



# The Doorknob Collector

Number 37

September-October 1989

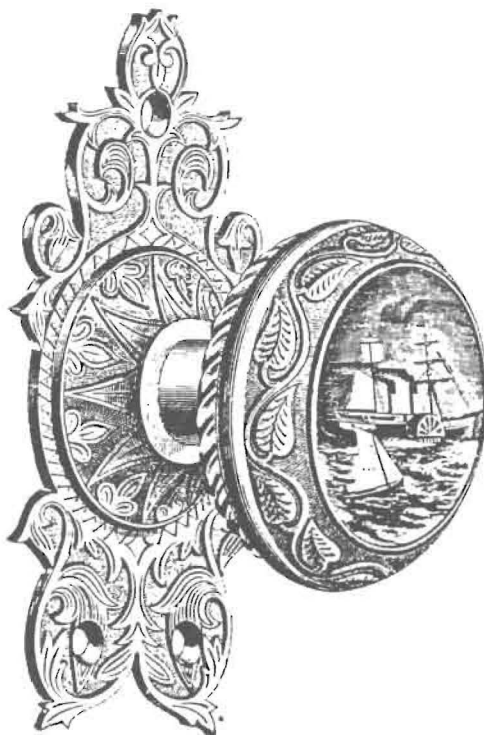
## ADCA - It is your club, so speak up!

### President's open letter on goals and policies

#### "Is The Club Proceeding In A Way that Meets With Your Approval?"

According to the ADCA Bylaws, Article III, Section 1, it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors "to manage the business and affairs of this Corporation."

Since we, the Board members, are your elected representatives, we want our Board action to truly reflect your wishes. This can only happen if we know what your wishes really are. Tell us: Are we representing you as you would like? Do you have any suggestions of new or different things that you think the Club should do? Do you enjoy the newsletter? How do you feel about the archives? Would you be willing to serve on the Board? What is your



MALLORY, WHEELER & COMPANY.

opinion regarding the auction? These are only a few of the things that we would like to know.

Let me encourage you to sit down and drop me a note outlining your thoughts and ideas. Send it before convention time so that these matters can be brought up at the 1989 Board meeting. All communications sent to me will be presented to the Board at the meeting.

This is your Club, so speak up. Voice your opinions and suggestions. We solicit your input. All of us want ADCA to continue to be a vital growing organization. Don't wait until later -- sit down now and put your thoughts in that letter to me, and get it in the mail.

Dorothy Ann Miller,  
President

#### Convention Theme

This is a reminder that the 1989 convention theme at Iowa City is Mallory, Wheeler and Company. The convention committee is hopeful a number of Mallory, Wheeler and Company, displays will be shown at the convention.

ADCA Convention in Iowa City, September 20-24

# Colored Glass Knobs by Maud Eastwood



Colored glass knobs, whether hand fashioned in the early 1800's or mass produced in the 1930's, are "in" with knob collectors. At this particular time, age is not considered to be a critical factor when evaluating specimen within this category. No doubt this situation escalated due to intensified collectors interest in all things Art Deco and the dearth of 19th century specimen.

Colored glass knobs of early 20th century origin were trappings of the Art Deco generation, produced to compliment Modern Architecture formed of laminated wood and concrete. Reading Knob Works (RKW) colored glass knobs of the 1930's were designed for use on "High Grade Residences, Hotels and Public Buildings" to harmonize draperies, floor coverings and the general color scheme. This company, not to be confused with Reading Hardware Company (also of Reading, Pa.) listed three colored glass models available in a variety of bold colors; conventional octagon shaped knobs of mulberry, emerald, topaz, blue, amethyst and ebony pressed glass (Ex.1); azurite, octagon shaped knob with a pressed star design in contrasting color. (Ex.2); and a round, clear knob decorated with a stylized star whose color--any of the seven above--was burned into the surface for permanence (Ex.3).

