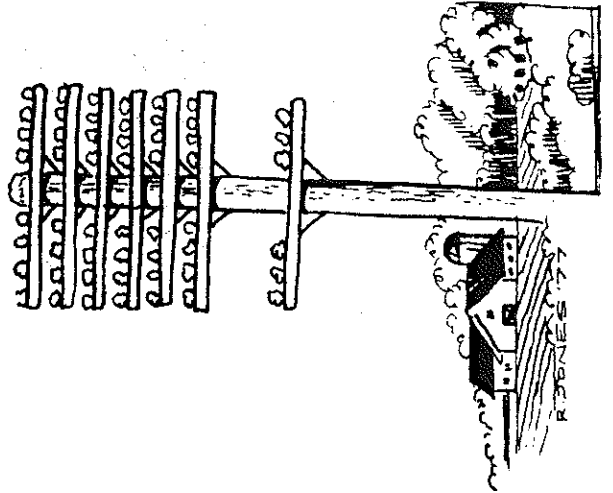


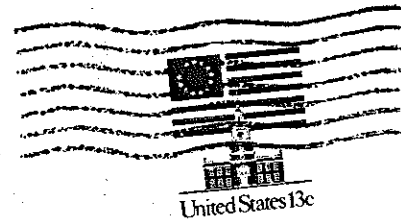
DRIP POINTS



Vol. IV, No. 3



NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
ALAN RODGERS, INFO. DIRECTOR
126 N.W. 104th Street
Miami, Florida 33150



FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

Jack Tod
3427 N. 47th Place
Phoenix, AZ. 85018

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Phone: (813) 324-3344

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Historian

Ruby Bryant
1756 N.W. 58th Avenue
Lauderhill, Florida 33313
Phone: (305) 733-1053

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For 1977 - 1978

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Telephone: _____

Send to: Treasurer, Carol McDougald, 4592 Andorra Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070. Dues: \$3.00. EXPIRES: MARCH 31, 1978 \$1.00 additional person



DRIP POINTS

Volume IV, Number 3

Spring, 1977

CANDIDATES FOR 1978

Nominating Committee Reports

The nominating committee has finished their work and has reported their results. The nominees for PRESIDENT are: Don Harned, Chico, Calif., John McDougald, N. Olmsted, Ohio, and Jim White, Indianapolis, Indiana. Each of these nominees are well known and well experienced in the insulator collecting business. Each candidate is well qualified to hold this position for the National Insulator Association. Each candidate was invited to contribute a brief article concerning themselves, their collecting, their ambitions, and their abilities to help the members of the National Insulator Association. As in keeping with tradition, these brief articles will be reprinted exactly as written by the nominee. The names will be listed in alphabetical order, as each are equally qualified. Read their stories, beginning on page three.

REMEMBER

Remember; dues are \$3.00 for the first member of a family; \$1.00 for each additional member of the family using the same mailing address.

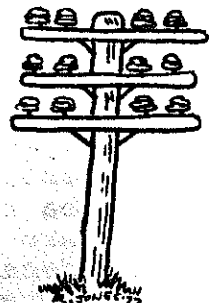
WILL THIS BE YOUR LAST ISSUE OF DRIP POINTS????

Many of you have already renewed your membership in the NIA and have received your new membership cards. I (treasurer) am still waiting to hear from those of you who are not current in your membership. Check your cards TODAY. If they do not read, "Dues paid to March 31, 1978", then you will need to renew. The next issue of "Drip Points" will contain the annual ballot to elect our new officers and vote on issues concerning the NIA. If you have not renewed by the date of mailing, you will not receive "Drip Points" and your ballot. However, a ballot will be forthcoming with a renewal after the mailing date up to the convention. Don't miss out.

