



DRIP POINTS

ACT 6 1976

Volume IV Number 1

October, 1976

7TH NATIONAL - BIG SUCCESS!

The Seventh National, which is history now, has been considered to be one of the greatest insulator shows of all times. Forty displays and over 120 sale tables were assembled for this big insulator event, held August 20 - 22, 1976. The show officially opened at nine, Friday morning for N.I.A. members only. The general business meeting followed at the end of this busy opening day. The meeting included discussion of the present issues, future business, and the election of the officers. Some of the current issues brought up were: raising dues, allowing beer cans and non-related insulator items at this insulators-only show, and centrally locating the national. The ballots were counted, with Bob Alexander of Winter Haven, Florida being elected as president for 1976 - 1977. Dennis McHenry of Bettendorf, Iowa, was elected as the vice-president of the Central Region. The other officers for the 1976 - 1977 year include: Treasurer, Carol McDougald, North Olmsted, Ohio; Executive Director, Len Linscott, Titusville, Florida; and Information Director, Alan Rodgers, Miami, Florida.

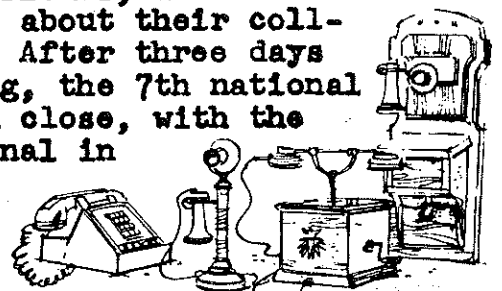
Hundreds of insulators and thousands of dollars exchanged hands during this big three-day event. Collectors attended from most every state and Canada. This collector as well as most all others that attended this show, not only added new insulators to their collections, but new friends, and new knowledge about their collections. After three days of dealing, the 7th national came to a close, with the 8th national in mind.

Thanks,
John & Carol McDougald

We would like to thank John and Carol McDougald of North Olmsted, Ohio, for their fine efforts in hosting the seventh national show and sale, recently held in Berea, Ohio. Many hours of hard work and many dollars of personal investment were involved by the McDougalds. Thank you John and Carol for a fine show.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Meet the officers for 1976 - 1977
- Board raises dues in 1977
- Details on the 8th National





"Cross Talk" From The Officers

Beginning at the national, the new committee members and officers have been discussing several important issues which should concern all collectors. Several changes were made to the by-laws, and all were approved by the members on the ballot. One of the most important issues concern the dues. This subject is discussed in detail below.

Lengthy discussion was held concerning the NIA supporting the national or regional shows, if the show host should loose money. Does the NIA want to get into the show business? "NO!" says Bill Galloway, Western Regional Vice-President. The NIA should take a good look at the area that the show is located in. Should the NIA guarantee any show? Steve Bobb, Bob Alexander, and Bill Galloway will draw up plans, and will be reported when these are final.

The propositions which were brought up before the membership on the ballot. All were approved. In summary, the changes include: extending the boundaries to include Canada and Mexico; dues increase due to the cost of operation of the NIA; "NIA Day" will be included in the suggested show rules; and the NIA will supply trophies and awards for the conventions. Show standards committeeman and past NIA president, Dr. Fred Griffin supplied excellent awards for the national. He also wishes to remind the members that the show rules are only suggested guidelines.

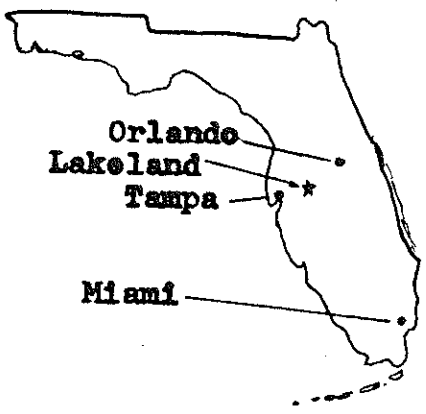
Your Information Director, (Alan Rodgers), requests that any member desiring to have their name omitted from the membership roster, (which will be included with the winter issue of "Drip Points"), please notify me before January 15, 1977.

