

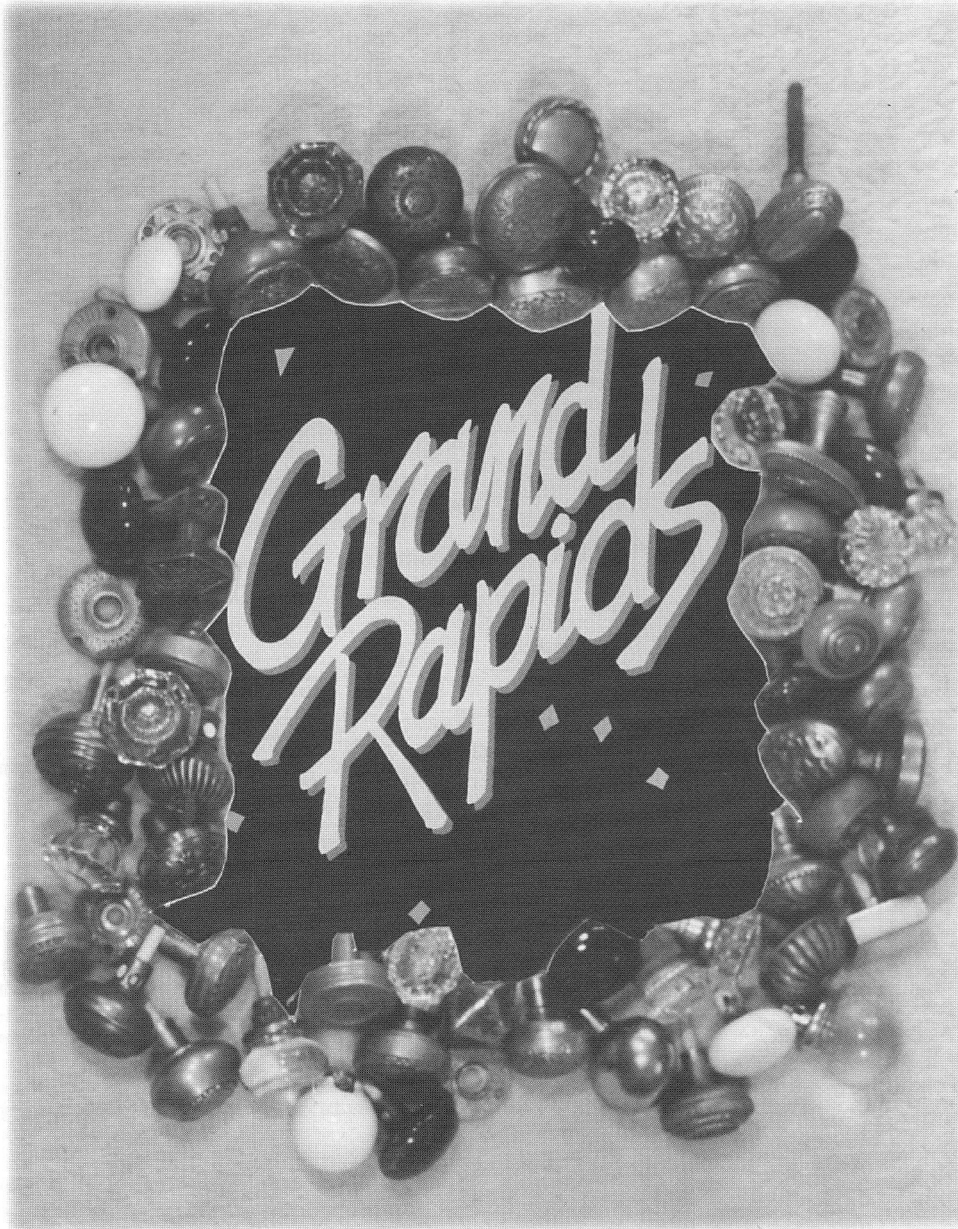


The Doorknob Collector

Number 78

July-August 1996

ADCA Convention, Grand Rapids, Michigan - July 24-27, 1996



Michigan

The stage has been set for a **GRAND** performance for the *Antique Door-knob Collectors of America* in beautiful **GRAND** Rapids, the city that has that **GRAND** appeal. For that **GRAND** getaway in a **GRAND** facility with the **GRAND** doorknob hospitality, all we need is you to fill that **GRAND** bill July 24 to July 27.