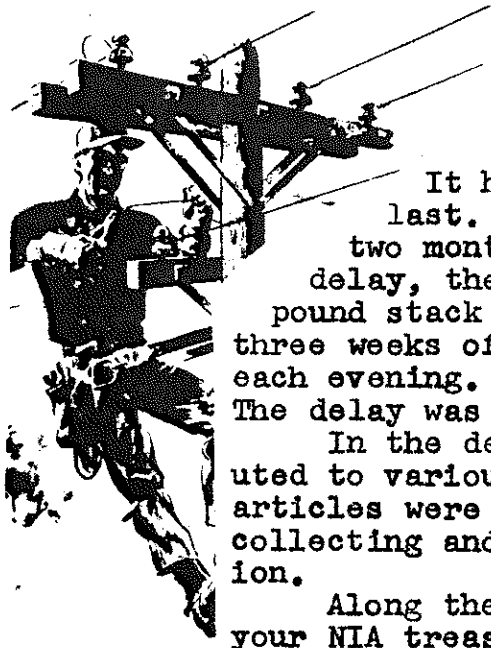
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 8th National Report
- Candidates For 1978
- NIA History

--Carol McDougald,
Treasurer



Information Director Reports



Greetings from your information director. It hasn't been too long ago that you heard from me last. The winter edition of "Drip Points" was over two months late. After a month and one-half printing delay, the copy was finally ready. The result was a 215 pound stack of paper, six feet tall. It took an additional three weeks of folding, collating, stapling, taping, etc., each evening. After that one, this issue comes too soon. The delay was unavoidable, but we are back on schedule.

In the delay, several articles were written and distributed to various hobby periodicals. These general information articles were intended to inform the public of insulator collecting and the works of the National Insulator Association.

Along the same lines, promoting the hobby and the NIA, your NIA treasurer and information director are asking for your help in donations for a slide program. Although there are several programs available on various bottle subjects, we do not know of any for insulators. If you have any slides that you would wish to donate, please send them in. They could be of insulator subject, such as individual shots, pole lines, shows, your collection, etc, notable collectors, or anything that you may have. We would like to put a nice program together and make it available to any clubs or groups (especially bottle), in order to promote the NIA and insulator collecting.

We would like to thank Jack Snyder of Toledo, Ohio for his contribution of various photographs for the NIA scrap book. All contributions are appreciated. Thanks to Rick Jones, Dayton, Ohio for the various artwork as seen in this issue of "Drip Points" and on the cover sheet. Thanks to Wilson (Tech) Hetteroth of Bridgeton, N.J. for a generous contribution of \$20.00 to help pay the expenses on the NIA. Thanks, it sure helps. Thanks to treasurer, Carol McDougald for all of the bookkeeping and the address labels. We also understand that Carol was in the hospital recently. We do hope that she is feeling better now.

Correspondence from the officers as well as the members has been very poor lately. Please let me hear from you. Any questions, opinions, or news would be appreciated. If you have a question concerning the NIA, its policies, or even insulators in general, please write. If you have a question, there will possibly be others who have the same question. Let me hear from you.

The NIA would like to thank the 1977 nomination committee for a well qualified ballot for the 1977-1978 year. The committee consisted of: Lew Hohn, Rochester, New York, chairman; Steve Bobb, Norristown, Pa.; Phoebe Adams, Miami, Florida; Rick Jones, Dayton, Ohio; Patty Ann Sharer, Des Moines, Iowa; Joe Litchford, Greencastle, Ind.; Bill Galloway, Oroville, Calif.; Don Fabbi, Las Vegas, Nev.; and Dieline Coleman, Phoenix, Ariz.

--Alan Rodgers, Info. Director.

DECALS

Window decals in the next issue of Drip Points.

I know that you will like the new NIA window decals. With the suggestion of Steve Bobb, and printing by Bob Alexander, many people will be seeing our association emblem as they travel this summer. If you are a current member, you should find an envelope containing your decal(s) attached to the next mailing of "Drip Points". Decals are free to the first two members of a family membership.

EASTERN Region Vice-President Nominee

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Note: the following political announcements are reprinted as written and the names appear in alphabetical order.

