

# M-4412 Discovery



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The amazing, recently discovered M-4412. - Read more about this discovery on page 36

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President | **Don Briel** NIA# 7218 President@nia.org\_or (435) 753-5786 First Past President | Lou Hall NIA# 7185 <u>1stpastpres@nia.org</u>or (559) 435-1740

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#### Drip Points Magazine update:

I am always amazed at the articles that I get from our readers! BIG thanks to all of the people that contribute. It is what makes this magazine unique, and wonderful. It is important to preserve info about our hobby. Feel free to contact me with articles; I am always looking for unique insulator related content.

The following is a quick update on some of my hobby related projects that I hope you find enjoyable and beneficial to the hobby.

#### Hemingray.net update:

Last time I talked about the redesign of my "Hemingray On-Line Museum". Many more articles have been added since the last issue of Drip Points Magazine, including 182 vintage Hemingray ads! These vintage ads are truly works of art and need to be preserved and shared with the hobby. Be sure to check them out http://hemingray.net/articles/hemingray-advertising/. If you have some I do not have listed, please contact me.

I just added a "Hemingray Insulators in use" section; you can see it at http://hemingray.net/glass/insulators/collections/Hemingray-Insulators-In-Use/. If you have photos of Hemingray insulators in use let me know. There will be a sad day, not too far from now when you will not see glass in the air. I want to do what I can to preserve the memory of glass in the air!

#### Allinsulators.com update:

I redesigned my All Insulator photo site to a fresh new design. Just like the Hemingray.net update, it is responsive and HiDPI enabled.

One of the biggest milestones of the new site is, I now have the complete US U-range on line! I also have the upcoming late 2015 changes to the U-range on the site.

U-Range is viewable here http://allinsulators.com/ photos/Porcelain/U/. Keep checking back as always new photos being added.

#### ST-System update:

The Suspension Type (ST) numbering system is getting guite mature. We now have 117 unique ST-Numbers and a total of 281 Listings! To see what is new and to submit ones that are not listed (new styles, markings and colors all wanted) check them out here. http://www.allinsulators.com/photos/ST/.



My most recent purchase, a true green CD 304/310! This thing is breathtaking to see in person. As if that was not good enough, this thing has a green base with amber swirls and is a unlisted color. This is a [020] (the Patent date error embossing), that EIN is only listed as coming in agua.





WOW -- another quarter has gone by already. How time flies! It seems like just yesterday that I wrote the last Drip Points article. Since writing that article, Jeanne and I drove to Fresno, CA to attend the Rohde Ranch show. It was 1900 miles round trip, but the show, the people, the weather, and especially the show hosts made every mile of it worthwhile. Bill and Kat are among the best show hosts ever. A special THANK YOU goes out to both of them. Thanks also go out to all that attended. It's the people in this hobby that make it so enjoyable and make the shows successful.

Now that we are getting to the summer season, Jeanne and I are filling our travel calendar with show plans. By the time you read this our first time local show in Logan, UT will be history. As of this writing we are anticipating a good turnout and a fun time. It is then off to about one show per month scattered around the country, including the National in Sandwich, IL. Everything is pointing to a great National hosted by Jason Townsend and Bob Stahr. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

On a more personal note for me, the 2015 Price Guide for North American Glass Insulators is finished and now available. It has been four years in the making with a lot of support from many collectors. When you have the opportunity to look at it in detail you will find several new features along with new listings and updated prices. Visit: <u>www.InsulatorPriceGuide.</u> <u>com</u>.

All is moving forward in the NIA. It will soon be time for the annual Board meeting on July 2nd, the day before the National show begins. The Membership meeting will be held the evening of July 3rd. Please make every attempt to attend the Membership meeting that Friday evening if you are attending the National. That is where every member has the opportunity to learn what is going on and give input to the organization's leaders. Margaret Wagner recently volunteered to take over the NIA Product Marketing position from Tina Rienstra in July. Tina will be setting up the NIA Product Sales table at the National and sometime during or at the end of the show Margaret will take over that responsibility. My thanks go out to Tina for the years that she has served the NIA as our Product Marketing person. My thanks also go out to Margaret for volunteering to take over this important position. Please give Margaret your full support as she takes on this new responsibility.

Once again, let me remind you that this is your organization. The direction it takes is up to you. The amount of accomplishment is directly proportional to what you are willing to put into the organization. Your comments and suggestions are important and welcome. Your time as a volunteer is even more important. My sincere thanks go out to all those that serve in any capacity. An invitation goes out to all that would like to serve. Just let me know what talents you have that you are willing to share.

As I look back over this article that I have just written it once again reinforces the fact that insulator collecting is more about the great people in the hobby and less about the glass, porcelain, and other collectibles. If you haven't been to a show, you are missing the best the hobby has to offer. I encourage every member to attend your local shows, meet the people, and find the real joy in this hobby. You may find some nice insulators as well!

Good collecting to all!

Don Briel

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Western Region VP | Ron Yuhas

NIA# 1993

Hello to all collectors,

I would first like to thank Gil, Robin, and Bonnie & Win for hosting the Emerald City Show in Seattle. It is a very fun event and it is always great to see the usual suspects from the Northwest area.

I did not make the Rhode Ranch Show but from all reports it was another fantastic event. There are several shows in the Western area before the National so be sure to check your local listings for times and dates.

We are fast approaching the 46th National Show to be held in Sandwich Illinois this year. It promises to be a super show and if possible you should strongly consider attending. The recent reports note a large percentage of available tables have been sold as well as hotel rooms and banquet tickets. A National show is just a great time to meet friends and fellow collectors and....oh yeah find a treasure for your collection. See you there! I would like to mention that one thing that the board is looking at is possible NIA financial support for a National Show host or hosts. There are times when there is a great venue but hosts may not feel financially comfortable with putting on a National. It is certainly a topic worth looking at the pros and cons to see if it should be made available to show hosts if desired. I invite your comments and suggestions. Enjoy this great time of the year for insulator collecting and I hope to see you at the National.

Thanks and good collecting,

Ron Yuhas

## **MICHIGAN MUNCIE UPDATE**



In the spring 2015 Drip Points Magazine, Doug Rusher mentioned the discovery of Muncies in Michigan. Last spring Mike Spadafora and myself made this exciting discovery. Fast forward a year to spring 2015. We went back out and worked a section of the line that was the most remote and in a swamp. This line was really well cleaned up. We were able to recover little over ½ a top to go with the base that was found last year. So there is now one displayable unit proving they were used here in Michigan! A very historically significant insulator as it proves these were not just used in MT and WA.

A complete history of the power line and RR will be in a future Drip Points Magazine. This line has some interesting stores behind it! Stay tuned...

- Shaun Kotlarsky





NIA# 8803

This will be the last article that I will be writing as the Central Region VP for my three year term will be up in July at the National Show in Sandwich, II. I want to say to the Board Members " Thank You " for the support that I received as the Central Region VP. Every Board Member was so supportive and as a whole the General Membership should feel very good that you have members that stand up and do the hobby justice that it deserves. Not one member gets any personal financial gain in doing the job as a Board Member, but yet each position has time commitment out of their personal life to be there for the hobby. I will personally comment on that really gets under my skin is when stones are thrown towards the NIA Board and has " No Real Facts " to back up what stones they are throwing need to stand up and volunteer for an open position on the Board and put their comments out there face to face with other Board Members instead of hiding behind the stone throwing from far way.

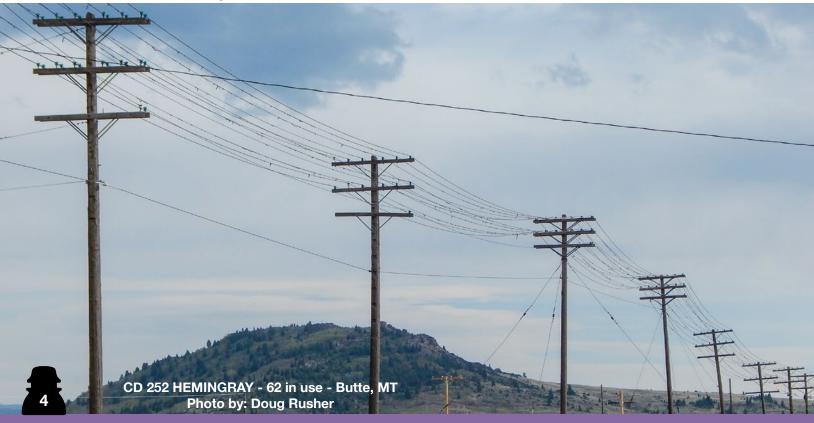
Kim Borgman has stood up to be your new Central Region VP and will do a very fine job as the representative for the Central Region. A couple of shows that are coming up in the Central Region that I want to mention:

On June 6,2015 the 18th Annual Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet will be held in Tama, Iowa downtown at the Tama Civic Center at 305 Siegal St. Meet is from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM with dealer set up at 7:00AM.. Contact Dave Shaw at 641-484-5463 or e-mail him at <u>dshaw@mchi.com</u> This show has out grown the park in Toledo, Iowa and one you need to come to and enjoy the day.

Also The Triple - Ridge Insulator Club Potluck & Show will be on June 13, 2015 in Colorado Springs, Colorado at 2905 N. Cascade Ave. Contact Dan Gauron at 719-492-0181 or Mike Gaudy at 970-215-0040. Here is another must show that as grown over the years.

" Happy Collecting "

Bear Spitler



## Eastern Region VP | Matt Grayson

NIA# 387

Now that my winter gear is finally stowed, after a winter that would not quit, It looks like the national is a little over a month away. While I write this, a few weeks before you read this, the Sandwich National is nearly sold out! Having attended many shows hosted by Jason and Bob, there is no doubt that this will be an outstanding event. If you have been snoozing, quickly contact either of them if you plan on selling or displaying, there may still be hope for a table. The show is located in a great spot, on the outskirts of Chicago, in very nice hotel convention center.

I am going to take the opportunity to finally try Chicago pizza and see if it is a good as a New York slice.

We won't know until the National where next year's show will be, it may or may not be in the East. But where ever it is, I hope next year at this time, the show plans will be coming together as well as those for the Sandwich show. How to move forward with the Nationals and other NIA events is an important item on the NIA agenda this year. I am aware of many good suggestions from bidders and non bidders on how the Board should act to improve the process of organizing these events. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact us. Send your thoughts to me, any other board member, or the show committee. We as collectors will all be greatful if we could eliminate some of the uncertainty from show organization.

See you at the National!!!

Matt Grayson





## Membership Director | Vickie McConnachie

NIA# 8395

#### Greetings to all,

Spring is fast moving into summer. Almost national time! Lots of local fun going on as well. Please check your events in CJOW and the <u>NIA.org</u> site often.

As of this writing, the NIA now has 1550 active members. This is down by 53 from last year at this time. As the National approaches, some of you will need to renew your membership. There is an online membership application located at: <u>http://www.nia.org/</u> <u>membership/index.htm</u>, this is the fastest way to get your membership up and running.

You may also use the membership application in Crown Jewels of the Wire monthly magazine and the Drip Points quarterly. Please use a current issue, as we occasionally receive applications from past issues using the old membership rates. The deadline for renewing memberships prior to the National is June 20th.

It will be hard to get your membership cards to you any later than June 20th.

The following is a list of fellow NIA hobbyists and friends who are no longer with us. They will be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to the families and close friends they leave behind.

NIA#	. Name
198	. Clarice Gordon
448	. Louis M. Berard
633	. Shirley M. Patocka
1309	. Donley N. Hostutler
1367	. Dennis A. Moeller
1469	. J. Fred Schwartz
1780	. Allen Wayne Klapaska
2910	. Charles B. Dittmar
3555	. Donald H. Bayes
3945	.Gershwin Haltman
5347	.Ben Kelley
7842	. Stanley J. Severi
8248	.Ann Russ
8422	. Michael Fill

Vickie McConnachie

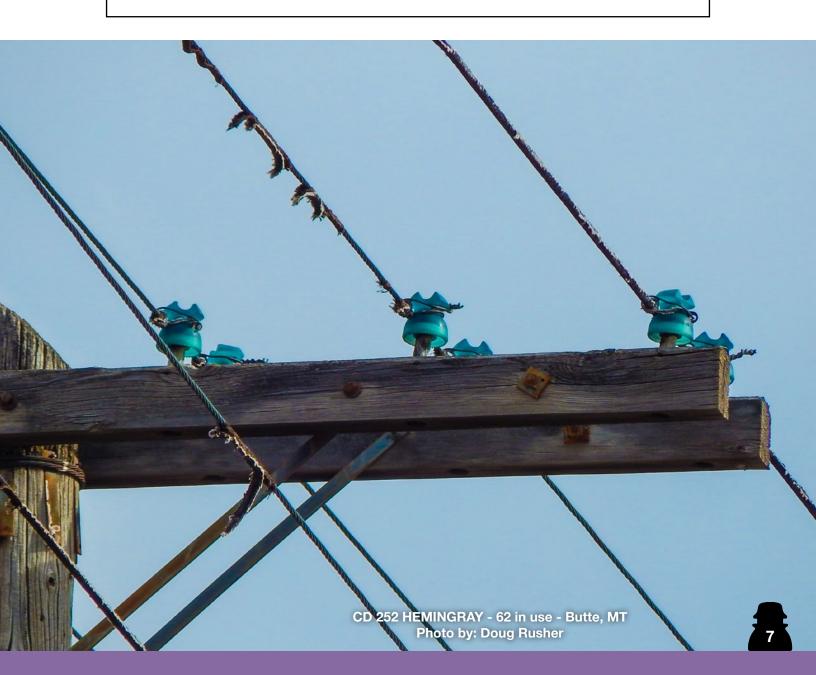




## **National Insulator Association**

2014 - 2015 financial statement 9 months ending Mar. 31, 2014

	Ψ00,011
Ending Balance	\$60 577
Increase/Decrease	\$(2,104)
•	• • •
Expenses	\$(0,260)
Revenues	\$7,156
Beginning Balance	\$62,681



### Awards & Recognition Chair | Gene Hawkins

NIA# 421

First let me encourage everyone to make the effort to go to the NIA National Show in Sandwich, IL. For those who will be driving to the event, PLEASE consider putting together a display for the show. Even if you fly, you can put together a great educational display without dozens of pieces. You can ship them in care of your hotel if you don't want to check them on a flight. Contact Bob Stahr to include your display.

