

ATK  
J.P. No. 6, No. 1  
OCT 27 1978  
NIA PRESIDENT

Hello, my name is Len Linscott and I've been elected to serve as the National Insulator Association's president for the 1978-1979 year. I say this because I know a lot of NIA members have not received any information from NIA in a while. My capable staff and I will try to see that all NIA members and prospective members receive all the information that they request or that we can possibly send out to them. We are going to attempt to publish DRIP POINTS four times a year. If anyone wishes to have an article published in DRIP POINTS, just let Mike Sovereign or me know and we will get it copy ready and publish it.... be it something you have done with insulators, places you have seen insulators, information people may have told you about insulators, tools used on lines, history about insulators or funny experiences with insulators, etc. After all, it is printed free. All it costs is a postage stamp and over 750 people know you collect insulators.

I have an open-door policy. By this I mean you are free to write to me any time about anything and if I can't help you or I don't know, I'm sure I can get someone to help you who does know.

At the Ninth National in Reno, on Sunday, I called a board meeting and after a lot of discussion, it was decided to change a few things. Instead of five categories, we now have ten, so take note of this. With more categories we should have more displayers at the Nationals. (It would be a shame to have to send the trophies back. We only had one Junior displayer at Reno. She got first place and was disappointed that she had no competition, although she had to bring her display from Florida.)

Another item with a lot of discussion was the non-NIA people selling and displaying at a National Show. It was the opinion of the board that if people wanted to display and try for an NIA trophy they should be a member. Also, they should be a member if they want to sell at a National. The NIA board took the necessary action and passed the ruling that in order to display or sell on trade at a National Show you have to be an NIA member (current membership paid-up). It is the opinion of many that the NIA should put on their own show. All members might keep this in mind. I might say that there are a lot of hidden costs that are not realized until you yourself put on a show and go through the experience. It takes money, time and patience.

A few other things....we will be sending out a new NIA BY-LAWS book, with all the changes, to every paid-up NIA member. NIA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE STILL BEING TAKEN FOR THE 1978-79 YEAR. CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE MARCH 31, 1979. REMEMBER TO RENEW YOURS FOR THE 1979-80 YEAR.

## NIA PRESIDENT (continued)

One small favor....I would like everyone to use their NIA# on all ads, letters, cards etc. I know it would make it easier to all concerned and I believe most people are rather proud of their number. It also shows people that you are part of the NIA and that you care....plus it advertises NIA and the hobby.

As NIA Show Chairman last year, I wish to thank the show hosts who have requested NIA sanctioning and the NIA ribbon for their shows. This is an excellent opportunity to promote your show and NIA at the same time. Future show hosts please contact Bill Dreggors, NIA# 64 for sanctioning and the ribbon.

Remember, next issue of DRIP POINTS will be published in December and the deadline for articles for it will be November 15. Hope to hear from a great many of you.

The 10th National Insulator Association's Convention, Show and Sale will be held in Denver, Colorado with Mike and Darlene Bliss as the hosts. The dates are July 21-23, 1979, so mark these on your calendar. PLAN TO ATTEND! You may contact Mike Bliss, NIA# 109, P.O. Box 1624, Idaho Springs, Co. 80452 for more information.

Len Linscott NIA# 255

## NIA SHOW CHAIRMAN

Hi !! My name is Bill Dreggors, Jr., your NIA Show Chairman for 1978-79. With everyone's help we can put an NIA ribbon in a lot of shows in the next 12 months.

If there is a show in your area that is featuring insulators as a part of the show, it qualifies for an NIA ribbon. Please have the show chairman write me a card or letter, requesting a ribbon, as far in advance as possible.

Let's all work together to put insulators before the public. You will have to get those insulators out of the house and display them if this is going to happen.

New collectors are vital to our hobby and seeing nice exhibits at shows creates new collectors! This does not mean rare or expensive items but, well and interestingly exhibited insulators, lighting rod balls, and go-withs. If I can assist you with your show please let me know.

