

Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

drippoints@nia.org

http://www.nia.org

In this issue of *Drip Points*:

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Available via e-mail

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



It's nearly that time again, National Show time that is. There is always a *Drip Points* the same time every year, June 1st, and I am always happy when it is published and out the door. That's when I really feel like it's time to concentrate on the National trip. The show is typically only 4-5 weeks after the Drip

Points goes out and I am pretty psyched by now.

I hope all of you will be able to attend the show. There is a color insert with some show details if you still haven't made plans to attend. It will be a great show and you really should make an effort if at all possible. I personally attended the Western Region show in San Jose back in August 2003. The same Club and Show hosts were involved and the show was at the same Hotel. This was a great show and I have no doubts that the National will be even better.

I have put together some information from the Show Web Site at: www.peninsulators.org/2005.html Into a printed color insert in this *Drip Points*. Please take a look at it for some of the details on the

show. There will be some significant news announcements at the show.

For example, who is the new Western Region Vice President taking over for outgoing Howard Banks? Is it Mike Green or Larry Shumaker? Where will the next Show be? I can tell you it's in the Central Region, but that's all you get until the NIA General Membership Meeting on Friday July 8th, from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

The Show runs July 8th—through July 10th, and is at the Double-Tree Hotel, San José, California (at the San JoséAirport).

See you there?

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Spring time has quickly turned into summer here in Georgia. The kudzu and blackberries have taken over our insulator hunting grounds. My searches for insulators have been limited to antique markets, insulator shows and local swaps.

My excitement builds as the 2005 NIA National in San Jose approaches. Colin Jung, Dave Elliott and the Nor-Cal Team are continuing with their planning and preparation to provide us with a top quality show and convention. Sandy and I will be participating in one of several pre-show events. We will be taking the train trip from Roaring Camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains through Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park, beside the scenic San Lorenzo River Gorge. and then through the Victorian section of Santa Cruz to the Beach and Boardwalk. We look forward to sharing our fun with you.

I can not wait to see the large combined displays of 1) Artifacts and Insulators from the San Jose Fisher Electric Road 2) California Glass Insulator Company/California Glass Works Insulators and 3) E.C.&M.Co.S.F. Insulators & Go-Withs. I hear they will be exceptional. For you mud collectors, I understand that you will be treated with an awesome porcelain

display. Dave Elliott advises that he no longer has a waiting list for dealer tables. Now is a good time to call Dave if you want to sign up for a dealer's table.

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I would like to invite each of vou to your annual NIA General Membership sched-Meeting uled for 4:00 PM, Friday evening. I will introduce to you each of your Board members and your Standing Committee Chairs and they will tell you what they have accom-

plished for you

this last year. We will also introduce to you the newly elected Western Region Vice President and announce the hosts for next year's NIA National Convention to be held in the Central Region. The hosts will be given the opportunity to tell us about the show.

Your NIA Board is made up of ten members and each of the nine Standing Committees has a Chairperson. Occasionally, ad hoc committee chairs are appointed for specific purposes. From time to time we have to fill vacancies in these positions. Joe Beres has informed me that after thirteen vears of service to you as the Membership Director, it is now time to start training someone to take his place. Joe has done a great job for us and I hate to see him go. I have asked the Board and Jacque Linscott Barnes, the Nominations Committee Chair, to help in the search for candidates to be considered for Joe's replacement. The Membership Director's duties include but are not limited to coordinating the NIA's membership services through recruitment, receiving dues, providing membership packets to new members, issuing renewal membership cards,

> issuing specific length of membership bars for NIA Badges, maintaining the NIA official membership list addresses and and being the NIA Official at the NIA front desk on NIA Day to sell memberships and issue NIA member cards for show entry. This is an important iob.

hope several of you will step forward as a candidate to serve the NIA membership in this capacity.

The Awards and Recognition Committee Chair position remains vacant. The duties include acting as the Judging Chairperson at the NIA National Convention, preparing and furnishing awards for NIA Sanctioned and NIA Sponsored Shows and working with the full committee to nominate recipients for the NIA Outstanding Service and NIA Lifetime Membership Award. Bill Meier has enhanced and greatly improved the method of preparing and ordering the awards and has developed a program to aid in the accuracy and speed of summarizing judging results. I hope you will consider volunteering to serve your association in this capacity.

I am still actively seeking a person with prior show experience to chair an ad hoc committee with key goals to: 1) Examine NIA show

(Continued on page 3)

and facility standards for necessary changes. 2) Develop ideas to encourage more hobbyists to host local and NIA sanctioned shows through incentives. 3) Develop suggestions to increase show participation by dealers, exhibitors and attendees. 4) Review other show related issues that may surface and make recommendations that will improve show quality. The committee will report their progress and give recommendations to the Board after one year. This is a huge task but it should be a rewarding one. If you are interested in chairing this committee or have suggestions on who can do the job please contact me.