Victorian Attire

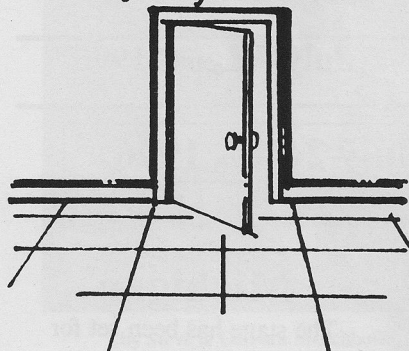
Everyone is encouraged to wear Victorian style attire for the Friday afternoon session while the Exhibit Hall will be "Open to the Public". This has proven to be a fun session at the past conventions.

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THE OPEN DOOR

by ray nemec



Last year in the July-August issue of **The Doorknob Collector** we mentioned that it was time for the annual renewal of old acquaintances, the making of new ones. That is just as true this year as it was last year. What better place could this be done than at the 1996 ADCA annual convention. Loretta and I recently attended the SABR (Society for American Baseball Research) convention. This was first one for me in a long time. The attendance at their convention is almost double our whole membership. There is plenty of opportunity to feel lost or intimidated.

One thing that we have learned, however, is that whether it be a door-knob club, button club, old time radio club, coin club, etc., members are always very friendly and willing to help people coming to their first convention. We found this true at SABR and left the convention feeling we had made a lot of new friends.

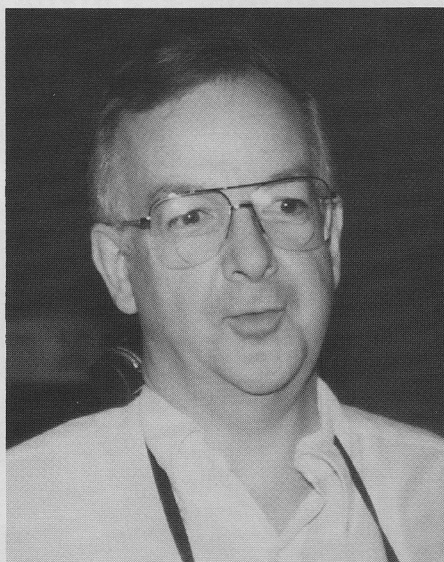
We hope to see you in July at Grand Rapids. Registration forms were sent with the May-June issue of this publication. If you did not get a copy of the registration form or if you have any questions, please call us at 708/357-2381. •

Antique Doorknob Collectors of America Board of Directors 1995/1997

President.....Win Applegate #110
Vice President.....Dale Sponaugle #85
Sec/Treasurer.....Raymond Nemec #350
Board Members.....
Norman Blam #176
Maud Eastwood #2
Rich Kennedy #238
Stephen Rowe #287
Linda Smeltzer #136

Meet Your Board of Directors

Each issue **The Doorknob Collector** will feature the picture of an ADCA member who is on the Board of Directors. In this issue we present:



Win Applegate

Win Applegate joined ADCA in March 1987. He was elected to the Board of Directors in September of that year, becoming Vice President in 1989 and President in 1991. He is now serving his third two-year term in that office. Win has attended every annual convention since 1987. •

Annual Lock Show

The Lock Museum of America will hold it's 24 annual "Lock Collectors Show" at the Terryville High School gym, in Terryville, Connecticut, on Saturday, October 12th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A reception will be held at the Museum from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The museum is located at 230 Main Street in Terryville. For information about the show or how to become a member contact Tom Hennessy, Curator, Lock Museum of America, P.O. Box 204, Terryville, CT 06786. Phone: (860) 589-6359.

THE ADCA BOOK PEDDLER

Book	Prices
Antique Builders Hardware (soft cover style) by Maud Eastwood	\$19.50
Antique Builders Hardware (three ring binder w/hard cover) by Maud Eastwood	\$21.50
Supplement No. 1	
Antique Builders Hardware by Maud Eastwood	\$ 6.00
150 Years of Builders' Hardware: Forms, Use & Lore (three ring binder w/hard cover) by Maud Eastwood	\$27.50
150 Years of Builders' Hardware: Forms, Use & Lore (soft cover-style)	\$22.50
Victorian Decorative Art by Len Blumin	\$12.00
Moes' Enterprise Catalog of Authentic Pre-1929 Hardware (1984) by Leonard Moes	\$12.50

*Canadian orders, add extra \$1.00 per book
Prices include shipping and handling costs.

