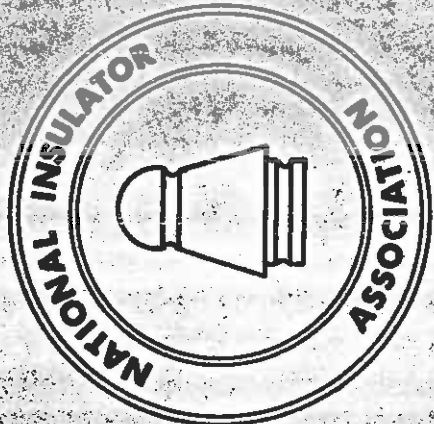


NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION



DRIP POINTS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello, again!

First of all, I hope everyone had a very happy holiday season, as we did! Secondly, I'd like to apologize for the tardiness of your 'Drip Points', caused by my slowness in picking up the ball from the last administration, and of course the inevitable delay of third class mail delivery, which is much slower than "Pony Express". I now feel we have our feet on the ground and are forging ahead to make up lost time and get the many things accomplished that remain to be done.

Although it is still early, I'm suprised at the lack of response in regard to the organization name change proposal made at the Herkimer National - either for or against! Initial input would indicate leaving the name as-it-is, but usage of the word 'antique' in all show advertisements. Come on- what do YOU think? The same goes for any necessary or wanted changes to the by-laws or show rules. Like I stated in the last issue, the Board of Directors can only react to ideas put forth by YOU- the membership!

Since the inception of our organization, several ideas have come forth toward establishing a National Insulator Association Museum. With the wealth of material being sent to our ever enthusiastic Historian, Carolyn Theesen, and promise of even more, it appears now is the time to make a decision. Therefore, I have appointed John McDougald, ex-NIA president and present Board member, to be chairman of a committee to make a feasibility study and come up with recommendations. If any of you members have any experience with museums or suggestions along these lines, contact:

John McDougald
26812 John Road
Climsted Township, OH 44138
Phone: (216) 235-2595

The region realignments mentioned in the last issue are still being studied by the Board and news will be forthcoming shortly.

In the meantime, and at the risk of being re-repetitive, let me hear from TCU! I'd like to know what's going on. And I'll do my best to keep you informed on the latest.

Pat Patocka NIA# 140

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dear members,

Plans for the 1981 National are going forward at a rapid pace, and we anticipate one of the biggest and best shows ever! During the past few months we have finalized all arrangements at the show site, and have been working hard to sell tables! As of the end of 1980, we had sold in excess of 50 tables!

Effective Jan. 1, 1981 table fees are \$35.00. Dealers are urged to purchase their spaces early. As of April 1st the table fee will increase to \$40.00 per table. Remember that an early purchase helps us to budget our money properly so as to have a maximum amount of advertising.

We will be taking applications for exhibit display space in early spring. We plan to charge displayers a \$5.00 deposit just as was done at the 1980 National in Herkimer. This deposit will be refundable upon set-up, or upon notification of cancellation received prior to the show.

We are in the final stages of negotiations with the Hotel El Rancho, which is part of the Ramada Inn chain. We anticipate that we will designate them as the official show headquarters. This spring the El Rancho will pay for the printing and postage of a big mail-out that will promote the show, and it will be sent to anyone that is listed in the upcoming membership directory.

(con't)

The El Rancho will also provide the NIA with a room for our annual membership meeting, and they will also host the annual banquet. The El Rancho is an exceptional facility and their normal room rates are \$36.00 for a single, and \$42.00 for a double. ---- However- they are offering all NIA members a special 3 day package of \$79.00 / single, and \$99.00 / double. More details will be coming later, but if you want other information, or want to make your reservations early you can call the hotel at 916-371-6731. Be sure and ask for the special NIA package rate. The hotel also provides free transportation to and from the Sacramento Metro Airport.

Finally, questions have come up regarding what items can be displayed or sold at the National. We will adhere to the NIA rules in this regard, which states that a sales table or display must be PRIMARILY insulators or RELATED items. We are interpreting the word "primarily" to mean at least half of the items for sale or display. The rules say nothing about what the balance of your space must be, therefore we are urging that each dealer try to fill any non-insulator or related item space with a large variety of other antiques and collectables. This will then allow us to advertise the antique and collectible respect heavily, and will be far more successful in pulling in the BIG crowds to see our show!

Grant Salzman NIA#1785

FROM THE TREASURER:

Howdy, members!

I feel that my theme song should be 'Getting to know you' after typing- (1) address labels for Drip Points, (2) the membership list for the March Directory, (3) a list of 1980-91 delinquents to be reminded, and(4) starting a program of contacting people who have not been members for several years! I've learned so many new street and town names that I'll bet that I could help Santa Claus find his way around! (con't)

Our membership roles are healthy and happy with a good mixture of old and new collectors. However- the world is full of prospective candidates that need just a simple word of introduction to become members of the NIA, and YOU are the ones that can do the job! If you know of a new collector, or a former member, or a member who hasn't thought much about their collection lately, get busy and spread some enthusiasm around- it will do both you and the NIA some good!

Happy collecting and
Happy Enthusing!

Shirley Patocka NIA # 633

FROM THE SHOW CHAIRMAN:

As of this writing I'm proud to announce that since July 10 NIA ribbons have been mailed out to show hosts that sponsored local shows with insulators being advertised, displayed, and sold. As you know these ribbons are available to a show host at no charge, to be awarded to any insulator or related item displayed at a show. I do ask though, that you try to find one last shred of energy left after the show to write to me stating who won the ribbon and briefly describe the display.

The 1981 National is not far off. Grant Salzman has ordered trophies for the first place winners in each display category, and promises that every other displayer will go home with a ribbon! It's his way of saying Thank you, and that we appreciate all the effort that went into sharing your collection with us.

It's not too soon to start planning your display!

Marilyn Albers NIA# 541

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