



Drip Points

<http://www.nia.org>

Quarterly Magazine of the National Insulator Association

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Read about this amazing rescue of 2 Fred M. Locke M-2332 that was 2 years in the making! See Page 23 for full story.

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On the Cover

2 Fred M. Locke M-2332 Found in service! This find over two years in the making! Read about the amazing story on page 23

Photo Credit:

M-2332: Mike Spadafora

M-2332 In use: Pat Scott

NIA Handbook Update 2012

The following information was added to the 2012 NIA Handbook

Drip Points

NIA members have the option of receiving Drip Points (DP) in printed form by mail or in digital form by email. Drip Points distribution schedule is as follows:

Spring Issue #3	Mails March 1	Submission deadline is February 10
Summer Issue #4	Mails June 1	Submission deadline is May 10
Fall Issue #1	Mails September 1	Submission deadline is August 10
Winter Issue #2	Mails December 1	Submission deadline is November 10

(Note: As shown above issues are numbered according to the NIA's fiscal year. Additionally, all listings described below must be received by the DP editorial staff at least 30 days prior to the issue's upcoming distribution date. Any submissions that are found to exceed the maximum word count guidelines may be modified at the editor's discretion.)

Events Calendar

A black and white "Calendar of Events" contains listings made available free to active NIA members and member-clubs. The Calendar only includes events hosted by active NIA members and member-clubs. Event listings are published in the first issue following timely receipt of event notification and continue to appear in the Calendar until the last issue preceding the event. Event listings should not exceed 125 words.

Classified Ads

Free ad space, printed in black and white, is provided to active members. Listings will be kept confidential until published.

Each active member may submit one (1) "Wanted" and one (1) "For Sale" listing per year in accordance with the guidelines below:

- Listings must include the member's NIA number in the contact information.
- "Wanted" or "For Trade" listings are limited to 60 words.
- "For Sale" listings are limited to 100 words.
- "For Sale" items must be offered for at least \$15 not including shipping and insurance.

Future Options

The NIA plans to include pre-paid, printer-ready, color, graphic advertisements of various sizes in future issues of Drip Points. When available, the base-rates for these listings will be published in DP and posted on the NIA website. These listings will very likely require more than 30 days lead time and the size and complexity of each advertisement will almost certainly affect the final listing fee.

Advertisements must meet all postal regulations that govern publications mailed at Non-Profit Standard Mail prices of postage.

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Editor

Shaun Kotlarsky | NIA # 4993



Welcome to the first issue of 2012. This is the first issue being printed at the new printer that we just switched to. It is significantly cheaper to print than before so this should help us stay all color! But we still need your donations to help keep color going, thank you to those who have already helped us with that.

In this issue you will notice that things are little more consistent in the look and feel of the magazine. If you're getting a printed version of this magazine you'll notice it came in a plastic bag this time. This will help ensure that it arrives in good condition.

I am also very excited to be working with my friend and fellow Hemingray fan Christian Willis on the new Drip Points advertising! Christian is a talented graphic designer so expect some cool looking ads. If you subscribe to Crown Jewels you have seen some of Christians work, He is the one that dose those amazing Insulator cartoons called "Laugh Lines"!

More info. on our new ads can be found in this issue of Drip Points. 2012 is going to be a good year for Drip Points and the promotion of our beloved hobby.



All Insulators website update:

Thanks to those who donated photos to this project. The database of photos is rapidly growing! If you don't know about the project I will explain. It is an "open source" style website with the goal of getting a photo of each known CD, U, M from around the world. Some unique features of this site are that it is a clean modern design, insulators are not segregated by country but instead organized by the (current) standard numbering system. Site is designed to be a streamlined way to see the different CD, M and U Numbers from around the world with a list of known manufactures and country. That's it! The site is not filled with other research and articles as thats not my goal.

Check it out <http://www.allinsulators.com>. Also Be sure to check out the NIA website, Bob Berry is continually adding new Photos there too. The 2 sites complement each other nicely.

I also am switching the site to metrics for the measurements as I want to get people use to the idea of using metric for insulator measurements. It is a vastly superior system and used world wide. We are a global hobby and tend to be overly US centric we need to be more global!

If you have a photo of an insulator not listed on the site, feel free to send it to me. Information on how to best take photos are on the site under the contacts section. If you cant send it digital I can scan it.

Shaun Kotlarsky

Photo Credit | CD 169 Hemingray Type 1 (Christians favorite Hemingray): **Christian Willis**

Wanted: Articles for Drip Points

If you have a short "Did you know?" style tidbit about an insulator please let me know. Also looking for longer articles (1/2 page to 2 pages) about an insulator related subject to spice up Drip Points! Send your submissions to newsletter@nia.org Thanks! Shaun Kotlarsky, Drip Points Editor





President

Lou Hall | NIA # 7185



The newly updated NIA Handbook: The Handbook has been published in hardcopy and it is available on the NIA website. Those of you who are reading this hardcopy issue of Drip Points have received the Handbook as well. Those receiving Drip Points electronically can go to the website and download a copy as well. There were a few “after printing” corrections that were identified and they are printed in this issue. All new applicants for membership will receive a copy of the Handbook.

Other good news: The printing company that prints Crown Jewels of the Wire magazine is now printing our Drip Points publication. They are also handling the packaging and mailing process. This has streamlined the process and provides a cost savings such that we can continue to deliver Drip Points in full color. This is the first.

Also new to Drip Points: The Board of Directors has approved the inclusion of Classified ads for both “Wanted” and “For Sale” items. These will be FREE to current members. Each member is entitled to place one of each type per year. Also PAID Display ads are welcomed. There are rules and restrictions that are available on the website.

A Christmas Story: Santa arrived late at my house this year. His sleigh had been transformed into an 18-wheeler! The story begins years ago (1999) when I first started collecting pins and brackets. I visited an insulator website and found that another collector had a picture of his collection there. I was inspired! I discovered the collector to be Mr. Bob Roberson in Florida. Then, at the National in Orlando I saw his great display! Approximately a year after Bob passed away I learned that the collection was going to be sold. I made an offer which was accepted. Next, we needed to figure out how to get the collection from Florida to California.

Bob’s niece, Sherry Smith and her husband, searched for the most reasonable shipping method. That turned out to be R+L Carriers. Now the incredible part! (Especially for those who worry about packing for shipping.) Realize that this stuff is all iron!

Sherry’s husband set about building a plywood crate on a wooden pallet. The crate was made of 2” x 2” lumber and plywood all screwed together with the corners reinforced with continuous metal corner. Each piece of the collection was double wrapped in newspaper and tightly packed into the box. All together the shipping weight was over 600 pounds. The crate left Florida on a Monday and arrived here on the following Monday. MY CHRISTMAS HAD BEGUN ☺

The story in pictures:



The crate is built...



filled...



and closed up.



The crate is loaded...



600 lbs of pins and brackets are headed for California.



Santa and his sleigh arrived just a week to the day after leaving Florida.



The crate is off the truck...



placed in the side yard and opened!



Unpacking the surprises!



Mike Doyle joins me in the "Christmas" excitement!



1st Past President

Bob Stahr | NIA # 4186



Thousands Learn About Insulator Hobby Every Year.

That's the title of an article that I hope comes true someday.

Unless you have been hiding under a rock, you should have noticed in the last few years that the NIA has made a concerted push to spread the word about our hobby. The first step in the process was becoming a 501c3 charitable organization. We accomplished this back in the fall of 2009. That allowed us be a "legitimate" entity in the eyes of the public and made us more eligible to bring in more money.

In the fall of 2009, the NIA submitted an application to erect an historical marker honoring the Muncie, IN factory site of the Hemingray Glass Company. After a successful application acceptance, the NIA conducted a fundraising campaign and got enough money together to purchase the plaque. This plaque was dedicated in September of 2011. Although this plaque may not be in a heavily travelled area, it will remain there for many generations to come. Additionally, the Muncie plaque will get internet exposure from the various sites that list these plaques. This project has laid the ground work for future plaque projects.

As I mentioned in my last NIA Drip Points article, we are already pursuing erecting another plaque in Kentucky at the original site of the Hemingray Glass Co. We are using money left over from the first plaque project as seed money to start the fundraising drive for this one.

I want to thank Dennis Stewart, who has donated to the NIA glass chunks and shards he has picked up along the Ohio River at Hemingray's old factory site in Covington. These shards and chunks were placed on sale at the Springfield, OH show this past November. Several people there purchased groupings. Additionally, I want to thank Steve Konan for donating a couple Hemingray made oil lamps and bottles to the same effort. One of those lamps sold within minutes of being placed on sale. Lastly, Dario Dimare was also kind enough to donate a nice green Hemingray-19 insulator to the effort.

We sold \$191 worth of donated items and took in an additional \$88 in cash donations. The NIA still has more shards/chunks groupings as well as a couple oil lamps, a pint refrigerator water bottle made by Hemingray, and the green Hemingray-19 for sale. Please contact me for details.

The \$279 brought in at the Springfield show was added to the left over funds and our balance is now just over \$650.

The location of the proposed Covington, KY plaque is in the heart of their convention district. Covington is located directly across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, OH. The proposed plaque will sit in front of a large 300+ room hotel which is across the street from the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. Another hotel of approximately 230 Rooms is on the opposite corner. The exposure of our hobby to the thousands of people attending conventions or staying at the hotels is tremendous. Maybe someday the local newspaper will run a story with the headline "**Thousands Learn About Insulator Hobby Every Year**".

Donations received for the Hemingray Covington plaque to date were from:

- Dennis Stewart
- Steve Konan
- Dario Dimare
- Steve Blair
- Tom Nugent
- Leslie & Judith Christensen
- Jon Bules



I am appealing to you, to be a part of this worthwhile project. If you are interested in being part of this project by making a donation, please send your payment to:

Robert B. Stahr

515 Main St. Unit 403
West Chicago, IL 60185

All checks should be made out to the National Insulator Association. A letter of receipt will be sent.

The National Insulator Association, Inc. is a non-profit corporation. It is also classified as a “public charity” under IRS 501(c)(3) regulations. As such, most donations to the NIA are tax deductible.

We appreciate all the help of the people who have donated funds that have made the previous project a success.

Bob Stahr

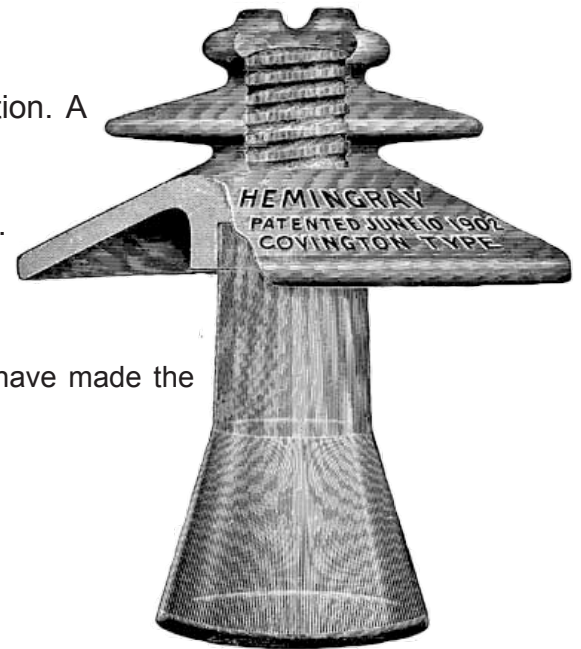


Photo Credit | Covington Type Insulator: **Bill Meier** <http://insulators.info>

Photo Credit | CD 134, Bird Dish & CD 257: **Shaun Kotlarsky**



Central Region VP

Bill Snell | NIA # 2624



I have to admit it hasn't been much of a winter here in the heartland. It seems like last year we never received a break from the snow and ice. This year, the shovel and salt have sat untouched in a corner of the garage. Go figure!

Things are looking great for the upcoming National Show in Kansas City. The show organizers, Darryl Wagner and Charles Brandon, as well as the Missouri Valley Insulator Club, are hard at work to make this the most memorable National ever. Charles has done an outstanding job as an Ambassador for the hobby. Through his eBay sales, he's reached out to a number of people who've never been to an insulator show before. Many have joined the NIA and they're looking forward to the show and meeting other collectors in person.

Please be sure to sign up for your table soon! By the time this Drip Points issue arrives in your mailbox, you'll only have a short time to get your reservation made before the price goes up on April 1st. And not only will you pay more if you wait until after April 1st – you'll also miss qualifying for the “Early Bird Incentive” drawings where you could win a free table, hotel night, or banquet ticket! Don't miss out... send it in now!

I'd also encourage everyone to consider putting together an educational display. This is our chance to share with others just how intriguing our hobby can be, with deep ties to the history and practice of glass making, porcelain manufacture, telegraph, telephone, and electrical power. There are stories to share about hunting and finding insulators, unusual go-withs, influential inventors, and who knows what else. I'm sure you'll come up with innovative display ideas that no one's imagined yet. To all the young folks: it's been quite a while since we've seen a display in the Junior categories, and I think just about everyone in the NIA would LOVE to see that trend turn around. No one

should feel they have to show off “big bucks” insulators to participate. The displays I really remember are the ones that gave me a deeper appreciation of the history and beauty behind the items displayed.

