

NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION



Drip Points

VOL 10 NO 3

SPRING



NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
14715 Oak Bend Drive
Houston, TX 77079



permit
NO: 38

TO:

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Rec. 3/7/83

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Rec. 3/7/83

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear NIA Members,

I don't know about you, but I'm ready for this dreery cold weather to end. I have'nt seen the Sun in days! The Martins are due to fly North very soon, and then can Spring be far off? Spring..... and shows..... and the anticipation of finding that insulator you've been looking for. Is it any wonder that we collectors are often accused of having 'tunnel' vision?

I hate to start out on a sad note, but I must tell you that Ross Huth has turned in his resignation as NIA Treasurer. I tried to talk him out of it, but due to personal commitments he felt this was the only answer. We'll all miss you, Ross, and thanks so much for a good job during the short time you served on the Board. In the same breath, I'm proud to announce that my husband, Bill Albers, has agreed to carry on as Treasurer. I have the utmost confidence in his ability and I'm sure the transition will be a smooth one. Right now we're waiting for all the supplies and records to arrive from California - then we're in bussiness!

We have two fine people running for the Eastern Region Vice-President's position - John de Sousa (incumbent) of East Granby, CT. and Jackie Linscott of Titusville, FL. So all of you in the Eastern Region please find your ballots enclosed. Vote for your candidate and mail this to Mel Shootman in the envelope provided. Don't put this off because votes will be counted about May 15th and time slips by.

Several members have asked that we take a long hard look at our judging rules and also try to improve the training of judges for our National and Regional Shows. All this is aimed at better quality displays and more competent judges. Hopefully we can eliminate any sense of unfairness that you, as exhibitors, may

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have felt in the past. To start the ball rolling, I have appointed Grant Salzman as Chairman of a Regionally representative three person committee including all three Regional Vice-Presidents. These three people will work out some improved judging guidelines and rules to be presented to the Board for approval, and then we will spell all this out to the general membership in the June issue of 'Drip Points'. We feel that this has been needed for some time and we're confident it will benefit the hobby.

Good news - the NIA has joined with the National Bottle Museum as an "affiliate" member. Our NIA patch and other pertinent information about our organization will be on display at the museum, which is located in Ballston Spa, N.Y. Many of our NIA Members as well as local bottle and insulator clubs already belong to the NBM. I felt this would give our hobby better coverage which in return will encourage additional membership in the NIA. The museum has agreed to promote our shows and they welcome any articles or news items from us for their monthly newsletter called 'Verbeck Views'. If you care to follow up on this the address is:

NATIONAL BOTTLE MUSEUM
Verbeck House
20 Church Ave
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Now, back to all those good Spring shows that I see advertised in 'Crown Jewels' please get out and support them and may'lady luck' be with you!

Marilyn Albers NIA#541

FROM THE TREASURER

Greetings from your new Treasurer. I have re-considered my previous invitation to actively participate in NIA business and have wholeheartedly agreed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ross Huth. Ross is forwarding his records and with his advice

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there should be a smooth transition. Drip Point covers will show a California address but please disregard this and send your membership renewals to me at:

National Insulator Association
c/o Bill Albers, Treasurer
14715 Oak Bend Drive
Houston, TX 77079

All new members and renewals of existing members will be eligible for the drawing of a CD 135 "CHICAGO DIAMOND" insulator to be held at the NIA Western Regional Show in Enumclaw, Washington on April 30th to May 1st. So get your renewals to me by March 31st to be eligible. I look forward to working with you all.

Bill Albers NIA# 1276

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow Insulatorphiles,

I hate to sound like a broken record, but we still haven't received any bid proposals for any of the 1984 NIA shows. I'm going to be sending bid sheets to some selected past show hosts and some prospective show hosts, but I don't think it's fair to keep the National and Regional shows in the same few locations, do you?

If you have any questions, feel free to drop me a line and I'll answer them for you. Let's hear from you out there!

Kevin Lawless NIA#1679

FROM THE EASTERN REGION VICE-PRESIDENT

It has been an interesting and challenging three years as your Eastern VP. I enjoyed working with the members of the region and I thank you for your support.

