

# Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 20 NUMBER 4 SUMMER 1992

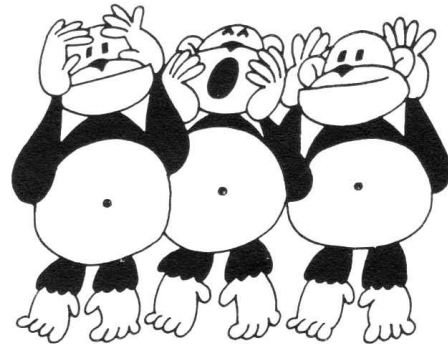
In this issue of *Drip Points*:

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- ◆ **Beat The Lines At Orlando ... RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY ...**

*Drip Points* is your NIA forum ... If you have items for publication send them to:



*Drip Points*  
2513 Flintridge Pl.  
Ft. Collins, CO 80521



See you at the National  
Tell all of your friends  
Listen to the other two monkeys!

Support your NIA show hosts by attending a regional or national show this year:

**1992 NIA NATIONAL - June 19-21, Orlando, Florida**

**1992 NIA CENTRAL REGIONAL - November 7-8, London, Ohio**

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

WELL FOLKS, THIS WILL BE MY LAST 'DRIP POINT' SUBMISSION AS YOUR NIA PRESIDENT. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REPRESENT AND SERVE YOU IN THIS CAPACITY. YOUR NEW PRESIDENT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE NATIONAL IN ORLANDO AND I AM SURE YOU WILL BE PLEASED. THE NIA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT THE HOBBY AND HOW WE CAN WORK TO PROVIDE YOU WITH CONTINUING ENJOYMENT IN THE HOBBY OF COLLECTING INSULATORS. SO PLEASE SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND CONCERNS.

I WOULD BE LESS THEN HONEST IF I DIDN'T TELL YOU THAT THE FUTURE OF THE HOBBY IS AT A CRUCIAL TRANSITION POINT. IF WE ARE TO SURVIVE AND FLOURISH THEN MANY OF THE NEWER COLLECTORS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE. ALL TO OFTEN THE MORE SENIOR COLLECTORS ARE THE ONLY ONES WILLING TO GIVE OF THEMSELVES TO OUR COMMON INTERESTS OF INSULATORS. AND THEY DO GET TIRED OF CARRYING SO MUCH OF THE LOAD. SO PLEASE WRITE YOUR REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT AND NEW PRESIDENT AND OFFER TO HELP OUT IN SOME CAPACITY. AT LEAST GIVE YOUR NAME AS A RESOURCE PERSON THAT WE CAN CALL UPON TO HELP WITH VARIOUS PROJECTS. TWO PROJECTS THAT WILL BE GAINING MOMENTUM THIS YEAR ARE: THE INCLUSION OF INSULATOR COLLECTING INTO THE SCOUTING/ GUIDE MOVEMENT IN THE FORM OF MERIT BADGES; AND THE ADVERTISING OF THE HOBBY IN VARIOUS COLLECTING/ANTIQUE PUBLICATIONS. SO IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN EITHER PLEASE CONTACT THE PRESIDENT.

INSULATORS HAVE BROUGHT ME MUCH JOY AND I HOPE THE HOBBY WILL BE AROUND FOR MANY MORE YEARS TO ALLOW OTHERS TO ALSO SHARE IN THIS GREAT HOBBY. GOING TO AN INSULATOR SHOW, BIG OR SMALL, IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT OF THE HOBBY. BEST REGARDS

*Eric*

#2768



## FROM THE WESTERN REGION VICE-PRESIDENT

### TRUE COLLECTING ... by Steve Watkins

This second weekend of February I was reminded of what the Insulator Collecting Hobby is all about. Not the dealers, not the large or small shows, not sitting in a hall behind a table, but the wonderful friends that have been made over the years.

Jack Hare of Seattle, WA opened his house to about 24 or so collectors. The weather was fantastic, so we were both inside and out. Shortly after we arrived it was time to eat. Pot lucks are soooo good and what a variety of food. Two plate fulls later it was back to insulators. Actually back to socializing.

Tales from Stampede Pass, all those great finds and digs. Tales of past swaps and all those missed bargains. The social aspect of the hobby make us look so foreword to that next show. We may see our special friends only once a year.

