

Drip Points

Summer 2017 – Volume 44 – No. 4

Quarterly Magazine of the National Insulator Association





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On the cover:

Some EC&Ms for sale at the 2017 Rohde Ranch BBQ & Tailgater. See page 16 for full show review.

Sponsor color printing!

You or your club can sponsor the color printing! For more information contact Steve Roberts or Don Briel:

President | **Steve Roberts** NIA# 7935
President@nia.org

First Past President | **Don Briel** NIA# 7281
1stpastpres@nia.org

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Editor



Shaun Kotlarsky - NIA# 4993

If you get the printed edition of Drip Points Magazine, you may have noticed a significant delay in receiving the Spring 2017 issue. This was due to a problem at the post office the printer of our magazine used. Basically, it is due to the fact we don't have the volume of magazines to fill a pallet, and smaller loads tend to get delayed. I find this Unacceptable. The printer is working with post office to rectify this (it has happened to several other magazines). If there is not a fix to this soon I will start exploring other options.

Shortly after the last issue shipped, I was fortunate enough to check off yet another insulator from my "top 5" want list. (I now have 3 of my top 5!) Newest addition is the "Threadless" CD 134. Several odd things about this one of a kind piece.

1. It is only embossed with STANDARD no other markings.
2. It is an odd straw color
3. it has a 5/8" threadless pin hole
4. It is also SDP

It is obviously a Hemingray made insulator. It is possible that it was made without the threading mandrel so that's why it is threadless but that doesn't explain why it is an odd color for one of these or that it just is marked STANDARD (unlike any other 134 they made)

More info. on its history can be found in the February 2002 issue of Crown Jewels of the Wire in John McDougald's "Mac's Believe It or Not!" column. See it online at: <https://goo.gl/tK9sBG>

Whatever its story really is, one thing for sure, it is one cool Hemingray!

Shaun Kotlarsky





President



Steve Roberts - NIA# 7935

Greetings Everyone,
 Spring is finally here and it has arrived with a bang. It's wet and hot and every plant imaginable is blooming. With the rebirth of spring there is a resurgence of activity in the hobby. Swaps and shows are occurring everywhere. Please make an effort to go to a show. You may just find that one insulator you have been looking for. But even if you don't find your dream insulator, you surely will find your cherished friends that you have cultivated during your insulator collecting experiences. Get out and go to an insulator show. Treat yourself to the thrill of the hunt, and renewed friendships.

Speaking of shows, the NIA National Show and Convention is just around the corner. The Colorado Springs National will be held from Friday, July 21, through Sunday, July 23. There is a great deal of activity before and during the National. The annual Board of Directors' meeting will be on Thursday, July 20. The Membership meeting will be held Friday afternoon, July 21, immediately following the closing of the Show Hall. The Awards Banquet will be on Saturday evening July 22, and the non-denominational devotional will be held on Sunday morning July 23, prior to the opening of the Show Hall.

Since the last edition of Drip Points there have been a number of topics developing that you may be interested in. First, as most of you are aware we have held an election to approve two positions on the Board of Directors. Bill Rohde was approved by the membership to continue as our Treasurer. Bill has proven himself to be an excellent keeper of our financial records and a true servant to the hobby. Additionally, Michael Doyle has been elected to serve a three year term as our new Western Region Vice President. Michael is well known and respected in the hobby and will make a great addition to the Board of Directors. Michael is replacing Ron Yuhas in the Western VP position. And, while speaking of Ron, I would be remiss if I didn't express my appreciation to him for his

dependable service to the Board and the Membership. Thank you Ron, you are very much appreciated!

Next I would like to share with you some of the activities that involve our webmaster, Bob Berry. In February the Board of Directors revised the Membership Handbook. Bob has advised me that the current edition of the Membership Handbook is available as a single PDF on the NIA website. If you desire, you can go to the website and print the Membership Handbook in its entirety. And while discussing the Handbook, I would like to say thank you to our Rules and Procedures Advisor, Mike Funderburk. Mike was very involved with all of the updates to the Handbook. Without his help we wouldn't have been able to provide a good up to date product. Thanks Mike and Bob.

When talking to Bob he also advised me that very soon we will have an addition to the website concerning Radio Strains. We have received permission to create PDFs of all of the "Old Familiar Strains" publications and make them available to you. I don't have a date for that project to be completed by Bob; however, he did say it would be soon.

The next topic of interest is one that has been a long time coming and will take some time to complete. Let me explain. Recently the Board of Directors approved a recommendation to have the National Insulator Association name and Logo registered. Through the assistance of the NIA's attorney we were referred to a Trademark and Registration attorney. After a great deal of preliminary work we have secured the services of the Trademark attorney and the process of Registration has begun. Without going into a great deal of detail let me just say it is very involved and requires a significant amount of time. Per the attorney, the minimum amount of time for the government to approve your request is approximately six months. However, in some instances it takes up to eighteen

months. Obviously we will have to wait and see how our request is treated. I will keep you informed as additional details become available.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to announce the 2017-2018 Scholarship recipients. They are Andrew Hedges and Trevor Dean. Andrew is the son of Chris and Marilyn Hedges. In the fall Andrew will begin classes at the University of Missouri and desires to become a Sports Medicine Physician. Trevor is the grandson of Hal and Betty Dean. Trevor is a senior at Ohio State University and is majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering. On behalf of the NIA I would like to express our Congratulations to both Andrew and Trevor, and their respective families.



Andrew Hedges

I hope to see many of you at the National in Colorado Springs.

Best Regards,

Steve Roberts



THE 2017 ROHDE RANCH BBQ & TAILGATER - SEE PAGE 16 FOR FULL REPORT



Western Region VP



Ron Yuhas - NIA# 1993

This will be my last report as NIA Western Region VP since a new representative will be elected. I have had a great time as your VP and have learned a great deal about the working of the NIA board. If you want to boil it down you could say it is just a bunch of caring collectors trying to make the hobby better. Most of the decisions of the board are fairly easy but occasionally there is a tough one. I have seen some very good decisions made such as the Kids Cash and other encouragement of younger collectors that are an important part of the future of the hobby. The scholarship fund has helped the family of collectors and has been modified to more directly associated with active collectors. There are the tough decisions to make for the hobby. The NIA board saved a National that was having a contract dispute. The board continues to try to educate collectors about suspected fake and altered insulators without making statements that could get the NIA sued for misrepresentation. The decision to make available a contract for financing the National has opened up the opportunity for many more people and groups to make a bid for the National. I would encourage anyone that has the time and the desire to help make the hobby better to run for a VP spot or contact the NIA President about how to help. I even thought about running for another 3 year term but decided it was best for a new face to take the position. All that being said I would like to thank the board members that I have worked with for a super experience and hope my contributions have been a help.

OK, now what is really happening out in the insulator world? Well there is that 2017 Western Region Na-

tional Show that is coming up on July 21 thru the 23 in Colorado Springs Colorado. From all reports that I have heard this promises to be an excellent show with huge attendance. The hosts are fantastic people and have some wonderful activities setup for collectors. It is a great venue and should be a fun time.

There seems to be a real surge in insulator collecting that I have seen in several areas of interest. The shows at Seattle WA and Fresno (Rohde Ranch) CA that I attended had very good attendance and lots of action. The hosts of those shows go out of their way to make you feel welcome and pull out of their own pockets to financially make these shows happen. The interest in online auctions and internet sites seems to me to be at an all time high. Insulators at all price ranges are coming out of the woodwork to be made available to collectors. My sources on social media (which I am not a part of) say that insulator activity is very strong. This all tells me that the hobby is healthy and growing.

I think that I have probably rattled on enough here but in closing I would like to say the following, a) consider a position on the NIA board, b) try to make a local show if you can because some of the nicest people and also characters you will ever meet will be there, c) go to a National Show especially this year as it is an experience you will not forget, d) just have fun collecting in your own way. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ron Yuhas

CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES TO DRIP POINTS!



I always welcome interesting insulator related articles. It can be anything from a general research paper or to something very specific (Like a CD, M, U or ST Number study). I also want stories about hunts and finds!

If you want to submit an article or have questions about doing an article contact me.

Shaun Kotlarsky | Drip Points Editor publications@nia.org



Eastern Region VP



Gus Stafford - NIA# 8871

Hosting a Local Show

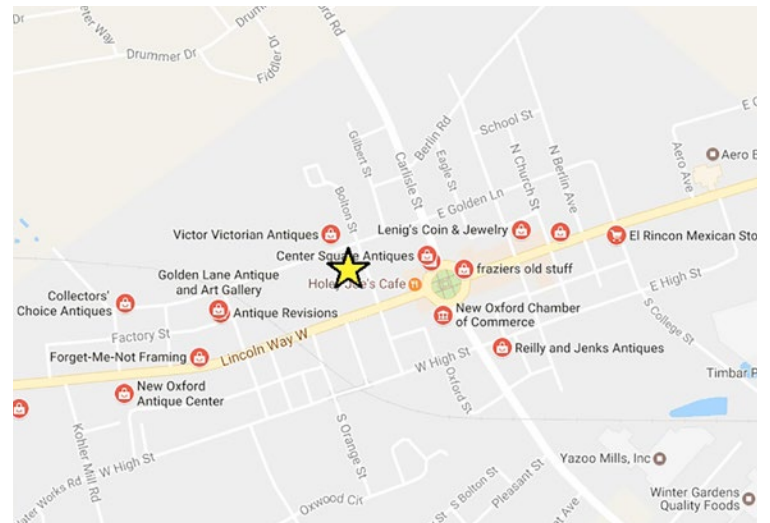
Insulator shows and swap meets are the lifeline of the hobby here in the northeast. The Yankee Polecat Club, Western Reserve Insulator Club, Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club, Dixie Jewels Insulator Club, Twin Tier and Central Florida Insulator Club are responsible for multiple local shows each year. Insulator collectors from Maine to Florida and Virginia to Tennessee gather to see what unique insulators folks find in their neck of the woods. With good advertising, new collectors are drawn to the hobby and inactive collectors rekindle the desire to unpack decades-buried collections of mud and porcelain.

