qty: _____



Un-Structured

Embroidered Caps

Colors (Un-Structured):

Smoke, Dark Smoke, Aqua, Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, 7 Up Green, Olive Green, Yellow, Gold Amber, Flashed Amber, Pink, Oxblood

Colors (Structured with Mesh):

Khaki-Brown, Royal-White, Kelly-White, Red-White, Heather-Gray-Black, Royal, Cardinal, Gray-Charcoal-Black, White-Royal, Khaki-White

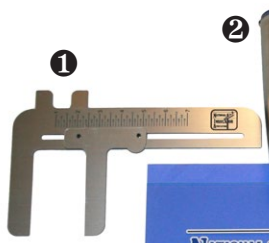


Structured with Mesh

Price: \$15.00 Cap Type: _____ Color(s): _____ Qty: _____

1 Insulator Caliper

Measures up to 7"
Plastic will not scratch insulators
Long outside & short inside jaws
Price: \$18 Qty: _____



2 20 oz. Copper-Lined Stainless Steel Tumbler *On Sale!*

Yeti-like Stainless tumbler keeps drinks cold or hot for hours!
One color imprint (blue)
Price: \$25 ~~\$20~~ Qty: _____



3 16 oz. Travel Tumbler *On Sale!*

4 color imprint
Price: \$14 ~~\$10~~ Qty: _____

4 NIA Collector's Patch

2 3/4" x 3 3/4" embroidered patch
Price: \$4 Qty: _____

5 NIA Window Decal (Color)

For outside car window - 4 1/4 x 5 3/4
Price: \$7 Qty: _____

6 NIA Window Decal (White)

For outside car window - 5 1/2 x 6 3/4
Price: \$10 Qty: _____

7 NIA Challenge Coin

2019; 50 Years of Meets & Shows; 2 sided
Price: \$10 Qty: _____

8 NIA Hat/Lapel Pin

Price: \$7 Qty: _____

9 NIA Name Badge Engraved; beveled edges; Magnetic back Price: \$12

Name Badge Engraving Information:

Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____
Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____
Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____

10 Badge Bar NIA or Club position, Club Bars, Show Bars, Awards or Custom Bars Price: \$4

Badge Bar Engraving Information:

Club Bar _____ Qty: _____ Line 1 _____
Show Bar _____ Year _____ Line 2 _____



Tote Bags

Sturdy with white screen print NIA logo - Dimensions: 12 1/2" W x 13 1/2" H x 8 1/2" D; 14" handles

Colors: Sapphire, Light Brown Amber, Cobalt, Oxblood, Black

Price: \$8 Color(s): _____ Qty: _____

Insulator Collectors Hobby Directory - 2020 Hobby wide directory to locate other collectors in your area or around the world Price: \$9 (shipping included) Qty: _____

Contiguous U.S. Postage Rates:

- \$8.00 for the first item of clothing, hat, tumbler, tote or caliper & \$3.50 for each additional item in same group.
- Patches & Badge Bars \$0.75 ea.
- Decals, Name Badges, Hat Pins, Challenge Coins..... \$3.75 ea.
- If patches, badge bars, decals, name badges, hat pins & challenge coins are ordered with clothing, there is no additional postage for these items.
- For postage outside the Contiguous U.S., please contact us for a quote.

Subtotal: \$ _____
U.S. Postage: \$ _____
Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check or money order payable in U.S. funds to the National Insulator Association.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please send detached, completed form and payment to:
Margaret Wagner, 14615 Skyview Ave., Smithville, MO 64089
(816) 719-0802 • niaproducts@nia.org



NIA Donation Form

Name: _____ Date: _____
 Address: _____ Phone: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email Address: _____

Sponsorship Program: Sponsor an Insulator Manufacturer at the levels in the chart below or pick your favorite Insulator Manufacturer or favorite Embossing. Sponsorships on the chart are unlimited, unless someone chooses to double the donation amount and that will make it "Exclusive" for that calendar year. All Individual Manufacturers or Embossing's are "Exclusive" for the calendar year received and can be chosen for a donation of \$100.00. If you pick a Manufacture or Embossing that has previously been sponsored, you will be notified to choose another.

Donation Amount	Manufacturer for Each Level (circle choice)			Your Donation
	Glass	Porcelain	Threadless	
\$ 50.00	McLaughlin	Lapp	McMicking	\$ _____
\$100.00	California	Pittsburgh	Lefferts	\$ _____
\$150.00	Dominion	Ohio Brass	Mulford & Biddle	\$ _____
\$200.00	Brookfield	Thomas	Chester	\$ _____
\$250.00	Hemingray	Fred Locke	Tillotson	\$ _____

Your preferred Manufacture or Embossing: _____ \$100.00 donation

Standard Donation Program: If you would prefer to make a gift or donation for the general fund or directed to a specific area, you can do so at the level of your choice.