Displays add SO much to a show, encouraging newbies & veterans alike as well as advertising to others from all over the world what you specialize in your collection. You then get emails & phone calls from others who learned of your specialty and have found a rare piece you might need! This has happened to me personally several times and I have gained friendship of other specialists who keep me in mind if they should have an upgrade that I can use on my shelf, or know who to quickly call if I find the upgrade. The various NIA Display categories mean you don't have to enter the always competitive Specialty category unless you want the challenge. Go to <u>http://</u><u>www.nia.org/handbook/documents/Judges\_scoresheet.pdf</u> to see a checklist for grading the displays. The emphasis is on the educational aspects of your display, rather than just putting pieces on the table. Hope to see you & your display in Sandwich, IL!

Gene Hawkins





NIA# 5185

In the last issue, I had mentioned working on discovering other hobbies and publications to help spread the word on the NIA. I'm happy to report that progress has been made on that front. Jane Silvernail from the Railroadiana Collectors Association Incorporated (RCAI) has graciously accepted an offer of exchanging ¼ page ad space between their publication, The Express, and ours. Please be sure to check out their ad, and visit their web site at <u>www.railroadcollectors</u>. org. It sounded like there also might be an opportunity for publishing a guest article in the future.

Other related hobbies have been contacted as well, and I'm hoping to make more progress advertising with them in the coming months:

- Antique Bottle & Glass Collector Website: <u>www.americanglassgallery.com</u>
- Telephone Collectors International, Inc. Website: <u>www.telephonecollectors.org</u>
- Antiques & Collectibles National Association
   Website: <u>www.acna.us</u>

If a similar agreement to swap advertisement space cannot be reached, the board has granted a generous advertising budget that can be used. I'm also hoping to leverage part of the budget towards online advertising, such as Google AdWords. I'll have more on this in the future. I have also been working with Val Ensalaco, the editor of *Old Timers Gazette*, a local antiques publication in Sandwich, Illinois (home of this year's National of course). I wrote an article on insulators geared towards the public and antique dealers. Val is also working to get our article published in other local news sources, which should help to generate some additional publicity for the National. Val encouraged making this their longest featured article to date, and we're excited about the outcome!

Lastly, I would like to let everyone know that, as dues-paying members of the NIA, **you are entitled to a free ad in Drip Points once per year!** This has already been approved by the NIA Board of Directors, but up until now, we haven't had any takers. I suspect that's because not a lot of people knew about this membership perk.

Please contact me at <u>admanager@nia.org</u> (or 949-338-1404 for those without email) to get your FREE ad included in a future issue! 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.

Thank you!

Christian Willis

#### WANT TO GET DRIP POINTS ELECTRONICALLY?



- Get Drip Points electronically to enjoy these extra benefits
- 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: Vickie McConnachie membership@nia.org



## Ethics Chair | Dave Wiecek

A threadless insulator that was made from a mold of modern manufacture was sold earlier this year on a popular online auction site The insulator appeared to be a CD 737.5 with a height of 2.5 inches and width of 2.25 inches across the base. A now deceased collector created a mold using his skills as a machinist to satisfy his curiosity of how insulators were made. He did this as an education lesson to himself without ever the intent of making or selling insulators made from it for profit. However, upon his passing, the collection, which included the mold and whatever insulators created from the mold ended up in the hands of others who have the experience and means by which to make additional insulators from the mold which could be sold without full disclosure as to their true pedigree.

The creation of the mold and insulators from it was a violation of the NIA Code of Ethics. The sale of the mold leaves open the possibility that additional insulators can be made in the future in more likely colors and appearance to genuine insulators of that time period. The NIA urges caution when buying or selling insulators of this CD.

Dave Wiecek



Send Model or Drawing and we will furnish estimates.



NIA# 1127

#### Attention Show Hosts.... Ideas for Enhancing Your Event

As the Show Promotions Chairman, I want to delve into the world of creativity. In an effort to stir the minds of show hosts across the country on how they might add to their programming to make for an even better event. Two sayings come to mind: (1) Variety is the spice of life and (2) There are very few new things, just modifications of existing ideas. So possibly the contents of this article might stir your brainstorming for a new angle. Feel free to use anything I have suggested, or modify it for your needs.

My next few articles will focus on ideas to assist show hosts in making their show more attractive so collectors will make it a yearly attendance MUST. So I am going to throw out some ideas and feel free to use any you believe might be useful. Along the way I will mention ideas that some are already incorporating in their show. My first observation is don't be afraid to experiment with a new angle to add some change ("spice") to the show agenda. This can be during or after show hours (e.g. - after hours get together for shooting the bull, a get together at someone's house before or after the show). Steve and Lois Blair always welcomed collectors the day before the Springfield Show and even the evening after. Their warmth radiated and generated a "family reunion" environment that attracted collectors.

Speaking of Springfield, the show I have the most experience and history with, most of you would not have imaged the show in its infancy. Quonset Huts (metal arched building often used by the military) were the first image I have for those early years of attending. These buildings were located a Fairgrounds in London Ohio. The show was initially called the London Ohio Show. There were years when the dealers out numbered the participants. But no one cared because we were having a great time sharing our love of insulators. In those days a high percentage of the collectors worked in a related field as a lineman for the railroad or telephone company and brought so many stories about finds and things they had experienced. But the nucleus of attendees came each year to renew acquaintances. From that sound fabric of personal relationships grew the increasing interest and attendance. I was one who personally left the hobby for a period but returned ultimately to join my old friends. There is no question in my mind that the friendships enjoyed during a show are paramount to its success. So anything and everything a host can do to encourage that comradely is money and time well spent.

I have attended collectible shows where it seemed like no one really cared whether you were there. There were clichés that made one feel like an outsider. Nothing will kill a show faster. Most of us come to meet new contacts and to learn more and see more about the object we love. We used to have a saying in the Association management business: "When a company (or in this case, an event like a show), fails to meet the needs and wants of the client (participants), it will die." Just remember to ask yourself what you wanted from a show, what you expected and then supply it.

#### Food:

Gene Hawkins and Chuck Dittmar (recently deceased) are a good example for this idea. They re-invested their revenues back into the show and collectors. Of course many collectors are aware of the Friday "set up day" at Columbia City, Indiana. I have always found set up days to be special as new acquisitions are revealed from boxes and paper. The hustling crowds are on the hunt for that special deal or find. Hands are flying to get to each piece of glass or porcelain and to get that deal closed. Wheeling and dealing abounds. Chuck and Gene shut the show down by early evening to permit ample time for a presentation often focused on bottles, insulators and local glass history. All dealers are treated to



FREE PIZZA. The topping are sometimes the most unusual and tasty morsels. It must be the largest order received by the Pizza place all year as Gene purchases a variety (and I mean a variety) of 30 -35 pizzas for dinner. If you go home hungry, it is your fault. Soft drinks are on the house too. So there is a FREE LUNCH! Never met anyone who didn't like free food. The hall becomes pretty quiet as everyone is eating.

Others have used food as a centerpiece. Alan Stanskee's Annual Hog Roast attracts collectors to Ohio every year. My observation of Pig Roast is that the environment is always laid back and full of laughs. I know that some western collectors successfully do similar events. Arlen and Tina Riestra kick each year off with Sloppy Joes and Chili. There is a variety of other food and Desserts you cannot leave alone (e.g. Brownies and cookies).

Want to have some fun and reduce the work? Another collector and I were recently discussing the idea of a Chili competition. This could also be a dessert competition. I used to compete in such an event sponsored by my wife's teaching staff. Actually won one year. They had an award for taste and one for presentation. I had a stuffed dog and a dog bowl with chili in it that won both best presentation and best taste awards determined by popular vote. So that's one angle you might consider incorporating into your show. Remember collecting makes everyone hungry.

Gene and Chuck also invited the local 4-H club to serve food and earn money for their project which is always investing back into the facility we meet in. I have never made one of the pick-in shows or tailgaters, but it is on my bucket list. For smaller shows this could be a sync to pull together. Out bottle club does a yard sale with bottles and insulators being the main for sale item. But anything goes for this yard sale and you cannot believe the traffic it generates from the adjacent highway.

#### Auctions:

Arlen and Tina, with the able bodied assistance of Rick Soller, have incorporated an annual insulator / bottle auction. It has grown in popularity such that there is a morning and an afternoon session. I believe the thrill of the auction, and possible bargain(s) and many new items to pour over is always well received. Arlen and Tina's show has almost become an Auction show due to the popularity. There is also opportunity to sell some of your items for a commission that goes to the Club or some other worthy cause.

#### Freebies

Who can resist Freebies? I think sometimes people assume there is nothing worth taking the time to study what's available for free. On at least two occasions at Columbia City, I have seen veteran collectors pick up a piece that they did not own from the free table.. One of them I distinctly remember was a under-valued Hemingray 21 without drip points. Beyond the Freebie Table, I know that many collectors will give or seriously reduce prices for young collectors. Keep those young collectors involved. What fun is a show if you don't bring something back to remember the event? For kids I think it is genuinely something that turns them into lifelong collectors.

Here is an idea that I think some show committee could run with. How about an Easter Egg Hunt using insulators? Obviously once would need to have an age limit or class so there is an equal chance of winning. Another approach is a Poker Run event. We used to do this in our motorcycle club. But here we can dispense with motorcycles and keep everyone in the building. Each dealer who wants to participate, donates an insulator (s) and in return receives sealed envelopes with half a playing card inside. Each dealer provides a card to a visitor (or possible to someone who purchases something?) to their table. Prizes are on display and are numbered in order of highest or best hand, next highest, and so on. Cards are opened at a predetermined time. Then the order of hands is determined and prizes awarded.

If fund raising is an object the envelopes can be sold to raise money.

#### **Fund Raising**

Insulators are placed on display with a clipboard and sign-up sheet. A predetermined end time (suggest using an alarm clock) to end the opportunity to bid. The person bidding signs and places their bid. Must be present to win.



Please email me your ideas and approaches being used in your area, I will share in future articles.

#### **Christmas and Thanksgiving Time Event:**

Shows at this time of year could have a white elephant giveaway. Each person wanting to participate brings an insulator, lightning rod ball or bottle worth at least \$x.xx .Item is wrapped in a bag (brown paper is fine). When the person make the donation they draw a ticket that designates their order of draw. After the first draw, the next person may take from the unopened pile or steal from someone who has opened. Only 3 steals permitted. You can make up your own variations. The event could be held at the end of the day?

#### Hunting:

Some show locations have access to areas or rightsof-way where a group could hunt the area for artifacts. Another option might be a visit to a local business or historical society for an educational tour.

Featured Speaker, Former Glass Plant Worker, etc. can always generate interest and public attendance

#### **Door Prizes:**

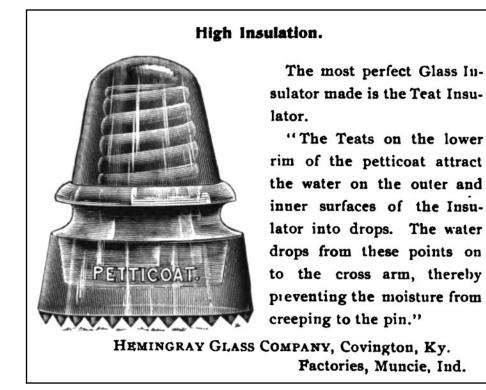
I have already kind of touched on this. Going home with something you won is a special deal you will remember.

#### **Public Notice**

Putting out a press release amply in advance can spur media attention and generate public walk-ins. Get the press release out plenty early. Media work many days to weeks scheduling their coverages. A hot story can unravel that, so be prepared. The more local interest the better. The larger the event the better (one of the largest insulator collections in the country on display, as an example). Tying the show into some charitable event (a run, a walk, a mini-marathon, etc.) These could open the show on Saturday morning. Possibly a local collector died of a disease and the local club work with an organization who fund raises for that cause?

As you can see the potential is vast. So get to work on your ideas. The more minds, the better.