On Saturday, March 10th 2018, the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club will host their 30th Annual Insulator Show and Sale. Once known as the “Maryland Line” show, this annual event is held on Saturday, the second weekend of March each year in conjunction with the Baltimore Bottle Show held the day after on Sunday. Starting in Baltimore, the CBIC has held the show in Hereford, Maryland; Maryland Line, Maryland; Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania; and in 2018 New Oxford, Pennsylvania. Renovation of the Shrewsbury Fire Hall, forced a change of venue bringing up all the issues involved in setting up a new show. I thought it might be helpful to share the process with the larger audience in the event that someone is thinking about starting up an annual or one-time event.

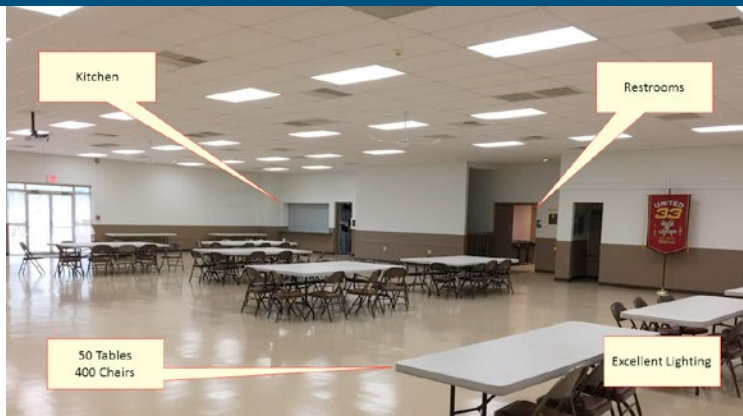
Timing. It is important to check the schedule of events on ICON, and coordinate with other clubs in your area before selecting a date. It is also important to look at holiday periods, school schedules, and weather conditions. CBIC hosts their show in March (making it one of the earliest shows in the Northeast) on the same weekend as the Annual Baltimore Bottle Show – allowing dealers the possibility of a double venue weekend.

Location. The CBIC show is held close to the geographic center of collectors in the northeast (though

it has gradually moved further North over the last 30 years). Road networks and proximity to air travel are also important for maximum participation. It also helps to have items or locations of interest in proximity to the show for those insulator widows and widowers who may want to do something else. New Oxford, PA is close to the Gettysburg Battlefield, Outlet Malls and numerous antique shops and interesting boutiques.



Facility. While all of us are used to the large venues for a National Convention, the average club or sponsor lacks the time and funding to put on a local show on the grand scale. The CBIC has always operated with local fire halls for the annual Maryland Line Show. In the Northeast, many small towns have local fire halls for their volunteer fire companies. These halls serve the dual purpose for fire department activities and as a revenue generating facility for the local departments. In our area, rental rates are very reasonable, and the halls usually come with an ample supply of tables and chairs for use in the show. Additionally, fire halls usually follow public accessibility regulations – guaranteeing access to our guests and dealers “rolling stock” on hand trollies. Lighting, electrical outlets, restrooms, and food preparation areas are also desirable.



Advertising. You have to get the word out if you want to maximize participation. The CBIC used Crown Jewels, Drip Points, ICON Show Calendar, and ICON postings to attract collectors. We do a mailing to previous show attendees, and distribute flyers to local antique malls to attract those who aren't part of the hobby. Finally, getting the local media, print, internet, and TV involved can boost your attendance. In addition to the wide variety of insulators brought by our dealers, there are always walk-ins from non-collectors that add buzz to the show. In 2016 we had a Red-Flashed Pyrex CD 235 show up from someone associated with the Corning Glass Works!



displays is another great way to build enthusiasm and get folks to box up something special for the show.



Food! As anyone who looks at the photo gallery on ICON knows, food and insulators always go together! For a show, you need to plan on donuts and coffee for set-up, and lunch for show patrons. We've always used the Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, further enhancing the club's relationship with the hall. For New Oxford we'll be using a caterer from the Hall this year since they don't have an auxiliary, and we can't get Bill Rhode to come east with his BBQ Pit. It goes without saying that you need to allocate tables, chairs, trashcans, and table cloths to this endeavor.

Security. Finally, you should plan for security (club members with vests) to walk the hall during setup, show, and teardown. This helps keep order and is welcomed by dealers and patrons alike.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday
10 March 2018
9 am to 2 pm

30th Annual Antique Insulator and Tabletop Collectable Show and Sale

21 N Bolton St
New Oxford, PA 17350

Hall Set up Friday, 9 March from 5 pm to 7 pm
Dealer Set up 7 am to 9 am Saturday 10 March

Contact: Gus Stafford at gus.stafford@gmail.com, (717) 790-9183



NEW LOCATION

→

←

NEW LOCATION



Displays. It's always a great idea to set aside space for displays. It provides an opportunity for collectors to showcase their personal passion while educating show attendees on the hobby. Providing awards for

Final thoughts... With a little pre-planning, and a couple of willing helpers, you can put on your own local show. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the National (and any number of local shows between now and March 10, 2018)!

Gus Stafford



Membership Director

Andrew Gibson - NIA# 2422



Membership is up nearly 200 from the last Drip Points, and we are getting close to the total from last year. Anyone receiving this should already be an NIA member for the year, but if you happen to know anyone who is not an NIA member and is planning on going to the National in Colorado Springs, CO -- please remind them to join now! The cutoff date for joining the NIA prior to the National is going to be June 18, 2017. That's a rather unusual length of time before the show, but necessary due to my circumstances. I am not, unfortunately, going to be able to make the National show this year. And I'm not going to be able to update the NIA membership information for about a month before the show. What that means is that if your renewal gets to me after June 18, I won't be able to get you added to the list of members, used at the door to verify your membership on NIA Day. Which in turn means that you would have to pay (again) at the door to become a member. We certainly don't intend to charge you twice -- if that happens, we will credit your extra payment to your 2018 membership. It would be far better, though, if we don't run into that situation. So don't wait -- be sure to renew your membership early!

The show season is in full swing. I made it to the CBIC show in Shrewsbury, PA; the YPCIC show in Enfield, CT; the WRIC show at it's new location in West Leechburg, PA; and the GVBCA bottle show in Rochester, NY. I greatly enjoyed the displays at the YPCIC show -- Ken Willick's display of Fred Locke suspensions, and the combined display of Lyndeboro glass were both fantastic to get to see. The West Leechburg show was a new location for what used to be the Natrona Heights show, and I think there was general agreement that this was a definite success. It certainly was for me -- not only did I get to enjoy the show, but I also got to see two different collections. Shows are great, but it's extra special to get to see someone's collection. I always come away with a new appreciation for something different, and this was no exception. Believe it or not, but my favorite things to see were a Continental Rubber Works and an H. K. Porter! The tracks that I grew up walking had most of the different rubber ponies by

the score, but this one was a shape I had never seen before. And the H. K. Porter? Not only did it have the rare small-size pinhole, but it was also a light purple color! And no, before you ask, it wasn't stained. It really was the tint of the plastic itself. You learn something new every day!

Next up are the Twin Tier Insulator Club show in Corning, NY; Claude Wambold's swap meet in Perkiomenville, PA; and the ICA Expo in Washington, PA. What's the Twin Tier Insulator Club, you may ask? This is a new club that is in the process of forming, and the first show is being held May 13th at the Gang Mills, NY fire department. Support the hobby by supporting your local clubs -- get to a show and enjoy!

Next up -- some more fun with numbers. How do you pay for your membership? For 2017 so far, we have

- 689** paid by check
- 108** paid electronically via PayPal
- 8** paid by cash

That's about 14% who pay online. Then take a look at how Drip Points go out.

- 620** get a mailed hardcopy
- 278** get an emailed digital copy
- 3** don't receive it at all

That's about 31% who receive it electronically. Do you prefer electronic or hardcopy? Why?

My thanks to those who responded to my question last time around. I was happy to get some feedback, and it certainly gave me some food for thought.

Until next time, happy collecting!

Andrew Gibson





Information Director



Christian Willis - NIA# 5185

The final countdown begins to the National! Okay, I've been counting down since it was announced. I don't know about you guys, but I'm super excited about this show. I know I sound like a broken record, but it's going to be great. Don't miss it!

I'm happy to report that the NIA Board of Directors has approved officially registering the National Insulator Association name and logo with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. This has been a long time in coming (30 years or so), but it's finally happening and I'm grateful to be a part of it. Thank you to the Board and to president Steve Roberts for helping to make this happen. The ball has just begun rolling and this is usually a multi-year process. More info in a future issue!

This year, I'm renewing my efforts to advertise the NIA in sister hobby publications. Specifically, I have reached out again to the Antique Bottle & Glass Collector and Telephone Collectors International. As you'll notice, we're still trading ad space with the Railroadiana Collectors Association, Inc. and the feedback has been positive from them.

I'm sure some our NIA members are also members of other hobbies as well. Insulators go hand-in-hand with telephone, telegraph, power, ham radio, streetcars, Old West, Civil War, bottles, privy digging, general antique glassware and much more! Please always keep an eye out for how we can spread the word about our wonderful hobby, and if you have any ideas please contact me! I'm always looking for new ideas. I can be reached at information@nia.org or (949) 338-1404.