After our swapping and selling several of us went over to Vi and Andy Browns. Naturally it was time to eat again. Then we played poker until late at night. They have some of the most unusual types of poker I have ever heard of. That's what makes it fun.

Naturally, we had to spend considerable time here and there looking at their collection. Seeing those odd pieces, listening to more stories, enjoying the bonding caused by that one thing we had in common -- insulators.

Many of the old timers are selling their collections. At some of the prices out there I can't blame them. I hope that these old times don't fade away, because it is their knowledge of the early years of collecting that is interesting. Stay around, tell those stories, help keep the hobby alive for the new collectors. Keep those old war stories coming.

Steve Watkins



WONDERING WHERE THE 1993 NATIONAL IS GOING TO BE? THE TIME AND PLACE WON'T BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL THE ANNUAL MEETING ON FRIDAY THE 19TH OF JUNE, AT ORLANDO ... BUT I CAN TELL YOU IT WILL BE IN THE WESTERN REGION!!

BE AMONG THE FIRST TO FIND OUT ... ATTEND THE 23RD NIA NATIONAL IN ORLANDO FL JUNE 19-21.

## FROM THE EASTERN REGION VICE-PRESIDENT

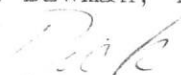
Spring in the Northeast has many faces. This year, the melting of the never ending snow, Mr. chipmunk scurrying around my back yard, the return of all our feathered friends, clean cars and above all, the return of the shows we all love to go to. We had a great start with the Baltimore Insulator Club Show on Feb. 29. It attracted more than enough attendees to keep the place crowded all day long. The Yankee Polecat show in March provided a great encore two weeks later. The hall was sold out and really was crowded right up until closing. Sort of like caged animals freed at last!! The Genesee Valley Bottle show (Rochester, NY) was held on April 5 and was attended by over 1300 people. There was a very strong interest in both insulators and lightning rod balls and many new collectors made their debut. Coming up we have the Middletown NY show on May 9 and the always welcome swap meet at Claude Wambold's. AND-of course, the NIA National Show in Orlando on June 19, 20 & 21.

As I approach the end of my first year on the NIA Board, the obvious (to me) has become apparent. We are a group of individuals with our own thoughts, backgrounds and different value systems. While we are all good friends, we do not and will not always agree on what we should be doing or not doing and what is in the best interests of the NIA members and sometimes the letters and discussions get a bit spirited. There is nothing wrong with good honest differences of opinions, but honestly, folks, I would like to be sure that when I get on my soapbox or my computer and expound I am representing the point of view of the majority of the members, certainly in my region. Please tell us what we are doing that you like and want continued, what we are not doing that you would like us to start and perhaps what we are doing that you would like us to stop or change.

I personally think that the donated book program is a real winner. Do seriously consider donating a book to a library (or libraries) near you as a step to getting our hobby the much needed visibility it desperately needs. Most insulator collectors will frequently be found at antique and collectible shows as well as flea markets and antique and "junk" shops. Consider getting flyers for an upcoming insulator show and spreading them around. Get handouts on Crown Jewels and insulator books from the McDougalds and information on the NIA and leave them where they can be read. I know Kevin Lawless is seldom without a briefcase or a folder with insulator propaganda in it and he's even starting to get me trained even though he contends I am untrainable.

Have you recruited a new collector yet this year? Keep the fun in collecting!

Dick Bowman, NIA #597

  
Eastern Region Vice-President

## FROM THE CENTRAL REGION VICE-PRESIDENT

The Lone Star Insulator Club of Houston, Texas would like to share an idea with other clubs in the hobby. We have donated a hard bound copy of McDougald's book "A History and Guide to North American Glass Pintype Insulators" (Volume I and II) to the main Houston Library. This beautiful book along with its 1991 Price Guide will be available on loan to any of its 33 branch libraries. The name and phone number of a permanent contact person for the club will remain on file at the library, should any interested collector express a desire to join us. Each year, the current Club President will have the honor of wearing the "Book Donor" tag attached to his official NIA name badge.

As in other parts of the Central Region, things were lively in Texas this past Spring! The 'Metroplex Insulator Show' in Fort Worth on March 7th, hosted by Ross Baird and Randy Wickersham, and the April 4th 'Insulators and Antique Collectibles Show' in Houston, handled by Jimmy Burns and John Hall, were both sellouts! Displays were excellent, sales tables were full of good insulators, and the collectors came to buy! In either case, you couldn't have asked for a friendlier or a happier atmosphere. The hosts of both shows are excited about the success of their first efforts and in answer to those who kept asking "When can we do this again?", they are determined to make these shows a yearly event.

