

The Doorknob Collector

Number 107

May - June 2001

A Publication of The Antique Doorknob Collectors of America

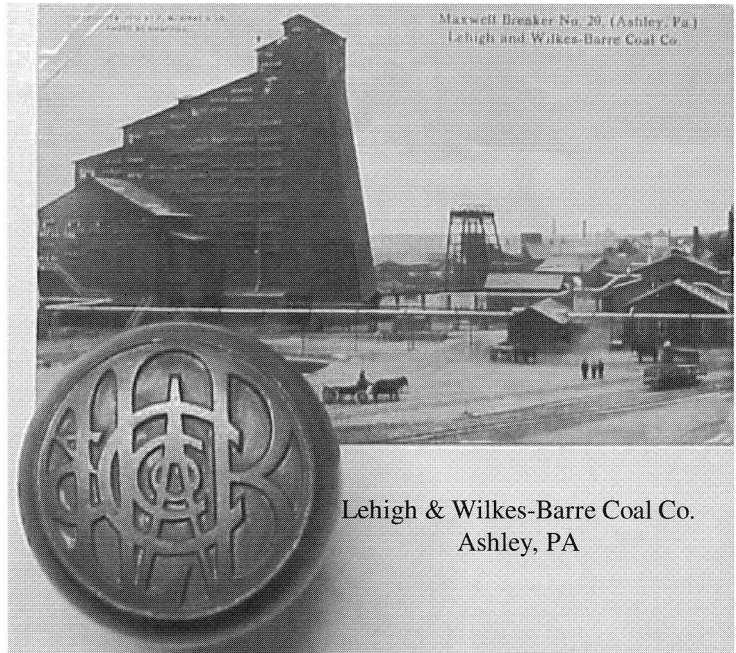
Postcards Reveal History - The Missing Link to Identification

How many times have you wondered just what building some of your favorite emblematic doorknobs came from? We have all looked at those initials and wondered what they stand for. There are also beautiful depictions on knobs, like the Statue of Liberty, to represent the business from whence they came. Well, when you talk with Dick Hubbard you just may find out the secret of your unknown knob. Dick can not only identify most emblematic doorknobs (about 9 times out of 10), but uses his postcard collection to verify their origin.

According to Dick, postcards had become the rage by 1905. Travelers could now send home pictures of the wonders of the world in nature or the multi-story buildings they saw when they visited a city. Family and friends were able to see the world through these vignettes that came directly through the mail. Dick and his wife, Carolyn, often go together to hunt down vintage postcards, particularly of buildings, hoping someday to find the doorknobs that match the cards.

There is a real pleasure in discovering the history and origin of a knob. It definitely adds to the joy of owning a knob. However, as the Hubbards say, they would never turn down a reasonably priced knob even if the origin is unknown. Dick welcomes any information you have about your knobs. Please let him know at DOORKNOBID@aol.com.

See more of the collection on pages 4 and 5. Also note the address (or lack of) on the 1913 postcard from Millie to Pearl and the 1¢ stamp. It even mentions that Maude was in Wilkes-Barre, but this is a bit early for our Maude. Interesting none the less.



Newsletter Deadline - June 17, 2001

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Souvenir Program

This year we would like to try something new in our convention booklet. We are appealing to the membership to submit, for inclusion, various materials such as poetry, drawings, anecdotes, humor, remembrances, anything that has any bearing on knobs, hardware, or the club. Sorry, but we cannot use photos.

The material submitted would have to be camera-ready just like the ads in the book. Stories should be short, and drawings done in black & white. Drawings should also be no larger than 8.5" x 11" since they may have to be reduced to fit our page size. We cannot return these items so please don't send any priceless originals. Whether we can do this or not depends on the amount of things we receive.

Send your material to Bob Rodder (see address column 3)

So, everybody, sharpen your pencils and start working NOW!