Jim White



1897 The Electrical Trade - Ad compliments of http://www.hemingray.net



From sunny beaches of Florida where the weather is a little cool today.....

Well, another year is quickly passing! Summer time is approaching and it is time to have your plans in place for "the big show". Everyone is looking forward to the "National". The place to be on July 3-5, 2015 is in the LAND OF LINCOLN in Sandwich, IL at the Timber Creek Inn and Suites. There, you will have the opportunity to browse the aisles in the Convention Center and purchase the insulators that you have been wanting to add to your collection. The show hosts, Jason Townsend and Bob Stahr have worked long and hard to obtain an affordable location for this extravaganza. Remember to say "thank you" to the show hosts.

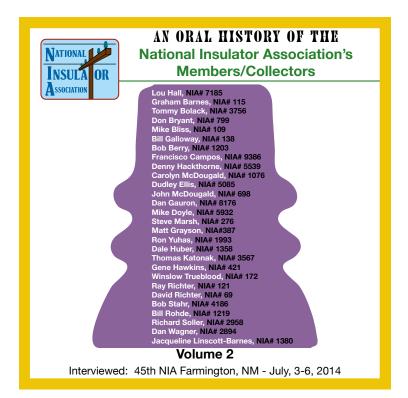
In proceeding with the Preservation of the Oral History for the hobby, my goal at this show is to interview past show hosts. I am certain that these collectors who have hosted "Nationals" will enlighten us on the "dos and don'ts" that they encountered along the way.

The DVDs from the interviews of collectors in Farmington, NM will be available for the first time in Sandwich, IL. As was with the DVD-Vol I, there are some interesting stories on Vol-2 that will entertain and delight you. You will want to quickly get your copy. I want to say a big Thank You to:

- The Collectors who so graciously volunteered to share their experiences in the hobby and agreed to be interviewed
- My grandson, Clay Bledsoe, NIA# 5581, for editing and compiling the interviews for the final copy;
- My daughter, Laura Linscott Bledsoe, NIA# 1381, for copying the DVDs for me to have for you, the collectors.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Sandwich. Travel safely and bring some interesting stories to share.

Jacqueline Linscott-Barnes







## Scholarship Committee | Kay Bryant

NIA# 4099

This was a banner year for the scholarship program....45 applications ! This the best year to date. Your committee is hard at work at the selection process. The winner will be notified at the end of May and the award will be presented at the NIA convention in July.

Our volume continues to grow each year but we also must be mindful that each year we need funds for this worthwhile project. Please encourage your clubs and groups as well as individuals to make a donation to the scholarship fund. This is a tax deductible donation. Scholarship brochures are available on request. Perhaps an insulator display at your local library would attract some attention of potential collectors. I did one at the local library and people were very interested in the story of the insulator. This is also a great subject for the children's department in your local school libraries. Remember there are great lesson plans on line that teachers can access for a class presentation. Go to <u>http://www.nia.org/education</u>.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago.... happy travels !

Kay Bryant

## For High Potential Power Transmission



## "PROVO TYPE" HIGH POTENTIAL INSULATOR.

This Insulator was designed by V. G. Converse, E. E., for the Telluride Power Transmission Company of Provo, Utah. It has been in successful operation for more than a year at Mercur, Colo., carrying a current of 40,000 volts. Manufactured and guaranteed by

HEMINGRAY GLASS CO., Covington, Ky., Manufacturers of Glass Insulators for all purposes.



1898 Western Electrician - Ad compliments of http://www.hemingray.net

## **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 <u>publications@nia.org</u>





46th NIA Convention | 2015 Sandwich, IL

**"Sunflower Yellow"** 

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



Embossed on the base of the commemorative



Embossed on the dome of the commemorative

#### 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 commemorative strugg volume 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 2015 Commemorative Carolyn Berry 1010 Wren Court Round Rock, TX 78681 Please make checks payable to: NIA Phone orders: (512) 255-2006 Email orders: pyrex553@aol.com 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.



## Special Projects Advisor | Mike Doyle

Now that we have returned all of the donated insulators to the hobby through various means, Special Projects has two new irons in the fire. First, I am working to get the hobby publications that have been donated to the NIA digitized. This will allow the publications to be distributed electronically. Exactly how that is going to be implemented has not yet been determined. If you have opinions or suggestions for how that could be done I'd love to hear from you. Contact me directly please using PROJECTS@NIA.ORG.

Second, I am continuing to work with the McDougalds to update the existing two volume set of their classic publication, "A History and Guide to North American Pintype Insulators".

The original edition is already available on-line using: http://nia.org/history and guide/index.htm. The process has lots of twists and turns and there are still many, many months of work ahead. If you are an expert in any particular field of the hobby and you would like to see 'Your Section' of the existing McDougald text updated to reflect what we know today I urge you to send me your new, updated original content. This is your opportunity to share your knowledge and the fruit of your research with the entire hobby and indeed the digital world! Send your inputs to PROJECTS@NIA.ORG.

On a personal note, Lou Hall and I plan to attend a new event this spring in Logan, Utah hosted by Don & Jeanne Briel. So \*\*\* Bring Your Brackets \*\*\* We will also be heading east to Colorado Springs, Colorado for Dan Gauron's event. So, please, \*\*\* Bring Your Brackets \*\*\* And we will be in Lostine Oregon later this year to attend Howard & Linda Banks' get-together. So \*\*\* Bring Your EC&Ms and Cal Electrics \*\*\*. I'd like to thank Kat & Bill Rohde and all of their friends and neighbors for helping to make this year's Insulator Roundup and Deep Pit Tri-Tip BBQ another amazing event. I have included a few Rohde Round-Up pictures with my submission to Shaun in the hope that there will be room to include them in this issue.

Mike Doyle



Arnie Lowenstein's sales table.

**Beautiful San Francisco wood insulators** 





Sacramento's Larry Shoemaker

Kat McClanahan and Bill Rohde our gracious hosts.



Amazing "Prism Provos" sold by Exeter's Dave Brown.

Ron Jenkins - One of the Three Amigos - Ron, Craig & Jon will host their show this fall in Antelope Valley, CA

Fresno's Curt Randles

Oregon's Mid Norris takes a look at some of the jewels on Dwayne's table.

James Doty checking out some of the insulators brought by Lou Hall.

Jim and Paul having a look at insulators



Manteca's LuLu Harrison

Fresno's Lou Hall, NIA 1st Past President, helping set up on Friday.

Dwayne Anthony doin' a bit of edgin' during Friday morning setup.

6

Partial set-up crew (from left) Lou Hall, Will Rohde , Bill Rohde, Bob McLaughlin, Dwayne Anthony, Bill Heitkotter









The Montana Power Company was formed on December 12, 1912, in Butte through the merger of the Butte Electric and Power Company with three of its subsidiaries: the Madison River Power Company, the Billings and Eastern Montana Power Company, and the Missoula River Power Company. A few months later, the two remaining large power producers in Montana, the Great Falls Water Power and Townsite Company, and the Thompson Falls Power Company, were taken into the company by acquisition of stock control. The properties owned by the formerly independent small companies included hydroelectric generating plants steam electric plants; many also had contracts to provide power for street railways, mills, and other interests. Montana Power Company continued to acquire companies after 1912, adding approximately fifty more companies by the early 1950s.

The company has since expanded into related businesses, including natural gas, oil, and coal, and providing telecommunications services. In 2000, it sold its generating and transmission assets in Montana and became Touch America, a telecommunications company.

From the finding aid for Montana Power Company Records 1892-1967 (Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library Archives and Special Collections)

The Montana Power Company was incorporated on December 12, 1912, as a result of a merger of the Butte Electric and Power Company, the Madison River Power Company, the United Missouri River Power Company, and the Billings and Eastern Montana Power Company. The merger was brought about by John D. Ryan, head of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, and John G. Morony, president of the First National Bank of Great Falls. Each of the constituent



By Doug Rusher

companies had been formed as the result of mergers of earlier companies.

The Butte Electric and Power Company, was formed in 1901 to take over the assets and liabilities of the Butte Lighting and Power Company, which was, in turn, the successor to several local Butte power generating plants, including the Brush Electric Light and Power Company, the Silver Bow Electric Light Company, the Butte Electric Light and Power Company, the Silver Bow Electric Light and Power Company, the Butte General Electric Company, the Phoenix Electric Company, the Butte Gas Light and Coke Company, and others. The Butte Electric and Power Company's properties also included a hydro-electric power station on the Big Hole River from The Montana Power Transmission Company, successor to the Big Hole Improvement Company; and a majority interest in several Great Falls companies including the Great Falls Street Railway Company, the Boston and Great Falls Electric and Power Company, and the Great Falls Electric Properties.

The Missouri River Electric and Power Company, was organized in 1911, as a successor to the United Missouri River Power Company (UMRPC), which had gone into receivership. The UMRPC was itself a merger of the Missouri River Power Company, the Capital City Power Company, and the Helena Power Transmission Company. By 1912 the successor company owned most of the hydro-electric facilities on the Missouri River, including the first Canyon Ferry Dam completed in 1898 by the Helena Water and Electric Power Company; the Hauser Dam built in 1907 by the Helena Power Transmission Company; and the Holter Dam, begun around 1907 by the Capital City Power Company; and, due to financial difficulties, not completed until after the merger into Montana Power Company.

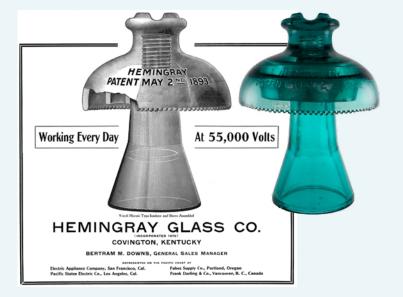


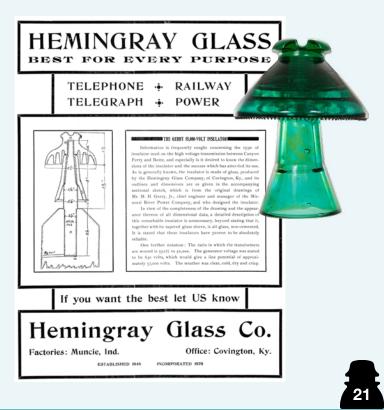
The Madison River Power Company was organized in 1905 by Butte Electric and Power Company interests to take over the Nunn power plant on the Madison River from The Power Company. The Madison River Power Company also constructed the Lower Madison Development in 1906 and transmission lines to Butte. In addition the Company acquired the Bozeman Electric Light Company, the Bozeman Street Railway Company, the Gallatin Light, Power and Railway Company, and the Livingston Water Power Company.

The Billings and Eastern Montana Power Company was organized in 1908 to take over various power developments along the Yellowstone River, including the Yegan Brothers properties, the Yellowstone River Power Company, the Billings Water Power Company, the Montana Trading Company, and the Big Timber Electric Light and Power Company.

After the organization of the Montana Power Company in 1912, the company continued to consolidate power developments around the state. In 1929 several major systems were acquired. The Missoula Public Service Company, was a merger of the Missoula Light and Water Company and the Missoula Street Railway Company both developed by William A. Clark. The various Helena properties which had been consolidated under the Helena Gas and Electric Company in 1927, also became part of Montana Power Company in 1929. A third major acquisition in 1929 was the Thompson Falls Power Company, including its predecessor the Northwestern Development Company. The Great Falls Townsite Company, the Great Falls Power Company, and the Great Falls Street Railway Company were all acquired by Montana Power Company between 1931 and 1936. The last major system acquired before World War II was the Union Electric Company of Dillon, which included the properties of its predecessors the Rife Electric Company and the Dillon Electric Light and Power Company. In addition, many local utilities were added for which there are no records in this collection.

One of the most early lines used all Hemingray products, such as the Canyon Ferry Line, the A and B Line which ran from Canyon Ferry Dam to Butte which used CD 303/310 Muncies and where more difficult span required the CD 304/310 Coolie Hats (because of the NO neck design), started construction in 1899 and was supplying power by 1902. This line supplied power to many mines along the way as well as power to many small mining towns. This Line was one of The Missouri River Power Company's first big lines and lasted well into the 1980's with a lot of the poles still in use today.





One of the earliest lines I wanted to highlight on is the Madison line. It began construction in 1899 from the Madison Dam (near Ennis) to Butte and used a special designed pole with a mortised cross arm and pin design that used pins that were 28" long for the center pin and a pin that was 24" long on each side of the cross arm and used CD 283 Hemingray No 1 Provos. Justin Martin has been on the line and made some great finds, and once in a while has a pin for sale. They are really something to see. Thanks to Justin for these great pics of a piece of Montana's early power line history.