Please seriously consider these open positions. Make that step to the plate; pay your dues to your hobby by serving the NIA. You may contact me, one of your Board members, Jacque Linscott Barnes or one of her committee members if you wish to volunteer

your services to our hobby.

Fake, altered and suspicious insulators continue to show up in the hobby. I do not expect that to change. Identifying some of these pieces is difficult for the untrained eye and new collectors. We need to continue to educate ourselves on the identification of these insulators so that we can make a wise decision on our purchases. Like the old saying, if it looks too good to be true, it probably is. If you are not sure about a specific piece, get opinions from several old time collectors or check with your NIA Authentication and Classification Committee. The NIA will continue to educate and keep you informed when we find suspicious pieces. It is up to you to take this information and educate yourself. More and more we are getting into a "buyers beware" market. Please be careful!

The NIA's expanded fake and al-

tered insulator exhibit will be on display at the San Jose National to help further your education on fake and altered insulators. I have been told that the new irradiated colors in the display will knock your socks off. Additionally, consider attending the scheduled seminar at the National on fake and alternated insulators presented by Dwayne Anthony.

Remember to tell someone about your hobby, take a child with you to an insulator show or hunt and by all means support your local Clubs and shows.

Sandy and I are anxious to see all of you in San Jose. See y'all there!

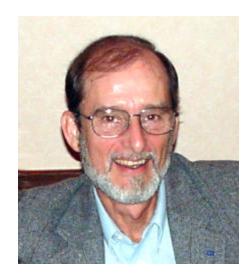
Dudley Ellis, NIA #5085 **NIA President**

Get a free rotating Club Newsletter with each *Drip Points* by taking the *Drip Points* electronically!

With each electronic edition we will be attaching one club newsletter from participating clubs around the country. Currently participating clubs are the GCIC (Greater Chicago Insulator Club), EIC (Enchantment Insulator Club, New Mexico), and GCSIC (Grand Canyon State Insulator Club, Arizona).

Is your Club interested in having it's newsletter appear with the Electronic version of the *Drip Points*? Contact Kevin Jacobson, the NIA information director if you are interested.

FROM THE FIRST PAST



PRESIDENT

Insulator hunting in the wild started early this spring. It was the end of March – and the place was the bottom of the Grand Canyon! OK, it didn't start out as an

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What was it doing at the

bottom of the Grand

Canyon?

insulator hunt, but you know ... thinas how develop...and you know how insulators can lurk in the strangest of places. Well. the story actustarted allv back last October. I got a phone call from good

friend and fellow NIA member, Mike Green. Mike was proposing a weeklong backpacking trip to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and it had to be planned with this long lead-time in order to get the coveted backcountry permits. After explaining to Mike that Lynda and I were way too old to do something as foolhardy as backpack into the Grand Canyon, he convinced me that this was the opportunity of a lifetime (and that he wasn't going to be allowed to take

his three kids along if he couldn't come up with a surrogate mother since his wife's "bum knee" precluded her from joining the group).

Flash forward to the 20th of March, 2005: There we were, the group of six NIA'ers, poised on the South Rim at the Hermit's Rest lookout on a Sunday just before noon – it was 37° and the snow was blowing up from the canyon depths on the back of a howling wind. The three kids thought this was "way cool", so to save face we had to start down the steep and winding trail along with them.

By nightfall, periods of sunshine filled the canyon and the scenery became...awesome! And it remained awesome day-after-day as we explored this fantastic National treasure.

On day four of the trek, I was climbing the steep wall of Monument Creek when I unexpectedly into crawled this tangle of wire...old telephone wire! What was it doing at the bottom of the

Grand Canyon? Sean Green quickly joined me in a quest to resolve the "wire mystery". Soon we were finding iron ring-pins pounded into holes in some of the huge boulders that had fallen off the canyon rim 3000 feet above. What's that, Sean? An insulator wired to one of the rings? Yes – a porcelain donut like the Forest Service used back in the '30s. As we tracked the line cross-country across the Tonto Plateau we found more of these two-piece

donuts with galvanized phone wire running through them.

Late in the day we came upon the remnants of the old Hermit Creek Camp. Here, it appeared, there had once been an arial tram to the south rim of the canyon. Amidst the debris, we found several pieces of McLaughlin CD 162s and 164s in a light sage green color.

Later research has corroborated the existence of a telephone line put in by the CCC in the mid-1930s, but details are lacking.

So what's the moral of this story? Well...first, you can find insulators - even in the Grand Canyon! And two...here's a great opportunity for "insulator families" to get out and explore the grandeur of our land in a way they might not have considered before. (Call Mike or me for details on how to do it.)

I look forward to seeing each of you at the National Show in San Jose!

Tom Katonak, NIA #3567 NIA First Past President

FROM THE WESTERN REGION



What parting words can a lameduck regional vice-present write? Well, let me say it has been a great pleasure serving the Western Region of the National Insulator Association for the last three years. I am pleased to have played at least some minor role in promoting the hobby in the Western U-S as a Veep.

