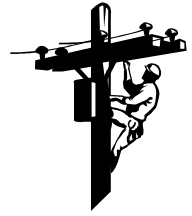




Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

drippoints@nia.org

<http://www.nia.org>

In this issue of *Drip Points*:

- ◆ A Note from the Editor ... *Kevin Jacobson*
- ◆ From the President ... *Tom Katonak*
- ◆ From the First Past President ... *Steve Marks*
- ◆ Regional Reports... *Howard Banks, Ed Peters, Ken Willick*
- ◆ From the Nominations Chair... *Jack Roach*
- ◆ Historian Note... *Rick Soller*
- ◆ From the promotions Chair ... *Bob Merzoian*
- ◆ From the Awards and Recognition Committee ... *Sandy Ellision*
- ◆ Product Marketing ... *Carolyn Berry*
- ◆ Financial Report ... *Dudley Ellis*
- ◆ Membership Renewal Form ... *Joe Beres*

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Hello everyone, It's getting pretty close to National time now, and I have to say that I am counting the days. I started going to the Mid Ohio show a couple of years ago. That show is hosted by the same

folks (and is in the building next door) as this years National held June 26 - 29 (Thu - Sun). I want to tell you, that just as I will not miss a National show, I will also not miss a Mid Ohio show. Steve & Lois Blair and Glenn and Sandra Drummond do a wonderful job with the Mid Ohio show, and It is with great anticipation that I await this years National.

What really makes a National for me is turnout. By this I mean both the folks and the insulators. The turnout in this area at Mid Ohio shows has been excellent in the past, and with this being a National, and in such close proximity to so many large population centers, well hold on to your hat, it's going to be big!

Then there are the insulators, some wonderful pieces have come out of this area. I would highly encourage anyone who can make it to the show to try hard. You will not be disappointed. Sales tables are sold out, and at last count I heard there were close to 170 of them!

I will certainly be at the National as will most of the folks contributing in this *Drip Points* I hope to see you there. I will be sitting just inside the door next to long time and well know collector Dwayne Anthony. Stop by and say hello.

**Kevin Jacobson, NIA #6720
Information Director**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I've gotten a number of favorable comments from members about the color spread on questionable insulators we did in the Spring Issue of *Drip Points*. Most were delighted that we've finally put down in print just what those items are that we suspect (but can't yet prove) are fake. We're still working on the next installment which will provide color coverage of altered insulators. This is a far more difficult area to delve into as there are so many ways to alter glass objects. I can't promise just when we'll have all this together, but stay tuned!

The next big event on the docket is the 34th National Convention in Springfield, Ohio come the 26th of June. Steve Blair and Glenn Drummond report that they are on track to host a long-to-be-remembered show. For example, at last count, there were thirty-nine exhibits in the line-up...this could be an all-time record!

While on the subject of shows, this has been a frustrating quarter for trying to get the NIA shows scheduled for 2004. At issue, we have had a real lack of quality bids coming in. We are well past the bid submittal deadline and we still

don't have a National show site selected, nor either of the attendant regional events. We do have some prospects – that is “draft bids” – but it's going to be difficult to get everything lined up in time to make the announcements at the Springfield National.

Now let me shift my attention to something known as the “Hobby Protection Act”: Have any of you ever heard of this? Let me go back a few years. In September 1997, then NIA By-Laws Chairman Steve Marks conducted some legal research while preparing to rewrite the NIA Code of Ethics. His research efforts led to a review of the “Hobby Protection Act.” This

The next big event on the docket is the 34th National Convention in Springfield, Ohio come the 26th of June. Steve Blair and Glenn Drummond report that they are on track to host a long-to-be-remembered show.

act is a 1973 Federal Statute that currently protects two hobbies: coin collecting and political campaign memorabilia. The Act requires that reproductions in these hobbies be permanently marked with the date of manufacture and the word “copy.”

Fast-forwarding to 2003, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which administers the Act, has opened the Act up for public comment. In March, Steve learned that the National Association of Collectors (NAC) and the Association of Collecting Clubs (ACC), were lobbying for an expansion of the Act to cover other antique and collectible areas having problems with unmarked reproductions and

fantasy items. Steve brought this to the attention of the NIA Board, and it was the Board's consensus that the NIA should weigh-in with a statement as to how such items have affected our hobby, and to lobby the FTC to include insulators as a Federally protected hobby.