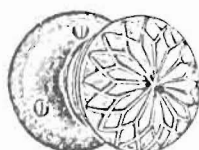
Reading Knob Works offered the metal parts of



Ex. 1



Ex. 2



Ex. 3



Ex. 4



door hardware, during this period, in a variety of finishes to match polychrome lighting fixtures, furniture, etc. However, if none of the options were exercised--wrought bronze mountings and special finishes--the knobs were fitted to cast bronze shanks and roses in standard finishes. Plain round roses and oval keyplates were quite acceptable with the colored glass knobs, but 'especially appropriate' were ornamental Ridgewood design (Ex.4) roses and keyplates executed in deep relief and finished in one of seven finishes for use on ornamental hardware: Dull Brass, Bull Brass Relieved, Sanded Nickel, Verde Antique (dark green), Old Ivory, Roman Gold, and a combination Green and Tan. See/P. 3

## The Doorknob Collector

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Raymond and Loretta Nemeč, Editors. Annual Membership in USA: \$20.00. Rates on Request for inserts.

# CONVENTION

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	Wednesday September 20	Thursday September 21	Friday September 22	Saturday September 23	Sunday September 24
Morning		9:00 Leave for tour of West Branch & Herbert Hoover Museum.	9:00 Set up displays, get acquainted, register items for auction. Buying, selling and trading.	8:00 Buying, selling and trading.	8:00 Dismantle displays  9:30 Reports & Business meeting (All should try to attend)
Lunch		Lunch in West Branch	On Your own	On your own	Board meeting. (12:00) (Incoming board)
Afternoon		2:00 Tour of Old Capitol in Iowa City.  4:00 Meeting of Board of Directors	1:00 Trading, buying & selling.  3:30 Program: M. Eastwood & L. Blumin's presentation on Mallory & Wheeler.  5:30 Cash bar	1:00 Displays open to the Public.  4:00 Resume buying, selling & trading.  5:30 Refreshments, Cash bar.	2:00 Open house at the Byingtons. Light buffet will be served. Everyone Invited.
Dinner		On Your own	Dinner at Sports Place. (6:30)	Dinner at Sports Page (6:30)	
Evening	7:30 Refreshments in the Hospitality Suite	7:30 Refreshments in the Hospitality Suite	7:30 Program: Art Paholke, Different Schools of Design. (Hospitality suite open after program.)	7:30 Contest Awards. 7:45 Auction (Hospitality suite open after auction.)	

### Colored Glass

continued from P. 2

Technical Glass Co. of Los Angeles, California also listed colored glass knobs in their 1930 catalog. The illustration shown (Ex.5) was available in cut glass in green, amber, blue and old rose with cast brass or bronze shanks and roses.

Yes, colored glass knobs have wide appeal. Club



convention auction devotees can confirm that statement and also that they are in short supply. RKW distribution centers were wide spread; the market was well covered. Perhaps they were not well received in their day? A larger number should have survived from the Art Deco period for appreciation by today's collectors..

# Index to Ornamental design in Antique doorknobs

Ornamental design in his book. Victorian assigned numbers in the antique doorknob. Had its Decorative Art. Since then classification system he beginning as a regular 186 doorknobs have been developed. Following is an feature of The Doorknob presented and with the 540 index of the 186 doorknobs Collector in our 21st issue. doorknobs in Blumin's book, which have appeared in The Doorknob Collector. The feature was developed by this brings a total of 726 doorknobs that have been Len Blumin, to supplement doorknobs that have been