To All ADCA Members

The ADCA will be publishing a souvenir program again for this year's national convention and everyone, whether attending or not, is urged to participate. The book will again consist of a list of the club officers, the board members, a list of all attendees, patrons, club by-laws, your messages and greetings, and (I hope) a gazillion ads from our members. *[These would help the front office when we get inquiries on where to get certain items. We would love to know what your business does.]* As an extra little something special, we hope to include various items from the membership relating to hardware, knobs, collections, etc. These can be in the form of poems, drawings, short stories (perhaps 2

paragraphs), funny anecdotes, remembrances of other conventions or people, etc. etc.

The sizes of our advertisements will be the same as in previous years, however the price of greetings/wishes will have to be increased to \$20.00 because it uses a quarter page just the same as other ads. Since our printing costs are based on a per page basis, we have to use that page space to our best advantage. (business card, wishes, greetings)

Rates are as follows:

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Full page, | \$55.00 |
| Half page, | \$30.00 |
| Quarter page | \$20.00 |
| Patrons, | \$10.00 |

All ads, artwork, submissions, whatever, **MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JULY 28, 2001.** To be included in the attendees' roster in the book, your convention registration must also be received by the same date. All ads, artwork, submissions, whatever, must be camera-ready.

Please use the following guidelines to submit copy for the souvenir booklet.

All copy must be camera-ready. It must be complete and ready to go. It may be an ad you have used before. If so, just cut it from the page and send it in.

We can't use a hand drawn sketch or a rough copy of something unless that is exactly the way you want it to appear in the book. If you want your business card reproduced, we can do that. If what you want is only a listing as a patron, just submit your name and we will format it for printing. The same applies for greetings or good wishes. Hand written copy is fine, typed is better. We will put it in final form for the printer. Copy cannot be returned unless absolutely necessary. For copy returns please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Payment is to be made at time of submission, personal check or money order (NO CASH). Make check or money order payable to:

Bob Rodder/ADCA.
Send to: Bob Rodder
1203 Bruce Road
Oreland, PA. 19075-1904
Phone: (215) 885-1488

Round Table Discussion

We are seeking topics that will be of interest to attendees. For issues or subjects that will be placed on the agenda, we will attempt to invite our own knowledgeable members to participate. Obviously, the discussion will be open with questions and comments from the floor. If you have a particular subject that you would like to hear discussed, please forward them to: Win Applegate, 318 N Burtis Ave., Trenton, NJ 08690. email: wingate@erols.com

The Doorknob Collector®



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Foreign rates on request.

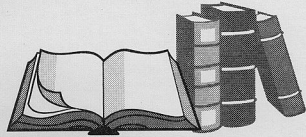
Single issue of **The Doorknob Collector** \$5.00

Founded Sept 1981, the **Antique Doorknob Collectors of America** is a non-profit organization devoted to the study and preservation of ornamental hardware.

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

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From the Archives



By Steve and Barbara Menchhofer

A wonderful gift was given to the Emil Miller Memorial Library of the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America! Dorothy Ann Miller, a member of the ADCA and secretary to the board of directors, donated the complete collection of catalogs that belonged to her late husband, Emil, and herself.

Emil was dedicated to the club and he made many worthwhile contributions to it. He was the club's first archivist and was interested in research and education. Dorothy Ann has also been very active in the ADCA. She too served as the club's archivist upon her husband's death. She is a past president of the ADCA and has served previous terms as secretary.

There are 189 items in the collection ranging from door hardware catalogs to catalogs that might be of interest to locksmiths only. They date from 1880 to 1978.

The Emil Miller Memorial Library is growing, thanks to the generous donation made by Dorothy Ann Miller.

Shipping Knobs

Shipments to the 2001 Convention should be timed to arrive not more than two days before the convention begins (i.e. to arrive at the earliest on Monday, August 13th). Ship to

Hotel Radisson Bethlehem
437 Main St.
Receiving Department
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Attention Susan Drexinger.

Inquiry Answers

from Len Blumin

We get questions on various subjects concerning hardware which we often pass on to other members to answer. We thought some of you might like to hear the answers as well.

Your question about cleaning glass knobs was referred to me, so I'll tell you what I know about the subject. There are basically two reasons why glass knobs lose their reflectivity or "sparkle" -- dirt and scratches.

