

Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

drippoints@nia.org

<http://www.nia.org>

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EDITOR'S NOTE

ALL RIGHT! Another *Drip Points* is in your hands. Getting anxious to read what's inside? Well, you had better put the dog out; inform the children they need to play outside; turn on the answering machine; turn off the TV, radio, etc.; and hang a "do not disturb sign" on the door. Done with all of this? Good! Sit back, relax, and ... hey, was that the phone? Oh, come on now, ... did you really expect the peace and quiet to last?! Life has a bad habit of interfering with what is important! This is a thread of thought

intertwining itself throughout this article.

Back already? Good, ... down to business:

The first topic is the Swap Shop. As you can see from past and present issues we are not evidencing large volumes of people taking advantage of the Swap Shop. Are there really that many of you out there with complete collections? How else can your personally reach hundreds of other collectors (with and without internet access) for free? If you are after some exotic treasure like a yellowish purple, amber and red

swirled CD145.42 Brookingray bee-hoop-skirt; or you just desire a semi-common CD 162.5 P.R.R., this is an opportunity open to all of us! I hope the Swap Shop sparks some of the old fashioned type of deals I hear the more seasoned collectors say they yearn for. Don't have the time? Will life interfere? You can lead a horse to water

Second topic: Corry, PA was built/founded as a railroad town and became the birthplace of the 'Climax Locomotive.' (It also happens to be the town where I was

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overwhelmed with bottles. The Dee Willett Bakersfield, California shows of the 1970's and 1980's were almost flea market in aspect, but were usually good for 40 or 50 insulator tables and some quality displays. Many of the other Regionals over the years were either Bottle Shows with some insulators added, as were the cases of a couple of the early Texas Regionals, as well as the Huntsville, Alabama a couple of years back, or were glorified one day club shows, like the Kulpville, Pennsylvania shows and last year's Coming, New York show. Of all the Regionals I have personally attended (and I think I've been to 25), the only ones that were nearly National in scope (more than 60 insulator tables and pretty good attendance from more than just the local area) were the 1978 Eastern in East Windsor, Connecticut; 1986 Central in Omaha, Nebraska; 1987 Western in Bakersfield, California; 1988 Eastern in Nashville, Tennessee; 1991 Eastern in Meriden, Connecticut; 1992 and 1995 Centrals in London, Ohio (which are National in scope without the Regional tags); 1994 Western in Auburn, California and the 1999 Eastern in Huntsville, Alabama, which while half bottles, was a fine 2 day show. Some of these are borderline and may not have had 60 tables.

Okay, you say, so the Regionals aren't as big as Nationals, we'll still support them. Well, the fact is, the hobby has not been supporting Regionals, and really hasn't been for quite a long time. I don't know why. When Doug MacGillvary and I hosted the 1991 Meriden show, we were disappointed by a lack-luster gate. We were apparently alone in our disappointment, as we had some pretty happy dealers

(76 sales tables and 8 dynamite displays and 90 at the banquet. What were we so moody about?), but we wanted something that was a lot more memorable for the attendees (for those of you that attended the 1978 Regional in East Windsor that Doug co-hosted with Charlie Angevine, let me tell you – THAT show was memorable.) In hindsight, maybe Meriden was memorable, too, but we didn't enjoy it as much.

The problem is there are just as many 25-35 table Regionals as there are 50 table Regionals now, and, as a dealer, it is difficult for me to get excited about driving 500 or 1000 miles (or flying 2500 miles) to a 30 table Regional with 150 walk-throughs. If I, as a dealer, put in a lot miles, and only a few other out-of-state dealers and collectors do the same, this type of showing does not really constitute a Regional.... it's a local show. I've been to my fair share of those type of "Regionals" too. So now, not only do we have problem Regionals, we have problems selling prospective show hosts on HOSTING a Regional. The NIA Board has addressed this several times – do we change to a one day Regional with a half-day dealer set-up day; do we do away with Regional altogether; or do we stay status quo? These are daunting questions.