Charles N. Angevine
41 Circle Drive
Windsor Locks, CT.

I began collecting in 1971, after having been warned 5 years earlier that insulators were the coming thing. Some of us are just slow starters, I guess.

As with most new collectors, I wanted every insulator I saw, but soon found that many were beyond my means.

In February, 1974, Dennis McHenry suggested that I specialize in CD 106, Hemingray 9. I took this good advice and, as many of you may be aware, was fortunate to win the N.I.A. Threaded Glass Trophy last year at Berea. Since then I have sold my general collection to devote full time and resources to the speciality. It seemed to be paying off, as I have added 170 pieces since then.

I feel that the N.I.A. is doing a good job, and that there is room for improvement, as in any organization. I think the biggest problem faced by the Association is in communications. Having been Secretary of the Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club for 2 years I have had the same communication problem. I have several 'pet' projects I would like to see come to pass, among them: A standard for describing insulator condition, A standard for describing embossing, improved communication, especially between Association officials and the attraction of new collectors to the hobby.

If elected these are some of the things I will work for, as well as promoting the N.I.A. and the hobby of collecting.

Charles N. Angevine, N.I.A. 348

Alan Rodgers
433 N.E. 82nd St., #10
Miami, Fla.

Being a collector for the past eleven years, I have seen the insulator hobby develop and grow to what it is today. I have followed the need, form-

ation, and development of the National Insulator Association in these years. In 1974, I was appointed as historian of the NIA. Since this was a new office, much had to be created and put together. A "scrap book" has been organized containing a running history of insulator collecting and the NIA, listing of all books, officers and committees, newsletters, and other materials. This book will (and has) be on display at each national convention. In 1976, I was appointed as information director. This job has occupied many hours of my leisure time. Especially with this appointment, this collector is well aware of the problems, needs, and goals of the NIA.

If elected as your eastern regional vice-president, it will be my responsibility to continue to promote and publicize the NIA as I have done in the past, as well as to provide a service to the members. I am well aware of the problems that the organization faces, (poor communications, money, etc.,) and ultimately the question, "What can the NIA do for me?" Solving this question as well as the problems is not an easy task, nor is it completed in one easy step. Some of the projected projects include a more frequent newsletter, publicity for the NIA, an insulator slide program, just to name a few. Contributions toward these will be continued by this collector as he has done in the past. Thank you for your support.

Alan Rodgers NIA #256

Treasurer, Carol McDougald reports.. "With renewals coming in every day, I am pleased to indicate a rapid rate of increase in the membership of additional family members.. Why not consider your family for

President Nominee

Don Harned, Sr.
Rt. 1, Box 475
Chico, California

I am 48 years old and a native born Chico, Californian. My wife Dora and I have been married 33 years and have successfully raised two sons and one

daughter. Before the advent of collecting insulators my leisure time was fulfilled with camping, waterskiing, gold mining, fishing, and hunting with my family and friends.

In 1968 I became avidly interested collecting insulators and nearly all other leisure activities ceased. I had the fever, the insulator bug had bitten me. I subscribed to three leading antique journals that carried a column on insulator collecting trying to learn all I could on the subject. I bought John Tibbetts, James Hill, and Woodward's first books on insulator collecting. The first year of collecting I averaged five letters a day mostly trading and some buying. My wife and I attended the very first all insulator swap meet held in California May 3, 1969. This possibly was the first all insulator meet ever held anywhere.

By this time we had started publishing our own "Crown Jewels of the Wire" so I had stopped trading by mail since I did not want our subscribers to think that I was taking advantage of the advertising in Crown Jewels. Besides the bulk of my general collection was already built.

I have over 2,000 insulators in our general glass collection which Dora refuses to let me part with because they are such good reference material for Crown Jewels. My main interest now is threadless glass insulators and their history.