Perhaps the most gratifying role was in working behind the scenes to expose, with incontrovertible proofs, that a certain group of CD 123 EC&M insulators were modern imitations, and not valuable antiques as they were still being touted when I was elected to this office.

The NIA must stay continually vigilant in turning back efforts to defraud collectors with imitations. Please be patient with your NIA board members in this effort. It

may seem they act at a slow pace at times, but the purpose is to achieve factual and legal accuracy.

Both candidates to replace me as Western Region Vice President are excellent individuals of the highest integrity. No matter who is elected, we cannot lose!

Finally to all NIA members... Good Luck and Happy Collecting. Howard Banks

Howard Banks, NIA #900 **Western Region Vice President**

FROM THE EASTERN REGION



I'm writing this on the first weekend in May and it is the first really nice weekend that we've had here in the D.C. area. It's been a pretty cool spring. We have some nice shows coming up in the eastern region. On May 21, Dixie Jewels Insulator Club is having their spring swap meet at the home of Dudley and Sandy Ellis. I've never been to this show but hear that Dudley makes some mean smoked pork shoulders. I'll be in Ohio for a family event that weekend but I may try to get down another year.

On June 11, Claude Wambold will be hosting his 32nd insulator and bottle show at his home. This is a great informal get together that always attracts a lot of nice insulators. People come a long way to set up on the lawn and cook hot dogs over the grill. Like the Ohio show put on by Steve Blair and Glen Drummond, Claude's show is a classic.

On June 25th, the G.L.A.S.S. and W.R.I.C. insulator clubs have a cross-region show in Erie, PA. Later in the year, Dixie Jewels will be having their summer swap meet on August 20th in Tennessee. Finally, the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club will be hosting the NIA Eastern Regional show in Martinsburg, WV on Sept. 29 and Oct. 1.

I'm looking forward to the NIA National in San Jose in July. I've been to every National since the 1997 show in Chicago and I've thoroughly enjoyed them all. If you've never been, you owe it to

yourself to go. I always enjoy the fantastic selection of insulators available but the displays are the best part. It's great to see the variety of things people collect and I'm always amazed by the work and dedication that goes into finding, collecting and organizing the collections that some people have made.

The other thing I often look forward to at the Nationals is to see a major league baseball game. The show planners have been great so far to make sure they plan their shows when the local team is in town (I'm sure this was one of the criteria). So far I've used the Nationals to see games in Minnesota, Atlanta, Denver, Phoenix, Pittsburgh and San Francisco. If you're planning to host a future National, please check the baseball schedule when you're selecting your dates!

I'll see you at the shows.

Larry Novak, NIA #5889 Eastern Region Vice President

FROM THE PROMOTIONS CHAIR

Amazing how quickly time passes...

The Promotions Committee is now an actual committee of more than one person (me). Tom and Linda Katonak, Lee Brewer, and a couple of other folks have agreed to become working members. The initial plan is to meet at the National Show at the July National Show in San Jose. There, we will discuss future promotional plans, with which we hope to move along the growth and recognition of our hobby. If anyone else out there cares to join us in San Jose, please let me know...the-morethe-merrier, "they" say.

My insulator DVD is finally complete and ready for distribution. I held an unofficial premiere at the Rohde tailgater in April. All the copies I brought were quickly snatched up within twenty minutes. I should have listened to Dave Brown and taken more. Never-the-less, I have received many congratulatory emails and phone calls. I feel honored at the response.

I devised this DVD dream project over two and a half years ago. I set about to chronicle our hobby via tailgaters, shows, visiting collectors, and even going on hunts. It was a tremendous amount of work and planning, but has turned out better than I'd ever imagined.

I took the professional route (my sideline job is as a videographer) and spent countless hours in post-

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production at my, partner's studio. Included in the one and a half hour long production are show highlights from the San Jose Regional, Au-Tulare. burn. and Cavucos-by-

the-Sea; tailgaters including Rohde, The Three Amigos, The Arizonan Yuma Swap, The Ron Yuhas Bash, and Merzoian Brothers; tons of interviews from collectors far-and-wide; and even a "hunt-in-the-wild" (my favorite section). I included resources for new collectors (books, C.J., Insulators.com, catalogues, and various web sites). This is a comprehensive introduction to the hobby, but also a very entertaining look for us grizzled veterans.

If this proves to be a financial success, I hope to use the proceeds to do another edition...this time from a different geographical area. My dream would be to eventually have several editions featuring

collectors, shows, etc. from the East, South, Midwest, Northwest, Southwest, and parts of Canada. A very expensive dream and goal. Obviously the NIA can't fund such a large project and I am not independently wealthy. Therefore I can only hope the DVD will pay for it-

self and future versions. I think the hobby will benefit from this exposure. A possible and intended byproduct of the DVD is that new collectors

may be enticed to join us fanatical collectors

The off-shoot from this work is that we can glean footage for NIA promotions. I envision using selected versions at such sites as schools, community organizations, clubs, libraries, insulator shows, and for media outlets, to name a few. This would mean a lot of work and preparation from committee members, but I feel the hobby can only be enhanced from this approach. If you have any ideas in this vein or any other, contact me please.