If you are lucky, the knobs are just dirty, perhaps from an accumulation of hand oils, household chemicals, etc. A thorough cleaning sometimes does wonders for a dull knob. Don't be afraid to use an abrasive scouring pad, such as a 3M scrubby, or even fine steel wool (I usually use the finest, which is 0000). When using a scrub pad or steel wool you should also use a cleanser such as 409, or just some kitchen soap. Rinse off, dry, and polish with a clean cotton cloth.

If that doesn't work, then the problem is scratches. These may be an accumulation of very fine scratches (unusual), or an overall dull frosted look that is caused by sandblasting, which can occur on an exterior knob that has been exposed to wind driven particles for many years.

The only cure for knobs that have suffered like this is a professional polishing. There are many restoration specialists who can perform glass polishing, but it may take a bit a searching to find

one. It helps to visit an antique show and ask the dealers who they use for glass restorations in your area. Good luck with your restoration efforts.

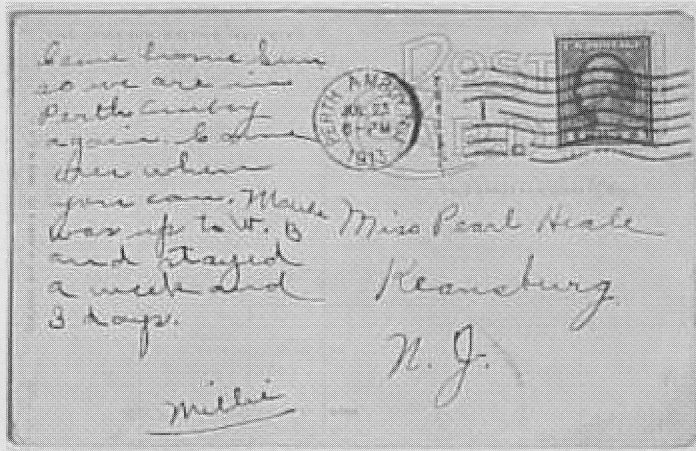
Collectors Fair

In February, Ray and Loretta Nemeč along with 15 other expert hobbyists from Chicago land area were participants in the first annual Collector Fair sponsored by the Downers Grove, Illinois, Park District Museum. Collectors were on hand to discuss, show and share their collections and promote their collector associations. The Antique doorknob Collectors of America was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for Nemeč's participation



Shown in the photo are Ray Nemeč, Mark Harmon, director of Downers Grove Museum, and Loretta Nemeč.

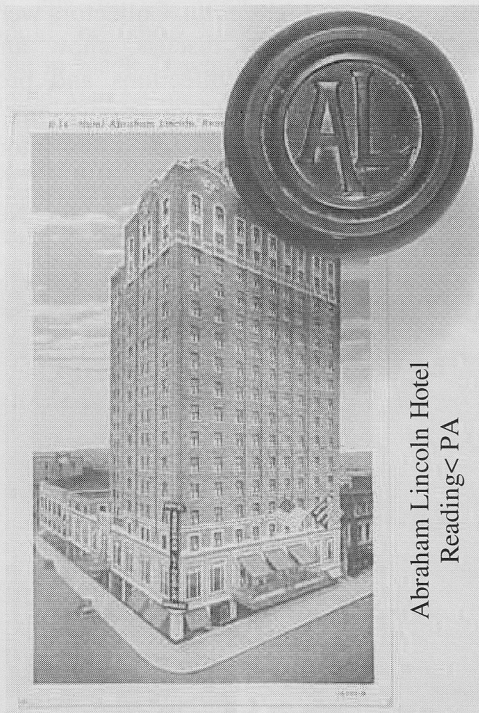
Victorian Homes magazine features an article, "Knockout Door-knobs" in the April 2001 issue.



