



DRIP POINTS

MAGAZINE FOR INSULATOR COLLECTORS

AUGUST 2022 • VOL. 50, No. 4



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



**THREADLESS INSULATORS WANTED FOR MY COLLECTION
& RESEARCH. WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR!**

COLLECTING INSULATORS SINCE 1967! I AM OLD.

DARIO DIMARE

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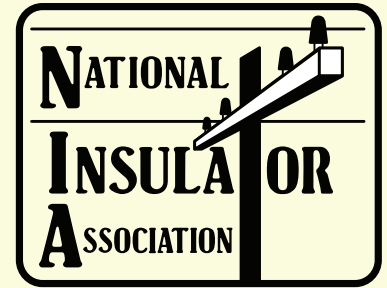


🏠 About the Cover *🏠*

A Lone Pole under the Night Skies in Australia

This month's cover is from photographer Jason Vassallo. He is 50 years old and lives in Melbourne, Australia. He was raised in the country and moved to the city as a teen. He rediscovered the Australian countryside through his photography. Read all about these fascinating photos on pages 38-39

Would you like to have your photo or artwork featured on the cover of Drip Points Magazine? Contact the Editors at drippoints@nia.org.



Established in 1973, the National Insulator Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization. Visit us on the web at www.nia.org.

About Drip Points Magazine

Drip Points Magazine is published bi-monthly to all active members of the National Insulator Association.

To purchase ad space or submit content, please email drippoints@nia.org, call (406) 461-7341, or write to: Doug Rusher, 3370 Chance Ct., Helena, MT 59602.

Publishing Schedule

Issue	#	Deadline	Mailing
February	1	Jan. 10	Feb. 1
April	2	Mar. 10	Apr. 1
June	3	May 10	Jun. 1
August	4	Jul. 10	Aug. 1
October	5	Sep. 10	Oct. 1
December	6	Nov. 10	Dec. 1

What's in a Name?

"Drip Points" is named after the feature seen on many insulators produced from the 1890s through the 1950s. Drip points are the bumpy protrusions around the base of an insulator. Their purpose was to help draw water off of the insulator.

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WANTED

My Goal is to form a complete collection of CD styles



IF YOU ARE SELLING, PLEASE GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO TOP YOUR HIGHEST OFFER!

The insulators I need are listed by their CD number in the following columns. Numbers in regular typeface are North American CD's Numbers in **Red** are Foreign CD's

North American		Foreign		Threadless		Odds & Ends	
10	136.5	334	404.2	570	656.8	700.4	1025
12	139.8	343	404.5	571.7	669.5	723.5	1034
25	148	343.5	405.5	583	669.8	724.5	1035
28	181.5	350.3	414	586.5	687.1	728.5	1040
28.5	192.1	365	445.4	591		732.4	1045
29.5	244.5	370.3	451.5	595		784	1052.5
30	245-cup	374	451.6	607			1066.5
30.5	303.5	377.7	480	607.5			1100
33	313	378.4	533	610.2			1102.3
45	313.1	379.3	537.4	613			1102.5
61		380.1	563.2	625.5			1103
109.7		404	567.5	653.5			1127



THESE YUMMIES ARE LOOKING FOR MORE NEW FRIENDS

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Tommy Bolack 3901 Bloomfield Hwy. Farmington, NM 87401 (505) 325-7873



NIA PRESIDENT

DARRYL WAGNER ✨ NIA #8671

Members & Friends,

Hope everyone is doing well and having a good summer. By the time this magazine is issued, the Gettysburg National will be in the books. Hope a lot of you made it to the show. The October issue will have the official show report and details for the Membership.

There are a few announcements that I would like to make regarding some changes in the NIA Leadership. Christian Willis had stepped down as the Drip Points Editor after the February issue of the Magazine and he has now also resigned from the Information Director's position. This is to spend more time with his family. I would like to thank Christian for his service with Drip Points and as the Information Director. As his replacement, I have appointed Spencer Garten as the new Information Director and the NIA Board has approved this appointment.

In addition to that change there is also a change with the Promotions Committee. Since the Promotions Committee is supposed to promote the NIA and the Insulator Collecting Hobby to the public, which is also what the Information Director does for the NIA, I have asked Spencer to also be the Chairman of the Promotions Committee. I would like to thank Mike Green for being the Chairman over the last year and hope that he continues to give of his time to the NIA in other ways.

Also, would like to mention to all show hosts, that the NIA now has an official Show Report Coordinator, Connie Dueker. She will be reaching out to show hosts or collectors that will be or have attended a show, to obtain show reports for Drip Points and the membership. In addition to Drip Points advertising your shows this way, you or a Companion Administrator can list it on the NIA Companion website. Once it is listed, an automatic email will be sent to Drip Points, insulators.info and All Insulators. The person listing the show can edit their information as needed, post additional information, etc. Another thought is that you might look at advertising in Drip Points for your show. Since it is a bi-monthly publication, it can be useful in letting collectors know about your show. This could promote more dealers and attendees.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with concerns or suggestions.

Darryl Wagner

2023 Insulator Collectors Directory Update

It's nearly Insulator Collectors Directory season again! Last year, we changed the printed directory schedule to align with the NIA membership year. That means we will pull in any active NIA member who selected to be included as of September 1. The directory will then go to the printer in October and be mailed out by early November. We will send out reminder emails later this summer to confirm whether you've pre-ordered your copy or not. That should eliminate some of the confusion that happened last year.

Be sure to visit the online directory at insulatorcollectors.org, where you can search for collectors and update your profile. If you want to add an additional note about what you collect or change your visibility preferences, that's the place to do it. Just sign in with the email you have on file with the NIA or you used when you registered.

Have you thought about advertising in the directory this year? This high quality, full-color publication is carried by collectors as a reference guide all year long, and seeing your ad will keep you in their mind. It's also a great way to support this hobby resource and help us keep the price affordable. Once again this year, we'll have a special deal for anyone who has year-long ads running in Drip Points. Contact me if you're interested in seeing your ad in the printed directory this year. Nathan Holmes - directory@nia.org



DRIP POINTS' MANAGING EDITOR

DOUG RUSHER * NIA #1773



First of All I would like to thank Connie Dueker for helping us out on the show reports, as you all know she is our new *Drip Points Show Report Coordinator* and you can contact Connie at showreports@nia.org with your show reports. I truly hope evryone had a safe and fun trip to the National, I really wished I could of been there, But just to much to do at work this year, But I am already planning for the Logan National which should be a GREAT National as well.

I would also like to remind everyone we are always wanting articles for Drip Points, so if you have something in mind Drop me a note about it, it can be on your favorite CD, Hunt and Finds, Go-Withs etc. We all really enjoy reading about other collectors interests.

Thanks and Happy Collecting

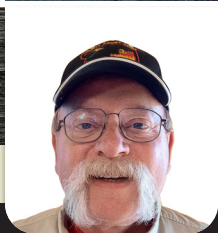


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ROGER ZIESAK * NIA #8919



HAVE YOU EVER JUST STARED AT THE GLASS?

Have you ever gone out to your hobby room with a beer, a glass of wine or nothing at all and sat down and just looked at your collection? It's a great way to unwind from the stress of the day. There are some weeks where I try to do that every day, other weeks when work takes me on the road, I don't get to do that. I miss it. Having a great hobby like ours is sorta transcendental. Sitting there staring at the glass takes your mind on a hundred different adventures. Either ones you've had or ones you've planned or hope to do or one you completely make up that matches the history of a particular insulator. You can also spot that hole in your lineup, that transition embossing or color that you're missing, or you remember that one particular piece that you want to get. You can call it day-dreaming if you want but I think it's more focused than that. I can pass a good hour or so doing that sometimes and, you know, when I'm done, I feel better, like I've had a good power nap. I've been in my happy place. Does that ring a bell?

Beth and I will be heading to the National soon and we are very much looking forward to it. Never been to Gettysburg and there is a lot to see. I haven't been on the Atlantic side of the country since 1977 so this will be an eye-opener. Some types/models of eastern glass have as much attraction for me as the western glass does to you all back east. Can't wait to see it and if you find me sitting at my table at the National with kind of a dazed expression on my face, you'll know it's happened again. On another adventure. See you there.





COMMEMORATIVE COORDINATOR

53rd NIA National Convention July 29th-31st, 2022, Gettysburg, PA
Gettysburg Ghost in Uranium Glass

MARGARET WAGNER ✨ NIA #8711



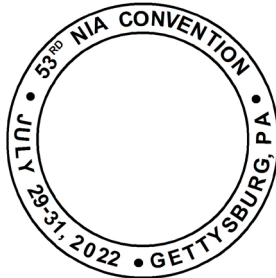
DIRECT SUNLIGHT



UNDER U.V. LIGHT



TOP EMBOSsing



BASE EMBOSsing

Introducing the “Gettysburg Ghost”

This year’s NIA Commemorative, the “Gettysburg Ghost”, is made from uranium glass and glows brightly under a blacklight. There have been a couple of other commemoratives in the past that had uranium glass in them, but this is the first from a custard yellow. It will make a unique addition to your collection or for display.

As always, everything is dependent upon availability.

Regular pour - \$45.00 each/ppd
Solid pour - \$55.00 each/ppd

Note: Solid pours are not plunged. They vary in size and can be crude. They may lean or have flaws and they have no base markings.

Refer to the NIA website for other previous year’s commemoratives that are available. Prices vary, depending upon year, but there is some special pricing available for certain years.

Thank you for your support of the NIA and the NIA Commemorative program.

History of the National Show Commemoratives: "Collecting Our History"

Being an enthusiastic insulator collector, Frank Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma went home from the First National Insulator Meet (that’s what the "National" show was referred to as in 1970) held in New Castle, Indiana with an idea that collectors should have something by which they could remember the National meets. After months of struggling, he managed to have an insulator mold made. Frank said it was often referred to as "Frank’s Last Folly" since he retired from teaching shortly thereafter. He also said it was worth the struggle. The commemorative insulator he designed replicated the early threadless "Pilgrim Hat" (CD 736) and is almost 4 inches high and is 3¼ inches across at the base. Since 1970, the glass commemorative has marked the National show event with new embossing for the location and a new color of glass. In 1979, the project continued on by John & Carol McDougald of Sedona, AZ. John and Carol produced the yearly commemoratives through 2009, at which time they donated the production to the National Insulator Association starting with the 2010 commemorative. Any profits made from the NIA Commemoratives go directly to benefit the National Insulator Association, a 501(c)(3).

To place your order online, please visit:
<https://www.nia.org/products/commemorative/>
We accept PayPal.

Alternately, you can send your order and payment to:

Margaret Wagner
14615 Skyview Ave.
Smithville, MO 64089
(816) 719-0801
commemorative@nia.org

Please make checks payable to "NIA".
If you have additional questions or live outside the continental United States, please contact me by phone or email prior to your order. Thanks!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Greater Chicago Insulator Club Report
by Matthew P. Payne, Roving Reporter

Hobbyists appreciate the hours of time volunteers provide to any hobby. Insulator collectors often know the names of people who go above and beyond in giving time to benefit our hobby. I am new to the hobby, but it didn't take long to learn the name of one such volunteer who is known for thousands of hours he's given over decades.

This contributor is known widely for his breadth and depth of knowledge as well as experience as an active collector. Add to that his skills as auctioneer, a vendor, a good old-fashioned conversationalist and especially his wit, and you might have a good guess who I mean. If you've been around the hobby for any amount of time, you likely know of or met this person: Rick Soller of Gurnee, Illinois.

Since I began collecting in November 2021, I have enjoyed reading the newsletters of the Greater Chicago Insulator Club which are edited by, you guessed it, Rick Soller! He's been editor since its beginning in 1992. Well, not completely. There was another editor for a short time in the 2000's, but for almost its entire run, mostly its been Rick.

Reading what Rick writes is a joy and intellectually stimulating. Too often those two things don't go together. There is a certain flair in his writing which draws you in and may makes you laugh. He gives detailed descriptions but the writing style is far from mundane. Witty asides interspersed in the word flow often brings a smile, if not a chuckle. This makes the GCIC Newsletter a great read.

I read all the back issues (available on the NIA website) so can attest to varied content. Reports of club auctions are provided in amazing detail! Show reports capture their essence. There are collecting articles by Rick and others. The digital age has pictures more prevalent. Back in the "old" days, when the newsletter was sent by snail mail, I've been told Rick was so committed to getting it out, he sent it from China while there for a special personal occasion! My source didn't tell me who covered that expense.

Rick would be the first to tell you he doesn't need recognition. For example, before 2009 his over compensated position as editor was not even on the masthead. You had to go all the way to the end of a newsletter to discover who pulled it together. If this was a stylistic choice, overt humility or chance, I leave to you to determine. Something changed in 2009 because his role as Editor made the masthead.

I am not clear if it was some sort of crisis. Or maybe it was receiving his Ed.D. (he can now be called Dr. Soller). But but in 2018, Rick's role went through transformation. Actually, transformationS. He had been Editor, but over five years he became Editor-in Chief, Supreme Editor, Cub Reporter, Staff Reporter, Managing Editor, Interim Managing Editor, Executive Interim Manager, Executive Managing Editor, Chair of the Board, Mailroom Clerk, Senior Mailroom Clerk, Intern, Professor, Editor (again), Director of Operations and most recently – Director of Secret Operations!

Even with these title changes, let's face it, Rick still earned the same amount for his work – the appreciation of his readers. If you haven't read issues of the GCIC Newsletter, I recommend you take the time because it's worth the read at www.nia.org/archives/gcic. ▲



Matthew P. Payne lives in Appleton, Wisconsin. He entered the hobby after absconding with some of his brother's insulators which you can read about in the March 2022 GCIC Newsletter. He records videos at shows. Check them out at bit.ly/insulatorhobbyistmatthew.

The author thanks Bob Stahr and Arlen Rienstra for contributing. And Rick, if you don't like it, blame Matthew, not them.

Photo 1 – Rick Soller at the 2011 National in San Jose, California. A Lifetime NIA membership was awarded there. He has been NIA Historian over the past two decades. GCIC Newsletter Photo.

Photo 2 – Rick has served as auctioneer for dozens and dozens (and dozens) of shows and swap meets. Here he's auctioneering the January 2019 "Beat the Winter Blah's" show in Crown Point, Indiana. Mike McLaughlin (left) helps him, Cole King (Mike's right) prepares to bid and Russ Frank (Rick's left) records the action. GCIC Newsletter Photo.



CD 700 MAGNETIC EGG FIND

BY DAVID LEONARD

High in the mountains of southern California, where timber harvesting and mining are only memories in the community of Idyllwild, a treasure can still be found. In fact, Idyllwild promotes a treasure hunt on Memorial Day and Labor Day each year consisting of yard sales; and that is where this story begins.



My yard sale touring party stopped at a residence because we wanted to learn about the thematic house next door. My attention was drawn to a table of old bottles dating to the 1860s. The seller described in detail the production method of the bottles. Enamored by his knowledge, I almost missed an adjoining small table with four or five insulators. One caught my eye with, what I thought, was a guy-wire insulator. I quickly paid the two-dollar asking price. As we drove on, I kept looking at that insulator as it elevated in prominence in my mind.

Upon arriving at my cabin, I quickly took photos and posted a query on the Crown Jewels Facebook page. Within minutes, my suspicion was confirmed. I had a Composite Design CD 700 "Egg" designed by William Swain of the Magnetic Telegraph Company. The insulator was widely used between 1851 and 1860.1 Moreover, its light, straw amber tint is considered quite unusual for this style.

This egg has a height of 9 ½ cm, a top width of 4 ¼ cm, and a mid-width of 6 ½ cm. A groove to contain a telegraph wire extends around the middle. An open shaft extends all the way through the glass to accommodate an iron support. Midway through the shaft there is an indentation of unknown purpose that is part of the design. The shaft retains the same circumference from one end to another. This denotes a very early design preceding the widened shaft that occurred later. There is a curved lip on each end of the shaft. As we know from published material, the egg was fastened upon an iron support to a post.



This egg appears to have a top and bottom end. The bottom end has a chip that was apparently created by accident, whether by being dropped or by being struck. The top end has chips that appear to be deliberately produced in order to extract the iron support when the insulator was taken out of service. Against a dark background a universe of bubbles emerges within the glass. When viewed on its side, this egg shows striation from the mold form and swirls that are common to Egg designs.

Many Egg insulators have a deep amethyst color. The unique straw color of this Egg may be explained in the same way that rare examples of clear Colorado insulators, manufactured by WGM and Good, are explained. They contained high levels of manganese to 'brighten' the glass appearance, but over time, they turned purple from exposure to the sun. This may be an example of an insulator, similar to the Colorado examples, that was sheltered under a roof overhang or similar condition that protected it from exposure to the sun, thus retaining the original clear color. Conversely, the straw color may have been a result of darkening in the sun. This will be left to other collectors to decide.



Southern California presents many challenges to a hobbyist collecting glass insulators. The insulators finding their way to my collection in recent years came from out-of-state where more rare and better deals can typically be found. However, my surprising find proves that great discoveries are still out there if you're lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time. Don't stop believing. Your discovery could be next! ▲

54th Annual NIA National Show

Logan, Utah • June 9-11, 2023



Join Us for the First Ever National in Beautiful Utah!

Cache County Fairgrounds Event Center

450 South 500 West • Logan, UT 84321

Show Times:

- Friday, June 9th (NIA Members Only) 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Saturday, June 10th (open to public) 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Sunday, June 11th (open to public) 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

For more information, visit:

http://www.nia.org/shows/2023_national/

Proudly Presented by Your Show Hosts:

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Don.Briel@comcast.net

Brian & Cathy Weese

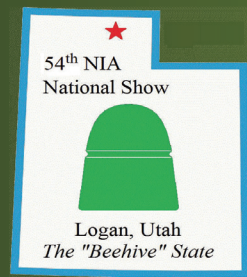
(801) 201-5187

brianlweese@gmail.com



Pre Show Activities:

Thursday, June 8th, 2023
Bus trip to Golden Spike National Monument, Northrup Grumman (Thiokol) Rocket Garden.



Our Host Hotel's are the Marriott SpringHill Suites and the Townplace Suites

Enjoy the Local Area:

- American West Heritage Center (a working farm that depicts life in the early West):

<http://awhc.org>

- Numerous antique shops
- Dozens of restaurants
- Stokes Nature Center in Logan Canyon:

<http://logannature.org/>

- Wind Caves and other hiking in Logan Canyon:

<http://logancanyonhiking.com/>

- Public pool and waterslide across the street from the fairgrounds
- Park and small zoo on the south side of the fairgrounds
- Numerous fishing streams and reservoirs
- Cache Valley is about halfway between 5 national parks to the south with Teton and Yellowstone National Parks to the north.

For a long list of other attractions, visit:

http://www.nia.org/shows/2023_national/

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

BY DWAYNE ANTHONY * NIA #3619

This is the fourth in a series of articles documenting the May 2019 excavation of the California Glass Insulator Company factory site in Long Beach, California, circa 1912-1914. The preceding three parts of the story were published in the February, April, and June 2022 issues of Drip Points. The involvement with this excavation has subsequently generated a deep desire to delve into further historical research on CGI Co. This report is intended to provide an accounting of the dig at the factory site only. Extensive historical research is being compiled for a future book publication. Please note that all references to 'CGI Co' (California Glass Insulator Company) are used loosely to cover the factory's full production period, including their latter reorganization to California Glass Works.

DAY FOUR OF THE DIG

This was Sunday, May 12, 2019. While Ofelia and I were celebrating our 35th wedding anniversary, Dave had the day off from work, so he spent a few hours at the site digging. Dave reported that he began the day on the site at 1:00 p.m. with partly cloudy skies and a high of 69 degrees F. He worked a little more on the glassmakers' shards layer, pursuing it in the opposite direction from where I left off the previous day. A few more stringers were collected, then the layer faded to very small bits of slag.

Dave then spent the remainder of his day working over the spoils pile, adding a few more blue and yellow specimens to our study group. One item of note was a complete blue CD 112 California keg, the first whole example of the dig.

Before calling it a day at 7:00 p.m., Dave visited the on-site metal salvage scrap pile. Light excavation of the property thus far had brought up a considerable amount of metal scrap. The pile of mostly twisted metal pipe and conduit had grown to six feet high. Dave collected two sections of a large sprocket chain that we had examined two days prior, speculating that they could be remnants from CGI Co's sand conveyor system or annealing oven. We may never positively verify a CGI Co connection, but samples had to be rescued before they were hauled away to the recycling yard.

Dave reported no new CDs found, so we were still holding at the previous day's total of 20 out of a possible 24 known. The CDs unaccounted-for at this point were: CD 164 unembossed; CD 187 Brown's Pony style; CD 190 bottom for the two-piece transposition; and CD 200 one-piece transposition. Will Monday's efforts produce any of these final four?

DAY FIVE OF THE DIG

I made the two-hour-long drive to Long Beach through heavy traffic on Monday morning, May 13, arriving at the site at 10:00 a.m. Skies were mostly cloudy, with an expected high of 68 degrees F. I unlocked the combination lock at our usual side entrance gate, pulled onto the lot, then locked the gate behind me. The work crew was not onsite, so it appeared I was in for a quiet day on the lot. Dave had called in sick for Friday and Saturday of the dig due to "California Fever", so he felt obli-



FIGURE 32 - A SOLID POUR CD 152

gated to show up for his usual work shift on Monday. He assured me he would drive straight from work to join me later in the afternoon.

Based on a phone discussion with Todd the previous evening, this could quite possibly be our last day to collect from the site. With that in mind, I wanted to spend my time wisely, placing full focus on the most productive zones that remained. My first mission for the day was to walk the entire area to review and evaluate all options.

With my trusty trench shovel in hand, I scrutinized the entire dig zone, briefly scattering two small untouched debris piles. First, a CD 102 CGI Co shard was found in light purple, then a blue aqua CD 160 baby signal was uncovered. Since we had only encountered yellow baby signals up to this point, I excitedly reached down to examine it more closely. What I first noticed was a shade of aqua that seemed unusual for a California. As I wiped the sediment off the skirt, I focused on an embossing I didn't expect to see: *BROOKFIELD*. Since this insulator was found in the vicinity of the cullet layer, I initially wrote it off as just another stray piece of glass that came in with the cullet. Then my imagination kicked in for a moment, wondering if this could be the sample pattern given to the mold maker to fashion the first California CD 160 style mold?

Once I felt I had covered what was left of the easy surface pickings, it was time to gather up the digging tools and get back to the untouched silt and glass layers. I first started with the glassmakers' shards zone where Dave had left off the day prior. Dave had followed it to the east until it completely played out. I resumed working to the south where I had left off two days prior. Only a short two-foot section remained in this direction before intersecting with the yellow zone that previously produced broken yellow crown-top soda bottles.

While working the last of this glassmakers' shards region, more shards

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

(CONTINUED)

of aqua CD 133s and blue aqua ear-pieces from CD 260 helmets (pinched-ear style) were found mixed in with a few additional yellow stringers. As I drew closer to the yellow layer the uniformity of the material began to change. Pieces of yellow appeared higher in the layer and the lower six inches contained a mix of unexpected items. The first insulators to emerge from this lower stratum included our first complete sage green CGI Co pony. Then a skirt piece of a heavily amber swirled CD 152 appeared, followed by a spectacular CD 152 solid-pour in blue! (Figure 32)

As I kept pressing forward in this dual-layer, I uncovered a rounded corner of a bottle that appeared to be aqua in color. This was odd because none of the aqua-colored cullet bottles had been found anywhere near this area of the dig zone. Within seconds it was in my hands, and it was embossed: *Crystal Bottling Co. Long Beach Cal.* I wondered, could this possibly be a CGI Co factory-made bottle?