Photo from 1899 of the Madison Line. Note the pin length with the CD 283 No1 Provos





One of the Madison Poles. Note the Mortised Cross Arm and Pins



One of the last standing poles off of the Madison Line (still standing from 1899)





Center Pin 28" and Cross Arm Pin 24" Long



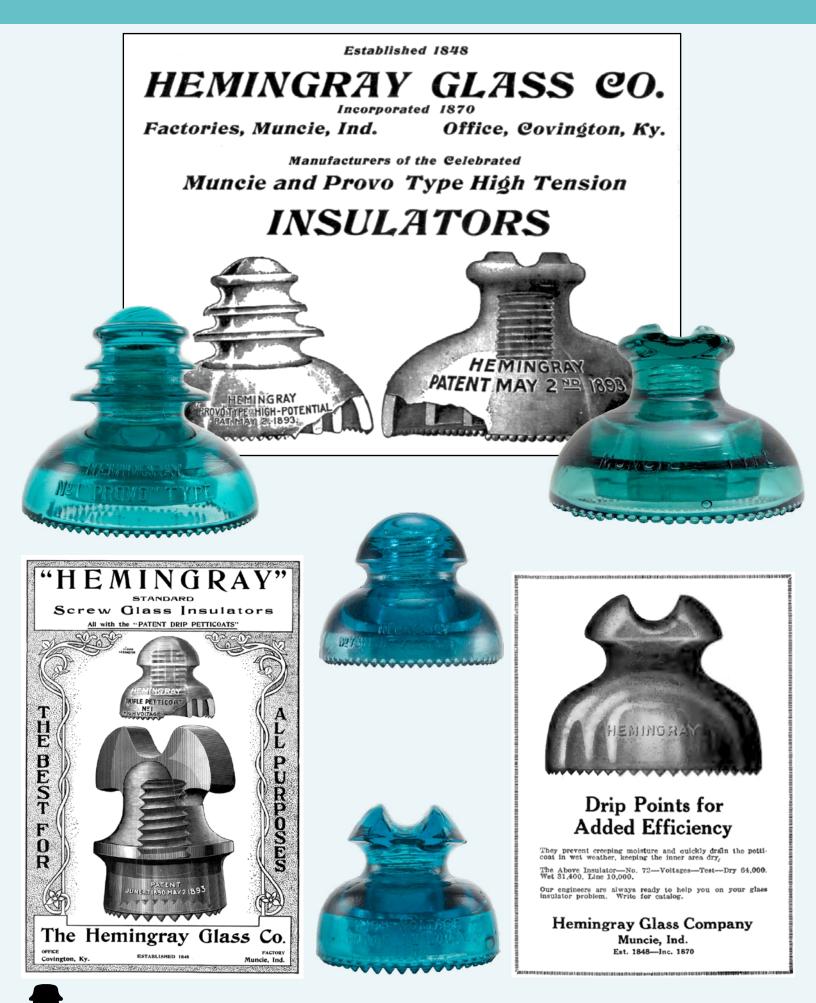
Here's a photo of Justin with one of the original pole tops from the Madison Line. You can see how long the center pin stuck up above the pole top.











# FOWER GLASS USED IN MONTANA

Some of the top Areas and Insulators Used

## HILIPSBURG

CD 302 Hemingray Muncie Type Aqua CD 162 HG Co Sage Green CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua CD 283 No 1 Provo

## BUTTE

CD 295 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua CD 263 Smooth Base Columbia CD 295 Hemingray No 72 Aqua, bluish Aqua CD 280 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua CD 281 No 1 HV Triple Petticoat CD 282 No 2 Provo Aqua CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua CD 162 No 19 Yellow Green CD 162 HG Co Petticoat Ice Aquq CD 257 Aqua, Greenish Aqua, Ice Aqua CD 303/310 Muncie, No 76 Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 304/310 Coolie Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## ANACONDA

CD 257 Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 280 HV Triple Petticoat CD 281 No 1 HV Triple Petticoat CD 303/310 Muncie Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 304/310 Coolie Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 162 No 19 Forest Green, Sage, Celery Green, Ice Green

## HELENA

CD 295 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua CD 302 Hemingray Muncie type Aqua CD 295 Hemingray No 72 Aqua, bluish Aqua CD 241 No 23 Hemingray Blue, Aqua CD 252 Hemingray No 2 Cable Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 282 No 2 Provo Aqua CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua CD 257 Aqua, Greenish Aqua, Ice Aqua CD 303/310 Muncie, No 76 Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 304/310 Coolie Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 283 No1 Provo Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## **GREAT FALLS**

CD 162 No 19 Root Beer Amber, Red Amber, Honey Amber, Orange Amber, Golden Amber & Yellow CD 302 Muncie Type Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 252 Hemingray No 62 Aqua CD 252 No 2 Cable Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 241 No 23 Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## CONRAD

CD 283 No1 Provo Aqua

## TRIDENT

CD 307 High Potential Triple Petticoat Cable Aqua, Aqua with Milky Swirls

## BILLINGS

CD 162 HG Petticoat Lilac CD 257 Aqua, Bluish Aqua, Greenish Aqua CD 252 No 62 Hemingray Blue CD 241 No 23 Hemingray Blue

## SHERIDAN

CD 257 Aqua

## ENNIS

CD 241 No 23 Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## LEWISTOWN

CD 241 No 23 Aqua CD 302 Muncie Type Hemingray Blue

## ROUNDUP

CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## DEER LODGE

CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua with Amber Bases, Aqua CD 303/310 Muncie Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 304/310 Coolie Aqua, Bluish Aqua

## BELT

CD 302 Muncie Type Aqua, Bluish Aqua CD 302 Muncie OHIO Aqua, Bluish Aqua



## CRAIG

CD 302 Muncie Type Aqua

#### BELGRADE

CD 303/310 Muncie Hemingray Blue CD 252 No 62 Hemingray Blue CORBIN CD 257 Aqua CD 295 No 72 Aqua, Hemingray Blue CD 303/310 Muncie, No76 Aqua CD 304/310 Coolie Aqua, Bluish Aqua

DILLON CD 303 Muncie (NO 310 Base) Aqua, Bluish Aqua

**BIG TIMBER** CD 303/310 Muncie Aqua, Bluish Aqua

REED POINT CD 248/311/311 No 79 Aqua, Bluish Aqua

WHITHALL CD 280 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua, CD 281 No1 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua

BASIN CD 303/310 Muncie Aqua, Bluish Aqua

MARYSVILLE CD 303 Muncie (NO Base) Aqua, Bluish Aqua

POLSON CD 257 Clear

MADISON DAM CD 280 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua, CD 281 No1 HV Triple Petticoat Aqua CD 283 No1 Provo



#### FOR HIGH POTENTIAL POWER Transmission Juse "Provo type" High Potential Insulator.

This Insulator was designed by V. G. Converse, E.E., for the Telluride Power Fransmission Company of Provo, Utah, It has been in successful operation for more than a year at Mercur, Colorado, carrying a current of 40,000 volts.

Manufactured and Guaranteed by HEMINGRAY GLASS CO. COVINGTON, KY.



#### SOME OF THE HEMINGRAY PRODUCTS USED IN MONTANA







CD 257 Mickeys and CD 252 Hemingray No 2 Cables on top Cross Arm CD 162 No 19 on Bottom Cross Arm which is a 4 KV Circuit from Butte MT Photo by Justin Martin





For you Insulator Hunters that like to Hike and hunt, here's some of the lines and a Brief Description of the Location:

From Hauser and Canyon Ferry Dam (by Helena) to Butte Canyon Ferry A and B line, Muncies, Coolies and a few Stackers Warm Springs Creek by Clancy mt to Elkhorn #2 provo Line

Belt Mt to East end of Great Falls 7" Muncies Craig Mt 7" Muncies

Boulder Mt to Radersburg Mt Muncie with Bases

Boulder Mt to The Comet Mine Muncies with Bases

Madison Dam to three forks Muncies with Base

Madison Dam to Butte No 1 Provos

Madison Dam to Trident No 1 HV triple Petticoat and HV triple Petticoats

Trident Mt HV Potential Triple Petticoat

Butte and surrounding area, CD 263 Columbia, Muncies, Coolies, Stackers, No 1 Provo, Mickeys HG Petticoats and No 19's. Deer Lodge Mt Amber Base and Aqua Stackers

Red Lodge Mt Amber Base and Aqua Stackers

Reed Point to Aqua Stackers

Bozeman Mt to Belgrade Hemi Blue Muncies with Bases

Lewistown Mt 7" Muncies in Hemingray Blue

Billings Mt HG petticoat in Lilac, Mickeys, NO 23 in Hemingray Blue and Hemingray No95 Mine Insulator

Great Falls Mt 162's in yellow amber, root beer amber and all different shade of dark amber, No 23 and 7" Muncies Livingston Mt to Big Timber Muncies with Bases

Corbin Mt Mickeys on line heading West

Georgetown to Philipsburg #2 Provos

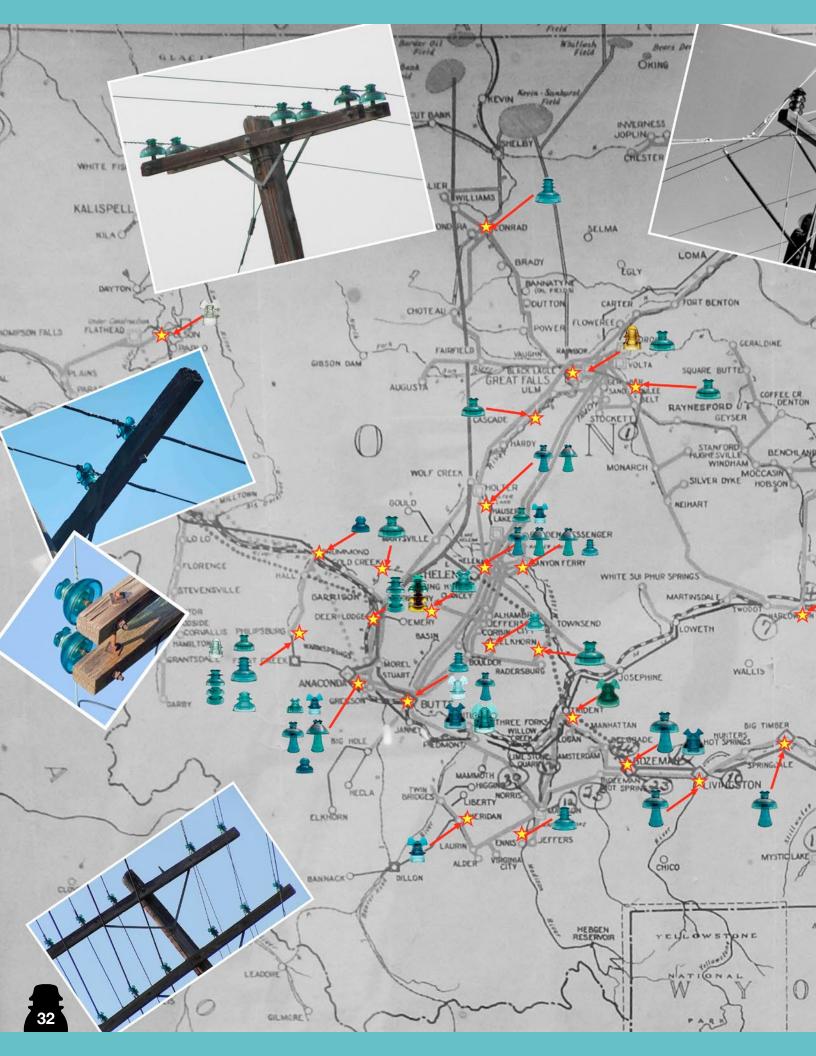
Philipsburg and surrounding area #2 Provo, #1 Provo Stackers in Aqua, 162 in sage green

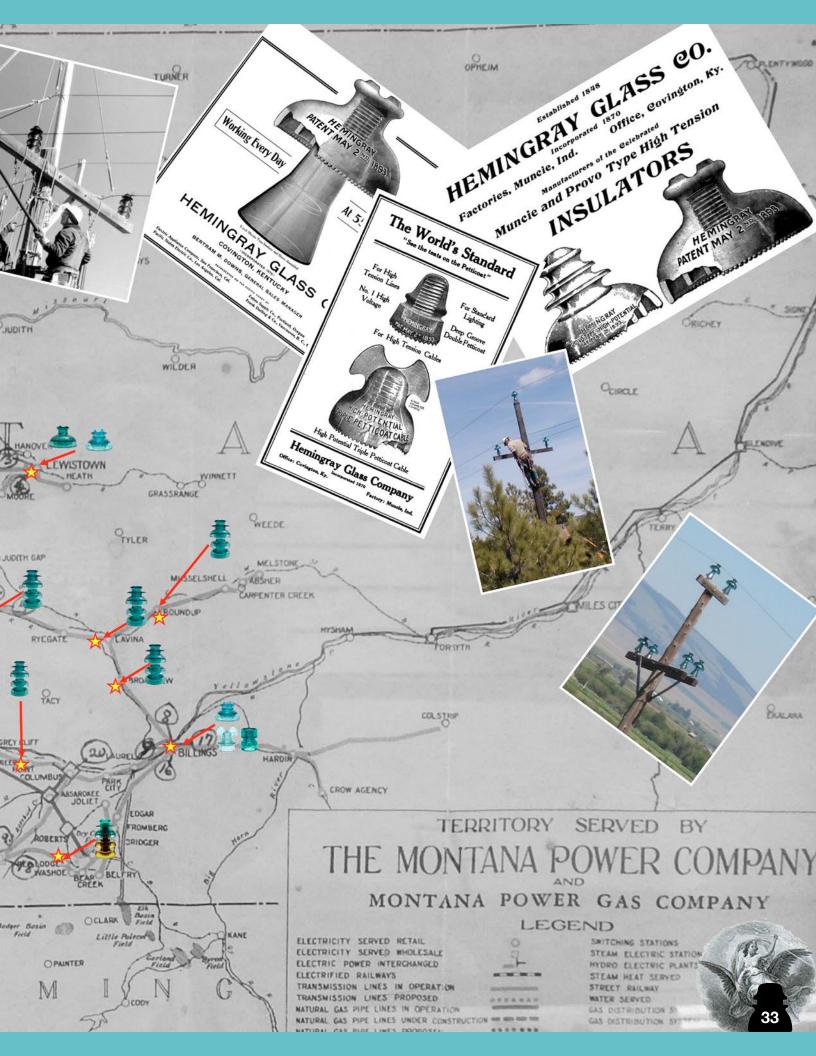
#### Polson Mt Mickeys in Clear

This is just a very Few places, and a few of the lines that ran thru the area. A BIG Thanks to Ron Yuhas and Justin Martin for helping me out on the Locations of these Historic Places and Lines.

