Glass Insulator Commemoratives

During the life of the insulator hobby, both organizations and individuals have used insulator shapes to produce privately-issued replicas or replicas which commemorate events within the hobby.

The National Insulator Association adopted the "threadless hat" commemorative for its annual show. Originally designed by Frank Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma, the commemorative was first made following the First National Swap Meet in New Castle, Indiana, in 1970. The commemorative continues to be issued annually with only the color of glass and the show location which is embossed on the base changing. John and Carol McDougald took over its production in 1979.

In 1972 the Telephone Pioneers of America, Columbus, Ohio, Council produced a "pilgrim hat" commemorative in a variety of colors. The project generated funds for the Council's philanthropic interests. It is embossed with the "Telephone Pioneers of America" logo on the front skirt and "HUMAN SERVICE" on the rear skirt. "№ 1" is embossed on the dome.

In 1978 the Southern New England Telephone Company Pioneers produced a "hat" commemorative in only one color—a dark cobalt blue. The project generated funds for the Council's philanthropic interests. It is embossed with the "Telephone Pioneers of America" logo on the front skirt, and "1878 SNET CO. 1978/100 Years of Service" on the rear skirt.
Larry S. Veneziano made a full size replica of a CD 262. It is embossed "No. 2 COLUMBIA" on the front skirt and "L.S.V." on the rear skirt. It has no internal threads. The first run of two green colors was made in 1971, a run of cobalt in 1974 and then a seven color "End of an Era" set was run in 1988.

For the National Insulator Association's 10th Anniversary in 1983, approximately 300 sets with five colors of a full size replica of a CD 257 were produced. Profits donated to the National Insulator Association funded the republication of the N.I.A. handbook. The commemorative has no internal threads and is embossed "NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION 10TH ANNIVERSARY 1983" on the base. John and Carol McDougald sponsored the project.

Two miniature sets, one a replica of a CD 162 signal embossed "HEMINGRAY" in six colors and the other a set of five colors of a CD 154 embossed "DOMINION" were offered by John and Carol McDougald in 1984 and 1985 respectively.

A solid-pour paperweight made by the St. Clair Glass Company of Elwood, Indiana, was sold through Old Bottle Magazine in the early 1970's.