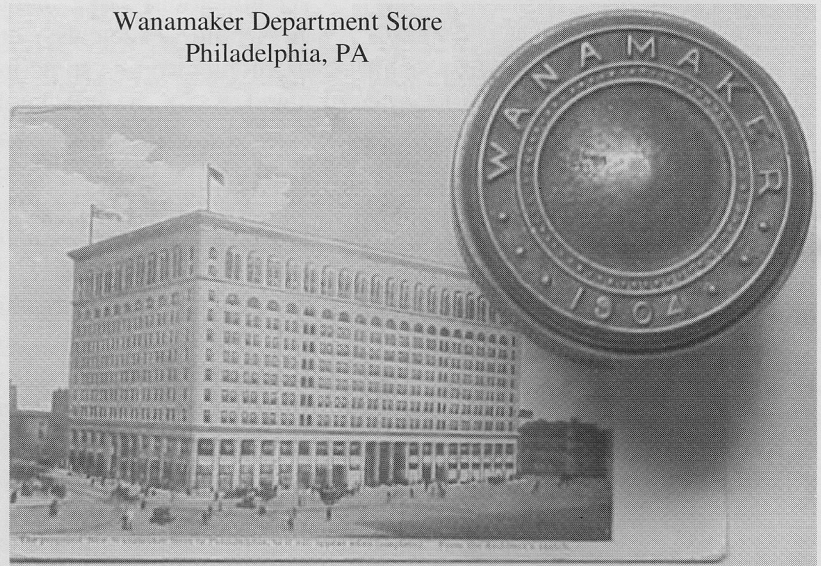
Note the address



Park Plaza Hotel
New York City



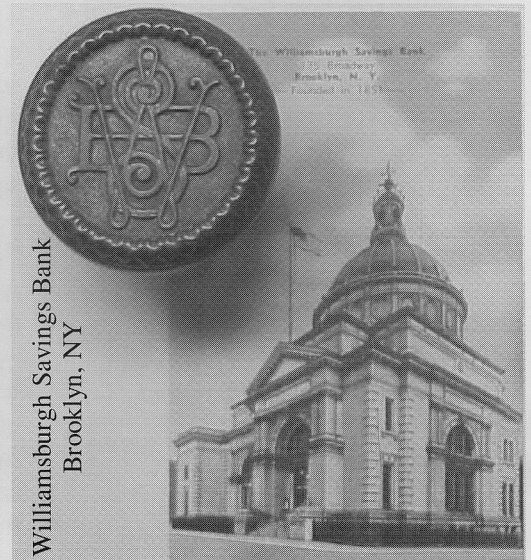
Abraham Lincoln Hotel
Reading < PA



Wanamaker Department Store
Philadelphia, PA

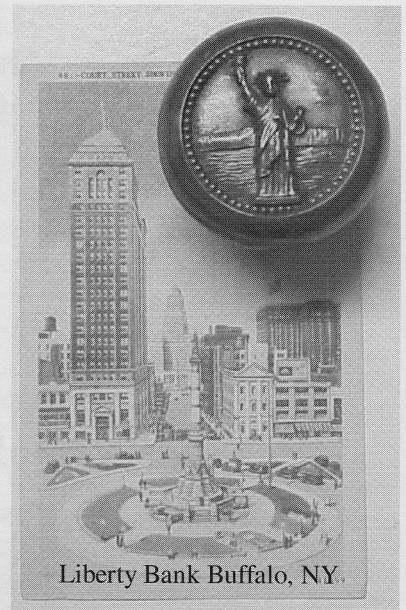
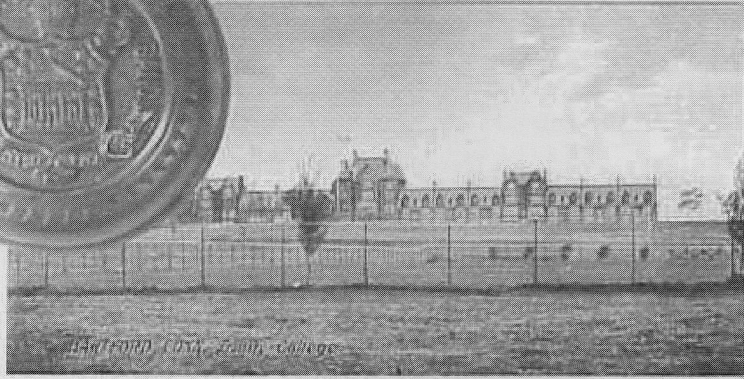