KNOB	ISSUE	KNOB	ISSUE	KNOB	ISSUE	KNOB	ISSUE	KNOB	ISSUE	KNOB	ISSUE
A-107	27	E-134a	30	H-115	32	H-475	34	N-117	22	N-148	27
A-108	27	E-137a	30	H-219a	35	H-476	34	N-118	22	O-101	21
A-109	27	E-143	30	H-219b	35	H-477	34	N-119	23	O-102	21
A-110	27	E-144	30	H-220a	34	J-106a	35	N-120	23	O-103	21
A-111	27	E-145	30	H-220b	34	J-107	35	N-121	23	O-104	21
A-112	27	E-146	30	H-220c	34	J-108	35	N-122	23	O-105	21
B-104a	28	E-147	30	H-241a	34	J-219	35	N-123	23	O-106	21
B-104b	28	E-148	30	H-249a	35	J-220	35	N-124	23	O-107	36
B-106a	28	E-149	30	H-250a	35	J-221	35	N-125	23	O-108	36
B-129a	28	E-150	30	H-254a	35	J-307	36	N-126	23	O-109	36
B-131	28	E-151	30	H-256a	34	J-308	36	N-127	23	O-110	36
B-132	28	F-103a	31	H-267a	34	J-309	36	N-128	23	O-111	36
B-205	28	F-125	31	H-273	32	J-310	36	N-129	23	O-112	36
B-218a	28	F-126	31	H-274	32	J-311	36	N-130	23	O-113	37
B-219	28	F-237	31	H-275	32	J-312	36	N-131	24	O-114	37
B-220	28	F-238	31	H-276	33	K-113	25	N-132	24	O-115	37
B-221	28	F-239	31	H-277	33	K-114	25	N-133	24	O-116	37
B-222	28	G-125	31	H-278	33	K-115	25	N-134	24	O-117	37
C-113	29	G-126	31	H-279	33	K-116	25	N-135	24	O-118	37
C-114	29	G-127	31	H-280	33	K-219	25	N-136	24	O-119	37
C-115	29	G-128	31	H-281	33	K-220	25	N-137	24	O-120	37
C-116	29	G-129	31	H-282	33	K-221	25	N-138	24	O-121	37
C-117	29	G-130	31	H-411a	35	K-222	25	N-139	24	O-122	37
C-118	29	G-131	32	H-467	33	K-223	25	N-140	24	O-123	37
D-102a	29	G-132	32	H-468	33	K-224	25	N-141	24	O-124	37
D-131	29	G-133	32	H-469	33	K-225	25	N-142	24	O-201	22
D-132	29	G-134	32	H-470	33	K-313	25	N-143	27	O-202	22
D-133	29	G-135	32	H-471	33	N-113	22	N-144	27	O-203	22
D-134	29	G-136	32	H-472	34	N-114	22	N-145	27	O-204	22
D-135	29	H-113	32	H-473	34	N-115	22	N-146	27	O-205	22
E-127b	30	H-114	32	H-474	34	N-116	22	N-147	27	O-206	22

# Ornamental design in antique doorknobs

by Len Blumin

## EMBLEMATIC, ETC.

- O-113 St. Paul Board of Education. Sure nicer than O-115.  
O-114 Newark, New Jersey Board of Education.  
O-115 St. Paul Board of Education.  
O-116 Blatz (as in beer).  
O-117 Standard Oil Company. You would think they could afford a design.  
O-118 Sylvania.

O-113



O-116



O-114



O-117



O-115



O-118



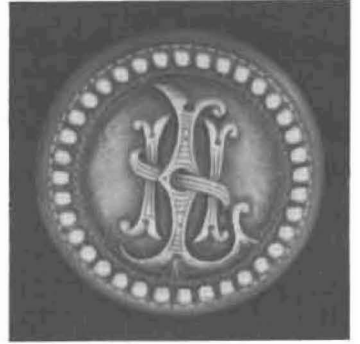
EMBLEMATIC, ETC.,  
(continued)

- 0-119 From the Alaska exhibit at the 1902 Seattle World's Fair.  
0-120 Origin not known.  
0-121 Savoy Plaza Hotel.  
0-122 Lexington Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.  
0-123 Origin not known.  
0-124 Hotel Lemington, Oakland, California.