At this point, the lower six inches of the layer became much less compacted, as if you were digging through loose 1-inch roadbed gravel, but in this case, the gravel was small pieces of slag glass. It was then that I hit a pocket of what first appeared to be a miniature fairyland scene. This pocket about six inches in diameter contained hundreds of yellow hairlike threads of glass all massed together. Each straight strand of fragile glass was no thicker than a single human hair and measured one to three inches in length. I first sat in amazement as I tried to process what I was seeing. All I knew was I had to somehow preserve a sample of this peculiar material. I looked around for a small container and quickly spotted one of my empty plastic water bottles. I pulled my pocket knife out and removed the top of the bottle at the shoulder, then carefully filled it with samples of the glass hair. Their origin is yet to be determined, but perhaps they are a byproduct of the insulator pressing or bottle-blowing machinery. (Figure 33)

Back to the layer, more partial blue and blue aqua solid and warming pours were emerging from the lower level of the layer. The upper layer



FIGURE 33 - FINE YELLOW GLASS HAIRS



FIGURE 34 - COPPER-COLORED SLAG GLASS

was still holding broken pieces of yellow soda bottles, with a few shards from yellow baby signals mixed in, but nothing complete. Then, right at the transition point of the two distinct layers, I uncovered a piece of slag glass in a color that immediately caught my attention. It was a beautiful shade of copper glass! (Figure 34) Within the next five minutes, two more samples were uncovered. Collectors for years have pondered over the very few copper-colored California insulators known in the hobby, speculating whether this is a factory-produced color or the result of a post-factory contrived alteration. We can put a twist on an old familiar adage by saying, “The proof is in the slag”.

With just a little more digging, this distinctive lower layer diminished, as the upper layer engulfed it. There was one small peninsula of maybe 4 square feet remaining of the glassmakers’ shards layer that jutted off in a ninety-degree direction, but I decided to continue in the path of the yellow bottle shards, even though it consisted of the hard silt and required much more physical effort.

As I progressed along, I discovered several yellow soda bottle shards with embossing on them. With much excitement, I, at last, exposed one complete side panel containing full embossing. Wiping it down while it was still in situ, it read: *White Star Soda Works Los Angeles Cal.* in a faintly outlined slug plate. I kept finessing it carefully with my digging spoon, eagerly anticipating a nice half-panel specimen with full embossing, but I wasn’t finding a broken edge. Then a top appeared... then a base, could it possibly be complete? With 75% of it uncovered, a light, twisting pry with the digging spoon behind the base heel freed the bottle. A prompt assessment revealed a lip chip, but it was an exciting discovery, nonetheless.

Finding the first complete yellow bottle with embossing provided enough optimistic encouragement to press on with this segment of the layer. This turned out to be a wise decision. Within the next two hours, I proceeded to work through a remarkable layer of complete, to nearly complete, yellow bottles! Adding to this excitement, several distinctively different embossings were appearing! (Figure 35)

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

(CONTINUED)



FIGURE 35 - AN EMBOSSED YELLOW SODA BOTTLE

From this one segment of the yellow glass layer, I extracted at least three dozen broken to complete yellow bottles, some unembossed, but many were embossed. A total of five different embossed local bottler names were found on crown top soda bottles in similar shades of yellow glass. They were: *White Star Soda Works Los Angeles Cal*; *Arrow-head Cold Springs Co Los Angeles Cal*; *OK Bottling Works Ontario Cal*; *Excelsior Bottling Works San Bernardino Cal*; *Crown City Bottling Works Pasadena Cal*. (Figure 36)

The aqua Long Beach soda bottle found earlier in the day matched these yellow bottles precisely in style and manufacturing details. This brings the total to six differently embossed soda bottles that appear to have no association with any of the bottles found in the cullet layers. Considering the colors, the location found on the site (found with yellow California insulators) and the known fact from newspaper reports that CGI Co reportedly made soda bottles, it was becoming more apparent that these bottles were in all likelihood manufactured by CGI Co.

As stated previously, occasional pieces of CD 160 yellow baby signals were found mixed in with the yellow bottles. As I forged ahead, I noticed the yellow bottles were becoming scarcer and the baby signal shards were becoming more plentiful, including several full domes. Finally, a complete yellow baby signal was carved out of the dense layer. Within minutes another appeared, and another. At times I would have as many as 5-6 yellow baby signals simultaneously exposed in the layer.



FIGURE 36 - VARIOUS EMBOSSED AND UNEMBOSSED YELLOW SODA BOTTLES



FIGURE 37 - YELLOW BABY SIGNALS IN SITU, WITH MY TRUSTY DIGGING SPOON POSING BELOW

(Figure 37) The same abrupt pattern change was developing as seen in all previous instances in this yellow layer. Today it went from a mix of bottle and baby signal shards to complete bottles, then as the bottles dissipated, an abundance of broken baby signals appeared. Now, just a foot further into the layer I'm plucking out complete baby signals!

The exhilaration level intensified with each complete insulator removed. The overburden above the layer was only 12-18 inches at most, but it too had to be removed as I advanced along. At one point it became necessary to remove an additional berm of loose soil above the original overburden. This foot-high berm had been deposited during some light grading before our arrival on the site.

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

(CONTINUED)

As I made my very first swipe with my shovel to scatter the soil to one side, I heard the instantaneous screech of glass on the metal shovel blade, followed by a glimpse of a sizable blue aqua glass insulator spinning off to my left. I immediately recognized the CD 133 shape, but I also noticed a strange extended glass flange radiating out from its base. As I reached down to pick it up, I momentarily pondered how a CD 132.4 found its way to the CGI Co factory site. Once in my hands, it became quite obvious that it was a CD 133 California solid pour with a massive over-pour! A portion of one side was missing, but it was still an 'incredible' specimen to lay eyes on and a moment I will never forget. I must confess that I probed my inner sanity for a brief moment, questioning whether it is normal, acceptable behavior to audibly convey words of excitement when no one is around to hear you?

After staring at this solid pour in utter amazement for at least 5-10 minutes, I carried it over to my truck, placed it on the white hood, then took a photo with my cell phone to be attached to a quick text to Dave, since he was still at work. (Figure 38) This amazing piece had been pulled up from the original layer when the grader made its first shallow cuts on Thursday morning, and remained hidden until now under an inch or two of loose soil.

It was now back to the baby signal layer and slow going, but several more complete examples were carefully liberated. One, in particular, had a broken top from a yellow soda protruding from its base. It had me puzzled for a few moments as I was uncovering it. (Figure 39)

Dave arrived at the gate at 4 p.m., and followed the same procedure with the combination lock to enter, then locked the gate behind him. This gate was used by another adjacent spooled cable business, so we had to make certain it was kept locked for security reasons.

After our initial greetings, I took a brief break to share the many discoveries of the day with Dave. He expressed his amazement with multiple repetitions of "Wow!" as I pulled several prizes from the boxes and buckets.

Dave grabbed a shovel to work on an untouched area near the blue layer and I continued with the yellow baby signal layer.

While we were progressing along, we noticed a large forklift on the opposite side of the property loaded with huge cable spools moving toward the alley gate. A short time later he returned with the empty forklift, disappearing onto the adjacent business property. Why mention this? You will soon find out.

With only a couple of hours of daylight remaining, the baby signal layer was reverting back to producing mostly broken shards. The small remaining segment of the glassmakers' shards layer kept calling out to me, so I shifted a few feet over to my left, took a seat on my kneeling pad, and started working at it once again with the trenching shovel and digging spoon. (Figure 40) A few more ear shards from the blue aqua helmets were recovered, then some small yellow stringers started to appear. Then up popped a larger elongated yellow glob of glass resembling a solid blank used in the two-part bottle-blowing process employed at CGI Co.



FIGURE 38 - CD 133 CALIFORNIA SOLID POUR WITH A MASSIVE BASE OVERPOUR



FIGURE 39 - YELLOW BABY SIGNAL WITH A PROTRUDING PIECE FROM A YELLOW CROWN TOP BOTTLE.

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

(CONTINUED)



FIGURE 40 - DIGGING THE LAST OF THE GLASSMAKERS' SHARDS LAYER

Just as the sun was setting and the last square foot of the glassmakers' shards layer was playing out, my digging spoon uncovered the wide groove of another insulator. As the surrounding debris was gently cleared away, it was undoubtedly evident that we had another large egg. Being encased in the looser material, it was less than a minute before the egg was free, practically rolling out in my lap. With the lack of silt in this portion of the layer, the glass surface was quite clean, and the latter part of the word California was partially legible. A closer look revealed the first half of the California embossing was weak and mostly absent. I held the egg up to the western horizon where the sun had just set. The color was a gorgeous deep smokey golden yellow. (Figure 41)

The glassmakers' glory hole layer that had produced some spectacular glass relics over the past few days was finally exhausted. As I stood up and looked down silently at the jumbled tailings that were strewn about before me, I experienced a feeling reminiscent of being at a funeral and paying one's last respects.

Dave was obligated once again to report back to work the next day, so this was his final day at the site. I was clinging to fading hopes of returning one last time to further explore the yellow layer, but as the night's darkness fell upon the site, an odd, melancholy feeling of finality was setting in.

Under the assistance of our flashlights, Dave and I loaded up our tools and the last of the buckets and boxes of collected materials. I told Dave

I'd contact Todd during my drive home to inquire about the status of the site for the next day. We said our goodbyes and I left for the gate, leaving Dave behind as he changed into his clean clothes.

It was seemingly clear at this point that our day was done, and I would be home under a warm shower in 1-1/2 to 2 hours, and for Dave just 15 minutes... well, that was until I arrived at the gate. I had my truck positioned with the lights brightly shining on the right end of the sliding gate that held the combination lock. It was a heavy-duty combination barrel lock on a thick chain. I rotated the dials to the corresponding five digits that we had used each of the prior days, but it didn't unlock. I scrambled them, tried it again, but nothing. After several attempts, I hopped back in my truck and returned to Dave's location to give him the news. We both returned to the gate to confirm the combination together, but we were undeniably locked in! The earlier forklift operator had apparently recalibrated the combination numbers, either accidentally or intentionally and he was long gone for the day.

There were three entrances to the property, so we first walked over to the main gate where we found multiple locks that provided no outlet. The third gate was on the opposite side, where we found a lock exactly matching the one we used at our gate. We entered the same combination, bingo, it opened on the first try. There was one big problem though, the soil elevation level on the lot had already been cut and lowered about two feet at this gate location. The cut was right at the sidewalk, so with the gate open it was a 2-foot straight-up sheer rise

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE (PART 4)

(CONTINUED)



FIGURE 41 - LARGE CALIFORNIA EGG, THE LAST ONE FROM THE DIG

to the sidewalk. I was driving a Ram 4x4, so I could navigate such an obstacle with very little effort, but Dave's Ford Transit Connect van was much lower to the ground.

A call went out to Todd to possibly obtain any of the combinations to the main gate locks, but his voicemail picked up. It now became obvious that we had to build earthen ramps at the cut, so we grabbed our shovels and went to work carrying soil from dirt piles a short distance away. Because the available soil was of a sandy consistency, the ramp just collapsed with each attempt to get Dave out. We were finally able to access some dilapidated lumber from a nearby dumpster and build two ramps. Even the first two attempts on the ramps failed, but with more ingenuity, placing rocks and concrete under the ramps, we eventually succeeded.

Despite the final hiccup, it was a hugely successful day. The four CD styles absent from our hit list remained MIA. We had samples of 20 out of the 24 known, so not a bad conclusion after five days of digging. Unearthing the various embossed soda bottles on this day was of momentous significance, particularly for historical studies and documentation purposes.

After a good night's rest, Tuesday morning began with a call to Todd. He politely advised me that the costs were mounting significantly, and he couldn't hold the work crew back any longer, so he confirmed it was time to pull us off the site. Our next conversation occurred on Wednesday, which was the following evening, with news that the entire east end of the property, once our dig site, had been graded down, and all remaining

glass had been crushed, scattered, and blended. They were painful words to hear, but after the conversation with Todd, I sat back with a quiet, satisfied smile, reflecting on the silver lining of the entire experience and the stories to be told.

CONCLUSION AND POST-DIG UPDATES

Extensive historical research has been conducted since the California Dig. The results are being compiled into an exciting documentary story that will take you through all aspects of the California Glass Insulator Company, from its inception to its final demise... and more! This will be available in book form. Watch for future announcements!

As a side note of interest, at least two large RPF eggs were removed from the factory property by one of the heavy equipment operators while working the site, then sold to a collector. None of the artifacts were to be removed from the property without Todd's explicit permission. Since these two eggs are considered stolen property, Todd contacted the collector to discuss having them returned. The collector advised Todd that he had dropped them, causing them to shatter into many pieces. When Todd asked for the pieces to be returned, he was told they were discarded. It's a shame these two rare eggs were destroyed and will never be seen in our hobby again.

On a more uplifting note, Todd has requested our assistance in creating a small permanent display that will include a sampling of the artifacts retained from the dig, as well as a brief history of CGI Co. It will be exhibited at the interior entrance to his newly built industrial building. Once completed, collectors will be invited to stop in to view it. We will be sure to announce further details after its completion.

As this *California Adventure* comes to an end, we, and I'm including the hobby as a whole, must extend a huge thank you to Todd Taricco for his foresight in recognizing the historical significance associated with salvaging these important artifacts. His kindness and willingness to allow us on his property to recover hundreds of samples is far beyond exemplary. The best of the best from the dig will remain as one archived collection for future exhibits and will also be available by appointment only for hands-on viewing and studies.

Yes, just like the *Incredicoaster* at Disneyland's theme park, *California Adventure*, this was an incredible once-in-a-lifetime experience. We enjoyed having all of you along for the journey. Unfortunately, the ride has now come to an end. Please unfasten your seatbelts and exit to your right. 🎢



THREADLESS INSULATORS IN CIVIL WAR ERA PHOTOGRAPHY

BY MICHAEL TUCKER * NIA #4051

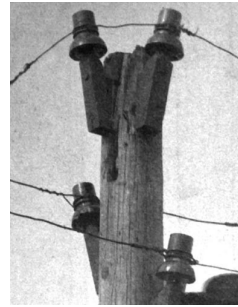
If you are like me, having grown up in and around the insulator hobby, then probably you know about the obsession of always looking up at the poles! My interest in insulators, as I matured, began to blossom into a specialization in old telegraph and threadless pieces. I felt this pictorial spread was appropriate at this time, since collector focus would be on the Gettysburg National Show and on the threadless insulators used at that time.

This peculiar habit of looking up at the poles did not change, when it came to the examination of old photographs. One of the challenges I found to "hunting" for insulators in photographs, was finding photographs old enough. (Red hot tip: I quickly learned one of the elements to look for in old photography to date it at least to pre-1900 is the lack of steel crossarm braces on poles!) Most of the time, the threadless, if they are in the picture, will be too far away to decipher any crucial visual details as to what specific insulators they may be. The obvious start for my search was any picture Civil War. Whenever I could find an extensive picture file online, I would pour through it, looking for those crown jewels to slowly fill a picture folder on my computer! After exhausting Civil War picture files, the next choice was old railroad pictures, locomotives, depots, etc.; then finally, old pictures in general (pictures of notable structures, bridges, roads, people, etc.) any picture taken, where the photographer would accidentally frame in some old glass! It's a daunting task perusing hundreds of pictures for those elusive shots which clearly contain threadless in them. I would say for every thousand pictures, you are lucky to have one or two! At this point, when a NEW one of those special shots comes to my attention (probably one every couple of years), I feel like I have found another four leaf clover!

Some of the photographs may be ones many of us have seen and are familiar. My goal is to possibly present ones that you haven't. In most cases I have presented the normal formatted photograph followed by its close up. It's my goal that this issue will prove to be a "keeper" or a reference for those of you who are threadless fans. It has taken me several decades to amass the threadless in use pictures and I have hand selected several for their sharpness, closeness and clarity. Many are "cream of the crop" threadless pictures. Enjoy! 🍀



1862-63 PHOTO BY ANDREW J. RUSSELL AND CLOSE UP OF INSULATORS ON THE LEFT



BLOCKHOUSE ON THE NASHVILLE & CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD, FALL OF 1863. THE POLE HAS THREE VERY LIGHT COLORED GLASS CD 737 OR 738S MOUNTED ON SIDE PINS (CLOSE UP TO THE RIGHT)



MANASSAS JUNCTION, VA IN MARCH 1864 - WHAT APPEARS TO BE A THREADLESS EGG ON THE TOP LINE WITH A WOOD BLOCK RAMSHORN MOUNTED BELOW ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE POLE (CLOSEUP RIGHT TOP)

ORANGE AND ALEXANDRIA RAILROAD ROUNDHOUSE AND STATION IN 1863. THIS JUNCTION IS LOCATED IN WHAT IS TODAY THE CARLYLE NEIGHBORHOOD OF ALEXANDRIA, VA. ANDREW J. RUSSELL PHOTO (CLOSEUP RIGHT BOTTOM)

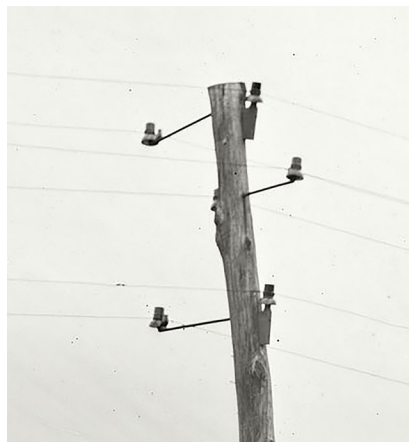
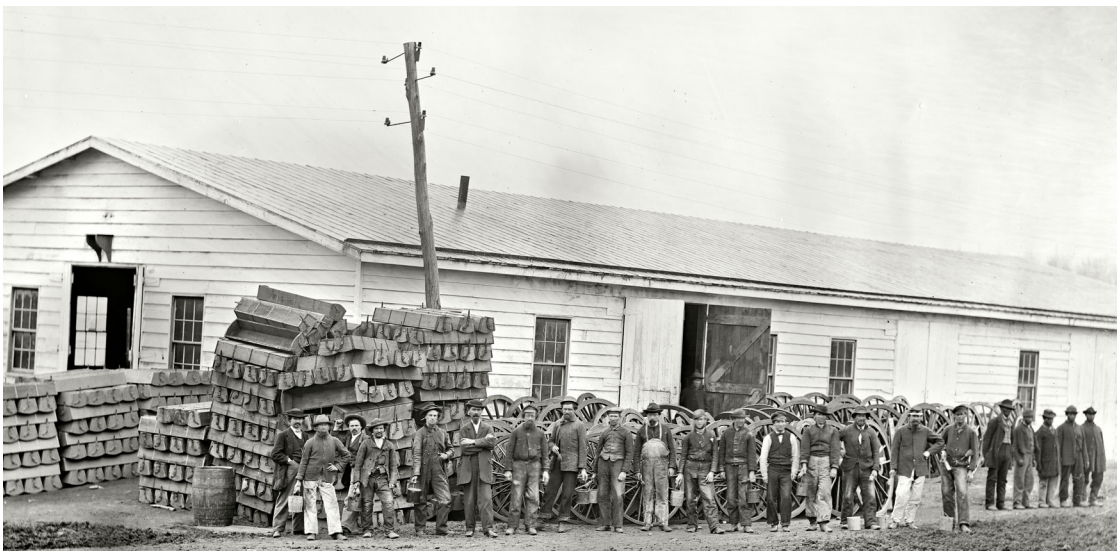
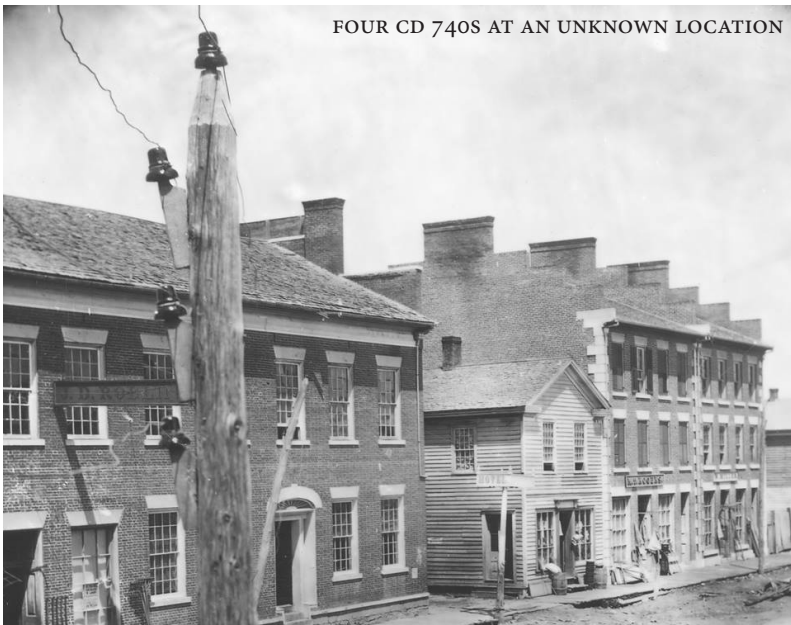




(LEFT/ABOVE) CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT IN VIRGINIA WITH A DARK 737 OR 738 BARELY MAKING IT IN THE FRAME

(BELOW) COL. GRAHAM AND SOLDIERS AT FALMOUTH, VA, IN MARCH 1863 WITH TWO UNKNOWN THREADLESS ON THE POLE

FOUR CD 740S AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION



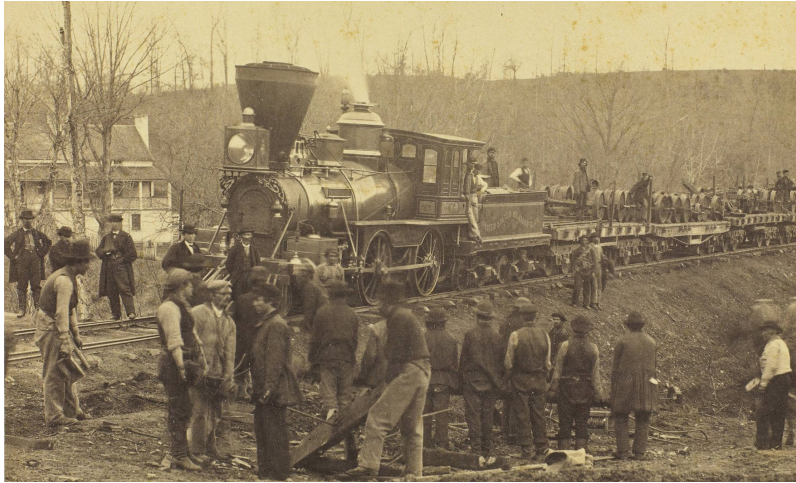
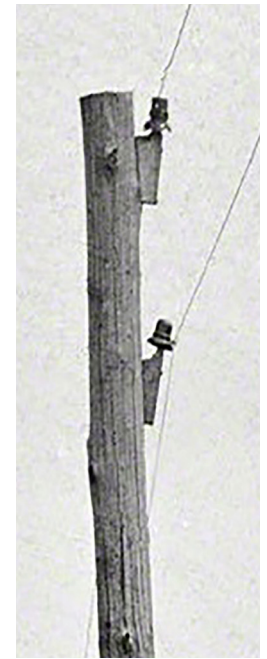
(LEFT/ABOVE) MEN AND WAGONS OUTSIDE A GOV'T PAINT SHOP IN WASHINGTON, DC - 1865. AT LEAST THE TWO ON THE LEFT ARE CD 790 TEAPOTS



