

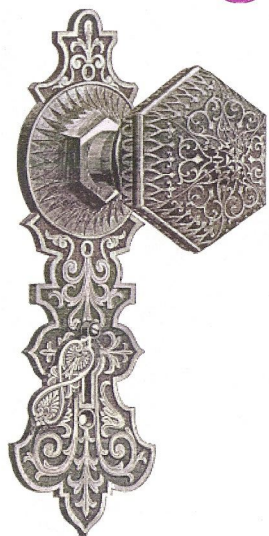
The Doorknob Collector

Number 140

November – December 2006

A Publication of The Antique Doorknob Collectors of America

A Nonprofit Organization Devoted to the Study and Preservation of Ornamental Hardware



Buffalo, Much More Than SNOW!

Buffalo, NY, a scant 700 miles north of our last convention in Charleston, NC, proved to be an architectural gem. As the conventioners climbed aboard an old-time trolley and headed for downtown Buffalo, we knew we were in for an interesting historical learning experience. Our tour guide explained that Buffalo like many other cities went through a period of demolition of its historical buildings after loosing many of its businesses. The local historical society did its best to stop or slow the destruction and has been in-



Façade of the former Post Office, now a Community College

strumental in finding new uses for old buildings.



A-206

Liberty Bank, Buffalo, NY

Our walking tour began at City Hall and as we looked across the “Square” (it is really a circle) noticed a replica of the Statue of Liberty standing tall on the Liberty Bank Building. Knob A-206 is from this bank. See TDC #107 for the full story. We walked around the center of the city and saw many types of buildings from the very modern (one a solid wall that seemed out of place) to turn of the century delights.

Newsletter Deadline – December 15, 2006

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One building, however, stood out. The Guaranty Building, designed by Louis Sullivan, was breath-taking in the detail on the façade of the building. The building with its fine lines and designs could have been a wedding cake design except it is the color of a clay flower pot. Unless you see this up close it is hard to imagine the workmanship involved. The cast terra cotta design continues all the way to the roof. A few members made their way to the interior lobby that is being restored and continues to reflect the exceptional workmanship of the exterior.

After completing an extended walking tour of the downtown area we climbed aboard our trolley and went to an upscale residential area to visit the Frank Lloyd Wright home known as the Darwin Martin complex. Although it is under very extensive renovation we were given a tour after enjoying our lunch on the open air porch. The complex (there are several buildings on the property which were built as a unit) sits among the typical turn-of-the-century homes in stark contrast. When it was built, the neighbors thought it was an abomination. As expected with a Frank Lloyd Wright home, the architecture and innovations throughout the home were years ahead of his time. We returned to the hotel tired, but full of a new appreciation of Buffalo. As the tour guide said, there is a lot more to Buffalo than snow.

Prior to the tour, members gathered at Dale Sponaugle's home. It was a great start to the convention. We had time to chat with old friends and meet others for the first time. We were able to see the renovation of Dale's home including a wonderful stairway in the center of the room that just said "welcome". When you sat in the living room you felt warm and welcome and enjoyed the garden through the windows. Then came the piece de resistance, a trip to the basement to see his hardware collection. Wow! This was like a museum for lovers of architectural hardware.

Wednesday and Thursday were buying, selling and trading days. The theme of this convention was Hopkins & Dickinson hardware. Well, to the surprise of all, Bill Hopkins and Fred Dickinson (really Rich Kennedy and Dick Hubbard) came by just to check out all the hardware and have a chat with our members. One of our newest members, Sue Hohm visited for the day along with her friend, Heather MacLeod from Australia. They had never seen such a display of door hardware. But they didn't leave empty handed. As they left we saw smiles on their faces and doorknobs in their hands. Joe Abraham, a member who has just rejoined, also came by and introduced himself to us. We had David Sherk, Dan and Nancy Desremaux, and Steve and Diane Hannum attend the convention for the first time. We have a feeling they will all be back again.

After a great banquet we sat down and listened as Martin Wachadlo, an architectural historian, spoke to us about the architecture of Esenwein and Johnson and the many styles of architecture through the years. Many of the homes designed by this firm still stand today.

