

Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

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http://www.nia.org

VOLUME 27 * NUMBER 2 * WINTER 1999

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Have you ever had one of those times when you have to ... GASP! ... put your insulator hobby on the 'back burner'?

One of the biggest thrills to me in this hobby is getting out 'in the wild' to look for unclaimed gems. Last year during the summer, insulator hunting was a weekly occurrence. This summer I was able to get out only once. Does this sound like griping to you? Well - it is **not!**

There are times in our lives we have a chance to give back a little of what others have done for us. The months that have passed since the AZ National have put me in such a situation. Due to family illnesses, I spent most of my time helping to take care of my grandparents' needs. I have had the privilege since June of being able to help two of my grandparents when they needed me most. One grandfather had a serious stroke; the other

grandfather has now passed away. I am thankful I could give to them both during this time - despite my insulators having to take a lesser position of priority.

I am thankful...for being able to find in this hobby a few short moments of reprieve . . .

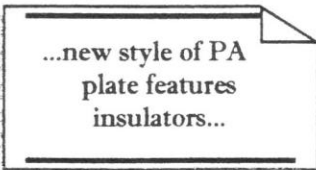
I am thankful, however, for being able to find in this hobby a few short moments of reprieve from the emotional hardships accompanying this time period.

Despite the lack of insulator-
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hunting time, I was able to attend both the Kulpsville, PA and the London, OH shows. Also, the Great Lakes Insulator Association was born. This was the first opportunity I had to attend the Kulpsville show, and I was impressed by the number of dealers/collectors in attendance. Quite a few nice pieces are now sitting in my home as a result, including a CD 126.4 which I am thrilled to have acquired having never seen (or at least noticed) one of these unusual shaped jewels before.

The London, OH show was a great experience for me, and I especially enjoyed this time as it was the first my whole family attended. By 'whole family' I mean Becky (3); Stephen (5); Seth (7); Sam (10); my wife Tammy (ask her), and myself (37 if you really want to know!) - all six of us - card-carrying NIA members! Due to the extreme kindness of the dealers, all of my children came away from the show with quite a few gems for their collections (yes, including little Becky!). I es-



pecially appreciated the fact that I could let my two eldest sons walk around the showroom by themselves and be confident that the high caliber of the people they would be dealing with would be a good influence on them. There are not many other public places I can say this about nowadays!

One thing I (ironically) learned at the London show is that PA now has a new style of license plate which may be of interest to PA insulator collectors. The plate features a view down a set of tracks with a head-on shot of a locomotive. To the right of the train is, you

guessed it, a pole sporting (4!) cross arms of insulators (Eat your heart out, Kevin! -- I

think he is considering moving to PA). Contact your local representative and ask for a copy of form MV-906 (8-98) "PRESERVE OUR HERITAGE Registration Plate". These cost \$35.00 -- \$15.00 of which helps underwrite "the educational and exhibit programs of the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission."

GLASS - an acronym for Great Lakes inSulator aSsociation, is the name of the club I have started here in the northwest corner of PA. I figured it was about time our corner of the state had an official group. At first I was apprehensive, not knowing how many local collectors existed, but after the first showing of 18 people, I am happy to say our club has gotten off to a good start. (At least 5 families from the GLASS club were at the London show.) The next meeting is planned for January 7th. If you are interested, please contact me.

As Christmas approaches, our family is striving to keep our focus on the true meaning of Christmas — the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Merry Christmas to all of you. May you have a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year, and may you find many little glass (or mud) items beneath your Christmas tree.

**Lee Brewer NIA #6695
Information Director**



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow NIA members:

This is the LAST *Drip Points* of the 1900's (but NOT of the millennium, since the millennium

ends on December 31, 2000!). Our hobby has been growing steadily now for the last 15 years. There are now close to 20 local and regional insulator clubs throughout the U.S. (and we would love to see some more clubs in Canada, Australia

and overseas!), shows are frequent, often with two or three on the same weekend, and interest is now strong in all segments of the hobby (okay, so don't invest much in brown unembossed porcelain signals!)

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What will the next century bring us? Probably higher price; more new finds (we hope) so that more of us can share in our wonderful hobby; more good shows with more new (and old) friends to share them with; more elaborate marketing of shows, auctions, web sites, clubs and periodicals; and best of all, the opportunity to expand our collections of insulators and friends.

Since the last issue of *Drip Points*, we have had a personnel change. Mike Guthrie, who has been NIA treasurer for more than five years, has resigned for personal reasons. Mike has been my friend for more than 15 years, and he was Information Director during my first term as NIA President in the late 1980's. I have reluctantly accepted his resignation and wish him well in his NIA Board retirement. Thank you, Mike, for your many years of

service! To replace Mike, I have appointed Dudley Ellis as the new treasurer. I am looking for a replacement for Dudley as Nominations Committee Chairman and will be appointing that person shortly.

