

June 1985

Number 15

The Doorknob Collector



"LYONS"

Yale & Towne

School: Romanesque

Convention News

DEBBIE & DOLORES FELLEENZ SAY

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"

The fifth annual convention of the A D C A will be held September 20, 21, and 22, 1985. It will take place at Noah's Ark Motor Inn and Restaurant, St. Charles, Missouri.

St. Charles is located about 25 miles (30 minutes) from St. Louis. There are lots of things to do and see in the St. Louis area so, if possible, plan on staying longer. The weather in September is usually warm (70's) but unpredictable.

The registration fee for the weekend is \$45/single or \$75/couple. This includes two dinners, two cocktail parties and a table in the display room.

Room rates at the Motor Inn will be \$38/single or double occupancy. A registration form is enclosed. Please indicate the nights you will be staying and reservations will be made for you.

The house tour will cost \$5.00/person, in order to pay for the bus rental. Please indicate if you plan to attend this event so we will know what size bus to reserve. Payment will be collected on the day of the tour.

Father Pepper of Waverly, Iowa will again be present for our invocation.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1ST 1985

1985 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 19th:

Early arrivals gather in the Hospitality Room.

Friday, September 20th:

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Setup, Register Items for Auction
Noon - 1 p.m.	Lunch, On Your Own
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Happy Hour
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Maudie's Slide Show
8:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Auction

Saturday, September 21st:

9 a.m. - Noon	Trading, Display Contest
Noon - 1 p.m.	Lunch, On Your Own
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Open to the Public
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Happy Hour
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Talk by Clarissa Start (Local Author & Antique Dealer)
8:30 - 10:00 p.m.	Movie - <u>"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"</u>

Sunday, September 22nd:

9 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Question & Answer Period
10:00 - Noon	Business Meeting
Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch, On Your Own (Packup)
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.	House Tour - Old St. Charles & St. Louis Homes
6:00 p.m. - ???	<u>Open House - Debbie's House!!</u>

CLUB KNOB DESIGN CONTEST PARTICULARS

After due consideration, an advisory panel unanimously established the September convention date as the deadline for accepting entries for the club knob design contest.

The prize for the winning entry, membership and convention registration for one year, should be sufficient inducement, that even the least artistic among us will be motivated to submit an entry! The winner need not attend the convention to claim the prize.

Membership voting on the entries will occur at the convention, followed immediately by counting of the ballots and announcement of the winner.

The winning design will not automatically become the club logo, but could qualify at the time the membership votes on an official logo.

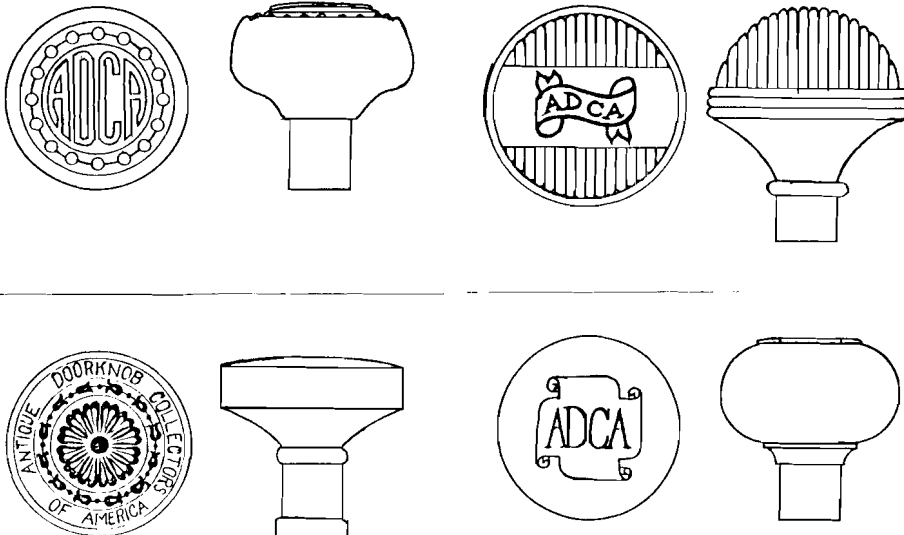
The following entries, submitted by a club member, were self-labeled "doodles" but certainly are worthy of the consideration they will receive as bona-fide entries. Eight entries have been received to date. Remember, more than 1 design may be submitted per person.

Last month's hint was that the club's initials might conceivably form part of the design - this month's hint, well-taken, submitted by a discerning member, is that the rank and file outside doorknob circles would not be able to decipher the initials, and that the club name, in full in the design, might better serve the club.

I regret that Charles Wardell's name, as being a co-worker on this project, was inadvertently omitted in the announcement of the contest.

Because of the deadline date and this being the last newsletter before the convention, and the determination to move ahead quickly with the project, it will not be possible to print all of the entries for the entire membership's vote before the selection of the winning design.

Continue to send submissions to: Maudie Eastwood, Project Chairman, 3900 Latimer Road No., Tillamook, Oregon 97141.



MEMBERSHIP, JUNE 1985 - ANTIQUE DOORKNOB COLLECTORS OF AMERICA

ALABAMA

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Mrs Fritz Fleischer
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Pleasanton Ca 94566

Edwin & Lois Hutchings
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Mountain View Door Closes Alex Kunkel
Key and Lock Service Star Route
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Mountain View Ca 94041

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Pete & Violet Raffin
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Alameda Ca 94501

Kent Stormer
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Palo Alto Ca 94301

Clifford Stroing
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Elk Creek Ca 95939

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Hoffman Estates
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RR 5
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Jeff Francik
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MEMBERSHIP, JUNE 1985 - ANTIQUE DOORKNOB COLLECTORS OF AMERICA

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Dan & Judy Peterson
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Kae & Ray Zyc
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Just how in the world could I follow Art Paholke, with his fabulous collection? Well, I can't. By far his is the most outstanding collections I've seen. So instead, I'll have to tell just how I started with the following,



DOORKNOB COLLECTING

by Loretta Nemeec

Throughout life everyone collects something. Be it rubber bands on the doorknob, or buttons. As a child we start picking up fascinating rocks found in our backyard. When going to the beach we can't resist picking up an interesting shell, from one shell to another until we have our fill. At home we separate our treasure. Do we stop or does our quest continue into the library?