Battin High School, Elizabeth, NJ

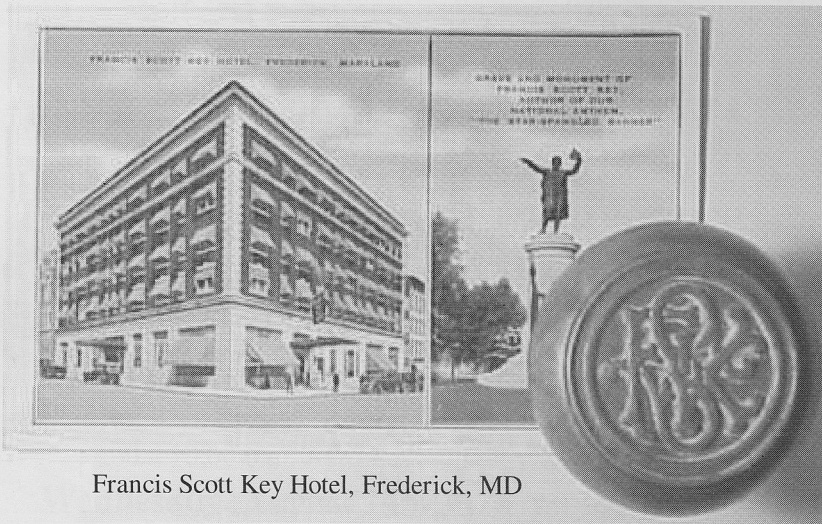


Williamsburgh Savings Bank
Brooklyn, NY

Trinity College
Hartford, CT



Liberty Bank Buffalo, NY

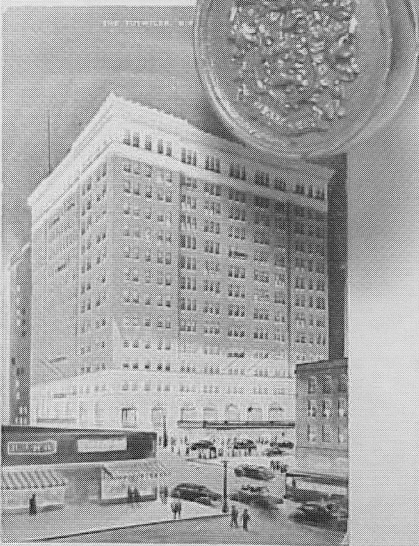


Francis Scott Key Hotel, Frederick, MD



Hotel Commodore
New York City

The Tutwiler Hotel
Birmingham, AL



Ridgely Apartments
Birmingham, AL

Antique Doorknob Collectors of America Corrected 2000 Financial Statement

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$11,868.00 | |
| CONVENTION | | |
| <i>Receipts</i> | | |
| Registration | \$8,280.00 | |
| Interest | \$37.56 | |
| T-Shirt Sales | \$1,010.00 | |
| Club Knob Sales | \$95.00 | |
| Underwritten Expenses | \$1,968.77 | |
| Total Receipts | \$11,391.33 | |
| <i>Expenses</i> | | |
| Registration | \$321.82 | |
| Board Meeting | \$145.27 | |
| Administrative | \$270.66 | |
| Convention Packet | \$534.48 | |
| Souvenir Program | \$297.48 | |
| Publicity | \$866.21 | |
| Promotional | \$2,141.38 | |
| Welcome Packet | \$667.45 | |
| Hospitality Suite | \$1,645.15 | |
| Tour | \$1,505.68 | |
| Exhibition Hall | \$1,733.33 | |
| Speakers | \$382.68 | |
| Prize | \$75.00 | |
| Public Open House | \$549.18 | |
| Friday Banquet | \$3,198.36 | |
| Saturday Breakfast | \$1,094.67 | |
| Total Expenses | \$15,428.80 | |
| Net From Convention | | -\$4,037.47 |