Now, off on a completely different subject, I think if even one person benefits from this sad story, it will have been worth the telling. As you know, the new book on foreign glass will include photos of all the known styles from other lands. In order to track down one of these pieces for a photo, I had written to a non-insulator collector in California, who is the owner of a CD 304.5, a rather large insulator from Russia. It was he who had supplied the shadow profile and measurements for the original drawing published in an earlier edition of the book.

Not trusting himself to take a good photo, he offered to mail the insulator to Houston, insured rather heavily because it had been a gift from a friend many years ago. When it arrived, I could tell from the sickening "clink, clink" that the insulator had not survived the trip. It was broken into three large chunks, with at least a cupful of small glass shards scattered throughout the box. He had not allowed nearly enough packing, the light weight container was too small, and he had also added a flying missile - another smaller Russian insulator he thought I'd like to see! To make a long story short, I called to tell him, and of course he was sick about it. But he did collect the full amount of his insurance and I glued together what I could for photos. He didn't want the insulators back.

The manager of the "Claims Department" at the Houston Post Office was very helpful. He asked me if I had ever watched suitcases

being loaded onto the conveyer belt headed for the belly of an airplane. "Well, it's just like that sometimes", he said, "and I'm not supposed to tell you this, but when we're short of help, and there aren't enough bodies to go around, we just throw those boxes". This really surprised me because that box was labeled "FRAGILE" even if it wasn't properly packed. And I'm sure you'll find that Houston is not unique in this situation, anymore than our airport is the only one that is hard on suitcases.

So, please, when you send a valuable insulator through the mail, or anything breakable, start out with a sturdy box. Don't spare the packing, be it styrofoam, plastic bubbles, newspaper balls, or rags. Put it between, on the bottom and on top just under the lid of the box. If there is more than one piece, it is very important to keep them separated with plenty of cardboard and/or other padding. The worst damage is caused by insulators breaking against each other. Once you are satisfied with your packing job, if at all possible, put that box inside another box with padding between the two. More weight, yes, but the extra money spent on postage will be one of the best investments you ever made. So "Listen up", y'all!

See you at the National in Orlando!

*Marilyn Albers*

Marilyn Albers NIA #541  
Central Region Vice President

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

A few days ago we received a call from a fellow NIA member asking if it was possible to make a gift of an NIA membership to a friend. What a Gift of an Idea!!

Yes, you certainly can PRESENT an NIA membership to someone as a gift. You can complete an application for membership with as much information about the new member(s) as you can, and mail it to me. We will then mail an NIA letter to the new members welcoming them to the NIA and acknowledge you as the donor. (Just let me know if you wish to remain anonymous). Or, you can send me the new members name and address along with the membership dues and I will send them a membership form to complete.

By the way folks, you have added 86 new members to the NIA so far this year!!  
Welcome aboard...

Good Collecting,  
John deSousa

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW LEADER!

The NIA Board held it's first ever conference call to discuss items on the agenda for the Orlando National. One item that is of immediate interest to all NIA members was the unanimous acclamation of Dwayne Anthony as the next President of the NIA. (The only exception was Duane Davenport who expressed concern that Dwayne spells his name wrong ...) Following is a letter from Dwayne announcing his candidacy ... that will serve now as an introduction to your next NIA President. *CONGRATULATIONS!*

### LETTER OF CANDIDACY FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT OF THE NIA:

Dear Fellow NIA Members,

I, **Dwayne Anthony**, am very pleased to announce my candidacy for the position of NIA President for the 1992-1994 term.

I have been a supportive member of the NIA since 1986 and consider myself a very active participant in the hobby of insulator collecting. I have attended four of the last five Nationals and was Show Coordinator the for 1991 Western Regional in San Luis Obispo. I currently hold the office of president for the Central & Southern counties Insulator club. As a dedicated collector, I have endeavored to do my best at sharing our hobby with others. I have delivered several presentations on insulator collecting to various clubs and organizations, and have displayed my collection at shows, libraries, and antique malls to further promote our hobby.