SIX EGG-STYLE INSULATORS



LIBBY PRISON IN RICHMOND, VA, WAS USED TO OLD UNION ARMY OFFICER PRISONERS OF WAR. A TELEGRAPH LINE RUNS ALONG THE RIGHT SIDE WITH A STOVEPIPE HAT STYLE INSULATOR AND WHAT LOOKS LIKE A 740 BELOW



A UNITED STATES MILITARY RR LOCOMOTIVE AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION DURING THE CIVIL WAR THE POLE ON THE LEFT HAS A LARGE-STYLE HAT - LIKELY A 736.5 OR 736.7



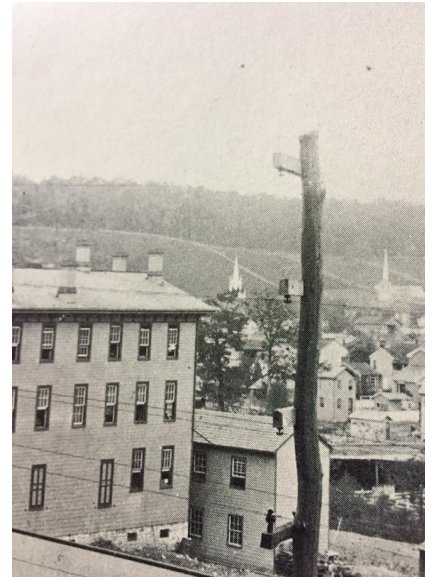
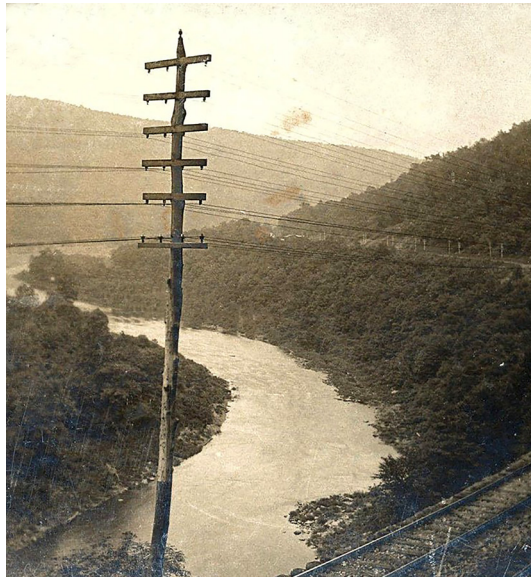
ONE OF MY FAVORITES. THE 737 STOVEPIPE HAT REALLY STANDS OUT ON THE NICE FORGED STEEL BRACKET MADE WITH A CURVE ON IT. LIKELY TO BE IN BOSTON



MARYLAND DEPOT, WASHINGTON, D.C. WITH TELEGRAPH LINE TO THE LEFT



A MAKESHIFT TELEGRAPH OFFICE MADE FROM A RAIL CAR DURING THE CIVIL WAR - NOTE THE THREADLESS ON THE ROOF AT THE REAR LEFT OF THE CAR



LOTS OF RAMSHORNS AND SOME OTHER THREADLESS IN THESE TWO VIEWS ALONG THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD MAINLINE ALONG THE CONEMAUGH RIVER AT PACKSADDLE CURVE NEAR TORRANCE, PA

MORE RAMSHORNS AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION



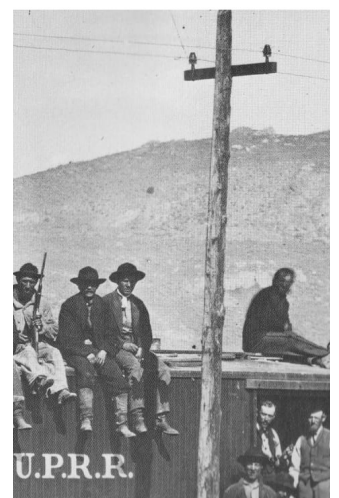
CULPEPER COURT HOUSE, VA, RAILROAD STATION IN AUGUST 1862. A COUPLE STOVEPIPE HAT THREADLESS ARE VISIBLE ON THE POLE JUST ABOVE THE STATION. THE CIVIL WAR FIGHTING WOULD ARRIVE HERE ABOUT A YEAR LATER.



OUT WEST AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, WE SEE THREADLESS IN USE ON THE UNION PACIFIC.

(LEFT AND ABOVE) UNION PACIFIC SHOPS IN OMAHA, NE

(RIGHT) RAILROAD WORKERS (CA 1868-69) LIKELY SOMEWHERE IN UTAH. WESTERN UNION'S TELEGRAPH LINE IS SEEN WITH CD 731S.





RUINS OF THE ARSENAL AFTER THE BATTLE OF HARPERS FERRY, WV, DURING SEPT 12-15, 1862. (ABOVE) PHOTO TAKEN OCTOBER 1862. NOTE THE INSULATORS NAILED TO THE DEAD TREE NEAR THE TOP CENTER (ENLARGED BELOW RIGHT)



(ABOVE) HANOVER JUNCTION, PA. AS YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT THE PICTURE, USING YOUR INSULATOR SPOTTING EYES, SEVERAL THREADLESS ARE EVIDENT!

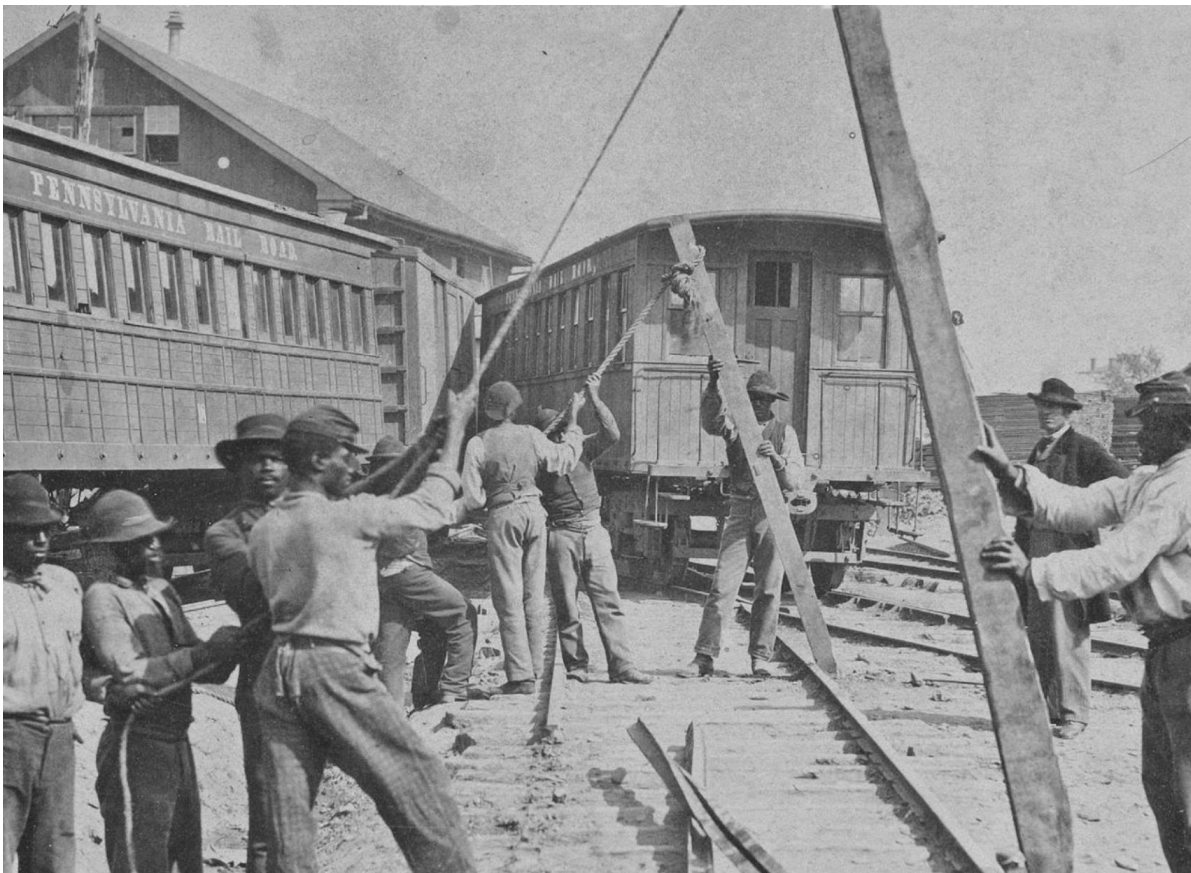
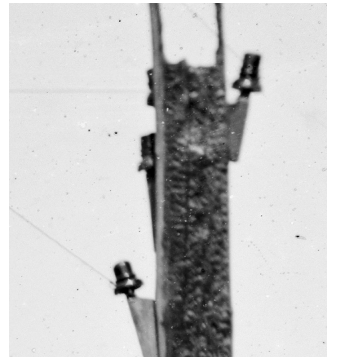
(LEFT) THE STATION BUILDING ITSELF HAS SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIABLE INSULATORS, AS WELL AS ANOTHER EGG ON THE ADJACENT POLE.

(RIGHT) ENLARGING THE TOP OF THE POLE IN THE FOREGROUND, WE SEE IT HAS TWO EGG-TYPE THREADLESS.

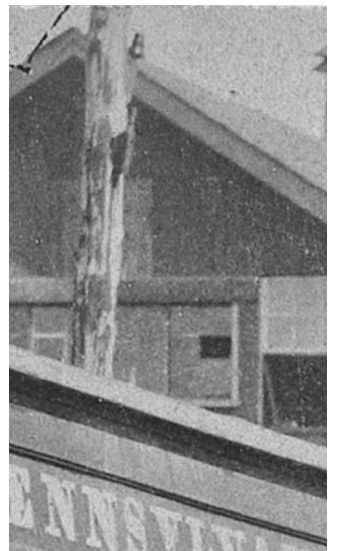




AFTER THE BURNING OF RICHMOND, VA, BY RETREATING CONFEDERATE FORCES IN APRIL OF 1865, A STOVEPIPE HAT STYLE THREADLESS AND A CD 740 CAN BE SEEN ON A CHARRED POLE (CLOSE UP TO RIGHT)

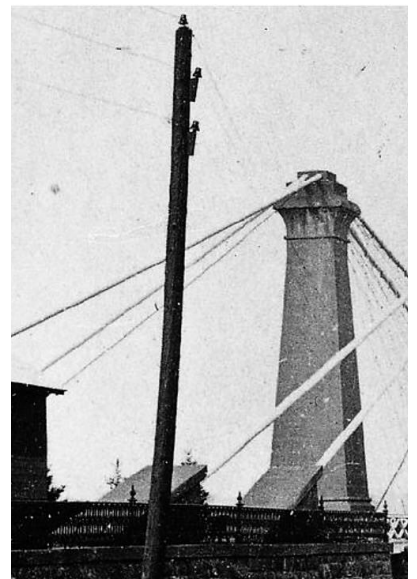
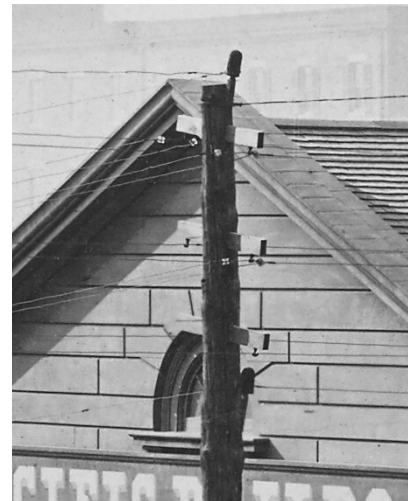


DURING THE CIVIL WAR, MEN WORK TO REPAIR TRACKAGE SOMEWHERE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA. A SINGLE THREADLESS HAT IS VISIBLE NEAR THE BUILDING ROOFLINE





(ABOVE) THE PACIFIC RAILROAD DEPOT IN ST. LOUIS, MO, CIRCA 1867.
 (RIGHT - CLOSE UP) THE POLE OUT FRONT HAS TWO WADES, NUMEROUS RAMSHORNS,
 AND WHAT APPEAR TO BE FOUR GLASS STRAINS OF SOME SORT



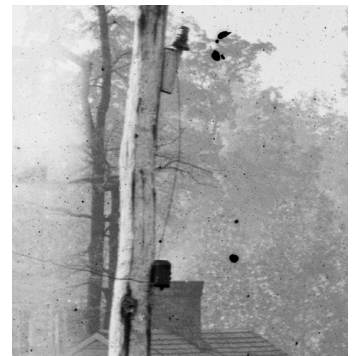
(ABOVE AND LEFT) TEMPLE STREET IN SALT LAKE CITY,
 UT. DARK COLORED 729'S SEEN IN CLOSE UP.

(RIGHT) THREE THREADLESS SIT ON A POLE AT AN
 UNKNOWN LOCATION NEAR THE END OF A SUSPENSION
 BRIDGE

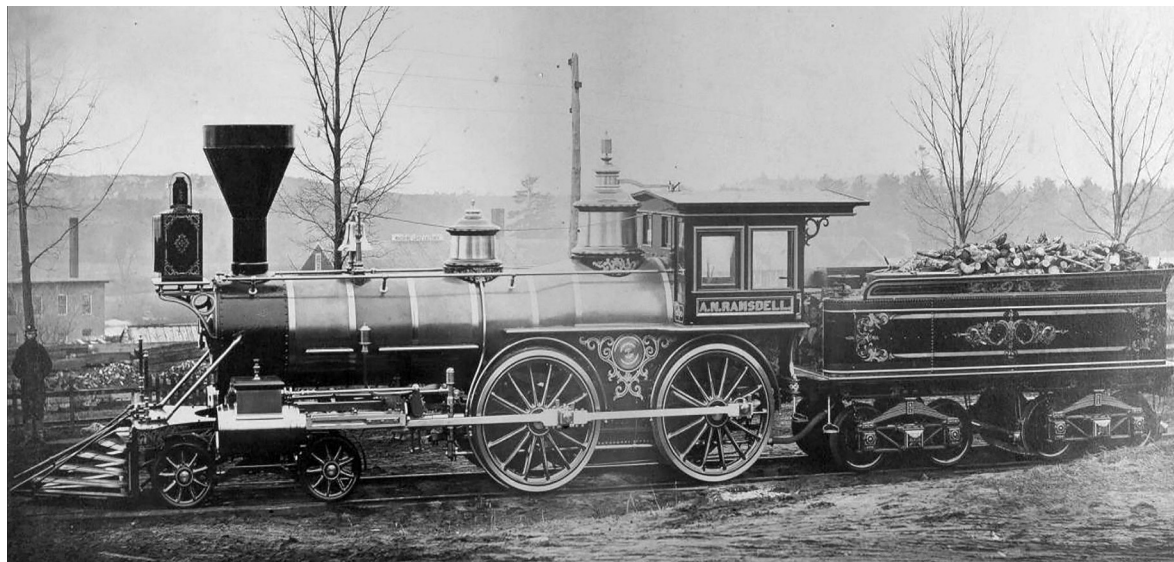


(ABOVE) GEORGE BARNARD CAPTURED A SINGLE TELEGRAPH POLE AT THE LEFT EDGE OF THE FRAME WHEN HE PHOTOGRAPHED THE ROUNDHOUSE IN ATLANTA AFTER SHERMAN'S ATTACK.

(RIGHT) A CLOSE UP SHOWING THE GLASS STOVEPIPE HAT AND THE WOOD BLOCK FURTHER DOWN

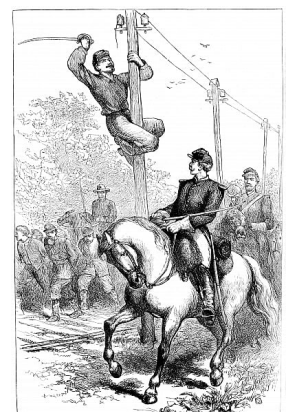


(LEFT) STEAM LOCOMOTIVE "A.M.RAMSDELL" POSES AT THE MANCHESTER LOCOMOTIVE WORKS IN MANCHESTER, NH, CIRCA 1860. WE CAN SEE A POLE BEHIND THE LOCOMOTIVE WITH THREE WOOD BLOCK RAMSHORNS



(LEFT) A SINGLE STOVEPIPE HAT THREADLESS SUPPORTS THE WIRE AT THE END OF THE UNION ARMY'S PONTOON BRIDGE OVER THE POTOMAC RIVER AT BARRY, MARYLAND (NOW BRUNSWICK). CLOSE UP IMAGE INSET.

(RIGHT) THE TELGRAPH WAS A VITAL PART OF THE CIVIL WAR EFFORT. SO MUCH SO THAT ARTISTS CAPTURED IT IN DRAWINGS. HERE, STUART'S CAVALRY IS DEPICTED CUTTING ENEMY TELEGRAPH LINES. I LEAVE IT TO THE READER TO IMAGINE WHAT KIND OF INSULATORS THOSE MIGHT BE



2022 SPUDFEST SHOW REPORT

BY ROGER ZIESAK * NIA #8919



Another great show put on by the Spokane Hosts this year. There seemed to be maybe a few more tables than last year and there was a great variety not only in insulators but also in go-withs. Pretty decent walk-in traffic as well. Friday was a little on the damp side as it rained four different times on the gathering but the sun came out, dried things off and barely a step was lost. One collector brought a bunch of nice California glass and moved most of it. In fact, sales were pretty good for everybody. I picked up a nice N-N (CEW) purple CD120. I usually admire those from afar but this one was dancing in the sunshine and I was hooked. Another thing to admire were several Cal Helmets from the recent find in Scotia, CA. I was never bored.



The food was top shelf and there was plenty of it. Our hosts dedicated a considerable amount of their time to making sure everything was going right and to making sure folks had what they needed to enjoy both days. Thanks to Bill and Darcy, Brent and Joan and Dan and Kelly. Awesome Job! Dan and Kelly's kids are turning out to be quite the discerning collectors and it was great to see them making the rounds and pondering what to buy. And they weren't the only kids working the tables. Several showed up and they weren't rookies either. Future of the hobby right there. 🍄



THE SHOW IS HOSTED IN BILL AND DARCY'S YARD, WHICH IS FULL OF COOL STUFF



MOST OF THE SHOW WAS BEAUTIFUL SPRING WEATHER, BUT EVERY NOW AND THEN THE CLOUDS WOULD OPEN UP AND EVERYBODY WOULD RUN FOR THE GARAGE WHILE IT POURED



LOTS OF HAPPY COLLECTORS AROUND THE AUTHOR'S TABLE



MORE TABLES AND DISPLAYS IN THE SHOP



A SPECIAL TREAT - CAKE TO CELEBRATE JIM CUNNINGHAM'S BIRTHDAY ON MAY 27





TIM AND JOANNE WOOD AT THEIR TABLE



RON LOOKS OVER JIM BLOXOM'S TABLE



A NICE SELECTION OF CALIFORNIA GLASS AS WELL AS EC&MS, MCLAUGHLINS, AND MORE!



RON YUHAS WAS ONE OF THE LATER ARRIVALS AND GETS SWARMED AS HE'S UNPACKING



JOE GAREGNANI SHOWS OFF HIS NEW 201 - ONE OF A GOOD NUMBER OF AMAZING CALS THAT CHANGED HANDS AT THE SHOW



ROB BAUMANN AND SHOW CO-HOST BRENT BURGER



WRIC 22ND ANNUAL ALLEGHENY VALLEY INSULATOR SHOW

BY RICK BALDWIN * NIA #336



The West Leechburg Firemen's Recreation Hall, nestled in the scenic hills of rural Western Pennsylvania, provided a relaxing and comfortable venue for the Western Reserve Insulator Club's 22nd Annual Allegheny Valley Insulator Show & Sale on Saturday, June 25, 2022. This spacious, well-lit and air-conditioned facility allowed show hosts Ron Barth and Tim Grantz to again utilize their experience in providing attendees a relaxed atmosphere with amenities for camaraderie and an opportunity to add insulators, go-withs, etc. to their collecting interests. Following the Friday afternoon Recreation Hall setup for the show, Ron facilitated a fellowship dinner outing for helpers and several early-arriving dealers at a rustic, local-favorite restaurant.

The Recreation Hall facility, which is amenable for accommodating future show expansion, was well-attended by collectors throughout the day, as dealers from PA, OH and NY and collectors alike caught up with renewing friendships in person, and the show vendors reported good sales. Many happy attendees posted photos on social media of quality new additions that were found for their collections. A particular unique item that changed hands was a feeder wire insulator patented in 1894. This pristine example utilized an early composition material to insulate the malleable brass cable clamp from the pin. Another unique item that was displayed at the show was a scarce "industrial" lightning rod tip, which embodied three square-sided spikes.

Being a welcomed tradition at the WRIC's three annual shows, food and refreshments were available at the Allegheny show venue throughout the day, thanks to the planning and facilitating by show com-



LUNCH BREAK BEING ENJOYED

mittee member Sharon Foster, whose culinary expertise is always appreciated by attendees! Coffee and a selection of donuts were available for the dealers and attendees during setup and morning hours. For lunch, Sharon prepared and individually packaged a nice selection of mini slider sandwiches, which were accompanied by individual pasta cups and sealed snack packages.

Two of the three WRIC annual insulator shows have undergone some changes with respect to their traditional timeframes. This year, the club's "Winterfest" annual business meeting was held via Zoom in January, while the actual show was transitioned to a more "weather-friendly" date in April, known as the "Springfest", and the annual Allegheny Valley show, formerly held in April, was again held in the Summer timeframe. Stay tuned for future updates for these two great shows forthcoming in 2023! This year's 12th Annual "Oktoberfest" Autumn show in Richfield, Ohio will be held on Saturday, September 24th, and the hosts and club officers are looking forward to again welcoming collectors and dealers! 🍷



BILL HUTCHISON'S SALES TABLE



TOM NELSON AND ALLAN STOCKY



JOHN HOVANEC AND
RON BARTH, SHOW HOST



KEN WILICK'S SALES TABLE (FOREGROUND)
& KARL FURR'S TABLE

(BELOW-LEFT) FRIDAY SET UP TIME
(BELOW-RIGHT) KEN WILICK AND STEVE
BOBB COMPARING NOTES



RICK & BERY BALDWIN'S TABLE



BERY BALDWIN AND DONNA BOBB



SHOPPING AT STEVE BOBB'S TABLE



KARL FURR AND GREG DRUCK
CHECKING OUT STEVE BOBB'S
TABLE

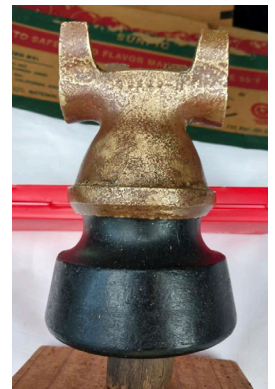


SHARON FOSTER READY
TO SERVE LUNCH



KARL FURR MAKING A SALE

A UNIQUE COMPOSITION
FEEDER CABLE INSULATOR



THE SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO SPRING INSULATOR SWAP

BY BARRETT NICPON * NIA #7954

The South Western Ontario Spring Insulator Swap was held on June 4th in the spacious back yard of John and Carol DeLarge in London, Ontario. After some unbearable years of hiatus, the show was much-needed and I'm happy to say it was a great success. The weather was perfect – a comfortable 19-20 degrees C (about 66-68 F) with not a cloud in the sky. There was no chance of rain, but maybe a good chance of getting a nice tan if you weren't careful.