Toward the end of April, I prepared a statement describing the insulator hobby, the NIA and the effect of imitation insulators on the hobby, and submitted it to the FTC for their consideration. The main theme of the statement was that imitation and altered insulators threaten to undermine the hobby because they are becoming ever-more prevalent. I made the point that to date, our emphasis has been on educating insulator collectors about the known fakes on the market, but that this alone was inadequate to stem the flow of bogus items. The statement can be viewed in its entirety on the NIA's website. The potential impact for the hobby here is that if insulators were to be included under the umbrella of the HPA, we would have another tool to use against those producing imitation and altered insulators.

We would now be able to bring criminal proceedings against those involved with the manufacture and distribution of unmarked reproductions. As it stands at present, we have a criminal case only if the distribution of fakes is accomplished through the US Mail, so having this additional avenue for prosecution of criminal acts will be quite helpful in our campaign to rid the hobby of bogus items. We will advise you of any response received from the FTC and/or any change to the law.

The next topic of interest concerns the NIA show insurance. For many years, the NIA has pur-

(Continued on page 3)



NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION **34th ANNUAL INSULATOR SHOW**

A "NATIONAL" REMINISCENT OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

June 26 - 29, 2003
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
Clark County Exposition Center (Exit 59 off I - 70)
Mercantile and Annex Buildings



HIGHWAY ACCESS:

- **I-70** - The Clark County Exposition Center is located on the north side of I-70 at exit 59. The Holiday Inn is located on the north side of I-70 at exit 54 (383 Leffel Lane).
- **From I-75** - The Clark County Exposition Center is located at exit 59 on I-70, 27 miles east of the intersection of I-75 and I-70. The Holiday Inn is located on the north side of I-70. at exit 54 (383 Leffel Lane).
- **From I-71** - The Clark County Exposition Center is located at exit 59 on I-70, 31 miles west of the intersection of I-71 with I-70. The Holiday Inn is located on the north side of I-70 at exit 54 (383 Leffel Lane).

AIR TRAVEL:

- **Dayton Airport.** The most convenient air terminal to the show site is the Dayton Airport located 31 miles west of the Clark County Exposition Center and 27 miles west of the Holiday Inn. No shuttle service is available. Most major rental car companies serve the airport.
- **Columbus Airport.** The show site is located 51 miles west of the Columbus Airport on I-70 at exit 59; the Holiday Inn is five miles further west at exit 54. The Holiday Inn is located on the north side of I-70 at exit 54 (383 Leffel Lane). No shuttle service is available. Most major rental car companies serve the airport.

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

- **The Holiday Inn I70 Exit 54** - Springfield South will serve as the show headquarters - all NIA and special events will be held at this location. Special rates will be available for show attendees: \$69.00 for the first night and \$62.00 for each additional night. Reservations must be made prior to June 6, 2003 to take advantage of the special rate. Call **1-937-323-8631** and be sure to identify yourself as an attendee of the 2003 NIA National Insulator Show when making reservations to obtain the special rate. Here a link for [more information about this hotel](#). Remember in order to get the special NIA rates call the number above and mention the NIA show!
- **Other motels** are located in the immediate vicinity. Attendees will encounter the prevailing rates at the time reservations are made. More information can be found at <http://www.springfield-clarkcountyohio.info>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (or what's goin' on where and when)

THURSDAY - 26 JUNE.

- 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. NIA Board of Directors Meeting - Springfield Holiday Inn South.
- 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dealers may unload stock and equipment (no dealer table setup permitted).
- 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Displayers may (are encouraged to) unload and set up displays.
- 7:30 p.m. Building closed and secured for the night.
- 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. "Welcome to Springfield Social" - Springfield Holiday Inn South.

FRIDAY - 27 JUNE.

- 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Dealer and display setup (it's gonna be a long day !)
- 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Show open to NIA members only (it would be better to renew your membership before you arrive). Breakfast, lunch, and snacks available in the show hall.
- Throughout the day Glass manufacturing techniques, Fred Wilkerson, Wilkerson Glass Co.
- 4:15 p.m. Building closed and secured for the night.
- 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. NIA Annual Membership Meeting. Springfield Holiday Inn South.
- 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Collector's Seminar. "Research and Search: Hunting For Buried Treasure." By Bob Harding and an assortment of friends. Eat early, 'cause you gonna like this, ah gar-rohn-tee !!

SATURDAY - 28 JUNE.