In my opinion, the hobby of insulator collecting goes deeper than just building a collection. Corresponding with collectors and attending shows has provided me the opportunities to build some very sincere friendships. For me, this is what the hobby is all about, Thanks to the National & Regional Shows that are organized and sanctioned yearly by the NIA, it is possible for hundreds of collectors from all corners of the country to gather together and form the camaraderie that is so important for the hobby to remain healthy and continue growing in a positive manner. If elected as NIA President, I will do my utmost to ensure the continued success of the NIA and the hobby of insulator collecting in general, so that it may remain an enjoyable experience for both current and future collectors. Your support and vote of confidence will be very much appreciated.

Thank You!

# COLLECTING INSULATORS AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

by *Rick Soller*

Pursuing the insulator hobby can often occur at unlikely locations. For me, it occurred while a graduate student at The Ohio State University. Over the past three years, I've naturally been able to do library research on insulators there but, more unexpectedly, I've also found insulators, acquired some hard-to-find insulator books, and made some valuable contacts.

Ohio State's library is sizeable. My research has uncovered such gems as foreign electrical journals (I wish I could read them better), General Electric technical bulletins, and a few catalogs besides the standard magazine articles from the past 100 or so years. The library also holds U.S. and Canadian patent gazettes. Perhaps most unique are letters of R. D. Mershon, an OSU alumni and benefactor. Although the letters reveal little about insulators, they do provide detail on his life when he was at such places as Telluride.

Finding insulators at the University was a matter of a little luck and a lot of legwork. During my first quarter on campus, I sought out faculty in the Ceramic Engineering Department (OSU had the first one in the world). After several attempts, I finally met the only faculty member with any real connection to insulators. It took a while to meet him because he was retired and only came to campus infrequently. On one of those visits, I helped him clean out his office. Most noteworthy was the 300 pound, chocolate substation piece I took home, although I enjoyed the gift of the insulators sawed in half.

A year later, I had a little more luck as I passed the aging, run-down high voltage electrical lab and noticed activity in it when weekly trips by it always suggested it was unused. Upon inquiring, I learned the name of the professor in charge of the lab and that the equipment was being moved to a new lab. After a few letters, a photo and a personal talk, I was allowed to pick through the lab. This created an instant collection of 40 different midspan aerial spacers (I wonder if some are experimental pieces?), some odd suspensions, and a few large post insulators still in crates. The professor has kept me in mind when historical materials cross his desk and he passed my name on to a manager at the power company who had some old reprints on insulators written by A.O. Austin of Ohio Brass that I was able to copy.



My best find, though, consisted of a two volume biography of Ralph Davenport Mershon. These books contained many of his early papers and some great pictures from Telluride. I stumbled on them at a book sale held by the Friends of the Library. Since then, I look for additional copies of these volumes at every local bookstore and during every book sale at the library. Luckily, I found half half of a second set at another book sale and the companion half at a local booksale.

I'm sure there's much more at OSU that I haven't found yet. Unfortunately, I expect to be teaching elsewhere in the fall. I hope that is enough time. Nevertheless, I hope I have the same luck at the university I go to as I had at the one I came from. And, if nothing else, I've learned that you can collect insulators in some of the most unexpected places.

Happy collecting,



Rick Soller  
NIA 2958

**1991-1992 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION**

<b><u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u></b>	1-1-92	\$5863.16
<b><u>REVENUES</u></b>		+1821.41
MEMBERSHIP DUES	1793.50	
INTEREST	27.91	
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>		- 2377.21
DRIP POINTS	852.98	
POSTAGE	690.11	
SUPPLIES	7.46	
PRINTING	686.06	
TELEPHONE	8.44	
CROWN JEWELS REFUND	65.00	
(Old Drip Points subsidy)		
BANK CHARGES	10.16	
FEDERAL TAXES	57.00	
<b><u>BALANCE</u></b>	3-31-92	\$5307.36

Respectfully Submitted,



Ross E. Huth, Treasurer

## FROM THE INFORMATION DIRECTOR

### HAVE A STORY TO TELL ... *by Don Reinke*

Greetings from Colorado ... home of the Trip-p-ple Ridge Insulator Club and some of the finest insulator hunting in the Rocky Mountains (season opens soon --- soon as the snow melts!).

As I put together this issue of Drip Points, I was struck by a couple of items from our board members. One was Dick Bowman's suggestion (via Kevin Lawless) that we "carry our hobby in our briefcases" and the second was the news from John deSousa that we have gained 86 new members this year!! Carol McDougald echoed the same theme when she commented last month on the growth in subscriptions for our flagship publication CROWN JEWELS, and the plea by Steve Watkins for the "old timers" to stay in the hobby. All of these comments led me to the same theme -- "Story Telling".

