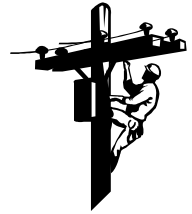


Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

drippoints@nia.org

<http://www.nia.org>

In this issue of *Drip Points*:

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- ◆ From the First Past President ... *Steve Marks*
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- ◆ From the Nominations Chair... *Jack Roach*
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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Hello everyone, I have to start off with praise on what a great job Mike Bliss and Mike Gaudy did on hosting the national this year.

While I have not done this myself, I can tell you in no uncertain terms that this is one heck of a task to take on. I hope you were able to check out the great color spread in the August edition of the *Crown Jewels*. Carol McDougald did a great job describing the National.

If you made it there, then you know what everyone else missed.

I would also like to extend my own personal thanks to Tommy Bolack for helping to make the color inserts possible in the *Crown Jewels*. The color really does make a difference.

This year was my first National as an NIA board member, and the board meeting was also a first for me. It was fairly long, and as you

might imagine, there were many topics that were discussed.

While the board members and committee chair people are always in e-mail or phone contact, the NIA board meeting happens only once a year at the national. I will not bore you with all of the details, but I will discuss some things that are relevant to the *Drip Points* since I publish it.

I had some ideas that I presented at the board meeting relative to the *Drip Points* and some of the ideas were received well and will be put into place this year and next.

First, as you have already seen,

pictures of the individual board members and chair people will be displayed with the articles they contribute to the *Drip Points*.

Many of you know our names, and even meet us at shows, but never make the connection. We are here to serve you and the hobby and it is our hope that by adding these pictures, you will be better able to identify us at the various shows, tail gaters, and club meetings we all attend throughout the year.

Something else that will change starting very soon will be the addition of a double sided color insert to the *Drip Points*. This will be used to convey important information in color. I think it goes without saying that color can be pretty important in this hobby. One of the first items to be published on this color insert will be a list and pictures of the known altered and faked insulators. This will be sort of an official NIA list for your information. Of course, as items that are presently of unknown origin become known, we will publish that information as well.

This is just one example of how the insert will be used.

The main reason for not just publishing the whole *Drip Points* in color is due to the prohibitively high cost of doing so. The color copying and Color Laser printer techniques are still very expensive and could easily quadruple the cost of printing. Not to worry however, the color insert is being donated by an NIA member, so this will not add to the already high cost of publishing the *Drip Points*. That brings me to the next change to be made.

Starting next year in the Spring issue, the *Drip Points* will be available via e-mail in an Adobe PDF format. These will be e-mailed to those who would like to receive them in this format. There are many advantages to this. First, you will be among the first to receive the *Drip Points*. Second, your *Drip Points* will be in color, and third, you will be doing a great service to the NIA.

The *Drip Points* is expensive to print and mail out to the 800-900 households of the members. In fact, printing and postage this past year totaled about \$4,287.00. That's about 40% of the income taken in from membership dues. This was just for the *Drip Points* and it is going up this year as the postage has just increased again.

One way to fund other NIA projects on a budget, is to reduce the cost of the *Drip Points*, and a significant way to do that is to reduce

the number of copies printed and mailed.

Reducing the number of paper cop-

ies and the number of issues mailed will of course help put off a membership dues increase as well. As the cost of printing, postage, and everything in general goes up, it is only inevitable that the dues will also have to go up unless we can save money in other innovative ways.

I hope that these changes will be helpful to you all and that you will all consider making use of the e-mail *Drip Points* next year. You will need to communicate your desire to receive the *Drip Points* in an electronic format to the member-

ship director before March of next year to be among the first to get your issue by e-mail. We will of course put you down for this service anytime after that date as well.

We realize of course that not everyone has a computer or even if they do, not all of those folks have e-mail. Not to fear, the *Drip Points* will still be available in paper format as well.

Just think about the time you will save and the postage the NIA will save if you live outside the U.S.

Best Regards Collecting,

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

Starting next year in the Spring issue, the *Drip Points* will be available via e-mail in an Adobe PDF format.

tions.

Thanks to all you folks for volunteering your time to keep the NIA running!

There is one remaining committee that was reconstituted at the July board meeting that does not yet have a chairman. This is the Promotions Committee. The goal of this committee will be to promote the NIA and inform the public about the insulator-collecting hobby. The ultimate challenge for this group is to make insulator collecting more of a "mainstream hobby." We have had the promotions function embedded in other committees over the years, but now we are elevating the importance of the work and giving it full and independent status. I'm happy to report that our request for volunteers to head up or work within this committee has resulted in several people contacting me to discuss their ideas and to volunteer assistance. In the next several weeks, I plan to form the group and start work in this important area.

Perhaps the most important goal of the NIA at present is to intensify our campaign to reduce the trade in fake and altered insulators. I believe we have made tremen-

dous strides in this area over the past couple years as the sales of suspect fake insulators have diminished. On the other hand, more altered items – mostly irradiated glass and recently carnivalized insulators - continue to surface. Our most successful tool to combat the fake business is our education of NIA members about the questionable pieces out in the market. We will intensify our efforts in this regard. For example, on the drawing board, we have a list (with accompanying pictures) of all the insulators that we believe are of questionable authenticity. We plan to publish this list – hopefully in the next issue of the Drip Points. This way, when you see one of these for sale, you can make an informed choice about how much you would pay to add the item to your collection. In a parallel thrust, we have submitted more insulators to a laboratory for chemical analysis in hopes of identifying telltale characteristics of modern glass vs. insulators made in the late 1800s. We will publish these results as soon as we can – though it may be several months before all the information is in hand.