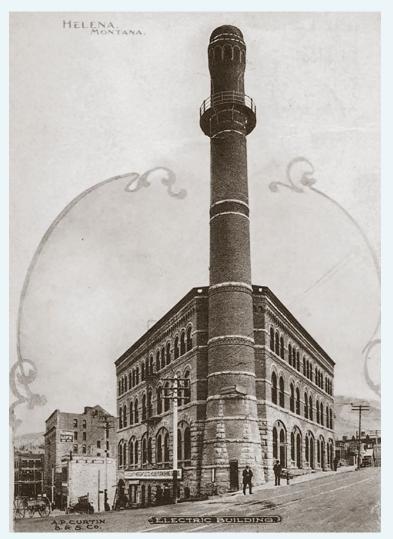








Built in 1886, the Electric Building (later called the Electric Block) had coal-fired steam dynamos in the basement that generated Helena's electricity until 1898, when hydroelectric power from the first Canyon Ferry Dam came on-line. The 120-foot tall stone and brick chimney was subsequently removed, and an additional story was added to the building, the line that fed Helena from Canyon Ferry Dam to Helena used Hemingray #1 Provo's and was one of the First lines to supply power to Helena in 1898



#### ST. PAUL & DULUTH, MINN.

#### HEMINGRAY GLASS INSULATORS





No. 74



Nos. 75 and 76



with No. 77 Sleeve



47

No. 72

No. 73

No. 71 HIGH VOLTAGE (OLD No. 1) Trade Voltage Test Std. Wt ba Price No. Dry Wet Line Pkg. per1000 036454 55400 31000 10000 Dimensions, inches: Height, 3¾; diameter, 4⅔; groove, ⅔.

 No. 72 HIGH VOLTAGE (OLD No. 4)

 83917
 64000
 31400
 10000
 100
 2700
 82.50

 Dimensions, inches:
 Height, 4;
 diameter, 4¾;
 4¾;

 top groove, 1 inch; side groove, ¾.
 54.
 54.

 No. 73 PROVO TYPE (OLD No. 2)

 036455
 74400
 43800
 15000
 60
 3600
 150.00

 Dimensions, inches:
 Height, 43/4;
 diameter, 51/2;
 51/2;

 top groove, 3/4;
 bottom groove, 1/2.
 1/2.

 No. 74 PROVO TYPE (OLD No. 1)

 036453
 93700
 55200
 19000
 25
 7000
 225.00

 Dimensions, inches:
 Height, 6; diameter, 7; top

 groove, 5%; center groove, 3%; bottom groove, 1½.

 Made for standard 1-inch and special 13%-inch pins.

No. 75 (7-INCH) MUNCIE TYPE 036452 86200 50100 17000 30 6200 225.00 Dimensions, inches: Height, 47/5; diameter, 7; groove, 7/5.

Made for standard 1-inch and special  $1\frac{3}{8}$ -inch pins.

No. 76 (9-INCH) MUNCIE TYPE

83918 95000 80000 22000 16 11250 375.00 Dimensions, inches: Height, 57%; diameter, 9; groove, 7%.

No. 77 (9-INCH) MUNCIE SLEEVE 83919 ..... 32 5400 262.50 Dimensions, inches: Height, 8; diameter, 5½.

No. 78 (9-INCH) MUNCIE TYPE ASSEMBLED 83920 110000 95000 33000 8 18125 637.50 Dimensions, inches: Height, 137/s; diameter, 9; groove, 7/s.

#### Photo Credit:

Justin Martin - Vintage photos & Hemingray insulators "In use" photos Doug Rusher - Hemingray insulators "In use" photos Ron Yuhas - Hemingray insulators "In use" photos Christian Willis - Insulator photos - <u>http://hemingray.info</u> Nathan Lamkey - Insulator photos Shaun Kotlarsky - Insulator photos - <u>http://www.allinsulators.com</u> Shaun Kotlarsky - Vintage Hemingray Ads - <u>http://www.hemingray.net</u>





Insulators and economics are two things rarely discussed in the same sentence, which is a pity, as it really should be. There are several thousand active insulator collectors out there by any best estimate, and probably several thousand more casual collectors. The number of people who are aware of the organized hobby, our classification systems, organizations and the like are probably well under the ten thousand mark. For a hobby that has been organized for around fifty years, we are an oddly underground and obscure group of people. However, that has not stopped rare insulators from achieving incredible prices.

Now, there are in fact a great many rare insulators out there, I've owned or own a few myself, and I think any halfway serious collector can acquire numerical rarities, especially if they collect porcelain. Then we have insulators that are in constant high demand due to style, color or some other feature. CD 257 is a good example of that, where even common styles stay around the \$30 mark, despite there being literally thousands and thousands of the little buggers running around. There is enough variety, and enough collectors and non collectors who want them, where the price stays fairly consistent. Same goes with a purple CD 154 Whitall Tatum. Common piece, but a high enough demand. There are enough to go around for everyone who wants a handful, but like the CD 257, it is not so common as to be unable to hold any value (like say, a clear CD 155 Hemingray).

Then we have insulators that are simply overrated in the hobby. A lot of this is born of the fact we are a small hobby, and only going back a few decades. The mythology and "rarities" from the 1960's and 70's still influence our hobby and our buying decisions. Take a look at aqua CD 123. Unless they have a truly mint base, or some other outstanding feature, they aren't all that uncommon. Yet even chipped up base specimens constantly break the \$125 mark. Or try. The last several shows I've gone to have been marked by at least three or four plain Jane, boring CD 123 with the typical chipped up base not moving for \$125. Why? Because while quality EC&M may fetch good money, and while Eastern collectors may snap them up at any price, the reality is that they aren't all that uncommon, but they have a mystigue about them born of the early days of the hobby that keeps people asking high prices for common stuff. The same applies to a lot of colored Hemingray signals. I've long believed that cobalt blue CD 162's are grossly overrated. When eBay and the internet showed up, and suddenly people around the nation could quickly trade in these things, prices plummeted when the real rarity was revealed. They are pretty, but in many cases, especially in later production, they just aren't all that rare. If they didn't have the "Oh my god cobalt blue!" propaganda machine behind them, I suspect a run of the mill round drip Hemi 19 would push the \$100-\$150 mark.

Of course insulators that are more common than the carefully cultivated folk wisdom within our hobby are one problem. Another problem is when a single person or small group can effectively hoard enough insulators to influence the market price. The U-395 is a porcelain version of the CD 257. Most come in a rather uninspiring brown color, and there are at least a few hundred running around in the hobby. In the porcelain world that makes them uncommon. I've personally handled four or five in the last year, sold one, and have a line on another. In other words, uncommon, perhaps even scarce, but not that unattainable. Yet a rather mediocre specimen recently sold for over \$600 in a heavily promoted catalog sale. This is directly attributable to the actions of a single individual who stockpiles as many U-395 as he possibly can, and is willing to pay any price to acquire them. This in turn negatively effects the supply available to normal collectors, and creates an artificial illusion of high value and rarity.

By Steve Coffman

Now, you might argue that an insulator is worth exactly what somebody will pay for it, which on a technical level is correct. However, if we drew a demand curve showing what people are willing to pay, and what people are willing to sell for, we will soon find that the actions of a single outlier do not represent the actual market. Owners of a piece may happily sell at absurd prices, but if there is only a single buyer at those prices, then either one person winds up controlling the market, or they run out of money, or refuse to pay consistent high prices as well. However, when we are dealing with objects where only a couple hundred are accounted for, pulling 40-50 units off the market has a negative effect on the rest of the units. The person stockpiling identical units cannot release them all onto the market at once, as it would collapse the market, legitimate collectors seeking to acquire a single unit must now compete in a smaller pool of available units which drives prices up, and the person essentially cornering the market on a single piece can soon quietly sell off single pieces at artificially inflated prices. In other words, in this hobby, it is entirely possible for a small group of individuals to dominate the market if they can control enough pieces.

The sad fact is, there are at least two documented cases of pieces being stockpiled to the point of affecting the market, and probably more. The insulator game is an easy one to manipulate if you have deep enough pockets and can sit back and feed your ego, or make the market dance to your tune, while laughing all the way to the bank. If we strip away all the mythology on what is "rare" from our early years, ignore the propaganda coming from the people who benefit most from it, and refuse to sell to people trying to control a market, or feed their ego by building hoards, I do believe we'll find that most insulators really aren't as rare as we've been taught to believe.

Editors Note: Opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the NIA.





#### Hales Bar and the Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company

A Brief History and Transmission Line Study

#### Harnessing the Grand Canyon of Tennessee

The Tennessee River throughout the 1800s was an important part of the nations' growing economy. Common products transported down the river by steamboat included cotton, manufactured goods, coal, and ores. A dangerous section South of Chattanooga called the Tennessee River Gorge, nicknamed the Grand Canyon of Tennessee, contained numerous whirlpools and fast waters hard for navigation. The government knew of these rough waters and decided to act upon it given the river is a valuable transportation route.





Major Dan C. Kingman

Beginning in 1900, assessments made by US Army Corps of Engineers Major Dan C. Kingman were conducted for the construction of a dam, both a necessity for the purpose of electrical generation and improving river navigation. Four years after the initial survey, a bill was passed by John A. Moon stating that a dam was to be built and operated by private interest with the government holding the title. Thus, several businessmen created an organization to meet the needs underlined by the bill and surveys made.

#### The Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company

Incorporation of The Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company by three men, Josephus C. Guild, Charles E. James, and Anthony N. Brady was in 1905. These three men brought together the necessary finances, a prelude to a long, difficult venture of damming the Tennessee River at Hales Bar. Hales Bar being chosen on behalf of the land creating a natural land bar into the river. With the site chosen and an incredible about of labor necessary for the undertaking, two towns were built for the purpose of housing an estimated 3000 workers. The first town, Guild, named after Josephus Guild was constructed in the domain of Hales Bar. The second, Ladd, was built around the newly created junction of the Nash-ville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway and 3 ½ mile spur railroad to Hales Bar upstream.



#### **Engineering Feats, Bankrupt Contractors & Tragedy**

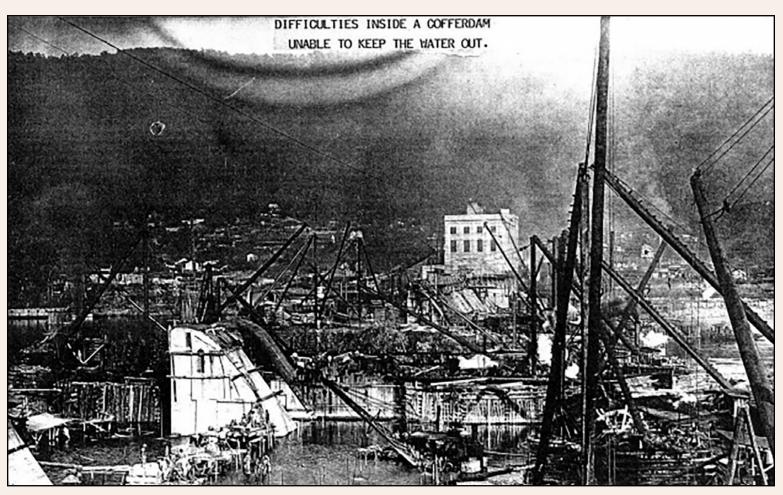
Construction of the dam began in October of 1905 under the direction of William J. Oliver & Company. Mr. William lead the project until November 1907 when, after multiple incidents, the cofferdam constructed was insufficient. Mr. William had stated the cofferdam had seepage beneath it and would not hold back the water enough to continue building efforts. Even with the main dam completed, seepage would still present issues. Three other engineers took control and went into bankruptcy between November of 1907 and December of 1909: T. J. Shea, Ballie-Dumary, and Flaharty, respectively. In 1910, Jocabs & Davis lead the construction developing a technique of drilling holes for exploration and making caissons both on the upstream and downstream sides of the structure. The company also pressure grouted the dam foundation to further prevent leakage.



William J. Oliver is credited with contract work including building hundreds of miles of railroad in the Southeast and submitting the initial winning bid but abandoned shortly after for construction of the Panama Canal.