As for myself, I'll be the first to admit that I have several other interests besides insulators! I also collect danger signs, especially ones made by my favorite sign company, Denver-based Stonehouse Signs (www.stonehousesigns.com). Stonehouse was the company that pioneered the standard Danger, Warning, Caution, Think, Notice, and Safety First signs

that we see in factories and mines all over the United States to this day. Some of their earliest signs are well over 100 years old and can be quite rare. I'm also a member of RMCATOS – the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Theater Organ Society (www.rmcatos.org). Ever since I was a kid I had a fascination for theater organs. In my opinion, some of these are among the most magnificent instruments ever created.

And lastly, I collect memorabilia from Walt Disney's 1946 film Song of the South. I actually found my first piece of memorabilia at the 1995 Bakersfield, CA insulator show. (Good memories!) In fact, I can safely say that if I hadn't started collecting insulators, I never would have seen this piece of memorabilia. Since then, I've amassed about 400 items (and counting) from around the globe. If you're interested in seeing my collection or learning more about the film, you can visit my web site at www.songofthesouth.net.

So, how about you? I'd love to hear from our NIA members about your other hobbies. I know you're out there!

Now, to put on my Ad Manager hat: I hope you'll consider placing an ad in an upcoming issue of Drip Points! We'd love to see your ad here, and it goes out to all active members of the NIA. Plus, you get a free 25-word ad every year! Just contact me with what you'd like to include and we'll see it gets added to an upcoming issue. As always, you can reach me at admanager@nia.org , or my cell phone (949) 338-1404.

I'll see you all in Colorado Springs!

Sincerely,

Christian



Historian



Rick Soller - NIA# 2958

A Quick History of Insulator Color in References

Many collectors feel that color is king in the insulator world yet there was not always color in our insulator references. This created many arguments about color. What follows is a quick history of attempts to add better color to references to end those debates.

The earliest attempt to provide a guide that collectors could use to identify the color of their insulators was published by Bob Alexander around 1976. The Standard Color Guide for Insulators was four pages of labeled plastic strips in various colors that could be used for comparison purposes. The guide cost \$5 for Bob's attempt to "list every known color that exists in insulators today." Unique colors included carnival glass, jade milk glass, and pink milk glass.

In 1991, Mark Lauckner followed up with a similar method called Spec-Tru. This came with a booklet titled Spec-Tru A Standard Reference for Transparent Glass Instructions. There are several versions of the reference. I have seen version 4.01 copyrighted by Mark and version 4.3 with 2000 and 2001 copyright dates by Ernie Carlson.

Early price guides did not have color pictures but this changed after a few editions of the McDougald Price Guide. The 2007 edition of the price guide, has 4 pages of labeled pictures in the back. The McDougalds also included 7 pages of color pictures in their 1990 book Insulators: A History and Guide to North American Glass Pintype Insulators.

Finally, a full-color book was printed in 2000 by Mike Bruner containing 224 pages of photographs and information. Titled The Definitive Guide to Colorful Insulators, many colors are featured but a collector has to search through the book to find an insulator in that color.

There are other books showing insulator colors, the Crown Jewels of the Wire magazine continues to publish in color, and color pictures can be found online. Despite all these resources, color debates still occur with disputants pointing out that how one sees colors depends on lighting, individual abilities to see certain colors, the psychology of color perception, whether a person is buying or selling, and the density of the glass, among other things.

Rick Soller

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- Interactive table of contents. Just click or touch on the article you want to go to.
- Active URL and email Links.
- Readable on any device that can read PDFs, including Mac, PC, iPad, iPhone & iPod touch.
- Go green, save a tree.

To switch, email: **Andrew Gibson** membership@nia.org



Development Committee Chairperson

Michael Green - NIA# 3175

Greetings Fellow Collectors,
I hope your spring has been beautiful so far and the flowers are in full bloom. In just over a week here in Denver we've had a major snowstorm, 80 degree sunny skies, and baseball size hail that did damage estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars. I've always been told if you don't like the weather here in Colorado just wait five minutes and it will change! Speaking of change the Development Committee would like to grow by a couple more members. We put out a call in the last Drip Points looking for two additional committee member volunteers from the eastern and central regions. If you are interested in helping the committee in its efforts to support the NIA please contact me, Steve Roberts, or Lou Hall right away. It's a pretty good job and the boss is pretty easy going. ☺

In addition to our regular fundraising efforts the Development Committee is in the process of producing a new tri-fold brochure that will explain the NIA Gift Acceptance Policy (GAP) as stated in the NIA Membership Handbook. The brochure would also provide information about the opportunities for giving (Pledges, Sponsorships, Bequests, Endowments, Legacy Gifts, Beneficiary Gifts, Memorials, Grants, etc.) to the NIA. We hope to have this brochure ready to distribute at the National in July. We will also do a fundraising campaign at the National in Colorado Springs. We hope to surpass the \$1000.00 that was raised at Muncie in 2016. That will be a tough task but we think we can do it!

Speaking of the National I am pleased to report that everything is moving along on schedule and the support has been incredible. Even the preshow activities

have received an amazing response. The Pikes Peak Cog Railway and the Cripple Creek bus tour are both full and the waiting lists are growing. I even have five brave souls who are taking on the "Hard Core Challenge" and will be attempting to climb Pikes Peak early Wednesday morning. Weather and legs permitting we will meet the Cog Railway group on top and hitch a ride back down. I think that's only fair after 13 miles and 7000 vertical feet of climbing. I just hope I'm able to get up Thursday morning for the bus tour. ☺ The show itself is shaping up to be a dandy. As you know we filled all sales and display table months ago and wish we could add several thousand square feet to the show hall. Dan, David, and I are so humbled by all of the support and are working hard to make this a great show. We already have a lot of great pieces promised for the community seldom seen and "junkier" displays. If you have any pieces you would like to bring please contact me or Sean soon before space runs out. We also have almost 20 entries for the first ever National Show Art Contest. There will be some beautiful items on display and there is room for more. If you or a family member would like to enter please let me know soon. We especially need some involvement from young adult and kids so let's get those creative juices flowing. That's just a brief update on the show and we can't wait to see you in Colorado Springs!

Lou, Bill, and I wish you the very best and thank you for your support of the Development Committee and the NIA.

Happy Collecting,

Michael Green



Scholarship Committee Chairperson

Kay Bryant - NIA# 4099

This year the scholarship committee has elected to award two academic scholarships. The winners will be announced at the National in July.

The changes that were made to the scholarship program worked great ! We received less than a dozen applications but all were well qualified and presented excellent suggestions to attract young people to the hobby. The main themes that were mentioned were the personal contact and education as well as the creation of an app for the hobby.

How many of you out there would be willing to be an ambassador for the hobby and go to schools, li-

braries, community activities and any other places where young people gather and present an introduction to the hobby. Distribute the "What Are Insulators " booklets, copies of Drip Points and Crown Jewels. There are so many collectors that certainly have spare or extra insulators in their collections that could be distributed to these young people. Think back and ask yourself....how did I get started in the hobby?

Spread the word ! Bring a young person to a show !

Kay Bryant



THE 2017 ROHDE RANCH BBQ & TAILGATER - SEE PAGE 16 FOR FULL REPORT



Executive Secretary

Walt Baumgardt - NIA# 8007

Hi All,
 As I look back at my first year as secretary of the NIA, I'm not regretting the decision to run for office. It has given me, not only, an opportunity to give back to an organization that has meant a lot to me, but also an opportunity to work with a great group of men and women, dedicated to promoting this great hobby. I would urge all of you to consider getting involved in the NIA in some way. I'm confident you will be glad you did.

If you're like me, you are putting the finishing touches on the itinerary for the NIA National in Colorado Springs. My wife and I use the National trip, each year, to see more of this great country of ours. This year our trip covers about 30 days of sightseeing, antiquing, etc. We've all heard how big Texas is. I can drive across New York State (west to east) in about 5 hours. The west to east trip across Texas will take us between 2 and 3 days. I'm sure looking forward to it.

The show season is off to a great start this year. If you haven't been to a show yet, I encourage you to do so. You should be able to find one that will be a nice weekend trip. I still remember my first show. The words I use to describe it are SHOCK and AWE, with all the glass and colors, sparkling and shining under the lights. Like a kid in a candy store, where do you start? To be honest with you, I still get some of that same feeling every time I walk into a Show. I'm looking forward to meeting you at a Show in the near future.

Walt Baumgardt



THE 2017 ROHDE RANCH BBQ & TAILGATER - SEE PAGE 16 FOR FULL REPORT



Commemorative Coordinator

Carolyn Berry - NIA# 4336

Announcing the 48th NIA Commemorative 2017 Colorado Springs National

“Chameleon” – a special color in the commemorative line-up. This years’ color comes from the rare earth element, neodymium, added to the glass mixture which changes color based upon the light source.

In the process to get this VERY unique color, we had to do two pours, the first pour is an awesome rose-pink shade, but doesn’t have the color changing attribute.

We are offering the “Rocky Rose” commemorative at a discounted price of \$15 / \$25 respectively, if you buy the Chameleon, in regular or solid.

As always, there is the standard commemorative,
and a solid pour commemorative.

- Quantities are limited for each style, so get your order in!
- Prices are the same as the last 10 years, and still produced by Mosser Glass Company in Ohio.
- Cash, check, US money order or Paypal
- Postage is included in price for shipment within the USA.
- Shipment will be upon receipt of payment

Please see the included flyer in this Drip Points
or the NIA website for details

<http://www.nia.org/products/commemorative/index.htm>

Thanks for you continued support of the
NIA your collection of the NIA Commemorative!