The show attracted collectors from across southern Ontario as well as some from as far away as Quebec, Alberta, New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Roughly 55 collectors attended, and no less than 14 tables were set up. This was among the first shows held in Canada since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and most collectors who were possibly able to attend weren't about to miss it. The atmosphere was alive with excitement and happiness, as friends who hadn't seen each other for going on 3 years were finally able to say hello and catch up.



Collectors mill about in front of Chris Minicola and Barrett Nicpon's tables. Photo by Tom Iannelli.

A wide variety of insulators were available for those looking to grow their collections, and numerous pieces went home with new owners. John, the host, had purchased a large number of insulators from a collection last year and many of these were still wrapped up as-purchased. It was a sort of treasure hunt as collectors excitedly unwrapped insulators from the boxes spread out on John's deck. Several tables of colourful glass and porcelain adorned the property.

Two informal group displays were organized, and a number of rare pieces turned up at both. One display was dedicated to Canadian CD-718 threadless, while another was dedicated to rare Canadian-made porcelain spools. A surprising amount of colour could be found at either display table, and several collectors had a look of shock in seeing something they'd never come across before: a jade, cobalt, or root beer amber Canadian CD-718, or maybe a powder blue or canary yellow Canadian Line Materials-marked porcelain spool.

John Whitmore and Justin Stoudt made the drive up and brought a trailer along in the hopes of bringing some goodies home with them. Matt Grayson flew in from New York on the Friday evening and brought some colourful porcelain along. Stacey Huber drove in from New York state a few days early to tour some of of London's sights and a few great micro breweries in the days before the show. I was more than happy to offer some advice on where to go. Arne Lazzarotto flew in from Red Deer, Alberta for the event and scoured the show looking for unusual CD-143s for his specialty collection while meeting the Ontario crowd. Michele Brunet drove down from the Montreal area with an amazing assortment of rare Canadian glass and some porcelain for show and tell – a real demonstration of quality over quantity. Curtis Erickson and his parents, Ron and Ann, set up in a shady spot and happily chatted up their Canadian neighbours while offering an eclectic mix of glass and porcelain from around the world. All the Southern and Eastern Ontario regulars were here, too: Ricky Taylor, Manfred Hagar, Chris Minicola, Rob Lloyd, Eric Foster, Graham Catt, Ian Jones, Ted Wilush, Paul Goertz, Steve Peters, Mark Reusser, Gary Gilbert, Brian and Susan Yanchuk, Lee Southern, Tom Iannelli, and many more. My parents, Henry and Hilary Nicpon, were also there and were happy to see the show being held again after hosting it for so many years at their house in Mt. Brydges.



More collectors meeting, trading, and dealing in another part of the yard. Photo by Tom Iannelli

In the early afternoon, the smell of barbeque wafted through the air as a massive feast was served. Carol and John invested a lot of effort into providing for everyone at the show and it definitely showed. Everyone in attendance sat with plates loaded up with salad and burgers. It was a common sight to find someone contentedly patting their stomach after going back for seconds. You should have seen the leftovers!

Overall, the show was much enjoyed by everyone in attendance. Everyone seemed to go home with at least one new addition to their collection as well, and many of us parted ways with a lot of unwanted items as well (thanks to Lee Southern for taking a half dozen multiparts

THE SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO SPRING INSULATOR SWAP

(CONTINUED)



Michel Brunet's table, with a spectacular collection of colourful threadless and rare early threaded insulators. He even showed off some awesome porcelain. Photo by Curtis Erickson.

off my hands). I was fortunate enough to bring home a couple dozen new (old) insulators for my collection, along with a nice sun burn and some leftover salad.

Thanks again to John & Carol for their hospitality, and to everyone who decided to make the trip out. Shows like this are the back bone of the hobby. I'm already looking forward to the next one! 🍷



PART OF A GROUP DISPLAY OF UNUSUAL CANADIAN-MADE PORCELAIN SPOOLS. UNUSUAL EXAMPLES INCLUDED A COLOURFUL SPREAD OF CANADIAN LINE MATERIALS-MARKED SPOOLS, AND NUMEROUS UNUSUALLY GLAZED OR SHAPED CANADIAN PORCELAIN AND NATIONAL PORCELAIN PRODUCTS. PHOTO BY CURTIS ERICKSON



PART OF A GROUP DISPLAY OF CANADIAN CD-718S. COLOURS EXHIBITED INCLUDED JADE GREEN, COBALT BLUE, CORNFLOWER BLUE, INDIGO BLUE, ORANGE AMBER, LIGHT PUCE OR "SMOKY PEACH", AND A COUPLE EXAMPLES OF THE RARE "THIN SKIRT" CANADIAN CD-718. PHOTO BY TOM IANNELLI.



Photo By Stacey Huber

ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE OF THE CD120 RD156417, WATCH FOR THE EXCLUSIVE ARTICLE IN THE OCT ISSUE OF DRIP POINTS



Photo By Stacey Huber



Photo By Stacey Huber

THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

INSULATOR SPOTLIGHT BY DOUG RUSHER * NIA #1773 * PART 1

Everyone knows I specialize in Locke 293's but I have always liked the CD286 Locke Flattop insulator, They were made in the same time range as the CD293 and didn't last in the Locke lineup very long either. They first show up in the Locke Catalog in 1899 as the Locke 17 and the last Catalog showed them in 1904 after that they had transitioned into the CD300 which had the Saddle Groove, Even though they didn't last very long in the catalogs didn't mean they were not popular, as they were used on many early power lines and supplied power to many early mines and mining towns. Some CD286's have been in service up until the last ten years as you will see in the Photo's of CD286's in use. that's over 110 years these old heavy work horse's have been suppling power without failure.

As far as embossing there are 2 types of embossing the CD 286 ein {010} Front Skirt F.M LOCKE VICTOR N.Y.

Rear Skirt PAT.MAY 22 94/ NOV 24 96/DEC 15 96/ SEPT 28 97/ JUNE 7 98 (THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT CROWN SIZES AS WELL) These are MLOB with a Round Base

Colors Listed Aqua, Light Blue, Light Green, Gray Green, Green, Gray, Yellow Olive Green.

Then the CD 286 ein {020} Front Skirt F.M.LOCKE VICTOR N.Y.

Rear Skirt PAT.MAY 22 96/NOV 24 96/DEC 15 96/ SEPT 28 97/ JUNE 7 98

NOTE THE MAY 22 96 DATE these are MLOB and Round Base Colors Listed Aqua, Blue Aqua, Light Blue, Light Green.



MAY 22 94 Embossing



MAY 22 96 Embossing

NO. 17, TRIPLE PETTICOAT, GLASS INSULATOR



PATENTED

The strong and efficient construction of this insulator may be seen in the illustration.

This insulator requires the No. 0, 5, 6 or 7 steel pin, specified on pages 15 and 16, on account of the 1½ inch pin-hole.

The No. 0 pin and No. 17 insulator is the strongest possible combination.

Guaranteed working potential, 30,000 volts.

Guaranteed test potential, 60,000 volts.

Diameter, 7 inches; height, 4½ inches; weight, 5 pounds; packed 35 in barrel.

Price, each,.....38c.

Please refer to Catalogue No. 5.

12

Advertisement from 1900 Locke Catalog

So What do all of those Patents Mean?

May 22, 1894: Fred Locke patents external petticoats to increase leakage distance between two conductors on a one piece transposition.

November 24, 1896: Fred M. Locke patent for a power insulator shell that was much wider than it was high. This matches with the top shell of most multipart insulators.

December 15, 1896: Fred M. Locke patent for a combination porcelain and glass multipart insulator to take advantage of the best properties of both materials.

September 28, 1897: Fred Locke patent for a power insulator with an oblong shape and side troughs to direct water away from splashing on the crossarm. This patent was implemented in the U-937 insulators that Locke had Imperial Porcelain make for use on the Niagara to Buffalo power line.

June 7, 1898: Fred M. Locke patent for a multipart insulator with a long extended inner-most skirt. Oddly enough this patent is quite similar to the Mershon patent of the same date!

I want to thank Paul Greaves, Chris Hedges, Howard Banks, Jim Frustier, Elton Gish, Ken Willick, Ron Jenkins, Bill Ostrander, Ron Yuhas and Bill Winters for all the help with the history and Photo's of these outstanding pieces of early power line insulators

THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

(CONTINUED)

LOCKE CD 286 COLORS



Yellow Olive Green



Gray



Gray Green (SAGE)



Aqua



Aqua with amber swirls



Light Green



Green



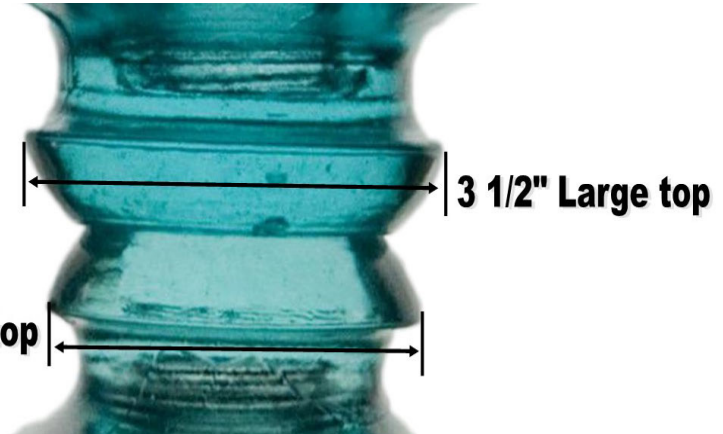
Bluish Aqua



Light Blue

THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

(CONTINUED)



3 1/8" Small top

3 1/2" Large top

Historic Line Photos



STEEL PIN, WITH PORCELAIN BASE

Designed for high voltage work. They include all the strong features of the all-wood top pin, in addition to the porcelain base.

The Porcelain Base increases the Arcing Distance 5,000 to 10,000 Volts

The inner porcelain of all Locke Insulators extends below the top of this base thus producing the most perfect combination for high voltage currents.

The base is a highly vitrified and homogeneous body, whose life and wear are unlimited. It prevents the destructive arcing around the insulator, burning off of pins, cross-arms, and, in many cases, poles and other property.

The wood top is properly boiled in paraffine and is entirely contained within the insulator, protecting it from the weather, insects, etc.

Important, when ordering: The steel pins are used as follows: No. 1 pin with No. 13 glass; No. 2 with No. 3, 35 and 4 porcelain; No. 3 with No. 16, 18, glass, and with any "Victor," with glass centers; No. 4 with No. 2, 6, 11 or 12 porcelain; No. 5 with No. 10 porcelain, or No. 17 glass; No. 6 and 7 with No. 17 glass, or No. 10 porcelain; No. 8, 10, 12 and 13 with any insulator except No. 17 glass and No. 10 porcelain. All pins, except No. 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, can be used with standard glass insulators.

No.	Size Bolt	Dimensions of Wood Base	Porcelain Base	Weight
1	5/8 x 9 1/2	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 1	18 oz.
2	3/8 x 9 1/2	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 2	1 1/2 lb.
3	3/8 x 10 1/2	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 3	1 1/2 lb.
4	3/8 x 9 1/2	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 4	1 1/2 lb.
10	3/8 x 17	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 4	1 1/2 lb.
17	3/8 x 14	2 1/2 x 1 1/2	No. 4	1 1/2 lb.

No. 1 is 2 1/4 in. in diameter and 2 1/4 in. high; No. 2 is 2 1/4 in. in diameter and 3 in. high; No. 3 is 2 1/2 in. in diameter and 2 1/2 in. high.

The Rogue River Electric Company owes its existence to the Alaska Gold Rush. In 1900, a wealthy New Yorker named Colonel Frank H. Ray financed a trip to Alaska for his brother, Dr. C.R. Ray, to check out some prospective gold mines. When they didn't pan out, Dr. Ray telegraphed his brother that he was returning empty handed. But Colonel Ray persuaded Dr. Ray to take a look at a gold mine in Southern Oregon that he had heard about. And so it was that Dr. Ray purchased the Braden Mine near the town of Gold Hill.

By 1902, the Ray's determined that the way to make the Braden Mine productive would be to supply it with electrical power. Again with Colonel Ray's financing, the brothers purchased property along the Rogue River from a man named Dan Condor with the intention of building a dam to generate the needed power. But to obtain enough money to finance the project, they sold stock on the New York exchange under the name "Condor Water and Power Company".

Construction of a log "crib" dam began in the fall of 1902. The first power wasn't produced until December 7th, 1904. During that two year period, the Ray's discovered that electricity, and not gold, would be the secret of their success. By 1907, their Rogue River Electric Company supplied power not only to numerous gold mines in the region, but also to the cities of Medford, Jacksonville, Central Point, Grants Pass, Woodville (Rogue River) and Gold Hill.

Dam & Power Plant

Construction of the first dam on the Rogue River wasn't any more popular an idea in 1902 than building a dam would be today. In the first year, someone planted dynamite at a key site with the apparent intention of blowing the project up. But the scheme was discovered before damage was done. When completed, the dam was 17 feet tall and 350 feet long. Water was drawn off the North side of the river to a small, 250 kilovolt generator. The generators were expanded to 750-K in 1905. In 1972, when the plant was decommissioned, its production was 1250-K.

Throughout its nearly 70-year history, the power plant employed 1897 General Electric generators operated by 1,600 feet of one-and-three-quarter inch rope. The water turned a series of pulleys, which rotated at a speed of 360 rpm's, which, through the use of the rope, turned the generators. If a rope broke, power was off line until it could be spliced. Working at the Gold Ray Dam, as it is known today, required skills unlike those needed at many other power plants.

THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

(CONTINUED)

Insulators Used

Perhaps because the Colonel and Doctor Ray were from New York, they purchased their insulators from Fred M Locke. No matter where you find traces of their lines today, the insulators invariably will be Locke's.

An 18 mile stretch of one Rogue River Electric Company line from Grants Pass to the Green Back mine in Northern Josephine County was outfitted almost exclusively with M-2842's. Found in smaller numbers along that route were CD 286's, M-2795's and U-964's. The 286's and M-2795's were used in a few short stretches. The U-964's, on the other hand, were found only sporadically, leading me to speculate they were a replacement insulator.

The Greenback Mine was one of the largest hard rock mines in Southern Oregon, producing an estimated \$1,000,000 in gold at the time when gold was only worth \$16 per ounce. The mine's 40-stamp mill was operating with electric power by 1905.

A three-mile long branch line that ran to the Granite Hill Mine used M-2795's almost exclusively. These were the insulators we originally found in 1967. But even then, we only recovered seven or eight specimens. Many insulators were broken. But most were simply no where to be found. A big thanks to Howard Banks for sharing this fanstic History on the Rouge River Electric Company.



Famed photographer Peter Britt took this picture of the Opp Mine near Jacksonville, Oregon.

Six transmission insulators on the pole in front of the building appear to be CD 286 Fred M. Locke's. A short crossarm located where the circle is painted on the pole contains two porcelain insulators. Below that are two side pegs containing unidentifiable glass insulators. A BIG Thanks to Howard Banks for this writeup on the Opp mine and the Rogue River Electric Company

THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

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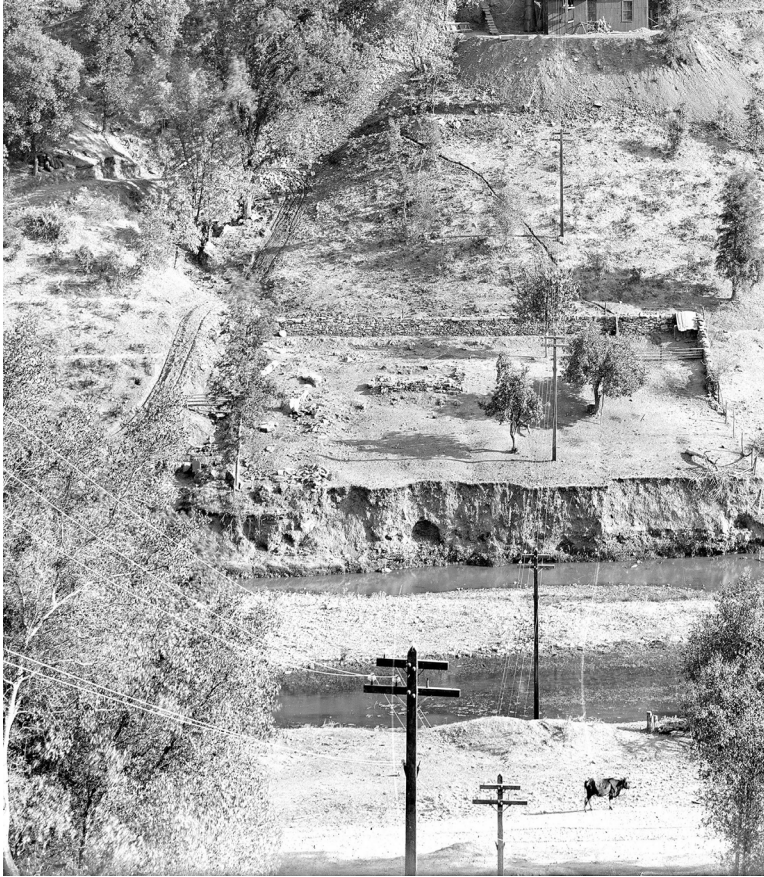


THESE TWO SHOW THE OLD LINE AT BLUE LAKES POWER HOUSE IN CALIFORNIA. (IT WAS NEAR ELECTRA.)

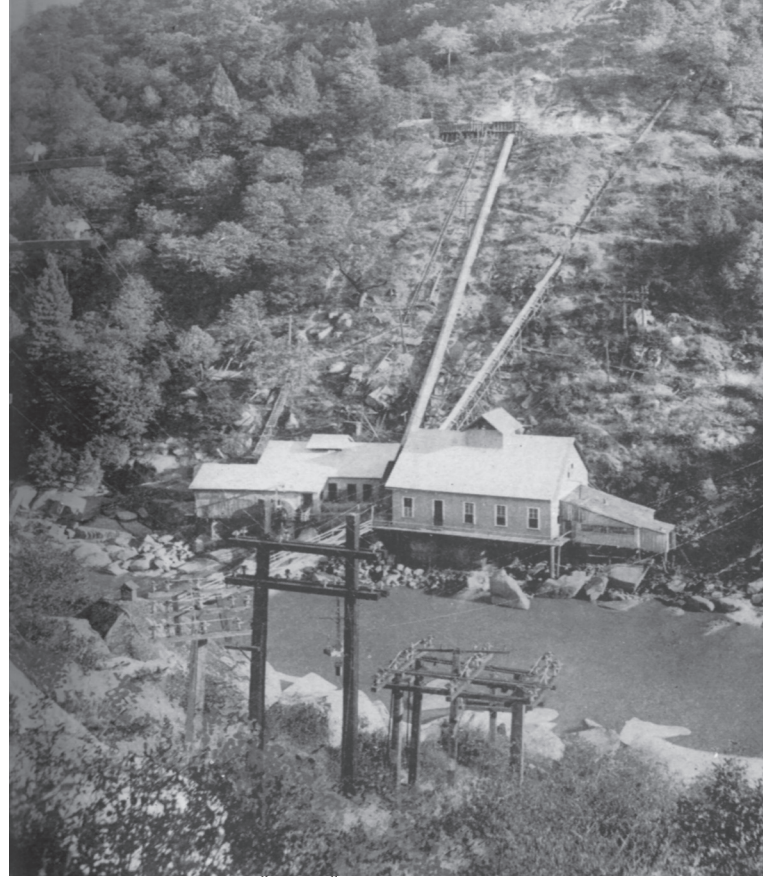


THE CD286 LOCKE FLATTOP

(CONTINUED)



THIS ONE SHOWS CD286 INSULATORS USED ON A LINE TO A MINE IN THE CALIFORNIA MOTHER LODE REGION.



THIS ONE SHOWS THE "ROME" POWERHOUSE NEAR NEVADA CITY. THE INSULATORS ON THE MIDDLE (DARKER) POLE ARE CD286S. THE TWO

LOWER STRUCTURES ARE SWITCHES, AND USED GUTTER TOPS. TOO BAD THE PICTURE ISN'T JUST A LITTLE CLEARER.

This one is of the historic Electra powerhouse... one of the two original places the Fred Locke gutter top insulators were used. This appears to be a switch room. how many M-2795 gutter tops can you find? Hint: Some are partially hidden, but you can see parts of them peeking out from behind various things. As a second challenge, how many CD 286's can you find? Once you notice the rather unusual usage of them, you can see that there are a very large number of them! The switches themselves are very interesting, they are operated by the large levers on the left. The marble slabs seem to have been used to keep the arcs from shorting across phases when the switches were opened. This was from before the days of oil switches! Thanks to Paul Greaves for all of these historic photos. ▲



Part 2 of this article will be in the Oct Issue of Drip Points, where we will look into the proto types of the CD286 & M-2201

JASON VASSALLO

BY MIKE GREEN ✨ NIA #3175



This month's cover is from photographer Jason Vassallo. He is 50 years old and lives in Melbourne, Australia. He was raised in the country and moved to the city as a teen. He rediscovered the Australian countryside through his photography.

"I love nothing more than to get in my car, pick a direction and just drive for hours. Never picking a location. I discover the most interesting things when I get lost on the maze of dirt roads leading to nowhere. My favorite at the moment is discovering abandoned old farmhouses off the beaten track."

Jason's adventures led to these amazing shots including this month's cover of an abandoned pole in the Australian countryside. Please join me in thanking Jason for sharing his talents.

Please checkout Jason's links for a larger taste of his photography. 🐾

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jason.vassallo.3/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/hammerheart_photography/

Store: <https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/HammerHeartArt>



JASON VASSALLO

(CONTINUED)



DID YOU KNOW?

BY DON BRIEL ✨ NIA #7218



Do you really know what color your insulator is? Color is probably the single most controversial topic when it comes to collecting insulators and determining their value.

This article is an abbreviated discussion of a very complex subject. It will deal with the interaction of light, objects (*insulators*), and our eyes resulting in the colors that we see. Let's start with some basic background information.

Light - Light is high frequency electromagnetic radiation. The color of light is determined by the wavelength (*frequency*) of the electromagnetic radiation. The longest electromagnetic waves (*lowest frequencies*) are what we know as radio waves and the specific wavelength determines the station we are tuned into. Light begins at relatively short wavelengths, the longest of which are infrared which can be felt as heat, then red as the first perceptible color to the human eye. As the wavelengths get shorter, we go through the entire "rainbow" or infinite spectrum of colors until the shortest visible wavelengths we can see are violets. Still shorter wavelengths are called ultra-violet which are not perceptible by the human eye, but can influence the color of an object as we see it. Visible light falls in the wavelength range of 700 nanometers (nm) to 400 nm or the frequency range of 430 terahertz (THz) to 750 THz.

