

Drip Points



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

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<http://www.nia.org>

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The "Prime Time" of the hobby is here once again! Yes, this is the season of shows, hunts, swaps, tailgaters and all those great things. The next "big thing" of course is the National Show over in Scottsdale at the end of this month. You'll read more about it later in the newsletter.

This is also a sad time for the hobby - for in the past three months, we mourned the passing of hobby stalwarts Evelyn Milholland, Dora Harned, and Bob Adams. Our sincere condolences go out to the families and loved ones of our three deceased

friends. Kevin Lawless pays tribute to these fine people in his article following.

As some of you know, my wife (of 35 years this very month!) and I have been exploring the trail of the telegraph lines that connected the military forts throughout the southwest in the second half of the 1800s. In connection with this, we were given access to the artifact archives of Fort Union a year ago to document their holdings of telegraph equipment. A major stop on the Santa Fe Trail, Fort Union was the premiere showpiece of the western fort system and served as the depot for supplying the rest of the forts in

New Mexico and Arizona. Three weeks ago, we were personally invited by the Superintendent of the Fort Union National Monument to hold a two-day seminar at the Fort to explain the history and use of the military telegraph and to show off some of their artifacts to park visitors. This was a fascinating experience and the subject of a report-in-progress to the National Park Service. We were able to take detailed photographs of the threaded and threadless insulators and other telegraph equipment in their archives. In addition, I was able to browse through hundreds of old

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FROM THE BY-LAWS CHAIR

As a follow-up to my column in the Spring Edition of *Drip Points*, I want to advise all prospective show hosts that the NIA's insurance policy is now available to them. All one needs to do is contact Mike Guthrie, the NIA's Treasurer. You must provide Mike with the following: (1) the name(s) of the host(s) and/or club (all of whom need to be NIA members in good standing); (2) a check in the amount of \$25 as a processing fee; and (3) the name, address, phone and fax number where the event is taking place. Mike will pass this information along to the NIA's insurance agent, who will issue a certificate of insurance directly to the host and copy Mike for the NIA's files.

Of course the BIG news that I have to report on is the preparations for the National! Melanie and I are just as excited about hosting this event now as when we started our preparations over a year ago. At the time of my writing this column, there are only 5 sales tables left out of the 138 sales and display tables in the Grand Ballroom! We have already sold 98 banquet tickets! I strongly recommend that you purchase your banquet tickets now, as I do not think that there will be many available at the show. In fact, banquet tickets will not be available for purchase on Saturday (the day of the banquet). As far as hotel rooms, we have set an all time record for any insulator show, anywhere: 404 room nights to date!

Schedule of Events

Thurs. June 24th	5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Display set-up 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Dealer unloading only
Fri. June 25th	6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Dealer/Display set-up 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. NIA Day (Grand Ballroom) 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. NIA General Membership Meeting (Chambers Lecture Hall) 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Rawhide Outing
Sat. June 26th	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Dealer/Display set-up 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. General Admission (Grand Ballroom) 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Seminar on Altered and Repaired Insulators (Chambers Lecture Hall) 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cocktails in The Forum 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Awards Fiesta in The Forum
Sun. June 27th	7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Treasure Hunt (Lobby) 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Dealer set-up 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. General Admission (Grand Ballroom) 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dealer/Display pack-up

Rawhide is a famous attraction in North Scottsdale. It is a re-creation of an 1880's western town, complete with wooden buildings, board sidewalks and dirt streets. There is no admission charge! Authentic western items from the 1880's decorate the steakhouse. A country and western band plays for your dining enjoyment. Visit with Native Americans and examine their latest jewelry creations, ride the stage coach, watch gunfights in the street, or pan for gold. Already 62 people have indicated to us that they will be attending the outing!

We have, of course, changed the "awards banquet" into an "Awards Fiesta" this year! We are actually throwing a Mexican theme party! Forget the bar, we are having a Cantina! Forget the peace and quiet, we have booked a very talented guitar player!

Think you're smarter than the average insulator collector? Try your luck at the Treasure Hunt! The hunt is limited to 30 teams. One or two person teams only. A map and first clue will cost you \$10. Numerous prizes will be awarded but only one prize per team. Prizes include a cobalt signal, a rare \$300 porcelain multipart, a Muncie, guide books, a commemorative warning

...Prizes include a
cobalt signal!



FINANCIAL REPORT GOES HERE

NATIONAL AD GOES HERE

1999 NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

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