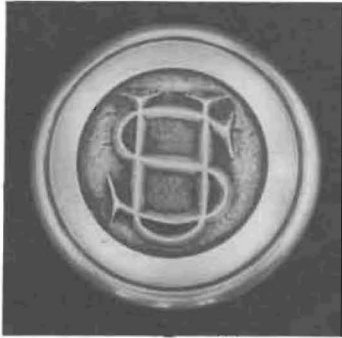
0-119



0-122



0-120



0-123



0-121



0-124



## Knobs with ice cream topping

by Debbie Fellenz

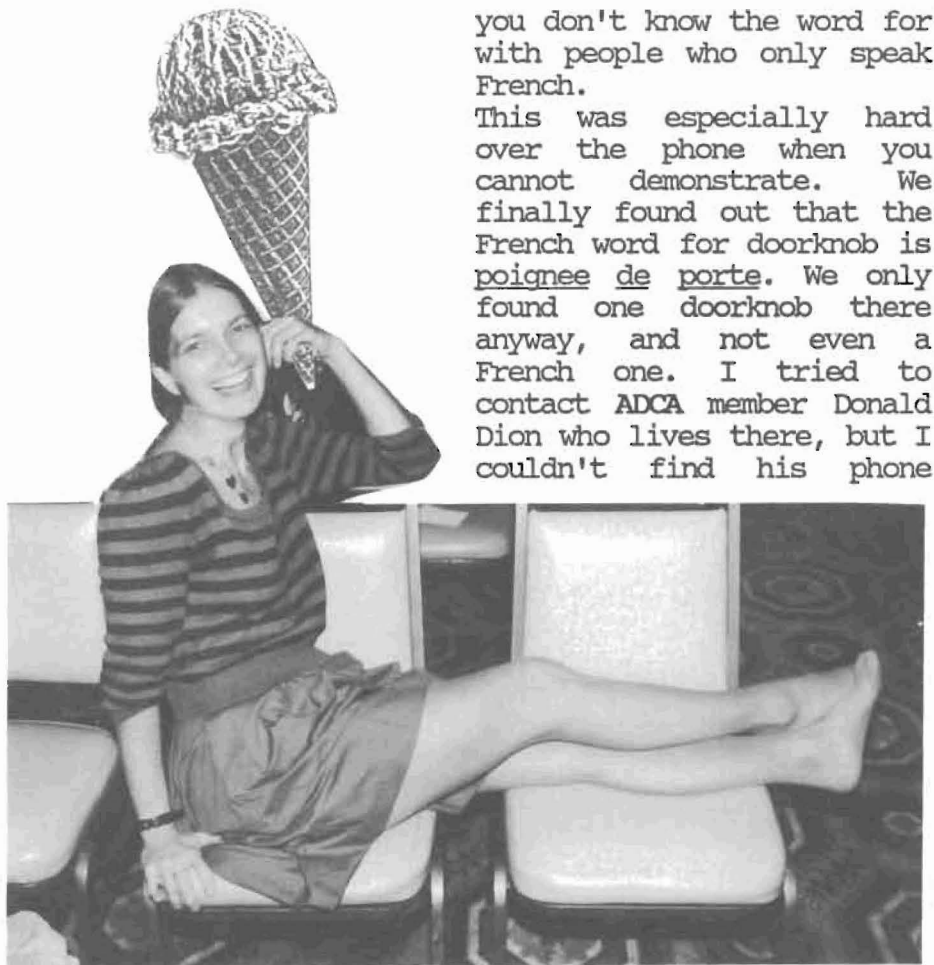
**A** good trip should always combine doorknobs and ice-cream. That's possible since I packed the book "The Very Best Ice Cream and Where to Find It." I also look at doorknobs wherever I go.

On a recent trip my friend Rick and I made the Kane County flea market in St. Charles, Illinois, our first stop. We visited with ADCA members Stephan and Helene Lys and Ray and Loretta Nemec. A lot of things were bought for the shop but not too many doorknobs. We found a good ice-cream store, called, "Al's" that is not in the book.

The Brimfield flea market, in Massachusetts, was our main destination. After being there for three days we probably didn't see everything since it is so big. More merchandise was purchased, including some doorknobs. We talked with ADCA members Carlos Ruiz and Ed Thrall, who were also at Brimfield. There is an ice cream chain store in the area called, "Friendly" where we relaxed, after walking for eight hours at the flea market.

Our next stop was Newport, Rhode Island. There are a lot of beautiful mansions there that are open for tours. We went in one called, "The Breakers." The hardware, would have to be seen to be believed. A different animal or person's face, adorned the doors and windows of every room. Unfortunately no photography was allowed.

After driving through Boston (we went to a great



you don't know the word for with people who only speak French.