CLUB ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Receipts</i> | | |
| Membership Dues | \$6,730.00 | |
| Underwritten Printing | \$1,200.00 | |
| Knobs Donated at Auction | \$571.50 | |
| Other Contributions | \$130.00 | |
| Book Peddler | \$881.45 | |
| Sale of Club Items | \$145.00 | |
| Total Receipts | \$9,657.95 | |
| <i>Expenses</i> | | |
| Book Peddler | \$416.95 | |
| Insurance | \$495.00 | |
| Office Supplies | \$730.22 | |
| Postage | \$1,435.40 | |
| Printing | \$3,825.52 | |
| Telephone | \$311.57 | |
| State Income Tax | \$22.50 | |
| Honorarium | \$1,356.53 | |
| Miscellaneous | \$11.33 | |
| Bank Charges | \$45.95 | |
| Total Expenses | \$8,650.97 | |
| Net From Club | | \$1,006.98 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | | \$8,837.51 |

ARCHIVES

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$3,709.45 | |
| <i>Receipts</i> | \$2,245.55 | |
| <i>Expenses</i> | | |
| Catalogue Purchase | \$123.94 | |
| Travel Expenses | \$168.00 | |
| Copying | \$1,292.71 | |
| Postage | \$161.91 | |
| Supplies | \$28.61 | |
| Copies for Convention | \$61.50 | |
| Total Expenses | \$1,836.67 | |
| Net Addition | | \$408.88 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | \$4,118.33 | |

AUCTION ACCOUNT

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$5,261.77 | |
| Commissions | \$498.00 | |
| Interest * | \$228.87 | |
| Net Addition | | \$726.87 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | \$5,988.64 | |

NET FROM GENERAL ACCOUNTS **-\$1,894.74**

DEDICATED ACCOUNTS

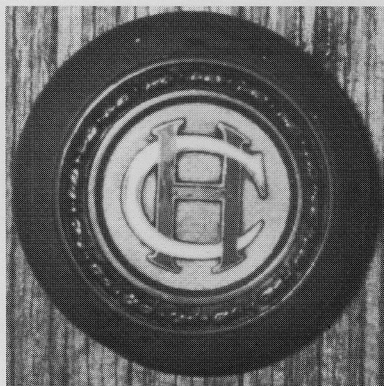
MUSEUM ACCOUNT

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$2,501.08 | |
| Interest * | \$108.79 | |
| Net | | \$108.79 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | \$2,609.87 | |

VDA2d ACCOUNT

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$ 8,245.15 | |
| Book Sales | \$1,629.10 | |
| Interest * | \$ 386.45 | |
| Net | | \$2,015.55 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | \$10,260.70 | |

* Interest earned on the Fidelity money market account is allocated proportionately among the VDA2d account, the Museum Account and the Auction Account.



Can You Identify This Knob? It appears to be brass, the C looks like white enamel and the H is red (don't know if color was added later). Please let us know if you have an answer. Thanks

**Antique Doorknob Collectors of America
Corrected 2000 Financial Statement
Report from the Treasurer**

The enclosed financial statements distinguish between dedicated accounts – where any net income is dedicated to financing a particular activity– and “general” non-dedicated activities. The principal dedicated account is that devoted to supporting revisions and promotion of VDA2nd.

In the last year, the Club lost \$4,037 on the Convention (even after some expenses were generously underwritten). The Club did gain on its other membership activities, such as the general dues (which support the newsletter), the Bookpeddler, the Archives and the Auction, but not enough to make up for the Convention loss. The overall loss on the Club’s general activities was \$1,894.

The funds in the auction, VDA2d and museum accounts are invested in a Fidelity Money Market, and interest earned is allocated proportionately among those accounts.

Questions are always welcome.

Allen S. Joslyn, Treasurer

Convention Schedule

**21st Annual Convention
Hotel Radisson Bethlehem
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
August 14 - 17, 2001**

Tuesday, August 13

Hotel check-in and registration

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. ADCA Hospitality Suite open

Wednesday, August 14

9:15 am Meet in Hotel Lobby for Bus Tour (\$35 per person)

9:30 Bus leaves for tour of Bethlehem

11:00 Bus continues to Jim Thorpe, Pa.