In December 1969 I was elected President of our bottle club in Chico. For the next two years I was show chairman for the Chico Bottle Club. Since that time the Chico Bottle Club Show and Sale has been well known for the insulator participation which comprises of at least one third of the show, sometimes more.

My wife and I have attended all seven National Insulator Shows and Conventions and were instrumental in starting this National organization for insulators. This was our objective since the start of Crown Jewels Magazine.

I am not going to go on record as making a lot of campaign promises but I do believe a lot can be done to strengthen the N.I.A. and I have several ideas on this. I will do my very best in the interest of all insulator collectors and the National Insulator Association.

Don Harned Sr. N.I.A. #47

John McDougald
4592 Andorra Drive
N. Olmsted, Ohio

Thank you for the opportunity to tell the NIA membership a little bit about myself and my thoughts about our hobby. First of all, I'm 33 years old and work as a District Manager for the Ohio Bell Telephone Company. I've been with Ohio Bell for 13 years. My wife, Carol, and I have two boys, David (8) and Robert (7), and we live in North Olmsted, a western suburb of Cleveland, for 6 years.

Carol and I have been collecting for about 5 years. Our collection of about 1600 pieces is all glass, representing CDs 100 to 200, with the exception of a few favorites outside that range. Carol specializes in CD 121 and my favorites are CD 162 Hemingrays.

My involvement in the hobby outside of being an active collector

Continued next page....

consists of:

- hosting 3 Great Lakes Insulator shows
- serving as Ohio Vice President of the OVIC (Ohio Valley Insulator Club)
- organizing a Cleveland chapter for the OVIC
- hosting the 7th National at Berea, Ohio, in 1976

In addition, Carol and I set up as dealers at about 10 shows a year, usually within a 500 mile radius of Cleveland.

I have had a chance to look at our hobby from several different aspects: as a collector, a dealer, a club officer, and a show host. I feel our hobby has reached a critical point in its development:

- We are experiencing a turnover in dealers, changing from dealers who had little invested in their stock to those who have had to buy their insulators. In order for these dealers to be willing to make this kind of investment, they need to be assured that the hobby is growing and thriving.
- There is an influx of new collectors, who are coming in with high expectations about a hobby which has been supported by a national organization for a number of years. These new collectors should have a way to be kept informed about the many aspects of our hobby, and that there are other new collectors who want answers to the same questions.
- "New finds" are becoming less frequent and the supply of many insulators has leveled off. We need to help new collectors put things in perspective; that there are many ways to derive enjoyment from collecting, not just amassing all of the rarest pieces.

This is a perfect opportunity for our national organization to step in and address these situations, not through control but by providing a service to our membership. One of the complaints that has been leveled against the NIA comes in the form of a question-- "What has the NIA done for me?" The NIA has done a great deal for the hobby, but most people don't know about it because the NIA hasn't communicated very well or regularly with its membership. At the suggestion of one of our concerned members, I have researched the possibility of providing a bi-weekly publication to the membership. The format would be permanent space in a rural newspaper and membership in the NIA would include a subscription to the newspaper.

Surprisingly, we could provide this publication to each household on a bi-weekly basis for less than our current annual dues. (I must mention here that this suggestion of a bi-weekly publication should no way be interpreted as an attempt to compete with our hobby's excellent monthly magazine--Crown Jewels. There is a place and a need for both in our hobby.) Here are the kinds of things that should be included in the NIA's Drip Points bi-weekly publication:

- a listing of new members, their addresses, their special interests
- notes from the NIA officers, responding to questions and concerns of the membership
- information about our committees (e.g. ethics, show standards) and what they are doing
- the President's column
- market news for our new collectors
- feature writers, specialists, the possibilities are unlimited

Let's let the membership know that they can count on the NIA for information, support and immediate interest in their concerns about

Continued next page.....

President Continued...

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the hobby.