NEW DUES AND FISCAL YEAR PLANNED

The board proposed a dues increase, presented it, and the membership approved. The dues will be raised as of April 1, 1977. All memberships will expire on March 31, 1977. The costs of printing this newsletter, postage, trophies, etc., have all gone up. Keeping with the times,

the NIA membership will be \$3.00. One dollar per each additional member if over 16 will apply. Further details will be included in the spring issue of "Drip Points".

1977 NATIONAL PLANS



Plans and preliminary work has begun on the 8th national to be held in Lakeland, Florida. This national, to be hosted by Len Linscott, 3557 Nicklaus Drive, Titusville, Florida, 32780 and Bob Alexander, 205 Whitman Road, Winter Haven, Fl., 33880, will be held on July 15, 16, and 17, 1977. The show will be held in a new civic auditorium, with full accommodations. Lakeland is a 30 minute drive from Orlando or Tampa. Disney World is 15 minutes away via Interstate 4. Many more family attractions are nearby, as well as many motels. Sales tables will be approximately \$35.00, with displays free.

INTRODUCING THE OFFICERS

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President "I'm sure that a lot of the members have not heard of Bob Alexander until they saw my name on their ballot. Well, I hope to change all that this year and for a start, I would like to tell you all a little bit about myself.

I live in Winter Haven, Florida and am a printer by trade. I work in the print shop at the Winter Haven Hospital and like my work there very much. I have been collecting insulators for about five years now. I began by just happening across a Hemingray 42, blue one day and because it looked interesting, I picked it up. Well, I have always been interested in items and events relating to the past history so I went down to the library to try and do some research on this strange piece of glass which I had found. I could not find anything on insulators there, but this did not stop me, and I checked out a local book store where I found a small section in an antique price guide. It listed Hemingray 42's then at \$3.00 each. Because I had seen more of those on some abandoned poles near the house, I concluded that I would go out and gather up all those 42's and make a fortune. (Editor's note: he is still trying to sell them too). Well as you may already know, that didn't work out, but as time went on, I began to notice more and more insulators. I became very much interested in all the different shapes and especially the colors in them.

I remember seeing my first Whitall Tatum #1 in purple and had to have it. I did pay \$8.00 for it and I still have it at home even after I found out it was only worth about \$5.00.

Well, my collection had grown to about 700 items and after much thought, I decided to specialize in just a few select types of insulators. First I thought I'd just go for the colors, but it occurred to me that a lot of other collectors were doing just the same thing and I wanted to have a collection of insulators which would be different from anyone else. I tried specializing in Lynchburg's, color, CD 152, CD 145, CD 162, Gayners,
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Executive Director The various colors and shapes were the two things that first attracted me to the hobby of insulator collecting. I began my collection eight years ago and since have thoroughly enjoyed the hobby plus all the good friends I've made thru insulator collecting. About four years ago I began specializing in cables (CD# 150 - 170). Even though it isn't a cable, my favorite insulator is my glass block (CD# 1000), perhaps because of its age and the fact that I obtained it so easily.

I live with my wife, Jacqueline who teaches in the Brevard County school system, and our daughter, Laura who is in the third grade and collects porcelain. We've lived at 3557 Nicklaus Drive in Titusville, Florida for thirteen years, during which time I've been employed in the police security division of the Boeing Company at Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

Besides collecting insulators I collect space cacheted envelopes and coins.

My family and I belong to the Central Florida Insulator Club (CFIC). We like to travel in our motor home, meeting other insulator collectors.

As Executive Director of the National Insulator Association, (NIA) 1976 - 1977, my goals are (1) to create an interest in insulator collecting among young people, and (2) to create a better understanding among club members of the NIA rules and advantages of belonging to NIA and having shows sanctioned by the NIA."

-- L. L. (Len) Linscott

Central Region Vice-President

Dennis McHenry served for three years as treasurer of the NIA. He resigned from that job and moved on to run for the office of vice-president of the central region. Repeating the life story of Dennis McHenry (from Sept., 1975 Drip Points) follows: "I've been collecting insulators for about eight years now. I keep trying to specialize in everything. I have a pretty good set of the baby signals.

I only need a couple of Hemingrays to have a complete set of all the styles and colors...I've been the treasurer of the NIA since the beginning and feel the efforts put into the organization add greatly to the enjoyment I receive from the hobby. I'm a physical scientist at the Rodman Laboratory, Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois, where I'm in charge of the Analytical Section. Been married to Bobbie for 25 yrs. No children. Plan to retire to the Rocky Mountains in the not too distant future...."

