

DRIP POINTS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 3 SPRING 1990

In this issue of "DRIP POINTS":

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 - NIA Position Openings and... New
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- Special Reminder: **TIME TO RENEW
N.I.A. MEMBERSHIPS ...**
(Fees will increase on 1 April)

If you have items of interest to NIA members,
send them to: *DRIP POINTS* c/o Don Reinke
2513 Flintridge Pl., Ft Collins, CO 80521

"MESSAGES"

• FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR NIA Members and Friends,

This is a very important time of year for the hobby and each member has a critical role in ensuring the successful future of insulator collecting. A few areas which affect you are described below:

- **Membership Renewal:** March is membership renewal time. This year dues have been raised to \$10.00 to allow the NIA to provide more support for the hobby. This is still one of the most inexpensive hobby memberships in the entire country! We appreciate your financial support and use this newsletter to demonstrate how we use your dues to advance the causes of the hobby. So, please submit your dues as soon as possible so that we can save the expense of mailing you an individual reminder. THANKS!

Speaking of membership renewal, for many years folks have been asking for a multiple year membership so they would not have to try to remember to renew each year. I am very happy to announce that due to the efforts of our Membership Director, John deSousa, you can now pay your membership renewal dues several years in advance. Simply send your check for as many years as you would like to John and he will record your prepayment in the NIA computer records. Your membership renewal will then be sent to you each year without the necessity of another check.

- **Show Host's Handbook:** On page 3 of the January 1990 Crown Jewels please read about one of the latest contributions of the NIA to the hobby. The "Comprehensive Planning Handbook for Show Hosts" was developed to assist and encourage prospective show hosts in planning, promoting, and executing shows at all levels from

local to National. If you have thought about putting on a show, contact any member of the Board of Directors to obtain a copy of the handbook. We think that you will find it an invaluable aid to show planning.

- **Position Vacancies:** This year two key positions on the NIA Board of Directors will be open. The President and Western Region Vice-president will be up for election. Serving in one of these positions is a great way to serve the hobby. The job descriptions are contained in the NIA membership handbook so give it a look and consider running for office. For further information on running for NIA office, contact Nominations Committee Chairman Duane Davenport, (address on page 4, Nov, 1989 C.J.)
- **Bylaw Changes:** In the October edition of Drip Points two changes to the NIA bylaws were proposed. One was a contingency plan for selection of National Convention sites when there are no bids from the designated region and the other was the creation of a new position on the Board of Directors. Both of these proposals passed unanimously and are now part of our bylaws.

So, as you can see, there is a lot happening in the NIA and much for everyone to do not to mention that only four short months remain before the great Portland National!!!

As we enter the decade of the 1990's I encourage you to get involved in the hobby. Run for NIA office, Join/start a local club, host a show, write research articles, etc., etc. You'll enjoy it and the rest of us will too!

Mike Guthrie

• FROM THE WESTERN REGION

Greetings from the Western Region Vice President,

The Twenty-First National Insulator Assn. Convention in Portland is becoming closer to reality every day, and I hope that all of you have made plans to attend! Steve Watkins is pleased to report that everything is in place just waiting for all of us to gather 'round on July 6, 7 and 8.

If you get an early start, plan on joining the Nor-Cal Insulator Club for their show and sale on Saturday, June 30th, in Auburn, CA. That is the weekend before the National. Auburn is on I-80 about 30 miles east of Sacramento. Nor-Cal is planning a special treat for its membership and anyone taking an active part in the show, such as dealers and set-up/clean-up workers. On Sunday, July 1st, an exploratory trip is planned into the Sierra Nevadas to a section of the "Ridge Line", fabled home of the E.C.&M. Co. and cobalt Cal. Elec. Works insulators. All we can promise is a lot of good fresh air and exercise, but you will be where the action was! AND Dale Huber is donating an E.C.&M. to be awarded to some lucky participant in this adventure! Watch for more info in "Crown Jewels" or contact the club president, Jack Foote, at 916-489-9413 or the show chairman, Pat Patocka, at 916-663-3681.

It's going to be a good summer! Trust me!