Carolyn Berry

NIA Commemorative Coordinator

Contact: 512-255-2006

Email: commemorative@nia.org





Being bored, and struggling to find more interesting stuff for my porcelain telephone and telegraph collection, and having hit a plateau on knob and tube wiring, I decided it was time to get some shiny pretty glass for the window and fence. Since I'd already been looking for a quality CD 152 to pair with my U-177 (with about two dozen known, I was being picky about finding a nice CD 152 to pair with it, and settled on a McLaughlin 152) I settled on working up a nice lineup of 152's. After all, they are nearly all fairly affordable, there is a decent color range, and enough real variety to amuse me until the mud started rolling in again.

And this, dear reader, is the story of how I picked up the current glass insulator value guide, pulled up the CD 152 listings and started snorting with derision- for there are some listings which defy all logic and simply are incomprehensible after even a small bit of reasoned examination. Others simply demonstrate a strange lack of awareness and all left me scratching my head. Let's take a look.

California Dreamin'



There is only one embossing variant for California 152's, and an awful lot of color. I've always had a soft spot for California 152's, they were apparently quite the common sight in the Puget Sound region in the 1960's and prior, with a great many purple ones coming out of this area.

Oh. Wait. That's impossible. I know purple California 152's exist. You probably know they exist. Certainly the person who sold me mine knows they exist.

Somehow they didn't make the cut for the Value Guide. Oversight? That's like missing aqua Hemingray 42's. Maybe spinning them as "lilac" helped sell them back before online photographs were a thing,

or maybe purple 152's just magically recently came into existence around the time the Value Guide author happened to have one for sale. Either way, it's an omission that boggles the mind.

Haphazard Hemingrays

Oh where to begin? Certainly the "H" word is a great way to sell glass. We all know Hemingray specialists, it's almost cliché. (Sorry Shaun!) However, this kind of highly profitable specialty tends to create highly focused listings that highlight certain ahh... profitable variants over others. And invented at least one, probably two out of thin air.

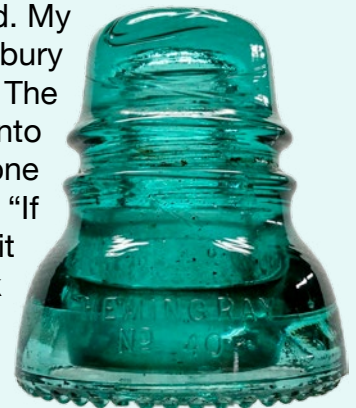
[040] "Aqua with amber swirls."



Sigh. Nothing like the inconsistency of deciding when amber inclusions makes for a special listing and when it doesn't. Maybe this belongs here. Maybe it doesn't. There are many valid arguments about inclusions. But there is a stunning lack of consistency. If we are going to have this listing, then the NN No. 40's and No. 48's that are a gorgeous light blue aqua full of snow need listings as well. Or they don't. Pick one, but be consistent about how you list inclusions and swirls. But then again, maybe amber swirl Hemingrays need special attention to justify their price tag. Who knows. Let's have consistency here.

[075] RDP.

I laughed. I cried. My cat came over and tried to bury that listing in his litter box. The first thought that popped into my head when I saw this one was the old line by Hitler. "If you tell a lie often enough, it will be believed." Let's look at this one rationally if we can for a moment. Round drip points did not show up until the late 1920's. We



can see the transition in the Hemingray 42's which went from sharp (even absurdly long!) drips to round drips. Prior to that, all drips were sharp. That is simply the way it is. However, from time to time a bit of an underpour or dirty molds or what have you could create something vaguely resembling round drips. I have at this moment a CD 154 "fang drip" in the classic fizzy Hemingray blue that is half sharp, half round drips. Anyone looking at it knows it was an underpour situation. Same with a CD 257 I used to have the same way. And the list goes on and on and on. Any "round drip point" insulator with the May 2nd patent date is simply a sharp drip gone bad. They were never deliberately made as a round drip, and what we have here is simple mechanical error at the factory. Certainly not enough to turn a \$1 insulator into a \$30 insulator. We live in a world full of "fake news" and "alternative truth". We should leave that to politics and not to imaginary round drip points. This is a listing that needs to die.

[085] "Brookfield Style." Just what pray tell is Brookfield style? I'm looking at four different mold styles of Brookfields right now on my shelf. I'm looking at several different Hemingray styles too. Sometimes they overlap each other. The hoopskirts can only be told apart due to color and marking they are so close.

That this is a distinct mold variant cannot be questioned. That it happens to resemble some insulators made by Brookfield is also true. However, CD 152 was a standardized design, of course insulators made by the two biggest manufacturers will at times resemble each other. We can no more call this mold a "Brookfield style" than we can call it a "Hemingray style." My personal bet is that it represents the first run of CD 152's made most closely to blueprints supplied to both factories. Either way, it is silly to ascribe one style made by two companies to one or the other unless it can be conclusively shown the Brookfield variant came first. Odds are some collector was familiar with that shape from Brookfields first, saw a Hemingray and promptly labeled it "Brookfield style" and in the typical inane and frustrating fashion of insulator hobby folklore, the imaginary truth stuck.

Is it worth the price tag? Maybe. Maybe not. With a romantic spin like that, you can expect the price to go up a bit. The fact that it is probably an early mold and certainly an uncommon variant will make a difference. But let's find a better name for it eh? Maybe it's time to do a survey of all the mold variants of Hemingray 152's and assign them some sort of value. "Mold type 1, 2, etc..." or some such like that. Not as sexy as "Brookfield style" but far more rational.

Writing a value guide is hard. I've done it for glass suspension discs and contributed to the porcelain one. I can only imagine the struggle to keep up one for glass pintypes. However, the same standards and methods that apply to small work apply to big work, and are even more important when a work grows bigger, because inconsistency grows with it. Ignoring a common color in California 152's, inventing round drips where none exist, made up folklore names for mold styles, and we won't even get into the unlisted colors for Canadian 152's, simply because my box of them hasn't arrived yet. But then again, I'm told noted Canadian collectors can't get their voice heard anyway. Maybe they need a few big shiny catalog auctions with fancy marketing to be noticed eh?

If these flaws are obvious to somebody who most of the time sees glass insulators as a cute trivial thing to put in the garden or toys for the cat to knock down, what deeper flaws must exist? What sort of insidious folklore is pushing listings that don't need to exist, what is ignored because it isn't deemed important (profitable enough?) to be listed? And more importantly, how much of this whole mess can we trust? I'm growing increasingly skeptical myself. What about you?





The 2017 Rohde Ranch BBQ & Tailgater

Hello fellow hobbyists and welcome collectors of all ages and interests. Here is the latest chapter in the Insulator Collecting Hobby phenomenon called The Rohde Ranch BBQ and Tailgater. This year's event, hosted by Bill and Kat, was held on Saturday, April 22nd, 2017 at the Rohde Ranch, just east of the San Joaquin River near Fresno, California, USA.

Early Saturday morning, Kelli and I left Visalia and headed north and turned left when we saw the familiar CD257 Mickey Mouse sign. After a short drive between the fields and down the insulator lined approach to the ranch, we tucked our car in next to one of the deliciously fragrant citrus trees that was in full bloom. It was a perfect spring morning and many show-goers had arrived the day before to pitch tents, set up tables and help with the arrangements. The shade in the back yard provided a comfortable setting for mid-April and, as always, the gathered hobbyists seemed to be excited and full of energy. Kelli is just getting to know the collectors in our area and I was pleasantly surprised by the number of friends who recognized her from social media and helped her to feel right at home. I shouldn't have been surprised though. That's what the Rohde Show is all about; Friends, Family and Fun!

Here is how Dwayne Anthony described this year's event on the www.insulators.info collector group called ICON:

It's hard to believe now that 21 years ago, Don, Camille & Bill, held the first Rohde Ranch Tailgater and Barbecue for a small group of club members. Where has all the time gone...and where did that 'small' group go?

With numerous acres of crop farming in the immediate area of the ranch, activity is usually limited to other residents and workers passing by on occasion. This past Saturday the crowd swelled to 175 attendees, with cars and trucks stretched out down the entrance drive far enough that some considered it a hike to the center of activity. There was actually so



By Michael Doyle

much going on that the local PD helicopter came out for a visit, circling a couple of times before realizing we were just some harmless collecting fanatics. As they used to say back in my younger years, "When the cops come, you know it's a good party!" Even though Bill grimaces a little when I say it, I have come to refer to this event as the Annual Rohde Ranch Tailgater/Barbecue NATIONAL.

As Michael 'Rain' Spadafora, Matt Grayson, Paul Greaves and many other 'serious' porcelain hobbyists already know, this show is especially thrilling for mud collectors because Rohde Ranch hosts the most incredible North American porcelain insulator collection known to exist in the world. Bill and many contributing hobbyists continue to expand and develop the awe inspiring assortment of insulators, electrical hardware, signage, and related material in "The Shop." Of course, there is always more than enough beautiful glass available at this show as well. Collectors have been 'blown away' by the appearance of some heart-stopping power, telegraph and 'doo-dad' pieces that have changed hands or been exhibited here over the years. For instance, Tim Wood and Denny Hackthorne brought some amazing Cal Elec Works and C.E.W. pieces this year. Arnie Lowenstein had a table overflowing with spectacular EC&Ms and Ron Jenkins has presented his share of killer glass too. Gil 'Blue-Mex' Hedges-Blanquez, Dale Huber, Paul Greaves, James Doty, Colin Jung and others have also been known to walk in with some spine chilling goodies.