There are a number of other important NIA thrusts in process and I will amplify on this topic in the

next issue of Drip Points. Suffice to say your NIA representatives are hard at work trying to make this a more enjoyable hobby!

Let me close with the thought that I am really pleased to be at the helm of the NIA at this period of increased growth and activity in the hobby. These are exciting times! But I have to tell you that the board/committees and I can not do all the things that need to be done with the manpower at hand. We need more help. So if you have some time to help out, send me a note telling me what you're good at, and I'll find you a job. We need volunteers. Don't have time to volunteer – but you have some good ideas? OK, write down your ideas and send them to me; or give me a call – I'd love to talk to you.

Best in collecting,

**Tom Katonak, NIA #3567
NIA President**

...DRIP NOTES

- Do you have your insulator collection insured? NIA sponsored insurance is available for information on some of the available companies contact: Kevin Jacobson (NIA Information Director) at 602-564-0851 or kwjacob@uswest.net
- Want to play a bigger part in the NIA? Volunteers are always needed. Write to Tom Katonak 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*. Each returned *Drip Points* costs the NIA \$0.85 plus the cost of printing it in the first place).



From the Treasurer

2001-2002 FINANCIAL REPORT
NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION
6/30/2002

Dudley Ellis, NIA #5085
Treasurer

Beginning Balance-General Fund	7/1/2001	8853.38
Museum Exploratory Committee		972.01
Authentication/Ethics Account		1696.75

Revenues

Donations	0.00	
Membership Dues	10879.00	
Miscellaneous Income	205.00	
Product Sales	2860.45	
Total Revenues:		<u>13944.45</u>

General Fund Expenses

Advertising	790.00	
Bank Charges/Taxes	5.00	
Marketing Products	1996.01	
Misc. Postage	1235.56	
Misc. Printing	1766.48	
Misc. Supplies	1009.90	
Misc. Professional Services	910.30	
Crown Jewels Rebates	166.00	
Drip Points Printing	2979.01	
Drip Points Postage	1307.98	
Show Advertising Subsidy	750.00	
Show Awards	1046.57	
Stationery Supplies	0.00	
Telephone	200.21	
Special Projects	837.40	
Total Expenses:		<u>15000.42</u>

Closing Balance, General Fund:		7797.41
Museum Exploratory Committee Expenditures	0.00	
Museum Exploratory Committee Balance		972.01
Authentication/Ethics Account Expenditures	0.00	
Authentication/Ethics Account Balance		<u>1696.75</u>
Total Balance on Hand 6/30/02		<u>10466.17</u>

2002 NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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512-255-2006
pyrex553@aol.com

New Promotions Committee—Volunteers Needed

2003 NIA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Submit (In U.S.funds) To:
(Payable to the NIA)

Joe J. Beres
NIA Membership Director
1315 Old Mill Path
Broadview Hts., Ohio 44147-3276



Note New Dues Schedule!

Regular Membership----- \$ 12.00
 Family Membership----- \$ 12.00
 Junior Membership (under 18)---- \$ 5.00
 Club or Organization----- \$ 12.00

(Check appropriate Class) Regular_____ Family_____ Junior_____

(Check Years of Payment) Single year_____ Multi-year_____

Please Print

Name _____

NIA # (If Renewal) _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ (+4) _____

Country (If Non U.S.) _____

Telephone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please include me in the Annual NIA/Drip Points Directory. **Yes**_____ **No**_____

Please include my Telephone Number. **Yes**_____ **No**_____

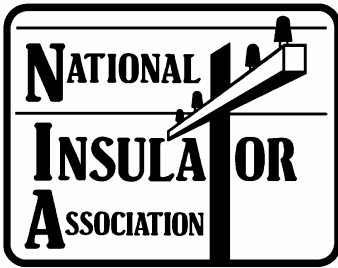
Please include my E-Mail Address **Yes**_____ **No**_____

Additional Family Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nia#</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Signed _____

Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____



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/Polo 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 for each *\$3.00



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)(blue) \$10.00
 M ___ (Ash Gray; embroidered logo on left front, only!) \$18.00
 L ___ XL ___ (\$15) or 2X ___ 3X ___ (\$16)-Ash Gray screen-printed



****NEW** NIA Lapel Pin – etched/enamel; NIA logo \$5.00**

Sweatshirt -- Heavy weight - Ash Gray – Screen-printed logo
 S ___ M ___ (\$16.00) L ___ XL ___ (\$20.00) 2X ___ (\$22.00)

Embroidered Cap -- Stone/Navy, low-rise, embroidered logo \$16.00

Cap -- Lt. Grey, screen-printed logo \$10.00

Mug -- white ceramic w/ screen-printed logo \$7.00

Patch -- light blue back w/ embroidered logo/red embroidered edge \$4.00

Koozie™ -- The original **Koozie™** fits any standard beer or soda can;
 silver NIA logo w/ 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

Subtotal _____

U.S. Postage _____

Total Enclosed _____

Chest Size Chart:

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

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

****U.S. Postage:** Shirts, Caps & Mugs are \$4.00 for the first item & 1.00 for each additional item ordered. Postage for Patches, Decals, Pins or Name Badges/Bars are \$1.50 per item. **for non-US postage, please contact me for exact postage quote!!

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

Name Badge Engraving 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