As a twelve year old child I was impressed by a little black jet knob with its rose and escutcheon plate, all the way to the matching hinges on the doors of my mother's house. After getting married and buying our first house in 1955, I realized that no longer was there any craftsmanship put into the

"Modern House." Gone was the skeleton key. The key hole was replaced by a doorknob with a little hole in it for the key. We were MODERNIZING.

I longed for the little black jet knob. With a little encouragement, I got the knob, rose, plate and hinges from my mother, which satisfied me for a long time. Years passed, my parents were gone, the house in Chicago is decaying with age, but I still have the knob tucked away among my souvenirs. In reminiscing, I brought out the knob and put it on display with a few straw flowers and a little black ribbon on the shank. Gradually, I picked up a few more knobs to decorate and give to friends. Soon, others caught my eyes, from white porcelain to the brown pottery, to glass, to brass. Yes, the quest was on. Friends started bringing me doorknobs. Soon they were on display on shelves, tables and window sills. It was a conversation piece instantly when anyone entered my house.

I thought I was the only one collecting doorknobs, much to my surprise I ran across an Anita Gold's column that mentioned there had been a book available on antique doorknobs, by Maude Eastwood. I couldn't wait till the book arrived. I will always be thankful to Maude for publishing that first book, and to Arnie Fredrick for all his efforts in getting the first gathering of collectors in 1981 and spear headed the organization of the Antique Doorknob Collector's club.

What started out as a retirement hobby seems to have jumped the gun. I presently am doing my retirement dream along with being a full time secretary for Fermi Laboratory, a wife to Ray for 30 years, mother of four grown children and grandmother of one. My husband and children have been helpful in my search, along with fellow workers who have found knobs for me. (On one occasion had brought an entire five panel door into the office just so I could have the knob)

My favorite knob is the one I found in a little antique shop in Oswego, Ill. It is a solid 14 oz. brass knob with the vermeil bee on it. It originally came from Belgium. In researching it, apparently when Napoleon became emperor he picked the bee as his symbol for industry, hard work, dedication and team work, hence the bee was used to decorate practically everything. The bee knob could have come from any one of the palaces Napoleon used in Versailles, Malmaison, Compiègne, St. Cloud, Rambouillet, or Fontainebleau or any one of the palaces of his Marshals. My search also took me to the Napoleonic Society in Florida, and countless books. (Next to Christ, Napoleon has had the most works written about him.) My search will not be complete until I find out where this knob came from.



A tapistry, once in Bonaparte's study at the Tuileries and now at Malmaison, is rich in Napoleonic and Roman imperial symbolism: eagles, imperial crowns, laurel wreaths, his monogram and bees.



LORETTA'S FAVORITES continued



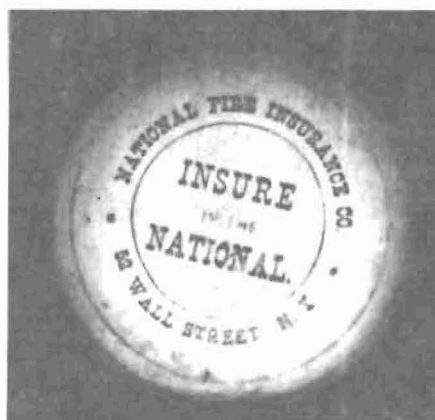
Another favorite knob is the "Indian" that reportedly came from the Mizpah Hotel.

I feel there must be a story behind the Indian as there would be for any figural knob.

Additional documentation would be most welcome.

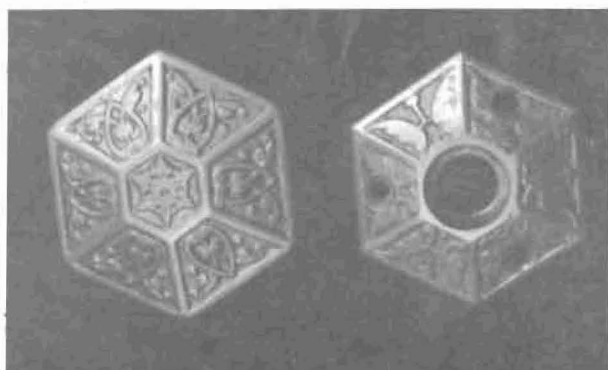
This porcelain knob with the National Fire Insurance Company name embossed in it, came from a fireman who collects antique fire fighting equipment.

This I believe, is a fairly rare type of proprietary knob.



My son picked up this old iron hexagon knob in an antique shop in Cartage, Illinois.

Glass knobs also turn my fancy, I would love to add a Waterford crystal knob to my collection.



What I enjoy most are the wonderful people I have met through collecting and being a member of the club. The club has opened numerous DOORS for me, and as John Holland once said, "doorknob collectors are the cadillac of collectors."

As for the size of my collection, I would place myself as one of the smaller collectors. I have about 300 knobs. To those who have small collections, it's not the amount of knobs you possess, it's more the knowledge you have acquired from collecting them.

Collecting to me is like hunting: I never quite know what I'll find. The search is satisfying enough. It's not what it's worth in dollars. It's the pride of ownership.....It's priceless.

MORE

VARIATIONS