Amount of Donation		Donation Level	Donation Area (circle one)
\$ 0.00 -	\$ 49.99	Aqua	Scholarship Fund
\$ 50.00 -	\$ 99.99	Green	
\$ 100.00 -	\$ 249.99	Emerald	Educational Development
\$ 250.00 -	\$ 499.99	Carnival	
\$ 500.00 -	\$ 999.99	Amber	National & Regional Shows
\$ 1,000.00 -	\$ 2,499.99	Peacock	
\$ 2,500.00 -	\$ 4,999.99	Purple	Internet Technology
\$ 5,000.00 -	\$ 9,999.99	Cobalt	
\$ 10,000.00+		Hobby Benefactor	General Fund

Other Donation area: _____ Amount \$ _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Additional Information: _____ **If it is OK to list you as a donor, check here:**

All donors will be listed on the NIA website and any donors of \$50.00 or more will be listed in Drip Points

To say "Thank You" for your support, donors can receive the following: Choose or Decline

- Donations of \$100+ can choose an NIA hat Color: _____
- \$150+ can choose an NIA hat or NIA T-shirt Color/Size: _____
- \$200+ can choose an NIA hat & NIA T-shirt Color/Size: _____
- \$250+ can choose an NIA Button Down or Denim shirt Color/Size: _____

Please mail form and payment (payable to NIA) to: NIA Treasurer, Bill Rohde, P.O. Box 28, Colusa, CA 95932

For additional information regarding gifts to the National Insulator Association, Inc., please contact the NIA Development Committee, E-mail address: donations@nia.org. Your gift is deductible, to the fullest extent of the law. The National Insulator Association. www.nia.org is a 501©3 non-profit organization.





DONATE TO THE NIA

A REQUEST FROM THE NIA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Thank you for your support of the NIA!

Dear Fellow Collector,

The NIA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and as such, gifts may be tax deductible. Gifts of support will help the Association improve existing benefits and services as well as create new benefits and services for members and those collectors who are yet to become members. Your gift will allow the NIA to continue its mission to encourage growth and public awareness of the insulator hobby through collecting, dealing and educational endeavors.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM: You can sponsor an Insulator Manufacturer or your favorite Embossing by donating at different levels. Sponsorships are for each calendar year. See the donation form for more information.

The NIA has identified four areas where donations will help create and enhance programs directed to that mission.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Currently the NIA can grant up to two scholarships totaling \$2,000.00 each year. Additional funding would give additional funds for future years; scholarship grants could be increased; or additional scholarships could be granted each year.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT: There are projects that have been suggested but haven't been implemented for lack of funding such as the production of classroom video presentations, NIA traveling displays for use by learning facilities such as libraries, schools, museums and a Speakers Bureau. These are just a few of the new ideas for greater community awareness of our hobby.

NATIONAL & REGIONAL SHOW SUPPORT: The NIA has assumed a financial supportive role intended to assist National Show Hosts/Organizers in reducing their financial risk. With your donations the NIA could possibly increase advertising and promotional reimbursements, possibly provide all awards at National/Regional Shows and possibly provide financial assistance for Regional Shows.

INTERNET TECHNOLOGY: The desire for instant communication and information retrieval is with us and cannot be denied. For the association and the hobby to continue to grow it must have a strong presence on the Internet and social media. Donations in this area can help redesign the NIA web site, create videos for posting on social media, develop and present "live" shows including interviews, auctions and sales.

Please indicate on the remittance form the area that you would like your donation to be applied. If you choose to donate to more than one area, please indicate the dollar amount for each area. Each donation of \$10.00 or more will receive an acknowledgment and thank you letter from the NIA President. Every donor will be listed on the NIA website and any donors of \$50.00 or more will be listed in Drip Points. At certain levels, you may also choose a "Thank You" gift from the NIA. See the remittance form.

Please submit the completed remittance form along with payment (payable to the NIA) to: NIA Treasurer, Bill Rohde, P.O. Box 28, Colusa, CA 95932.

Your assistance in helping to sustain and grow the hobby is greatly appreciated. **Thank you!**

NIA Development Committee

Bill Rohde, Chairman & Treasurer

Bill Snell, Member at Large

Tom Katonak, Western Region

John Weber, Central Region

Dario DiMare, Eastern Region

NIA Board of Directors

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Darryl Wagner – NIA #8671
14615 NW Skyview Ave.
Smithville, MO 64089
president@nia.org

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Madison, TN 37115
Istpastpres@nia.org

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centralvp@nia.org

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Smithville, MO 64089
niaproducts@nia.org

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webmaster@nia.org

Events Committee Chair

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Lakewood, CO 80227
assistanteditor@nia.org



Bill and Jill Insulators

*Thanks for helping make
Auction 153 a great success!*

Watch for Auction 154!

Now accepting consignments!



What will be in Auction 154?

www.billandjillinsulators.com

auctions@billandjillinsulators.com

Bill and Jill Meier • 103 Canterbury Ct
Carlisle, MA 01741 • 781-999-3048



National Insulator Association
 10801 N. 24th Ave. Ste. 103
 Phoenix, AZ 85029-4712



DARIO DIMARE

FREE APPRAISALS

DARIO@DARIODESIGNS.COM

COLLECTING INSULATORS SINCE 1967!

WILL BUY ONE PIECE OR AN ENTIRE COLLECTION

318 MAIN STREET, NORTHBOROUGH, MA 01532

DARIO DIMARE

CONSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED

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