Last year, Ken Willick and I co-hosted the Corning Regional (my second) and this show was a disappointment to me. We only sold 47 tables. We had room for more than 85 tables in a beautiful auditorium (that is National-sized in

scope). We had some nice displays. We had room for about a million at the banquet. All this in the home city of an insulator manufacturer (that is still in business today) and that has a museum on the premises! The walk-through was mediocre on Saturday and non-existent on Sunday. And, despite the temptation to feel sorry for myself, I had done a lot of legwork before my August accident, so my being on crutches for the show really didn't enter into anything as far as my overall opinion of the show goes.

Ken and I bid the Corning show late in the process as the NIA had no other bids on hand, and none were forthcoming. The two 2001 Regionals were both late bids (with only one bid for each show), and, as I write this, I know of no bids received by Bob Stahr for either of the 2002 Regionals (Eastern and Central).

So how about it, folks, what's the story? Do you folks really think we need Regionals, or do you like the idea of shows without support? We seem to do better supporting the local shows than the Regionals in some areas and this is so sad. Most of the Regional hosts have to bust their humps for up to a year to pull off their show. A half-hall of dealers and a third of anticipated walk-throughs just doesn't get the job done! Neither does having two scrawny displays. Big shows are where you show off your collection, your efforts, and your expertise. I hope the folks in Medford, Oregon and Sandusky, Ohio have big shows with nice walk-through – from diverse areas,

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to . . . support Regional shows, we need an influx of hosts, halls, dealers, and attendees . . .

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found in a "wanted to buy" book? Have you ever given away free insulators (how many)? Whose collections have you seen? Who has visited your house to talk insulators? What raffle prizes have you donated or won? Did you write a book? It's pretty unique that you collect insulators if you are female, African-American, not a lineman, not a citizen of the United States, under 16, married to someone else who likes insulators, a vegetarian, a user of a wheelchair, or not considered odd by non-collectors.

You would probably want to in-

clude a variety of facts and statistics in your resume'. What's your NIA number and your club number? How long have you been an ICON member? What's your collecting specialty? How many insulators are in your collection? How much is your collection worth? How much did you pay for it? How close are you to completing some part of your collection? How many nationals have you attended? How many displays have you done? How many treasure hunts at the National have you won? How many miles have you driven to attend a show? How many insulators have you bought on eBay? How many insulators

do you add to your collection each year? How many insulators have you sold? How many collections have you bought?

As you read this list, I hope you find yourself nodding to yourself and perhaps hear yourself saying, "Oh, I forgot about that." I'm glad I reminded you with this article. Write up a resume', and you can have your own reminder available at any time. If you wouldn't mind, could you send me a copy?

**Rick Soller, NIA #2958
Historian**

MUSEUM COMMITTEE UPDATE

Although there will be a more detailed update on the subject of a proposed museum at the Atlanta national, it seems proper to bring you up to date prior to that. Following is my the current information as to the proposed museum.

In a nutshell, this has proven to be a longer and more elusive project than many of us anticipated. It has been further complicated by the withdrawal of two committee members and with cases of what I will call the "too busy" syndrome.

However, all grousing aside, we have made some decisions and some progress. We are pretty much unanimous in our feeling that a dedicated, free-standing museum, strictly for insulators et al is not the way to go. Our current thrusts are around a partnership

with an established, successful, well-organized, existing museum related to insulators (such as communications, power, etc).

With the help of many NIA members we were able to get partial results concerning a survey of a number of existing museums throughout the U.S.. these results should prove helpful. With the aid of some literature, a model for the

... a museum must be both doable and sustainable. . .

investigation and establishment of a museum was accomplished. We are in the process of formulating a "laundry list" of what, and how much, we would want in a museum.

Although it may be premature, we have estimated the size of our desired "shared" museum facility at somewhere between 2000 and 3000 square feet. We have one straw man layout for such. Whether this is a valid estimate will have to be tested as we get

more data. For now we are working within this range. We feel this figure can easily be reduced if circumstances dictate. However, a reduction beyond a much lower level would suggest a project by a club or ad hoc group of individuals and not would not be within the province of this committee.