We have lost another long-time collector. Stuart "Stu" Elman, NIA #429, passed away September 19 after a long illness. Stu, who was 69 years old, was from Katonah, New York and was a charter member of the NIA and a major collector of bottles, insulators and other table-top antiques. Stu is survived by his wife, Doris, and their children and grandchildren.

By-Laws Committee Chairman Steve Marks has been keeping us busy with a new draft of the NIA's required corporate By-Laws. We hope to have a new set of By-Laws ratified by the

end of the year. Also, we have been keeping Promotion & Education Chair Bob Berry busy with additions to the NIA web site. I have recently appointed Dick Bowman to chair a committee to evaluate the long term possibilities of establishing a National Museum for Insulators. I will let the rest of the Board and Committee members speak for themselves. Until then, have a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a most healthy and prosperous 2000.

...committee to evaluate...establishing a... Museum for Insulators...

EXCEPTIONALLY good collecting,

Kevin F. Lawless, NIA # 1679 President



From the Executive Director

Greetings Fellow NIA Members,

Well it is official. After a little bit of a delay, I can now announce the Y2K Eastern Regional will be on September 16-17, at the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, NY. The show coordinators are Kevin Lawless NIA# 1679

and Ken Willick NIA# 3709. This show will be on the museum premises and should be one of the coolest shows yet. Do you want to know more about the history of glass? The Corning Museum of Glass is tops. Contact Kevin or Ken for show packets.

...Y2K Eastern Regional...at the Corning Museum of Glass...

Just to round it out — the Y2K Western Regional will be in Enumclaw, WA on

May 6-7 at the King County Fairgrounds. Contact Violet Brown for a show packet.

The Y2K National will be in Bloomington, MN on July 27-30 at the Thunderbird Hotel & Convention Center. Contact me, Ed Peters, for further show information and show packets. Oh yes, the snow should be all gone by then.

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The NIA has also recently made a change in the position of Treasurer. Mike Guthrie who has served in this position for a number of years, has recently resigned. Mike did an outstanding job. Dudley Ellis has replaced him as treasurer.

There are two new clubs that have developed recently in the Central Region. They are the Prairie Signals Club (Oklahoma) and The Western Reserve Insulator Club (Cleveland area). In the next issue of *Drip Points* I hope to have more information about them and their projects. I do know that both of them have just recently had club/swap meetings that were of great success.

I want all the Central Region Members to remember to renew their membership to the NIA. Projects like the altered insulators exhibit at the NIA

Central Regional Show in Crown Point, IN are supported by your membership dues. Through the efforts of dedicated individuals this display was created to be a traveling exhibit. Anyone who would like to request the display for a show they are hosting may contact Dwayne Anthony. Dwayne will ship the display to you complete with exhibit instructions and handouts. Many people at Crown Point commented on this display, and I am sure the same happened at the other shows where this has been displayed.

The NIA Central Regional show in Crown Point, IN was a good show. A number of "new faces" were in attendance as dealers at this show, and fun was had by all. I attended the last London,

...remember to
renew...membership
to NIA.



FROM THE WESTERN REGION

I am usually in the computer room in Corrales New Mexico doing the composing for my *Drip Points* article. This time it is a little different since I am in the great "Down Under" as I put this together! Looking at the globe, I can not determine whether Australia is in the Western Region...or the Eastern Region. Kind of feels like the Western Region since

so much of the country is like the western US! What is really noticeable here is the friendliness of the people! It is hard to believe the length of the "red carpet" these Aussies and New Zealanders have laid out for Lynda and me! We have had the great opportunity to meet several of the collectors down here and to view their fine collections. I must say, this has been a great way to learn something about Australian glass! There is some pretty nifty stuff around. I am

OH insulator show this November and was pleasantly surprised by the new facility Steve Blair has planned for us in Washington Courthouse, OH. The facility is very large and will be able to accommodate not only the dealers, but also the exhibits and the banquet all under one roof! This promises to be just as good and most likely better than the previous shows in London

The next show I will be attending will be the Collectors Jubilee show in Wheaton, IL in April. I will also be attending the Y2K National in Bloomington, MN. I understand tables are selling fast at this show. This one promises to be a good one. Watch your *Crown Jewels* for the announcements of all the shows.

Bob Stahr, NIA #4186
Central Region Vice President

hopeful of bringing a few pieces back with me – but I am already pretty laden with mineral specimens from Tasmania, so we will see how it goes! And I just have to tell you, New Zealand in the springtime is just as beautiful as everyone says!