Make check payable to ADCA

Mail order to ADCA Book Peddler
P.O. Box 126
Eola, IL 60519-0126



The Doorknob Collector

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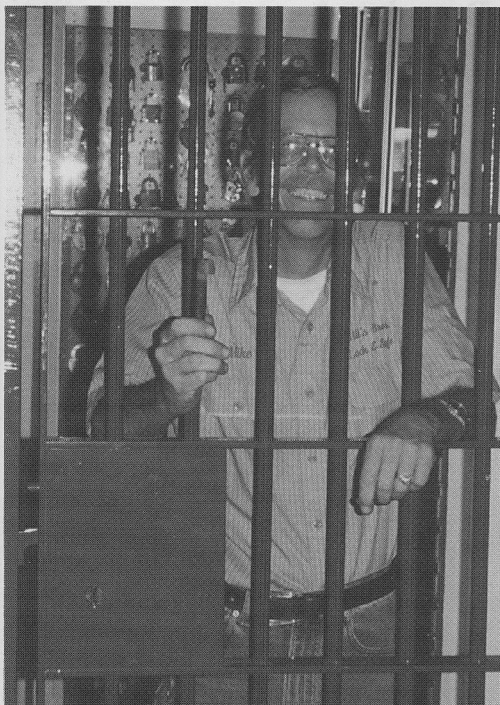
Foreign rates on request.

Founded in September 1981, the **Antique Doorknob Collectors of America** is a non-profit organization devoted to those interested in collecting and preservation of Antique Doorknobs and related hardware.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writer and not necessarily reflect those of the Board of Directors of ADCA or the editors of **The Doorknob Collector**.

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Head for the Hills



Mike Hills behind jail cell door.

Photo by L. Bolen



Mosaic floor logo made from keys.

Photo by L. Bolen

If you take a ride down Garden Grove Boulevard in Garden Grove, California, when you pass the address of 9177 you will see a sign that says, "Hills Bros. Lock & Safe." To the uninformed this establishment may seem like any other locksmith business.

However, if you stop, and we do recommend it, you will find an extremely fine antique lock and door hardware museum. ADCA member George Hill and his brother Mike, and sister, Julie, are justly proud of the building that houses a variety of locks, doorknobs, safes and even doors from jail cells.

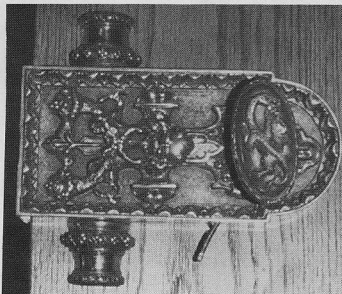
Used keys form a mosaic on the floor of the building that houses their business. A shop logo was designed by using keys and as you enter the building, this beautiful floor with the logo catches your eye immediately.

Although the museum, which is on the back of the property, gets a lot of George's attention. All three of the Hills have contributed to a

business that has five service trucks on the road. They offer all types of service, including door closers, safes, automotive, commercial and residential alarms and security of all kinds.

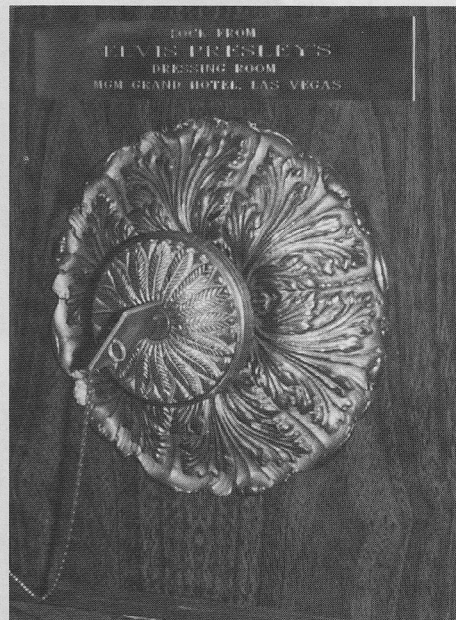
Julie attended the 1995 convention at Santa Monica and extended an invitation to all members to visit their shop and museum. A number of members took her up on it. Mike was on hand and gave a most enlightening and interesting tour.

When you are in Southern California, a stop at Hills Brothers Lock and Safe should be on your list of "things to do."•



Unique dinosaur knob

Photo by L. Bolen



Lock from Elvis Presleys Dressing room, High Grand Hotel, Las Vegas.