Finances, both for startup and ongoing operations, will be a real key as to whether we progress further after this year's National. Estimates have been made for both these items and hopefully will be backed up by some soft data after our laundry list/needs analysis is complete. One of our committee members is investigating the level of support which we might expect from within the hobby. If you are so inclined, and care to contact me, we would be interested to know your personal commitment to a museum and to what degree, in terms of personal effort and monetary support, you might back up that commitment with. I will probably not have the time to re-

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spond or get into any dialogue with you, but am merely looking for some measure of interest and commitment to guide or continue the project. My mailing address and email address are both listed in the CJ directory.

One of our committee members stated to me earlier that a museum must be both doable and sustainable. I frequently dwell on those words.

I hope to see you in Atlanta.

Dick Bowman, NIA #597

Museum Committee Chairman

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CENTRAL REGION SHOW UPDATE

The Western Reserve Insulator Club cordially invites you to attend The National Insulator Association 2001 Central Regional Show! Sandusky, Ohio on September 8 & 9, 2001

This will be the first NIA Regional Show held in Ohio since the 1976 National in Berea, Ohio, and other than the annual Mid-Ohio Shows, the first major show held in the region since 1976. To mark the 25th anniversary of the Berea National, we hope you join us in the celebration and consider making a vacation out of it! We have chosen the city of Sandusky for this event. It has historic ties to the Western Reserve Insulator Club, in that our emblem features the CD141.7 Twiggs Insulator, and Sandusky, Ohio is the birthplace of William Twiggs, the inventor of this insulator. The Edison Birthplace and Museum, featuring Thomas Edi-

The Swap Shop

★ W: CD 101. SB -- lime green
★ W: CD 121- AmTel, yellow green
★ T: CD 235, Pyrex 662, deep carnival
★ T: CD151, HG, SB Steel Blue
★ C: T. D. Smith, NIA #2796

★ W: Insulator figural bottle Carnival Gladd
★ C: Clinton Arsenault, NIA #6313

★ W: Third National Meet, Kansas City, MO, July 1-2, 1972 (circular markings on the top of the dome also Mike Mitchell)
★ Cobalt Blue Carnival
★ C: Shelli Arsenault, NIA #6319

W: CD 194/195 (010) Hemingray Lt Purple or Purple -VNM or NM
W: CD 196 aqua or dk aqua VNM
T: CD 104 New England Tel & Tel. Co. aqua NM some dings around skirt and dome
T: CD 137 Hemingray (010) dk aqua
C: Larry Rogers, NIA #7177

W: CD 162.1 Brookfield odd shades of yellow greens or ambers
C: Lee Brewer, NIA #6695

son's, inventions of so many electrical devices which created the need for what we collect, is also located only 8 miles south of the Show and Host Hotel Location, and features his inventions and is open to the public. The Tiffin Glass Museum is 38 miles to the south-west in Tiffin, Ohio (possibly the glass house where the Twiggs was made) and Jamie's Flee Market, where the Twiggs was discovered is only about 30 miles away. And there is the Mad River & NKP Railroad Society Museum, 16 miles from the show and host hotel. With an antique mall about 3.3 miles south and the Sandusky Mall about 1.5 miles north, there is plenty to see and do! Not to mention Cedar Point Amusement Park, Kelly's Island, Put-In-Bay... many of these facilities are opened during the week prior to the show as well as over the weekend of the show. You may want to consider making Sandusky a vacation getaway after Labor Day. We have negotiated a block of rooms at the

Holiday Inn of Sandusky, and special rates are available to all those that make reservations for the show. Best of all, the special rates are in place from the Tuesday prior to the show through Sunday, September 9. Check out some or all of the area attractions the week prior to the show weekend, or if you make a family outing of it, no worry about the wife (or husband) and kids being bored!