Here are some other things I think the NIA should get involved in:

- 1) Help provide some kind of common grading system for the condition of insulators.
- 2) Assist anyone willing to tackle the job of issuing a catalog and/or price guide.
- 3) Develop a new members packet to consist of a list of references, discount coupons for books in print, by-laws, a membership directory.
- 4) Provide a clearing house for shows, not in a limiting way, but to help spread them across the country and throughout the year.

If you have managed to read this far, I hope you can tell that I am sincerely interested in the furthering of our hobby and the NIA and would welcome the opportunity to serve as your president.

See you in Florida in July, John McDougald

Jim White
7749 D Kune Rd.
Indianapolis, Ind.

I have always had that collector instinct; and I guess it is only natural that I developed an interest in electricity and associated hardware since my father is the chief engineer at the generating station in Logansport.

I hold a B.S. degree in earth science and a M.A. degree in both geography and natural resources. The urge to collect those little chunks of glass and porcelain rapidly developed during graduate school at Ball State University in Muncie, In.

After graduate school I held several jobs, including retail sales, teacher, and cartographer. I am presently employed by the Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development, Division of Planning and Zoning and the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District.

During these post-graduate years I left no stone unturned for those evasive insulators. Since my wife and I live in an apartment, we found it advantageous to specialize in Hemingrays.

Both my wife and I have met some wonderful human beings and made several friends among fellow collectors. The recent opportunity to serve as the president of the Ohio Valley Insulator Club has given us even more opportunity to meet new faces and promote the hobby.

I hope that during my four years of collecting I have set a good example and been able to guide new collectors. I will never be able to repay the hobby for what it has given me, but I hope that if elected president of the N.I.A. I might better be able to promote the hobby and assist fellow collectors.

Jim White

These are the nominees for president and eastern regional vice-president. You will receive your ballot in the next issue of "Drip Points". Study each campaign carefully and make your best decision. Either return your ballot by mail to an enclosed address before the convention or bring it to the convention in Lakeland. It is important that each member takes the time to fill out and send in their ballots.

--Alan Rodgers, Info. Director

8th NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT...

7

Its time to dig out that old road map and start making plans to attend the 8th National Insulator Association convention. The site of this show, to be held July 15-17, 1977 will be the Civic Center in Lakeland, Florida. Lakeland is located on Interstate highway 4 midway between Tampa and Orlando in central Florida. Only 35 minutes via I-4 is Disney World, 40 minutes is Tampa and Busch Gardens. Other nearby attractions include Sea World, Circus World, Kennedy Space Center, Cypress Gardens, and many others.

The show hosts, Len and Jackie Linscott and Bob Alexander, have been working very hard for many months to prepare for this convention. Sale and display tables are being reserved rapidly and anyone wishing to make reservations should get their applications and full payment (for sale table) in to the show host immediately. Assignment of sale and display tables is being made as applications are being received. Naturally, the earlier the better.

The Lakeland Civic Center, a recently built complex has ample room for nearly 300 tables. Public ice skating in the Arena adjoining the convention hall will be in progress on Friday, July 15, and Sunday, July 17. There will be FREE movies in a separate room to entertain children while parents are involved with the insulators.

The Florida Citrus Commission will be serving free orange juice on NIA - day, Friday, and the "M & M" candy company will be passing out free samples during the show. The mayor of Lakeland will also be attending the show and will speak.

Watch your newspaper! On July 1, a press release will be issued to over 150 newspapers across the country, while local television and radio stations will give complete coverage of this event.

The NIA convention will have an official photographer available for taking pictures of displays, sales tables, banquet dinner, installation of officers, and just any pictures that a collector might like him to do so. His prices are very reasonable: all color, 5 x 7 - \$2.50; 8x10 - \$8.00; and 11x14 - \$12.00. (Prices subject to change). Professional photographer.