Bob Merzoian, NIA#3941 Promotions Chairman

...DRIP NOTES

NIA General Membership Meeting DoubleTree Hotel in San Jose, CA. Friday July 8th, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.



SHOW SCHEDULE

Thursday July 7th 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. NIA Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Dealer Unload Only & Display Setup

Friday July 8th 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Dealer & Display Setup

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. *NIA Members Only* Show Hours 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. NIA General Membership Meeting

Saturday July 9th 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. Display Judging

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. General Admission 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Reception / Cash Bar 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Awards Banquet

Sunday July 10th 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. General Admission

11:00 a.m. Raffles

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Show Teardown



Admission: \$3 for all three days - Children under 12: FREE

Sales Tables: First is \$50, additional tables \$45 - **Display Space:** FREE

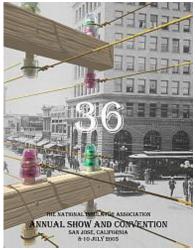
Show Directory Advertisement: Half page \$50, Business card size (2"×3") \$5

Saturday Night Dinner & Awards: \$30

Please make check or M/O payable to: Nor-Cal Insulator Club

Mail to: Dave Elliott, 440 Moffett Blvd #110, Mtn View, CA 94043-4752





DoubleTree Hotel San José

2050 Gateway Place Phone (408) 453-4000 or (800) 222-TREE Fax (408) 437-2898

The **San José DoubleTree Hotel** is conveniently located near two major highways, Highway 101 and Highway 880, and only ½ mile from the San José International Airport. A free shuttle travels between the airport and hotel. The hotel address is: 2050 Gateway Place, San José, California.



From Areas South of San José:

Going North on Highway 101, take the First Street/Brokaw Road exit. Turn Left on Brokaw Road and go under the 101 overpass. Brokaw turns into Airport Parkway, Hotel is on the Right.

From Areas East of San José:

Going South on Highway 880, take the First Street Exit. Turn Right on First Street. Go approximately one mile and turn Left on Old Bayshore. Left again on Airport Parkway, Hotel is on the Right.

From Areas North of San José:

Going South on Highway 101, take the First Street/Brokaw Road Exit. Turn Right on Airport Parkway.

Turn Right into the Hotel parking lot.



FROM THE SECRETARY

The NIA Needs a Few Good Show Hosts. With the 2005 show season approximately half gone, now is the time for show hosts (clubs or individuals) to begin planning for 2006 NIA Eastern and Western Regional shows (the 2006 National will be held in the Central Region; hence, there will be no 2006 Central Region show). It is also time to initiate planning for the 2007 National Show that is

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scheduled to be held in the Eastern Region.

Guidelines for Regional and N a t i o n a l shows may be found in the NIA website. I was fortunate in being able to attend four

great shows in the mid-west and east during March and April (Maryland Line, MD; St. Joseph, MO; Natrona Heights, PA; and Enfield, CT). During this time, I had an opportunity to speak with a number of potential show hosts. Time and again I was told of problems that the guidelines present to show hosts. Please understand, these are guidelines, not requirements - exclusions can be re-

quested and approved if it is impossible or impracticable to satisfy specific points without compromising the intended purpose of the show. The two rigid requirements for a Region show are: a two-day event and a location that provides easy access to the traveling public. The fundamental concept here is to provide an opportunity for attending collectors to visit with fellow collectors, discuss various aspects of the hobby, and, hopefully, add to, or improve, their collections.

On the other hand, the guidelines for a National show are more rigorous because many collectors desire to combine a hobby event with their annual vacations. However, exclusions or modifications to many of the guidelines may be requested and approved if the venue fulfills the primary goals necessary for a successful Na-

tional show. A National show must be a three-day event, include awards an banquet, provide ample floor space for dealers and displayers, adequate accommodations

dealers and collectors, and be convenient for long-distance travelers.

Experience gained over the past four to five years, reveals that it requires at least 18 months to plan and coordinate all the aspects of a National show once the bid has been approved. Hotel/Motel venues are demanding no less than an 18-month commitment for an

event of this scope. This means that potential show hosts should begin searching for a suitable and affordable show hall and begin building the show bid packet at this time. The sooner bids are submitted to the Board for consideration, the sooner a bid can be accepted, and the show hosts can move forward.

Please contact me if you, or your club, are interested in hosting one of these events and have questions concerning the guidelines and NIA expectations (334-257-3100 or glenn@patent-1871.com).