The Host Hotel includes the show facilities in the Main Ballroom. Space for over 40 sales tables, plus room for at least 6 display tables is afforded in the room.

There are many hotels in the area to handle any potential overflow, but you should consider the Holiday Inn of Sandusky your first choice, as it is the Headquarters for the Show and Banquet Award Dinner, and offers amenities such as an Indoor Swimming Pool, fully equipped exercise room, whirl-

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pool, etc. in their 'Holidome' area. The Hotel also features a full service restaurant and sports bar/lounge. The special N.I.A. Show rate is \$89.00 plus tax per room per night for single, double, triple, or quad occupancy. Please call the Holiday Inn of Sandusky: (419) 626-6671, or 1(800)HOLIDAY to reserve with a major credit card. Specify that you are calling to reserve your rooms for the NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION 2001 CENTRAL REGIONAL SHOW to receive the special rate. Rates are good from Tuesday, September 4 through Monday, September 10, 2001. The special group rate is only available to you if you call to make your reservations prior to August 14, so please book your rooms in advance!

The award banquet will feature a 'buffet style' dinner, with a large salad bar, and choice of two entrees (beef and chicken), as well as a potato, rice and vegetable accompaniment. Rolls and butter, coffee, tea, or milk will also be included. Desert is also included, and the hotel has offered a compli-

mentary wine for a toast for the event. A cash bar will be available during the pre-dinner cocktail hour and available for cocktails and soft drinks through the remainder of the banquet. We are planning on the show awards for displays, etc. after dinner, with a possible presentation of interest. Cost is \$24 per person in advance, and \$10 for children between 3 and 6 years of age. An Awards Banquet Reservation form is included in the Show Packet, and should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than August 10, 2001. Please contact your show hosts with any special dietary needs.

The Holiday Inn of Sandusky is located just north of the Route 2 Sandusky By-pass on Milan Road (US route 250). This is a MAIN heavily-traveled thoroughfare used for retail traffic as well as those traveling to and from Cedar Point. We plan to have signage that can be seen at the street to encourage "walk-up" attendance. The show will be heavily advertised, with listing planned in the Ohio Collector Magazine, as well as other trade magazines and

publications. Please plan on joining us in Sandusky!

Show Details:

The advertised show hours will be 9:00AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 8, 2001 and 9:00AM to 3:00PM on Sunday, September 9, 2001. All dealers and exhibitors are expected to remain set up until end of show hours for both dates. Setup time is 3:00PM to 8:00PM on Friday, September 7 and again from 7:00AM until 9:00AM on Saturday, September 8. The Awards Banquet Dinner is Scheduled for 7PM on Saturday, September 8, with cocktails (cash bar) starting at 6PM. The Award presentations will be made after dinner.

Information pertaining to Dealer Table, Exhibitor Table, and Awards Banquet Reservations are contained in the Show Packet. To request a show packet, please contact me:

John Hovanec, NIA #6552
Western Reserve Insulator Club,
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44133. (440) 237-2242
Email: dj4fun@now-online.com or
Wric@clubs.insulators.com

Membership Trivia

The year is off to a good start. We have 1500 plus Members for the year already. This includes a new member from England. We have never had a member from that country before this year. There has been a lot of confusion about the dues over the past several months, and I would like to try to clear things up. If you sent in \$10.00, this is for a Regular Membership Only. A Family Membership is now \$12.00. Since I sent the reminder post cards out the Regular Membership has since gone up to \$12.00 also. If you submitted \$10.00 in error and wish to include your family members, let me know. If I can get all the Memberships straightened out before the National in Atlanta, it will make NIA day a lot easier for all those who are waiting at the door to get in.

On the lighter side, here is a trivia question for all. What will the total number of membership years in the NIA be as of 7-9-2001? An example of this is, if there are 5 members with 10 years each, then the total would be 50 years. You can submit your guess to me via E-mail or in person at the National. The person who guesses the correct number within 50 years, and without going over, will receive a 2 year membership renewal. In the case of a tie, the first one received would be the winner.

Good Guessing.