This year we welcomed Morris the cat and Chicago area native, power lineman, Jason Townsend to the show. Jason had just scored a local power sign collection and he rolled up in a sagging rental car overflowing with five-gallon buckets of dirty, junk insulators and black widow spiders. Colin Jung found a beautiful baby signal in 'All That Junk' and many other folks found favorite jewels to add to their shelves and displays. (No one was bitten.) It was my pleasure to welcome Renard Perucho back into the hobby after his years away enjoying gems and min-

erals. This was the first time I'd seen Roger & Beth Ziesak at the show and their table sparkled with lots of great glass. Rarely seen, long-time Nor-Cal collectors Dave Potts and Jack Foote were also there this year and it was good to see Katie & Glenn Hasbrouk after so long. It's great to visit with old friends at the ranch! I even saw the Staffords again this year. Lou Hall had a table covered with amazing iron, Bob McLaughlin, our club president, brought an impressive assortment of all things McLaughlin. Which reminds me, there was a red McLaughlin commemorative at the show this year as well as at least one or two other color patterns. Very cool commemoratives, those.

Paul & Kathy Greaves had a wonderful assortment of insulators and original pottery wares on their table. The Bayes, Elaine, Maria and Bill, were there with amethyst glass ware and many cute and colorful miniatures. Justin Martin and Ron Yuhas hauled an incredible array of big, cool, power stuff down from Montana. Curt Randles brought a nice assortment of insulators, bottles and related items. Steve Marsh was down from Placerville and the Merzoian brothers, Mark and Bob, along with Bob's son, Michael, were up from Porterville. Judy & George Klingler came down off the mountain to see their friends and find some goodies. The Klinglers will host their second annual South Lake Tahoe event in early July. Sounds like a "You Gotta Be There!" to me. However, if you can't make it, the Lou & Mike Show may be on the scene to provide some coverage of that one for you.

A number of dedicated hobbyists and a small army of family members and friends arrived on Friday to assist with the extensive setup process that helps make this a unique and memorable event. Many folks, both in and out of the hobby, worked very hard all weekend to make this annual show possible. Bill and Kat want to holler out a great big ****Thank You**** to Gary Spoelstra, Lou & DeeDee Hall, Dwayne Anthony, Dennis Rogers, Joanne & Tim Wood, Judy Klingler, Patty and Joe Huizar, Matt Grayson, Bob McLaughlin, Lori Jenkins, Will Rohde, and the rest of the set-up and tear-down crew. Bill says a very special thank you to Kat for her tireless work around the ranch and the dusting that she does for the whole collection in the shop! I personally witnessed the show host (yes, that's Bill) fishing a friend's cell

phone out of the ladies loo with a long-handled orange picker. Talk about a dedicated host!

Beverly & Gary Yarborough came over from Brown's Valley and shared some great stories. Dave & Pinky Hall stopped up from Long Beach. Chris and Shannon Hernandez stopped up from ... TEXAS! Steve & Terri Bava, Jules & Charlyne Barad, Lulu & Bill Harrison, Alice & Larry Shumaker, May & Colin Jung, Lori & Ron Jenkins, Daryl Stahler, Bill Heitkotter, James Doty, Dan Gauron, Craig McLaurin, David Baron, Scott Prall, Dave Brown, Denley Bryson, Pete Fortier, Gordon Harrington, Glenn Adkins, and many, many other collectors were seen visiting, catching up and looking for good deals. Bill was happy to see that his long time hobby friend, Meri Issel, was finally able to make it to the BBQ. The whole Oregon Clan showed up and some pitched tents on the lawn. Joanne Wood had a sparkling assortment of amethyst glass items on her table and I was pleased to have the opportunity to chat with Bill Ostrander, Nathan Lamkey, Mid Norris, Ernie, Jim, Tim, Scott, and the rest.

This year the famous deep pit BBQ banquet featured ultra-tender, sirloin tip steak (YUM!!) extraordinary ranch beans, fresh toasted garlic bread, macaroni salad, tossed green salad, fresh nuts, chips and dips (served in porcelain and glass insulators!) deserts, ice-cream sandwiches, milk (white and chocolate), water, soda, OJ, and much more. By the time the chow bell rang, nearly 150 people were queued and nobody goes hungry at the Rohde Ranch. During the meal, the crew literally walk from table to table offering hot seconds and making sure that everyone has exactly what they need to make their lunch extra special. Our hats are off to Kat and Bill and their many helpers for another fantastic show!

Here is how Dwayne Anthony summed it all up:

Not that we didn't expect it, Bill and Kat once again pulled off another fantastic tailgater and BBQ. The amount of energy they put into this, from the planning stages months in advance, to the final cleanup, well it's just incredible! Of course, there is a tremendous financial expense associated with an event of this magnitude, but Bill only asks for compensation by asking that you have a good time and enjoy your visit. My question to Bill is, "How the heck can anyone

not have a great time at this amazing annual event?"

There is so much more to this gathering than collecting insulators, especially the reuniting with friends of old and friends of new. I want to personally send a huge thank you to Bill and Kat for all you do, for making more great memories, I had an absolute blast once again!

All you thread-heads, Listen Up: Getcher glass and mud traders into a good, sturdy box. Getcher swap lists and price guides updated. Flip open yer Crown Jewels and Drip Points to Coming Events and click on <http://www.insulators.info/shows/> for details on the next swap meet or tailgater in your area. Dig that dusty wad of cash out-o-the Fred Locke pinhole and get all yer friends together for an insulator road trip because.....

IT'S SHOWTIME!



**Kat McClanahan & Bill Rohde
Show Hostess and Host**



Roger Ziesak's table



Curt Randal's knot hole thingy



Kathy & Paul Greaves' table



**There was a breath-taking assortment of EC&M
Co. S.F. Western Telegraph glass on Arnie
Lowenstein's table.**



Show over view



Ron Jenkins looks over Arnie Lowenstein's spectacular assortment of CD123 EC&Ms



Pretty Blue Mickeys all in a row

The National Insulator Association Glass Commemoratives

"48th year of continuous production"

48th NIA Convention 2017 Colorado Springs, CO

"Chameleon"

\$40.00 postage paid for the first commemorative (each additional piece **\$35.00** when shipped with first)
Solid pours - **\$50.00** each / ppd

"Rocky Rose" **\$15** when a Chameleon is purchased, ppd.

"Rocky Rose" Solid pours **\$25** when a Chameleon is purchased, ppd.

Note: Solid pours are not plunged. They vary in size and can be crude. They may lean or have flaws, typical for these. They have no base markings



Embossed on the base of the commemorative



Embossed on the dome of the commemorative

Special Note: Due to the first pouring missing the chemical Neodymium, we had to re-pour our chosen color. Thus, there are 2 color offerings this year. In order to get the 2nd color commemorative, "Rocky Rose" the 48th year color "Chameleon" must be purchased. The chemical Neodymium allows the color of the commemorative to change under various light sources.



History of the National Show Commemoratives: "Collecting Our History"

Being an enthusiastic insulator collector, Frank Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma went home from the First National Insulator Meet (that's what the "National" show was referred to in 1970) held in New Castle, Indiana with an idea that collectors should have something by which they could remember the national meets. After months of struggling, he managed to have an insulator mold made. Frank said it was often referred to as "Frank's Last Folly" since he retired from teaching shortly thereafter. He also said it was worth the struggle. The commemorative insulator he designed replicated the early threadless "pilgrim hat" (CD 736) and is almost 4 inches high and is 3 ¼ inches across at the base. Since 1970, the glass commemorative has marked the national show event with new embossing for the location and a new color of glass. In 1979, the project was continued by John & Carol McDougald of Sedona, AZ. John and Carol produced the yearly commemoratives through 2009 at which time they donated the production to the National Insulator Association starting with the 2010 commemorative. Any profits made from the NIA Commemoratives go to benefit the National Insulator Association, a 501(3)c.

Please remit order and payment to:

NIA 2016 Commemorative
Carolyn Berry
1010 Wren Court
Round Rock, TX 78681

Please make checks payable to: NIA

Phone orders: (512) 255-2006

Email orders: commemorative@nia.org

Paypal available: see note below

Website: www.nia.org

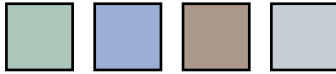
(for PAYPAL - credit card option follow link from website)

If you have questions, or live outside the continental USA, please contact me by phone or email.

Summer 2017 NIA Products

T-SHIRT

Colors: Stonewash Green, Stonewash Med. Blue, Pebble (Sand), Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Hanes Heavyweight, 6.1 oz. cotton pre-shrunk. Screen-printed logo (front & back)

Price: \$17 (S-XL) \$20 (2X-3X)

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____ 3X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

CREW NECK SWEATSHIRTS SCREEN-PRINTED

Colors: Hunter Green, Cardinal Red, Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Heavy weight 100 % cotton/polyester blend, pre-shrunk, embroidered logo

Price: \$29 (S-XL) \$33 (2X)

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

HOODED SWEATSHIRT

Colors: Lt. Steel Gray



Info: With full front zipper/muff pocket & drawstring hood, embroidered logo

Price: \$32 (S-XL) \$36 (2X)

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2XL _____ 3X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

BUTTON DOWN SPORT SHIRT

Colors: White, Red, Blue, Brown, Tan



Info: All with embroidered logo (no pockets)

Price:

Short sleeve: \$32 (S-XL) \$34 (2X-3X)

Long sleeve: \$34 (S-XL) \$36 (2X-3X)

Short sleeve:

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____ 3X _____

Long sleeve:

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____ 3X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

HENLEY T-SHIRT

Colors: Black and Lt. Steel Gray



Info: Only come with embroidered logo. three button placket

Price: \$10 (While in stock)

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2XL _____ 3X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

DENIM BUTTON DOWN SHIRTS

Colors: Stonewash Blue or Natural



Info: Nicely weighted denim, pre-shrunk cotton, left-side pocket

*ladies order comparable men's size, see chart

Price:

Short sleeve: \$33 (S-XL) \$36 (2X-3X)