Shirley Patocka

Western Region Vice-President

• **FROM THE CENTRAL REGION**

The Southeast Texas Collectors Club Show held annually is always a great show. Because the Lone Star Insulator Club is joining with Southeast Texas Collectors to co-sponsor the 1990 Central Regional, this show will prove to be one of the largest in 1990. Don't miss this opportunity to find insulators, bottles and other memorabilia. Lets make this an outstanding show. For show information please contact either:

Elton Gish
P.O. Box 1317
Buna, TX 77612
(409) 994-5662
(For Show Info)

John Hall
2803 Livingston
Pearland, TX 77584
(713) 485-5937
(For Display info)

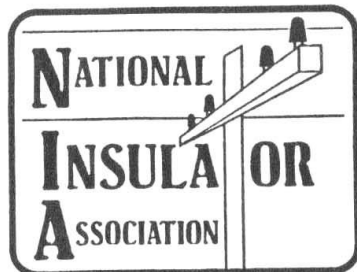
While visiting the Port Arthur area, look up A. Rash in Lumberton, Texas. Rash has a large collection of glass and porcelain insulators, many "one of a kind".

Lastly, if you have any suggestions, helpful hints, or even complaints, please write.

Happy New Year and Good Collecting!

John Hall

Central Region Vice-President





Jacqueline Linscott, NIA #1380
 Director of Product Marketing
 3557 Nicklaus Drive
 Titusville, Florida 32780
 (407) 267-9170

NIA LOGO ITEM ORDER FORM

(Make check payable to National Insulator Association)



NIA
 LOGO
 Lg Logo
 on back

Quantity		Amount
_____	T-Shirts (50/50 Cotton Poly) Lt. Blue _____ @ \$12.00	_____
	Sm_____ Med._____ Lg._____ XLg._____ XXLg._____	



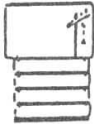
_____	NIA MUGS _____ @ \$8.00	_____
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_____	PATCHES (3½" x 2½") @ \$3.50	_____
	<i>(Send SASE)</i>	

_____	DECALS (2" x 1¼") @ \$1.00 ea.	_____
	<i>(Send SASE)</i>	

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_____	NAME BADGES @ \$11.00/Badge	_____
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Complete information below; use back of order form for additional badges)

Name _____
(No Middle Initials)

NIA# _____ City _____ State _____

*(States will be Postal abbrev. Provinces will be 2 or 3 letter abbrev.
 This is your final proof. No changes will be made after the order has been sent
 to engraving.)*

Bars denoting the following accomplishments and years are available at \$3.00 ea.

Present & Past board members (Pres., W.V.P., C.V.P., E.V.P., Executive Director, Treasurer, Information Director), Nat'l Show Hosts, Outstanding Service, and Lifetime Membership.

Please List: _____ (Yrs.) _____ (Yrs.) _____ (Yrs.)
 and add \$3.00/bar _____ (Yrs.) _____ (Yrs.) _____ (Yrs.)

Dear Collectors,

The sales of NIA logo products have been very good this year. Mugs, T-shirts, patches and badges have been purchased by you and NIA is very appreciative of your support to the hobby.

At this time Leonard and I are not sure if we will be able to attend the National in Portland because of my job change and prior commitments. To avoid anyone being disappointed at the National, I would recommend that you order any NIA logo item by June 5th. This will guarantee that you will have it for the show — especially badges and T-shirts.

I've enjoyed my position with NIA and will continue to provide my services to the hobby and collectors.

Good Collecting Jacqueline L. Linn
NIA #1380

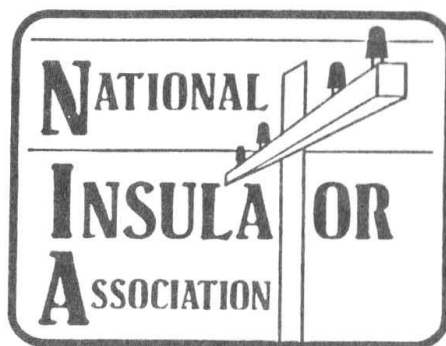
• FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well, in a little more than three months the Portland National begins. This will be my ninth consecutive National and the thrill I get from walking in the hall each NIA day never ceases to amaze me. In fact, I look forward more and more each year, to seeing the insulators for sale, the displays and collectors. If you have never been able to attend a big show, why not really make the effort this summer? You will never forget the adventure.

Speaking of shows, if you are considering hosting or co-hosting the eastern or western NIA regional shows in 1991, please get your proposals in to me as soon as possible. Even if you are just remotely interested, why not drop me a line and let the NIA and myself help you with your plans.?