Within a short distance from the convention hall is a cluster of motels. Among these include the Hilton Inn, Quality Inn, Days Inn (recently added to the list), Red Carpet, and Howard Johnson's. The Hilton has been selected as the official hotel and will be the location of the Saturday evening banquet. It looks as if the banquet will be a sell out. The response has been tremendous. Send banquet reservation and check to Len Linscott. When sending in reservations for the hotels, please specify how many people will be in each room. Sitters for children will be available for hire at very reasonable rates at the Hilton during the banquet. If there is further need for them, it can be arranged.

The show hosts would like to take this opportunity to ask dealers and displayers if they have any item (craft, handiwork, etc.,) that they have made that relates to the hobby that they would like to bring to be put in a display. We are sure that this would be of interest to the general public and would generate a great deal of interest in collecting insulators. The show host would also like to remind all dealers that this is an insulator show and that at least 60% of each table should be insulators or insulator related items.

We are looking forward to this show and hope that you are to. The temperature in central Florida is not all that bad and the weather generally cooperates. Spend your vacation down here and we will be looking forward to seeing you at LAKE LAND!

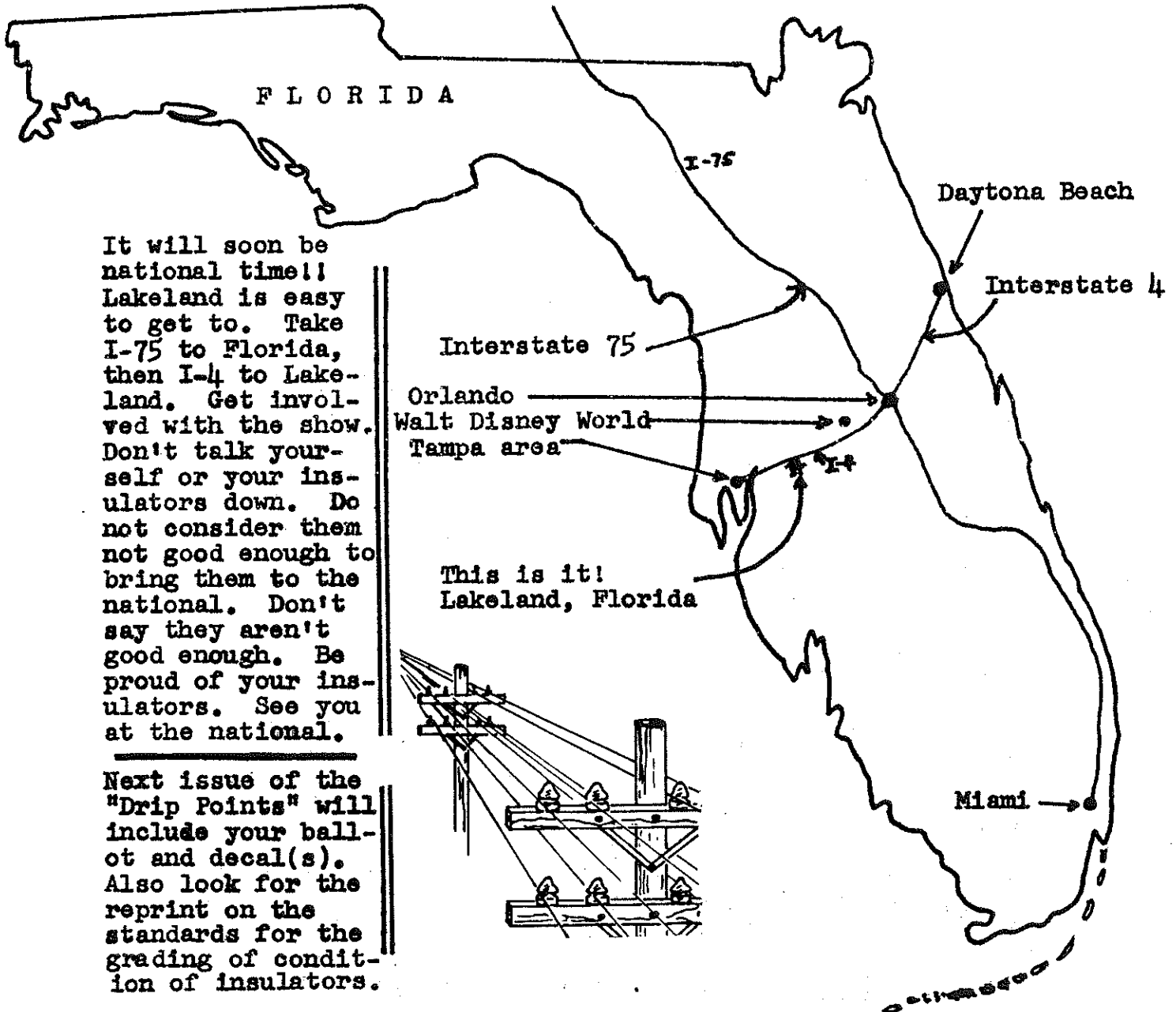
--Alan Rodgers

COMMEMORATIVE PORCELAIN INSULATOR -- Dick Alumbaugh

This years porcelain commemorative porcelain will be the same style in a green color with front embossing. To keep the price the same as before, a few changes were made: (1) no back embossing except serial number, for special serial number orders received before May 1; (2) All orders by mail only; (3) Limited number of insulators made.

My job has kept me on the go with trips all over. I may be a little slow getting orders filled, but I will get them out. The 8th NIA convention commemorative will be \$8.00 plus \$1.50 postage.

To the collectors who are not familiar with the porcelain commemorative, they were first introduced at the 6th NIA convention in San Diego. These were harvest gold. the 7th convention in Berea were a light blue, and both had serial numbers embossed on the back. I still have several left from each year and some in sets of the same number. They are \$8.00 plus \$1.50 postage. I am selling a set of three for \$25 postage paid. Order from R.E. (Dick) Alumbaugh, 4024 Emerald, Apt. 216, Torrance, Calif. 90503.