Thanks for Your Support
Joe J. Beres, NIA #563
Membership Director

**Dudley and Sandy Ellis and the Dixie Jewels Insulator Club
Host for your 32nd NIA Convention Show and Sale**

We are moving right along with the planning of your NIA Convention for 2001, scheduled for July 5-8, 2001, at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel at the Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport. Teams have been formed to plan the various activities of the show to provide you a well-organized event.

We have sold 104 sales tables. Doug Williams reports that he has contracts on 13 displays, with more promised. Glenn Drummond has developed a seminar on the Hemingray Dump using several speakers, videos and slides.

Jacque Linscott has started developing the Show Directory.

Business card ads are \$10, half-page ads are \$30, full page \$50 and two pages for \$80.

Get your ads and money in today.

Scott Pahl is busy collecting raffle items. If you would like to donate your club's annual membership, a patch, a book, insulators or other related items to the raffle please contact Scott at 910-842-9194.

We need you support. One of the top prizes will be a 40" x 40" insulator wall quilt.

The Hotel advises that we have a little over 100 room nights sold for the Convention so far. Don't delay! Reservations can be made by calling the hotel's national number 1-888-391-8724 or the local number at 1-404-209-9999. Remember that they have free shuttle service from the airport to the hotel. Also see www.renaissancehotels.com on the Net.

The banquet will feature a southern hickory smoked pork loin with salad and vegetables, capped off with southern pecan pie. Yum! Yum! Please go ahead and get your money into me for the banquet. The cost is \$26 for adults and \$13 for children 10 years old and younger. Special dietary needs will be met.

Delta will be the show airline. I will post the information on the NIA Web page and in the *Crown Jewels of the Wire* as soon as it is available. I am working with Avis for special rates also.

The Atlanta Braves will be in town on Thursday night, July 5, 2001. Decent seats cost close to \$31. I am trying to get up a group of insulator folks to go to the game. Let me know quickly if you want me to get you tickets with the group.

The Advertising Team is busy putting together advertisement packets to send to the antique newspapers and is developing a special campaign to get insulators out of the farmer's barns and to the show.

For more information or a show packet contact Dudley Ellis by mail at 131 Plantation Way, Stockbridge, Georgia 30281, by phone at 770-957-9928 or by e-mail at pony102@aol.com.

Y'all come join the fun in Atlanta!!

ATLANTA BOUND!

Need a **BADGE?** Going to the **NATIONAL?**

*(An engraved badge is a great resource to identify yourself to others at the show,
and you may even meet a neighbor from the same town!
Badge orders need to be requested by June 10th, to insure National delivery!)*

UPDATE!! New addition to our NIA Logo Line-up UPDATE!!

Very nice quality blue denim short sleeve shirt. Medium (8 oz.) weight cotton, and pre-washed shirt.
Left-breast pocket, with the embroidered logo over it.
It has double topstitching on collar, arm/shoulder seams and on front placket, button down collar and extra buttons. Similar in looks to our long-sleeved version.

PRE-ORDERS will be accepted for FREE delivery to the National.
This will insure that I have your size and item with me for the show.

The website www.nia.org/product.htm has been updated to reflect all "products" currently being sold by NIA Product Marketing and also a printable order form! Also see order form in back of this or other issues of Drip Points.

National News

The following items will be at a reduced price through the National on July 5-8th!
Get your orders in ahead of the National for show delivery,
as I will not have a lot of this sale stock with me.

***Blue t-shirt** – S - \$ 2.00 off - sale price **\$8.00**
L, XL - \$1.00 off - sale price **\$9.00**

***Sweatshirt** - S, M - \$1.00 off - sale price **\$15.00**
L, XL - \$1.00 off - sale price **\$19.00**

***Koozie** – foam beverage holder - \$.75 off - sale price **\$2.25**
*while supplies last

Price does not include postage – please see order form for details

BADGE? NATIONAL? NEED ONE?

Steal of a Deal !