Glenn Drummond, NIA #537 Secretary

FROM THE NOMINATIONS CHAIR



Time passes quickly when one is engaged in activities he/she enjoys. Such has been the case for me this past NIA year. I've enjoyed putting together a team of committee members who have worked diligently to present to the western region NIA members, two very qualified candidates, Larry Shumaker NIA #4524 and Mike Green NIA #3175, contending for the office of Western Region Vice-I want to thank my President. team members Dan Goodrich NIA #6738, Peter Abbott NIA #4439, Chris Hedges NIA #15, Ross Baird NIA #1983, Russell Hughes NIA #2859 and Pat Patocka NIA #140.

for their willingness to serve on my committee. Together we have

achieved our goal for this year. The balloting has ended and the election results for West-Region Vice-President will be announced at the NIA General Membership Meeting on Friday

evening. Both Larry Shumaker and Mike Green are excellent candidates for this office and I am confident that either one, with their collecting expertise, will serve the Board and the NIA membership to the best of their ability.

The Nominations Committee has yet another challenge. There will be one vacancy on the Board of Directors and one vacancy among the Standing Committee Chairpersons. We are looking for candi-

dates for Membership Director and Awards and Recognitions Chair-

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person. Through your willingness to give your time and expertise, you are giving back to the hobby and organization, which has certainly been good to you. Your active participation opens many

doors for you. Please do not hesitate to contact me (bluebellwt@aol.com) or one of my committee team members to volunteer....or to suggest someone you know who would be willing to serve.

See Y'al in San Jose!!!

Jacqueline Linscott Barnes, NIA#1380 Nominations Chairman

...DRIP NOTES

Did you know that the Drip Points is available electronically? Did you know that roughly 20% of your fellow NIA members and their families get the *Drip Points* Electronically via e-mail? Taking the *Drip Points* electronically has many benefits including:

- Saves printing and mailing costs of the newsletter (\$1.50 a copy per person) enabling the NIA to help fund research and other beneficial activities to the hobby without having to raise dues.
- You get a color issue, and now with each electronic copy sent, will be attached one club newsletter from a participating club from around the country. You get to see various club newsletters in addition to your DP at no additional cost.
- Get your copy earlier, the electronic copy goes out before the mailed copy.
- Your copy doesn't degrade or wear out and is easily backed up on your computer. Also, the NIA is placing the back issues of the electronic versions on the NIA web site for all to see and retrieve (after the issues are 1 year old).

FROM THE ETHICS CHAIR



First I'd like to say that, much to the credit of the overwhelming majority of insulator collectors, individual ethics complaints have been very few over the past few

years. Fair and open dealing continues to set our particular avocation apart from so many other fields of collectibles.

However, for an extended period of time now, our hobby's num-

ber one ethical concern has been a plague of sophisticated fakes. And, indeed, the problem persists. One need only look at certain recent and ongoing e-bay auctions.

During this same time span, the NIA has gone to considerable lengths to expose some of the fake and/or questionable insulators coming into the hobby. Education, we continue to believe, is our best collective defense against the loss of integrity these forgeries will surely cause to the body of genuine collectible insulators

available.

Through the NIA's ongoing educational efforts, many collectors have been saved from making costly mistakes. Unfortunately, though, exposing the perpetrators of, and traffickers in fake insulators, is only half of the solution. Remember the adage: "Fool me once. shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me." Most collectors get an "A plus" in this lesson, but, alas, some remedial courses seem to be in order for those still not paying attention (or still not convinced).

Here's today's make-up lesson: DON'T BUY FAKES! I've said many, many times before that if there were no ready market for

> fakes. none would be produced. Without buythere ers. would be no sellers, and thus no makers. It doesn't matter how noble or lofty the faker's stated motives – a

fake is still a fake.

What we can do is to

support a set of high

ethical standards for our

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This we do through our

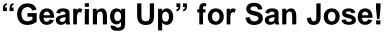
code of ethics.

Many members who took to heart the anti-fake message the first time around often ask, "What is the NIA doing about fakes?" The answer is: "Plenty!" as witnessed by our articles and color inserts in Drip Points, as well as the traveling display showing how to spot color-altered insulators. But, the NIA is not the "insulator police". We cannot arrest anyone for producing or selling fakes. In fact we cannot (nor should we) force anyone to do (or not do) anything.

What we *can* do is to support a set of high ethical standards for our hobby, which promote honest and fair dealing between all members. This we do through our code of ethics. Our insistence on these rules declares: "If you want to be a part of the largest nationwide organization of insulator collectors, you need to abide by these simple rules". Trafficking in fakes is contrary to these guidelines. I can't make it any simpler than that.

In the final analysis, we – all NIA members – share a common obligation to keep our hobby unpolluted. Do your part to help stamp out fakes. Don't make them. Don't sell them. Don't buy them.

Charles Bibb, NIA #6097 Ethics Chairman







Going to the NATIONAL? Need a BADGE?

Got a CLUB BAR to show your affiliation?