President Continued... Hemingrays, Brookfields, threadless, and a number of others which I can't remember anymore, (Editors note: "That's what I call specializing"), I finally decided on CD 160's and also very odd or unusual insulators. The CD 160's number 138 different at last count and I have managed to come up with a few unusual items. For instance, I have a Hemingray 16 which is half clear and half blue, and a lot of others similarly odd. Also I've been collecting telephone signs (porce-

lainized), lately.

To me, the insulators are just a part of this great hobby. The best part is the people involved in this hobby. They have made the hobby great. Because of insulators, I have friends all across the country. I have the pleasure of meeting some of the nicest people in America that I know of.

As president of the NIA, I would like to accomplish these goals: First, is to motivate more people into becoming collectors. I think this is very important because we do need more people involved in insulators. I would really like to see more new, younger collectors get started, and I think this year is going to be the best ever.

Also I would like to see the NIA become more involved in giving its members more and more benefits: so that people will really feel that the NIA is worth supporting. I really do want to add a lot of new and better items to the list that we already have to make NIA membership even more appealing than ever before. One example would be a patch designed with the NIA emblem for our members to wear. Also, we could have bumper stickers designed to make people aware of just what benefits they will have by joining the NIA. I would like to see that every member knows what he is actually receiving by joining the NIA. Say for instance, if a collector has a trading problem, he can contact the NIA. The ethics committee can work to solve this problem. This can end the puzzle of what to do if a problem arises.

Also I would like to see the NIA try to work up a list of known "phony" insulators to be published and distributed to its members, so that they will be on the look out for these items and not make a mistake which could cause many people to quit the hobby. I have bought three phony insulators since I have started collecting and had I had enough information beforehand to make me aware of just what to look out for, I would not have bought these insulators. The people who sold me the items knew as much about them as I did and I really can't blame them for selling the items to me. I am currently working

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President Continued... on a list of things to look for in determining whether or not an insulator is a fake or real. I am almost absolutely sure that everyone will agree that if they have an insulator they are wondering about, they would like to know one way or the other, if it is real or not. I know that sometimes people will not admit that they have a bad insulator, but I think for the sake of the hobby, there should be some sort of "out and dry" method to keep the newer collectors, (and a lot of the older ones too) from buying a piece of glass which really isn't worth anything. We have to all stick together on this matter. Even though some of us might loose a few dollars, in the long run we will all save. I am determined to keep these insulators out of our hobby and I really am going to expose them as they really are. I will need help and cooperation from the collectors. With your help, I know we can succeed in these efforts.

I would like to thank all the members who voted for me this year. I feel very honored to be your president for 1977. I only hope I can do as good a job as the presidents who have preceded me in this job. You can be sure that I will seek their help in making decisions and deciding what is best for the members of the NIA. I think we have a very fine organization and one which we can be proud of, and I know the future will be bright for the NIA as well as the hobby in general. Your comments are always welcome and in fact would be appreciated. If we all stick together as we have done in the past, there are no limits to which the hobby can grow. Who knows, maybe even those common blue Hemingray 42's will be worth something someday."

Treasurer

"John and myself have been collecting insulators for about four years, beginning when I picked up some at local garage sales to be used as a job-related paperweight for telephone company, John. Together, we have collected about 1,000 glass pieces, specializing in CD's up to 200. John has specialized in CD 162, Hemingray and H.G. Co. signals, while I specialize in CD 121, tolls.

We have two boys, David (8) and Robert (6), both who are in school all day this fall. I am hopeful that this will allow me some time to pursue my hobbies: school teacher's aid, church women's group, Questers Historical Study Group, P.E.O. Sisterhood, arts and crafts, and sewing some new clothes.

John and I have been active in the Ohio Valley Insulator Club; have hosted the national show in Berea this summer as well as two local Cleveland shows; and am busy helping the OVICC to begin a local Cleveland collectors group.

As treasurer, I hope to keep NIA public relations good by prompt answering of renewals and new applications and directing all inquiries to the right people."