This was especially hard over the phone when you cannot demonstrate. We finally found out that the French word for doorknob is poignee de porte. We only found one doorknob there anyway, and not even a French one. I tried to contact ADCA member Donald Dion who lives there, but I couldn't find his phone

Italian Gelato place called, Cafe Paridiso), Port Clyde, Casteen and Bangor Maine, we made our way up to Canada. By that time we had accumulated a lot of doorknobs and other merchandise in the van. We had to produce all of the receipts we had, stating where everything was bought, before we could proceed into the country.

Being in Quebec City was quite an experience. My French is just "school learned" but Rick, had lived there so can speak French fairly well. The only thing is that neither of us knew the French word for doorknob. It was kind of hard asking for something

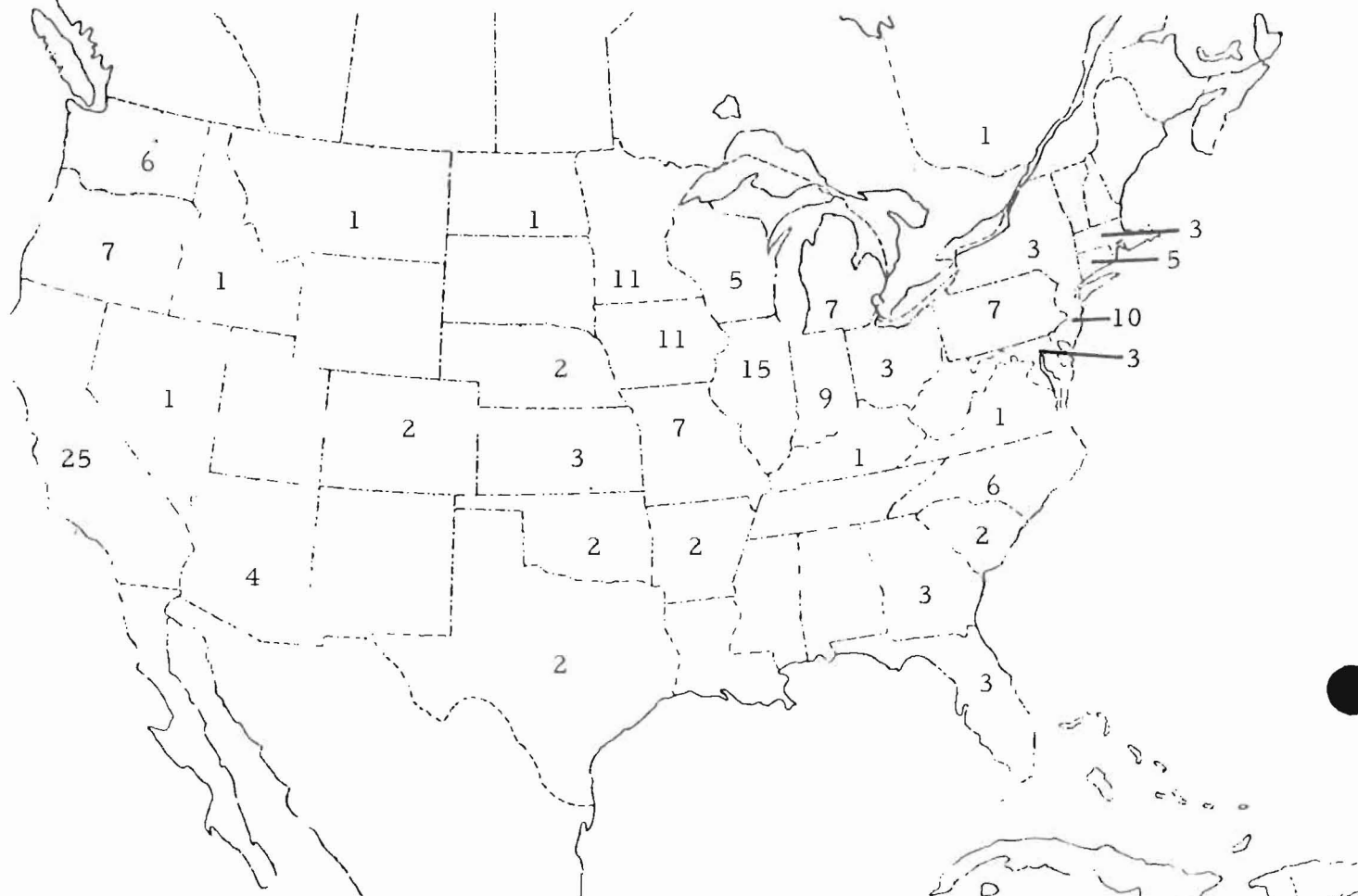
number. If he doesn't speak English it would have been hard trying to make a doorknob trade in French. We didn't go to any ice-cream places there, but we did draw some stares while making numerous trips to the dessert table at a restaurant.