For those of you who may be traveling with family, Kansas City offers many attractions that everyone will enjoy, even those who might be less than enthusiastic about insulators. I'll share a sampling here and I'll be sending more to ICON over the next few months.

Kansas City is known for its barbecue, so be sure to get a taste sometime during the weekend. My favorites are Oklahoma Joe's www.oklahomajoesbbq.com and Gates Bar-B-Q www.gatesbbq.com. There are literally hundreds of other barbecue choices around town, each with their own unique personality, so you can go try as many as you want. If your tastes are more diverse, the city is home to many other restaurants featuring Italian, Japanese, German, Native American, Ethiopian, Mexican and other cuisines. I've tried many restaurants around town, so I'll be happy to share some recommendations – just drop me a line and let me know what interests you.

The Steamship Arabia Museum www.1856.com is one of my favorite museums of all time, and I imagine any insulator collector or history buff will enjoy it immensely. You'll see all sorts of everyday household and farm items retrieved from a cargo vessel that sank in the Missouri river in 1856, giving us a vivid picture of what life must have been like in the American frontier before the Civil War. What's really amazing is that a group of amateurs located and excavated this wrecked ship. Think of that next time you're ready to go out and find the remains of an old telegraph line! Other historical museums around town include the President Harry S Truman Library and Museum www.trumanlibrary.org, the National World War I Museum and Memorial www.theworldwar.org, and the American Jazz Museum www.americanjazzmuseum.com.

Major League Baseball's Kansas City Royals play at Kaufman Stadium on the metro's east side. Home games are scheduled for June 22, 23 and 24 (which are interleague games against the St. Louis Cardinals – I suspect these tickets will sell out quickly) and June 25, 26 and 27 against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. www.kansascity.royals.mlb.com For those who like baseball with a more “old-time” feel, the A-league Kansas City (KS) T-Bones play at Community America Field and ticket prices (especially grass passes) are inexpensive. Home games are scheduled for each evening from June 18-24. www.tbonesbaseball.com

Major League Soccer fans will really enjoy the newly-built LiveStrong Soccer Stadium, home of Sporting Kansas City – a team that (unlike the Chiefs and Royals) went to their league playoffs last year. Home games are scheduled for June 16 vs. Toronto FC and June 29 vs. the Chicago Fire. www.sportingkc.com

The Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts opened just last fall and its Helzberg Hall serves as the new home of the Kansas City Symphony, which will be performing Beethoven's 9th Symphony on June 22, 23 and 24. The world-class hall has been designed to be an acoustically superb environment for live performances. www.kcsymphony.org

Fun spots for families with youngsters (of all ages) include Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun www.worldsoffun.com, the Kansas City Zoo www.kansascityzoo.org, the Toy and Miniature Museum www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org, and Union Station Science City www.sciencecity.com. For lots of other ideas, visit www.kckidsfun.com.

There is NO reason anyone should be bored here! I hope to see you at the National in Kansas City!

Bill Snell





Western Region VP

Dan Gauron | NIA # 8176



Writing the Western Region Report in the Drip Points quarterly is always a reminder of just how fast the seasons fly by. It seems like no sooner has one issue come out, its publishers "Shaun & Michele" are sending out an email notice asking for the next quarters articles. This quarter I'd like to focus on the Drip Points Newsletter itself: I'm sure all who have read the last couple of issues have seen the dramatic changes in the look, color and content of Drip Points. It's in no small part due to the enormous efforts of its editor, publisher, color grants/donations and collector's willingness to submit hobby related photos, stories and historical information for others to enjoy. I'd like to invite all collectors out there to help the effort by submitting a few of those stories stowed away to memory, or a couple of those cool new/old photos stashed away in drawers and share them with others in the hobby. Don't worry if (like me) you can't seem to get the thoughts to paper, just do the best you can whether it's tidbits of information accompanying an interesting photo, a lighthearted personal hobby experience, recognition of another collector or a full blown article. I hope you'll consider taking part in your NIA quarterly publication.

With that said; Like most all collectors out there who eagerly await their first "beat the winter blues" show of the year... I'm about to head out to my first (Western Region) show of the New Year in Yuma, AZ. The Yuma Tailgater sits in a lush green park surrounded by Palm trees at the base of the historical Yuma Territorial Prison. For the 6th year now it has represented my escape from our cold Colorado winters and the chance to join fellow collectors and friends who make the annual pilgrimage into the desert for a great time with others alongside the Colorado River. Located about equal distance between San Diego and Phoenix, this small desert oasis is easy to get to, and draws folks from all around the country. Though this tailgater will be history by the time you read this, I hope you'll mark next year's calendar with this or another of the many great Western Regions insulator gatherings, and join in on the fun. No matter what part of the country you live in, getting out and supporting your local shows is an incredibly great way to start the New Year.

Good Collecting All,

Dan Gauron



Research & Education

Jacquie Linscott-Barnes | NIA # 138



As I write my column for DP, I am sitting on the beach on the Gulf of Mexico enjoying a week of surf, sand, and beautiful sunsets. It all ends at the end of the week, and we head back to Titusville. I am happy to report that the Research and Education web site has seen some consistent activity. Teachers are accessing the lesson plans, printing and apparently using the information for teaching about insulators and their use. During the past three months (Nov-Jan), there have been 16 downloads of the **Introduction** page, 26 downloads of the **K-6 Lesson Plans**, 18 downloads of the **Science Experiment**, 18 downloads of the **Coloring** page, and 16 downloads of the **Word Search** page. I have had 4 requests for the free insulators. This response tells me that Elementary teachers are using the site on a fairly regular basis.

Please spread the word about our education web site, and make your child's teacher aware of the lesson plans.

Another project that I will be attempting to start is to interview/record some of our past/mature collectors who have some vivid experiences from their early collecting days to relate to our younger collectors. If you have stories to share, please email me so we can make plans for an interview/sharing time.

I hope y'al are planning to attend the National in Kansas City, MO. It is time to make your reservations if you have not done so already.

Jacquie Linscott-Barnes



Eastern Region VP

Matt Grayson | NIA # 387



It is difficult to believe that as I write my Drip Points column, it is 60 degrees outside, it feels more like Spring than February. I recall last year at this time, I was seriously considering purchasing tire chains for travel here in the Northeast, quite a remarkable change from last year. It looks like the Eastern clubs have been able to take advantage of the fine weather with good attendance at the various January swap meets. I hope many of you were able and get out and participate given this year's mild weather. Keep in mind you can always find the full roster of shows listed in Crown Jewels, ICON and Drip Points. There are many shows scheduled this spring. The Chesapeake Bay Club Shrewsbury show will be my first show of the year, but I certainly expect to get to shows throughout the East, including, Yankee Polecat, Western Reserve and Dixie Jewels, as well as others outside the region.

I would like to remind everyone of our webmasters (Bob Berry) efforts at documenting foreign insulators for the NIA website. I am guilty of not submitting my foreign pieces to be photographed. I have a number of pieces, from Chile in particular, that are not on the site. I am certain that just as most glass collectors have some porcelain on their shelves, even more of us have some undocumented foreign glass or porcelain. If we can get it all of these pieces on the website, that would be a great achievement, perhaps we can even convince those with unpublished foreign insulator research to share their information on the NIA site as well.

This is also a good time to remind everyone of the efforts of the editors of our other two great sources of information and discussion, ICON and Crown Jewels. We often overlook their efforts, for which they receive little or no compensation. This is always a good time for a donation to both for their fine efforts. While you are thinking about the subject, remember that the NIA is a qualified non profit and all donations are tax deductible.

At the Springfield show, this past November, I had had an opportunity to discuss at length a porcelain insulator mystery, with Elton Gish. This has to do with those metallic glazed unmarked pintypes, which are generally thought to be manufactured by New Lexington. Elton has shared copies of a Catalog from Trenton Porcelain, which puts this theory to some doubt. The Trenton catalog pages match many of these metallic glazed pieces almost exactly, and include some unique styles. Some of the Trenton pieces, according to the catalog, were available, in both dry and wet process. I have examples in my collection of both. (See Jan Crown Jewels for a copy of Elton's column regarding dry process porcelain) We have little concrete information at the moment, if Trenton actually made these pieces or was jobbing New Lexington. There are reasons to believe that Trenton was an independent producer, but much still remains to be discovered. I would certainly be interested in hearing from anyone who has anything to add to this topic. Copies of the Trenton catalog pages can be forwarded via the internet from either Elton or me.

Hoping to see all of you at an up coming show and don't forget the National in Kansas City!!!!

Matt Grayson



Executive Secretary

Colin Jung | NIA # 7055



President Lou Hall called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence for all NIA members who passed away this past year. Lou welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that the past general membership meeting minutes were published in the Summer 2011 Drip Points newsletter. Lou called for the approval of the minutes and Jack Roach seconded the approval motion. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Jack Roach presented the Treasurer's Report. The NIA had a beginning balance of about \$22,700.00 and an ending balance of about \$32,600.00. The large balance was due to a \$10,000.00 donation from Tommy Bolack. Next year's budget was approved by the Board with about \$27,000.00 in estimated revenues and about \$26,000.00 in expected costs. Jack mentioned that \$2 million in show insurance was still available to show hosts at a cost of about \$50 per show day. Jack announced he was stepping down from the Board and reflected on how much he enjoyed his tenure as Treasurer.

Don Briel, Membership Director, reported that membership was down a bit this year and hope everyone can help to build it up.

Lou Hall spoke on behalf of Michele Kotlarsky who was absent. Lou said Michele was concerned because she did not have enough to do. Drip Points was not just a Board report(s). NIA members can submit stories, photographs and show reports.

Matt Grayson, Eastern Regional Vice-President, reported that there were many good shows happening in the East and the hobby was alive and well. He hope Westerners could come out to some of their shows.

Bill Snell, Central Region Vice-President and Nominations Chair, reported that four bids were received for the 2012 Central Region National. Nominations were received for Dan Gauron for Western Region Vice-President and Bill Rohde for Treasurer. As no other nominations were received, the nominees were elected by acclamation. Bill announced that he was looking for nominations for Central Region Vice President, Secretary and President for next year.

Dan Gauron, Western Region Vice-President, thank the show hosts for their work on this National. He thought the hobby was staying even—not going down or up. Dan said he enjoyed the hobby immensely and spoke on how he got into the hobby.

Bob Stahr, First Past President, said he has been on the Board since 1996 and has enjoyed all the positions he has held. He talked about the Hemingray landmark plaque project, which was a privately-financed, state-sponsored program. He said a total of \$3,100.00 in donations were raised and thanked everyone for their donations. The dedication ceremony will be held in Muncie, Indiana on September 4th.

Kevin Jacobson, second past president, mentioned that the NIA received its 501(c)(3) charitable, tax-exempted status, which means that donations to the NIA were tax deductible.

Paul Greaves, Authentication & Classification Chair, said he gets requests to identify insulators. He also tracks irradiated insulators on eBay, as well as other insulators that appear questionable. Paul also mentioned that he was trying to use X-ray florescence on glass gas bubbles to attempt to date the insulator.

Gene Hawkins, Awards and Recognition Chair, said he needed nominations for individuals who have made significant contributions to the hobby. Gene noted that there were a lot of good displays at the National, but there could be more. He asked members to think about doing a display. People want to see your collection.

President Lou Hall gave reports for the Ethics Chair and Historian. Lou reported that Ethics Chair Dave Wiecek resolved two situations that got started on ICON. Both have been resolved satisfactorily. Miles McLall purchased a high-resolution scanner to digitize the NIA archives. He will be working with Bob Berry to make the scan files available on the Internet. Lou mentioned his appreciation for Miles willingness to archive the NIA materials.

Carolyn Berry, NIA Commemorative Coordinator and Product Marketing Manager, stated that sales have been excellent for the 2011 commemorative so far. Over half of the solid pours have sold and nearly half of the inventory shipped to the National have sold.

The highest NIA product sales ever have been achieved this year and she has been selling products for 13 years. She will not be doing this job next year, but is willing to work with anyone willing to do the job. It is not a hard task.

Steve Blair, National Show Advisor, said the panel worked on four bids for the 2012 National. The bid information supplied to the Board was helpful and appreciated. They are ready to work on bids for the 2013 National and beyond.

Lou Hall reported for Philanthropy Chair Rick Jones who was not present. Rick spent considerable time working on draft membership handbook, particularly the donations section.

Lou Hall reported for Research & Education Chair Jacque Linscott-Barnes who was absent. Jacque developed insulator lesson plans for grades K through 12 and has spoke to the NEA and state superintendent about the availability of the education materials. She has already been contacted by one teacher who requested a speaker. Unfortunately, there were none within a couple hundred miles of the school. The NIA will try to offer speakers on DVD's for such situations. Bob Merzoian is developing the video.

Lou Hall also spoke on behalf of the Rules and Procedures Advisor, Mike Doyle. Mike has been working hard on a new membership handbook. Lou Hall also spoke on behalf of Scholarship Committee Chair Kay Bryant. The NIA has donated funds for two scholarships: \$1,000.00 for an academic scholarship and \$500.00 for a vocational scholarship. They have not been awarded yet. She is waiting to get the scholarships properly advertised. She has recently sign on to a major scholarship search engine.