- 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Show Building open to dealers and displayers. (sleep in a couple of hours)
- 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Show open to public admittance. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks available.
- Throughout the day Glass manufacturing techniques, Fred Wilkerson, Wilkerson Glass Co.
- 4:15 p.m. Building closed and secured for the night.
- 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Happy Hour (cash bar). Springfield Holiday Inn South.
- 6:30 p.m. to ----- p.m. NIA Awards Banquet. Springfield Holiday Inn South.

SUNDAY - 29 JUNE.

- 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Show Building open to dealers and displayers (another half-hour to sleep).
- 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Show open to public admittance.
- 12:00 noon Don't even think about starting to pack up !
- 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dealer and Displayer pack up and depart for home.
- 5:00 p.m. until dark plus 30. Steve & Lois and Glenn & Sandra enjoy "Happy Hour" at an undisclosed location.

Please mail your reservations for the annual NIA AWARDS BANQUET **not later than 12 June.**

Show Hosts must submit the total number of attendees to the Catering Office by the close of business on 15 June. Sorry but no reservations can be accepted after that date - so please act now !

The banquet will be a "meat and 'taters Saturday night dinner" fit for the local farmers and served up buffet style (you gotta serve your own plate). The meal will consist of two entrees (that's meat for most of us), vegetables, rolls, and a dessert. \$17.00 per adult (\$8.50 for young'uns between 5 and 12, no charge for the little folks). Plan to be seated at 6:30 p.m., Saturday 28 June. Presentation of awards for the "best of" all sorts of things will follow the meal. Show your appreciation for the extra efforts of your fellow collectors by attendance at the awards banquet. Send reservations to **Lois Blair, 105 State Route 56 SW, London, Ohio 43140**, or, if you have questions, call Steve at **740-852-3148** (e-mail: csob50@aol.com if all else fails). See y'all at supper.

SHOW HOSTS

Steve & Lois Blair
105 State Route 56 SW
London, Ohio 43140
740-852-3148

SHOW HOSTS

Glenn & Sandra Drummond
600 County Road 87
Notasulga, Alabama 36866
334-257-3100
pat.eighteenseventyone@verizion.net
and the National Trail Insulator Club



FROM THE HISTORIAN



Milestones in the Hobby

Someday someone is going to update the history of the hobby and, when they do, I think there are some milestones they should recognize. Some of these are clearly marked with well known architects. Others seem to pass unnoticed and only when many of them have passed do you realize it but would find it difficult to know who set the first one.

The publication of insulators in color is one of those clearly marked milestones. The first issue of the CJ to feature color was the November 1987 issue. The first insulator reference book with color was Lynn R. Stuart's 1968 book titled *Stuart's Insulator Guide* that had 2 pages of color showing 24 insulators. That same year, James L. Hill and Edward Pickett published *An Insulator Book for Collectors* that had a color cover showing insulators. A year later in 1969, Marvin & Helen Davis included four pages of color pictures of 20 insulators in their book *Bottles & Relics*. Internationally, W. Keith Neal showed 7 insulators in color in his 1982 book, *Searching for Railway Telegraph Insulators*. Better color came with the McDougald's 1990 book titled *Insulators: A History and Guide to North American Glass Pintype Insulators*. This book showed the range of colors that insulators came in and applied names to those col-

ors. Only with the publication of Bruner's (2000) *Definitive Guide to Colorful Insulators* did the hobby gain a full color reference. Other firsts include:

- The first insulator auction catalog with color pictures was put out in 1988.
- The first insulator calendar with color pictures was sold in 1993 by Ray Klingensmith. These were produced until 1997. A color calendar was put out by Stillwater publications in 2001 with photos by Kim Depre, a write-up by Dave French, and production by William Schmaltz. At about this same time, Guido Boreani of Italy published a calendar with Italian insulators.

The first phone book cover showing an insulator collection was of Lee Faulkner's that was featured on the Margaretville-Andes, NY phone book cover of 1992-93. On a related note, the first published attempt at a color guide was undertaken by Bob Alexander in about 1976 when he came out with *The Standard Color Guide for Insulators* which involved thin strips of colors taped to the pages of a booklet. In the early 1990s, Mark Lauckner introduced Spectru: Standard Color Reference for Transparent Glass.

Another clearly marked milestone has been the introduction of auction catalogs to the hobby. Ray Klingensmith's first catalog came out in 1988. Seven years later in 1995, Dwayne Anthony started his catalog auctions with the auctions also eventually becoming accessible on-line. Ross Baird's premier auction catalog reached the public in 1998. Internationally, the AB!C

Absentee Auctions launched their first catalog in May 1996, although insulators were only a small part of the auction. Finally, the McDougalds are running their first catalog this year that also has an on-line component. Bill Meier had a hand in the technical side of both on-line auctions.