Bill Dreggors NIA# 64

## NIA INFORMATION DIRECTOR

As information director and printer for the NIA this year, I would very much like to see one thing. That all members become involved in this publication. Drip Points is ours alone and it is up to all of us to better it. Your yearly dues pay for this newsletter. A short story, some new thoughts, just about whatever you come up with and would like to share. Let me hear from you soon. Thanks,

Michael Sovereign NIA# 1548

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN  
Bob & Phoebe Adams NIA# 381 & 380

We attend about ten to twelve shows every year and have occasion to talk to many experienced collectors, new collectors and prospective collectors about the hobby of collecting insulators. It is a general feeling that we need to encourage new collectors in order to keep our hobby on the rise.

Always put your "best foot forward" in presenting the National Insulator Association to make a good impression on prospective members. This could be the difference between these people joining or not joining our association.

Some of the advantages of belonging to the N.I.A. could be explained to prospective members as follows:

1. There is a national show and convention held annually with approved show rules.
2. There are three annual N.I.A. approved regional shows.
3. The N.I.A. Newsletter, DRIP POINTS, is published four times a year.
4. N.I.A. Code of Ethics.
5. N.I.A. approved awards.
6. National Insulator Association Directory.

Everyone who participates in shows, whether as dealers or displayers or both, can and should encourage more and more new collectors for a stronger National Insulator Association. We remember an instance recently when a small boy came to our table with a nickel wanting to know what insulator he could buy for five cents! We gave him an insulator, one probably worth a dollar. He was delighted, and with a big smile he thanked us and left. In a few minutes he was back, accompanied by his parents. They wanted to be sure that we had really given him an insulator. Assured that we had, they too, were delighted. We chatted a while, gave them a couple of complimentary copies of CROWN JEWELS and showed them in the magazine where they could write for information about joining the N.I.A. and subscribing to CROWN JEWELS. As they left we couldn't help but feel that three more insulator collectors were added to the fold. We are all public relations people for the National Insulator Association. Encourage the people to collect insulators and more importantly, encourage them to join the N.I.A.

## THE N.I.A. ROOTS -- INSULATOR SHOWS

As early as 1970 a number of active insulator collectors were pondering the idea of a national organization. These sentiments continued to grow, and it was decided by early 1972 to have a special meeting at the Kansas City National that summer to discuss the possibilities of such an organization.

The major desire for organizing nationally stemmed from dissatisfaction of many eastern and western collectors that the annual National Insulator Meet seemed perennially locked into the central area of the country. The geographical bickering over location of the annual National reached a real zenith when everyone arrived at the 1972 Kansas City show to find piles of freshly printed posters announcing the 1973 National to be held in Hutchinson, Kansas - some 220 miles to the west of the 1972 show!

The rebellion of some collectors prevailing even by that time is evidenced by the fact that numerous shows in other areas were being billed as "National" shows. Following is a sampling of some 1972 show billings, some of which were billed similarly the following year:

- 1st EASTERN NATIONAL INSULATOR MEET (Ithaca, NY)
- 1st ANNUAL WEST COST NAT'L INSULATOR SHOW (Bakersfield, CA)
- 1st CHICAGO MID-WEST NATIONAL INSULATOR SHOW (Chicago)
- 1st ANNUAL SOUTH CENTRAL NAT'L INSULATOR SHOW Frankfort KY
- 1st ANNUAL "MILWAUKEE" MID WEST NAT'L INSULATOR  
AND BOTTLE SHOW

Indeed, many casual collectors were so confused that some actually did not know which of the bigger shows was actually the National in 1972 & 1973. Note in the following chart of 1970-1980 shows that the Ithaca and Bakersfield shows are indicated as comparable to Eastern and Western Regional shows of today. The Chicago shows in the mid-west region were also biggies. These shows were all big shows, and very good ones, but they couldn't pull the weight of the annual National which was firmly entrenched in Kansas (plus or minus one state in either direction).

The N.I.A. organizational meeting at the 1972 Kansas City show was certainly a lively one, and there was nearly unanimous agreement that we now needed a national organization if for no other reason than to rotate the National show to all areas of the country. We had many other objectives, but straightening out the show geography overshadowed them at the time. A committee was formed (John H. Hall, Chairman) to draft By-laws for an Association for presentation at the 1973 National in Hutchinson. These By-laws were adopted, and the National Insulator Association was born, at the Hutchinson show on July 7, 1973.