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I'm running again for another three year term to represent you as Eastern VP and again need your support. With the experience I've gained through my first term, I feel that I would be the best person to represent you the members, and the NIA. I have strong ideas of promoting the NIA and the hobby. I will be looking for your help again of ways and ideas to improve the hobby.

Let me take time to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. I've been collecting insulators for over 10 years. My wife Andrea and daughter Allison, have helped turn my hobby into a full time family project. I've held several positions in our local insulator and bottle club. I've been show chairman for many local shows and have actively displayed for all shows we have attended.

Concerning news in the Eastern Region, the activities are starting to buzz for Spring shows and talk of the coming National in Rochester has been strong. Show packages have been recieved and many reservation returned already. The Capitol District Insulator Club has something planned for awards night - 'Best Eastern Glass Display' and the Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club also has a surprise!

Central Florida Insulator Collectors Club NIA # 2000 and the Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club NIA # 2257 are exchanging newsletters. A great way of communicating between distant collectors and both clubs are interested in other clubs who would like to trade club newsletters. Don't forget that the NIA Historian should get a copy of your club's newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Rochester.

John de Sousa NIA#419

From JACKIE LINSOTT, candidate for Eastern Region Vice-President

Let me introduce myself - if you don't already know me. I'm Jacqueline (Jackie) Linscott, an elementary school teacher for the past 19 years and an avid insulator, commemorative bell and ball

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fruit jar collector for the past eight years. I'm urging you to vote for me as Eastern Region Vice-President of the NIA. I've been associated with the NIA since 1975. First, as the wife of a past NIA Executive Director and Show Chairman. Then in 1977 we co-hosted the Eighth NIA Convention Show and Sale in Lakeland Florida. From 1978 to 1980 I was NIA Treasurer during my husbands term as NIA President. Since 1977 I have attended all the Nationals except the one in Sacramento. I've co-hosted three Eastern Regional shows in addition to five of our local club's annual insulator and antique shows. So you see I'm very much aware of the internal workings and needs of the organization.

I would like to see a stronger, more united Eastern Region with more frequent communications between members, clubs and shows. If elected I will gladly voice your concerns and opinions.

With my expertise and past experiences in NIA I know I am the best candidate for the office and I hope you will agree by voting for JACKIE LINSCOTT!

Jackie Linscott NIA#1380

FROM THE SHOW STANDARDS CHAIRMAN

Not as many shows are held during the Winter months but even so I've recently mailed 8 NIA ribbons to be awarded at various shows from coast to coast. By checking the calendar of coming shows in Crown Jewels and Old Bottle Magazine I sent a note to show hosts asking if they wanted a ribbon. Most of them wrote right back saying they would be happy to have one since they were all having one or more insulator displays.

That's about all I have to report this time but I might mention plans for our Western Regional Show to be held April 30th and May 1st at Enumclaw are coming along nicely. Quite a few sales tables have been reserved and I am happy to say we already have 10 displays.

Violet Brown NIA#652

FROM THE ETHICS CHAIRMAN

Well, basically everyone is still conducting their insulator affairs in a very ethical manner. There have been occasional incidents of late or long time deliveries that have caused some concern; but these have been the result of lack of communication more than any wrong doing. I would reccomend that late deliveries be notified in writing if possible, and this will reduce the anxiety for all involved.

One question has been raised cocerning the use of sprays or substances on insulators that alter the surface appearence, and thus result in a person being mislead about the condition of the glass. The NIA already has a provision in its By-Laws, stating that this is NOT to be done or allowed in any NIA sponsored show. This does not include cleaning or polishing the surface, but only applies to the application of any substance on the surface that alters the appearence. Keep your can at home for dusting and don't take it to a show.

We currently have over seventy tables sold for our Central Regional show here in Austin. We have a good number of insulator people who will be setting up with some really fine items. It's not too late, so make your plans now to be in Austin, TX, May 20 - 22.

Bill Brandon NIA# 1011

FROM THE 1983 NATIONAL SHOW HOST - Dick Bowman

WOW! Time really moves. Almost a year ago we were working on a bid for the 1983 Show; now the real thing is right on the horizon. Already we have a fine group of dealers and exhibitors and feel that we're ready for the weekend in all respects.