Since insulator collecting tends to significantly slow down up here at this time of year (Jan.), I finally broke down and cleaned my displayed collection. Now this isn't all that tough to do and actually was kind of fun. I reacquainted myself with some old friends, recalled numerous memories, and the glass just sparkles again much to everyone's relief. The best news is that with rearranging after cleaning, I now have room for a few more pieces. Now when is that next show?

Eric Halpin NIA #2768



"DISCOVERIES"

- **Searching for "Mr. GOOD"** by *Don Reinke*

This short anecdote about a recent "discovery" is intended as a note of encouragement to some of our readers... I also hope you will share your "discovery" stories with Drip Point readers... Ed.

Shortly after moving to Colorado in 1986 we decided to meet some of the collectors in the area and learn more about the insulators that were native to this part of the country. It didn't take long to realize that there was quite a number of "Denver" fanatics in the state and several outstanding collections of Denver-made glass. We met collectors like Mike Bliss, Barry Cirillo, Mike Sabatos, and Mel Shootman who had been in the hobby since insulators were made of sticks. They shared their knowledge of the Denver glass plants and showed us Denver glass in a rainbow of colors. After talking to most of the collectors, however, we realized that little was known about the Denver glass plants or their owners. So, we jumped into the archives to find out more about the history of the Denver glass plants and more details about the insulators themselves.

We tried several avenues to uncover some information about Denver glass. The first was a general search through the libraries and historical societies in the local area. The returns were slow, but we did uncover some clues. The second was to "advertise". We found a local flea market owner who let us put up a small table with some insulators on it. We made up calling cards and printed some general information sheets about insulators that people could pick up even if they weren't interested in our fifty-cent specials. After about six months we had received a dozen calls from people with insulators they wanted to know more about or just general questions about insulators. One of the calls was

from Mike Miller in Denver who noticed some of our Denver insulators. We met with Mike and discovered that over the past 17 years he had built one of the finest collections of Denver glass insulators. When he found out about our search for more information about the Denver plants he was hooked.

With Mike digging through the Denver Public Library and Historical Society and some leads from the patent records he uncovered a link between Robert Good Jr. and Poughkeepsie New York. Subsequent letters to the library in Poughkeepsie led us to more information about Robert Good's later years in Pennsylvania and eventually to an obituary in a 1947 Washington PA newspaper. The clipping mentioned a tie with the YMCA and a local Methodist church. I wrote a letter to both asking if there might be a record of Mr. Good. Several weeks later we received a phone call from Mr. Tom Wiley who introduced himself as Robert Good's grandson. His pastor had read our letter at the annual meeting of the same church he had been a member of for over 40 years! It was a rewarding opportunity to fill Tom in on what we knew about his grandfather's adventure in Colorado. Tom had grown up in the same house with Robert Good Jr. and had many fond memories to share. We followed up by sending a package of insulators with his grandfather's name embossed on them that will no doubt be a cherished possession.

There are many more stories like this one waiting to be "discovered" ... If you find yourself at the point where you have gathered all of the glass you can find (or afford) ... try doing some digging at the local historical society...! (We'll have more info on Robert Good and the Denver plants in John and Carol's new book)

• OCT 1 - DEC 31, 1989 FINANCIAL REPORT
NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

BEGINNING BALANCE: (10-1-89) \$ 5,443.78

REVENUES: 196.23

Dues	157.00
Award Bar	3.00
Interest	36.23

EXPENDITURES: - 1373.64

Postage	159.61
Memb. Directory	780.00
Telephone	93.30
Printing	288.73
Membership	52.00

BALANCE: (12-31-89) \$ 4,266.37

Respectfully Submitted

Ross E HUTH

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Thought I'd remind you that it's time to renew your membership. As of April 1st, our dues will increase to \$10.00 for individual members and family. Why not beat the increase and renew now. I will be sending out post cards as reminders late April - so help me cut cost by not having to send out reminder notices.

Good Collecting

John deSousa

REGULAR: A regular, adult member with no additional family memberships

\$10.00

FAMILY: A regular, adult member including other family members residing at the same mailing address

\$10.00

PROXY: Additional family member who wishes to receive a proxy ballot

\$1.00

JUNIOR: A member under 18 years of age

\$4.00