Webmaster Bob Berry said the NIA website has maintained its popularity and appears on the first page of search engines. Many new CD's for foreign insulators have been added to the website.

President Lou Hall summarized the actions taken by the Board at its meeting yesterday.

Old Business: The Board did not take any new actions during the year that was not covered in the individual reports.

2011 Budget: Reported by Jack Roach already.

New Business: The Board voted to amend the rules for Outstanding Service and Lifetime Membership Awards as followed: 1) No spouse or self-nomination for above awards; 2) Outstanding Service Award recipients must wait five years before they are eligible for the award again.

The Board will create an on-line Hall of Fame for people who have made significant contributions to the hobby and insulator history. They don't have to be NIA members past or present. Three selections from all nominees will be inducted each year. All selections must receive approval of 2/3 majority vote of the Board.

NIA members are now eligible to buy back gap years they were not in the NIA by paying current dues. Buy back based on NIA number not family.

Lou announced the National's special guests from overseas: Colin & June Shailer from Australia and James Bancroft from England. Lou mentioned James' year-long effort to get Lou a distribution ring for his insulator bracket collection. Collectors helping other collectors reflected the best this hobby has to offer.

The Board also talked about a dues increase from \$12 to \$20, but took no action. The Board voted by acclamation to fill two positions on the Board: Dan Gauron is the new Western Regional Vice-President and Bill Rohde is the new Treasurer.

Lou announced the remaining schedule for the 2011 National:

Friday Hospitality Suite 7-10 p.m. sponsored by Tommy Bolack and the Golden State Insulator Club. Get keycard to access hotel floor.

Friday Seminar, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Saturday Exhibitor & Club Awards Presentation in show hall 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Saturday NIA Awards Banquet at Sonoma Chicken Coop Restaurant, 2 blocks from hotel

Sunday Devotional 8-8:30 a.m. in Silicon Valley Room.

Lou thanked all the bidders for their proposals for the 2012 National. The competition made all the bids stronger. He introduced the show hosts, Darryl Wagner & Charles Brandon, who will be hosting the 2012 National Convention at the Holiday Inn KCI Expo Center in Kansas City, Missouri on June 22 – 24, 2012. The new hosts said they will have a 35,000 square foot expo hall. They talked about the attractions of the area and special events they will be organizing in conjunction with the Convention.

Lou also announced the upcoming 2011 NIA Eastern Regional Show in Martinsburg, West Virginia on August 12-13, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned by President Lou Hall at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin Jung



Information Director

Michele Kotlarsky | NIA # 5370



A little insulator etiquette advice from Michele:

As a buyer and seller of insulators online:

Rule Number One: Communicate don't assume. Know the facts before making accusations.

Number 2: Know that things happen, especially when dealing with the postal system.

Number 3: Take Pay Pal protection for both parties. Instant payment.

Rule number 4: Do not get emotional, act adult and professional at all times.

Remember flaming gets you nowhere. Especially if someone has your insulator and owes you money.

This is a hobby! We are all human. Think twice before acting out. It will improve your standing in the community.

I welcome any more tips.

Michele Kotlarsky





Ethics Chair

David R. Wiecek | NIA # 3225



The NIA Handbook was significantly updated and posted on the NIA website this past January 2012 (<http://www.nia.org/handbook/index.htm>). I encourage all NIA members to review it and

be familiar with its contents. The rules stated in the NIA Handbook apply to active NIA members with a paid up current membership.

I'd like to focus in this issue a bit on the NIA Grading Standards as quoted directly from the NIA Handbook:

GRADING STANDARDS

The NIA encourages all members to declare any and all damage that would detract from an insulator's appearance and monetary value when compared to a "perfect" insulator. The following descriptive categories are general guidelines, which collectors can use as a starting point for such descriptions, and are furnished in an effort to promote uniformity in grading. The NIA strongly discourages the use of embellished abbreviated descriptions such as "VVVNM++." Buyers and sellers are encouraged to verbally discuss the condition of an insulator before entering into a transaction.

Mint ("M"): No visible and/or apparent damage.

Very Nearly Mint ("VNM"): Very minor damage, which detracts very little from the insulator's appearance.

Near Mint ("NM"): Minor damage, which detracts from the insulator's appearance.

Fair: Damage that is quite noticeable and affects the desirability of owning the insulator.

Specimen: Major damage to the point where a significant portion of the insulator is missing. A specimen may simply serve as an example of a type of insulator.

Online sales offerings use a lot descriptive adjectives. A picture is worth 1000 words when describing something visually. A few good pictures from different camera angles are probably as close as you can get to an in person purchase preview. Be aware that well chosen adjectives can conjure up a mental image that may or may not match the reality. They don't map to the grading standards either. A poorly focused picture or one that is missing elements of the condition that may or may not be alluded to in a VNM / NM grading can also leave the reality up to one's mind's eye.

These omissions, whether inadvertent or deliberate, could ultimately be deal breakers regarding a purchase or high bid. My advice is when in doubt, ask questions and ask for more specifics regarding condition details. Remember that sellers may not be NIA members and therefore are not obligated to abide by NIA rules. Remember also that the NIA grading standards are a general guideline and not a requirement. The decision to bid or buy is yours. Just do your due diligence before you ante up.

The biggest area of disagreement regarding condition could be between what is considered VNM and what is considered MN. It is ultimately up to the buyer to decide how much any minor damage detracts from an insulator's appearance. My personal opinion is that damage that can be viewed head-on to the front of an insulator detracts more significantly than that at the mold line or back. Realize the seller may grade more highly and the buyer view damage more critically. All collectors find certain kinds of damage more irritating or distracting than others. The buyer, especially in the auction situations which are commonplace today, should really decide the highest price they are willing to pay well in advance of the end of auction. Read thoroughly the auction terms if stated. Look closely at the pictures for what is visible and invisible.

I still occasionally fail to heed my own advice as stated above from time to time. I pay the price financially for my mistakes realizing most often its my own fault failing to do the kind of analysis and examination I would typically do during an in person purchase. These kinds of purchases, placed in plain view the computer, could serve as powerful reminders (no pun intended) to heed my own advice. I enjoy the hobby and all it has to offer and want others to do the same. Just remember to do it responsibly.

I encourage you to contact me if you have a personal matter where you believe the NIA Code of Ethics, as stated in the NIA Membership Handbook, was violated. The NIA Handbook has been updated as of January 2012. The Code of Ethics provides a guide to the general membership for conducting their collecting and dealing activities honorably, honestly and in a manner which will present a good image of the hobby to the public.

Dave Wiecek



Product Marketing

Tina Rienstra | NIA # 8045



I would like to introduce myself, my name is Tina Rienstra. I live in Crown Point, IN. I am married to Arlen and we just celebrated our 10 year anniversary last year. We were married on September 15th 2001. Yes, we were married just 4 days after 9-11. We have adopted two retired racing greyhound dogs. We have a female fawn named Jasmine, and a male brindle named Bobby.

I like to travel, visit lighthouses, and go antique shopping.

I was first introduced to insulators by Arlen before we were married. Since that time I have collected "the ones I like". I have a collection of kegs. I also have some Carnival Glass and Mickey Insulators that I love. I have also a small collection of what I am calling "frosted" insulators. They have the frost mug look and most of them are either clear or ice blue.

My first insulator show was in London, OH. It is now the Mid-Ohio show in Springfield, OH. I have never missed it since then.

I am a member of the NIA and the Greater Chicago Insulator Club (GCIC).

Arlen & I host the annual "Beat the Winter Blahs" swap meet at our home every January. We have done this for the last 4 years.

I am looking forward to being the next NIA Product Marketing Manager.

I have now inventoried all the materials that Lou sent to me and I am looking forward to working with you. I would love it if you would support YOUR great hobby by purchasing an NIA product or two. Please mail me an order or send me an email with questions or suggestions.

Tina Rienstra

NIA Nominations Chair Announcement

By: Bill Snell

After a call for nominations to fill three upcoming board vacancies in December's Drip Points, we've received applications from three candidates who have confirmed their willingness to serve the NIA. With no competing candidates, the NIA Board of Directors has voted to approve these candidates by acclamation.

President: Lou Hall, who will be serving a second term as NIA President.

Executive Secretary: Steve Roberts.

Central Region Vice-President: Barry "Bear" Spittler.

Steve and Barry will begin their terms after this year's National Show in Kansas City in June. I'm confident that these individuals will serve the NIA well.

Biographies and photos of the new officers will appear in the June issue of Drip Points.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Snell



Membership Director

Donald Briel | NIA # 7218



As of this writing we are now into February. It's time for me to start thinking about this year's travel calendar. It looks like the weather will be good enough that Jeanne and I can make it to Yuma once again to start out our travel year. That's always a nice break from the cold as long as we don't have to drive through ice and snow for the first 400 miles to get there. It also starts the collecting year off right as I always find some treasure to add to the collection, not to mention the renewing of so many friendships.

We are still working on the rest of this year's calendar as we decide what other shows we'll be attending. The must attend is the Kansas City NIA National coming up in June. We haven't missed a National since 2004 and don't plan to start now. This year's National is looking to be a great show. Many thanks go out to the show hosts and all others that put in so much time and effort to make each show a success.

The NIA National show is also a show that requires a current NIA membership to get in on the first day (NIA day) or to be a dealer or displayer any of the show days. Each year a few folks wait until the last minute to pay their NIA dues just to get into the show. Then when the next dues reminder notices go out in October they complain that it isn't fair that they only get a couple of months membership prior to it expiring. Remember, all NIA memberships go from January 1st through December 31st. If dues are paid on time the member gets full benefits, including Drip Points and voting privileges, all year long.

It is my sincere hope that all members realize that NIA membership goes way beyond early admittance to shows and a quarterly magazine. NIA membership also supports the insulator collecting hobby as a whole. The trivial \$12 membership dues support research, education, policing of the hobby, and many other things. All of these incidental things help keep the hobby alive and well.

After NIA dues reminders went out last October we had a tremendous renewal response. So much so that our postage bill for sending the late reminders this past January was about ½ of what it usually is. Many thanks go out to all of those members that pay their dues in a timely manner. Also, extra thanks go out those members that include an extra donation along with their dues payments.

As of February 1st, we had 1405 current members. Renewals are still coming in daily. We also have a very steady stream of new members signing up. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to each and every new member of the NIA.

Now on the personal side, the current Price Guide is still available. Just visit www.InsulatorPriceGuide.com or the ad in this Drip Points for ordering details. More importantly, even though we are still more than 3 years away from the next edition, research is under way for the next Price Guide. Please submit any new finds, comments, suggestions, etc. beginning now. I am also planning to develop the capability of creating custom spreadsheets that can be emailed to interested collectors to help verify the existence of individual insulators. The spreadsheet will be ordered by CD #, Primary Embossing, Index #, and then color plus an indicator as to whether each specific listing has been verified. For unverified listings the reviewer will be able to submit their proof that that particular listing does exist. I would like to hear from anyone interested in taking part in the verification process. I'll need to know what categories you are interested in reviewing so I can customize your spreadsheet. Details of submission expectations will be sent out with the spreadsheet once it is ready. My goal is to have every listing in future Price Guides verified and remove those that are not verified. I will maintain a note as to who verified the listing and where that insulator resides at the time of verification.

Once again, many thanks to all of the collectors that are keeping our hobby alive and vibrant. Let's all continue to do our part to keep fun in the hobby, welcome new collectors, and grow the friendships that we all cherish. May you all have a wonderful year of collecting!

Donald Briel



Philanthropy

Rick Jones | NIA # 201



Spring is getting close and those of us in wintery places like Ohio begin to think about upcoming shows and good digging weather. At least, for those who have the time to put toward those things. I work in a nonprofit arts center so a slow week for me is 40-45 hours. That limits me a lot from having more fun in the hobby. But I did just finalize my plans to head to Kansas City this summer for the National, so I'm very excited about that.

I hope some of you have been thinking about eventually making a donation to the NIA. Fully tax- deductible cash and item donations can help the NIA in its education efforts in a lot of ways. Remember that if you receive anything in return, like membership benefits, those donations cannot be deducted. Your tax advisor is your best source to find out what is and what isn't deductible for tax purposes. By law, the NIA or its board members and committee people cannot offer this advice.

You may want to consider a gift to Bob Stahr's new plaque project for the Hemingray plant site in Covington, KY. If you contributed to the Muncie plaque project, thanks again for doing that. What a great way for our hobby and the NIA to get recognition! The Covington project is just as important and your gift is not only meaningful in moving that project forward, but fully tax deductible. Contact Bob for more information. You may also want to consider a gift to help with NIA Scholarships.

If you are in a position where you are making estate plans like your will, etc., it would be a good time to remember the NIA. Your legal advisor can help you decide the best way to do this. Of course, such planned gifts to the NIA won't help the organization now, but they will help ensure a stronger financial footing for the NIA in the future.

I hope all of you find that special piece for your collection in 2012. With all the great shows, ICON, eBay, great insulator auctions, and the good old search and seize outings ahead of us, how can you miss?
Good luck and enjoy!