Color - Color as we see it is the interaction of light, the molecular structure that makes up the object being viewed, and how our eyes react. Without light there is no color. When light strikes an object some colors (*or wavelengths*) are absorbed while other colors are reflected or passed through. In some cases, the object also emits light such as when hot metal glows or ultraviolet light is absorbed causing a visible light to be emitted (*see the insulator below being illuminated by a daylight LED versus a UV light source*). It is the

blending of the colors leaving the object and entering our eye that determines the specific color of the object as we see it. However, the color our eyes see can be dramatically altered by many things including our eye's interpretation of color, the color of the light source, surrounding colors, etc.

From a scientific standpoint, the color white is a combination of all visible wavelengths while black is the absence of light or no color at all. All other colors are represented by a mixture of the various wavelengths of visible light. Color is also dependent on the intensity of each of the various wavelengths coming from the light source.

Light Sources - Here we'll see why the color spectrum of the light source becomes so important in how we perceive the color of an object. White light, or daylight, is what comes from the sun in the middle of the day shaded only by thin white clouds. This should be the standard by which we view our insulators to determine their color. However, it is very difficult to create artificial light that has all of the matching spectral components of daylight. The object being viewed reflects or passes those colors that are present in the light source and not absorbed by the object. If a color that would not be absorbed by the object is missing from the illuminating light source, we will not see the influence of that color, thus we see something different than the actual color.

The color of a light source is measured as light temperature in degrees Kelvin (K). For years the standard color temperature for color photography and other color critical purposes has been 5000° K. This emulates daylight, but is not perfect. There are countless types of light bulbs available today and all have their specific characteristics when it comes to the light they emit. Only three of the popular light sources will be addressed here.

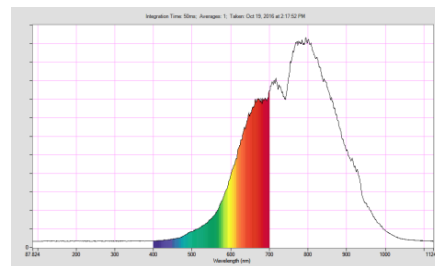
For a very long time the only practical source of artificial light was the incandescent light bulb. Incandescent bulbs create light by super heating a filament that in turn glows (*emits light*). If you ever look at an old indoor color photograph the colors seem to be very yellowish. That was because the incandescent light bulb lacks the higher end of the color spectrum thereby diminishing all of the violet and blue colors (*notice the minimal amount of blue and violet light on the left of the visible spectrum shown below*). Besides the poor energy efficiency and thus the high cost to operate incandescent bulbs, it is now one of the poorest means of illuminating insulators when color matters.



Daylight LED

UV Light

Mexican Uranium Glass



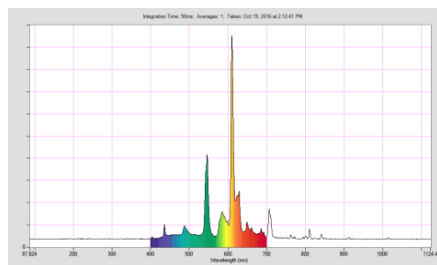
Incandescent Light Spectrum

DID YOU KNOW?

(CONTINUED)

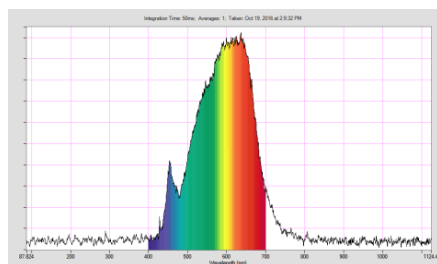
A popular light source to achieve 5000° K have been daylight fluorescent light bulbs that specify a 5000° K light temperature. Internally, fluorescent bulbs generate ultraviolet light that is absorbed by phosphors on the inner surface of the glass. Those phosphors in turn emit visible light. However, the light from a 5000° K fluorescent lamp is made up of a small number of specific colors that act as primary colors to emulate near daylight (*see the color spectrum produced by a daylight fluorescent bulb in the chart below*). When new, they do a fairly decent job of replicating

daylight, but their color spectrum degrades over time. Fluorescent lamps are more energy efficient than incandescent lamps and have been widely used for illuminating insulator displays.



Fluorescent Light Spectrum

Most recently, Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights have come on the scene. LEDs are two-part semiconductor devices that emit photons (*light*) when a current is applied. These come in a wide variety of color temperatures including 5000° K. Until very recently LEDs for general lighting purposes were cost prohibitive. Now they are getting very cost competitive, come in many styles including replacements for other types of lamps, are very energy efficient, and are very long life. Daylight LEDs generate a fairly broad spectrum of light to approximate daylight (*see the color spectrum produced by a daylight LED bulb in the chart below*).



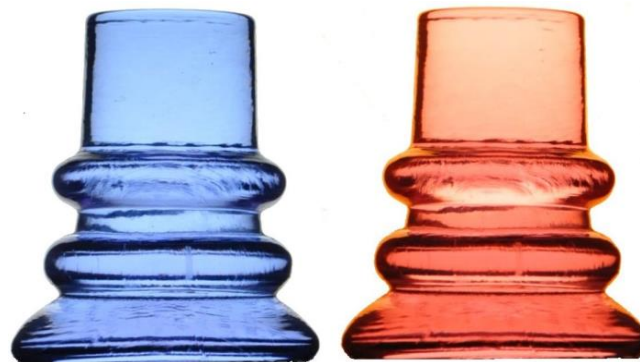
Daylight LED Light Spectrum

Here is where another measure of light color becomes important. It is the Color Rendering Index (CRI) which is a quantitative measure of the ability of a light source to reveal

the colors of various objects faithfully in comparison to a natural daylight light source. This is especially important on LED lights because various types of LEDs can be mixed as an array of LEDs in a single bulb to create a high CRI which is very desirable. The CRI is a scale of 1-100 where 100 is a perfect match to daylight. Some fluorescent and LED lights can reach a score in the 90s.

There is a lot of variation in how much a light source can affect the color of an object as we see it. Some insulators change very little when the light source varies, but others can change dramatically.

The two side by side photos below show a 2017 National show commemorative insulator that was made with neodymium glass. The insulator on the left was backlit with a daylight LED light source. The very same insulator is shown on the right backlit with an incandescent light source. What a change in color! While neodymium was never added to actual production insulators, the same effect, but to a lesser extent, can occur with many insulators.



Daylight LED

Incandescent Light

Backlit Neodymium Insulator

Some insulators can have their value multiplied by 1,000 times or more based purely on their color. It's no wonder that arguments arise as to what color a specific insulator happens to be. Viewing insulators using an optimal light source can save a lot of deception.

Visual Illusions – While humans have amazing eyesight, it is not perfect. When we look at two or more different colors in close proximity to each other we often see other than the true colors. Take a look at the example on this website:

<https://bgr.com/entertainment/hearts-color-optical-illusion/> You will see what appears to be various colored hearts that in fact are all the same color. The illusion comes from viewing them between lines of another color.

When it comes to insulators, I had the most beautiful Hemingray Blue Mickey Mouse insulator (*3rd from the right in the photo below*) in a lineup of other Mickey Mouse insulators on a backlit shelf for many years. One day I replaced an Aqua Mickey with an Electric Blue one (*3rd one from the left*). The Electric Blue and Hemingray Blue were two insulators apart separated by a swirled green one. The Hemingray Blue quickly became a very pale blue. Remove the Electric Blue and the Hemingray Blue brightened right back up. The color never changed, but my perception of it changed more than one could ever imagine. You might want to try some experiments along these lines just to see how the appearance of color can change so easily.



DID YOU KNOW?

(CONTINUED)

Named Insulator Colors – As insulator collectors, we try to take the infinite spectrum of colors and give them a small finite set of color names. While this is beneficial for communication purposes it falls far short of being definitive enough to prevent disagreements over color, especially when a small difference in color can make a large difference in value. The fact is there is a range of colors represented by each named color, as well as descriptors such as tint, ice, light, dark, etc. Then there are further descriptors such as bright, pale, hazy, etc. Several questions arise with named colors. Where does the dividing line fall between similar named colors and between each descriptor? Are all eyes seeing a color as the same color? Is the illuminating light source or surrounding environment changing the perceived color of the insulator? As shown, some insulator colors can change dramatically when viewed under varying sources of illumination.

An added problem is that many color names are based on the color of objects that are not consistent in color (*i.e. apple green, whiskey amber, honey amber, etc.*). Which variety of green apple? What brand of whiskey? Is it Utah or California honey? And, the list goes on. Color differentiation is often a major problem for new collectors. Seasoned collectors come to know what is meant by the names, but only after years of seeing, comparing, and learning. Color charts and other color comparison tools can help, but all are just as subject to the effects of lighting and the surrounding environment as the insulators themselves. More importantly, the guide color and the insulator color may each change differently when the illuminating light source changes.

Conveying Color – Once we begin to get comfortable with seeing insulators live and have a good feel for what color they really are, then how do we remotely convey that color to others? In the early days of collecting color photographs were sometimes taken and color prints sent in the mail. In those days, more so than now, it was often difficult to capture the true color on film. Anything helped, but the small color differences versus high value differences were certainly an issue. With current advances in digital photography, color editing

software, and electronic mail, sending color images of insulators has become very easy. Color can be edited by the photographer to become a very close match to the original color, on their device. However, that color is then subject to change when being sent via email and being displayed on a different monitor, in different room lighting, etc. While not at all prevalent in our hobby, there is also the opportunity to intentionally alter digital photos to any color desired to deceive the person receiving the image.

Conclusion – This has been a very brief tutorial on insulator color, seeing it as it really is, and being able to convey that color to others. We live in an amazing world of color. Being able to enjoy all of the color variety that comes with insulators makes our hobby extra enjoyable. How we choose to display those jewels to highlight the many colors is a topic for another time. Just a couple of suggestions will be offered herein.

It is to the insulator collector's advantage to attend shows, ask questions about color, seek out ideal lighting, and educate oneself. If you don't already have one, get a mentor. Spend some time studying the color of your insulators and those of others. Never be embarrassed about asking questions. Knowledge is the key to prevent making costly errors.

For the best color display of most glass insulators consider a daylight light source with a high CRI rating and placed behind the insulator with all surrounding objects being white. For porcelain insulators consider a daylight light source with a high CRI rating using front lighting. While these arrangements may be somewhat impractical, the closer one can get the better for viewing color.

Lastly, when you are contemplating the purchase of an insulator with beautiful color, the most important question you need to ask yourself is; Do I like the color well enough to justify the price? If

the answer is YES, you'll probably be well pleased. If the answer is NO, beware of disappointment.

As Always, Keep Your Hobby Fun!



Daylight LED Side Lighting



Front Lighting (flash)

THE CHESTER H. POND INSULATOR AND THE KENOSHA INSULATOR CO.

BY ELTON GISH * NIA #41

Collecting insulators focus on beautiful glass insulators, which come in so many beautiful colors or streaked with amber swirls. I can understand that since that is what attracted me to collecting in 1970 when I saw my neighbor's colorful collection in his garage. However, my interest quickly turned to include the history of the hobby. Many glass insulators were embossed with patent dates. Then I discovered Fred Locke porcelain insulators, which had incuse markings that included many patent dates some up to six patent dates! What did all these patent dates have to do with the insulators? It drew me in just as much as the colorful glass.

I was in college and spent considerable time in the new air conditioned library. The engineering building did not have such luxury so I found it a pleasant place to study and escape the Texas heat and humidity. There I discovered bound volumes of old trade journals. Scattered among the pages were illustrations of Foree Bain, Brookfield, Chicago diamond, and Fred Locke insulators as well as articles about early telegraph and power lines. Then one day I ran across the following article in the April 26, 1913, issue of *Electrical World* and *Western Electrician*. (Figure 1) It showed a photograph of an old wooden insulator with a zinc cap that had been removed from a line 30 years ago – in 1883!

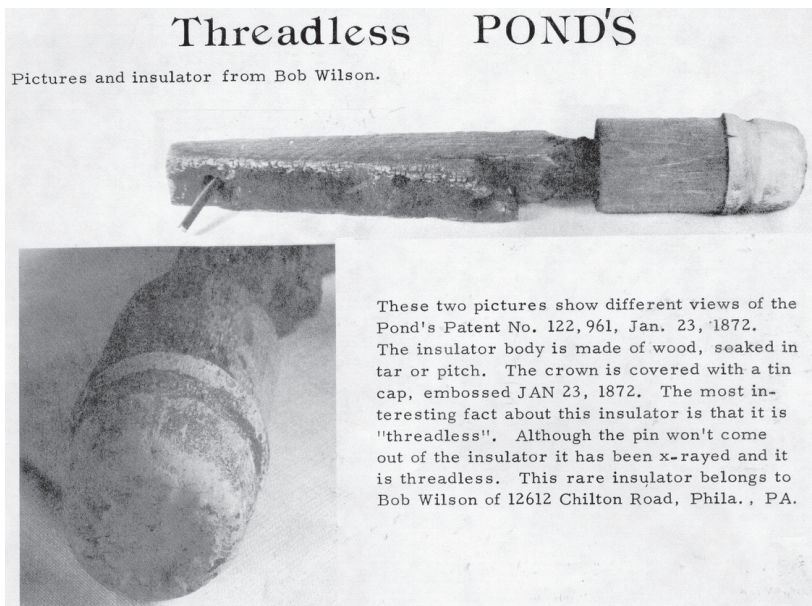


FIGURE 2 - FROM GERALD BROWN'S 1975 BOOK, "UNIQUE COLLECTIBLE INSULATORS: NON-GLASS, NON-PORCELAIN OR WOODEN, RUBBER, COMPOSITION, METAL"

The first I learned that someone actually had one of these old wooden insulators was in Gerald Brown's 1975 book, "Unique Collectible Insulators, Non-Glass, Non-Porcelain OR Wooden, Rubber, Composition, Metal". A photo of one was shown on page 11 (he forgot to include "Pond" in his index and I had to pencil it in). (Figure 2) The specimen

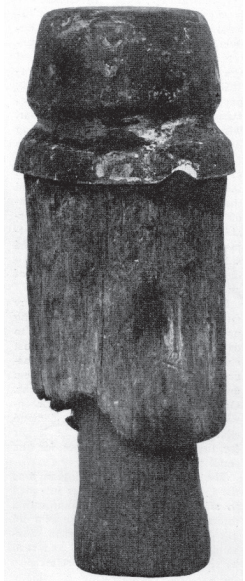
To the Editor:

Your articles of thirty years ago recall old times. I remember when the Bankers & Merchants Company was trying to get wires into the downtown district. I was a lineman at that time and assisted in stringing two No. 6 iron wires between Chicago and Cleveland. The Postal-Telegraph Cable Company at that time had a single wire between Chicago and New York. Telephone toll lines at that time were very few, and of short distance. There were no long lines.

I also assisted in building a single-wire telephone line between Defiance and Toledo, O., along the old canal. I have often wished I could go back over the same routes and see how many hundreds of wires are now there. I can remember taking wooden insulators off of telegraph lines and replacing them with the single-petticoat glass type. I have one of these old wooden insulators now in my tool box. (See illustration.) I do not believe there are many of them in existence.

O. P. Sammons.
Denison, Tex., April 7, 1913.

FIGURE 1 - FROM ELECTRICAL WORLD AND WESTERN ELECTRICIAN, PUBLISHED APR 26, 1913

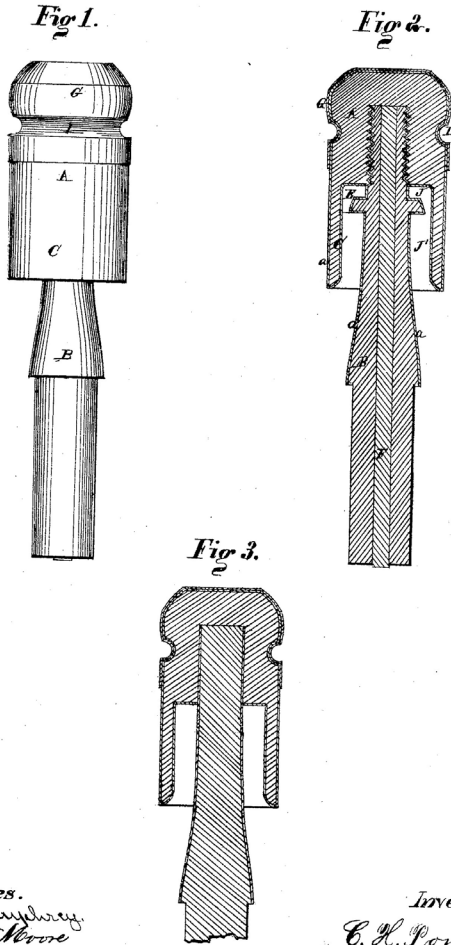


Wooden Insulator
Used 30 Years Ago.

was owned by Bob Wilson who had a knack for coming up with rare insulators. It looked a bit rough but it was whole. The metal cap was embossed with the Jan 23, 1872 US patent date. Since it could not be removed from the pin, Bob had it x-rayed and it showed that the insulator was threadless. Perhaps it was stuck on the pin with tar. The pin was an early gable style side bracket and still had one of the square nails. Gerald also had a Pond with an unmarked zinc cap but no pin. His insulator did have threads, so clearly there were two different styles.

Later in 1872, Chester H. Pond also applied for a patent in Canada (Figure 4). The patent was granted a patent on September 2, 1872, using essentially the same drawings and the handwritten patent text was worded differently. Shortly afterward it was announced that Pond had sold his U. S. patent rights to the Kenosha Insulator Co. for \$11,000 and that he intended to move to Toronto to manufacture his insulator there.

(50.) C. H. POND.
 Improvement in Telegraph Insulators.
 No. 122,961. Patented Jan. 23, 1872.



Witnesses.
 W. S. Remondy,
 R. M. Moore

Inventor.
 C. H. Pond.
 Per Burdick & Co.
 Attys

FIGURE 3 - POND'S DRAWING FOR THE ORIGINAL UNITED STATES PATENT #122961, ISSUED JAN 23, 1872

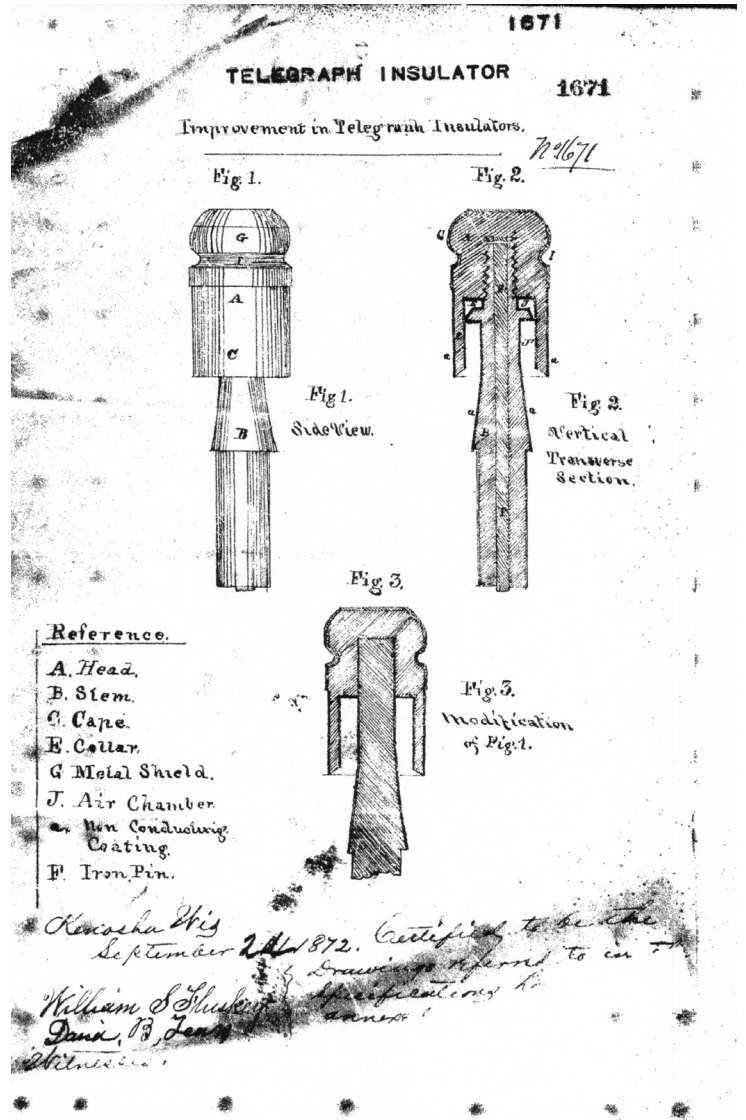


FIGURE 4 - POND'S HAND-DRAWN BUT NEARLY IDENTICAL CANADIAN INSULATOR PATENT DRAWING



FIGURE 5 - THE AUTHOR'S POND INSULATOR (LEFT) AND A CLOSE UP OF THE PAT JAN 23 1872 EMBOSING ON THE CAP (ABOVE)

It became my dream to own a Pond insulator, but that seemed like an unattainable dream. At the 1986 Saratoga Springs NIA National Show, I was going through boxes under a dealer's table. I was losing excitement going through layer by layer in each box until finally in the last box in the very bottom I discovered a perfectly mint Pond insulator on a pin!! (Figure 5) It had a perfect zinc cap with embossed marking: PAT JAN 23 1872. It was a dream come true! Threads could be seen on the pin, but the pin would not unscrew from the insulator due to the adherence of the tar coating.

(CONTINUED)

122,961

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHESTER H. POND, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN TELEGRAPH-INSULATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 122,961, dated January 23, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHESTER H. POND, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telegraph - Insulators, of which the following is a full and complete description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the insulator. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section. Fig. 3 shows a modification of Fig. 1.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several views.

This invention has for its object the insulation of telegraph-wires by means of a wooden insulator, consisting of a head screwed to a stem, and from which head depends a hood or cape around the stem a distance therefrom. Said stem is provided with a collar and also with central iron rod, all of which is coated with some non-conductive material. The head of the insulator is then covered with a metal shield or cap, whereby the upper end is protected from the weather.

A more full and complete description of the insulator is as follows: In the drawing, Fig. 1, A represents the head of the insulator, and which is made of wood and secured to a stem, B, by a screw, B', as shown in Fig. 2. From the head A depends around the stem, a distance therefrom, a cape, C, thereby leaving the stem below the screw isolated. E, Fig. 2, is a collar, which, in its relation to the head A, is such as to form a space between it and the head. The purpose of said collar is to prevent capillary attraction in the event of the insulator becoming wet by the rains. F is an iron

rod passing through the stem for the purpose of adding strength thereto. The double lines *a* indicate a thick coating of some non-conductive material, with which the several parts of the insulator are supplied before being put together. When put together, or before, the head is covered with a metal shield or cap, G, which is spun thereon. Said cap not only protects the head from the weather, but also prevents the wire from cutting through the coating into the wood.

An insulator thus made is perfect in its purpose, as it is entirely insulated from the stem by the dry-air chambers J J', surrounding the stem in its connection with the head, and by non-conductive coating *a* applied to the screw-stem and head, excepting the cap G.