Photo by L. Bolen

Ornamental Design in Antique Doorknobs

by Len Blumin

(The following regular feature is a supplement to Len Blumin's excellent book, *Victorian Decorative Art*. Copies of the book are available from ADCA for \$12.00)

Emblematic and Fraternal Knobs

- O-184 Gothic with Masonic, Scottish Rite center. A Beauty.
- O-186 "B. A. FA CO./Service" Can any member tell us something about this knob.
- O-187 "P" with scenic background. ? Hotel knob
- O-188 "Holiness to the Lord". Mormon beehive knob.

O-184



O-187



O-186



O-188



Finding a Doorknob (collector) in a Haystack

Approximately twenty-two years ago, a young lad of thirteen in Columbia, Missouri, became captivated with old ornamental doorknobs. In 1977, he received a copy of Rich Kennedy's pre-ADCA newsletter and began a lively correspondence with Maud Eastwood and other collectors of that day. Subsequently, contact was lost and only recently was it restored via an "above and beyond" postal worker's efforts.

Doug Stewart, this young man's name, was possibly the youngest serious collector of doorknobs in that era. He covered his walls with knobs, put them in frames, and was happy he was not the only collector of such. He figured his bedroom door had undergone more changes of knobs than any other in existence, that was, until he settled on a beaded design.

Eastwood came across the long-inactive Doug Stewart file this spring and decided to indulge a whim that occurred infrequently: to re-establish contact. Doug's youthful dedication to cause and serious mind-set would take him places. What had he chosen for his life's work? Did he still collect doorknobs?

Recognizing the possibility that a letter addressed to his old address would probably net an "undeliverable" post office stamp, she nevertheless made the effort and was rewarded even though Route 4 had long since become Bearfield Road. His parents still lived in the same house and forwarded the letter.

The reply was addressed in Colorado on Boyle Engineering Corporation stationery and signed by Douglas P. Stewart, P.E., Associate Engineer. The letter was captioned: **FINDING A DOORKNOB IN THE HAYSTACK**, noting the slim chance of my letter reaching him.

His interest in doorknobs remains, though the collection of the same had been interrupted. He wished to be notified of future gatherings.

Currently, leaving for Japan for a year for his company precludes his attending this year's ADCA convention.

Doug had toted his boxes and frames of doorknob from Missouri to Kansas to Florida to Colorado and "it's a heavy lot." He recalled laughing at "*Aunt Hagatha*" on the show, "*Bewitched*", and her collection of doorknobs.

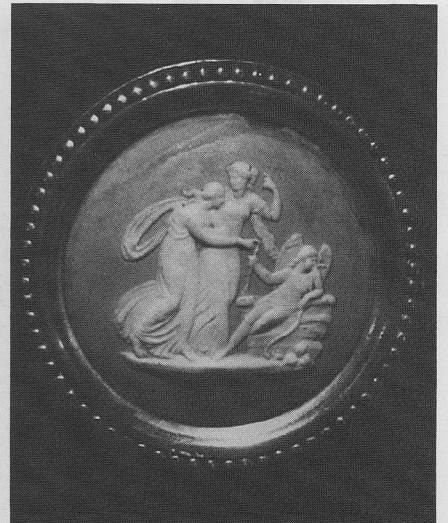
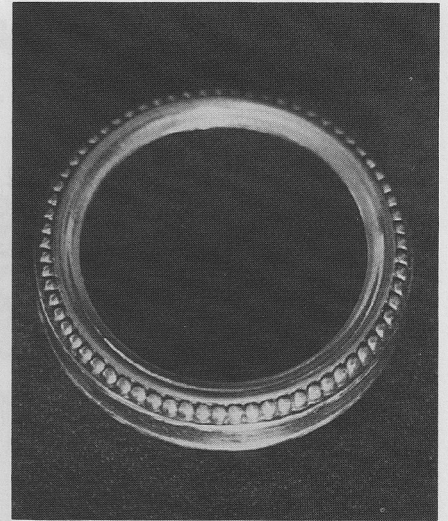
Maudie recalls being laughed at for her pre-occupation with doorknobs in the 1970s. It would appear that Doug, Maud, and the rest of the "old guard," once bitten by the doorknob bug, are seldom cured, and that the computerized younger generation will be carrying the move to even greater heights. •

Identifying doorknobs

This is the eleventh of a series which cross-references the number appearing in Lionel Moes 1984 catalog with those assigned by Leonard Blumin.