What's going on out there --- there's supposed to be a recession going on --how can a hobby flourish in such times?? I can think of two reasons:

First, a nostalgic return to "better times". Colorado has seen an unprecedented influx of people in the past few years. Many from both the east and west coasts, but in general from all over the country. The overriding theme that I have heard is "we just wanted to get away from a) the crowds, b) the incredible traffic, c) the cost of living, d) the pollution, e) the in-laws (only one said that ...), or f) "we wanted to get back to a simpler life style".

Although most Coloradans aren't too happy about this trend, there are several who have found it to be a boon ... the antique and collectibles dealers. We have a large number of flea markets in this area and in the past three years they have not only survived, but are growing in numbers and in the volume of items that are on display. The word from the owners is that people can't get enough of that good old nostalgic memorabilia.

Secondly, and perhaps a bit more subtle, I think that people are putting a good portion of their expendable income into items they can enjoy now -- rather than saving it for what might be an uncertain future. The result is that collectibles are becoming more popular and folks are looking for more and more "unique" and "desirable" items to purchase.

So how does this impact insulator collectors? Those unique pieces of glass, porcelain, and NGNP (non-glass, non-porcelain -- have to cover the eccentrics in our group) are not only desirable collectibles, they are an integral part of our collective past. When people take the time to investigate their collectibles, they are often surprised to find out that there is a history behind them that is as fascinating and enjoyable as the items themselves. Insulators are among the most universal and "historical" collectibles I can think of. They have touched the lives of almost everyone in this country and perhaps, now, most of the world. A list of the ties to communication, the expansion of the territories, industry, and science would fill up many pages.

It's fun listening to some of our "veterans" talking to a new collector: "buy color -- everyone loves color", or "go for the rare stuff now before it disappears", or my favorite - "specialize -- don't just buy everything you can get your hands on -- every new collector does that". The recommendation I would give is simple; when you pick up an insulator -- learn everything you can about it. Find out where it came from, how it was used, who made it, what it is made of, why it was made the way it was ... and anything else you can think of to ask.

Why is the insulator hobby growing? -- Because it's a part of our history -- it's one of the roses we can stop and smell -- but mainly because we have a group of tireless people. People who have put together a collective history and background material to satisfy even the biggest appetite. Want a trip down nostalgia lane -- think about some phone calls you've made over the years -think about some of the electric appliances or "toys" you've used -then think about the engineers, linemen, operators, power plants, glass plants, etc., etc. that made them all possible.

The next time you talk to someone about your hobby ... try starting the conversation by holding up a CD121 and saying "think about the tales this little piece of glass could tell you about phone calls that passed by in the 80 years it sat on a pole" (good thing they can't talk...). Or hold up your favorite power piece and say "this piece of utility glass (porcelain, NGNP) made it possible to push electric current from the Eagle River plant to the Lost Melibdemum Mines -- making it possible to supply the Allies with spare parts for their tanks, which ultimately helped us win the war" ... or fill in an item from history that seems more appropriate to you.

Most of us don't carry a briefcase, but you can carry a photo, or put an insulator on your desk or in your vehicle or some other convenient spot in your work place or home -- and most important, have a story to tell.

*DM*

- NIA LOGO ITEMS -

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**PLEASE ORDER THEM NOW ...**  
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!!!

(See the NIA Logo Item order form on the next page)



Jacqueline Linscott, NIA #1380  
 Director of Product Marketing  
 3557 Nicklaus Drive  
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## NIA LOGO ITEM ORDER FORM

*(Make check payable to National Insulator Association)*



NIA LOGO  
Lg. Logo on back

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



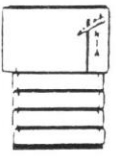
_____ <b>NIA MUGS</b> _____ @ \$8.00 .....	_____
--	-------



_____ <b>PATCHES</b> (3½" x 2½") @ \$3.50 .....	_____
<i>(Send SASE)</i>	

_____ <b>DECALS</b> (2" x 1¾") @ \$1.00 ea. ....	_____
<i>(Send SASE)</i>	

\* \* \* \* \*



_____ <b>NAME BADGES</b> @ \$11.00/Badge .....	_____
--	-------

*Complete information below*

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*(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.)