Perhaps a less clearly marked milestone in the hobby is a recent increase I've noted in the detailed analysis of insulator traits. One version of this work is exemplified by Gary Kline's work on CD 162 embossings, Fritz Kettenburg's

1974 on E.C.& M. molds updated by Howard Bank's recent CJ article and book, and Clarice Gordon's charts on CD

145 H.G. Co. / Petticoat mold letters and colors. More recently, however, collectors have focused on even finer minutia. Not too long ago, Jim Sinsley enlisted the help of other collectors to catalog variations in CD 147s. Dave Kingston has compiled hundreds of letter codes on clear CD 128 Pyrex insulators. Dave French has studied the various locations of dots on CD 152s. Norm Robar recently completed a study of CD 154 Dominion-42 drip point counts, mold codes and weights. John McDougald has admitted to weighing his CD 106s. Even I have spent time compiling codes on Continental Rubber Works R-4 insulators.

Where will the hobby go next?

Thanks

**Rick Soller, NIA # 2958
Historian**

The first insulator reference book with color was Lynn R. Stuart's 1968 book titled *Stuart's Insulator Guide* that had 2 pages of color showing 24 insulators.



Carolyn Berry
NIA#4336
Product Marketing Chairman

- Order your NIA badge for the Ohio National by June 10th
- I will bring any NIA product order to the National, postage free!
- New items to be debuted at the Ohio National....stop by my table!

It's a Denim Bonanza!

NEW! Stonewashed, Blue Denim Embroidered Baseball Cap - \$16.00
with self-fabric adjustable band, metal adjuster. Great style for kids too!

Denim Short Sleeve shirts - \$32.00/\$35.00 - Stonewashed blue denim, 6 oz/summer weighted, 100% pre-shrunk cotton. Button front. Left front breast pocket with embroidered logo above pocket.

Denim Long Sleeve shirts - \$32.00/\$35.00 - Stonewashed blue denim, Medium weighted, 100 % pre-shrunk cotton. Button front. Left front breast pocket with embroidered logo above pocket. Button cuffs.

Ladies Denim "Sleeveless" shirts - \$32.00 Nice quality stonewashed blue denim. 6 oz/summer weighted, 100% pre-shrunk cotton. The embroidered NIA logo is on the left side of button front.

Summer special ---- Blue t-shirt - \$7.00, all sizes, while supplies last!

Please refer to the Summer Order Form, on the last page, for size chart and all other order information.

As always, please call or email me with any questions.



Carolyn Berry
NIA # 4336
Product Marketing Chairman



From the Treasurer

2002-2003 FINANCIAL REPORT
NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
THIRD QUARTER ENDING 3/31/03

Dudley Ellis, NIA #5085
Treasurer

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Beginning Balance-General Fund | 1/1/2003 | 8018.23 |
| Museum Exploratory Committee | | 972.01 |
| Authentication/Ethics Account | | 2196.75 |

Revenues

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------------|
| Donations | 0.00 | |
| Membership Dues | 4544.00 | |
| Miscellaneous Income | 0.00 | |
| Product Sales | 197.75 | |
| Total Revenues: | | <u>4741.75</u> |

General Fund Expenses

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Advertising | 175.00 | |
| Bank Charges/Taxes | 0.00 | |
| Marketing Products | 507.84 | |
| Misc. Postage | 405.47 | |
| Misc. Printing | 36.29 | |
| Misc. Supplies | 434.50 | |
| Misc. Professional Services | 10.00 | |
| Crown Jewels Rebates | 7.00 | |
| Drip Points Printing | 0.00 | |
| Drip Points Postage | 0.00 | |
| Show Advertising Subsidy | 0.00 | |
| Show Awards | 0.00 | |
| Stationery Supplies | 0.00 | |
| Telephone | 46.01 | |
| Special Projects | 375.47 | |
| Education Disp Postage | 0.00 | |
| Total Expenses: | | <u>1997.58</u> |

| | | |
|---|------|-----------------|
| Closing Balance, General Fund: | | 10762.40 |
| Museum Exploratory Committee Expenditures | 0.00 | |
| Museum Exploratory Committee Balance | | 972.01 |
| Authentication/Ethics Account Expenditures | 0.00 | |
| Authentication/Ethics Account Balance | | <u>2196.75</u> |
| Total Balance on Hand April 1, 2002 | | <u>13931.16</u> |