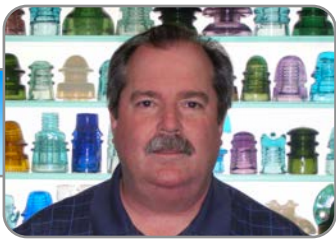
Rick Jones



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- Go green, save a tree.

To switch, email Donald Briel membership@nia.org



Webmaster

Bob Berry | NIA # 1203



Just a quick note to bring you up to speed on recent updates to the NIA website (<http://www.nia.org>). Over the last three months

I have been working on the recently added section on glass insulators from outside North America (GIFONA) and a brand new section on porcelain insulators from outside the US. I have received help from a number of collectors for both sites and their help is greatly appreciated. For the porcelain section, Canadian collector Bob Scafe has been particularly helpful by providing hundreds of photos and information to build the site. Other than articles in Crown Jewels, it has been over 25 years since anything has been published on porcelain insulators outside North America, and this is one of the most prolific areas for new discoveries and research potential. If you have styles not listed on either the glass or porcelain site or any other information, please contact me at webmaster@nia.org.

You do not need to be an expert photographer, just willing to help!



Link for porcelain insulators from outside the United States:

<http://www.nia.org/general/pifous/index.htm>

Link for glass insulators from outside North America:

<http://www.nia.org/general/gifona/gifona.htm>

Working on these updates has really given me an appreciation for the work that went before by Marilyn Albers and N.R. Woodward for the glass styles and Marilyn Albers and Jack Tod for the porcelain. These dedicated collectors are owed a debt of gratitude for the effort to get these insulators documented, including accurate line drawings and detailed history. Marilyn Albers was a true pioneer in this area, having published most of the information currently available, including books which are still the key references today, as well as publishing the bi-monthly foreign insulators column in Crown Jewels for over 23 years!



Some additional items that have been added / updated – use the links below or just click “what’s new” from the main site:

A fully updated NIA handbook now available:

<http://www.nia.org/handbook/index.htm>

Report on a recent find of over 11,000 porcelain insulators:

http://www.nia.org/research/nj_insulator_find.htm

Show report from the 2011 San Jose National:

<http://www.nia.org/nathist/2011.htm>



I'm always looking for input on ways to improve the NIA webpage or for articles & information from the NIA membership to enhance the site. Contact me at webmaster@nia.org for input.

Thanks,

Bob Berry

Do you want to keep Drip Points full color?

You or your club can sponsor the color printing! Contact NIA President Lou Hall for more information. Lou Hall NIA# 7185, President@nia.org or (559) 435-1740

The NIA is an 501(3)(c) charitable organization. This means your donations are tax deductible.



NIA Promotions Chair

Jim White | NIA # 1127



Tradition and Uniqueness in Hosting an insulator Show

What makes a show a success? Memorable? Having attended literally hundreds of shows, it would be futile effort to expect that any series of articles could answer the question in total. But I will attempt to offer some personal perspectives that will hopefully get show hosts and collectors thinking about sponsoring a show to think about the subject. Readers I would be interested in your perspectives, so feel free to write me at Indyblanc@aol.com and I will try to address your comments in future articles:

Regularity

Probably nothing exceeds regularity for heading a show or event toward success.

As a former trade association executive, we travel the country and studied other home shows and one thing that the most successful shared was planning their event on the calendar to avoid major conflicts and then establishing a day, a week or a month in which the event would be held annually. Most were able to develop their event as social event that most citizens looked forward to each year.

Now I am not so naive as to think an insulator show could reach that level but among collectors, it is a distinct possibility. I believe that some of our current events have attained that level. When I purchase my new calendar each year, Springfield is the FIRST item entered.

I should enter a sidebar here. My wife always gets a kick out of how I and many others refer to the insulator hobby as the "THE HOBBY". She laments that there are other hobbies than insulators. Deep down, I understand what she means but I believe we are no more different than those football players who are aware of all the higher institutions of learning but continue to introduce themselves as having played for "THE Ohio State University". I guess it is a statement of being attached and proud. So fellow collectors, please continue to be proud of being a collector and make non-collectors wonder what they are missing.

Remember people are creatures of habit. Regularity plays to this tendency. I can actually remember going to an event only to find that they changed the venue location.

Building Anticipation

On the pre-show side, many collectors build their own anticipation based upon past shows. However, the show host needs to attend to advertising early and often to keep the show in the mind of the potential attendee. It sounds simple but some hosts settle for printing a flyer and leaving it at that. Make a list of all the potential avenues one can use to get the word out. Then choose those that fit the budget.

Many will be at low cost and more about labor like emailing Presidents of area clubs and reminding them to mention your show.

Each year consider expanding the list that you plan to undertake. Not all efforts will be successful, so try to monitor the ones that are worth repeating. Also, try to get feedback from attendees about what they like and what they would change. Everyone is willing to share opinions.

A part of the anticipation includes the traditions that have been built up over time. For example, at the Columbia City Show, the show hosts always treat everyone to pizzas late Friday afternoon. It is a great time to take a break and sit and just talk with people you might not otherwise have had time to chat with.

The Columbia City Show also has a raffle sponsored by the hosts. This includes the traveling trophy (a bit of a white elephant to say the least), insulators and related items donated by hosts and some dealers.

Friday evening, some of the collectors retreat to a local restaurant for drinks and a meal. I have always looked forward to this but last year we found our favorite restaurant had closed, so time to find another venue. Many years of attending London, Ohio (precursor to the Springfield, Ohio Show my former wife and I found the Red Brick Inn. The food was great and word soon spread and it became an open

invitation to everyone to join. Due to show growth, the venue moved to Springfield and Steve and Glenn added a banquet which has been and is a unique opportunity to relax, acknowledge displayers, upcoming shows and generally have some great laughs and honor some of our friends who could not make the show.

More on traditions and uniqueness next issue.

'Until then..... Keep collecting and talking insulators.

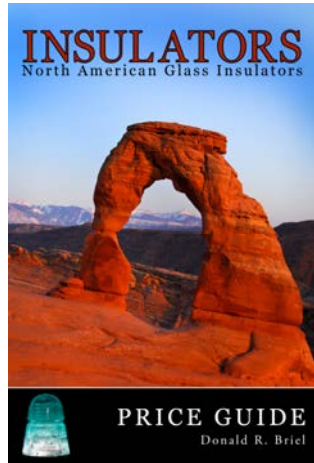
Jim White



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DUNTON TREE INSULATOR



Awards & Recognition Chair

Gene Hawkins | NIA # 421



During dreary winter months we tend to do "inside" stuff, so here are my suggestions:

NIA Hall of Fame | Due by April 1

This is a brand new honor where you can nominate ANYONE to be enshrined in the NIA Hall of Fame. This can be for anyone who has contributed to the insulator hobby, living or dead, member or not! Who is YOUR insulator hero? Write at least a paragraph on WHO they are, WHAT they contributed, and WHY they should be in the NIA Hall of Fame. It's simple! Submit it to me at an address below.

Outstanding Service & Lifetime Membership Nominations | Due by April 1

NIA members can nominate another member in good standing by filling out the forms at: <http://www.nia.org/archives/index.htm> , or you can send me a request and I will mail them to you. Fill out the form and send it to me. It is not certain that either award will be presented at the Awards Banquet at the Kansas City National. But NEITHER will be awarded if there are no nominations! The NIA Board determines the final selections. Hard working members deserve to be nominated!

Outstanding Service: A nomination for Outstanding Service should have made significant contributions to the insulator hobby in the last couple of years. A nominee cannot be a current NIA board member or committee chairman.

Lifetime Membership: The NIA Lifetime Membership Award is the highest honor the NIA gives. Past recipients include NIA members who donated significant time & effort for the insulator hobby. The Lifetime Membership is for a couple, as a spouse is either actively involved or at least supportive of the recipient. Nominees cannot be a current NIA board member or committee chairman.

The Awards & Recognitions Committee needs to receive your completed nomination forms on or before April 1, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact me.

NIA Best of Show Ribbons

Hosting a show? Don't forget the NIA offers at no charge NIA Best of Show ribbons for show hosts to award to displays. If you would like a NIA ribbon to award at your show, all you need to do is ask!

Gene Hawkins
Awards & Recognition Chair
gene.hawkins@mchsi.com
-or-
3847 North Prairie Street
Warsaw, IN 46582



*Triple-Ridge Insulator Club's
Springtime In The Rockies*



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Saturday May 19th 2012 From: 8am – 3pm
 At: 2905 N Cascade Ave Colorado Springs, Co 80907 (just off I-25 at the 145 exit)

Free admission
Free Tables (while they last or bring your own)
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Plenty of Indoor & paved out door space is available
 Please Contact/RSVP one of the following so that we have plenty of food, chairs and tables for you
 Dan Gauron: alyskaco@comcast.net or 719-492-0181
 Matt Poage: tric@clubs.insulators.info or 720-341-2455
 Mike Gaudy: mkgaudy@gmail.com or 970-215-0040
Come Join The Fun
 Show Hosts Not Responsible For Accidents



Treasurer

Bill Rohde | NIA # 1219



National Insulator Association

2011 - 2012 financial statement

6 months ending Dec. 30, 2011

Beginning Balance \$ 29,915.80

Revenues

Membership Dues	\$9,430.68
Product Sales	\$2,214.95
Commemorative Sales	\$2,405.00
Donations	\$4,736.40
Hemingray Plaque Donations	\$270.00
Insurance Income	\$100.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$12.92

Total Income \$19,169.95

Expenses

Advertising	-\$370.00
Taxes, Fees & Insurance	-\$107.06
Marketing Product	-\$340.71
Postage Product	-\$754.37
Membership Expenses	-\$1,294.72
Postage Membership	-\$529.13
Printing	-\$3,461.22
Historian Expense	-\$964.35
Crown Jewels rebate	\$0.00
Drip Points	-\$4,496.98
Show Advertising Rebate	\$0.00
National Show Awards	-\$1,135.22
Commemorative Insulators	-\$246.02
Web Hosting	\$0.00
Hemingray Plaque	-\$25.00
Board Expenses	-\$1,660.35
Scholarship Expense	-\$180.00

Total Expenses (\$15,565.13)

Sub total \$3,604.82

Ending Balance \$ 33,520.62

Bill Rohde

Sinclair-Atkins & terminator in NZ

By Chris Ronayne

Recently, my parents (well, stepfather and mother) and I travelled to Wellington, New Zealand for a small holiday for my stepfather's birthday. New Zealand (North Island anyway...) takes to England as can be seen by their coat of arms and other everyday things such as their UK-styled pedestrian crossings and more importantly, their insulators.

Wandering around the city and suburbs that make up Wellington, you will notice a lot of spools and shackles on the newer houses and buildings (built around the 1960's till around the 1980's). However, on the older houses and buildings (pre-1960) you can find a great selection of cordeaux (U-1445, 1521, 1524, 1528, 1531, 1534 & 1540), terminator (U-1546, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569 & 1571) and pothead insulators (U-1938, 1941 and perhaps U-1938A). Most of the houses have one or two composite potheads, (although a porcelain pothead can be seen once in a while) or one or two brown stoneware, brown glazed or white glazed terminators. Brown cordeaux insulators can also be found on houses, but these are few and far between. Other insulators I observed on houses were U-1408, U-1414, U-1421, U-1491, U-1493, U-1954, U-2475 & U-2497.



Brown terminator in situ on house

Larger buildings often have a couple of cordeaux, terminators, potheads and cable-tops. Wandering around the older parts of the city I even managed to find a langdon (U-1980) on a shop, an "oilbath" (U# unknown) with a tall, stretched top, two Sinclair-Atkins terminators (U-1929A) on a small apartment building and some other rare/uncommon insulators which were well out of reach.

Anyway, I don't really have any interesting stories to tell, but I'll write about how I found and retrieved (more or less) the two Sinclair-Atkins patent insulators and terminator.

Monday 18th July, 2011.

I had initially wandered into the centre of Wellington with my mum, to look at antique/second hand shops. Whilst she was looking in a clothing shop, I walked to another shop, only to find that it was closed. I figured that my mum would be in the clothes shop for a while, so I wandered off to get some directions to some nearby antique shops and to photograph some of the insulators. I had barely stepped off the sidewalk when I noticed something on a shop across the road; a Langdon U-1980!



Langdon U-1980 in situ

It was about a meter to the side of a window on the second floor of the building, and there was a ledge underneath it. There was also a roof over the sidewalk, under the ledge. I ran across the road hoping that I could "pick" my first langdon. I walked to the counter in the shop below and introduced myself and told the owner what I wanted to do; climb out the window, onto the ledge so I could unscrew and take the abandoned insulator. The shop owner's reply was a firm "NO", followed by "the ledge isn't strong enough". That seemed like an insult considering how large and stable the ledge looked, and how the insulator was so close. Oh well, maybe another day...

Dismally, I proceeded to the first antique shop. Half an hour (and three antique and two book shops) later, I

spotted some insulators down in an alley. There were some spools on one side, and a shackle and two terminators on the other.

I walked to the end of the alley and found two composite potheads (surprise, surprise), as well as some unlisted porcelain insulator. To make things better, there was an electrician there who had a ladder.