## LINEMAN'S DIARY

(I received this letter from Mr. Lloyd Steeby of Middleville MI ... thought I'd share it with you.)

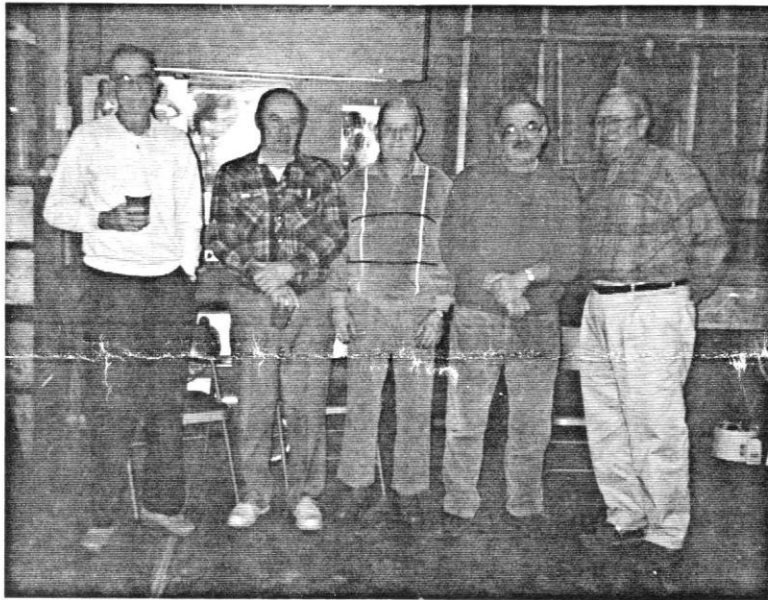
Dear Don,

I finally found time to write to you. My brother and I ran a diary from 1936 to 1943. I worked for consumer's Power Co. as a lineman C -- just above ground man and worked up to lineman in charge of 3 men crews. We had an old Ford digger - you had to ratchet the boom up and down with a wrench. We also set 30 and 35 foot poles by hand where wet, sandy or hilly, when we could not get the truck in. The poles were mostly treated cedar then, but had to set some black jack's later. Instead of mounds of dirt we used a board 12" by 6' on the back side so the butt would slide down the board. We also had set some poles in muck or wet lands in 50 gallon barrels. By the time I retired, we had bucket trucks and pole setters you could set poles with cross-arms and all the other equipment on -- even transformers up to 15 KVA. Lots of our poles don't have spur marks on them.

I made lineman in 1948 and lineman in charge in 1957 and have climbed thousands of poles and done lots of hot work with spurs. I have an old pair of spurs, hand-made, from years ago. I was lineman in charge until 1968. We had to always walk [patrol] our hi-tension line with 3 men. We let one off and took one to the next road. Then got to the next road, left the truck, and the third man would go to the next road. The man coming to the truck picked up the 1st man. The last man reached the truck and we took the truck by 2 roads and started over until we were done. Now they have snowmobiles, 4 wheelers, or cat tracks, and in 1968 we started helicopter patrol. Having the most seniority, I took the job of observer and spent 1968-1976 as Observer. We covered every thing on C.P. Co. from the Ohio -Indiana border to the bridge at the Straits to the Upper Peninsula Power and Light Company. This was a good job because you didn't have to fix all of the trouble you found!

So, I have seen a lot of progress in the 31 years that I worked for Consumer's Power. About the early 1960's they did start the underground cables, but I didn't get too much experience on that part, as they made underground crew's for this job. I still trim my own and neighbors trees and climb a few poles yet -- not bad for being 75.

{Quite a list of occupations -- linemen, "groundmen", "undergroundmen", and even "helicoptermen". Lloyd's letter prompted a ton of questions and drove me to "The Lineman's Handbook" to search out more information about these jobs. It's a fascinating occupation and as Lloyd shared, it has seen quite a few changes in our lifetime. Are there any more retired linemen (or other occupations related to insulators) out there that would like to share some anecdotes about your job?? I spend some time tramping up and down mountainsides marvelling at the lines that were built thousands of feet up steep slopes and down the next ... sometimes into solid rock! There must be some folks who could tell some of us novices how it was done }



Lloyd (center) at a Union meeting in Murphy's garage -- and part of his insulator collection



DON'T MISS THE 23RD NIA NATIONAL SHOW IN ORLANDO  
(JUNE 19-21)  
OR  
THE CENTRAL REGIONAL IN LONDON OHIO  
(NOVEMBER 7-8)

# LIBRARY BOOK DONOR PROGRAM UPDATE

As first announced in the last issue of Drip Points, the NIA is coordinating a program to encourage collectors to donate a copy of McDougalds' latest book to their local or favorite library. So far, many collectors have become involved by donating a book to their library and getting a hardbound copy of the book for themselves.