2003 NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

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 512-255-2006
 pyrex553@aol.com

Bob Merzoian, NIA#3941 Promotions
 1080 N. Scenic Drive
 Porterville, CA 93257-1637
 (559) 781-6319
 bobmerzoian@mac.com

2003 NIA MEMBERSHIP NEW/RENEWAL FORM
 (If this issue was addressed to you, then your dues are paid.)

Submit: **(In U.S.funds) To:**
(Payable to the NIA)

Joe J. Beres
NIA Membership Director
1315 Old Mill Path
Broadview Hts., Ohio 44147-3276
E-MAIL: JJJB@AOL.COM



Note New Dues Schedule!

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Regular Membership----- | \$ 12.00 |
| Family 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

Name _____

NIA # (If Renewal) _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ (+4) _____

Country (If Non U.S.) _____

Telephone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please include me in the Annual NIA/Crown Jewels Directory **Yes**____ **No**____

Please include my Telephone Number **Yes**____ **No**____

Please include my E-Mail Address **Yes**____ **No**____

Note: I Would like to Receive Drip Points in the Following Format. **Paper**____ **Electronic**____
 (Check Only One Choice) (Need E-Mail Address for Electronic)

Additional Family Members

| Name | Nia# (If Renewal) |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |

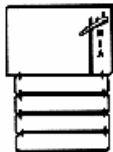
Signed _____

Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____



Carolyn Berry, NIA # 4336
 Product Marketing Committee
 1010 Wren Court
 Round Rock, TX 78681- 2741
 (512) 255-2006 pyrex553@aol.com

**NIA – Summer
 ORDER FORM**



Price Qty Total

****NEW!** Golf shirts to be available at the National!

NEW! Women's -- L __ XL __ (other women sizes orderable)

*Sleeveless- white/navy pique (\$35) or *S/S - butter yellow/navy pique (\$38)

Denim Shirts -- (all sizes orderable)

NEW! Women's stone wash blue – sleeveless L __ XL __ (\$32)

Men's - med. wt. pre-shrunk cotton -- stonewash blue -- left-side pocket

Embroidered logo S __ M __ L __ XL __ \$32.00

*S/S __ *L/S __ 2X __ \$35.00

T-Shirt -- Hanes Beefy 'T' - Heavy weight - Screen-printed logo

S __ M __ L __ XL __ (blue) * \$7.00

M __ (Birch Gray; embroidered logo on left front, only!) \$18.00

L __ XL __ (\$15) or 2X __ 3X __ (\$16) Birch gray screen-printed

NIA Lapel Pin – etched/enamel; NIA logo \$5.00

Sweatshirt -- Heavy weight – Birch gray – Screen-printed logo

S __ M __ (\$16.00) L __ XL __ (\$20.00)

NEW! Embroidered logo (front only) M __ L __ XL __ (\$25) 2X __ 3X __ (\$30)

Embroidered Cap -- Stone/Navvy, low-rise with embroidered logo \$16.00

NEW! Denim – low-rise with embroidered logo \$16.00

Mug -- 10 oz. - white ceramic w/ screen-printed logo \$7.00

Patch -- light blue back w/ embroidered logo/red embroidered edge \$4.00

Koozie™ -- The original Koozie™ fits any standard beer or soda can;

Silver screened NIA logo on: royal blue __ red __ green __ \$2.25

Decal -- light blue w/ logo- red border; for inside car window \$1.00

Name Badge -- white badge engraved w/ blue letters - screen-printed logo

epoxy pinback, beveled edges (fill in form below) \$11.00

Badge Bar -- white w/ engraved blue letters (ie. NIA position) \$4.00

Subtotal

U.S. Postage

Total Enclosed

Women's Size Chart:

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

Men's Size Chart:

S (32-34) M (36-38) L (40-42) XL (44-46)

2X (48-50) 3X (52-54)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Email address _____

****U.S. Postage: \$5.00** for the first item & **\$1.50** for each additional item ordered.
 Postage for Patches, Decals, Pins or Name Badges/Bars are **\$0.50 per item.** ****for non-US postage, AK & HI, please contact me for an exact postage quote!!**

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

Name Badge Engraving Information (must be a current NIA member!)

Name _____ NIA # _____ City _____ State _____

Name _____ NIA # _____ City _____ State _____

Bar: _____