We have made special arrangements for touring the fabulous MARGARET WCCDBURY STRONG MUSEUM. When you attend the museum while in

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Rochester, show them your NIA Membership card and refer to the group rate for the NIA. If all goes well, you will be admitted for 50¢ off the regular price. We have also arranged two special tours of plants in the Rochester area that are still manufacturing porcelain insulators.

TOUR # 1 The LAPP INSULATOR Division of Interpace Corporation in Leroy, N.Y. One of the largest makers in the field, they will offer a tour of their manufacturing facilities and their interesting museum.

DATE: Thursday - July 7th, 1983

TIME: 2:00 pm sharp (tour is about 1½ hours long)

PLACE: Lapp Insulator plant, NY. (Interpace Corp)
Leroy, NY is reachable from exit 47 of the NY State Thruway. Turn South on Route 19 to the center of Leroy (NY Route 5) Go West on Route 5, take the second left and go to the plant.

TOUR # 2 THE BROWN BOVERI ELECTRIC CO (formerly ITE/VICTOR/LOCKE/ FRED M LOCKE insulator plant) This is a plant with much history and significance to all insulator collectors.

DATE: Monday, July 11th, 1983

TIME: 8:00 am sharp (tour is about 2 hours long)

PLACE: Brown Boveri Electric Co., 280 Maple Ave, Victor, NY. Victor is reached by taking Rt. 96 East of Rochester Go to Maple Street (light in center of town) & turn South a short distance to the plant.

For either tour, go to the main entrance and indicate why you are there. IMPORTANT: By request of the host companies and in the interests of courtesy and the best tour arrangements as well as meeting security requests, PLEASE drop me a note or post card indicating what tour(s) you are planning to attend, the number in your party, and YOUR company affiliation.

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The publicity wheels for your National Convention are in motion. In addition to the coverage in Crown Jewels and Drip Points, flyers sent to or distributed at bottle and insulator shows, we are listed in Antique Bottle Worlds and Old Bottle Magazine and the annual listing of The Antiques And Arts Weekly with ads to follow in all.

We will be listed in The Antique Trader and major hobbyist and collectible publications. During January and February a half hour TV show on insulators which I taped in the Fall aired on PBS Channels in the Rochester area and on the Westinghouse Network in Pennsylvania. Since we got a good plug for the show, I've received a commitment to have it shown again in late June. On the local scene; exhibits, flyers at local shows, flea markets and shops and press releases to all local papers will provide exposure. Paid ads in the local Rochester and suburban papers will be our mainstay and with some push and a bit of luck, we're going for radio and TV coverage, feature sections of the papers and a couple of illuminated signs.

If you want a dealer or exhibitor spot, get your contracts in as time is running out faster than you might think. For those who can't put in a full exhibit, we're having a table set aside as a 'brag' table to allow you to show off your prize insulators which are rare, unique, or have some special appeal. A small card with your name and a few words about the piece are all that's needed; no reservations necessary. We'll have the Friday night 'show & tell' after the meeting, so hopefully some great pieces will be in both spots.

To make hotel reservations at the Quality Inn:

Send in the card in your show packets if you have one. - CR -
 Call them direct (716) 334-9300 Be sure that you tell them that you are part of the NIA group and that a block of rooms is being held and to give you the special rate. (\$26sing.-\$32dbl)
 OR - Call the toll free number (800) 228-5151 and make your reservations for the Quality Inn on West Henrietta Rd. Expect to be quoted a higher rate, but ask them to request the special rate for the NIA which you'll get on arrival.

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Banquet reservations can be made by sending a note and payment (\$10.00 per person) directly to me at 1253 La Baron Circle, Webster, N.Y. 14580. I will probably not be able to take any more reservations at show time.

Give some thought to wearing some crazy hat or costume on Saturday. We've heard that at least a couple of real 'gems' that will be worn. Undoubtedly, some special form of recognition will be in order.

In the next issue, we will have the Show weekend schedule, a map to get you to the show and Quality Inn and a feature on what to do and see while you're here, both for collectors and non-collectors.