The Third National

Kansas City, Missouri, was the site of the third National meet, held on July 1-2, 1972. There were over 140 sell tables and 25 displays at this show held on the 12th floor of the President Hotel, in Kansas City. The six foot tables rented for \$15.00 each and a public admission charge of 50¢ was collected. Mr. and Mrs. Si Fellow of Kansas City, were the sponsors of this show. On Saturday evening, a fine banquet dinner was served and awards were given out. First place went to Norman Headley of Kingman, Arizona, with a display of kegs. At the "gripe session", the pros and cons of a national organization were heard. "The basic structure of officers, along with the ideas of the regionals and sanctioned shows were set up this first year. The discussion went in circles for sometime with everyone having a different opinion on the matter, and some giving voice to said opinion," commented by Warren Olson of Denison, Ia. Warren Olson was appointed by acclamation as temporary chairman of the organizational committee. The committee consisted of John Hall of Columbus, Ohio, Steve Freedman of Wallingford, Conn., Ernest Rostock of Pendleton, Oregon; Larry Harmon of Wentzville, Mo., Chuck Henry of Bakersfield, Ca., Rodney Wing, Garden City, Mich., and Dr. Fred Griffin, Palatka, Florida. Of these, John Hall volunteered to handle the formation of the by-laws. Jack Tod of Phoenix, Ariz. assisted in this.

Much of the year following the third National was spent slowly drafting the by-laws. The first major step in formation of the association had begun. A great deal remained ahead in the coming months.

The Fourth National

July 7th and 8th, 1973 were the dates of the fourth National Show and Sale. Thomas Wolfe of Auburn, Nebraska and George Phillips of Hutchinson, Kansas, sponsored this show at Hutchinson in the Sports Arena. Approximately 1,250 people viewed 160 sale tables and 40 displays. Hutchinson merchants had a great run on fan sales as an unseasonable hot spell caused temperatures to rise to over 100 degrees. "Because there are collectors from all over the United States and Canada attending, we feel that the National Shows are comparable to a large family reunion. Even if you have to forego all others, you should attend at least one National in your collecting career. Its meeting other collectors, the comradeship, the sharing of information, renewing old friendships, and making new friends..." Commented by Dora Harned in her magazine.