An engraved badge & bar is a great resource to identify your self to others at the show Badge orders need to be requested by June 10th, to insure "free" National delivery!

Our NIA website, www.nia.org/product.htm ,has been updated to reflect all "products" currently being sold by NIA Product Marketing and also a printable order form!

Also, an order form is in back of this issue of Drip Points.

UPDATE!! New standard to our NIA Gear

Logo'd Zippered Sweatshirt...Very nice quality! Heavy weight cotton, pre-washed sweatshirt, has a drawstring hood, full front zipper with double front pocket. Embroidered logo on left side.

These were first sold last year at Pittsburgh and were well received!







PRE-PAID ORDERS only!!

I will accept orders for FREE SHIPPING and NO SALES TAX!! for the San Jose, CA National by June 20th. Due to CA law, we will charge sales tax on items sold at the show.

So, please, order ahead!!

CA - National 2005!

PLEASE NOTE: I will be flying to CA and will not have a lot of stock at the show.

See me at Table # 78 in San Jose !!

Carolyn Berry Product Marketing Chairman NIA # 4336

2005 NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dudley Ellis, NIA #5085 **NIA President** 131 Plantation Way Stockbridge, GA 30281 770-957-9928 pony102@bellsouth.net

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Steve Marks, NIA #4951 Second Past President Richmond, VA 23233 804-364-1887 stevemelsam@comcast.net

Larry Novak, NIA #5889 Eastern Region VP 12604 Eldrid Court Silver Spring, MD 20904-3505 301-680-8910 insulators@sweetlucybrown.com

Ed Peters, NIA #6300 **Central Region VP** 5424 Dufferin Drive Savage, MN 55378 952-447-2422 edwardpeters@avaya.com

Howard Banks, NIA #900 Western Region VP 1560 Hugo Road Merlin, OR. 97532 541-479-8348 hbanks@grantspass.com

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Joe Beres, NIA #563 Membership Director 1315 Old Mill Path Broadview Heights, OH 44147 440-526-3478 jjjb@aol.com

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Summer 2005 www.nia.org/products

	Men's Golf / Polo Shirts* embroidered logo; some with pockets	<u>Pric</u>	<u>e Otv</u>	Total
	*Please call or email me for all color / styles available: \$3	0 - \$41		
_ □-√ ""	S/S golf - yellow pique w/ navy & royal blue collar/sleeve. (\$38)			
LOGO Large Logo	Ladies' shirts embroidered logo; call for additional options!			
on back	S/S golf - yellow pique w/ navy & royal blue collar/sleeve. (\$38)			
	Denim Shirt - (*ladies order comparable men's size)			
	Heavy-wt., pre-shrunk cotton stonewash blue left-side pocket			
NATIONAL 1	Embroidered logo S M L XL \$	32.00		
Insulator	*S/S *L/S	35.00		
Association	T-Shirt Hanes Beefy 'T' - Ash gray - Screen-printed logo (front & back	2		
	L (\$15) 2X (\$16) Hanes Beefy 'T' - Heavy weight - Ash Grav; embroidered logo on left from	t anhil		
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	Sea foam Green; embroidered - MLXL(\$20) 2X(\$22	()		
	Sweatshirts Heavy weight Ash gray S M (\$16.00) L XL (\$20.00) Screen-printed logo (front s	& book)		
	=>=>NEW**Embroidered logo- M_ L _ XL _ (\$25) 2X _ 3X _			
	=>=>NEW**Zippered - Hooded -Embroidered logo- L / XL (\$35)			
	Embroidered Cap Stone/ Navy or Khaki / Green, low-rise, embroidered			
\bigcirc		\$16.00		
Nurseur 1922 Insula OR	=>=>NEW**13 oz. Glass Mug w/ Faux Etched NIA Logo	\$8.00		
	Mug 10 oz white ceramic coffee mug w/ screen-printed logo	\$7.00		
	Patch light blue back w/ embroidered logo/red embroidered edge	\$4.00		
	Koozie™ — The original Koozie™ fits any standard beer / soda can			
L de	Silver screened NIA logo on: NIA blueredgreen NIA Lapel Pin – etched enamel tack pin with NIA logo	\$2.25 \$5.00		
	Decal light blue w/ logo- red border; for inside car window	\$1.00		
ل السبا	Name Badge white badge engraved w/ blue letters - screen-printed logo	£12.00		
	epoxy pin back, beveled edges (fill in form below) Badve Bar white w/ engraved blue letters (ie. NIA position or Local Club			
	Men's Size Chart:	Subtot	al	
Women's Size C	<u>S (32-34) M (36-38) L (40-42) XL (44-46) </u>	ostage	(Eroo to	National)
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	ck or money order in U.S. funds payable to: National	Insulator As	sociation	or NIA
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Name	NIA # City		State	
Name	NIA # City		State	
Bar:	Use the back of this ord	ler form for addi	tional badge	e/bar orders
Rev. 6/.05	Contact Information: Carolyn Berry - NIA # 4336		_	
No. 91113	• •			
	1010 Wren Court Round Rock TX 78681-	- 17171777-7	i i i i i	