By the time most of you read this, it will be almost winter once again. And I will be back suffering with you! While it is kind of a low point as far as

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Museum Committee Report

If some of you members have heard that there is activity concerning establishing an insulator museum, you have heard correctly. Do not hold your breath or plan to visit it soon, but there is a committee actively working on the needs, feasibility and both the short term goals and the long range aspirations of what we would like such a museum to be. Many/most major hobbies and collectibles have a museum they can call their own and use as a showcase for promoting the hobby, educating folks on what they are all about and just plain showing of some of the neat stuff they and we all love & cherish. Why not us too?

I was asked early this fall if I would be willing to chair such a committee and in a moment of weakness I agreed. I consider it a real honor to be part of this endeavor. To introduce the members of the committee to you and indicate the tasks they will be responsible for will help explain a lot.

Ken Roberts will be coordinating the task of site/facility search and selection. This is a key task that will of necessity involve every member of the committee with some outside help. Ken will be the spark-plug behind this job as well as the clearing house for all leads and activities.

Dario DiMare and Dick Bowman will be looking at the

physical needs such as square footage estimates as well as taking a shot at the costs of equipping and furnishing a facility. This will initially involve defining the types of things and activities that will be a part of the museum.

John McDougald and Jim Bergman will be looking into the financial needs of the museum, both the start up and operational costs as well as the funding aspects. This will also involve details and strategies around the acquisition and/or borrowing of display items.

formalized scheduling and planning function for the committee. As such, he will be asking a lot of questions and needing a lot of answers to establish something more formal.

Dick Bowman (that's me) will act as chairman of the committee and act in a helpful manner (I hope), as coordinator, facilitator, integrator and communicator both within the group and with the outside world.

If all this sounds as if we know exactly what we are doing, do not be fooled. This is new territory for most all of us and we

THE STANDARD
“HEMINGRAY”
 ALL WITH THE “PATENT DRIP PETTICOATS.”



THE HEMINGRAY-GLASS CO.
 Office, Covington, Ky. Factory, Muncie, Ind.
 ESTABLISHED 1848

Steve Marks will be our legal resource for the many details that we will have to be aware of and define. Included in this arena will be defining what needs to be done to establish a foundation and when the time comes, to play a lead role in getting a foundation established.

Larry Novak has been asked to handle what I will term the

are treating it as a long term project that may mean a lot of learning. We are fortunate in that there is an indication of significant funding to help get this really exciting project off and running. With a lot in mind, we are proceeding cautiously before we make any heavy commitments. I have personally seen several wrecks in attempts to establish

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DECEMBER 17th
Last day to order NIA Logo'd Gifts
to ensure Christmas delivery !

I will receive orders up to this date to ensure holiday delivery (in USA) by Christmas. Why not give your spouse or children a wish list from the NIA product line!

*****We have many new items this year !*****

“Charter Member” embroidered bars in blue/gold available for \$1.00 each.
I may be contacted directly by mail, phone or email!

For ordering details, see the enclosed order form, in the back of this
Drip Points issue.

***(I can custom order sizes for shirts, shirts w/ pockets,
but need at least 4 weeks to fill these types of orders.)***

In Support of Our Hobby,
Carolyn Berry, NIA #4336
Product Marketing Committee Chairman

...DRIP NOTES

- New NIA Logo items available! It's not too late to buy for Christmas!
- Do you have your insulator collection insured? NIA sponsored insurance is available (see details on back cover)
- Want to play a bigger part in the NIA? Volunteers are always needed. Write to Kevin Lawless and tell him what you're good at!
- Moving? Send change of address to Joe Beres (and save us the cost of resending your copy of *Drip Points*).

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1999 NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION MEMBER STATUS

AS OF 9-30-1999

TOTAL NIA NUMBERS USED	7032
NIA NUMBERS NOT ASSIGNED	21
NIA NUMBERS DOUBLE ISSUED	62
NEW MEMBERS FOR 1999	298
ACTIVE	INACTIVE (not paid)

MEMBERS	1614 <u>Record High</u>	5193
CHARTER	122	702
LIFETIME	31	14 (DEC.)
CLUBS	6	4
NON U.S.MEMBERS	36	72
27 YEAR MEMBERS	34	0
26 YEAR MEMBERS	26	2
25 YEAR MEMBERS (SILVER)	14	1
24 YEAR MEMBERS	18	8
23 YEAR MEMBERS	18	0
22 YEAR MEMBERS	18	2
21 YEAR MEMBERS	16	3
20 YEAR MEMBERS	23	6
19 YEAR MEMBERS	16	10
18 YEAR MEMBERS	15	7
17 YEAR MEMBERS	29	16
16 YEAR MEMBERS	37	15
15 YEAR MEMBERS	31	13
14 YEAR MEMBERS	32	22
13 YEAR MEMBERS	27	25
12 YEAR MEMBERS	52	30
11 YEAR MEMBERS	43	42
10 YEAR MEMBERS	49	49
9 YEAR MEMBERS	55	72
8 YEAR MEMBERS	62	78
7 YEAR MEMBERS	67	130
6 YEAR MEMBERS	96	143
5 YEAR MEMBERS	108	243
4 YEAR MEMBERS	98	364
3 YEAR MEMBERS	137	539
2 YEAR MEMBERS	195	1015
1 YEAR MEMBERS	298	2358

MISC.