After introducing myself and telling him my intentions, he held the ladder while I climbed up and unscrewed one of the terminators; I left the other because it was badly broken. He told me I can try and get the uncommon insulator, but he won't help. This was because the owner wasn't friendly, and may not have liked me hanging around and climbing up the side of his building. The electrician "turned a blind eye" and went to a bar for a drink while I rescued the insulator. I was just about to carry the ladder over when a garbage truck drove up the alley to empty the bins. About four men came out of the truck and surrounding buildings to empty the bins. A few minutes later and they were gone. The electrician turned up again to ask if I had retrieved it, but I told him I was interrupted by the garbage collection. At that moment a man came through a gate next to the building which had the insulator. The electrician suggested I ask the man, and I did so.

He wasn't the owner and he said that I shouldn't go around "pinching bits off of buildings". He was acting as if I was planning on stripping the building of all its fittings. After a lecture of sorts from him, I returned the ladder to the electrician, thanked him for his help and left. I decided to return back to the hotel we were staying at, and so I headed back in its general direction.

An hour later (I had to take some postcards to the post office which was quite a distance away), I found myself near The Terrace, the street/boulevard that our hotel was on. As I passed a small apartment building (with three apartments) on Bullers Street (near the corner of Bullers Street and The Terrace), I spotted a pothead and terminator on a bracket. Bullers Street is quite steep, so I took a rest in front of the building and to take a photo of the insulators. My heart almost skipped a beat when I looked down the side of the house, and saw two Sinclair-Atkins insulators on a bracket. They were quite low, but out of reach nevertheless.



Sinclair-Atkins U-1929As in situ

I knocked on the door of the first apartment and asked the tenant there. She said that I could take them but she advised me to ask the other two tenants. I managed to ask one of them, and she called her flat-mate (or husband) out. He was more than willing to help me seeing as I had managed to temporarily fix a broken pipe that was spewing out sewerage near his front door. He climbed up and unscrewed the first insulator. It took a bit of effort but it came off. The inner shed was badly broken and missing a few pieces, but I didn't mind. He unscrewed the second Sinclair-Atkins but only the outside "part" came off. After a lot of effort he also unscrewed the inner shed. This broke though due to excessive rust on the pin. I got all the bits of it, so that I could glue it back together and therefore have a complete Sinclair-Atkins U-1929A.

Well, the holiday is now over, as with all good things. I managed to leave New Zealand with two Sinclair-Atkins U-1929As, three U-1540s (one with "W7244" incused on the top, one Taylor Tuncliff and one Bullers) and one U-1567 (with "84" incused on the top). I hope to return one day and retrieve that Langdon U-1980 and the unlisted insulator. One day...

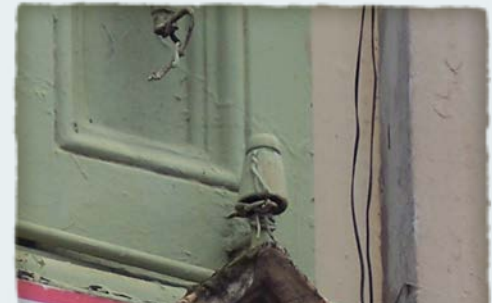
As I say, there's nothing like collecting insulators in a foreign country!



"84" terminator in situ



Straight skirt insulator



Flared skirt insulator

The Fred Locke M-2332 find in Saint Louis, MO

By Mike Spadafora

Saint Louis is one of the few major metropolitan areas in the USA that still has a large amount of its' old 4kv primary distribution lines in service. Most American cities upgraded these systems in the 1960's and 1970s but in the older parts of the this city, the original distribution system dating to the 1920-1930 era remains intact and in service. Driving around Saint Louis is like being in a line construction museum. Relics old poles hardware and insulators that have remained in service since the bright days of the roaring 20's. The local utility , Union Electric seems to have been very frugal even back in the early days , reusing and recycling materials including insulators from the even earlier eras of construction and mixing these in with more modern materials as long as they were deemed serviceable.

Pat Scott a local collector from the area makes a habit of cruising the city looking at old distribution poles and old three wire house service drops for interesting jewels ... over the years such rarities as smooth base peacock HG CD 162's, the drip pointed Barclay, two Pluto's and numerous U-401 fay clamp insulators along with copious quantities of St Louis malleable brackets have turned up on the sides of buildings, old abandoned fire alarm circuits and occasionally on distribution poles.

In the spring of 2010 Pat happened to cruise up a small cut off section of Lynch street just east of the freeway and spotted two very old insulators he could not identify... being the top notch pole photographer he is he took a photo of the pole and posted it to ICON...

It just so happened I was looking on ICON a few moments after he posted the photo of the two early insulators he had spotted ... the moment I saw the photo I knew what they were... Very rare M-2332 Fred Locke multipart !!!



I could hardly believe what I was looking at at first ... after a few moments of pinching myself and making sure the picture was not a good PhotoShop creation, I called Scott on the phone and discussed what he had discovered... Two specimens of one of rarest Fred M. Locke multipart styles dating from nearly 110 years ago! I noticed one of the two in Pat's photos had a VERY distinct crown shape that was much squarer in shape then the other known units making me speculate that it was a one of a kind early applied crown version of this already rare insulator.

You see , all of the known M-2332 specimens in the hobby (all TEN or so of them!) originated with various now long gone electric interurban railways in the Midwestern US states if Illinois, Indiana ,and Ohio and from all I had been able to learn they were all removed from service over 75 years ago which is why today they are so rare today. Basically , in the whole history no one had ever seen one of these in service before...

After realizing historical and monetary value of what he had found , Pat decided to remove the photos from the ICON picture poster to avoid giving the find unneeded publicity until the insulators were safely removed from service and in his hands. Pat and I began collectively strategizing on how to safely get them removed from the pole. We each made various power company and industry contacts over the next year in attempt to save them. Sadly these contacts proved fruitless... In the summer of 2010 I made a visit to St Louis to see fellow Mud collector and rail fan Charles Robinson. We both met up with Pat Scott and did a ghetto insulator tour of St Louis the highlight of which was visiting the pole on Lynch street with the two Fred Lockes on it... I was to say the least astounded to see these pieces of very early electrical history still doing their jobs after 100 years.

Fas forward a year and a half and the ancient crossarm they were mounted on was slowly sagging and cracking under the weight of the heavy copper primary conductors ... In November of 2011 Pat noticed the old arm had nearly separated from the pole and was on the verge of snapping in half and called in the pole as potentially dangerous



because of the sagging primary arm . Thus began what amounted to a stressful daily stake out around the pole watching for the line crew to arrive. Finally they did indeed arrive and through a continued stressful and long drawn out process that lasted about a month, Pat was able to get the two M-2332's safely down . During this time he and I made what seemed like semi daily phone calls as we both white knuckled it waiting to see if the line crew would give up these treasures without a fuss.

The insulators themselves turned out to be just as surprising on the ground as in the air . Both were basically one of a kind pieces one was dated Dec 17 1901 and had sulfur cement with marking 6-2... a unique find in that it is the only M-2332 reported with

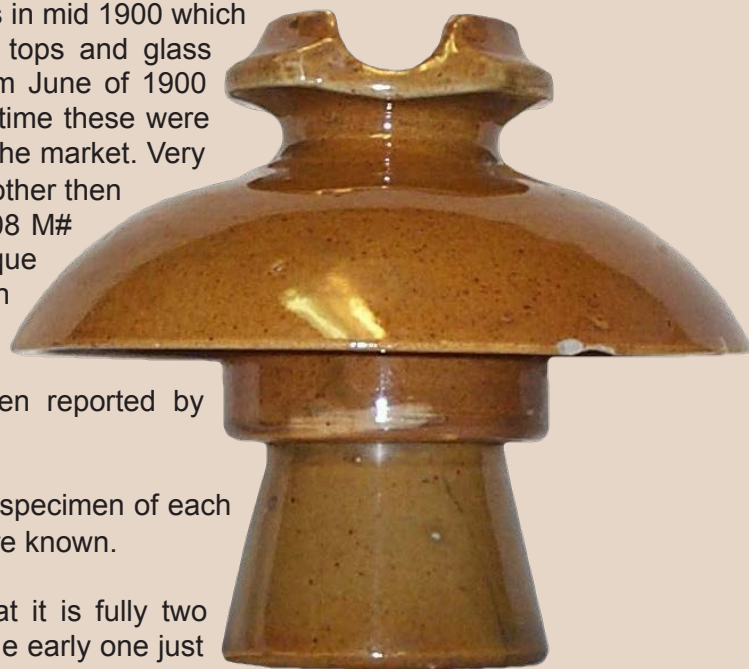
these markings that was produced BEFORE the big fire in late 1901 that destroyed the victor factory. The second was nearly two years newer production , having marking 7-1. Both specimens have 1" pinholes making them Locke cat#307a as shown in the 1904 catalog . All other known M-2332's have 1 3/8" pinholes which would make them catalog #307

Thus far Pat has spotted no more of these in service anywhere in the area. And it remains a total misery how they got there or where they were originally used. As far as I can determine these were likely the oldest two cemented multiparts left in service in north America at the time of there removal.

No collector has ever found one of these in service in hobby history before this either.

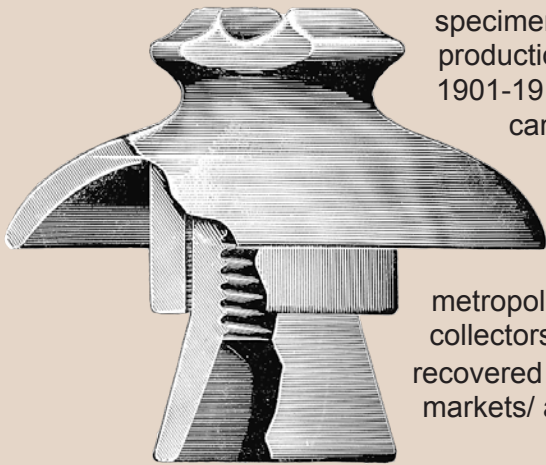
The thing that makes this find so striking is the author of this article is that these pieces were actually in service . Other then the few large multiparts discovered in California in the 1970s and 1980's (M-3725, M-4383) it is basically unheard of to find any of the insulators produced by Fred Locke still in service. The vast majority were removed in the 1930's and as far as I have been able to determine NONE were left in service beyond this era ... to this end Pat Scott, Charles Robinson and I are the only three living people who actually saw one of these (or any Fred Locke specimens in service who actually recognized what they were. To put into another context .. imagine seeing a civil war era threadless piece still in service ... basically these insulators are the equivalent for power lines.

Fred M. Locke introduced his "combination" series of insulators in mid 1900 which included the famous gutters and other stiles with porcelain tops and glass bottoms . The original production of these insulators ran from June of 1900 until the factory burned in late December of 1901 during this time these were the only cemented multiparts of any large size available on the market. Very few of the smaller sizes were produced in the 1900-1901 era other then the M-2332 , #307 or #307a , U-675b #303 and M-2335 #308 M# 2336. The M-2332 specimen that was just discovered is unique in this it is the only insulator from this production that has been discover still in service in modern times . Reportedly some of the large M-2795 glass base gutters were removed from service in California in the late 1960s. But none have been reported by collectors.



All of these insulators remain extremely rare with one unique specimen of each known except the double spouted M-2335 of which only four are known.

The second M-2332 specimen is also very interesting in that it is fully two years newer then the older one. It has marking 7-1 and like the early one just mentioned has 1" threads a characteristic not found on any other M-2332

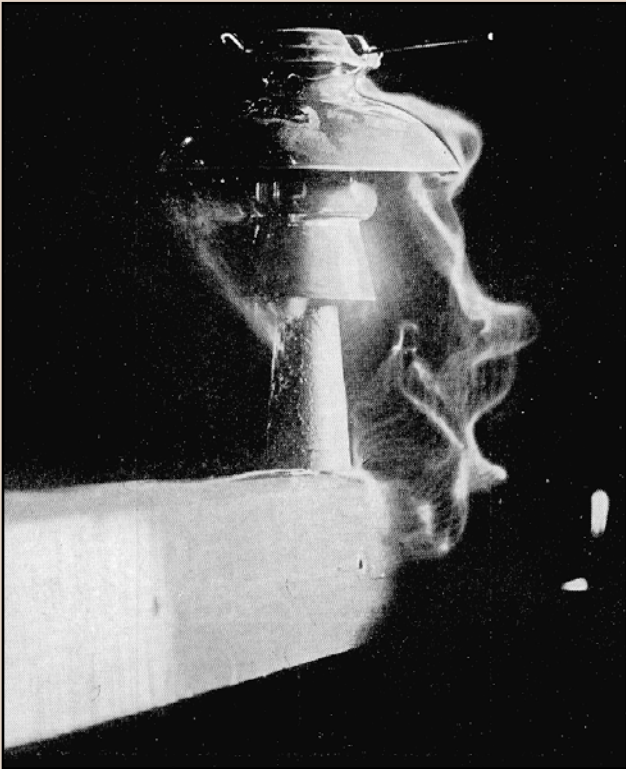


specimens . How did these two unique insulators that were clearly from different production orders end up on this pole? Where were they originally used in the 1901-1910 era? They were both from special orders as well as the M-2332 normally came with only 1 3/8" threads...