Leaving Canada was easy since we had all of the necessary paper work. We went down through Vermont. The high light of the trip was a stop at "Ben & Jerry's" ice-cream place in Burlington. The chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream there is outstanding.

After that, we went to the Museum in Bennington. They

See/P, 10

# Geographic Distribution of ADCA Members



1988 - 1989 **Antique Doorknob Collectors of America**  
Board of Directors

President  
Vice President  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member

Dorothy Ann Miller #21  
Len Blumin #3  
Ray Nemec #8  
Win Applegate #110  
Bill Byington #41  
Mark Davidovich #25  
Maude Eastwood #2  
Arnie Fredrick #1

Omaha, NB  
Mill Valley, CA  
Naperville, IL  
Hamilton Square, NJ  
Iowa City, IA  
Carpinteria, CA  
Tillamook, OR  
Waverly, IA

Secretary to the Board

Debbie Fellenz #31

St Louis, MO



## Editorial

If we judge the feelings of members correctly, there is a growing desire to form ADCA club chapters. The West Coast and the East Coast want to have regional or local trading sessions. Even in the Midwest, where most of the annual conventions are held, members want at least one other chance to get together.

At the upcoming convention, the Board of Directors should address this need and take the lead in forming guidelines for club Chapters. With membership now at 175, the time has come to form chapters around the country.

Our feeling is that when such groups organize, we will find many collectors, now not ADCA members, will want to join and participate in the regional gatherings.

## LETTERS

Recently the Lock Museum received a donation of several beautiful gothic style doorknobs and escutcheons from a church that is being renovated.

The new handicapped standards for public buildings, in effect, outlaws "doorknobs" on all entrance doors. Do any ADCA members have any further information on this requirement?

Old doorknobs should become more readily available for collectors.

Thomas Hennessy,  
Terryville, CT

## Obituary



IRMA I. DICK

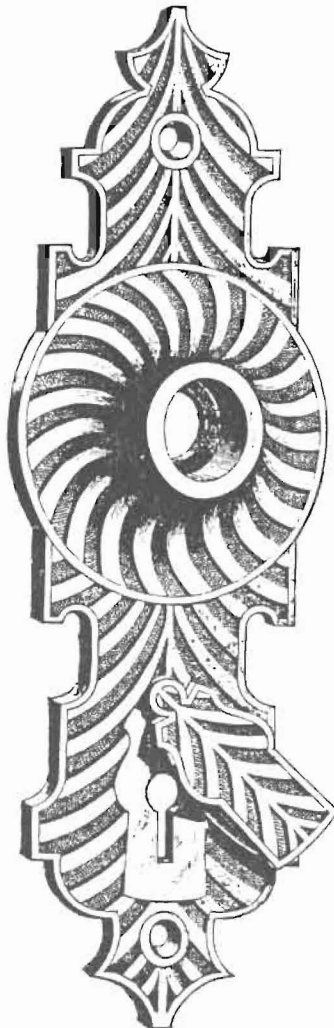
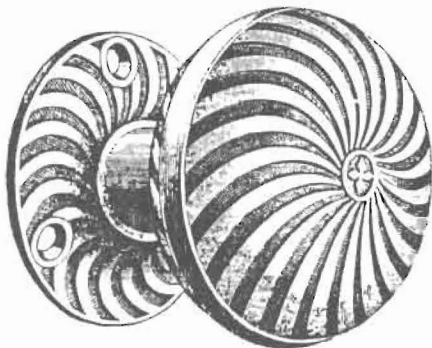
Irma I. Dick, a charter member of The Antique Doorknob Collectors of America, died on July 14, 1989, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, of cancer. She was 82.