The highlight of our fourth National show came Saturday night with the election of officers for the National Insulator Association. After a fine meal at the Ramada Inn came the business meeting. Warren Olson took charge and all the trophies and ribbons were awarded for the best displays.

After some debates, the constitution and by-laws were adopted. The ballots for the election of officers were presented. Nominations were also accepted from the floor. The results of the election were: Dr. Fred Griffin of Palatka, Florida, president; Eastern Regional Vice-President, Steve Freedman of Wallingford, Conn.; Central Regional Vice-President, Dick Augustyn of Addison, Illinois; Western Regional Vice-President, Jesse Moreland, of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Warren Olson then stepped down and Fred Griffin took over with an acceptance speech. During a short informal meeting that followed,

NIA HISTORY...continued

volunteers were called for to fill several necessary positions. Treasurer, Dennis McHenry of Bettendorf, Ia.; Executive Secretary, Bill Dreggors of Deland, Florida; Information Director, Ray Bryan of Ames, Ia., were duly appointed. Dues were set at \$2.00 per person as Warren Olson received membership number one. The newsletter, titled "Drip Points" was written by Ray Bryan, three times a year.

Some of the problems too, caught collectors' attention. Some of these issues were: the describing the condition of insulators in correspondence, describing the color, and fakes and phonies. An article written by the Wall Street Journal on the subject of collecting insulators caused some anger at the time. It was interesting, but gave a somewhat distorted view of collecting. It is also interesting to note how dedicated collectors can be in their concerned response to this story.

Charter memberships were accepted up to the end of June, 1974. It was hoped to have 1,000 members by the 5th National, but the final figure was slightly less.

Since the National show and sale can be held in one place in that particular year, Regional National Shows were sanctioned. The Regional Shows can be as important as the Nationals in both insulators and information. For some collectors, the distance to travel may be a problem. Quality and quantity of insulators have shown up at the regionals, so they can be rightly called "mini-nationals".

The Fifth National

After several months of delay, the location of the 5th National was selected. Hershey, Pa., was the site of this show, held June 29 and 30, 1974. NIA officials and other interested collectors began to arrive on Thursday night for the NIA business meeting. On Friday, as the 3 p.m. set-up time drew near, collectors began arriving from all over the country. By opening time Saturday morning, a line had formed outside waiting to get in. There were 125 sale tables and 27 displays from all over the country, displayed at this show, sponsored by Stephen E. Bobb of Norristown, Pa. There was such a crowd on Saturday that some aisles were impassible, with large numbers constantly coming and going. The Hershey Motor Lodge and Convention Center provided first class accommodations and a brand-new auditorium for this fine show. The Motor Lodge provided the fine banquet meal Saturday evening. The NIA meeting which followed was open to all interested collectors. Several hundred collectors heard speeches by President Griffin and others. The treasurer gave his report and the by-laws were presented and explained. A new system of classifying the damage of insulators was also presented. Insulators would be classified as Mint, Near-mint, and damaged (with description). This eliminates such terms as good, bad, fair, poor, etc. Next, any nominations were taken from the floor. The nominees were Ernie Rostock of Pendleton, Oregon, and Maury Tasem of El Cajon, Calif., for president. As the votes were being counted, the "gripe session" was held. Comments from the floor ranged from fakes to dishonest dealers, to giving all past presidents and officers life memberships. It was noted that the discussions were quite orderly, but nothing was accomplished. Next, awards were presented to the displayers.

Dora Harned noted in her magazine, "I was really surprised at the distance some collectors traveled, not to have a sell table or display, but just to attend. It was most gratifying to have so many collectors under one roof."

To be continued next issue of "Drip Points".....the results of the election and the years following the 5th National.