DECEASED MEMBERS (KNOWN)	138
DOGS (NIA NUMBER ISSUED, BUT NOT VALID)	4
MEMBERS ALREADY PAID FOR 2000+	146

NOTES:

**1999-2000 FINANCIAL REPORT
NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
FIRST QUARTER ENDING 9/30/99**

Beginning Balance-General Fund	7/1/99	9180.34
Education & Promotion Account		1103.92
Authentication/Ethics Account		<u>1196.75</u>

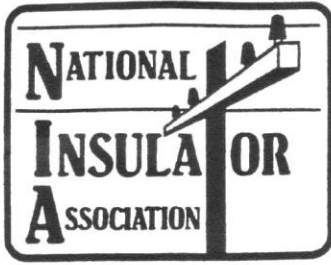
Revenues

Donations	0.00	
Interest	0.00	
Membership Dues	280.00	
Miscellaneous Income	90.00	
Product Sales	<u>316.90</u>	
Total Revenues:		686.90

General Fund Expenses





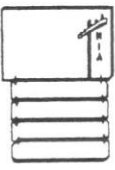
Advertising	25.00	
Bank Charges/Taxes	0.00	
Marketing Products	12.18	
Misc. Postage	232.24	
Misc. Printing	5.69	
Misc. Supplies	74.29	
Misc. Professional Services	1701.81	
Crown Jewels Rebates	44.00	
Drip Points Printing	0.00	
Drip Points Postage	200.00	
Show Advertising Subsidy	0.00	
Show Awards	16.13	
Stationery Supplies	0.00	
Telephone	0.00	
Special Projects	<u>340.00</u>	
Total Expenses:		2651.34

Closing Balance, General Fund:	<u>7215.90</u>
Education & Promotion Fund Balance	1103.92
Authentication/Ethics Account	<u>1196.75</u>
Total Balance on Hand October 1, 1999	9516.57



Carolyn Berry, NIA # 4336
 Product Marketing Committee
 1010 Wren Court
 Round Rock, TX 78681- 2741
 (512) 255-2006
 pyrex553@aol.com

**NIA LOGO
 Products
 ORDER FORM**

	Price	Total
 _____ Golf Shirt - Pique cotton - 3 button tab - white - embroidered logo M ___ L ___ XL ___ (\$25.00) 2X ___ (\$27.00) \$25 / \$27 * pocketed shirt (check here) _____ + \$1.00 (*special order) \$1.00		
 _____ Denim Shirt - Long-sleeved - Lt. blue - Left buttoned, flap pocket- embroidered logo, M ___ L ___ XL ___ \$30.00 pre-shrunk, heavy-weight cotton 2X ___ \$32.00		
 _____ T-Shirts - Hanes Beefy 'T' - Heavy weight - Screen-printed logo S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ (Light Blue) \$10.00 L ___ XL ___ (Ash Gray) \$14.00 2X ___ 3X ___ (Ash Gray) \$15.00		
 _____ Sweatshirts - Ash Gray - Heavyweight - Screen-printed logo S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ \$20.00 2X ___ (Please note: \$2.00 extra) \$22.00		
_____ Caps lt. gray w/ 5-color logo \$10.00		
_____ Mugs white ceramic w/ 3-color logo \$ 6.50		
_____ Patches light blue w/ 5-color logo \$4.00		
 _____ Koozies Beverage holder w/ NIA logo on 2 sides: royal blue ___ red ___ green ___ \$3.00		
_____ Decals light blue w/ 3-color logo \$1.00		
_____ Name Badges white badge w/ engraved blue letters, green and brown screen-printed logo \$11.00		
_____ Bars white w/ engraved blue letters \$3.00		

Subtotal _____
Shipping _____

Shipping charge for Shirts, Caps & Mugs is \$3.20 for the first item & \$1.10 for each additional. Koozies are only \$1.00 each, if ordered individually. No shipping charge for Patches, Decals or Name Badges/Bars!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone _____

Total enclosed _____

*Please make check or money order in U.S. funds payable to:
 National Insulator Association or NIA*

* * * * *

Name Badge Customization Information (must be a current NIA member!)

Name _____ NIA # _____
 City _____ State _____

Use the back of this order form for any additional badges/bars.