Fig. 3 shows a modification of the insulator, and which represents the head as being attached to the stem without the use of a screw, and which also shows the stem without the central pin F and collar E, which may be omitted without changing the nature of my invention.

Claim.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described telegraph-insulator, consisting of the head A, cape C, stem B, collar E, chambers J J', with or without center-pin or rod F, insulating coating *a*, and shield G, substantially in the manner as and for the purpose specified.

CHESTER H. POND.

Witnesses:

J. H. BURRIDGE,
M. B. TALCOTT.

FIGURE 6 - POND'S UNITED STATES INSULATOR PATENT
SEE FIGURE 3 FOR DRAWINGS

THE CHESTER H. POND INSULATOR AND THE KENOSHA INSULATOR CO.

(CONTINUED)

In 1871, the Kenosha Insulator Co. was formed by Donald Mann and Zalmon G. Simmons, both of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Mr. Simmons was the president of the North Western Telegraph Co., president of the Northwestern Manufacturing Co. which he founded in 1872, and president of the Kenosha First National Bank for many years. The original Kenosha Insulator was a dried white wood insulator saturated and coated with shellac varnish. Exposure to the weather soon covered the varnished surface with minute cracks, which retained moisture, or allowed it to penetrate into the pores of the wood. A later the idea was again revived, the wood in this instance being coated with a mixture of coal tar and charcoal flour. The real success arrived when they obtained the Chester H. Pond patent in 1872.

Mr. C. H. Haskins joined the Kenosha Insulator Co. in 1872. He was an electrician with practical experience. A modified form of the Pond was introduced which had a cast iron cap with projections for holding the tie-wire. No examples have ever been found. (Figure 7)

Shortly after that Mr. Haskins developed the Kenosha hook. It was designed to be suspended under the crossarm. (Figure 8) The wood used was the stronger maple variety treated in the same manner as the Pond. Only three complete examples of this insulator exist today in collections. (Figure 10)

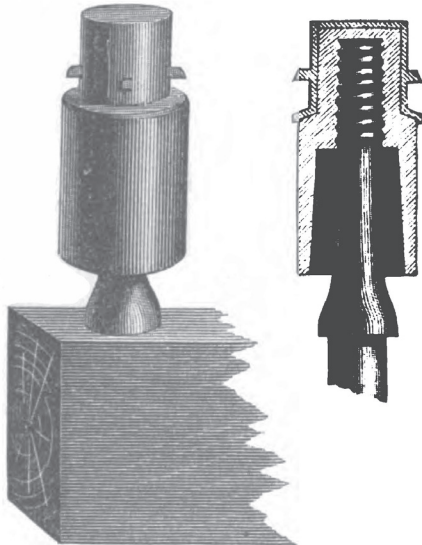
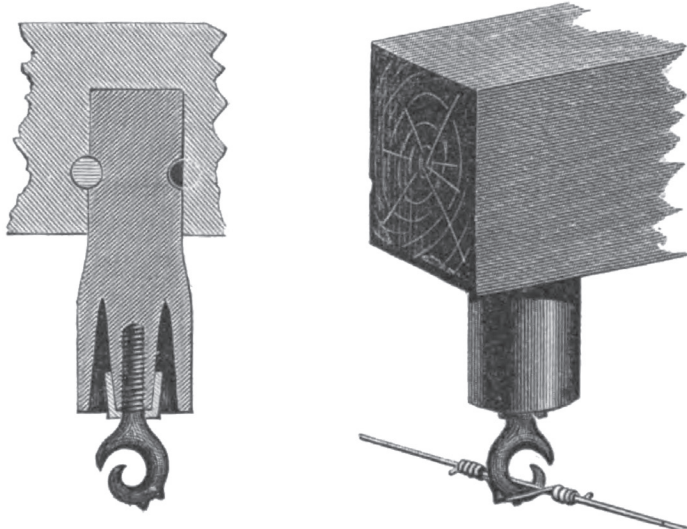


FIGURE 7 (ABOVE)- C.H. HASKIN'S MODIFICATIONS TO THE POND'S INSULATOR

FIGURE 8 (BELOW)- THE KENOSHA HOOK



The Kenosha hook was described in great detail in the 1910 volume of the Stone & Webster Public Service Journal. It further stated: "This wooden insulator was used on the line which followed the old emigrant road westward past Reno, Truckee, and through Donner Pass to the Pacific Coast, and must have been part of the system of the old Overland Telegraph Company."

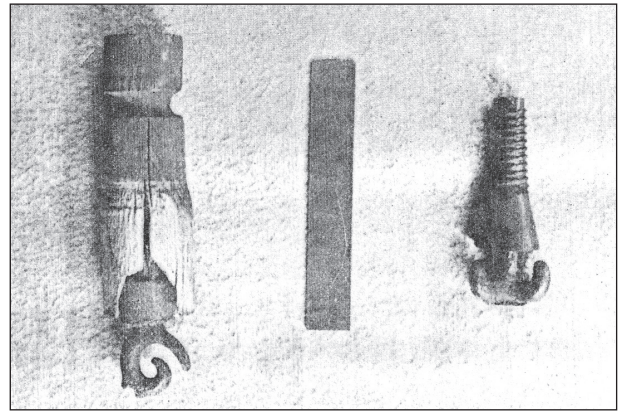


FIGURE 9 - KENOSHA HOOK INSULATOR IN 1910
STONE & WEBSTER PUBLIC SERVICE JOURNAL



FIGURE 10 - THE THREE KNOWN KENOSHA HOOKS
PHOTOS COURTESY (TOP TO BOTTOM) OF
MIKE GUTHRIE, NATHAN HOLMES, AND DWAYNE ANTHONY

THE CHESTER H. POND INSULATOR AND THE KENOSHA INSULATOR CO.

(CONTINUED)



FIGURE 11 - POND'S INSULATORS IN SERVICE NEAR THE ST. PAUL & PACIFIC RAILROAD MINNEAPOLIS DEPOT AT WASHINGTON AVE AND FOURTH STREET, 1874

The Pond insulator was often referred to as the "Kenosha Insulator" and sometimes the "Kenosha Carbon Insulator" due to the tar coating containing a mixture of charcoal dust. It was of a standard form easily dropped in pre-drilled holes in the same type crossarms typically used for glass insulators. The company claimed they were less fragile than glass, had a higher resistance to water saturation, and higher electrical resistance. The Pond insulator was carried in the 1876, 1877, and 1878 Western Electric catalogs. The Kenosha Insulator was advertised from

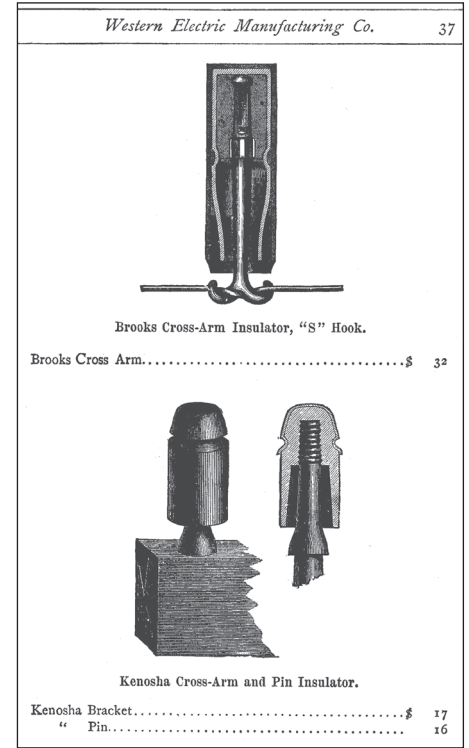


FIGURE 12 - WESTERN ELECTRIC CATALOG WITH POND INSULATORS (1876-1878)

1876-1879 in L. G. Tillotson & Co. ads stating "Sole agents for the Patent Cauvet Screw Glass and Kenosha Insulator." It was reported in March 1873, that George B. Prescott, electrician for the Western Union Telegraph Co., had installed over 60,000 in 1872 and he took samples with him to London. While most Pond insulators apparently were used on lines owned by the Northwestern Telegraph Co., an 1874 trade journal reported they were used on repairs in Philadelphia.



FIGURE 13 - AN UNEMBOSSED THREADED POND (2-1/4" X 4-1/2") AND A PIN

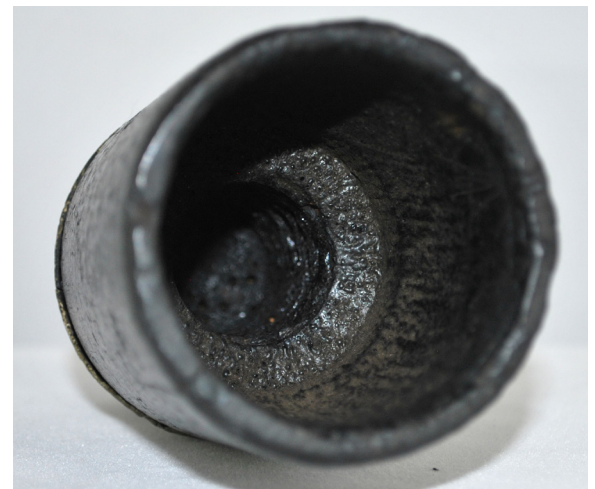


FIGURE 14 - THREADED PINHOLE OF THE POND IN FIGURE 15



FIGURE 15 - ORIGINAL CROSSARM WITH TWO POND INSULATORS

Pictured in figure 15 is an original Pond crossarm that was found inside a building in Chicago. It still has holes for two insulators and some of the original red lead paint. The insulator on the right has an embossed zinc cap, but I doubt the pin is original since it is not coated with the tar compound. It appears to be new old stock. There are a number of Pond insulators in the hobby, but very few have the embossed zinc cap. Most of them have the rounded unembossed zinc cap like the one shown in figure 16. Could the unembossed Pond insulators have been made in Canada and shipped to the U.S.? It seems unlikely that a US made insulator would not have been made without the 17-year patent date. The embossed square cap closely matches the patent drawing.



FIGURE 16 (ABOVE) - A THREADED POND MEASURING 2-1/4" X 4-1/2" WITH A ROUNDED, UNEMBOSSED CAP, TYPICAL OF MOST EXAMPLES IN COLLECTIONS



FIGURE 17 & 18 - TWO OTHER CAP STYLES: AN UNEMBOSSED SQUARE CAP, AND THE PATENT DATE-EMBOSSED VERSION



THE CHESTER H. POND INSULATOR AND THE KENOSHA INSULATOR CO.

(CONTINUED)

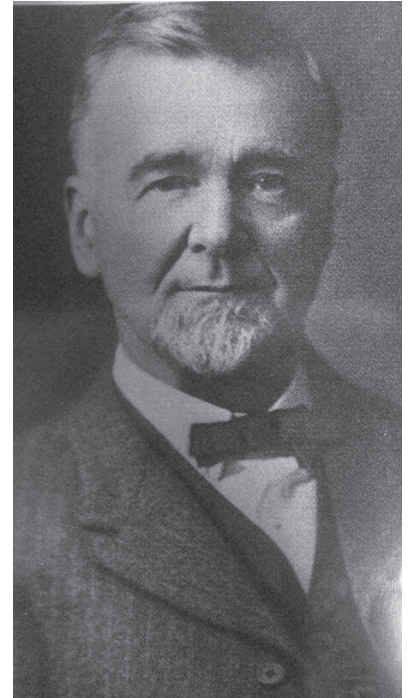
EPILOGUE

Chester H. Pond's insulator patent was a passing interest to him. It seems very out of place considering the rest of his history. Pond's main interest was telegraphy after serving as a telegrapher in the Civil War. When he returned home to Oberlin, Ohio, after the War, he and his brother, Chauncey, started the Oberlin Telegraph Institute to train telegraphers. He was granted a patent in 1867 for an improved telegraph key. In 1877, his interest turned to fire alarms with a patent granted for an improved fire alarm box. By 1879, Chester Pond had moved to New York City. He was an inventor and became friends with Thomas Edison. He was with Edison when the first incandescent lights were lit from Pearl Street station on September 4, 1882. Perhaps Pond picked up some electrical knowledge from Edison and applied it to his inventions. His next four patents in 1879 and 1880 were granted dealing with improvements in fire alarm telegraphs and systems. An 1883 advertisement indicated that Pond was the Vice President and Secretary of the Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Co.

Pond's interest in telegraphy continued in a new vein – time. Clocks in the 1880's had to be wound by hand every 1-3 days or every seven days. It was not unusual for clocks to be different by several minutes. Trains operated on schedules and it was important to keep them on schedule so things ran smoothly. Banks, stock market and other businesses relied on accurate time. To this end Chester Pond devised a novel idea and was granted patents for a clock that would wind itself every hour (November 25, 1884) and reset the time (patent April 13, 1886) using a telegraphic signal from a master clock hundreds of miles away. The telegraphic signal would activate the clock to move the minute hand to the hour and wind the springs using 1.5 volt dry cell batteries in the clock. This way all of the clocks connected to the system would synchronize and have the

same identical time based on the master clock, which was calibrated to the standard time at the US Naval Observatory. Chester Pond was one of the founders of the Self-Winding Clock Co. and served as its President. The company was in business from 1886 until about 1970. Western Union maintained the signal for the clocks for a monthly fee from June 1889 until 1963. Originally the company was called The Time Telegraph Co.

Chester Pond incorporated the Yazoo Delta Railroad on April 27, 1895 and started construction under the direction of the Moorhead Improvement Co. The railroad was tied into the Georgia Pacific RR at an intersection referred to as Moorhead in Mississippi using lumber from his new mill. Eventually 20.5 miles of track were completed north from Moorhead to Ruleville and opened in August 1897. The railroad was commonly referred to as the "Yellow Dog" because of the initials "YD". Improvements in the area grew rapidly after that. A reporter in August 1897 said in Moorhead that Pond "...has established there six manufacturing plants, built a first class hotel, several stores and great number of cottages and residences."



The Time Telegraph Co.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICES, TEMPLE COURT,
NEW YORK.**

TRUSTEES:

HON. HENRY HOWARD, Ex-Governor Rhode Island.
HON. ALEXANDER H. RICE, Ex-Governor Massachusetts.
HON. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY, U. S. Senator and Ex-Governor Connecticut.
JAMES HAMBLETT, Western Union Tel. Time Service.
SAMUEL ELLIOTT,
CHESTER H. POND, Vice-President and Secretary the Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company.
JOHN H. SEED, Wool Importer, 104 Reade street, New York.
FRANCIS C. SPOONER.
BENJAMIN S. CLARK, Attorney and Counsellor.

OFFICERS:

CHESTER H. POND, President. JOHN H. SEED, Treasurer.
B. S. CLARK, Secretary.

This Company now own and control forty-eight U. S. patents, covering every feature and branch of Electric Time Service. Is prepared to furnish isolated plants for Hotels, Public Buildings and Residences, or complete systems for cities or towns. Correspondence solicited.

Any parties infringing any of the Company's patents are respectfully notified that they will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

FIGURE 19 - FROM ELECTRICAL WORLD AND ENGINEER
NOVEMBER 3, 1883

AUSTRALIA'S KOSTER POTTERY

BY TERESA DEMPSEY

Koster's Pottery was established in South Australia in 1880. They began experimenting with high and low voltage insulator production in 1931. In 1933, they began producing insulators for the Electricity Trust of South Australia, ETSA. A 1939 Koster catalogue indicated 43 different types of insulators were available. Some of those were, Australian Post Office Standard, Small Telephone, Pin-Type Insulators (660 - 11,000 Volts), Shackle Insulators, both low and medium tension, Reel, Rack, Button and Cleats.

The immediate post-war period, however, Koster's faced formidable competition from the larger interstate potteries as well as stiff competition from overseas manufacturers. This crisis prompted the major potteries in Australia to seek assistance from the Federal Government who guaranteed a minimum forty per cent of government contract orders for insulators would come from Australian manufacturers. By 1944, the Koster Pottery had invested large amounts of capital into the plant to produce large numbers of electrical insulators which were now their specialty. A tunnel kiln had been installed which worked around the clock, turning out 1200 insulators per day.

Unfortunately the new office manager appointed in 1958 embezzled money on a large scale from the company and Koster was eventually



ASSORTED KOSTER POTTERY INSULATORS

forced to sell the business, as they were unable to compete against cheaper imported insulators.

KP manufactured insulators from 1932 - 1977, and thereafter imported insulators from New Zealand produced by NZI for a few years. The firm was unable to sell the pottery as a going concern, and was later acquired by the Payneham Council to develop Koster's Pottery land as a public reserve. The following story was relayed to me by the owner



5,000 VOLT PIN TYPES WITH INCUSE & UNDER GLAZE MARKINGS



A RARE COBALT BLUE KP SHACKEL



EARLIEST UNDER GLAZED INK MARKINGS FOR U-1154 (LONG SLEEVE), U-1145 AND U-1493 KP INSULATORS



KP COBALT BLUE CABLE TOP U-2377 (UNCOMMON COLOUR ANY STYLE)

AUSTRALIA'S KOSTER POTTERY

(CONTINUED)



ASSORTED KP INSULATORS, INCLUDING U-1154 LAYING DOWN SHOWING BLUE OVERSPRAY (LEFT) AND A U-1154 WITH RED / PINK OVERSPRAY & A HAND SCRATCHED 5 ON SIDE (RIGHT)

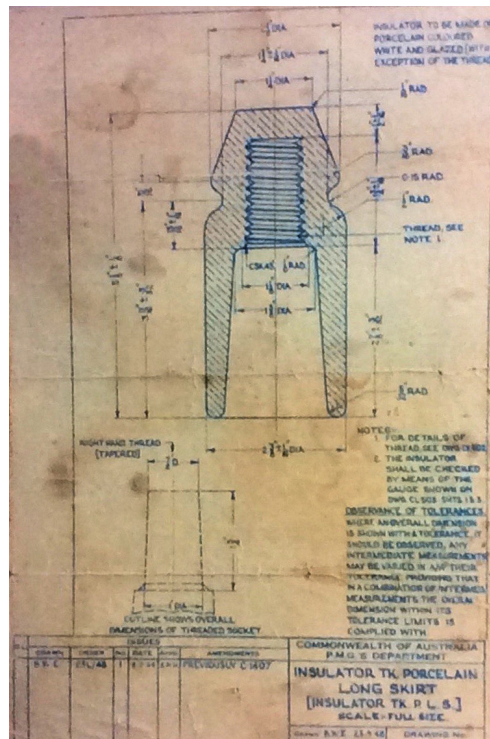
of the Pottery Museum in NSW, the beneficiary of a number of salvaged items.

"A Police Officer/ pottery collector came upon the pottery as bulldozers were demolishing the structures on the property. Quick thinking, he ran in and grabbed a number of items from the office to preserve the history, which included insulator drawings which he donated to the Pottery Museum in NSW."

One of those design drawings, the "Long Sleeve" or L/S trunk insulator, U-1154 is pictured to the right. The L/S was government mandated form that served as a compromise based upon the British Cordeaux design. It had no inner shed because the industry already had too much invested in insulator pins. Look for more on the L/S in a future article.

Only one kiln remains on the Koster's Pottery site today. It stands as a memorial to the business on the corner of Ashmore & Albermurle Avenues in Trinity Gardens, South Australia.

Koster's Pottery insulators are identifiable by the letters KP incused on most, however many insulators are unmarked. The pottery used



SALVAGED DESIGN DRAWING FOR THE U-1154



ONE OF A KIND FACTORY FANTASY PIECE HAND-MODIFIED AND GLAZE PAINTED.

AUSTRALIA'S KOSTER POTTERY

(CONTINUED)



(ABOVE) KOSTER'S ELECTRIC JUGS (3 WITH BLACK LIDS) TIE IN WITH THE SPONGE WARE TRUNK-SUB U-1148 INSULATOR, BLUE OVERSPRAY AND LIKELY WHERE THE REDISH-PINK COLOR CAME FROM FOUND DUSTING THE U-1154 WITH HAND SCRIBED 5 ON SKIRT.

(LEFT) ONE OF A KIND, SIDEWAYS CROWN INCUSED, KP 75 SUB-TRUNK WITH UNUSUAL CORRUGATED SIDES A SPONGE STYLE GLAZING SIMILAR TO KOSTER ELECTRIC JUGS



BRICK COLORED, UNMARKED LOW VOLTAGE CABLE STYLE ATTRIBUTED TO KP

underglaze black ink on insulators from 1942 - 1970. A number of fully glazed insulators from the 1970's have the KP and year incused sideways before glazing, and small electrical insulators, mainly blue, are incused KP, but no year is indicated.

There are a few highly desirable KP insulators from the 1974-75 years that have overspray or unique one of a kind features and glazing styles as shown in photos. Of interest is similar glaze styles and colours found on Koster's electric jugs that can be paired with some of their insulators. ▲



THREE LATER MANUFACTURE U-1154S WITH THE BLACK KP INKSTAMP MARKING AND THE YEAR

TRIPLE RIDGE INSULATOR CLUB SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES SHOW

SHOW REPORT BY DAN GAURON * MIKE GREEN * NATHAN HOLMES



On May 21, the Triple Ridge Insulator Club hosted its first springtime meet since 2017. We show hosts lured folks in with the promise of a beautiful Colorado spring weather - we just failed to elaborate what that might be. Usually that's 70s and blue skies, but this year the snow started falling on Friday night and didn't let up until we'd gotten nearly over a foot of wet, heavy stuff by noon on Saturday.



LOVELY COLORADO SPRING WEATHER

We had planned to have the show both inside and outside so there would be lots of room to spread out. With the weather throwing us a curve ball, we had to do a quick rearranging to fit everyone inside. Thanks to last minute efforts by Dan, Sean Duffy, and Allison Fea, we managed to fit all 35 dealer tables inside the shop while setting up on Friday afternoon so nobody had to be out in the snow.

Friday evening Dan and Wendy hosted an informal get-together at their home for those who made it in through the weather. About thirty collectors made it, and it gave us time to catch up, swap stories and admire Dan's amazing collection while grazing on pizza, snacks, and drinks.

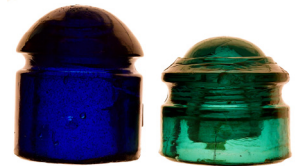
Doors officially opened at 7am, and folks were there from as far away as Alabama, Connecticut, California, Texas and Washington, along with ten other states. The 70 or so attendees on Saturday were proof that a little snow doesn't deter insulator collectors. The show "hall" - the shop for Dan's business - is a sight to behold in an of itself, and makes the perfect show hall. Many of the attendees had as much fun



THE SHOW OPENED BRIGHT AND EARLY SATURDAY MORNING WITH EVERYONE CROWDED INSIDE, BUT WE QUICKLY ADAPTED

looking around as looking at the tables. The shop has insulators and go-withs everywhere. Old signs, electrical hardware, ceiling-to-floor suspension strings, and a pretty darn good collection in a lit cabinet upstairs are just the highlights.

Lunch was farm-fresh burgers off the grill, along with a huge array of sides. Nathan had two grills running to keep up with demand on the burgers, and thankfully, Wendy along with Jeanne Briel, Jeanne Weber, and Beth Ziesak handled everything else - the sides, the drinks, and the logistics of setting up the buffet line. Everybody seemed to enjoy lunch, and given how many came back for seconds or thirds we're pretty sure nobody went away hungry.