Perhaps future research will turn up answers to these questions

Thus far no other M-2332 specimens have been spotted in the St Louis metropolitan area ... Considering that the area has been actively hunted by collectors for 40+ years the chances of more of these jewels being found or recovered are slim. none have ever surfaced in the hands of retired lineman or at flea markets/ antique shops in the area ether.

No. 307 and 307 A - 3 Pieces, cemented and glazed



No. 307 Insulator, on metal pin and cross-arm, arcing to cross-arm at 40,000 volts, under rain test. Precipitation 3/4 per minute.

Insulator No.	307	307A
Diameter	7 3/8 "	7 3/8 "
Height	6 3/8 "	6 3/8 "
Top Groove, diameter	7/8 "	7/8 "
Side groove, diameter	7/8 "	7/8 "
Weight, Packed	5 1/2 lb.	5 1/2 lb.
Number per barrel	30	30
Sparking distance, Wet	4"	4"
Test voltage	70,000	70,000
Line voltage	27,000	27,000
Size pinhole	1 1/8 "	1
Use pin No	16, 17, 19 or 24	1, 3 or 13
Use ridge iron No	48	38, 78 or 98
Code word	Kopfther	Koppeln

Photo Credit | 2 "In Use" Photos: Pat Scott | M-2332 Photo Mike Spadafora
Drawing, Photo and Chart from Locke Catalog No 8 1904 | Scanned by Elton Gish

NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting of the Members of the NIA

The Annual Membership Meeting of the NIA will be held on

Friday, June 22nd, 2012, from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

in the Ambassador Room

The location will be the

KCI Expo Center

11730 N. Ambassador Drive

Kansas City, Missouri.

Lou Hall, NIA President

The South Jersey Insulator Mine

By Shaun Kotlarsky



If you ever went out hunting for insulators in the wild, you know the thrill of finding even one insulator. If you find more than one it's a really good hunt. But imagine if you walked into your backyard and found a mound and discover there are insulators there, started digging out that mound and end up unearthing 11,200 insulators! Sound like a dream and nothing that would ever happen in reality? Think again! This just happened!



A gentleman going by the name "Relic Hunter" in South Jersey found what he calls an insulator mine. It took him over two weeks to unearth all these insulators and he calculated that he walked over 22 miles between the pile and where he was storing them. Insulators range from your average brown porcelain pieces to some amazingly beautiful yellow porcelain pieces.



After watching all of his videos on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/InsulatorMine>) I decided to contact him and ended up getting

several nice pieces for my collection some amazing yellow porcelain. Photos of them are scattered wrote this article.



I think it's safe to say this qualifies as a largest single mound of insulators that we know! Sure many things where found at the Hemingray or the Victor dumps, but not by one person!

So what is he going to do with all these insulators? In talking with him I get the feeling that we have a new insulator collector here! He also is contacting a National show host to see if he can work out something with her to donate some of the insulators to her to sell to her audience and the proceeds going to charity I will keep you updated on the progress of this.



Exciting New Discovery

By Dan Gauron

It's a statement that always catches the attention of an avid insulator collector. It was also a topic of discussion on ICON back in January that ballooned into a full bore, month long back and forth, sometimes heated (is it real, fake, altered,etc) exchange from folks on both sides of the fence. OK, maybe it hasn't been seen before... but, is it of old manufacture, is it one of thousands produced from the same mold in a known insulator glass house. Was it specifically made for service, an experimental piece or simply as a commemorative, collectable or whimsy art form? Then of course there's the altered and fakes side of things that always draws heated discussion. A lot of great questions were asked and many differing yet good opinions voiced. There wasn't and never will be a single answer or absolute coming from such a discussion that satisfies everyone, but it would seem that most all agreed that providing the best information (good or bad) available is the key to an informed collector. Then he or she can collect with confidence, knowing "within reason" that the piece on their shelf is what they believed it to be when they acquired it. After all the back and forth discussion is said and done, I believe Paul Greaves put it best by saying: "In my opinion, everyone should be free to collect or get excited about whatever they like. As a hobby we should just encourage honesty about what things are, so people can make informed choices". The NIA is all about furthering the principles of fair play and providing guidelines that better help make for a more knowledgeable collector. I guess there's no better time than now to jump in with another "Exciting New Discovery".



A friend and collector "Michael Gibbons" contacted me about a month ago concerning an "exchange" insulator that he had found in a Colorado furniture/thrift store last November. He said that although it was similar to the common CD 115, he felt it was different enough to warrant a look by Woody for consideration of a new CD .XX "point" designation. I asked for a photo, and from the fuzzy, out of focus one that he sent, "I wasn't impressed. It looked pretty much like any other Hemingray CD 115 that may have got a bit distorted and miss-shaped when removed from the mold. It wasn't until a few weeks later when I saw the piece in person that I immediately realized it was significantly different from any other CD 115 I'd seen. Its round top dome more resembled a CD 117, the wire groove is considerably larger, and the skirt much shorter than any other Hemingray CD 115. It was obvious that this wasn't a mistake on the part of a mold maker, but instead, Hemingrays intentional pursuit of a change in design and dimension. Was it done to create a slightly different look, a special order for a client, an extreme retooling to improve on a previous design or possibly just an attempt to more closely mimic a competitors (CD 117) design might never be known, but one thing is fairly

certain, this wasn't a mistake and the change obviously didn't cut the mustard and make it on through into mass production (unless they all disappeared). On behalf of the current owner, I agreed to gather more information on the piece and to see if others thought it might be a candidate for separate CD listing. I sent photos and dimensions (see attached) to 16 folks in the hobby who I consider very knowledgeable collectors. Four specialize in Hemingray products, four are long time dealers, four are long time collectors, and two are previous and current price guide publishers and finally the inventor of the Consolidated Design system N.R. (Woody) Woodward. I've heard back from all but two, and here are the responses.

Seven say it's different enough to warrant a new .XX

Three say it's unique, yet are on the fence as to whether it's different enough to be warrant an .XX

Four say it's worthy of variant status but not a new CD unless proven that Hemingray was going for a new design.

Two have not responded.

Only one of those responding thought they may have seen another of these. All were surprised that this is the only one that has publicly surfaced to date, considering the mass production and commonality of the exchange style of insulator.

Ultimately this is Woody's call as to whether this piece is different enough to warrant a new CD number, and this story is about sharing a new discovery, not in any way about influencing any final outcome. It's simply put

out there as an interesting story, and the fact that new discoveries are still being made within the hobby. I know I enjoy seeing these new discoveries before they disappear into someone's collection, and hope you do too. Michael invites all thoughts and feedback you might have regarding this piece, especially if you have one or have seen another out there. Keep your eyes open... there are sure to be more Exciting New Discoveries out there.

CD 115.1

CD 115

CD ???

CD 117



Good Collecting,

Dan Gauron | alYESKACO@comcast.net



Scholarship Committee

Kay Bryan | NIA # 4099



At this writing the deadline has come and gone and we have twenty eight applications for the academic scholarship !!! Now the work for the committee begins. I would like to thank my committee for their efforts and the contributions they have made to make this a success. Be assured that each applicant will receive a complete evaluation. The recommendation of the committee will be forwarded to the NIA Board by May 1st. Once the Board has approved the selection, applicants will be notified by mail and the formal presentation of the scholarship will be at the NIA National in July.

Unfortunately the vocational scholarship has not been utilized so perhaps the dollars from that can be added to next year's academic scholarship.

In retrospect the deadline is a bit early but hopefully this has not minimized our responses. There are many factors in the time line that we have become aware of as we work our way through this process. The process needs some tweaking.

This is a new experience of NIA and as with all things new, it can be improved. It is the hope of the committee that we will have an opportunity to do this again next year ! Remember we need a benefactor or multiple benefactors to keep this program alive ! What better gift or remembrance to honor an NIA collector ! If multiple clubs donated \$100 then very soon we would have \$1000 or more to offer as a scholarship. Please discuss this at your club meetings and shows. Remember if the current collectors don't revitalize the hobby, it will die !

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this effort and we look forward to the scholarship awards at the NIA national in June.



Spring 2012 NIA Products

www.nia.org/products

GOLF / POLO SHIRTS

Colors: Call or email for colors
Info: All with embroidered logo
some with pockets, pockets, 2X \$3.00 extra

Price: \$38 or \$41

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3XL ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

BUTTON FRONT SPORT SHIRT

Colors: White, Red, Blue, Brown, Tan



Info: All with embroidered logo
(no pockets)

Price: \$32 or \$35

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3XL ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

DENIM SHIRTS

Colors: Stonewash Blue or Natural



Info: Nicely weighted denim, pre-shrunk cotton, left-side pocket

*ladies order comparable men's size. see chart

Price: \$35 or \$38

Embroidered logo

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3XL ___

* S/Sleeve ___ *L/Sleeve ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

T-SHIRT

Colors: Stonewash Green, Stonewash Med. Blue, Pebble (Sand), Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Hanes Heavyweight, 6.1 oz .cotton Pre-shrunk. Screen-printed logo (front & back)

Price: \$20 or \$23

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3X ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

HENLEY T-SHIRT

Colors: Black and Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Only come with embroidered logo.
3 button placket

Price: \$25 or \$28

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3X ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

EMBROIDERED LOGO T-SHIRT

Colors: Sand, Gold, Ecru, Ash Gray, White, Cardinal Red, Lt. Blue, Army Green, Navy, Bright Green, Lt. Steel Gray, Stonewash Green, Chestnut Brown, Maroon



Info: I have a limited number of t-shirts with pockets, call for details

Pockets, \$2.00 additional on all regular t-shirts

Price: \$20 & 23

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3X ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

CREW NECK SWEATSHIRTS

Colors: Hunter Green, Cardinal Red, Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Heavy weight 100 % Cotton/polyester blend, Pre-shrunk, Embroidered logo

Price: \$25 or \$30

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3X ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

HOODED SWEATSHIRT

Colors: Lt. Steel Gray

Info: With full front zipper/muff pocket & drawstring hood, embroidered logo

Price: \$35 or \$40

Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___
2XL ___ 3X ___

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

CAN KOOZIE™

Colors: Blue, Red



Info: The original beverage Koozie™ With NIA Logo. Fits any standard 12 oz Can or water bottle.

Price: \$1

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

EMBROIDERED CAP

Colors: Stone/ Navy bill, Khaki / Green bill, or all Denim (Circle color choice)



Price: \$16

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

COLLECTORS PATCH

Price: \$4

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

NIA DECAL

Info: for inside car window

Price: \$0.50

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

NIA NAME BADGE

Info: Engraved; beveled edges | Pin back (free) OR Magnetic back add \$1.00

Price: \$13 or \$14

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

BADGE BAR

Info: For NIA position or Local Club

Price: \$4

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

TOTE BAG

Info: "Big Thunder" Tote bag - sturdy With NIA logo

Price: \$15

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

Name Badge Engraving Information:

Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____ Pin Magnet

Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____ Pin Magnet

Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____ Pin Magnet

Club Bar _____ Quantity Needed _____

Club Bar _____ Quantity Needed _____

Club Bar _____ Quantity Needed _____



Thank you for supporting the NIA!

U.S. Postage:

\$6.75 for the first item & \$1.50 for each additional item ordered.

Postage for Patches, Decals, Badge Bars are \$0.60 each.

Name Badges are \$0.85 each to mail.

For Postage outside the US or AK & HI Contact me for quote

Shirt Sizing Chart:

Adult/ Mens

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

Ladies

S 28-30 | M 32-34 | L 36-38 | XL 40-42

Ladies order comparable adult/men's size for most shirts, unless specifically noted as a ladies shirt

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Subtotal: _____

US Postage: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Contact Information:



Tina Rienstra | 6527 W. 93rd Avenue | Crown Point | IN 46307 | 219-365-7913 | tliens@att.net



Membership Application & Renewal Form

<http://nia.org/membership/>

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 (Payable to the NIA in U.S. funds) **To:** **Donald R. Briel**
 NIA Membership Director
 P.O. Box 188
 Providence, UT 84332
don.briel@comcast.net

Dues Schedule:
 Regular Membership \$12.00
 Junior Membership (under 18) \$5.00
 Club or Organization \$12.00

Check appropriate class: Regular Family Junior Club/Org.
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 _____

Include me in the Annual NIA/Crown Jewels Directory Yes No
 Include my Telephone Number Yes No
 Include my E-Mail Address Yes No
 I would like to receive Drip Points in the following format Paper Electronic
 (Check only one, An E-mail address is required for electronic)

Referred by: _____ **NIA #** _____

Additional Family Members residing in the Same Household at no additional cost.

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

Signed _____

Date _____

Revised January 1, 2012

Amount Enclosed \$ _____



NIA Commemorative Committee

Carolyn Berry | NIA # 4336



Update on the NIA commemorative for 2012



2010

Orange Amber



2011

Pacific Surf



2012

???

The mold has been updated for the 2012 Kansas City National and the color, we hope, will be a nice amethyst. The glass company is pouring this color mid-February, so we should have a sample in hand by the beginning of March. We generally pour in mid-March, and the Commemoratives shipped to us by early April.