Numerous troubles and engineering feats plagued the project during

construction from 1905-1913. The Tennessee River deemed a navigational river; the dam posed an obstruction to navigation of steamers and barges. US Army Corps of Engineers required a lock to be built. A modern marvel and engineering feat, Hales Bar Dam's was the tallest single-lift lock in the world. Tragic events during construction of the dam included epidemics, murders, racial tensions, and work site accidents causing many deaths. After 9 years of construction, Hales Bar finally opened at the grand total of \$10,000,000 on November 13th, 1913 with a grand opening and celebration. The city of Chattanooga entered upon the electrical era.



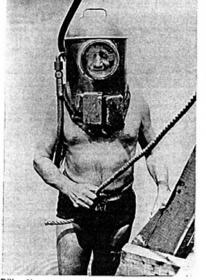


#### EXCAVATIONS MUST GO 50 FEET UNDER THE RIVER

Even after the work is started there will be many different features of the job to consider. In building the dam excavation will have to be made 50 feet under the river bed before solid rock is struck. It is said



that there is a layer of sand fifty feet deep under the river through which the water penetrates. All of this sand will have to be removed in the immediate section of the dam, as the water would work under a cofferdam through the sand unless the shells went clear through to solid rock. Before the work on the dam can start, the river will have to be

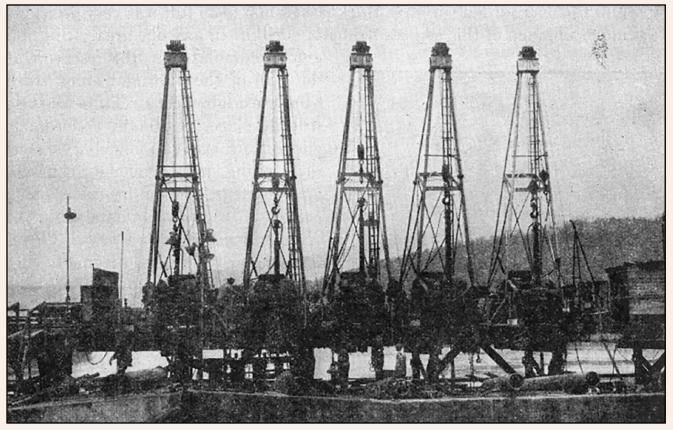


Dillan Hemstread was the main diver at the Time of building the Dam. Diving to get the base (tiles) etc, in the proper place.

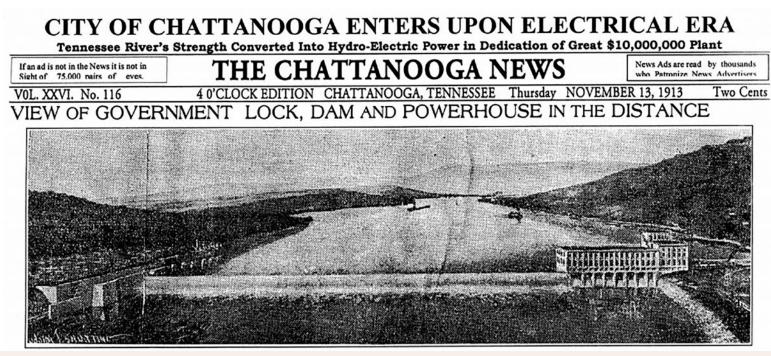
pumped dry of the water in the immediate vicinity of the section of which the dam is being constructed. Appliances and machinery will have to be put in place, which will prevent any section of the coffer dam from giving away and catching the men who are working on the foundations of the dam, fifty feet below the surface of the river bed.



Greatest Care Necessary at All Times.



48" diameter drill rigs for creating holes in below the dam filled with grout to reduce leakage.



Details of Hales Bar Dam, Powerhouse, & Chattanooga Substation

The dam at Hales Bar is 1200 ft. long and 52 ft. high made of cyclopean concrete. On the West end of the structure, the lock was located with a width of 60 ft., length of 265 ft., and lift of 41 ft. It became the tallest lock in the world when complete in 1913. Positioned on the East end of the dam are the powerhouse and transformer house, 66 ft. wide by 353 ft. long constructed of steel framed concrete in uniform architecture. The powerhouse is broken into the generator room and the transformer house, the powerhouse a single story, and transformer house three stories and roof top. Within the powerhouse, fourteen turbine shafts, each having three separate turbines, were connected by vertical drive shaft to generators at the up most end. Initially two turbines drove the generators with a third turbine in reserve. The General Electric ac generators were 3000 kw, three-phase, 60 cycles, 6600 volts, with 112.5 rpm. At the time of opening, ten of the fourteen generators were installed with accompanying apparatus. Six exciters, two located on generator shafts and four others occupied the floor of the powerhouse near the

switchboard. Also in the room were six step-down transformers, five installed at opening, three for the exciters and two for powerhouse lighting and power. The main switchboard was above the step-down transformers and a 60-ton crane for repairs was installed capable of running the length of the room.

Alternating current lines from the generators run into the main floor of the transformer house where, after oil circuit breakers, fifteen 44,000 volt step-up transformers were stationed in separate housings. From the transformers the two 44,000 volt AC circuit lines ran through oil circuit breakers and choke coils on the second and third stories and to the roof of the building. On transformer house roof, the lines are connected to horn lightning arrestors upon roof-mounted steel towers. From the towers, the two 44,000 volt circuits leave on the transmission line into Chattanooga. The transformer houses have room for a third auxiliary transmission line in case of emergency. This emergency line was never installed.



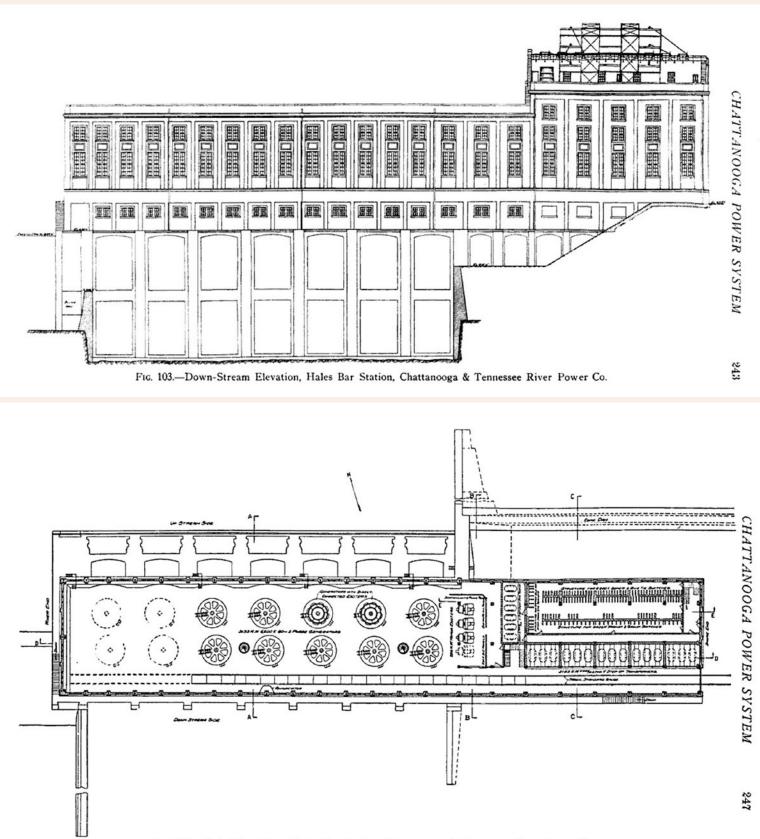
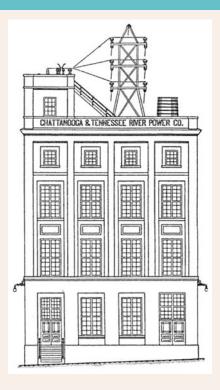


FIG. 107.-Main Floor Plan, Hales Bar Station, Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Co.

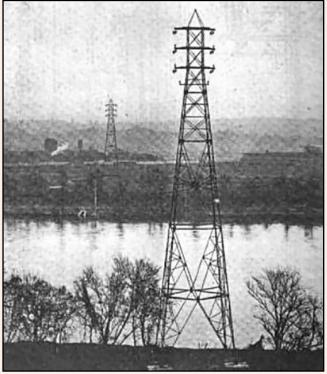




The substation in Chattanooga is built of similar architecture to the Hales Bar powerhouse in reinforced concrete, 69 ft. by 55 ft., and three stories tall including a basement. The two 44,000 volt lines entered by steel towers with horn lightning arrestors on the roof of the building and trough oil circuit breakers and choke coils on the third and second floors in identical arrangement to the powerhouse. Three step-down transformers, a single generator for storage batteries, and the main switchboard were located on the third floor. Storage batteries were housed in the basement of the substation. On the main floor, nine 40,000 volt step-down transformers brought voltages down to 4000 and 2300 volt ac circuit lines suitable for distribution in the city on wooden poles.

#### Hales Bar Transmission Line

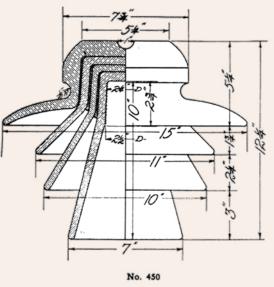
The Hales Bar-Chattanooga transmission line was a two-circuit, three phase, 44,000 volt line supported on a 175 tower line. Steel was manufactured by Carnegie for the tripartite pintype line towers. Each tower leg is mounted in cement pilings of different sizes depending on standard, corner, railroad or river crossing tower types. Lines dead ended at corner towers. The towers held six, excluding the river crossings where different wire was used, No. 000 bare copper line conductors, two per crossarm, and a single steel static wire clamped atop grounded periodically. Height of the towers varied from 35, 40, 45, and 60 ft. with the Tennessee River crossing towers at 150 and 170 ft. The line crossed road of the former North Carolina & St. Louis Railroad six times; crossings used heavy set towers 60 ft. in height and crossed the river twice over Moccasin Bend. Ordinary line spans ranged from 150 to 700 ft. with the span over the river 1400 and 1500 ft. respectively. The transmission line was constructed to be extremely heavy duty and with proper maintenance, would provide exceptional service to the city of Chattanooga.



The river crossing towers at Moccasin Bend in Chattanooga.



Heavy porcelain line insulators, M-4412, were made by both the New Lexington Company and R. Thomas Sons & Company. Strain insulators were early porcelain tension type made by the Ohio Brass Company and sold under the General Electric Company. The M-4412 were cemented onto malleable iron pins and bolted onto the tower crossarms. Thus far, only one example of the line pin has been found along with examples of iron tie wire clamps. The New Lexington M-4412 are



led reds and browns. One example of each a small and large crown marked JOHN-MANSVILLE have been discovered. Thomas made M-4412 have been found unmarked with the exception of makers markings. Colors of the Thomas M-4412 are in dark colors of reds and browns. A very interesting discovery along the transmission line is the evidence of storage sheds. Small limestone foundations of wooden buildings have been found in close proximity to towers about every fifth tower. Evidence of three M-4412

marked NEW LEXINGTON, O. on the large bulbous crown and come in later N-L colors such as speck-

were found around each storage building in addition to the six tower insulators.



M-4412 Insulators repaired by Michael Spadafora.



#### Water Under the Dam

Since completion of the Hales Bar dam in November, 1913, troubles regarding seepage was identified immediately and the first method to fix the issue began in 1914 with dumping crushed rock around the worst spots. It didn't work. In 1915, another method involved divers laying rags over the holes and pumping concrete over them to stop water flow. This also was a failure. Within the next few years several techniques were tried, the most absurd being laying corsets over the holes and pumping concrete over them, all of the methods produce the same outcome. Old holes plugged would create new holes elsewhere. In 1919, the company drilled long holes from tunnels inside the dam and poured hot asphalt within. The project continued until 1922, when trouble from leakage ceased for a short period of time. During this time, the four additional turbine and generator sets and duplicate apparatus were installed, maximizing the power plants capacity.



#### The Tennessee Electric Power Company

In 1920, a company merger was announced between the Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company, Chattanooga Railway & Light Company, Nashville Railway & Light Company, and the Tennessee Power Company to form the Tennessee Electric Power Company. The Attorney General of Tennessee filed a lawsuit against the company merger, calling it "a scheme to gain monopoly of the electric power development of the state."(5) The outcome was the public was safe guarded from high rates. With the merger, the newly formed company decided in 1922 to construct an electric freight railway from Hales Bar to Ladds, a distance of three miles, Ladds being located on the former North Carolina & St Louis Railroad. The electric railroad aided in construction of a steam-driven power plant for additional electricity for Chattanooga and the Tennessee Electric Power Company grid. The powerhouse was completed in 1924, a new, additional transmission line being erected to Chattanooga and other cities in the vicinity.