The hall was filled with a wide range fantastic pieces for every type of collector, ranging from common to the ultra-rare, porcelain and glass, domestic and foreign. Some of the more notable pieces were a CD 168.5, a "cobalt blob" 140.5, a cobalt 130.1, two Bos



GARY FINE, ELTON GISH, ROSS BAIRD, AND MIKE ROSS SWAPPING STORIES AND ENJOYING A FEW COLD ONES FRIDAY EVENING



DAN WAGNER ADMIRES SOME OF DAN GAURON'S AMAZING COLLECTION DOWN IN THE INSULATOR ROOM



TRIPLE RIDGE INSULATOR CLUB SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES SHOW

(CONTINUED)

ton screw top 158.9s, a CD 265 Fisher, a small Harloe 109.5 claw, several Castles, and a dark purple Polish CD 599. Most of these jewels went home with very happy new owners.

On a sadder note, we'd like to remember another pioneer of Colorado insulator collecting that we've lost since we last had this show - Larry Volmer, who passed in 2019. He and Mike Miller, who left us a few years earlier, were friends and mentors to many local collectors, as well as being invaluable sources of knowledge for this hobby we love so much. Many pieces from Larry's collection sold at the show, and it reminds me in particular that it's not just the pieces we put in our collections, but the memories that go with them of friendships, places and stories. How many times have you picked up a piece and immediately started into a story about the collector you got it from, or who you were out hunting with when you found it? That's why the hosts would like to thank each and every one of you who took the time to come to our little show. It's all the friends we make - old and new - that truly make this hobby amazing. ▲



MIKE BLISS AND HIS GRANDSON



MIKE DOYLE GETTING FOOTAGE OF THE SHOW



BILL ROHDE HOLDS UP HIS NEW 168.5 AS EVERYONE ASKS HIM - WHAT IS THAT THING?



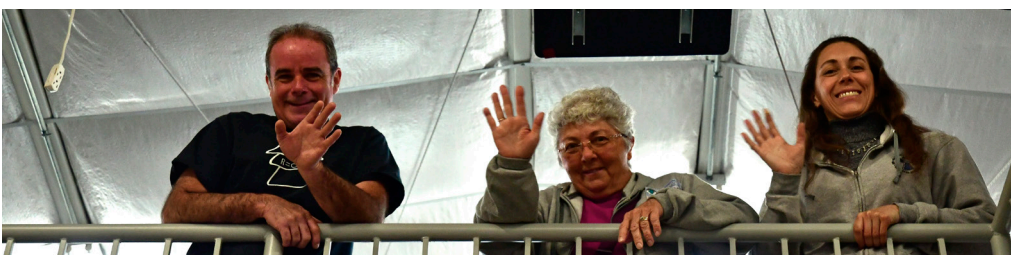
DAN WAGNER SHOWS OFF HIS TWO-TONE AMBER AND COBALT CD 565.1 AND BLINDS TOM KATONAK



KEN ROBERTS TELLS A STORY TO ELTON GISH AND JOHN RAJPOLT



JOHN RAJPOLT UNPACKS SOME AMAZING PIECES AS THE FEEDING FRENZY STARTS TO GATHER AROUND



SEAN DUFFY, CONNIE DUEKER, AND ALLISON FEA WAVE FROM UP TOP

TRIPLE RIDGE INSULATOR CLUB SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES SHOW



(CONTINUED)



DUANE DAVENPORT AND BILL ROHDE



LOOKING OVER SOME OF THE INSULATORS FROM LARRY VOLMER'S COLLECTION



DAN GAURON SAYS GOODBYE TO TWO GEMS HE JUST SOLD DOUG FRANZEN - A FISHER AND A CLAW



DAVE BARON AND DAUGHTER ARIELLE WITH SOME OF THE SHOP'S SIGNS AND INSULATORS IN THE BACKGROUND



DARRYL WAGNER FINALLY GETS A CHANCE TO SIT DOWN AT HIS TABLE



DON AND JEANNE BRIEL WITH BETH ZIESAK HAMMING IT UP IN THE BACKGROUND



ROGER AND BETH ZIESAK



NATHAN HOLMES MANS THE GRILL NOBODY AT THE SHOW GOES HUNGRY TODAY



DOUG SHOWING OFF SOME OLD COLORADO SODA BOTTLES



SO MANY TABLES WE EVEN HAD TO PUT A FEW UPSTAIRS



EVERYTHING'S DONE AND CLEANED UP - A TOAST TO FANTASTIC SHOW DONE!

49TH ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA INSULATOR SHOW AND SALE

SHOW REPORT BY STEPHEN BOBB * NIA #827



SOME OF THE SALES TABLES AND LOTS OF GREAT INSULATORS

Well another show is in the books! Saturday June 11th started out with an iffy forecast of rain showers with maybe a thunderstorm later in the day. Luckily no heavy downpours happened! We just had a couple raindrops fall around 12:30p.m., nothing to deter insulator collectors or the serving of lunch. We had dealers from Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, New Jersey, Conn. and Mass. represented. A great crowd of collectors both seasoned and newbies came to check out the glass and talk insulators. We can thank Arlene Wambold for making arrangements for some auxiliary parking spots on 2 of her neighbor's large grassy areas for the excess overflow of cars. Lunch went off without a hitch with pulled pork, both mild and spicy, Dave Wiecek's spicy chili, fruit salad, potato salad, deviled eggs and many more goodies including doughnuts.

Thanks to everyone for contributing! Thanks also to everyone that helped set up and clean up. It was greatly appreciated. We couldn't have done the show without the willing helpers. Enjoy the pictures of some of the goodies that showed up and dealer's tables. Looking forward to a big celebration next year for the 50th year and some surprises taking place!



A RARE MINT RED AMBER T-H.E. CD 134 AT THE SHOW

Sincerely, Steve & Donna Bobb and Arlene Wambold 🐾



MATT GRAYSON SETS UP WHILE A CAST OF THE USUAL SUSPECTS LOOK ON



MARK EVANS AND HIS TABLE



LUNCH IS SERVED!



RICHARD WENTZEL'S TABLE



KEN WILICK'S TABLE (ABOVE) AND SOME OF HIS GEMS (BELOW)



STEVE BOBB'S TABLE



JUSTIN STOUT'S INSULATOR STORE WAS THERE



MORE SALES TABLES STRETCHING OUT INTO THE YARD



2nd Annual Border States Antique Show & Sale



Saturday September 17, 2022

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Free Admission



Douglas County Fairgrounds

2120 Harper St. Bldg 21, Lawrence, KS 66046

Southeast corner of Lawrence, 23rd St & Harper

Great venue, good lighting & 100+ tables of antique insulators, bottles, jars, postcards, telephones, advertising, lightning rod balls & arrows and other miscellaneous table-top antiques & collectibles.

Breakfast & lunch available on site.

FREE insulator & bottle appraisal available.

BUY – SELL – TRADE

For information and/or a show packet, contact:

Darryl Wagner
14615 Skyview Ave.
Smithville, MO 64089
816-719-0801

insulators@dwagnerkc.com

OR

Mark Law
5129 NW Arroyo Dr.
Topeka, KS 66618
785-224-4836

kansasbottles@gmail.com

Show managers not responsible for accidents or losses.





UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022

August 6, 2022 (Saturday) BERKLEY, MICHIGAN

4th Annual Insulator Swap Meet will be at a bigger and better location. Show hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, dealer setup starts at 8am. The swap meet location is at the Knights of Columbus 2299 Twelve Mile Rd Berkley Michigan 48072. The location is only 1 hr north of the Michigan/Ohio border, walking distance to downtown Berkley and there's a few antique stores in the area. Tables are \$25 each, free admission. Dealers, please RSVP when possible. Contact Curtis Erickson (248) 515-4612 crerickson1@gmail.com for info

August 12-13, 2022 (Friday-Saturday) BEND, OREGON

The Annual Jefferson State Insulator Club's Quatro Amigos and Dos Amigos Insulator Show & Sale in Central Oregon will be held August 12-13 starting with dinner Friday evening followed by our traditional bonfire and story-telling time. On Saturday the show will begin early. Tables will be provided. If you would like a table, please let us know beforehand so the correct number can be ordered. There will be a BBQ lunch at 11:35 AM. Side dishes are welcome. Be sure to bring your "Go-Withs" and any other treasures along with your hunting and adventure stories for the Friday evening bonfire. Please RSVP so we know how much food to order. Lodging and camping available at nearby Tumalo State Park or camp on site. Our location is 64420 Research Road, Bend, OR 97703. Info: Jim Sinasek (541) 383-8067 (oregonjim@q.com). You may also contact Howard Banks at 541-761-9456 (hbanks@budget.net) or Tim Wood at 541-923-4116 (cwetim@gmail.com).

August 13, 2022 (Saturday) MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

The 22nd Annual CBIC Shenandoah Valley Insulator Show will be held at the historic B&O Roundhouse, 100 E. Liberty Street, Martinsburg, WV. Show hours are 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM with no admission fee. Come enjoy the show and take in the history of the B&O Roundhouse. Dealer set up from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, dealer contract and show directions are available at www.insulators.info/clubs/cbic or contact Jeff Hollis at (304) 671-5359 or redoak1953@gmail.com

August 20, 2022 (Saturday) TOCCOA, GEORGIA

The Dixie Jewels Insulator Club Summer Swap Meet hosted by Tom, Mike and Casey Herron, will be held Saturday, August 20th, 2022 from 8:00am-3:00pm in beautiful Toccoa, Georgia. The swap will be held at the Mitchell Allen Memorial Hall at the Historic Toccoa Train Depot, 160 N Alexander St, Toccoa, GA 30577, located at the historic Toccoa Train Depot and right next door to the Currahee Military Museum. The Toccoa Depot was originally built in 1915 and is located beside the Southern Railroad which remains very active to this day. The Toccoa Depot has been restored to its original appearance in 1940 and the museum showcases the history of Toccoa and Stephens County, Georgia, along with many artifacts detailing the lives and experiences of the men in the 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment who trained for combat missions at nearby Camp Toccoa, made famous by the hit HBO miniseries, "Band of Brothers". Tours of the museum will be arranged for those interested at minimal cost. The depot has also added a viewing platform for those who wish to do some railfanning! Around 15+ tables will be available, so please contact Mike Herron before the swap meet to reserve your sales table. If all those tables are spoken for, plan to bring your own table. There is lots of room in the meeting hall and there will be a great assortment of insulators for sale. Admission is free and there is no charge to set up a sales table if you are a club member. Non-club members will need to pay \$5 for each sales table. Please see our treasurer, Dave Collins, prior to setup. Lunch will be provided for club members ONLY and they are asked to bring a covered dish, dessert or drinks

to complement the noon meal. Mark your calendars now for a terrific day of awesome insulators and fellowship in the beautiful mountains of Northeast Georgia. For information: Mike Herron, hern@truvista.net, 706-599-4705 or Tom Herron, tbherron@truvista.net, 706-886-8238

August 26-27, 2022 (Friday-Saturday) HELENA, MONTANA

The 2022 Big Sky Show will be held at A-Storage, 3333 Canyon Ferry Road, 3333 Canyon Ferry Rd, East Helena, MT 59635. Show Starts Friday The 26th at 12:00 and runs until 5:00. Show and Tell At Ron and Peggy's Home at 6:00 until 9:00. Saturday Show starts at 8:00 and ends at 3:00. Inside Table rent is \$20.00 outside tables are \$10.00. For outside tables we suggest you bring your own canopy And you will be responsible for your items when show closes on Friday night. For Info and to reserve your spots please contact Ron Yuhas at 406-439-4573 (gramapig@bresnan.net) or Doug Rusher 406-461-7341 (ddrusher@aol.com)

August 27, 2022 (Saturday) NISSWA, MINNESOTA

North-Western Insulator Club Annual Summer Sale and Swap Meet We invite you to join us on the last Saturday in August. Colin and Karen Yennie will host at their home at 1126 Ebert Drive, Nisswa, MN. This is an outdoor show with plenty of space to spread out in the yard. The garage and canopies can be pressed into service if showers threaten to dampen our goodies. Lunch is pot luck-so bring a dessert or side dish to share. Colin will fire up the grills to serve brats and burgers. An auction will be held with proceeds to benefit the club. All are welcome to donate or buy. Contact the host with questions or more info. Contacts are Colin Yennie cryennie@hotmail.com or 507-990-7503 or Karen at klyennie@hotmail.com or 507-271-3457. This fun event brings in hobbyists from the five-state area and Canada, so there is no shortage of insulators and go-withs to tempt everybody.

September 17, 2022 (Saturday) LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Border States Antique Show & Sale, Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2120 Harper St. Bldg. 21, Lawrence, KS, 66046 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Antique insulators, bottles, jars, postcards, telephones, advertising, porcelain signs, lightning rod balls & arrows and other table-top antiques & collectibles. Friday set up with show open to the public on Saturday. 100+ 8' & 6' tables available. Breakfast & lunch available on site. For information contact Darryl Wagner, darryl@dwagnerkc.com, 816-719-0801, or Mark Law, kansasbottles@gmail.com, (785) 224-4836.

September 17, 2022 (Saturday) OTTAWA, ILLINOIS

The Greater Chicago Insulator Club's annual fall swap meet will be held at the home of Tom & Mary Nugent located at 1999 N. Columbus St., Ottawa, IL 61350 from 9 a.m. - ?. Bring a table if you can. Free lunch. Club auction with Rick Soller taking bids. For more information or to RSVP, contact Tom at (815) 434-5157 or tnugent@ivnet.com. Although the address is listed as 1999 Columbus Street, attendees need to turn on Alexis Street to get to this address. You cannot see the house from Columbus Street, and you have to travel to the end of Alexis Street to get to the address of the swap meet. Coming from I-80, Alexis Street is one mile south on Columbus Street/U.S. 30 and is the first right turn after Reynolds Manor Dr. You will be going west when you make the turn. Tom will have signs up to make it easier to find his domicile.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2022 – JUNE 2023



September 24, 2022 (Saturday)
PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

The 23rd annual Merzoian Brothers and Dave Brown Tailgater will be held under Mark Merzoian's cool wedding ranch pole barn located just outside of Porterville, CA. Tables, breakfast snacks, and lunch will be provided. Please join us...bring glass and mud to sell, trade, or just show off. Reunite with friends from near and afar. We like to think of our gathering as a Mini-Rohde (the King of Tailgaters). Start time is 8:00 AM and lasts until the last vehicle leaves. Contact Bob Merzoian (bobmerzoian@mac.com), Mark Merzoian (memerzoian@ocsnet.net), or Dave Brown (lskychair@msn.com) for further information or to RSVP. See you then!

September 24, 2022 (Saturday)
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

The Enchantment Insulator Club/New Mexico Historical Bottle Society 2022 Tailgater will be held 8AM-5PM at North Domingo Baca Park, 7521 Carmel NE Albuquerque, NM 87113. There are some tables but you should probably bring your own plus an EZ-up if you have one. There are 3 large pavilions and 6 small ones west of the fire/police building at the NE corner of the park. Nearby are plenty of restaurants and takeout options. No fees! No electricity either. Questions? Mike Gay cdm102@swcp.com, (505) 480-0085 Show: <https://tinyurl.com/yckbk594> Parking: <https://tinyurl.com/4e8zanm8>

September 24, 2022 (Saturday)
RICHFIELD, OHIO

The Western Reserve Insulator Club's 12th Annual 'Oktoberfest' Insulator Show will be at the Masonic Hall, 3750 Grant Street, Richfield, OH 44286 (near the southeast corner of Routes 303 & 176), 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Free Admission. 8-foot Dealer Tables \$20. Dealer Setup 9:00 - 10:00 AM, Bratwurst and Root Beer available for lunch. Contact: John Hovanec 216-392-3622, email jrhovanec@ymail.com for details.

October 1, 2022 (Saturday)
MAYER, ARIZONA

The Grand Canyon Summer Meet and Show will be at 10090 S. Third Street, Mayer, AZ 86333. The show will run from 8am until done. All are welcome and any/all antiques can be sold/purchased or traded. Bring your own table and chair, lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to ensure we have enough food. For more details, contact Jim Harlow at 928 830-7716 or harlowmcl1@gmail.com

October 1, 2022 (Saturday)
RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

The North Western Insulator Club Annual Fall Swap, Show and Sale will be in River Falls, Wisconsin hosted by Mike Braun. We are returning to the Glen Park Pavillion, an indoor facility surrounded by a large park. The building has a wall of garage type doors that can be opened for comfort and ventilation or closed if weather is inclement. There are floor to ceiling windows all around so the light for identifying colors is excellent. Tables and chairs are provided and lunch will be pot luck. Please bring a dish to share. A raffle will be held to finance current and future club activities. Donations will be welcomed. Contact Mike with donations or for any information. Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Host: Mike Braun. Phone: 651-999-9961 Location: Glen Park Pavilion, 361 W Park St. River Falls, Wisconsin Come ready to buy, trade and sell. Bring something to share for lunch. Bring an item to raffle to benefit the club. Be prepared for a great day with friends and fellow hobbyists!

October 22, 2022 (Saturday)
GARLAND, TEXAS

The Garland Insulator and Collectibles Show will be held Saturday October 22, 2022 at the Springhill Suites by Marriott, 3251 E. George Bush Turnpike, Richardson Texas 75082, (972) 479-0300. Show hours are from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM with free parking and free admission. Dealer tables are \$40.00 each with setup Friday night from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM and Saturday morning from 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM. Contact show hosts Gary Fine (214) 546-9804 gfine102@aol.com or Mike Lyell (214) 681-0244 mikelyell@verizon.net for more information or to reserve a table.

November 4-6, 2022 (Friday-Sunday)
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

52nd Mid-Ohio Insulator Show. Clark County Fairgrounds. 4401 South Charleston Pike. Exit 59 off I-70. Springfield, Ohio. Show Hours: Friday Noon - 6 PM Saturday 8 PM - 5 PM Sunday 9 AM - ??? CONTACT: Curt Boster (614) 301-5125 cboster530@att.net

December 4, 2022 (Sunday)
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT

The Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club's Annual "Beat the Snow" Antique Insulator, Bottle & Collectibles Show will be Sunday December 4, 2022 at the American Legion Hall - Enfield, Connecticut. 566 Enfield Street (US Route 5) - Exit 49 off I-91 (just minutes South of Mass. Turnpike - I-90 Exit 4) Show Hours: 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM Insulators * Bottles * Jars * Lightning Rod Equipment * Flasks * Stoneware * Telephone & Telegraph Collectibles * Railroadiana Advertising & Paper Ephemera * Small Table Top Antiques FREE ADMISSION For Show Information, contact: John Rajpolt at 203-261-1190 or rajpolt@earthlink.net

June 9-11, 2023 (Friday-Sunday)
LOGAN, UTAH

The National Insulator Association's 54th Annual Show and Convention will be held at the Cache County Fairgrounds in Logan, Utah. The fairgrounds is located at 450 South 500 West, Logan, UT 84321. There will be plenty of dealer space and exhibit space plus a multitude of things to do in the area. Complete show information will be available in 2023 at the Gettysburg National and subsequently online. Show Hosts are: DON & JEANNE BRIEL, (435) 753-5786, Don.Briel@com-cast.net and BRIAN & CATHY WEESE, (801) 201-5187, brianweese@gmail.com



THE UPCOMING EVENTS LIST APPEARS COURTESY OF:

- The NIA Companion - <https://companion.nia.org>
- All Insulators - <https://allinsulators.com>

TO SUBMIT AN UPCOMING INSULATOR SHOW:

- <https://companion.nia.org/shows/>
- https://allinsulators.com/hobby/shows/submit_show/

2023 NIA National Show Update Logan, UT

June 9-11, 2023



While this article was written prior to the 2022 NIA National show in Gettysburg, PA you are now reading it after that amazing show has become history. Reservations are now being accepted for the 2023 NIA National show to be held in beautiful Logan, UT, a pleasant mountain valley in the heart of the Rocky Mountains.

The show will be held at the Cache County Fairgrounds Event Center on June 9-11, 2023. The building is new, spacious, and has amazing lighting. Skylights let in daylight and are supplemented with ceiling LED lights. The building is air conditioned. There's plenty of free parking, easy loading and unloading, and it's just over a mile from the host hotels.



A Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Riverwoods Conference Center, adjacent to the host hotels, preceded by a social hour with live music and a cash bar. An optional pre-show activity on Thursday, June 8th will be a bus excursion through rural Northern Utah to the Golden Spike National Monument and the Northrup Grumman (*Thiokol*) rocket display.

Cache Valley weather at that time of year is usually sunny with daytime temperatures in the 80s and nighttime temperatures in the 50s. There are numerous restaurants, shopping, antique stores, and activities all within a couple of miles of the show.

Please keep in mind that Cache Valley is a summer tourist destination and hotels quickly book to capacity. We have rooms being held at the Marriott Springhill Suites and Townplace Suites, our host hotels, for \$139/night. However, they are only being held until early April, 2023 when they will be released to the public and the special rate will no longer apply. The regular rate is currently listed at over \$350/night for these dates.

Everything is actively underway to make this a great show. Be sure to get this one on your calendar. Time permitting, turn it into a wonderful summer vacation.

For complete show details and a registration packet visit: https://www.nia.org/shows/2023_national or contact your show hosts:

Don & Jeanne Briel
P. O. Box 188
Providence, UT 84332
(435) 753-5786
Don.Briel@comcast.net

Brian & Cathy Weese
909 North 170 East
Kaysville, UT 84037
(801) 201-5187
brianweese@gmail.com



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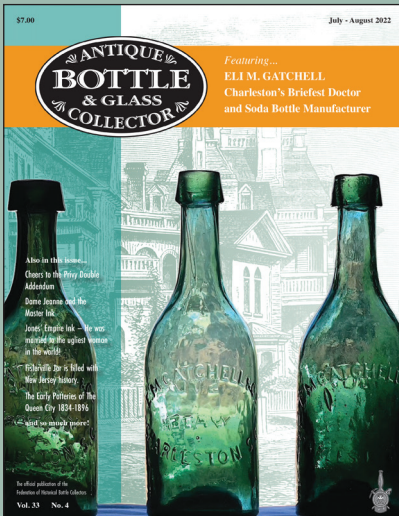
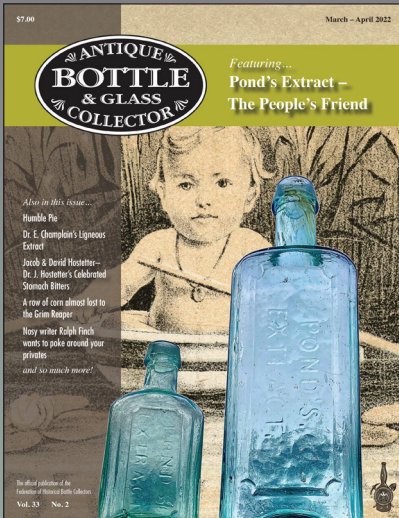
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NIA #8176



Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

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5972 August 2017 Bottle Auction #12
181 "General Hospital" Amber - "E. Parker Union / TWD" and Eagle Portrait Flask, Kensington Glass Works, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1825-1830. "Firecracker" medicine bottle with a crown stop, blue, clear, and red. GI-14. St. Gary and Adelle Johnson collection.