Long sleeve: \$36 (S-XL) \$39 (2X-3X)

Short sleeve:

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____ 3X _____

Long sleeve:

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2X _____ 3X _____

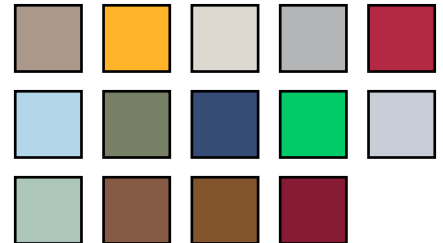
Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

EMBROIDERED LOGO T-SHIRT

Colors: Sand, Gold, Ecru, Ash Gray, White, Cardinal Red, Lt. Blue, Army Green, Navy, Bright Green, Lt. Steel Gray, Stonewash Green, Chestnut Brown, Maroon



Info: I have a limited number of t-shirts with pockets, call for details

Pockets, \$2.00 additional on all regular t-shirts

Price: \$17 & \$20 for 2XL or 3XL

Size: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2XL _____ 3X _____

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

EMBROIDERED CAP

Colors: Khaki, Stone, Blue, Gray, Orange, and Pink, Red
(Circle color choice)



Price: \$15

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

NIA NAME BADGE

Info: Engraved; beveled edges | pin back OR Magnetic back (Circle type You would like)

Price: \$12

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

COLLECTORS PATCH

Price: \$4

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

BADGE BAR

Info: For NIA position or local club

Price: \$4

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

20 OZ COPPER LINED STAIN-LESS STEEL TUMBLER

Info: Steel Tumbler Keeps drinks cold or hot for hours! One color imprint (blue)

Price: \$25

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

NIA WINDOW DECAL

Info: for outside car window.

White: 5 1/2 x 6 3/4 Color: 4 1/4 x 5 3/4

Price: \$10 (White) \$7 (Color)

Color: _____

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

TOTE BAG

Info: "Big Thunder" Tote bag - sturdy with NIA logo

Price: \$15

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

16 OZ TRAVEL TUMBLER

Info: 4 color imprint

Price: \$14

Total Quantity: _____

Total Price: _____

Name Badge Engraving Information:

Name _____	NIA# _____	City _____	State _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pin	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnet
Name _____	NIA# _____	City _____	State _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pin	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnet
Name _____	NIA# _____	City _____	State _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pin	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnet

Club Bar _____	Quantity Needed _____
Club Bar _____	Quantity Needed _____
Club Bar _____	Quantity Needed _____



Thank you for supporting the NIA!

U.S. Postage:

\$6.75 for the first item & \$1.50 for each additional item ordered.

Postage for Patches, Badge Bars are \$0.60 each. Decals, \$1.95

Name Badges are \$0.85 each to mail.

For Postage outside the US or AK & HI Contact me for quote

Shirt Sizing Chart:

Adult/ Mens

S 32-34 | M 36-38 | L 40-42 | XL 44-46
2X 48-50 | 3X 52-54

Ladies

S 28-30 | M 32-34 | L 36-38 | XL 40-42
Ladies order comparable adult/men's size for most shirts, unless specifically noted as a ladies shirt

Please make check or money order in U.S. funds payable to

National Insulator Association or NIA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Subtotal: _____

US Postage: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Send completed form to:

Margaret Wagner | 14615 Skyview Avenue | Smithville, MO 64089 | 816-719-0802 | niaproducts@nia.org



NIA Fund Raising Info.

Dear Fellow Collector,

The NIA is a 501(c)3 non-profit and as such gifts may be tax deductible. Gifts of support will help the Association improve existing benefits and services as well as create new benefits and services for members and those collectors who are yet to become members. Your gift will allow the NIA to continue its mission to encourage growth and public awareness of the insulator hobby through collecting, dealing, and educational endeavors. The NIA has identified four areas where donations will help create and enhance programs directed to that mission.



SCHOLARSHIP FUND: This past year the NIA received over 200 applications for scholarships. Currently the NIA grants two scholarships totaling \$2,000.00 each year. Additional funding would guarantee sufficient funds for future years; scholarship grants could be increased; or additional scholarships could be granted each year.



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT: There are projects that have been suggested but haven't been implemented for lack of funding such as the production of classroom video presentations, NIA traveling displays for use by learning facilities such as libraries, schools, and museums, and a Speakers Bureau. These are just a few of the new ideas for greater community awareness of our hobby. The current Oral History recording program and an enlarged supply of Classroom teaching units and materials will be possible with your continued support.



NATIONAL & REGIONAL SHOW SUPPORT: The NIA has assumed a financial supportive role intended to assist national show hosts/organizers in reducing their financial risk. With your donations the NIA could increase advertising and promotional reimbursements, could provide all awards at national / regional shows, and could provide financial assistance for regional shows.



INTERNET TECHNOLOGY: The desire for instant communication and information retrieval is with us and cannot be denied. For the association and the hobby to continue to grow it must have a strong presence on the Internet and social media. Donations in this area can help redesign the NIA web site, create videos for posting on social media, develop and present "live" shows including interviews, auctions and sales.

Please indicate on the remittance form the area that you would like your donation to be applied. If you choose to apply you donation to more than one area please indicate the dollar amount for each area. Each donation of \$10.00 or more will receive an acknowledgment and thank you letter from the NIA President. Additionally, each donation of \$100.00 or more will receive a NIA Name Badge Bar thanking you and recognizing your financial support of the NIA in 2016. AND, for a donation of \$250.00 or more you can choose to receive a THANK YOU gift of a NIA Tee-Shirt. Just select the shirt size and color on the remittance form. No selection will indicate that you chose not to receive a shirt. Please copy or scan the remittance form found at the bottom of the Treasurer's Report and return the form along with you check payable to the NIA.

Mail to: NIA Treasurer, Bill Rohde, P. O. Box 28, Colusa, CA 95932.

Please help grow the hobby. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you!

NIA Development Committee

Mike Green, Chairman

Bill Rohde, NIA Treasurer

Lou Hall, Committee member

P. S. If you would like to honor someone with your gift, please add that name on the remittance form.



NIA Fund Raising Pledge & Gift Form



Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

- I / we would like to make a gift of \$_____ and my payment is enclosed (see payment section below).
- I / we would like to make a pledge of \$_____ and I would like to pay this on _____(date).
- I / we would like to make a pledge of \$_____ to be paid annually for _____ years.
- I / we would like to make a pledge of \$_____ to be paid quarterly / monthly (circle one), starting on _____ (date) until pledge is fulfilled.
- I / we would like to make an in-kind donation. Please contact me / us regarding my idea.

Note: NIA Development Committee will send reminders prior to pledge payment date(s).

My/our gift/pledge should be directed to the following areas:

- \$_____ Scholarship Fund
- \$_____ Educational Resource Development
- \$_____ National & Regional Show Support
- \$_____ Internet Technology
- \$_____ Undesignated or Other _____

My/our gift is in memory of: _____

My/our gift is in honor of: _____

Please send acknowledgment to: _____

_____ My / our contribution is eligible for a matching gift. Please contact me.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Payment Information

Please mail this form and payment by Check (payable to NIA) or Money Order to:
NIA Treasurer, Bill Rohde, P. O. Box 28, Colusa, CA 95932

For additional information regarding gifts to the National Insulator Association, Inc, please contact the NIA Development Committee, E-mail address: donations@nia.org The National Insulator Association, www.nia.org, is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Your gift is deductible to the fullest extent of the law.



Membership Application & Renewal Form



Prospective members may join the NIA at any time; however, the "membership year" begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st. New memberships issued within three months of the beginning of the new membership year (October – December) will be good for the following calendar year. New members are entitled to all membership privileges immediately upon acceptance by the NIA.

If you are joining the NIA during the months of January through September your membership will expire on December 31st of this calendar year.

Submit (Payable to the NIA in U.S. funds) To: **Andrew Gibson**
5997 Springwater Road
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membership@nia.org
Or renew online at:
<http://nia.org/membership/>

Dues Schedule:

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Upcoming Shows

JUNE 3, 2017 (Saturday)

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

2nd annual swap meet held at the home of Curtis Erickson from 9am to 3pm. The swap meet is the same day and area as the famous Edison Street Sale (large city garage sale). Set up is free, please bring your own table. Walking distance from the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Only a 45 minute drive north of the Michigan/Ohio border. Contact: CURTIS ERICKSON (248) 515-4612 crerickson1@gmail.com
Show location, 22101 Olmstead St Dearborn, MI 48124

JUNE 3, 2017 (Saturday)

TAMA, IOWA

The 20th Annual Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet will be held at the Tama Civic Center on Saturday, June 3rd from 8:00 AM-3:00 PM. Dealers can set up starting at 7:00 AM. The Civic Center is located at 305 Siegel St. in downtown Tama, IA just two blocks off Highway 63. There will be no cost to set up and lunch will be provided to those in attendance. Over the past 19 years, many Midwest collectors and friends have joined us for this fun and relaxed annual event and this year should be no different. We look forward to hosting you again for a great time in the Hawkeye State and look forward to seeing you this June. For additional information you can contact show host DAVE SHAW at (641) 484-5463 or can e-mail me at dashaw@mchsi.com. Please contact show host for table reservation.

JUNE 9-10, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

LOGAN, UTAH

The 3rd Cache Valley Insulator Swap Meet will be held on Saturday, June 10th starting at 8:00 am. There will be an open house at the Briel home on June 9th from 6:00 'til 9:00 pm. The address is 275 Peacock Lane, Providence, UT 84332. The show location is at the Cache County Fairgrounds Pavilion. The fairgrounds is located at 450 South 500 West, Logan, UT 84321. Lunch will be provided at noon. Admission is free. Please RSVP to reserve a table and to help us plan the food. Contact: DON BRIEL at Don.Briel@comcast.net or (435) 753-5786. Approximately 24 indoor tables are available and there is room for more outdoors if you want to bring your own.