The mandates of the Kansas City show were followed in the drafting of the By-laws. Each geographic region is represented with a vice-president, and the annual National show (& convention) is geographically rotated. The Board of Directors was made large enough that no couple of individuals could force decisions in one direction or another. Continuity of know-how was achieved by using staggered 3-year terms of the vice-presidents and by appointment of the two most immediate past presidents to the Board.

In drafting the N.I.A. By-laws, we found a way to have our cake and eat it too regarding shows. Why just rotate ONE big show each year? We wanted THREE big shows annually, one in each region so that no collector would have to wait out two years for the return of the biggie show. The intent was to not only have our annual National, but also to give a big N.I.A. boost to making the other regional shows even bigger and better. Note the wording from Article IV, paragraph 4 of the N.I.A. By-laws:

"Official NIA-sponsored insulator shows shall be held annually in the two regions other than the one in which the annual meeting and show is held, and each of the other regional shows shall be identical in scope, as far as practical, with the annual meeting show except for the absence of an election and regular membership business meetings. The time and place of these regional shows shall be set by the NIA Board of Directors."

Unfortunately, even though the By-laws were widely published and given to each member, few people (even Association officers!!) ever took the time to just sit down and read them. Some of us N.I.A. officers and committee workers were frantically trying to get this regional show concept into operation, but the idea just had not received publicity to the membership. The whole reason for this article in DRIP POINTS is to bring this to your attention so we can all push in the same direction to achieve our goals.

The hosts of the bigger shows were so hungry for national recognition and attendance at their shows, we figured they would be standing in line ten-deep a year or more in advance to be selected as an N.I.A. Regional show. And they would have, of course, if they and the N.I.A. membership fully understood how hard the N.I.A. was going to push THREE big annual shows. Instead, everyone just kept talking about the National as in the past, and the Regionals just went begging. Everyone was missing the boat!

The N.I.A. people in the Western region did read the By-laws and understand the concept and its opportunities, and there has been a big and successful NIA Western Regional every year from the outset. Not so in the other two regions. We begged show hosts to enter their planned shows as the N.I.A. Regional and to accept the big assist this would offer. When setting up this show arrangement in 1972-73, we even visualized that in some years one or both of the Regionals might even be larger than the National that year, depending on geographic locations. This was so because we felt every reach of the country should have an equal chance to have the National show, regardless of the overall distribution of collectors.

Note in the chart of 1970-1980 shows that not a single person desired to host the NIA Central Regional in 1974. Again in 1977, there were at least a dozen large shows in the central and mid-west states, but every one went their own way and declined the big boost N.I.A. billing could give them.

The old problem still persists though. We have people standing in line for the National, and we pick those sites over a year in advance, yet we do not have the same emphasis on Regionals. We have been trying to change this, but it's a slow process. In the Western region, sites and hosts are already being considered for the 1979 and 1980 Regionals, not to mention the 1981 National in that region - all to assure a desirable rotation of the big annual shows within this given region. Is there a similar interest in the other regions? If not, why?

It would be great if each member could add to this effort for THREE big annual NIA shows. The push is already there from many sources - DRIP POINTS, CROWN JEWELS, the NIA Show Committee, NIA officers, etc. Note the improved Show Calendar treatment for the NIA shows in the magazine, intended, & long in the coming. How can you miss if you decide to host the NIA Regional in your area? We should have already fixed the 1979 shows and started to advertise them, and we should be thinking on 1980 shows now.

Note that the N.I.A. requires equal and prominent show billing names, and which are as follows for the 1979 shows:

N.I.A. 10th ANNUAL CONVENTION, SHOW & SALE (Denver)

N.I.A. 10th ANNUAL EASTERN REGIONAL SHOW & SALE

N.I.A. 10th ANNUAL WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW & SALE