#### **Transmission Line History**

The main Hales Bar-Chattanooga transmission line underwent periodic updates and maintenance work. Towers obtained fresh coats of protective paint in both red and black colors and damaged M-4412 insulators were replaced with more modern M-3620 Ohio Brass Company insulators. From the beginning, lightning damage to the M-4412 caused a disastrous issue until conversion to suspension insulators. The line was then converted around 1920 to more conventional suspension insulator construction using strings of three, standard 10 in. Austin Patent disks manufactured by the Ohio Brass Company. Metal pins and M-4412 insulators were unbolted, dropped underneath the towers, and insulators hammered to retrieve the iron pins. Spare insulators with cemented pins inside storage sheds located along the transmission line were also removed from the buildings and hammered. The final days of the original Hales Bar Chattanooga transmission line were met not long after conversion. Due to more direct routes of transmission and the vertical distance between crossarms, the tower line could no longer be upgraded in voltage. The line was de-energized, suspension insulators removed, and copper line wire scrapped in the 1930s. The steel static wire remained along the towers to signify ownership of the right-of-way.





Mike Spadafora sorts through broken M-4412 insulators beneath a tower site.



Mike Spadafora with insulator shards of a tower site containing evidence of nine insulators and the remains of a storage shed.



#### Field Research & Insulator Recovery

Mike Spadafora and I spent one week's time studying and understanding the Hales Bar-Chattanooga transmission line in Spring of 2015. In the first few days, an appropriate stance was taken on determining how to successfully recover and repair an original M-4412 insulator. Each tower site encountered had a similar arrangement of broken porcelain found buried beneath the three tower footings. Footings were sunk a few feet into the ground in mountainous regions and level with the ground in flat territory. For a majority of the line, porcelain was discovered surrounding the cement footings with larger porcelain fragments found within twenty feet of the tower. On one of the last large portions of mountainous line towers were left standing in woods, many fallen over by age. The section was rather secluded and we spent much of our time digging this particular stretch as it was undisturbed. Our method was simple yet meticulous at every tower site. Ground cover including briars and leaves was raked away from each footings exposing porcelain. Potato rakes and small shovels were used to comb the ground for

pieces eventually creating a pile of porcelain shards to work with puzzling together. These shards were divided by glaze color, manufacture, and skirt type. When all pieces to a skirt were found, it was carefully wrapped in a special blanket to be fixed later. Incomplete skirts remained at the site, concealed beneath brush for protection.

Recovered skirt shards were cleaned by means of bleach for the dirt and paint remover for rust or tower paint stains. The cement between broken pieces was either broken away by chipping or using acids. Once the pieces are clean, epoxy was carefully used on each joint for a solid and permanent connection. After completion of a skirt, Bondo used to fill gaps, chipping, or holes in the porcelain glaze. The final process is stacking the four skirt types of identical manufacture and pouring Portland cement into the joints, completing the M-4412 insulators.

#### Tennessee Valley Authority & the Final Days of Hales Bar

In the early 1930s, work with dyes was conducted to identify water flow and leakage below the dam which was recorded at 1000 to 1200 ft. per second. This marked the beginning of some of the most extensive geological surveys ever conducted. Boils formed by 1939 and increased in size causing 1625 to 1720 ft. per second recorded, about 10 % of the rivers flow ran underneath the dam. Tennessee Valley Authority bought Hales Bar in 1939 and with necessary investigations, drilled 750 163 ft holes from the top, center

of the dam and filled them with concrete. The project became known as creating cutoff walls and was completed in 1945. After the cutoff wall arrangement was finished, the dam had flood gates installed between 1947 and 1948 increasing the maximum head for producing additional electric power. An addition to the West end of the Hales Bar powerhouse was constructed in 1951-1952 of traditional TVA architecture. Hales Bar produced 99,700 kw involving the final configuration.



A standard cement tower footing surrounded by insulator shards.

Top of a still standing transmission tower.



Tennessee Valley Authority, after executing considerable assessments of increasing leakage in the 1960s, called for an end of the project in April of 1963. "A half-century of repairs is just water under the dam, so...TVA gives up on Hales Bar Dam."(1) TVA began constructing Nickajack Dam and Lock downstream shortly after the announcement, completing the replacement station in 1968. The steam station was demolished in 1965, while the dam demolition started in 1967 and ended in 1968, leaving the Hales Bar powerhouse partially sunk in Lake Nickajack. Today the abandoned powerhouse is owned by private interests, the surrounding area converted into Hales Bar Marina & Resort.

The M-4412 made by the New Lexington Company for the Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company's transmission line.

#### Image Credits

Steamboat: http://tngenweb.org/mcnairy/oldphotos2.html

Dan C. Kingman: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dan Christie Kingman

William J. Oliver: http://www.trainweb.org/smokymtnrr/wjoliver.html

Construction Image, Modified Newspaper Heading, Diver Article, and Drill Rigs: Hales Bar Dam and the Potential Pitfalls of Constructing on Karst Foundations by J. David Rodgers

No. 450 Insulator: J. H. Parker Catalog Page from Brent Mills Provided by Elton Gish

M-4412 Insulators: Michael Spadafora

Powerhouse and Substation: Electric Power Plants by Thomas E. Murray

River Crossing Towers: Electrical Engineering

1947 Aerial Photograph of Dam: Tennessee State Library and Archives, No. RG82, Box 67, File 156. <u>http://tnsos.org/tsla/image-search/index.php</u>

Digitally Restored M-4412: Shaun Kotlarsky

#### References

Contributors: Michael Spadafora, Elton Gish, Michael Green, and Shaun Kotlarsky

- 1. Hales Bar Dam and the Potential Pitfalls of Constructing on Karst Foundations by J. David Rodgers: <u>http://web.mst.</u> edu/~rogersda/dams/Hales%20Bar%20Dam.pdf
- 2. Hales Bar Marina: http://halesbarmarina.com/
- 3. Hale's Bar Development of The Chattanooga and Tennessee River Power Co., *Electrical Engineering*, August 1913, Page 337-343: <u>https://goo.gl/YpzVsR</u>
- 4. The Chattanooga & Tennessee River Power Company, *Electric Power Plants* by Thomas E. Murray, Page 240-264: https://goo.gl/FYozjr





Last year I was privileged to assist the sorting of Mike McLaughlin & Chuck Dittmar's many boxes of insulator sales stock for Chuck, getting them ready for the buyer. There were thousands of pieces, some squirreled away for decades, and I happened upon this one that really perplexed me. It resembled a CD 123, but obviously it isn't an EC&M. It is a beautiful deep aqua with carbon streaks, but what IS it? Any guesses?

The story begins about 30 years ago when Chuck bought a collection with some really nice old pieces, including a rare CD 127.4 (unembossed Hemingray, worth almost a thousand dollars at the time) with bad glass sickness from years buried in mineralized soil. Through the dull, scale-like layer, a glint of pretty green was barely visible. It was decided to invest in having the glass tumbled, which if done properly, gently removes the outside layer of mineralization revealing the beauty of the glass within, enhancing the insulator's salability.

Terms were agreed to with a professional tumbler (who is no longer active in the hobby) who had the expertise, experience & equipment to be trusted with such a rare jewel. Like tumblers today, he used a sealed, rotating tube containing water & hundreds of short copper wire bits. The copper/water slurry abrades the surface of the glass, removing the sick layer. Care must be taken to not tumble too long or fine embossing details are worn. The very experienced tumbler had done this hundreds of times & was confident in his abilities & equipment. He knew just how long to the tumbler should run to remove the sickness without hurting the exterior details, so he left



the tumbler running while he left for the day. He forgot it was tumbling, & when he checked on it later he knew from the sound something had gone wrong! The tube leaked & lost all the lubricating water, so the sharp copper wires bunched up & ground the glass away for many hours. The only original exterior surface is a small circle on top of the dome.

I met with the tumbler & showed him the nearly worthless insulator. The immediate expression on his face told me he recognized it & ruefully told me the tragic story. The once valuable piece is now only suitable for a Drip Points article to warn others to never take tumbling equipment for granted!



# **Summer 2015 NIA Products**

#### **GOLF / POLO SHIRTS**

Colors: Call or email for colors

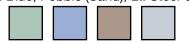
Info: All with embroidered logo some with pockets, pockets, 2X \$3.00 extra

#### Price: \$38 or \$41

Size: S	M	L	XL	
2XL	_ 3XL _			
Color:				
Total Qua	ntity:			
<b>Total Pric</b>	e:			

#### **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: \$20 or \$23

Size: S	M	L	XL	_
2XL	3X			
Color:				
Total Quar	ntity:			
Total Price	:			

#### **CREW NECK SWEATSHIRTS**

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



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

#### Price: \$25 or \$30

Size: S	M	L	XL
2XL	3X		
Color:			
Total Quar	ntity:		
Total Price	e:		

#### **BUTTON FRONT SPORT SHIRT**

Colors: White, Red, Blue, Brown, Tan



**Info:** All with embroidered logo (no pockets)

#### Price: \$32 or \$35

Size: S	M	L	XL

2XL\_\_\_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_\_\_

COI	or		_

Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Price: \_\_\_\_\_

#### HENLEY T-SHIRT

Colors: Black and Lt. Steel Gray



**Info:** Only come with embroidered logo. three button placket

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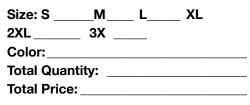
Size: S _	M	L	XL
2XL	3X		
Color:			
Total Qua	ntity:		
Total Pric	:e:		

#### HOODED SWEATSHIRT

Colors: Lt. Steel Gray

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

#### Price: \$35 or \$40



#### **DENIM 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: \$35 or \$38

#### Embroidered logo

	-			
Size: S	M	L	XL	
2XL	_3XL			
* S/Sleeve	*L/	'Sleeve		
Color:				
Total Quant	tity:			
<b>Total Price:</b>				

#### **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



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#### Price: \$20 & \$23

Size: S	M	L	XL
2XL	3X		
Color:			
Total Qua	ntity:		
<b>Total Pric</b>	e:		



#### EMBROIDERED CAP **COLLECTORS PATCH NIA WINDOW DECAL** Colors: Khaki, Stone, Blue, Gray, Or-Price: \$4 Info: for outside car window. ange, and Pink, Red (\$2 extra) White: 5 1/2 x 6 3/4 Color: 4 1/4 x 5 3/4 Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle color choice) Price: \$10 (White) \$7 (Color) Total Price: Color: BADGE BAR Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Info: For NIA position or local club Total Price: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \$4 TOTE BAG Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \$20 or \$22 (Red) Info: "Big Thunder" Tote bag - sturdy Total Price: Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ with NIA logo Total Price: Price: \$15 Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ **NIA NAME BADGE**

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Price: \$13 or \$14

Total Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Price:

#### Name Badge Engraving Information:

Name Name Name	_ NIA# C	City City City	State P	in □ Magnet in □ Magnet in □ Magnet
Club Bar Club Bar Club Bar	_ Quantity Needed _ Quantity Needed _ Quantity Needed		National L INSULA Association Thank you for supp	DR

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- -

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

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I would like to receive Drip Points (Check only one, an e-mail addre	s in the following formatPaper <a> Electronic</a> <a> <a> <a> <a> <a> <a> <a> <a> <a> &lt;</a></a></a></a></a></a></a></a></a>
Referred by:	NIA #
Additional Family Members	s residing in the same household at no additional cost.
me	NIA # (If renewal)
Signed	
	Amount Enclosed \$
0	Revised December 4, 2013

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# **Upcoming Shows**



8th Annual B-Square Ranch / Tommy Bolack Insulator Tailgater will be Saturday, June 6th at 3901 Bloomfield Highway in Farmington, New Mexico 87401. Tommy invites you to attend a premier event! Tours will be available on Friday, June 5th for the Bolack Electromechanicalm Museum and the Bolack Museum of Fish & Wildlife. The Electromechanical Museum contains Tommy's amazing 50 year collector of antique electrical artifacts that tie in well with insulator collecting, creating the largest go-with museum of it kinds. The Bolack Museum of Fish and Wildlife is one of the largest private collections of its type in the world, containing over 2,500 specimens from five continents. Tours are available by appointment only. The insulator tailgater will begin at 9:00 AM on Saturday. Free admission and no fee to sell, so bring your tables or open your tailgates. (A few tables will be available as the event may be moved inside of the museum in case of inclement weather.) Lunch will be catered free of charge to all guests! Special tours of Tommy's personal world class insulator collection will also be available on Saturday. Please note that this is a RSVP event that will require advance planning, so please inform us as far in advance as possible if you plan to attend. All inquiries and RSVP replies should be directed to the event coordinator: TOMMY BOLACK 505-325-7873. Please leave a message if no answer.

#### JUNE 6, 2015 (Saturday) TAMA, IOWA

The 18th Annual Hawkeye State Insulator Swap Meet will be held on June 6th from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at the Tama Civic Center, 305 Siegel St. in downtown Tama, IA. Dealer set up starting at 7:00 AM. There will be no cost to set up and lunch will be provided for those who attend. We again look forward to hosting many great Midwest collectors and friends that have shown up over the years to support this fun and relaxed traditional event. We encourage you to join us for what hopes to be a great time in the Hawkeye State! For additional information feel free to contact DAVE SHAW at (641) 484-5463 or e-mail at dashaw@mchsi.com

#### JUNE 13, 2015 (Saturday) COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Springtime in the Rockies Show: The 6th annual Triple-Ridge Insulator Club Potluck & Show will be held in Colorado Springs, CO from 8am -3:00 pm on Saturday, June 13th 2015 at 2905 N. Cascade Ave. We have room for 30 or more tables, both inside and outside. There's no admission or table setup charge and most tables are but a step or two from a beautiful view of Pikes Peak and the Rocky Mountain Front Range. We are expecting to have collectors from several states attend, and a great selection of glass & porcelain insulators as well as go-withs, bottles and hobby related goodies. A delicious lunch of grilled burgers, assorted chips, dips and drinks will be provided, and folks are encouraged to bring a side dish, dessert or other munchies. Come join us for a great day of fellowship with other collectors and enjoy a little Springtime in the Rockies. Please give us a call or email so there's sure to be plenty of tables, chairs and food. DAN GAURON: 719-492-0181 or MIKE GAUDY: 970-215-0040.