JUNE 10, 2017 (Saturday)

PERKIOMENVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

43rd Anniversary of the annual Pennsylvania Insulator Show & Sale. Come one, come all. Buy, sell & trade insulators and related items. Swap hunting stories and have a good time with collector friends. Please bring a food item for the insulator picnic. Saturday, June 10th, from 9:00 AM until the last person leaves. Location: 1837 Perkiomenville Road, Perkiomenville, PA 18074. Info: STEVE BOB 610-539-6533 email: sbobb1@verizon.net or CLAUDE WAMBOLD 215-234-8413 email: acwambold2@verizon.net

JUNE 10, 2017 (Saturday)

MOUNT BRYDGES, ONTARIO, CANADA

The fourteenth annual Southwestern Ontario Spring Insulator Meet will be held at the home of Henry and Hilary Nicpon, 3 km (2 miles) southeast of Mount Brydges and 10 km (six miles) southwest of London, Ontario on Saturday, June 10th. There's a \$10 charge for those wishing to set up a table. The fee will help cover the cost of food and beverages. RSVP required to make sure there's enough food. Please bring your own table if possible. Info: TOM IANNELLI 519-641-0098 or email: tiannelli0098@rogers.com or BARRETT NICPON 519-670-8796 or email: barrett.nicpon@gmail.com

JUNE 17, 2017 (Saturday)

MOOSEJAW, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA

Western Canadian Insulator Collectors 2017 Swap & Sale will be Saturday, June 17 from 8:00 to 3:00 at Connor Park in Moosejaw, Saskatchewan. Take 9th Avenue Exit off Highway #1, proceed south on 9th Avenue through the city; Connor park is on the left side just south of the city on route to the 15 Wind Airbase. After the show, all are welcome to return to Mel & Ferne Bradford's home for refreshments and to view their collection. Info: MEL 306-692-0588 or Ferne 306-631-0936 or email: ferne.007@sasktel.net

JUNE 23-24, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Insulator Collectors of America 2nd Annual ICA Expo at the Washington, PA Country Fairgrounds, 2151 North Main St., Washington, PA 15301. Show Hours: 2-Day Pass \$5: 3-6pm Friday, 7:30am-3pm Saturday. General Admission \$3: 9am-3pm Saturday only. Dealer Setup 1-3pm Friday and 7:30-9am Saturday. Dealer Tables \$35 with discount on additional. Room for well over 80 dealer tables and 12 exhibits. Famous Friday BBQ and Saturday Breakfast & Lunch ticket pack only \$25. Go to website: <http://www.InsulatorCollectorsofAmerica.com> for more details and to register, or call JOHN HOVANEK 216-392-3622. Hosted by the Western Reserve Insulator Club.

JULY 7-8, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

BATTLE GROUND, WASHINGTON

A Jefferson State Insulator Club Swap Meet will be held July 7-8 at the home of Ben & Carol Kirsten, 17913 NE 205th Circle, Battle Ground, Washington 98604. Hours will be from 1:00 PM Friday through Saturday afternoon. Mexican food at El Rancho Friday and host-provided BBQ Saturday afternoon. Best Western motel within 4-miles. Many places to eat also. Please RSVP. Info: BEN KIRSTEN 360-606-4518. Bring porcelain insulators of all kinds. Some tables will be provided, but please bring one if you can.

JULY 7-8, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CALIFORNIA

The Lake Tahoe Backyard Insulator Show will be held Saturday, July 8 from 10:00AM to 5:00PM at the home of George & Judy Klingler, 1173 Tata Lane, South Lake Tahoe, CA. Come early for coffee and donuts. Tables and chairs will be available. Please RSVP for tables so we have enough. Setting up on Friday is ok. Full lunch will be provided on Saturday. Enjoy beautiful Lake Tahoe in July! Info: GEORGE or JUDY KLINGLER 530-541-3254 or email: judyklingler@charter.net

JULY 21-23, 2017 (Friday-Sunday)

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO



The 2017 National Insulator Show will be held in Colorado Springs, CO July 21 – 23. For dealer tables and show information contact: DAN GAURON 719-492-0181; MIKE GREEN 303-549-5028 OR DAVID BARON 303-888-8071. Or visit the website at: www.nianational2017.com

AUGUST 3-6, 2017 (Thursday-Sunday)

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

The 2017 National Antique Bottle Convention and Expo, sponsored by the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, will be held August 3-6 in Springfield, MA. Info: <http://www.fohbc.org/2015/05/2017-national-antique-bottle-convention-expo/>

AUGUST 11-12, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

LOSTINE, OREGON

The 2017 Lil' Switzerland Swap Meet near the Eagle Cap Wilderness will be held August 11-12 at the home of Linda and Howard Banks, 65029 Granger Road, Lostine, OR 97857 on August 11-12. The event features "The Boneyard", where a thousand or more insulators will be sold for \$2 each in a benefit for Crown Jewels magazine. BBQ Saturday at noon. Camp on site or stay in nearby motels. For lodging and other info: Howard Banks 541-569-2318 or email: hbanks@budget.net.

AUGUST 12, 2017 (Saturday)

MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

The 18th annual Shenandoah Valley Insulator Show and Sale sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club will be held Saturday, August 12, 2017 from 9 AM to 1 PM, once again, by popular demand, at the B&O Roundhouse in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Dealer setup from 7-9 AM. 8 foot tables are \$25 for the first table and \$20 each additional. There is no admission charge. For more information or directions contact Jeff Hollis at 304-671-5359 or email redoak1953@gmail.com.

AUGUST 19, 2017 (Saturday)

BELL BUCKLE, TENNESSEE

The summer Dixie Jewels Insulator Club swap meet, hosted by Jim Wright, will take place Saturday, August 19 at the Webb School, 319 Webb Road East (TN Hwy. 82E), Bell Buckle, TN from 8:30-2:30 Central. Bell Buckle is south of Nashville, off I-24. There is no fee to set up, so everyone is invited to bring insulators or other collectibles to sell, trade or swap. A number of tables will be available or you may bring your own. Please contact Jim ahead of time to reserve sales tables. A noon meal will be served. If you wish to contribute, chips or desserts would be welcome. Come and enjoy a day with fellow collectors at this brand new venue for DJIC. For more information, directions or table reservations, please contact: JIM WRIGHT (615) 708-4911 or e-mail sjwright@frontiernet.net.

AUGUST 25-26, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)

HELENA, MONTANA

16th Annual Montana Big Sky Insulator Swap Meet, hosted by Ron & Peggy Yuhas, will be held Friday and Saturday August 25-26. Friday: Social gathering at Yuhas home, 895 Lodestar Road, from 6:00 PM to dark. Saturday's meet will run from 9:00 to 3:00 at Yuhas Millwork Company, 2201 Hauser Blvd, Helena. Lunch at noon. Free drawing for Coolie Hat, Muncie and Pyrex 441 at 1:00 PM. Info: RON YUHAS 406-439-4573 or email: gramapig@bresnan.net or DOUG RUSHER 406-461-7341 or email: ddrusher@aol.com or JUSTIN MARTIN 406-490-3888 or email: wendymartin8@aol.com. Please RSVP Ron or Doug for your tables & head counts.

AUGUST 26, 2017 (Saturday)

NISSWA, MINNESOTA

The North Western Insulator Club will host a summer swap meet at the home of Colin and Karen Yennie, 1126 Ebert Drive, Nisswa MN. Hours are 9-4 and we will spread out in the yard and on the driveway. Bring your tables and chairs and a dish to pass for lunch. Colin will grill up the burgers and brats so come hungry. An auction is planned for noon—a good chance to move out your stray pieces and find some space. RSVP to the Yennies at klyennie@hotmail.com or 507-271-3457.

SEPTEMBER 2, 2017 (Saturday)

SILVERTON, OREGON

An insulator, bottle & table top antique show, swap and sale will be held Saturday, September 2nd from 8:00 to 3:00 at Coolidge-McClain Park in downtown Silverton, Oregon. It will be hosted by Dale Blakely and David Campbell. If you'd like to be a vendor, please call David at 503-873-7123.

SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2017 (Saturday-Sunday)**ABBOTSFORD, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**

Mark & Laura Schultz will host the first Abbotsford Insulator Show at their home, 33911 Farmer Road, Abbotsford, British Columbia on September 9-10. Collectors are welcome to come earlier in the week and set up as there's room for RV parking on a first come, first served basis. Lunch is provided but if you can bring a dish that would be appreciated. Tables are free but please RSVP so we know how many to obtain. Remember to bring lots of insulators! Info: MARK SCHULTZ 604-855-4125 or email: schultzmachinist@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2017 (Friday-Saturday)**BEND, OREGON**

Annual Tres-Amigos Tail-Gater will be held September 15th/16th at the home of Jim Sinasek in Central Oregon. Story time around the usual bonfire Friday evening after dinner. BBQ served Saturday at 11:35 sharp. Side dishes/desserts are always appreciated. Some tables will be available but bringing your own is recommended. Be sure to bring your GO-With's, other treasures, show and tells and, of course, your hunting and adventure stories (Brent and Little Bruder especially) for the Friday evening bonfire. Also, your RSVP is very appreciated. For info contact Jim Sinasek at 541 383-8067 (oregonjim@q.com), Mid Norris at 541 281-2715 (mudhen50@aol.com), or Ernie Carlson at 503 622-3573 (ecarlson6@frontier.com). The Tail-Gater will be located at 64420 Research Road, Bend, Oregon 97703. Yes, there is room for over-night tent camping.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017 (Saturday)**HOUSTON, TEXAS**