Jack H. Tod NIA# 13  
Chairman, By-laws Committee

YEAR	WESTERN	CENTRAL	EASTERN
1st 1970		NEW CASTLE, IND. June 20-21	
2nd 1971		COLORADO SPRINGS July 10-11	
3rd 1972	Bakersfield, Ca. Feb. 12-13	KANSAS CITY, MO. July 1-2	Ithaca, N.Y. Apr 8-9
4th 1973	Bakersfield, Ca. Sept 1-3	HUTCHINSON, KAN. July 7-8	Ithaca, N.Y. Apr 14-15
5th 1974	Oroville, Ca. Aug 24-25	(No Bid!)	HERSHEY, PA. June 29-30
6th 1975	SAN DIEGO, CA. July 11-13	St. Louis Mo. Sept 27-28	Winter Haven, Fla. Nov 15-17
7th 1976	Oroville, Ca. Oct 23-24	BEREA, OHIO Aug 20-22	Winter Haven, Fla. Nov 20-21
8th 1977	Bakersfield, Ca. Oct 15-16	(No Bid!)	LAKELAND, FLA. July 15-17
9th 1978	RENO, NEVADA July 21-23	Columbus, Ohio Apr 29-30	E. Windsor, Conn. Aug 12-13
10th 1979	???	DENVER, COLORADO July 20-22	???
11th 1980			(NATIONAL)

(National shows shown in caps. Shows after 1973, NIA shows.)

**\*\* Insulator Collector Advisory \*\***

**Rare Colors Found in Hemingray #9**

Three (one each) C.D. 106, embossed Hemingray #9, with round drip points in the rare colors red, cobalt, and root beer amber have been found in a shop in Southern Calif. The colors are brilliant and throughout, not dyed or flashed. The insulators were priced: Red - \$200, Cobalt - \$40, Root Beer Amber - \$40.

Because of the variety of these colors, and particularly the red, in this common insulator, collectors should be cautious about their purchase until authentication can be further established.

In the meantime, the Ethics Committee or Crown Jewels would like to be advised of further factual information.

concerning the insulators or records of transactions.

This alert is advisory in nature and not intended to improperly reflect on the character or ethics of reputable dealers or collectors who have not knowingly misrepresented the rarity or value of these insulators they have offered for sale or trade.

Courtesy; Don Fabbi

### NIA HISTORIAN

In an earlier DREP POINTS newsletter this year, I mentioned organizing a club for insulator collectors in Ok. Success does not come easy. However, we will hold our third meeting Sept. 10th at 2:00 at my home, and the second Sunday of every month thereafter. A year ago I started my campaign, "so to speak", in preparation of a club for our area. As a member of the NIA I want to do my part for the future growth of our association. I feel it has been very rewarding already for all the effort I've put forth. A few of the things I have done for our hobby are as follows:

Last winter I fixed 50 insulators with candles and flower rings and visited senior citizens in a number of nursing homes, and gave one to each person.

Last spring the 4th grade in Lawton were studying communications. One teacher, after reading my story in the newspaper, called and asked if I would set up a display of several insulators and tell her students how these served as an aid in communication and the history behind them. After this, several schools called upon me. This made me happy, because these boys and girls, "the generation of tomorrow", are the ones who will carry on the NIA.

I donated twelve insulators to the school PTA carnival for a fund raising, and each was auctioned off at \$4.00 to \$5.00.

Folks would call and say the library did not have any books on insulators. I would give them a list of books and where to order them and loaned out some of mine on several occasions. I have now come to find that the library has ordered four or five books now.

We have a very nice museum of the Great Plains. However, they did not have any insulators. I talked with the director about donating some and he was overwhelmed. I am in the process of readying 20 cards for the history of each. They will be on display by the first of October.

I have left my card at all antique shops in town, to let all the collectors know of our club. Also posters have been put up at various locations, which through all of this I have had many responses.

There are so many people that say, "What are insulators?" I think if each NIA member could get just one person



interested in collecting, it would certainly boost membership and strengthen our NIA.

For me this has been very enjoyable and relaxing. I feel others do not know what they are missing, and all the people in our hobby are the most friendly of any folks that I have ever met! So what do you say fellow members? Let us make this the best year yet. Especially you Okies, how about a little support, not money, just by attending one of our club meetings and bringing along some insulators.