-- Carol McDougald

-- Good Collecting!
Bob Alexander

SHOW TIME

Mark your calender and make plans to attend these important shows coming up this year:

November 20 - 21, 1976 - Eastern Regional Show - Winter Haven Mall, Winter Haven, Florida -- For information contact Bob Alexander.
October 23 - 24, 1976 - Western Regional Show - Municipal Auditorium, Oroville California -- For information contact Bill Galloway.

Information Director

"Being a collector for the past ten years, I have enjoyed every aspect of insulator collecting. Meeting the people attending the shows and helping the hobby are the most enjoyable aspects of insulator collecting.

I am single, and a recent graduate of Florida Atlantic University with a degree in business marketing. Although not on the unemployment list, I am seeking permanent employment at the present. Currently, I am a department manager at a local lumber yard.

Though I do not specialize in any particular style or CD number, I am interested in anything that appeals to my interest, especially colors. In addition to insulators, I also collect glass battery jars, railroad items, telephone equipment, telephone signs, and brass steam whistles. Other interests include equitation and prototype railroading as well as with the models.

As information director, I will promote the NIA not only through this publication, but with other related publications. It is not my intent to compete with the fine efforts of Dora Harned and the Crown Jewels of the Wire. The news will be accurately reported through the "Drip Points", four times this year. All contributions are invited. Also look for my monthly column in the Crown Jewels."

-- Alan Rodgers, NIA# 256

Committees

The committees for 1976-1977:

By Laws: Jack Tod
3427 N. 47th Place
Phoenix, Ariz. 8501

Jack has done a fine job on the creation and revision of the by-laws, he needs to hear from you.

Membership:
Paul Houpt
211 South Chauncey St.
Columbia City, Ind. 46725

Creating interest and getting new members is a job for every member of the NIA. Help!

Ethics:
Tom Moulton
17 Cornelia RD#1
Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019

Tom solved several disputes this past year. This is another way that your NIA can help you.

Show Standards:
Dr. Fred Griffin
512 S. Palm Ave.
Palatka, Fl. 32077

Fred supplied many nice trophies to be presented at the national to be given in behalf of the NIA.

Historian:
Ruby Bryant
1756 N.W. 58th Ave.
Lauderhill, Fl. 33313

Ruby needs any contribution of photographs from the past nationals as well as anything of interest.

Historian:
Alan Rodgers
126 N.W. 104th St.
Miami, Fl. 33150

I need any contributions for the scrapbook. The general history report (a 16 page manuscript is available for a large S.A.S.E.) Learn the past history of the NIA.

INSULATORS

Officers

PRESIDENT

Bob Alexander
205 Whitman Road
Winter Haven, Florida 33880
Phone: (813) 324-3344

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ian Innescott
3557 Nicklaus Drive
Titusville, Florida 32780
Phone: (305) 267-9170

EASTERN REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

Steve Bobb
610 Northampton Road
Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401
Phone: (215) 539-6533

CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

W. Dennis McHenry
Trexend, Route 1
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722
Phone: (319) 355-2069

WESTERN REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

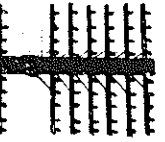
Bill Galloway
19 Southview Drive
Oroville, California 95065
Phone: (916) 533-8056

TREASURER

Carol McDougald
4592 Andorra Drive
W. Olmsted, Ohio 44070
Phone: (216) 779-8232

INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Alan Rodgers
126 N. W. 104th Street
Miami, Florida 33150
Phone: (305) 751-5736



Committees

By Laws

Jack H. God
3427 N. 47th Place
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Membership

Paul Houpt
211 South Chauncey Street
Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Phone: (219) 244-5840

Ethics

Tom Moulton
17 Cornelia RD# 1
Ballston Lake, New York 12019

Show Standards

Dr. Fred Griffin
512 South Palm Avenue
Palatka, Florida 32077
Phone: (904) 328-2427

Historian

Alan Rodgers
126 N. W. 104th Street
Miami, Florida 33150
Phone: (305) 751-5736

Historian

Ruby Bryant
1756 N.W. 58th Avenue
Lauderhill, Florida 33313
Phone: (305) 733-1053

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For 1976 - 1977

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Telephone: _____

Send to: Treasurer, Carol McDougald, 4592 Andorra Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070. Dues: \$2.00.
EXPIRES: MARCH 31, 1977