Dick Bowman NIA #597

NIA BULLETIN

NOTICE TO ALL LIGHTNING ROD BALL COLLECTORS !

One of the largest producers of lightning rod balls, The Rodefer Gleason Glass Company, of Bellaire, OH, recently declared bankruptcy and has offered some lightning rod ball moulds to the general public.

Some concern has arisen that reproductions may be produced from the original moulds. Not only are we concerned with the future manufacture of lightning rod balls, but there is some evidence that modern reproductions of rare lightning rod balls have already been made.

Be VERY cautious when acquiring any expensive lightning rod ball unless it's origin can be confirmed. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available. Meanwhile.....

LET THE BUYER BEWARE !!!

10th ANNIVERSARY N.I.A. COMMEMORATIVE TO BENEFIT ORGANIZATION

To commemorate the 10th anniversary year of the NIA, a glass insulator commemorative, the actual size of a CD 257 (Mickey Mouse) with a smooth pin hole and having the following rim embossing:

NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION 10th ANNIVERSARY 1983

is being offered for sale.

During 1983 five different runs will be made with approximately 250 - 400 in each color, depending upon glass manufacturing variables. Anticipated colors for production are: BLUE, RED, EMERALD, AMBER, and WHITE MILK GLASS. Color order will be determined by the glass company.

This project is fully sanctioned by the Board of Directors of the NIA, and you are receiving the first notification of this project. \$2.00 for each commemorative sold is being given to the NIA to further the hobby.

Please use the form below to order....

Enclosed is my check (or money order) for _____ BLUE N.I.A. 10th Anniversary Commemoratives at \$18.00 each plus \$1.95 each for postage. (Ohio residents add 6½% sales tax) Amount of check _____

Please check if applicable:

_____ I am interested in purchasing future colors of the Commemorative. Please notify me of each additional color at the time of production.

_____ DISCOUNT PRICE for a complete set of FIVE colors. Enclosed is my check for _____ for _____ complete sets at \$85.00 each postage paid. (Ohio residents add 6½% sales tax) This guarantees that I will receive complete sets with each color being sent to me upon it's production.

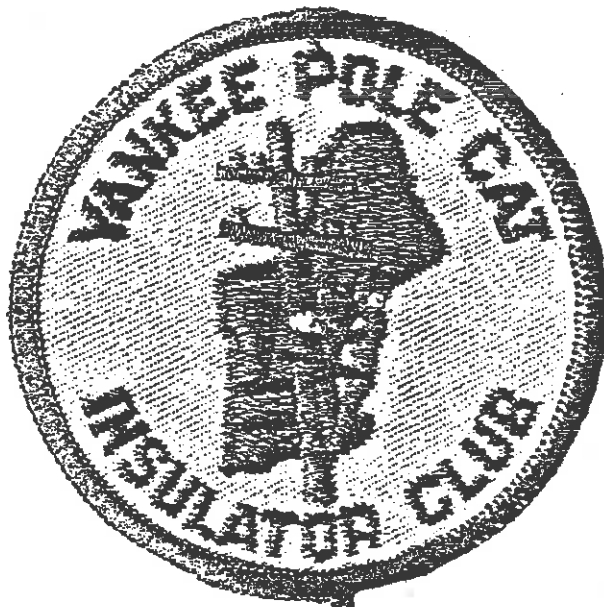
SEND TO: John McDougald, 26812 John Road, Olmsted Twp., OH 44138

APRIL 17th

SUNDAY

9AM - 4PM

KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS HALL
GLASTONBURY
CONNECTICUT



RT 94 HEBRON AV
8' TABLES \$10.00
FREE DISPLAY AREA
FREE ADMISSION

SPRING SHOW & SALE

FEATURING

INSULATORS

BOTTLES

TELEPHONE ITEMS

LIGHTNING ROD BALLS

RAIL ROAD ITEMS

BEER CANS

SMALL COLLECTABLES

CONTACT :

JOHN DE SOUSA

5 BROWSTONE RD.

E. GRANBY, CT 06026

1-203-658-0353