Moes Enterprises Catalog	Len Blumin's Victorian Decorative Art
A-152	N/A
A-153	N/A
A-154	H-221
A-155	K-311
A-156	G-123
A-157	N/A
A-158	M-118
A-159	O-101
A-160	N/A
A-161	H-270
A-162	L-120
A-163	K-107
A-164	B-211
A-165	H-439
A-166	E-116
A-167	G-102
A-168	G-115
A-169	H-490

(Compiled by Edward Sobczak)



→
Wedgewood Doorknobs come in three parts.

Top, brass lid

Center, as we normally view the knob

Bottom, the base which the wedgewood disc and screw cap taken off.

Ceramic Door Hardware, Establishing Provenance

by Maud Eastwood

Through names and dates gleaned from the efforts of pottery and porcelain historians, evidence abounds that a number of New England potters made certain types of door hardware trimmings in the mid-1800s. Yet, because identifying marks or inscriptions are seldom found on knobs and plates, we collectors may come to know which pottery could have made out specimen, without being able to pinpoint the exact source. Hopefully, further progress will be made in this regard.

William Bock & Brother of Greenpoint, New York, produced highly glazed porcelain knobs and displayed them in the 1853 Crystal

Palace Exhibition. In 1865, the same company, then known as the Union Porcelain Works under Thomas C. Smith, was producing biscuit and glazed porcelains using a variety of techniques in paint and gilding. (This is to assume these techniques were being used on their door trimmings, too.)

Searching out names of important china decorators for their specialties may also help establish the maker. Elijah Tattler, the foremost decorator of the Cartlidge Porcelain Works, specialized in birds in natural hues on door knobs and escutcheons.

The Cartlidge Porcelain Works produced porcelain bisque and

Parian ware during the period Josiah Jones was with the firm (he emigrated from Staffordshire in England). Knobs are found in both mediums. At Cartlidge, Josiah Jones also worked with mineral knobs of unrefined clays. He obtained a patent for mottling the knob (grinding rather than wedging the clays) to produce a knob less likely to fracture.

My good fortune is to have a knob that is mottled, unmistakable different from the usual streaking mineral knob. Therefore, I can be fairly safe in identifying my knob as a product of the Cartlidge Works and an example of Josiah Jones patented improvement. •

Tentative 1996 Convention Schedule

Tuesday July 23	Wednesday, July 24	Thursday, July 25	Friday, July 26	Saturday, July 27
7:30 AM				Breakfast Buffet
8:00 AM		Set up displays Buy/Sell/Trade	Buy/Sell/Trade	
8:15 AM				General Meeting
8:30 AM	Meet in Hotel Lobby for bus tour (Fee to be determined)			
9:00 AM	Leave for bus tour.		Announcements	Auction with Jackie Rode as head auctioneer.
9:30 AM	Tour Frank Lloyd Wright's Meyer May House			
10:00 AM		Announcements		
10:45 AM			Presentation of display awards by R. Kennedy.	
11:00 AM	Board bus for Meijer Gardens		Presentation by Web Wilson.	
NOON	Lunch (on your own) at Meijer Gardens	Lunch on your own	Lunch on your own.	
1:00 PM			OPEN TO PUBLIC (Victorian dress)	
1:30 PM	Board bus for Gerald R. Ford Museum			
2:00 PM		Maude Eastwood's slide presentation "The Wonderful World of Porcelain Doorknobs" Buy/Sell/Trade		1996 ADCA convention CLOSES
3:00 PM		B of D Meeting (Grand Rapids Room)		
4:00 PM	Return to hotel via Heritage Hill Historic Dist.		Dismantle display (Please do not take down displays prior to 4:00)	
5:00 PM		Convention hall closes		
DINNER	Dinner on your own	Dinner on your own		
6:30 PM			Social hour in lounge	
7:00 PM	Car-pool to reception at Bettie's & Jackie's home.	Hospitality room open.	Dinner Buffet in Ballroom	
8:00 PM			Presentation by Kurt Freeman "Delftware"	
9:30 PM	Return to hotel		Hospitality room open.	
10:00 PM	NO Hospitality room tonight.	Hospitality room closes.	Hospitality room closes.	