Carol Theesen NIA# 1590

NEW MEMBERS

1809	F.C. Wiles 228 Prospect St. Wellington, Ohio 44090	1820	Ray G. Heim, Jr. 640 Deerpath Road Dundee, Illinois 60118
1810	Margaret Miller 1720 West Pine Tulsa, Ok. 74127	1821	Joseph J. Singer 2572 Traymore Road University Hgts. Ohio 44118
1811	Glen Yows	1822	Diane White 4591 Rotherhaven Way San Jose, Cal. 95111
1812	Dorothy Yows P.O. Box 448 Upper Lake Cal. 95485	1823	David Cross 124 Magnolia Ave. Oakdale, Cal. 95361
1813	Albert E. Moorhead	1824	Scott M. Mahlen 1036 Garfield St. Enumclaw, Wash. 98022
1814	Kathryn A. Moorhead P.O. Box 414 Kelseyville, Cal. 95451	1825	Joseph Cromer 911 E. Fourth St. Monroe, Mich. 48161
1815	Donald Smith 6 Jamar Circle St. Catharines, Ontario Canada L2T 2T6	1826	Isabel Berke 2255 S. E. 113 St. Portland, Oregon 97216
1816	Martha Szara 8520 Interlocken Ct. Palos Hills, Ill. 60465	1827	Kimberly Berke 2255 S. E. 113 St. Portland, Oregon 97216
1817	John E. Sanville 3118 W. 134 Place Broomfield, Col. 80020	1828	Bernard Warren 1620 Stanton Ct. Anchorage, Alas. 99504
1818	Hans Kettenburg 2450 Forest Park Dr. Anchorage, Alas. 99503	1829	Cameron Tsujita 75 Durham St., Guelph Ontario Canada N1H 2Y4
1819	Dean Blevins Box 1264 Alturas, Cal. 96101		

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|------|--|------|--|
| 1830 | Marion Motisher<br>12 McDonald Road<br>Albany, N.Y. 12209          | 1843 | Bart Magoffin<br>778 Coleman Ave. #C<br>Menlo Park, Cal. 95025               |
| 1831 | Richard C. Browne<br>19984 Hubbard Rd.<br>Livonia, Mich. 48152     | 1844 | George T. Hanson<br>P.O. Box 417<br>Columbia Falls, Mont. 59912              |
| 1832 | Michael Bauer<br>1140 E. Park Lane<br>Fostoria, Ohio 44830         | 1845 | Karen Richards<br>3129 Mill Springs Dr.<br>Stockton, Cal. 95209              |
| 1833 | Larry E. Thomas  | 1846 | Robert A. Aguirre<br>3465 W. Powers Place<br>Littleton, Col. 80123           |
| 1834 | Nancy Simonsen<br>WSR Box 9067<br>Oroville, Cal. 95965             | 1847 | A.T. (Bud) Ingram, Jr.<br>2517 W. 180th Place<br>Torrance, Cal. 90504        |
| 1835 | Michael R. Eck<br>801 1/2 Laporte<br>Ft. Collins, Col. 80521       | 1848 | Ellie Tribur<br>Box 1358<br>Tahoe City, Cal. 95730                           |
| 1836 | Billilou Barnes<br>Box 240 Route 1<br>Buhl, Idaho 83316            | 1849 | John J. Fields<br>1608 Buffaloe Road<br>Garner, North Carolina 27529         |
| 1837 | Larry Wyer<br>29 Franklin Road<br>Cromwell, Conn. 06416            | 1850 | Margaret Mayot<br>568 Cornation Blvd. (Galt)<br>Cambridge, Ont. Can. N1R 5Y3 |
| 1838 | J.W. Skaggs<br>811 Main Box 1418<br>Kansas City, Mo. 64141         | 1851 | Paul Anderson<br>2053 Jonesport Ave.<br>San Jose, Cal. 95131                 |
| 1839 | Joe Link<br>536 Paseo De La Playa<br>Redondo Beach, Cal. 90277     | 1852 | Albert Langdon<br>23 Alma Dr., Weston, Ont.<br>Canada M9P 1T4                |
| 1840 | Edward E. Sellberg<br>2818 Neals Lane<br>Vancouver, Wash. 98661    |      |  |
| 1841 | Arlene L. Jackson<br>402 Monte Vista Drive<br>Woodland, Cal. 95695 |      |  |
| 1842 | Laurence A. Wood<br>3040 Lynde Street #1<br>Oakland, Cal. 94601    |      |  |

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Upcoming Shows:

Oct. 28-29 1st Annual Central  
Fla. Insulator Club Show & Sale  
By: Len Linscott.

Oct. 29 - Sun Praire Wisconsin  
3rd Annual Show by Fred  
Escher.