2005 NIA MEMBERSHIP NEW/RENEWAL FORM

	Submit: (In U.S.funds) To: (Payable to the NIA) Note New Dues Schedu Regular Membership Family Membership (under 18 Club or Organization	\$ 12.00 \$ 12.00 3)\$ 5.00	Joe J. Beres NIA Membership 1315 Old Mill Pat Broadview Hts., (E-MAIL: JJJB@	h Dhio 44147-327	6			
	appropriate Class) Re		Family J					
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	NIA # (If Renewal)							
	Address							
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	Zip/Postal Code(+4)							
	Country (If Non U.S.)							
	Telephone Number							
	E-Mail Address							
	Please include me in the Ann	ual NIA/Crown	Jewels Directory	Yes	No			
	Please include my Telephone Number			Yes	No			
	Please include my E-Mail Ad	ldress		Yes	No			
Note: (Ch	I Would like to Receive Drip eck Only One Choice) (Need			Paper	Electronic			
Name	<u>A</u>	dditional Far	mily Members	Nia#	(If Renewal)			
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Signed								

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Date



ARIZONA TELEGRAPH TIMES

The Official Quarterly Publication of the Grand Canyon State Insulator Club Volume 1 March 2005



Pick'n and Grin'n



Ed Peters and Bob Ellis seen here at one of the shorter poles along the December club hunt. Ed flew in from Minneapolis for some December picking of Mclaughlin insulators. Bob attended with his wife Donna, they are from Tucson.

CLUB HUNT by Roger Nagel

The morning started early as I stopped to pick up Roy Albin in west Phoenix around 6:30 AM. We proceeded toward the planned meeting location north of Dateland Arizona and arrived around 8:15 AM. Kevin Jacobson and Ed Peters were already there. Ed had flown to Phoenix from Minnesota just for this hunt. I was eager to start the hunt, so I borrowed Kevin's 32 foot ladder and climbed up the nearest pole. Unfortunately there wasn't anything worthwhile on the pole, but as I was climbing down I noticed a local farmer approaching in his truck. He had seen me on the ladder and was wondering if we were there to repair the line because he was hoping the railroad would be placed in service again. Kevin told him about how we were insulator collectors and were checking out the insulators on the poles. We didn't tell the farmer that we were actually there to dismantle the line (to a small degree). After a few minutes he drove off to go back to work.

After everyone arrived we decided to team up into three groups for the hunt. Other collectors that showed up were: Bob and Donna Ellis, Steve Kelly and Dave Good, Bud Johnson and grandkids, Jim Harlow and kids, and Ross Thompson.

We proceeded east about 8 miles from our meeting place and the hunt was on. Roy and I picked a couple of blue aqua McLaughlin 42's and started working our way down the line in the truck. Fortunately we had made note of everyone's cell phone number before starting the hunt. Not long after Roy and I started we received a call from Kevin, he was stuck in a gravel bar and needed a tow to get out. The only problem is there are just a few places where you can get on the north



It's hard to see, but the Jacobson Insulator Burban has three wheels in the air and one in the very loose sand. Oooops.



Dave Good climbs one of the Semaphore Signals that have been abandoned to check out the lenses still in the old signal.



Steve Kelly goes up to get some lenses of his own.



Roger Nagel examining one of the thousands of McLauglin insulators on this line. Many with nails and Glazers points.

side of the tracks were the line is located. On the south side of the tracks is a good gravel road. I knew Kevin was east of my location, but wasn't sure exactly where. So I back-tracked and got on the south side of the tracks and headed east. A couple of miles down the road I spotted Ross Thompson's truck on the north side of the tracks. Then a little further I saw Kevin's insulator pole picker in use. The tracks are on a raised bed and Kevin was in a low area so I couldn't see his vehicle or the people using the pole picker. But I knew I was at the right spot, so called Kevin to confirm it. I informed him Ross was headed his way and he could help pull him out. But before Ross could get to Kevin, Ross got a flat tire. So Kevin helped Ross fix the flat, then Ross helped pull Kevin out. And then the rain started (to go along with the unusually cool breeze). What happened to warm, sunny Arizona! We decided to take a lunch break and wait out the rain. But it didn't stop. So some of the hunters decided to call it a day, and the rest of us headed west where we could see that the sun was shining. After getting out of the rain we made several stops to collect insulators and poke around the tracks (that are abandoned) and look for broken Southern Pacific china plates and steel balls. But as the sun got low in the west it was time to call it a day. Numerous McLaughlin 42's, star CD162's, and other assorted insulators were found, and despite the weather and minor setbacks it was still fun to 'do the hunt'.



Ed Peters and Steve Kelly watch as Dave Good brings down a complete Semaphore signal for Ed.



There is no Shortage of McLaughlin Insulators, Some in very nice or unusual colors.