We will be sending emails to those that have ordered before. However, if you do not get email, or have changed your email since last March, please contact us so we can send you information on the 2012 commemorative or update your contact information.

We still have some 2010 & 2011 regular Commemoratives available. There is a limited number of solid pours & extra striking remaining for Pacific Surf. Please call or email me for details.

Full details of the 2012 Commemorative will be posted to ICON, Crown Jewels and in the Summer issue of Drip Points.

Carolyn Berry | NIA # 4336

NIA Commemorative Committee Coordinator

Phone: (512) 255-2006 | email: pyrex553@aol.com

Drip Points Magazine Advertising Information

- Display Ads will be sold by fractions of a page.
- Camera-ready copy is preferred but not required.
- An additional fee may be charged for color and set-up based on size and complexity for ads.
- All advertising will be kept confidential until it is published.
- Multiple ads must run in consecutive issues with no changes.
- All ads must be paid for in advance.
- Advertisements must meet all postal regulations that govern publications mailed at Non-Profit Standard Mail prices of postage.

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Full year 4 x = **\$367.00**

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1 x = **\$20.00**
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1 x = **\$15.00**
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For more Info. on advertising or
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Membership Handbook 2012 Edition

A Manual of Operations, Procedures, Rules and Guidelines for the National Insulator Association, Inc.

Those of you receiving this hardcopy version issue of Drip Points are aware that the mailing also includes a copy of the new NIA Handbook. Those of you receiving Drip Points electronically can print out the Handbook found at www.nia.org.

Corrections in the NIA Handbook Bylaws

After the Handbook was printed several sections of the NIA Bylaws were found to be incorrect. The affected sections are listed here with the correction shown in **bold** highlight. Please note the correction in your Handbook or attach this page for future reference. The correct Bylaws are also posted on the NIA website, www.nia.org.

Section 5.2 Quorum. Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute or by other provisions of these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation, not less than **five percent (5%)** of the Voting Members will be considered a quorum for purposes of transacting business.

Section 6.2 Number of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of ten (10) directors who shall be elected **or appointed** as provided in Article 11 and subject to Arizona law. Subject to the foregoing limitation, the number of directors may be altered from time to time by a duly adopted resolution of the Board of Directors, provided that no decrease shall have the effect of shortening the term of any incumbent director.

Section 6.6 Resignation or Removal

(c) Delete all of subsection (c)

Section 9.1 Regular, Annual and Special Meetings

(b) The regular meeting held in **July** of each year (or such other month selected by a majority of the duly elected Board of Directors) shall be designated as the annual meeting of the Corporation.

Section 9.2 Quorum. Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute or by other provisions of these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation, not less than a majority of the then elected **and appointed** directors shall be required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting, and the act of the majority of the directors present at any meeting, at which a quorum is present, shall be the act of the Board of Directors. The directors shall act only as a Board and the individual directors shall have no power as such.

Section 11.3 Election of Directors

(a) Election Meeting. Except as otherwise provided in this Article 11, Directors shall be elected from a ballot sent to all Members in the spring issue of "Drip Points" ("Director Ballots"). The Director Ballots must be returned by any member wanting to vote for a Director to the **Secretary** on or before May 1st to be a valid ballot. Results of the election shall be provided to the Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation and reported in the fall issue of "Drip Points."

Section 11.4 Election and Term of Office of Officers

(a) President, Treasurer and Secretary. The President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by the Members from a ballot sent to all Members in the spring issue of "Drip Points" ("Officer Ballots"). Each shall serve a staggered two year term, and may serve successive terms. The Officer Ballots must be returned by any member wanting to vote for an officer to the **Secretary** on or before May 1st to be a valid ballot. The Officer Ballots shall be tallied by the Secretary on May 1st. Results of the election shall be provided to the Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation and reported in the fall issue of "Drip Points." The term of office of all elected officers shall commence at the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation and shall continue until the next Annual General Meeting of the Corporation or a respective successor is elected and qualified.

(c) Regional Vice Presidents. A Vice President shall be elected by each geographic region from the slate of officers provided by the Directors to the Membership from a ballot sent to all Members in the spring issue of "Drip Points" ("Regional Ballots"). The Regional Ballots must be returned by any member wanting to vote for a Regional Vice President to the **Secretary** on or before May 1st to be a valid ballot. The Regional Ballots shall be tallied by the Secretary on May 1st. Results of the election shall be provided to the Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation and reported in the fall issue of "Drip Points." Each Vice President is elected to a staggered three year term and may serve successive terms. Each Vice President must be a resident of the geographic region that he represents. The First Vice President is the Vice President that has served as a Vice President for the greatest amount of time.

Upcoming Shows

MARCH 10, (SATURDAY)

Saint Joseph, Missouri

10th Annual St. Joseph Insulator/Bottle Show & Sale. American Legion Pony Express Post #359, 4826 Frederick Avenue. Show hours: 9 am – 3 PM. Free Admission. Sponsored by the Missouri Valley Insulator Club. Insulators, bottles, lightning rod balls & arrows, telephones, and advertising. We have 70 tables available for 2012. For information and/or a show packet contact: DENNIS R WEBER, NIA #1889, 3609 Jackson St., St. Joseph, MO 64507, ph: 816-364-1312, or stjoeshow2012@aol.com.

MARCH 17 (SATURDAY)

Helotes, Texas

One Alamo Insulator Potluck will be held Saturday, March 17 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM at 9211 Putman Drive, Helotes, TX 78023. Bring a table & chair. Lunch will be provided. Bring side dish or dessert. JIM FIELDING, NIA #4581, ph: (210) 684-7679 or jfielding@satx.rr.com

MARCH 17, (SATURDAY)

Seattle, Washington

23rd Annual Emerald City Insulator/Bottle Collector's Get Together and Potluck, Saturday, March 17, starting at 10:00 AM at BF Day School, 3921 Linden Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98103. Bring insulators, electrical artifacts, signs, bottles, etc. Limited tables available, bring a table if you can. Lunch is potluck. GIL HEDGES-BLANQUEZ, NIA #3358, ph: (206)-218-7936, ROBIN HARRISON, NIA #3911, ph: (206)-522-2135 or WIN & BONNIE TRUEBLOOD, NIA #172 & #5323, ph: (360)-491-1285.

MARCH 25, (SATURDAY)

Enfield, Connecticut

Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club Annual Spring Insulator, Bottle, and Tabletop Collectibles Show and Sale. American Legion Hall, 566 Enfield Street (US Route 5), Enfield, Connecticut. Show hall is 1 mile from Exit 49 of I-91 (20 minutes from Hartford as well as the Massachusetts Turnpike). Show Hours 8 AM to 2 PM. Dealer setup 6 AM to 8 AM. Free Admission. 35+ sales tables as well as several displays. For dealer contracts, display information, or any other details – please contact JOHN RAJPOLT, NIA #1800, ph: (203) 261-1190. E-mail: Rajpolt@earthlink.net

APRIL 13 – 14 (FRIDAY – SATURDAY)

Yorkville, Illinois

Formerly the WHEATON show. Set up and come to buy, sell or trade Friday night, dealers only 5pm – 9pm. Saturday, Free Admission 8am – 3pm. Contact JASON TOWNSEND, NIA #7822, ph: (630) 667-3357, jtins76@gmail.com. Visit www.kendallcountyfair.com for directions. This is the 3rd year at Yorkville. This is a huge facility in a great location! Last year 113 tables sold, this year 150 tables are available! Display tables available also, contact Rick Sollar. No rules.

APRIL 20 – 21 (FRIDAY – SATURDAY)

Antioch, California

46th Annual Golden State Historical Bottle Society Antiques & Collectibles Show, Contra Costa County Fairgrounds at the Sunset Hall, Antioch, California. Hours: Friday 12 noon to 6 PM, Saturday 9 AM – 3 PM. Friday is dealer setup and early lookers admission of \$10.00. Saturday admission is free. Free walk-in appraisals and buyers at the show. INFO: GARY or DARLA ANTONE, NIA #8949, phone: (925)-373-6758; e-mail: packrat49er@netscape.net

APRIL 21, (SATURDAY)

Fresno, California

16th Annual Rohde ranch Barbeque and Tailgater. Saturday 7 AM to 4 PM. Insulator Club members in good standing are invited to this event hosted by the Rohde Family. You will enjoy free of charge the famous Deep-Pit BBQ Feast courtesy of our gracious hosts: Don, Camille and Bill Rohde. Any questions, please call Don and Camille, NIA #5365, 7593 at (559)-435-2162 or Bill, NIA #1219 at (530)-701-4377, or e-mail Bill at norcalmud@yahoo.com. Please bring insulators, go-withs, bottles, antiques, anything you want to sell or trade, even if it's only a few items. Numerous tables are provided by our hosts, but you may bring your own, or just open your tailgate and sell and trade! Swapping stories and bringing your recent finds are strongly encouraged. See the GSIC website for driving instructions: <http://www.goldenstateinsulatorclub.org>

APRIL 21, (SATURDAY)

Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania

Western Reserve Insulator Club's 12th Annual Allegheny Valley Insulator Show & Sale. VFW Post #894. Hours 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Dealer setup 7:00 AM, 8' table \$20.00. Info: RON BARTH, NIA #7863, ph: (724) 845-8439, e-mail: rktbarth@windstream.net. Directions: Route 28 Exit 16 (Freeport), follow to Natrona Hts, Right at signal (Freeport Rd), Right at signal up lane to VFW.

MAY 18-19 (FRIDAY – SATURDAY)

Cayucos, California

20th Annual GSIC Insulator Club Spring Show, Sale & BBQ. The Golden State Insulator Club is hosting this wonderful event, located in Cayucos-By-The-Sea, California. The show is located in the Lio9ns Veterans Hall, located adjacent to the pier. It overlooks the bright blue Pacific Ocean and the best beach on the Central California coast. Dealer set up on Friday should be no later than 12 noon (possibly earlier). Dealer tables are available. Sales tables will cost \$40.00 first table and \$30.00 each subsequent table. Show hours are Friday from 2 until 6 pm and Saturday from 9 am until 3 pm. Admission is free. The "Best in the West" BBQ is immediately after the show on Saturday. The BBQ is free to members of the club. Join the club and a satisfying feast is yours. There are motels, restaurants and an RV park in Cayucos and the general vicinity. Contacts for general information: BOB MERZOIAN, NIA #3941, ph: (559) 781-6319, email: bobmerzoian@mac.com or DAVE LeFORGE, NIA #7736, ph: (909) 783-3423, email: leforge@roadrunner.com. For dealer contracts: BILL ROHDE, NIA #1219, ph: (530) 701-4377, email: norcalmud@yahoo.com

MAY 18-19 (FRIDAY – SATURDAY)

Columbia City, Indiana

The 2012 Columbia City, Indiana Insulator, Bottle & Antique Show will be held May 18 & 19 at the Whitney County 4H Fairgrounds, 581 W. Squawbuck Rd, just off US Hwy 30 and one mile South on Lincoln Way. Friday hours: Dealer setup from Noon to 3:00 PM, show from 3:00 to 7:00 PM, Seminar from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Saturday: Dealer setup from 6:00 to 9:00 AM and show from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. First 8 ft. table is \$25.00; additional at \$20.00 ea. CHUCK DITTMAR, NIA #2910, ph: (260) 485-7669, 5209 Forest Grove Dr. Fort Wayne, IN 46835 or GENE HAWKINS, NIA #421, at gene.hawkins@mchsi.com

MAY 19, (SATURDAY)

Mountain Home, North Carolina

The May Dixie Jewels Insulator Club swap meet, hosted by Fred and Becky Pittman, will be held in Mountain Home, North Carolina on Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Mountain Home Fire and Rescue on U.S. Highway 25. This is always a popular meeting location, so don't miss it! Add to your collection and enjoy a day of fellowship with other collectors from around the southeast surrounded by the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. Bring a table and any insulators you wish to show or sell. There is no charge to set up. A noon meal will be served and side dishes are appreciated. For more information, directions, or to let them know you are coming and what you can contribute to the meal, please contact FRED & BECKY PITTMAN, NIA # 7323, 7912 at (8828) 692-6236.

MAY 19 (SATURDAY)

Randolph, Minnesota

NW REGION INSULATOR CLUB SPRING SWAP MEET. Our first swap meet of 2012 will be hosted by Linda and Bob Bryan at their home at 7969 260th St. E, Randolph, MN. Hours are 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please bring your own tables. This is a great location about 30 minutes south of the Twin Cities with a huge yard and plenty of cover so any rain showers will not bother you at all. For info. Contact LINDA at (507) 263-3798 or rbryan@citlink.net or the YENNIES, NIA #6294, 6295 at (507) 289-1095 or klyennie@hotmail.com. RSVP if you plan to attend.

MAY 26 (SATURDAY)

Spokane, Washington

Umpteenth annual Spokane Insulator and Collectible Sell and Swap. This year held at the Mimmons Mortuary and Fun House. (Home of Dan & Kelli Simmons) This year featuring special celebrity appearance by the original Grumpy Old Man, unfresh from the poppy harvest in Afghanistan. Friday night BS session and barnacle seminar (May 25th). Please reserve your free lunch and sales tables by calling or emailing. DAN SIMMONS, NIA #8245, ph: (509) 220-9636 or WILLIAM BURGER, NIA #2247, ph: (509) 443-9037 Email: dbburger7@gmail.com. Show address: Simmons Fun House, 1217 N. Wrangler Dr., Medical Lake, WA 99022.