12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Tour of Asa Packer House and Lunch at Harry Packer Mansion (included)

2:00 – 3:00 Strolling about Jim Thorpe

3:00 Bus returns to Bethlehem

Dinner on your own

7:00 – 10:00 Board of Directors meeting

7:00 – 10:00 ADCA Hospitality Suite open in Lehigh room

Thursday, August 15

8:00 Set up displays; Buy, Sell and Trade

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:30 Round table discussion: Q and A session

5:00-7:00 Ballroom closed; Dinner on your own

7:00-9:00 Public Open House; everyone attend

9:00 ADCA Hospitality Suite open

Friday, August 16

8:00 Ballroom opens: Buy, Sell and Trade

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

3:00 Display contest ballots collected

4:00 Dismantle displays and pack up

6:30 Cocktail reception; cash bar

7:00 Dinner in Terrace Room

8:00 Members business meeting

TBA ADCA Hospitality Suite open

Saturday, August 17

8:00-9:30 a.m. Breakfast served in Terrace Room

10:00 Members only live auction

2:00 Convention closes

Join the fun. Come to Bethlehem. If you are a newer member, it is a great way to get to know other collectors and see hardware that you haven't even imagined. The week will be filled with activities and good fellowship so **COME!**

The 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: A friend, Robert McDonald, is looking for up to 4 entry size door escutcheons by Branford, Oriental pattern, as shown in 1886 catalog, p. 332. Plates are 8 5/8" long by about 2" wide, and feature double keyhole with a keyhole cover. Bronze preferred. Contact Len Blumin if you have anything that might be similar

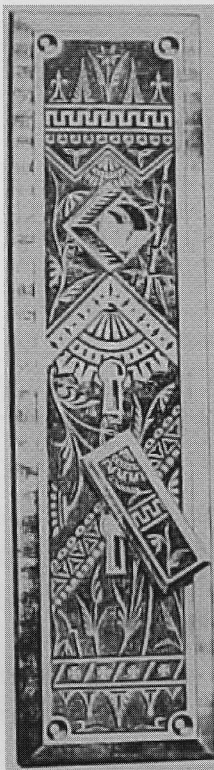
Len Blumin (# 3)
382 Throckmorton Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941
(415) 388-4990

Wanted: Need 4 brass knobs (H-216); several Sargent hexagonal brass knobs, 2 1/2" diameter; 2 cast iron cupboard latches with brass T-turn; several Sargent cast brass plates with keyhole, 7 1/2" x 2 3/4". Also need several pairs of plastic (composition) knobs with brass center, either "plain" or with "button", brass shank (see picture on right).

Vicky Berol (#450)
2527 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA
94123-5012
(415) 771-9899

In Memoriam

Our condolences go out to Tom Hennessy (#164) on the death of his wife, Rita. Tom is the curator of the Lock Museum of America and a long-time member of the ADCA.



New Members

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members who have joined the ADCA since our last newsletter.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Chris Wynn | Glendale, MO |
| John Manna | Staten Island, NY |
| Jessica Warme | Bronxville, NY |
| Mike McDaniel | Fulton, MO |
| Thomas Iannucci | Mount Airy, MD |
| Diana Thompson | Portland, ME |
| Carol Baker | Bloomington, MN |
| Greg Brandt | Overland Park, KS |
| Jeffrey Orman | Pittsburgh, PA |

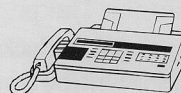
New Member Policy

Membership in ADCA runs for one year. Yearly membership includes six issues of **The Doorknob Collector**, free classifieds, and access to the archives. Your membership renewal date is shown on your address label. Reminders will be sent when membership renewal is due.

Keep in Touch



Mail:
ADCA Box 31
Chatham, NJ
07928-0031



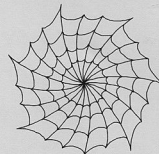
FAX:
(973) 635-6993



Phone:
(973) 635-6338



e-mail:
KnobNews@aol.com



Web Site:
<http://members.aol.com/knobnews>

"People and Places" Theme for Convention 2001

Radisson Hotel Bethlehem
Bethlehem, PA
August 14 through August 17, 2001