There's no Shortage of Views either

Message from the President

Roger Nagel



The past November club meeting was held in Tucson at the home of Bob and Donna Ellis. Bob and Donna have a beautiful home located in the high desert. The views of the Rincon Mountains were awesome. Bob and Donna's collection was spread out around the house. It was fun going from room to room as there were many colorful insulators to admire. And if you got tired of looking at insulators you could spend time in the greenhouse looking at the huge cactus collection. Or you could check out several different varieties of turtles lounging around in ponds scattered around the property.

Bob, Donna, and family put together a great lunch. The handmade rosemary hamburger buns made for a not-your-ordinary hamburger and the homemade cheesecake was to-die-for. The side dishes were



View of the Rincon Mountains from the Driveway



John McDougald, Bob Ellis, and Bud Johnson in the Cactus Nursery.



Roger Nagel admires some of the many window displays of Bob and Donna's collection.



delicious too, there was a nice variety of food. Bob, Donna, and family, thank you for hosting the club meeting and providing lunch. You put a lot of time and effort into hosting the meeting and I know everyone enjoyed it. Your insulator and cactus collections are very impressive. Roger.



The Cactus Nursery is magnificent



One of the Beautiful Finches in the Aviary.



Aleecia and Julian Harlow seem to be having fun.



Julian and Maria Harlow with one of the desert tortoises.

(Left) John McDougald, Jim Harlow, and Carol McDougald inspect the insulators for sale.

2005 Yuma Tailgater Report

By Roger Nagel

Again this year the day started early for Terri and I as we were on the road before 5 AM. We arrived in Yuma right at sunrise and from the top of the hill overlooking the park we saw several people already setting up. Looks like we weren't the only ones that had an early start. The park was in good shape and the grass was mostly green from the recent rains. It was another nice sunny day for the tailgater. People continued arriving and setting up tables full of insulators and other items, and the tailgater was in full swing.



A crowd gathered at John and Carol McDougald's Table. Where fresh collections were made available to those in attendance.

There were 27 individuals with sales tables (a new record)

and as you can see from the photos, there were lots of great insulators for sale. Insulators for sale included numerous EC&M's (CD123) and Cal Electric's (CD130), a nice selection of Canadian insulators, numerous McLaughlin's, California's, and Denver glass. There were several colorful HGCo beehives (CD145) in amber, green, and a one of a kind light aqua / light purple two tone. John and Carol McDougald had a bunch of insula-



Shown above, Howard Banks, Clarice Gordon, and Tom Katonak. This was Clarice's first time at Yuma which has become quite a show and is in it's 6th year.



There's no shortage of colorful glass at Yuma.

tors from several collections they had recently purchased, so their sales tables were very popular.

The attendance was somewhere between 75 and 100 people. Some of the long distance attendees included Bill Ostrander and Howard, Linda, and David Banks (Crown Jewels editors) from Oregon, Michael Jones from Montana, Mike Doyle and Lou Hall from central California, and Tom and Lynda Katonak from New Mexico There was great support again this year from the California and New Mexico collectors. Long time collector Clarice Gordon from San Diego even made a first time appearance.

Thanks go out to Terri Taylor and Cheryl Jacobson for putting together a great lunch and to Dave Kelly for helping cook the hamburgers and hotdogs.

As it got later in the afternoon people started packing up and preparing for the trip home. The last minute insulator purchases and trades were being made. People said their good-byes and by 4 PM Terri and I were back on the road headed home. It was great to see everyone again and the tailgater was another big success.



Dave Kelly helps prepare the meat for the lunch. Dave has been doing this for most, if not all, of the 6 years of the show.



The free blanket has become a favorite of collectors. Everything on it is free! Ross Thompson can be seen putting out some really nice glass this year that some lucky folks got in on, for free!



There were 27 sales tables at what started as a tailgater. That is a new record for the show now in it's sixth year.



Dwayne Anthony and Richard Dawson Jokingly examine a new CD of dubious origin.

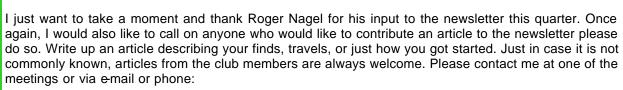


Message From Treasurer Cheryl Jacobson

There were two club additions to signup at the Yuma Show

The current balance in the club checking account is \$2,614.69

Message from the Editor





Thanks, Kevin Jacobson, Editor kwjacob@icsaero.com or 602-564-0851

New Members of the G.C.S.I.C.



#100 Don & Elaine Bayes 14925 APPLE VALLEY ROAD APPLE VALLEY, CA 92307-4905

#101 Butch & Eloise Haltman 68-465 PEREZ ROAD CATHEDRAL CITY, CA. 92234-7256

Like to Join? Send \$10 to the Club Treasurer. Make checks payable to Cheryl Jacobson and send to the address below for the Treasurer.

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