515,490 September 2020 Glass Works Auction #13
251 "General Washington" and Bot - "E. Parker Union / TWD" and Eagle Portrait Flask, Kensington Glass Works, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1825-1830. "Firecracker" medicine bottle with a crown stop, blue, clear, and red. GI-14. St. Gary and Adelle Johnson collection.

545,520 February 2019 Bottle Auction #10
215 "General Washington" and Bot - "E. Parker Union / TWD" and Eagle Portrait Flask, Kensington Glass Works, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1825-1830. Medicine bottle blue, clear, and red. GI-14. St. Gary and Adelle Johnson collection.

215 "General Washington" and Bot - "E. Parker Union / TWD" and Eagle Portrait Flask, Kensington Glass Works, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1825-1830. Medicine bottle blue, clear, and red. GI-14. St. Gary and Adelle Johnson collection.

Search Firecracker GI-14

FOHBC AUCTION PRICE REPORT
Now Available to FOHBC Members!

Online Auction Price Report. Search on your smartphone, tablet or desktop computer. Includes 10 years of results from American Bottle Auctions, American Glass Gallery, Glass Works Auctions and Hecker in Prices 1. The Auction Price Report will only be available to FOHBC members. Joining the FOHBC will give the new member 24/7/365 access. What a great tool this will be for the collectors, diggers, pickers, researchers and the generally curious!

Visit FOHBC.org Members Portal

Membership includes our bi-monthly 72-page plus covers magazine, **Antique Bottle & Glass Collector**, National Show VIP Access Rates, **FOHBC Virtual Museum Full Access Pass**, Bi-Monthly Newsletter, Access to online **FOHBC Auction Price Report**, Access to FOHBC website Members Portal for member list and archived historical information, free classified ad with membership and so much more!

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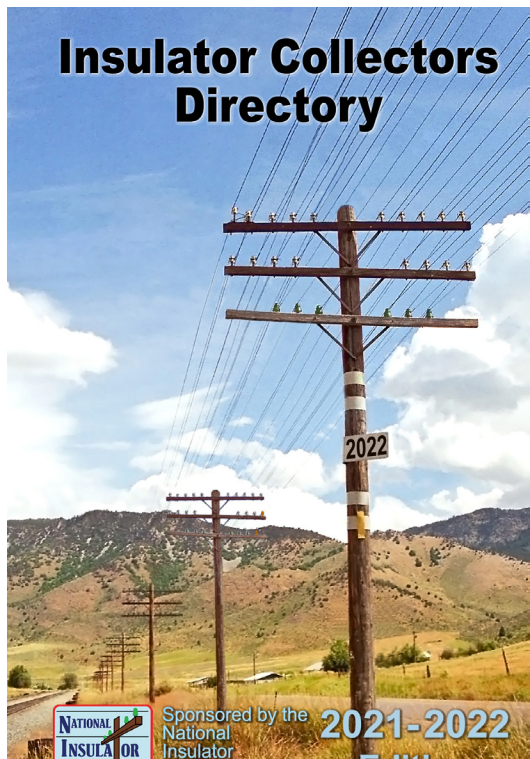
Consign now for our next Auction

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Insulator Collectors Directory



We are excited to release the new 2021-2022 printed Insulator Collectors Directory.

This full-color handy reference can help you find other collectors in a specific area, find a mentor, find other collectors with specific interests, etc. Both online and printed versions are available.

We have shipped all of the pre-orders, but a limited number of extra copies were printed and are now available for \$15 postage paid to NIA members. Don't delay — these are sure to go quickly.

You can order yours online at:

<https://insulatorcollectors.org/purchase>

or through NIA Products (order form is included in this magazine).



National Insulator Association Scholarship Fund

**Attention young insulator collectors-
this scholarship is for you!**

Money for college \$1000/\$500 up to \$2000

Write a 300 word essay telling us how to spread the word about the hobby.

Go to <http://www.nia.org/scholarship>



Submission deadline is March 1

The Scholarship Application and Application Guide is available at:

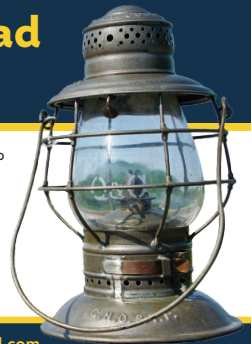
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Crown Jewels of the Wire

The official magazine for Insulator collectors since 1969

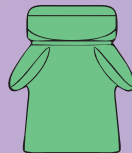


For more than 50 years Crown Jewels of the Wire has been the leading publication for glass and porcelain insulator hobby news, history, articles with columns devoted to worldwide insulators, show reports, in-depth research articles, meeting announcements, photos and other insulator information. There is something for everyone who enjoys insulators!

Being a quarterly publication allows the contributors to create some amazingly rich, well-researched articles. It is like getting a new book on insulators four times a year.

Some of the topics regularly covered are:

- Threadless insulators
- Porcelain insulators
- Insulators from around the world
- North American glass insulators
- Lightning rod insulators
- Research on historic lines
- Hunts and finds
- Upcoming insulator show information

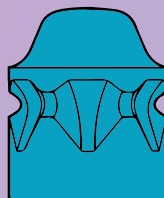


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All NIA Members get a \$3 discount when subscribing or renewing. If paying by mail, just include the coupon you received with your NIA membership and make check out for \$3 less. If renewing/subscribing online, email shaun@allinsulators.com for directions.

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DRIP POINTS Advertising Information

Help support the NIA's Drip Points by advertising. New rates below include discounts for multiple runs. We now offer classified rates also.

# of Issues	Covers*	Full Page (8" x 10")	1/2 Page (8" x 4.5" or 4.5" x 10")	1/4 Page (4.5" x 3.9" or 8" x 2.1")	1/8 Page (3.9" x 2.1" or 2.2" x 4.5")	1/16 Page (2.2" x 1.8")
1 Issue	\$135	\$90	\$50	\$30	\$18	\$12
2 Issues	\$257	\$171	\$95	\$57	\$34	\$23
3 Issues	\$379	\$252	\$140	\$84	\$50	\$34
4 Issues	\$497	\$331	\$184	\$110	\$66	\$44
5 Issues	\$614	\$410	\$228	\$137	\$82	\$55
6 Issues	\$729	\$486	\$270	\$162	\$97	\$65

* Back Cover (8.5"x8.5") Inside Back Cover & Inside Front Cover (8.5"x11")

Classified Ads:
10 cents per word, **15 cents per bold word**, \$2.50 min./per Issue

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Size: _____ #Issues: _____ Cost per Issue: _____ Total cost: _____

Please supply camera ready artwork; preferred file formats include: PDF, TIF, JPG, DOC, DOCX.

Ads can be designed for an additional fee (please contact Doug Rusher at admanager@nia.org).

To receive the multi-issue discount, ads must run in consecutive issues with no changes.

Ads must be pre-paid. We accept PayPal (treasurer@nia.org) or checks payable to the NIA.

Ads must meet all postal regulations that govern publications mailed at Non-Profit Standard Mail postage rate.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St, zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

To place an ad, send form with payment to:

Doug Rusher

3370 Chance Ct.

Helena, MT 59602 admanager@nia.org

DRIP POINTS Publishing Schedule

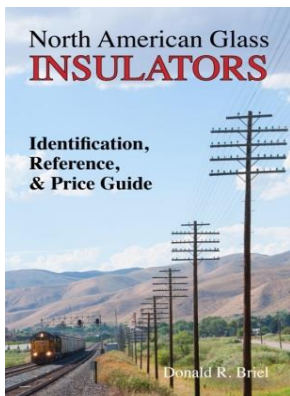
Issue	#	Deadline	Mailing
February	1	Jan. 10	Feb. 1
April	2	Mar. 10	Apr. 1
June	3	May 10	Jun. 1
August	4	Jul. 10	Aug. 1
October	5	Sep. 10	Oct. 1
December	6	Nov. 10	Dec. 1



CURRENT (2019) EDITION

North American Glass Insulators – Identification, Reference, & Price Guide

- New CDs & CD Changes
- New Index Listings
- Added Color Listings
- Unverified Questionable Listings Removed
- New and Updated Appendices
- Updated Prices
- 14,500+ listings
- 388 pages – 6” x 9”
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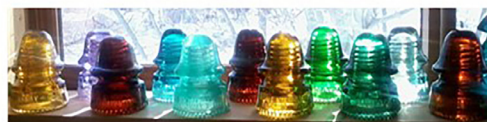
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Contact: Don.Briel@comcast.net or (435) 753-5786

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Condition**



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CLASSIFIEDS**

LARRY N. NELSON: FOR SALE: CD 788 Blackglass insulator with a restored skirt. If interested please call 802-244-5555 ask for Larry N. Nelson

ZAC MIRECKI: Collector seeks better: Tolls, Hi Tops, Foreign, GPCo, Hartford Faience, medicine bottles, and stamps. Email for want list. Zac Mirecki (860) 916-9014 zacharymirecki@protonmail.com

SEND IN YOUR FREE 25-WORD AD TO DRIPPOINTS@NIA.ORG.



DONATE TO THE NIA

A REQUEST FROM THE NIA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dear Fellow Collector,

The NIA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and as such, gifts may be tax deductible. Gifts of support will help the Association improve existing benefits and services as well as create new benefits and services for members and those collectors who are yet to become members. Your gift will allow the NIA to continue its mission to encourage growth and public awareness of the insulator hobby through collecting, dealing and educational endeavors. The NIA has identified four areas where donations will help create and enhance programs directed to that mission:

SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Currently the NIA can grant up to two scholarships totaling \$2,000.00 each year. Additional funding would give additional funds for future years; scholarship grants could be increased; or additional scholarships could be granted each year.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT: There are projects that have been suggested but haven't been implemented for lack of funding such as the production of classroom video presentations, NIA traveling displays for use by learning facilities such as libraries, schools, museums and a Speakers Bureau. These are just a few of the new ideas for greater community awareness of our hobby.

NATIONAL & REGIONAL SHOW SUPPORT: The NIA has assumed a financial supportive role intended to assist National Show Hosts/Organizers in reducing their financial risk. With your donations the NIA could possibly increase advertising and promotional reimbursements, possibly provide all awards at National/Regional Shows and possibly provide financial assistance for Regional Shows.

INTERNET TECHNOLOGY: The desire for instant communication and information retrieval is with us and cannot be denied. For the association and the hobby to continue to grow it must have a strong presence on the Internet and social media. Donations in this area can help redesign the NIA web site, create videos for posting on social media, develop and present "live" shows including interviews, auctions and sales.

Amount of Donation		Donation Level	Donation Area (circle one)
\$ 0.00 -	\$ 49.99	Aqua	Scholarship Fund
\$ 50.00 -	\$ 99.99	Green	
\$ 100.00 -	\$ 249.99	Emerald	Educational Development
\$ 250.00 -	\$ 499.99	Carnival	
\$ 500.00 -	\$ 999.99	Amber	National & Regional Shows
\$ 1,000.00 -	\$ 2,499.99	Peacock	
\$ 2,500.00 -	\$ 4,999.99	Purple	Internet Technology
\$ 5,000.00 -	\$ 9,999.99	Cobalt	
\$ 10,000.00+		Hobby Benefactor	General Fund

Other Donation area: _____ Amount \$ _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Additional Information: _____ **If it is OK to list you as a donor, check here:**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

All donors will be listed on the NIA website and any donors of \$50.00 or more will be listed in Drip Points.

Please mail form and payment (payable to NIA) to: NIA Treasurer, Bill Rohde, P.O. Box 28, Colusa, CA 95932

For additional information regarding gifts to the National Insulator Association, Inc., please contact the NIA Development Committee, E-mail address: donations@nia.org. Your gift is deductible, to the fullest extent of the law. The National Insulator Association (www.nia.org) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Thank you for your support of the NIA!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

2022 NIA Donors & Sponsors

The NIA would like to acknowledge this year's Donors & Sponsors

Name	From	Level	Additional Information
Tommy Bolack	New Mexico	Hobby Benefactor	Drip Points
Robert Tucker	Missouri	Amber	Scholarship
George Snow	Utah	Carnival	General Fund
Dan Gauron	Colorado	Carnival	General Fund
Howard Huckle	New York	Emerald	General Fund
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Anonymous	Kansas	Emerald	General Fund
Anonymous	Maryland	Emerald	General Fund
Anonymous	Louisiana	Green	General Fund
Anonymous	Florida	Green	General Fund

Thank you for your support!

The list above is compiled from multiple sources and may not be complete. If you have donated this year, but don't see your name (unless you wanted to be anonymous), please contact the development committee chairman.



Of NIA Membership

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- Sherry Lu Krell NIA#252
- Doug MacGillvary NIA#259
- Richard "Rick" Baldwin NIA#336
- John De Sousa NIA#419
- Darrell Karlin NIA#440
- Joseph "Joe" Beres NIA#563
- Richard "Dick" Bowman NIA#597





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THE FOLLOWING INSULATOR CLUBS ARE MEMBERS OF THE NIA



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Titusville, FL 32780-5356
321-480-1800
bluebellwt@aol.com



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Silver Spring, MD 20904
301-680-8910
cbic@clubs.insulators.info



Dixie Jewels Insulator Club
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Chattanooga, TN 37405
423-756-4106
djjic@clubs.insulators.info



Greater Chicago Insulator Club
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Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
630-793-5345
gcic@clubs.insulators.info



Golden State Insulator Club
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2327 E. Goshen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93720
559-790-0194
rdmclau@comcast.net



Huron Valley Bottle & Insulator Club
Rod Krupka
2641 Echo Lane
Ortonville, MI 48462
248-627-6351
rod.krupka@yahoo.com



Insulator Collectors On the Net
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Carlisle, MA 01741-1860
978-369-0208
icon@clubs.insulators.info



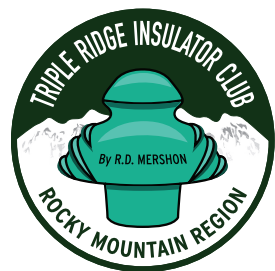
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lsic@clubs.insulators.info



Missouri Valley Insulator Club
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Smithville, MO 64089
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mvic@clubs.insulators.info



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Oronoco, MN 55960 2030
507-289-1095
nwic@clubs.insulators.info



Triple Ridge Insulator Club
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P.O. Box 1721
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
719-266-0181
danielgaaron@yahoo.com



Western Reserve Insulator Club
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440-237-2242
wric@clubs.insulators.info



Yankee Pole Cat Insulator Club
John Rajpolt
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Monroe, CT 06468
203-261-1190
ypcic@clubs.insulators.info

Do you represent a local insulator club or other related organization? Become an NIA Affiliated Club today! See next page to apply for or renew your membership.



NIA MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

Prospective members may join the NIA at any time; however, the "membership year" begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st. New memberships issued within three months of the beginning of the new membership year (October – December) will be good for the following calendar year. New members are entitled to all membership privileges immediately upon acceptance by the NIA. **If you are joining the NIA during the months of January through September, your membership will expire on December 31st of this Calendar year.**

Submit payment (**Payable to the "NIA" in U.S. funds**) to:

Andrew Gibson

5997 Springwater Rd.
Dansville, NY 14437-9772
membership@nia.org

Check class of membership:

- _____ Single/Family Membership w/Electronic Drip Points..... **\$30.00**
- _____ Single/Family Membership w/Printed Drip Points..... **\$40.00**
- _____ Single/Family Membership w/both Electronic & Printed DP... **\$45.00**
- _____ Junior Membership (under 18) w/Electronic or Printed DP..... **\$ 5.00**
- _____ Club or Organization..... **\$50.00**

Check years of Payment:

- Single year _____
- Multi-year _____

Please Print Legibly

Name _____
 NIA # (if renewal) _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Zip/Postal Code _____ (+4) _____
 Country (if not U.S.) _____
 Telephone Number _____
 E-Mail Address _____

Additional Family Members residing in the same household at no additional cost.

(e.g.: spouse, minor children or dependents)

Name	NIA # (if renewal)
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____

(An e-mail address is required for electronic version of Drip Points)

Include me in NIA Hobby Directory: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my USPS Address in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my Email Address in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

Include my Telephone Number in: On-Line Yes No Printed Yes No

You may pre-purchase the next printed Hobby Directory for \$10.00 Yes

Fees to be submitted

Membership Amount: _____

Directory Amount.....: _____

Donation Amount.....: _____

If it is OK to list you as a donor, check here:

Signed _____ Date _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____
 Make Checks Payable to the NIA

NIA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Revised January 23, 2022

- Connect to a worldwide network of over 1000 insulator collectors sharing information, history and the latest news on insulator collecting.
 - Receive electronic notification of upcoming events and current activity in your region of the country through the bi-monthly electronic distribution of the Drip Points Magazine (Also available in printed form).
 - Receive members only access to an enormous digital library of insulator catalogs, patents and insulator manufacturer history.
 - Find and meet other NIA members in your area for mentorship, visit & share collections and swap stories in person or on the NIA Facebook page.
 - Receive guaranteed early exclusive access to NIA National Shows to display, buy and sell insulators.
 - Compete for National Awards and Recognition for your displays, research and contributions to the hobby.
 - Start your own insulator reference library with the "NIA Resource Page", "Fake and Altered Insulators" and "What is an Insulator?"
 - Advertise your hobby passion through your complimentary NIA Decal, Membership Bars, Membership Card and free ad in Drip Points.
 - Use your membership to run for the National Insulator Association Board of Directors to shape the future of the hobby.
 - Contribute to a National Scholarship Program and financial support for NIA Show Hosts in your local area.
 - Continue membership to sustain these benefits and help raise the next generation of insulator collectors through your knowledge & engagement.
- Note: The NIA Member Handbook is available on the NIA website (www.nia.org/membership/index.htm).
 Hard copies of the Handbook are available upon request to the NIA Membership Director (membership@nia.org).





MERCHANDISE

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH CLOTHING, BADGES & MORE



Embroidered Logo T-Shirts

Hanes Adult T-Shirt, Embroidered logo on front

Colors: Smoke, Smoky Graphite, Sky Blue, Electric Blue, Aqua, Dark Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Med Amber, Rootbeer Amber, Lt Olive Green, 7 Up Green, Dark Olive Green, Yellow, Golden Amber, Oxblood, Deep Red Amber

Price: \$19 (S-XL) \$23 (2X-3X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____

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

Special Orders: If you don't see a size or color that you'd like, contact us for availability and price.



Gildan Adult T-Shirt – Small logo on front, large logo on back



Screen Printed T-Shirts

Colors: Smoke, Smoky Graphite, Steel Blue, Peacock Blue, Dark Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Med Amber, Olive Amber, Rootbeer Amber, Apple Green, 7-Up Green, Olive Green, Yellow, Golden Amber, Flashed Amber, Oxblood

Price: \$19 (S-XL) \$23 (2X-3X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Button Down Shirt

Port Authority SanMar Blend, embroidered logo on front

Colors: Dark Smoke, Aqua, Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, Yellow, Flashed Amber

Price:
Short Sleeve: \$34 (S-XL) \$37 (2X)
Long Sleeve: \$36 (S-XL) \$39 (2X)

Short or Long Sleeve: _____

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Hooded Sweatshirt

Gildan Adult Full-Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, embroidered logo on front

Colors: Medium Smoke, Cobalt

Price: \$35 (S-XL) \$39 (2X)

Color(s): _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Denim Button Down Shirt

Sierra Pacific, Short or Long Sleeve

Color: Aqua

Price:
Short Sleeve: \$36 (S-XL) \$40 (2X-3X)
Long Sleeve: \$39 (S-XL) \$43 (2X-3X)

Short or Long Sleeve: _____ Size: _____ Qty: _____



Crew Neck Sweatshirt

Gildan Adult Crewneck Sweatshirt, Screen print with small logo on front & large logo on back

Color: Smoke
Price: \$29 (S-XL) \$33 (2X)

Size: _____ Qty: _____



Un-Structured

Embroidered Caps

Colors (Un-Structured):

Smoke, Dark Smoke, Aqua, Cobalt, Lt Brown Amber, 7 Up Green, Olive Green, Yellow, Gold Amber, Flashed Amber, Pink, Oxblood

Colors (Structured with Mesh):

Khaki-Brown, Royal-White, Kelly-White, Red-White, Heather-Gray-Black, Royal, Cardinal, Gray-Charcoal-Black, White-Royal, Khaki-White

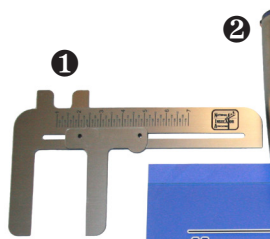


Structured with Mesh

Un-Structured Price: \$15.00 **Mesh:** \$17.00 **Cap Type:** _____ **Color(s):** _____ **Qty:** _____

1 Insulator Caliper

Measures up to 7"
Plastic will not scratch insulators
Long outside & short inside jaws
Price: \$18 **Qty:** _____



2 20 oz. Copper-Lined Stainless Steel Tumbler

Yeti-like Stainless tumbler keeps drinks cold or hot for hours!
One color imprint (blue)

SOLD OUT



3 16 oz. Travel Tumbler

4 color imprint
Price: \$14 **\$10** **Qty:** _____

On Sale!

4 NIA Collector's Patch

2 3/4" x 3 3/4" embroidered patch
Price: \$4 **Qty:** _____

5 NIA Window Decal (Color)

For outside car window - 4 1/4 x 5 3/4
Price: \$7 **Qty:** _____

6 NIA Window Decal (White)

For outside car window - 5 1/2 x 6 3/4
Price: \$10 **Qty:** _____

7 NIA Challenge Coin

2019; 50 Years of Meets & Shows; 2 sided
Price: \$10 **Qty:** _____

8 NIA Hat/Lapel Pin

Price: \$7 **Qty:** _____

9 NIA Name Badge Engraved; beveled edges; Magnetic back **Price:** \$18

Name Badge Engraving Information:

Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____
Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____
Name _____ NIA# _____ City _____ State _____

10 Badge Bar NIA or Club position, Club Bars, Show Bars, Awards or Custom Bars **Price:** \$5

Badge Bar Engraving Information:

Club Bar _____ Qty: _____ Line 1 _____
Show Bar _____ Year _____ Line 2 _____



Tote Bags

Sturdy with white screen print NIA logo - Dimensions: 12 1/2" W x 13 1/2" H x 8 1/2" D; 14" handles

Colors: Sapphire, Light Brown Amber, Cobalt, Oxblood, Black

Price: \$8 **Color(s):** _____ **Qty:** _____

Insulator Collectors Hobby Directory - 2021/2022 Hobby wide directory to locate other collectors in your area or around the world **Price:** \$15 (shipping included) **Qty:** _____

Contiguous U.S. Postage Rates:

- \$10.00 for the first item of clothing, hat, tumbler, tote or caliper & \$3.50 for each additional item in same group.
- Patches & Badge Bars \$1.00 ea.
- Decals, Name Badges, Hat Pins, Challenge Coins..... \$4.00 ea.
- If patches, badge bars, decals, name badges, hat pins & challenge coins are ordered with clothing, there is no additional postage for these items.
- For postage outside the Contiguous U.S., please contact us for a quote.

Subtotal: \$ _____
U.S. Postage: \$ _____
Total Enclosed: \$ _____

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

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please send detached, completed form and payment to:
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(816) 719-0802 • niaproducts@nia.org

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www.billandjillinsulators.com

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Facebook 5.0 (24 votes)

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