The convention always ends on the high note with an auction. This year Nick Doto acted as our auctioneer and kept the items moving at a brisk pace while Steve Rowe, Marshall Berol, and Hilary Applegate brought the items forward. There were real bargains to be had. One of the more interesting pieces was a very large wooden



Guaranty Building façade.

The Doorknob Collector®



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doorknocker in the form of a lion's head. Thanks to Win Applegate and Faye Kennedy who handled the tabulation of the results of the auction. Win has been doing this for years and the club is looking for someone to take over this task.

As we all look forward to next year's convention in Portland, OR, we will have fond memories of a great convention hosted by Dale Sponaugle here in Buffalo. Great job, Dale. We thank you for your hospitality at your home and all the work you did to make it a successful convention.

The Antique Doorknob Collectors of America

The Name's the Same

By Faye Kennedy

A vote was taken at the annual business meeting of the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America and the name of the club will remain the same. We received many more proxy votes than normal and appreciate the membership getting involved in this vote. The vote was approximately 2 to 1 against changing the name of the club.

One of the reasons that the suggestion came up was that many members collect more than just doorknobs. This is very true. When you come to the convention you see on display hinges, bin pulls, window sash locks and handles, escutcheon plates, key hole covers and any other type of builders' hardware that you can imagine. However, it seems that almost all members have one thing in common, doorknobs. You may notice that our heading on the newsletter states the purpose of the club as studying and preserving all ornamental hardware. This has been and remains a basic principle of the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. It was most gratifying to see members who were not able to attend the convention taking part in the decisions of the club. Just know that we are still



An ADCA Membership Drive

By Liz Gordon

Sign up an antique hardware lover for membership in The Antique Doorknob Collectors of America. Basic membership is only \$25.00 for a year's worth of great information. What a great holiday gift.

Liz's Antique Hardware will be hosting a membership drive during the Holiday Season. Each year the club issues a new T-shirt design that is introduced at our yearly convention. We now have lots of leftovers in a limited variety of sizes. So encourage your friends about this opportunity at Liz's Antique Hardware and receive a free T-shirt or an embossed legal pad folio.

If membership doesn't interest you, you can still buy an ADCA T-shirt for only \$6.00. All proceeds will support the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America. Visit the shop at:

Liz's Antique Hardware
453 S. La Brea
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 939-4403 or shop@lahardware.com www.LAHardware.com

or send a check made out to ADCA for \$8.00 and you will receive your T-shirt in the mail. Please specify size from S to XXL. If ordering by mail, send to:

ADCA
PO Box 31
Chatham, NJ 07928-0031

Watch for more membership drives in the future.