Mrs. Dick was born on June 12, 1907, at Brainerd, Minnesota. She married E.P. Dick 61 year ago. The Dicks' have two children, a son, Jerry, who has been an ADCA member for several years, and a daughter, Laura Phoenix.

Collecting doorknobs was E.P.'s hobby but Irma took an active roll in helping. The Dicks attended the 1981 Waverly, Iowa, meeting and helped form ADCA.

E.P. related to March 1982 readers of The Doorknob Collector how he began collecting doorknobs. It started about 1968 when he became involved in a restoration project in Richfield, Minnesota.

In addition to her husband and children, Mrs. Dick is survived by five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



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MALLORY, WHEELER & COMPANY.

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ROSTER UPDATE

CLASSIFIED AD SECTION

FROM THE ARCHIVES  
by Alice Chadonich



Convention time is just around the corner. Now would be a good time to take an inventory of your catalogs and catalog copies. Why not make a list of what you have and bring it with you to the convention. You can check it against the new order blank which will be available as you might wish to order material you do not have. At the same time, if you find you have catalogs which the archives does not, perhaps you would be agreeable to loaning them at some future date for copying.

Also, if anyone has any catalogs they would like to donate to the Emil Miller Memorial Library, this, too, would be appreciated..

ADDITIONS:

#188 Larry L. Krug  
18222 Flower Hill Way,  
Suite 299  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

#189 Jeannie M. Orr  
132 Burns St.  
Somerset, NJ 08873.

#190 Dottie Stolzberg  
4281 Flippen Trail  
Norcross, GA 30092.

#191 Ann Estell  
78 Hillside Ave.  
West Orange, NJ 07052.

#192 Richard Hubbard  
162 Poplar Ave.  
Hackensack, NJ 07601.

#193 Sandra L. Dokachev  
315 Nutley Ave.  
Nutley, NJ 07110.

#194 John L. Van Kluyve  
47 Grove St.  
Clifton, NJ 07013.

#195 Phil & Karen Ondersma  
Old Stuff  
P.O. Box 6406  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

#89 Father J. David Pepper  
O.L.M.C.  
P.O. Box 119  
Lawler, Iowa 52154.

#143 Eric Swegle  
1403 W. Baltimore St.  
Baltimore, MD 21223.

Members are reminded that your dues entitle you to advertise items for sale, trade or wanted at no charge.

FOR SALE. Book, Victorian Decorative Art by Leonard Blumin. \$11 prepaid. ADCA, P.O. Box 126, Eola, IL 60519-0126.

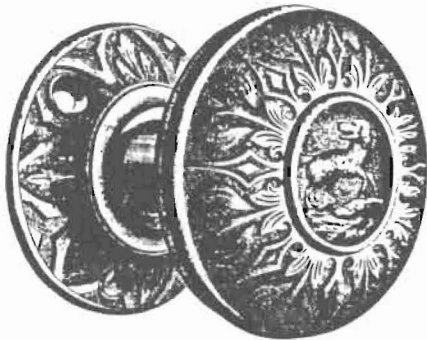
WANTED. Old padlocks. Richard Hubbard (#192), 162 Poplar Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601. Phone: 201-342-1274.

WANTED. Old radio magazines, Radio Guide, Radio Digest, RADEX. Will buy or trade doorknobs. Ray Nemecek (#8), 1424 Heatherton Drive, Naperville, IL 60563-2233. Phone 312-357-2381.

ICE CREAM from page

have the largest collection of Bennington pottery in the world. This included a dozen or so doorknobs and other related hardware. A woman who works there must have thought we were French Canadian (Rick had a Quebec T-Shirt on) since she said 'merce' when we left.

The rest of the trip was spent driving home. We are busy planning our next trip of "doorknobs and ice-cream!" Anyone want to come along!.



ON THE FASTTRACK BILL HOLBROOK