The 26th Annual Houston Insulator and Collectibles Show, sponsored by the Lone Star Insulator Club, will be held September 16th 2017 in the Pasadena Room of the Houston Marriott South at Hobby Airport, 9100 Gulf Freeway Houston, Texas 77017. Show hours are 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with free parking and free admission. Dealer tables \$45/first, \$40 each additional. Guest rooms \$92/night for show attendees. Fly into Hobby and take free shuttle to and from Hotel. Contact CHRIS (281-461-9652 crenaudo@aol.com), KEITH (979-245-2558 keithbrooking@spcglobal.net), or JOHN (281-851-6585 j.hall@ix.netcom.com), for more information.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2017 (Saturday)**RICHFIELD, OHIO**

The Western Reserve Insulator Club's 7th Annual 'Oktoberfest' Insulator Show at the Masonic Hall, 3750 Grant Street, Richfield, OH 44286 (near the southeast corner of Routes 303 & 176), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free Admission. 8-foot Dealer Tables \$20. Dealer Setup 9-10 a.m., Bratwurst and Root Beer available for lunch. Contact JOHN HOVANEK 216-392-3622 or visit www.InsulatorCollectorsOfAmerica.com for more details.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 (Saturday)**ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO**

Enchantment Insulator Club/New Mexico Historical Bottle Society 30th Annual Insulator, Bottle, Barbwire and Collectibles Show and Sale. WE ARE BACK IN ABQ THIS YEAR! Elite Sports Academy, 501 Main Street, Albuquerque NM 87104. The venue is in historic Old Town ABQ! Show setup and dealer trading Friday afternoon & evening, September 29. Saturday September 30 show hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Info: MIKE GAY (505) 480-0085. E-mail: cdn102@centurylink.net or TOM KATONAK, 1024 Camino de Lucia, Corrales, NM 87048 (505) 933-0297. E-mail: tkatonak@swcp.com

OCTOBER 1, 2017 (Sunday)**CHELSEA, MICHIGAN**

Annual (41st) Antique Bottle and Insulator Show sponsored by the Huron Valley Bottle & Insulator Club will be held Sunday, October 1st at the Comfort Inn Conference Center, 1645 Commerce Park Dr, Chelsea, Michigan. Just north of I-94 at exit #159 (M-52). From 9:00AM to 3:00PM. Admission \$3.00. Children under 16 free. Food available on premises. Also offering lightning rod balls, weather vanes, advertising, telephony, railroad and tabletop antiques. Info: MIKE BRUNER email: abbott4girl@sbcglobal.net or ROD KRUPKA phone 248-627-6351 or email: rod.krupka@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER 3-5, 2017 (Friday-Sunday)**SPRINGFIELD, OHIO**

The 47th Mid-Ohio Insulator Show will be held November 3-5 at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Springfield, Ohio. Show hours are Friday 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Saturday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Sunday from 9:00 AM to closing. Info: CURT BOSTER email: cboster530@att.net or 614-301-5125 or LOIS BLAIR 740-852-3148. Additional info at: www.insulators.info/shows/springfield

Upcoming Shows list maintained by:

Information Director Christian Willis information@nia.org

Send all changes and updates to above email address.

Member Classified Ads

Want to see your free "Member Classified ad" In Drip Points magazine? All due paying members of the NIA are entitled to a free ad in Drip Points once per year! The ad is text only, and can be up to 25 words in length. We make a best effort to get them in the next issue (space permitting). If we aren't able to, it will get pushed to the following issue.

Send ads to: Christian Willis admanager@nia.org (or 949-338-1404)

Christian Willis NIA# 5185

WANTED – Hemingray insulators, especially embossing errors, mine insulators, spools, and glass wall/floor tubes. Please visit www.hemingray.info/wanted and see me at the National!





2017 National Insulator Show Colorado Springs, CO July 21st - 23rd



WELCOME TO THE GREAT ROCKY MOUNTAINS

“It’s Just Around The Corner”, and Show hosts Dan Gauron, Mike Green & David Baron want to invite you one last time, to come out and join us and fellow collector friends in Colorado Springs, CO. on July 21st thru 23rd for what is shaping up to be one of the all-time great National Shows in 48 years. With 133 sales tables full of insulators & go-withs, 43 amazing display tables, a Cog railroad ride atop Pikes Peak, a Cripple Creek, CO. luxury day trip, a seminar on R.D. Mershon, another on the 1st Trans-Continental RR line, an Art Contest with prizes, Mike Green’s “Ultimate Hill Climb” Challenge, and over 30 raffle lots full of really cool hobby related goodies, **this National is sure to have something for everyone.** For those arriving early, you’ll find 101 fun things to do in and around Colorado Springs while waiting for the show to begin. Visit our website at <http://www.nianation-alshow2017.com> for a partial list of the many family and adult oriented adventures this western wonderland has to offer.

The Cog Ride & Cripple Creek tour are already sold out, but the COG has said they may hitch up a small train car if enough people call for reservations, so give them a call at 719-685-5401 if you’re wanting to go. The host hotel Elegante has all the amenities one would want, but is also conveniently located within a few minutes of RV/camping sites, the historic downtown, fast food & upscale eateries, as well as shopping centers, parks, biking/hiking trails, museums, golf courses, the zoo, amusement parks, theaters, rafting tours, Royal Gorge Railroad

tour, Six Flags, the US Olympic center, the spectacular Rocky Mountain front range just outside the hotel doors, and just about anything else you can imagine. Now you get some idea of why we proudly call this place home.:-) All of us here want this to be the best show you’ve ever attended, and invite any and all suggestions from you on how we can make your visit a great one.

Don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns:

Dan Gauron
719-492-0181
alyeskaco@comcast.net

Mike Green
303-549-5028
n2glass@centurylink.net

David Baron
303-888-8071
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48th National Insulator Show



July 21st thru 23rd, 2017



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COME JOIN THE FUN!



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P.O. Box 188
Providence, UT 84332
1stpastpres@nia.org

Western Region VP

Ron Yuhas, NIA #1993
895 Lodestar Rd.
Helena, MT 59602
westernvp@nia.org

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1056 E US 136
Pittsboro, IN 46167
centralvp@nia.org

Eastern Region VP

Gus Stafford, NIA #8871
816 Flintlock Ridge Rd.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
easternvp@nia.org

Information Director

Christian Willis, NIA #5185
PO Box 2797
Parker, CO 80134
information@nia.org

Membership Director

Andrew Gibson, NIA #2422
5997 Springwater Road
Dansville, NY 14437-9772
membership@nia.org

Secretary

Walt Baumgardt, NIA #8007
2 Dolphann Dr.
Tonawanda, NY 14150
secretary@nia.org

Treasurer

Bill Rohde, NIA #1219
P.O. Box 28
Colusa, CA 95932
(530) 701-4377
treasurer@nia.org

Advisors & Committee Chairpersons

Authentication & Classification Advisor

Paul Greaves, NIA #2685
8830 Benton Acre Rd
Granite Bay, CA 95746
authentication@nia.org

Awards and Recognition Chairperson

Gene Hawkins, NIA #421
3847 North Prairie St
Warsaw, IN 46582
awards@nia.org

Ethics Advisor

Daryl Stahler, NIA #8843
4622 N Paseo Pitiquito
Tucson, AZ 85750
ethics@nia.org

Historian

Rick Soller, NIA #2958
4086 Blackstone Ave.
Gurnee, IL 60031
historian@nia.org

NIA Commemorative Coordinator

Carolyn Berry, NIA #4336
1010 Wren Court
Round Rock, TX 78681
commemorative@nia.org

Research & Education Advisor

Jacque Linscott-Barnes, NIA #1380
3557 Nickaus Drive
Titusville, FL 32780
education@nia.org

Development Committee Chairperson

Michael L. Green, NIA #3175
2513 S. Balsam St.
Lakewood, CO 80227
(303) 549-5028
donations@nia.org

Product Manager

Margaret Wagner, NIA #8711
14615 Skyview Avenue
Smithville, MO 64089
niaproducts@nia.org

Promotions Advisor

Jim White, NIA #1127
7990 Windcombe Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46240
promotions@nia.org

Rules & Procedures Advisor

Mike Funderburk, NIA #2112
3111 Southall Road
Franklin, TN 37064
(615) 498-2442
procedures@nia.org

Scholarship Committee Chairperson

Kay Bryant, NIA #4099
8061 S.E. Helen Terrace
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
scholarship@nia.org

Drip Points Editor

Shaun Kotlarsky, NIA #4993
2475 W Walton Blvd
Waterford, MI 48329
publications@nia.org

Drip Points Ad Manager

Christian Willis, NIA #5185
P.O. Box 2797
Parker, CO 80134
admanager@nia.org

Webmaster

Bob Berry, NIA #1203
1010 Wren Court
Round Rock, TX 78681
(512) 255-2006
webmaster@nia.org

NIA Events Committee Chairperson

Darryl Wagner, NIA #8671
14615 NW Skyview Av
Smithville, MO 64089
(816) 719-0801
show@nia.org

Special Projects Advisor

Mike Doyle, NIA #5932
1805 E Country Court
Visalia, CA 93292
projects@nia.org

Finance Committee Chairperson

Bill Snell, NIA #2624
11427 E. Scarritt Ave.
Sugar Creek, MO 64054
(816) 769-7455
finance@nia.org



National Insulator Association
10801 N. 24th Ave. Ste 103
Phoenix, AZ 85029-4712

 nia.org

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Drip Points Magazine publishing schedule

Issue	Number	Deadline	Mailing Date
Spring	3	February 10	March 1
Summer	4	May 10	June 1
Fall	1	August 10	September 1
Winter	2	November 10	December 1