JUNE 2, (SATURDAY)

Farmington, New Mexico

5TH Annual B-Square Ranch / Tommy Bolack Insulator Tailgater will be held on Saturday, June 2nd at the B-Square Ranch, 3901 Bloomfield Highway, Farmington, NM 87401. Tours will be available for the Bolack Electromechanical Museum and Bolack Museum of Fish & Wildlife. The Electromechanical Museum contains Tommy's amazing 50 year collection of antique electrical artifacts that tie in well with insulator collecting, creating the largest go-with museum of its kind. The Bolack Museum of Fish & Wildlife is one of the largest private collections of its type in the world. Tours will be available by pre-appointment only on Friday, June 1st. The insulator tailgater will begin at 9:00 AM Saturday, June 2nd. Admission is free. No table fee. Bring your tables or open your tailgates. (A few tables will be available as the event may be moved inside one of the museums in case of inclement weather.) Special tours of Tommy's personal world class insulator collection will also be available on Saturday. Lunch will be catered free of charge to all guests! Please take note that this is a RSVP event that will require advance planning. Please inform us as far in advance as possible if you plan to attend, including your tour request. RSVP to: TOMMY BOLACK, NIA #3756, ph: (505) 325-7873 (Please leave message if there's no answer.)



JUNE 22 - 24 (FRIDAY - SUNDAY)

Kansas City, Missouri

43rd National Insulator Association Convention, Show and Sale. Holiday Inn KCI Expo Center. Close to airport, FREE shuttle, 35,000 sq. ft. of Glass & Porcelain, Raffles, Auctions, Walk-In Appraisals and more. It has been 40 years since a National has been in Kansas City, so come join us in filling 200+ dealer and display tables and to showcase our hobby to Mid-America. There are incentives for early registration in drawings for FREE room nights, tables & banquet ticket for dealers, displayers and attendees. Download show packet at www.insulatorclubs.org/mvic or call DARRYL WAGNER, NIA #8671, ph: (816) 719-0801, kcinsulators@kcba.co or CHARLES BRANDON, NIA #1892, ph: (816) 918-5126, cbrandon@kc.rr.com

JULY 21 (SATURDAY)

Bend, Oregon

First ever insulator swap meet and tailgater at the home of Jim Sinasek, 64420 Research Road, Bend, OR 97701 on July 21st from 9:00 AM to dark. Hosted by the Jefferson State Insulator Club. BBQ at noon. Bring side dishes. Limited number of tables available. Please bring your own if you can. Camp on site or at the nearby Tumalo State Park. Motels close by also. Info: JIM SINASEK, NIA #8552, ph: (541) 383-8967 or email: oregonjim@q.com

JULY 27 & 28 (FRIDAY - SATURDAY)

Arcanum, Ohio

18th Annual Hog Roast & Pool Party July 27th and Insulator Swap July 28th at the home of Alan Stastny, 8784 Grubbs Rex Road, Arcanum, Ohio 45304. Insulators, lightning rod collectibles, milk bottles & other vintage collectibles will be featured in Saturday's Swap from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. ALAN STASTNY, NIA #4989, ph: (937) 884-7379

AUGUST 11 (SATURDAY)

Martinsburg, West Virginia

12th annual Shenandoah Valley Insulator Show and Sale. Calvary United Methodist Church, 220 W. Burke St. Dealer set up 7am - 9am. Show hours 9am - 2pm. Sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club. INFO: Jeff Hollis, 56 Corning Way, Martinsburg, W, Va. 25405, (304) 263-6140 or wvacampfire@gmail.com.

AUGUST 11 (SATURDAY)

Grandview, Washington

SSS Tailgater, 1621 Bethany Rd, Grandview, WA 98930 on Saturday, August 11th, 2012 starting at 9:00 AM. Info: TERRY DROLLINGER, NIA #7930, ph: (509) 830-2809 or email: terrymdroll@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 7 - 9 (FRIDAY - SUNDAY)

Merritt, British Columbia, Canada

Annual insulator swap meet at the Insulator Ranch, 3045 Spanish Creek Place, Merritt, B.C. Use exit #286 off Coquahalla Hwy #5, and head towards Merritt. Turn left onto Coldwater Road, proceed 4 blocks to Spanish Creek Place. Just follow the "Insulator Show" signs. Trailers, Motor Homes, RV's all welcome. Bev provides a delicious "chilli and rolls" luncheon on Saturday, and a breakfast of coffee, bacon and eggs Sunday morning for the survivors. No charge: our way of putting something back into a great hobby. Tables provided. For info: BOB SSAFE, NAI #6233, ph: (250) 378-2787 or email: bobsafe@telus.net.

National Insulator Association



Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Lou Hall, NIA #7185
363 W Stuart Ave
Fresno, CA 93704
president@nia.org

FIRST PAST PRESIDENT

Bob Stahr, NIA #4186
515 Main St., Unit 403
West Chicago, IL 60185
1stpastpres@nia.org

SECOND PAST PRESIDENT

Kevin Jacobson, NIA #6720
1102 West Aster Dr
Phoenix, AZ 85029-2808
(602) 564-0815
2ndpastpres@nia.org

WESTERN REGION VP

Dan Gauron, NIA #8176
P.O. Box 1721
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
westernvp@nia.org

CENTRAL REGION VP

Bill Snell, NIA #2624
11427 E Scarritt Ave
Sugar Creek, MO 64054
(816) 769-7455
centralvp@nia.org

EASTERN REGION VP

Matt Grayson, NIA #387
34-30 78th Street, Apt. 2-F
Jackson Heights, NY 11372
easternvp@nia.org

INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Michele Kotlarsky, NIA #5370
147 Cherokee Rd
Pontiac, MI 48341
information@nia.org

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Donald Briel, NIA #7218
P.O. Box 188
Providence, UT 84332
(435) 753-5786
membership@nia.org

SECRETARY

Colin Jung, NIA #7055
1544 Norland Dr
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
secretary@nia.org

TREASURER

Bill Rohde NIA #1219
P.O. Box 28
Colusa, CA 95932
530-701-4377
treasurer@nia.org



Committee Chairpersons

AUTHENTICATION & CLASSIFICATION

Paul Greaves, NIA #2685
8830 Benton Acre Rd
Granite Bay, CA 95746
authentication@nia.org

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Gene Hawkins, NIA #421
3847 North Prairie St
Warsaw, IN 46582
awards@nia.org

ETHICS

David Wiecek, NIA #3225
63 Reinman Rd
Warren, NJ 07059
ethics@nia.org

HISTORIAN

Miles McLall, NIA #8548
480 W. Juniper Road
Dammeron Valley, UT 84783
historian@nia.org

NIA COMMEMORATIVE COORDINATOR

Carolyn Berry, NIA #4336
1010 Wren Court
Round Rock, TX 78681
commemorative@nia.org

RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Jacque Linscott-Barnes, NIA #1380
3557 Nickaus Drive
Titusville, FL 32780
education@nia.org

PHILANTHROPY

Rick Jones, NIA #201
405 Oakwood Dr
Hamilton, OH 45013
donations@nia.org

PRODUCT MARKETING

Tina Rienstra NIA #8045
6527 W. 93rd Ave.
Crown Point, IN 46307
niaproducts@nia.org

PROMOTIONS

Jim White, NIA #1127
7990 Windcombe Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46240
promotions@nia.org

RULES & PROCEDURES ADVISOR

Mike Doyle, NIA #5932
1805 E Country Court
Visalia, CA 93292
procedures@nia.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

Kay Bryant, NIA #4099
8061 S.E. Helen Terrace
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
scholarship@nia.org

DRIP POINTS EDITOR

Shaun Kotlarsky, NIA #4993
2475 W Walton Blvd
Waterford, MI 48329
newsletter@nia.org

WEBMASTER

Bob Berry, NIA #1203
1010 Wren Court,
Round Rock, TX 78681
(512) 255-2006
webmaster@nia.org



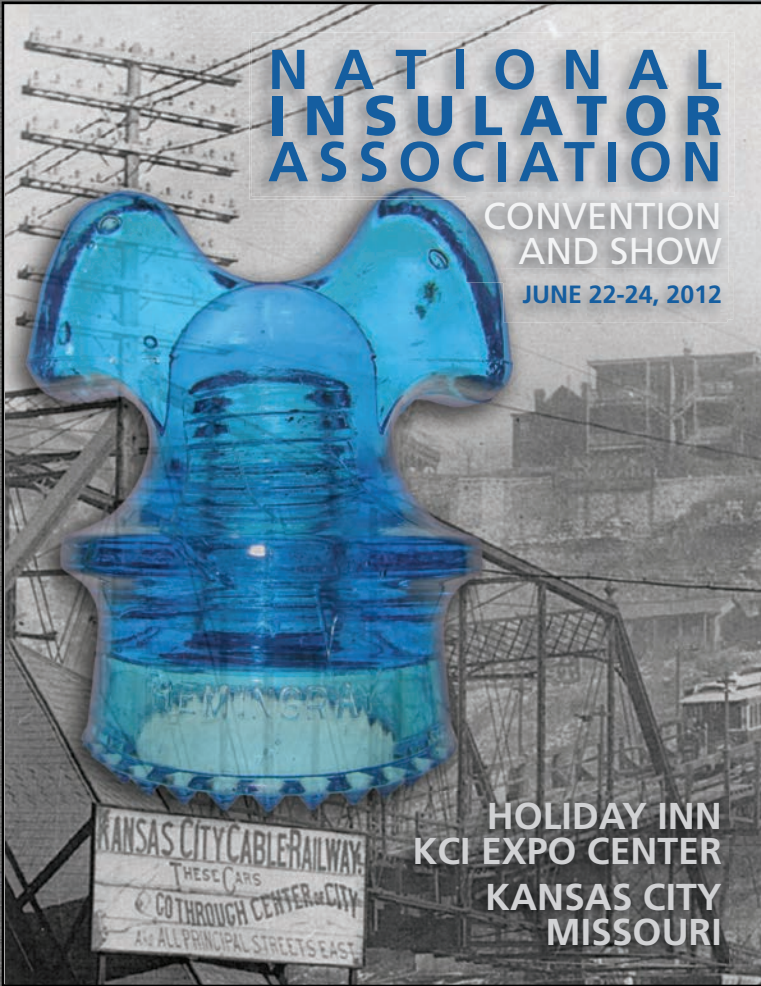
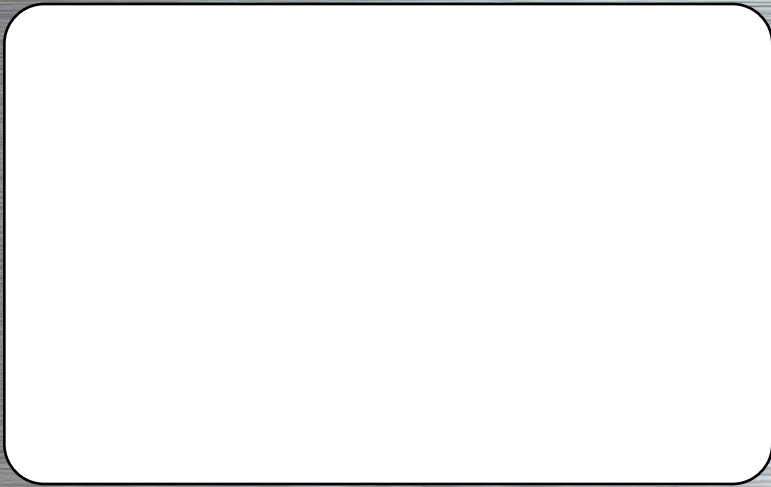
National Show & Advisory Panel

Steve Blair, NIA #247
105 State Route 56 SW
London, OH 43140

Glenn Drummond, NIA #537
600 County Road 87
Notasulga, AL 36866
show@nia.org



Photo by: *Jim White*



43rd Annual NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION Convention, Show & Sale

June 22-24, 2012 • HOLIDAY INN KCI EXPO CENTER
11230 N. Ambassador Drive • Kansas City, MO 64153

35,000 SQFT of Glass & Porcelain
200+ Dealer & Display tables
Raffles, Auctions, Walk-in Appraisals

Incentives for Early Registration
Drawings for **FREE** Room Nights, Tables and Banquet

FRIDAY, June 22nd

9:00am to 4:00pm NIA members only (ask about becoming a member)

SATURDAY, June 23rd

9:00am to 4:00pm General Admission

SUNDAY, June 24th

9:00am to 1:30pm General Admission

For more information and/or a Show Packet
Contact:

Darryl Wagner
PO Box 411693
Kansas City, MO 64141
kcinsulators@kcba.co
816-719-0801

Charles Brandon
13902 Bond St.
Overland Park, KS 66221
cbrandon@kc.rr.com
816-918-5126

www.nia.org or www.insulatorclubs.org/mvic



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