I have some BLUE, Hanes beefy t-shirts in the small and medium sizes that have slight screen misalignment and will sell them at **\$5.00** (includes 1st class postage).

See you at Table # 121 at the Atlanta National!!

Carolyn Berry, NIA #4336
Product Marketing Chairman

**2000-2001 FINANCIAL REPORT
NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
THIRD QUARTER ENDING 3/31/01**

Beginning Balance-General Fund	1/1/01	7704.25
Museum Exploratory Committee		1000.00
Authentication/Ethics Account		1196.75

Revenues

Donations	0.00	
Membership Dues	3501.00	
Miscellaneous Income	25.00	
Product Sales	514.70	
	Total Revenues:	4040.70

General Fund Expenses

Advertising	0.00	
Bank Charges/Taxes	0.00	
Marketing Products	987.21	
Misc. Postage	453.50	
Misc. Printing	27.10	
Misc. Supplies	0.00	
Misc. Professional Services	300.00	
Crown Jewels Rebates	63.00	
Drip Points Printing	1443.86	
Drip Points Postage	525.59	
Show Advertising Subsidy	0.00	
Show Awards	0.00	
Stationery Supplies	0.00	
Telephone	13.30	
Special Projects	342.96	
	Total Expenses:	4156.52

Museum Exploratory Committee Expenditure	27.99	
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Closing Balance, General Fund:		7588.43
Museum Exploratory Committee		972.01
Authentication/Ethics Account		1196.75
Total Balance on Hand		9757.19



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**



Golf Shirt – pique, white cotton - 3 button tab - embroidered logo
 M ___ L ___ XL ___ (\$27.00) 2X ___ (\$29.00) \$27 / \$29 ___ ___
 *for custom pocketed shirt or special size add \$3.00 *\$3.00 ___ ___



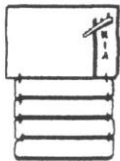
****NEW** Denim Shirt** – Long-sleeve or short sleeve - Med. wt. pre-shrunk cotton
 Stonewash blue – Left-side pocket
 Embroidered logo S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ \$32.00 ___ ___
 S/S ___ L/S ___ 2X ___ \$35.00 ___ ___



T-Shirt -- Hanes Beefy 'T' - Heavy weight - Screen-printed logo
 S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ (blue) 2X ___ (\$12) \$10.00 ___ ___
 L ___ XL ___ (Ash Grey) \$15.00 ___ ___
 2X ___ 3X ___ (Ash Grey) \$16.00 ___ ___



Sweatshirt -- Ash Grey - Heavyweight - Screen-printed logo
 S ___ M ___ (\$16.00) L ___ XL ___ (\$20.00) 2X ___ (\$22.00) ___ ___



****NEW** Cap** -- Stone/Navy, low-rise, embroidered logo \$16.00 ___ ___
Cap -- lt. grey w/ screen-printed logo \$10.00 ___ ___
Mug -- white ceramic w/ screen-printed logo \$7.00 ___ ___
Patch -- light blue w/ screen-printed logo/red embroidered edge \$4.00 ___ ___

Koozie -- Foam beverage holder w/ silver NIA logo :
 royal blue ___ red ___ green ___ \$2.25 ___ ___

Decal -- light blue w/ logo/red border, for inside car window \$1.00 ___ ___

Name Badge -- white badge w/ engraved blue letters, green and brown screen-printed logo \$11.00 ___ ___

Badge Bar -- white w/ engraved blue letters (ie. NIA position) \$4.00 ___ ___

Chest Size Chart:

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

***Shipping charges:** Shirts, Caps & Mugs are \$3.95 for the first item & \$1.20 for each additional item. Koozies are only \$1.20 each, if ordered individually. No shipping charge for Patches, Decals or Name Badges/Bars! *new USPS rates

Subtotal ___
Shipping ___
Total ___

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

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 _____
 Name _____ NIA # _____ City _____ State _____

Bar: _____

Use the back of this order form for additional badge/bar orders

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STEVE MARKS, NIA #4951, **PRESIDENT**
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