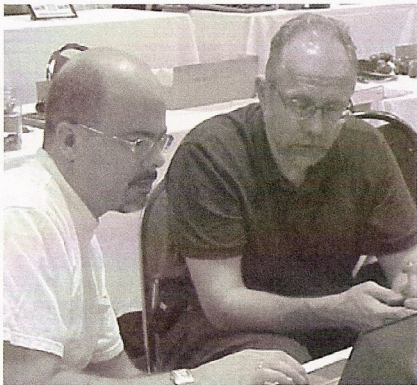
Picture Yourself at the Next Convention



Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here



Liz Gordon



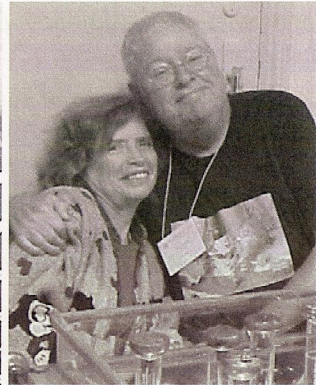
Rhett Butler and Dale Sponaugle



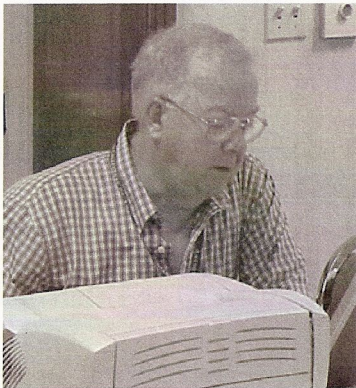
Patty Ramey



Marshall Berol



Carolyn and Dick Hubbard



Win Applegate at Auction



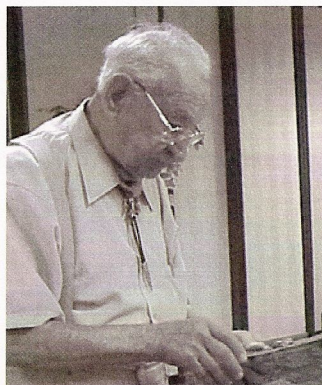
Dan & Nancy Desremaux



Alice and Leonard Empric



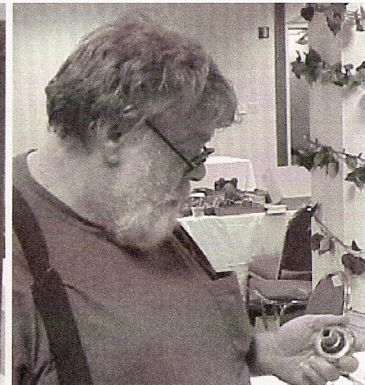
David Sherk



Carlos Ruiz



President, Steve Rowe



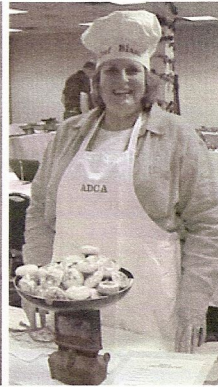
Steve Arnold



Don Pearson



H&D hinge



Cheryl Blam and her menu

Blam's Blue Plate Special

Breakfast Menu

Bagels & Locks
Doorknobs over easy
Corbin flapjacks
Threefold Symmetry omelet

Lunch Menu

Russell & Erwin hamburger
Enoch Robinson fries
Hopkins & Dickinson Soup

Dinner Menu

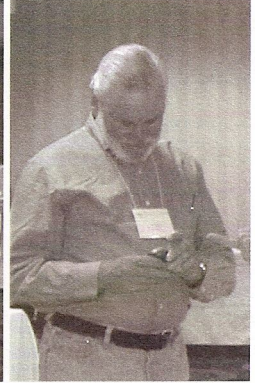
Meatloaf with Bennington Gravy
Mallory, Wheeler a la King
Guerin Porterhouse Steak
Fettuccine & Rosettes



Nick Doto, Brad Kittel, Bob Rodder



Vicki Berol with "Hopkins & Dickinson"



Len Blumin



Display Winners, Cheryl Blam, Steve Menchhofer, Rhett Butler



Angel on Elliot Square Building



Rhett's Large Wooden Knob



Buffalo on Court House

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:

Hummingbird doorknob (A-106)

Sue Hohm (#773)

3005 Coates Rd

Penn Yan, PA 14527

Phone: (315) 536-7372 or email: sph22@adelphia.net



For Sale:

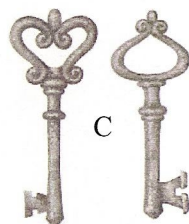
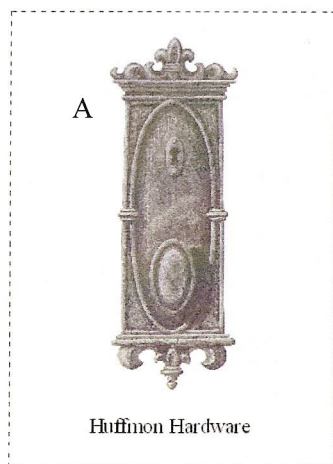
Doorknob or Hardware Notecards. Order with or without personalization. Cards are sold in sets of 20 for \$13.00 plus postage. All cards measure 5 1/2 by 4 1/4 inches and may be made either horizontal or vertical. Your choice of seven different designs (A to G). Email YourFingerPrints@verizon.net for more information or to order. Personal checks or Paypal accepted.

Rich Kennedy (#238)

7 Lafayette Place

Chatham, NJ 07928.

Phone: 973-635-6338



Membership	Newsletter and Other Questions	Web Site
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