#### JUNE 20, 2015 (Saturday) PERKIOMENVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

## 42ND ANNIVERSARY of the annual Pennsylvania Insulator

Show and 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 20th from 9:00 AM until the last person leaves. Location: 1837 Perkiomenville Road, Perkiomenville, PA 18074. Info: STEVE BOBB 610-539-6533 or CLAUDE A. WAMBOLD 215-234-8413.

#### JULY 3 – 5, 2015 (Friday-Sunday) SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

46th Annual National Insulator Association Show and Convention. 135+ Dealer tables, 25 Displays. This year it will be held at the Timber Creek Inn & Suites and Convention Center. 3300 Drew Ave., Sandwich, IL 60548 for hotel reservations call: 630.273.6000 and mention NIA for special rates. For more show information visit: www.2015niashow.com Host: JASON TOWNSEND, call: 630-667-3357 or email: jtins76@ gmail.com or BOB STAHR 630-793-5345 or email: bob@ hemingray.com

#### JULY 10 – 11, 2015 (Friday-Saturday) HOUSTON, TEXAS

Antique Bottle, Advertising & Collectible Show will be held in Houston, TX on Friday, July 10 (set up day) and Saturday, July 11. The location is the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 12801 Northwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77040. Info: BARBARA PUCKETT at: <u>Bpuckett77009@yahoo.com</u>



#### JULY 17 – 18, 2015 (Friday-Saturday) BEND, OREGON

Tres Amigos Tail Gater! Come one, come all! 2015 Show and Swap in Central Oregon at the home of Jim Sinasek and sponsored by the Jefferson State Insulator Club. This location is close to Mount Bachelor, Tumalo State Park and the Deschutes River. On site camping is available along with the nearby state park. The show will be located at 64420 Research Road, Bend, Oregon 97701. We will be serving BBQ chicken, hamburgers and hot dogs at noon on Saturday. Many hotels are located in the area and lots to see. In the south of town there are even Outlet Stores. As usual, story time around a big bonfire will be in store Friday evening. For lodging and info contact: JIM SINASEK at 541-383-8067, MID NORRIS at 541-281-2715 or ERNIE CARLSON at 503-622-3573. As always, side dishes are welcome and be sure to bring your own tables and chairs. A few tables will be available. Your RSVP would be appreciated as well.

#### JULY 18, 2015 (Saturday)

#### **MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club's 11th annual swap meet and cookout at the Maspenock Rod and Gun Club. The club is located just minutes from the intersection of I-90 (Mass Pike) and I-495 at the end of McGill Lane in Milford. Free Setup Including Tables / Free Admission / Free Fun. All are invited. Plenty of outdoor and covered space available. Bring your lawn chairs; we have the tables. A cookout lunch will be served close to noon with burgers, dogs, salads, drinks, desserts (\$10 suggested donation for lunch). Published hours are 8:00AM to 2:00PM. PLEASE RSVP especially if you are planning on staying for lunch so we can plan accordingly. Info: JOHN RAJPOLT, (203) 261-1190, E-mail: rajpolt@earthlink.net or L.A. JONES (774) 277-2223 between 7 and 10PM, E-mail: 50str8@comcast.net.

#### JULY 24 – 25, 2015 (Friday-Saturday) ARCANUM, OHIO

21st Annual Hog Roast will be held at the home of Alan Stastny, 8784 Grubbs Rex Road, Arcanum, OH 45304 starting at 5:00 PM. The annual swap meet of insulators, lightning rod collectibles, milk bottles and other vintage collectibles will be held on Saturday, July 25 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Info: ALAN STASTNY Phone: 937-884-7379 or cell: 937-546-4745.

#### AUGUST 7 – 8, 2015 (Friday-Saturday)

#### LOSTINE, OREGON

The 2015 Lil' Switzerland Swap Meet near the Eagle Cap Wilderness will be held August 7 - 8 at the home of Linda & Howard Banks, 65028 Granger Road, Lostine, OR 97857 on August 7th & 8th. 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 541-569-2318 or <u>editor@cjow.com</u>

#### AUGUST 8, 2015 (Saturday)

#### MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

16th annual Shenandoah Valley Insulator Show and Sale sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Insulator Club will be held Saturday, August 8th at a new location: the B&O RAILROAD ROUNDHOUSE in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Dealer set up begins at 7:00 AM. 8 foot tables are \$25 for the first table and \$20 each additional. Admission is \$1. For more information or directions contact: JEFF HOLLIS 304-671-5359 or email redoak1953@gmail.com

#### AUGUST 15, 2015 (Saturday) MADISON, TENNESSEE

The Dixie Jewels Insulator Club's summer swap meet, hosted by Steve and Jana Roberts, will be Saturday, August 15 from 9:00-3:00 Central. The swap meet will be held about 10 miles north of Nashville at Faith Baptist Church, 1602 Gallatin Pike North, Madison, Tennessee 37115. The church has a new fellowship hall with plenty of room and good air conditioning, so we'll set up inside to beat the heat. There is always a wide variety of insulators available in all price ranges at Dixie Jewels swaps, so plan to bring insulators to sell or trade. You are welcome to bring your own table and table covers, but Steve will have about ten extra tables. Please give him a call if you wish to reserve one or more sales tables. There will be a noon meal and everyone is invited to bring a covered dish or dessert to add to the meal. For additional information about nearby motels, directions or other general info, please contact STEVE ROBERTS 615-419-7905 or e-mail Steve Roberts@ comcast.net.

#### AUGUST 21 – 22, 2015 (Friday-Saturday) HELENA, MONTANA

14th Annual Montana Big Sky Insulator Swap Meet, hosted by Ron & Peggy Yuhas, will be held Friday & Saturday, August 21 & 22. Friday: Social gathering at Yuhas home, 895 Lodestar Road, Helena, MT. from 6:00 PM to dark. Satuday's meet will run from 9:00 to 3:00 at the Yuhas Millwork Company, 2201 Hauser Blvd in Helena. BBQ at noon. Free Drawing for Collie Hat, Muncie and Pyrex 441 at 1:00 PM. Infor: RON YUHAS 406-439-4573 or email: gramapig@bresnan.net or JUSTIN MARTIN 406-490-3888 or email wendymartin8@aol.com or DOUG RUSHER 406-461-7341 or email ddrusher@aol.com

#### SEPTEMBER 11 – 13, 2015 (Friday-Sunday) MERRITT, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Annual insulator swap at the Insulator Ranch, 3045 Spanish Creek Place, Merritt, B.C. Use exit 286 off Coquahalla Hwy 5, and head towards Merritt. Turn left onto Coldwater Road, proceed 4 blocks to Spanish Creek Place. Just follow the ''Insulator Show" signs. Motor homes, trailers, RV's all welcome. Bev provides a delicious Chili and rolls lunch on Saturday, and a coffee, bacon and eggs breakfast on Sunday morning. There is no charge; our way of putting something back into a great hobby. Tables are provided. Info: BOB SCAFE 250-378-2787 or email: bobscafe@telus.net



#### SEPTEMBER 12, 2015 (Saturday) EAST HAMPTON, CONNECTICUT

Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club Annual "On Golden Pond" Swap Meet and Cookout on Saturday September 12, 2015. Hours 8AM to 2PM. At the home of Larry and Mary Jo Emmons, 68 Long Crossing Road, East Hampton, Connecticut. East Hampton is about 30 minutes south of Hartford, CT and about 45 minutes northeast of New Haven, CT. Free Setup / Free Admission / Free Fun. Come for the whole day, come for a little while - all are welcome! A long-shade covered driveway has plenty of room for setup. Please bring your own table(s) and chair(s) if you plan to setup. Larry has a fully stocked trout pond so bring your fishing pole as well! Coffee and donuts/ muffins are available for the early-birds. A hamburger/hot dog cookout lunch, expertly cooked by Larry, will be served around noon. Side or dessert contributions are always welcome and appreciated. The club asks for a \$10 per person "donation" for lunch. Please RSVP, ESPECIALLY if you plan on staying for lunch (so we can have enough food). Questions or to RSVP. JOHN RAJPOLT, (203) 261-1190 or rajpolt@ earthlink.net. LARRY EMMONS, (860) 267-8584. Since this is an outdoor event, if you think the weather may cause a postponement, please contact John or Larry for event status in the days leading up to the event.

#### SEPTEMBER 26, 2015 (Saturday)

#### MORIARTY (ALBUQUERQUE), NEW MEXICO

Enchantment Insulator Club/New Mexico Historical Bottle Society 28th Annual Insulator, Bottle, Barbwire and Collectibles Show and Sale. Moriarty Civic Center, 202 South Broadway, Moriarty, New Mexico (35m E of Albuquerque south of I-40). Show setup and

dealer trading Friday afternoon & evening, September 25. Saturday September 26 show hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Info: MIKE GAY (505) 899-8755. E-mail: <u>cdn102@centurylink.</u> net

or TOM KATONAK, 1024 Camino de Lucia, Corrales, NM 87048 (505) 898-5592. E-mail: <u>tkatonak@comcast.net</u>

#### OCTOBER 3, 2015 (Saturday)

#### CANYONVILLE, OREGON

Jefferson State Antique Bottle, Insulator & Collectibles Show and Sale will be held Saturday, October 3, from 9:00 to 3:00 at the Seven Feathers Casino Resort in Canyonville, Oregon. General Admission is free. Early Admission will be \$10 on Friday from Noon to 7:00 PM and Saturday morning from 8:00 to 9:00. Info: BRUCE SILVA: 541-899-8411 or email: jsglass@q. com

#### Member Classified Ads

#### Shaun Kotlarsky - NIA #4993 Hemingray items wanted!

 Insulators • Glassware • Paper work • <u>hemingray@mac.com</u> <u>http://www.hemingray.net</u> (248) 701-0732

#### OCTOBER 4, 2015 (Sunday) CHELSEA, MICHIGAN

Huron Valley Bottle and Insulator Club's annual Antique Bottle and Insulator Show, including old advertising, lightning rod items, railroad items, and many other tabletop antiques and collectibles. Sunday, October 4th from 9 am to 3 pm. Admission \$3 for adults over 16 years of age. Located at the Chelsea Comfort Inn Conference Center, Exit #159 North off I-94. Contact: MIKE BRUNER at 248-425-3223/abbott4girl@ sbcglobal.net or ROD KRUPKA at 248-627-6351/rod.krupka@ yahoo.com

#### OCTOBER 17, 2015 (Saturday)

#### LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA

After a long layoff, we are happy to announce the 4th AV Three Amigo's High Desert Insulator Thang & Bar-B-Q at the home of Craig & Sue McLaurin, 43020 42nd St, West Lancaster, California on Saturday, October 17th starting at 8:00 AM. Buy, Sale or Trade. Breakfast: Coffee and doughnuts provided. Lunch: Full BBQ in the works for all attendees. Level RV parking is available. No electricity (sorry). Limited amount of tables & chairs. Please bring your own if possible. Will have a raffle so please consider making a donation. Info: CRAIG & SUE MCLAURIN (661) 943-7649 <u>cbmzeek@gmail.com</u> or JON & SANDY KREDO: (661) 946-0280 <u>sndykay@roadrunner.</u> <u>net</u> or LORI & RON JENKINS: (661) 718-0132 or (cell) (661) 466-7294 jinx162@verizon.net

#### NOVEMBER 6 – 8, 2015 (Friday-Sunday) SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

45th Annual Mid-Ohio Show & Sale will be held November 6-8 at the Clark County Fairgrounds (Exit 59 off I-70), Springfield, Ohio. Friday hours are 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Saturday: 8:00 to 4:00. Sunday: 9:00 to ???. The Community Display for 2015 will feature "Lynchburg Glass". Info: <u>www.insulators.info/</u> <u>shows/springfield</u>/ Contact: LOIS BLAIR 740-852-3148 or CURT BOSTER 614-301-5125; email: <u>cboster530@att.net</u>

Upcoming Shows list maintained by: Information Director Christian Willis information@nia.org Send all changes and updates to above email address.

#### Don Briel - NIA #7218 WANTED

CD 328 Pyrex and a CD 154.7 NO EMBOSSING – MEXICO, each in VNM or better condition. (435) 753-5786 Don.Briel@comcast.net

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)

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# "Choo-Choo to Chattanooga",



# The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors presents the 2015 National Antique Bottle Show

300 tables at the Chattanooga Convention Center Exhibit Hall Host Hotel: Marriott Chattanooga at the Convention Center,

July 31: Banquet and the Battle of Chattanooga competition, August 1: Seminars, Dealer Setup/Early Admission, Live Auction, August 2: General Admission - \$5







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### Drip Points Magazine publishing schedule

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







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