The hardbound version of "Insulators-A History and Guide to North American Glass Pintype Insulators" is a beautiful book containing both volumes under one cover. Many who have seen the final product have instantly decided to donate and purchase a personal copy. If you are uncertain as to the quality of the book or the value of the donation please call or write me or any of the following folks who have already donated !

The NIA and collectors everywhere acknowledge the contributions of those listed below for their generosity to future generations of collectors who will now have access to current information on the hobby:

## DONOR

Cam MacMillan  
David Benedict  
Mrs. S. E. (Lu) Farin  
Lonestar Insulator Club  
Mike Guthrie  
Harold Miller  
Joshua Bray  
Robert Stahr  
Robin Harrison  
Richard Bowman  
Tom Katonak  
Matthew Poage  
Norm & Doris James  
Bruce & Margie Tuley  
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Seattle, WA  
Rochester, NY  
Albuquerque, NM  
Tucson (Pima), AZ  
San Diego, CA  
Paso Robles, CA  
El Cajon, CA  
San Bernardino, CA  
Santa Maria, CA  
St Joseph, MO  
College of Wooster, Wooster, OH  
Bernard's Township, NJ  
Boston, MA  
Hartford, CT  
Avon, CT  
Carlisle, MA

Congratulations to Bill & Jill who, with their donation to five libraries, become the first recipients of the "Silver Donor Award". Their generosity to the hobby is commendable.

## **LET'S PUT AT LEAST ONE BOOK IN A LIBRARY IN EACH STATE !**

If your City or State is not on this list then collectors in your area are not enjoying the hobby as they could. Take the plunge! Complete the order form in this newsletter today and give something back to the hobby.

# LIBRARY BOOK ORDER FORM

**YES ! I would like to donate a copy of McDougald's books on glass insulators from North America to my local library.**

Please send \_\_\_\_ copies of the book to the following library (please duplicate the information for more than one library):

Library Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_ ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number of librarian:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

[ ] YES [ ] NO Do you want your phone no. placed in the donated copy if the library will permit ?

For each library copy ordered enclose \$50.50 (\$45.00 plus \$5.50 shipping)  
**Please make check or money order payable to: "The McDougalds" but mail to Program Coordinator, listed below.**

Please send \_\_\_\_ personal copies of the book to:

Collector's Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (UPS):\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_ ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember, personal copies of the hardbound book can only be purchased with a library copy.**

For each set of books (i.e. one library copy and one personal copy) ordered enclose \$111.00 (\$100.00 plus \$11.00 shipping)  
**Please make check or money order payable to: "The McDougalds" but mail to Program Coordinator, listed below.**

**Total amount enclosed with this order:**

\_\_\_\_\_ library copies at \$50.50 each for a total of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ library & personal copies at \$111.00 each for a total of \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED.....**\_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !**

Mike Guthrie, Program Coordinator  
1209 W. Menlo  
Fresno, CA 93711-1477  
(209) 435-6127



Chuck & Sis Haymond-----Show Hosts-----Len & Jacque Linscott  
invite YOU to

# THE 23rd ANNUAL NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION'S CONVENTION, SHOW and SALE

Location: Orlando Airport Marriott Resort &  
Convention Center  
7499 Augusta National Drive  
Orlando, FL 32822

Date/Hours: Friday, June 19, 1992  
NIA Day - 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
(Members Only)



Saturday, June 20, 1992  
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Sunday, June 21, 1992  
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Admission: \$.50 (Good Fri.-Sun.)

Featuring: Antique Insulators, Lightning Rod Balls, Weather Vanes,  
Telephone/Telegraph Items, Railroad Memorabilia, Bottles, Jars, and  
other Table-top Collectibles.

For Convention Packet/Information Contact: L. L. Linscott, 3557 Nicklaus  
Drive, Titusville, FL 32780 (407-267-9170)

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