From The Archives



by Steve & Barbara Menchhofer

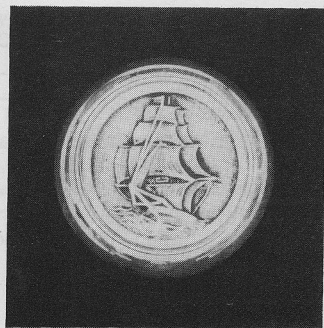
By the time you receive this newsletter your plans will probably be made for attending the ADCA convention.

What a terrific time we have at the conventions. This is a great opportunity to meet your fellow collectors from all over the United States and Canada, see wonderful and sometimes rare doorknobs and related door hardware, trade or buy doorknobs, learn from the educational programs, and have some fun besides. We urge anyone who has never attended a convention to visit one. It's quite an experience!

Our thanks to those of you who purchased catalog copies from the Archives. By now you should have received them through the mail or by U.P.S.

We were pleased to see that over half of the people who ordered catalogs were new members and three of those were from Canada. We would like to encourage everyone to become more familiar with hardware and ordering catalog copies is one way to do so.

Don't forget - - - We will be at the convention with some samples of our copies. Be sure to look these over and be thinking about what you need to help learn more about your collection. Meet you in Michigan. •



O-107

Doorknob Exchange

Members are reminded that your dues entitle you to advertise items for sale, trade or wanted at no charge. ADCA is not responsible for any transaction or the condition of the items advertised.

Wanted: Door Hinges - 2 pair, 4 x 4. Ball tip pin. Cast Iron, Bronze Overlay. (Moe's 1984 Catalog, D-108, page 7).

Wanted: Door Hinges - 4 pair. 4-1/2 x 4-1/2. Steeple pin. Cast brass, Pattern: Brocade. Manufacturer: Corbin. (The doorknob to the suite is in Victorian Decorative Art Page D-2 #D-106.)

Wanted: Door Hinges - 9 pair. 4-1/2 x 4-1/2. Cast iron Steeple pin. (Moe's catalog D-118, Page D-7)

Wanted: Privacy Locks - 4 sets. 1" in diameter. Cast bronze or brass. Sets to include privacy knob bolt, knob-shank, strike and rose. also needed are 2 additional roses. 1-7/8" in diameter.

Wanted: "S" shaped picture hooks. Old brass or bronze. Many.

Wanted: Speaking tube mouthpiece. Many. Usually constructed of silver plate, ivory or porcelain.

Vicky Berol (#450)

Gofer #1

2527 Gough Street

San Francisco, CA 94123

PH: 415-771-9899

For Sale: Pair of Columbus A-316 knobs with Russwin 958 Madison backplates and Russwin lock. Lock faceplate has "5th Floor" and "537" imprinted. Said to be from the Christoffer Hotel, Columbus Ohio \$160.00

Don Pearson (#63)

38 Judson Street

Canton, NY 13617

PH: 315-379-9151

For Trade Sailing ships knob O-107.

Looking for: B-105, B-109, B-121, D-109, F-103, F-110, F-120, F-203, H-101, H-102, H-109, H-259, H-266, J-105, J-106, K-101, K-102, K-103, K-208.

Don Pearson (#63)

38 Judson Street

Canton, NY 13617

PH: 315-379-9151

Desperately Needed:

Corbin Entry rese/escutcheon plate f
B-212 Design "Munich"

Richard Wise (#269)

814 Bangs Street

Aurora, IL 60505

PH: 708-898-8377

Wanted: Cast Iron Knobs with designs cast into them. I'll trade or buy.

Charles Wardell (#09)

P.O. Box 195

Trinity, N.C. 27370

PH: 919-434-1145

Letter to Editor

Dear Editors:

In March 1996 I became a member of the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America, so please let me introduce myself and my company. I'm Vicky Berol. My firm is Gofer Unlimited, a service to locate hardware, lighting fixtures and architectural details for the restoration of period homes. My interest in restoration began out of necessity when our 1890 Victorian home was severely damaged by a fire. Determined to control costs, I did my own research and legwork necessary to track down and acquire the needed hardware, fixtures and period embellishments for both the interior and exterior. After my home was completed, in the fall of 1994 I formed Gofer Unlimited and became a Resource Specialist (or Picker) for those who want to retain the integrity of the period.

I work with the architect, the contractor, and the interior designer and the individual homeowner. Thanks to my membership in ADCA, I have been successful in locating antique doorknobs and hinges for clients.

Vicky Berol #450
San Francisco, CA

DEADLINE

All ads, material and articles for the September-October 1996 issue of **The Doorknob Collector** should be in the hands of the editors by August 15, 1996.