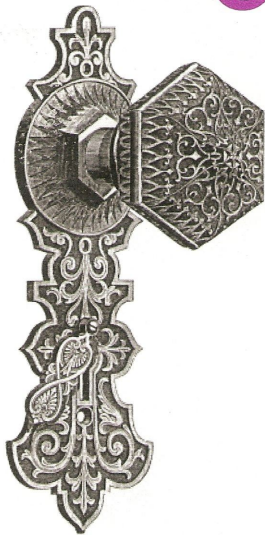


The Doorknob Collector



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

Convention 2008 – Lisle, Illinois

By Loretta Nemec

I would like to thank all who attended the ADCA's 28th annual convention. A special thanks to Bonnie and Tom Otte, my co-chairmen, for handling the hospitality room and all they did to make this a memorable convention. I could not have done it without them. Also thanks to Nick and Jean Doto. When I said, "**Help**", Nick was there saying, "What do you want me to do?" Thanks also to Faye Kennedy, for handling the computer transactions for the auction, Don Friedman's friend, Jeff Brown, a professional auctioneer, who whipped through the auction lickity split, the girls that logged the auction items and the auction runners, Steve, Nancy, Nick and Marshall. Thanks, to Al Joslyn who handled the financial transaction after the auction. To every one who helped, even "**The Kid**" who helped me close up Thursday night covering the tables and putting the chairs in place. And a special thanks go out to Patty Ramey for the great job putting together the Convention Souvenir Booklet. Many hands make a great convention.



Elks Veterans Memorial Building

This year's convention had two first time attendees, Frank Dvorak from St. Charles, Missouri and Elizabeth Stiker from Chicago. At the convention we had three people join they were our long time friend, Mariam DeLange, and new comers, John Carr of Western Springs, IL and Vincent Castro who came with his mother and was fondly referred to by our members, as "**The Kid**", a 12 year old enthusiastic boy from Chicago's "**Back of the Yards Area**". He is interested in taking apart locks and studying everything involved in doorknobs, locks, keys, spindles, etc. Vince went home happily with a shopping bag full of hardware. For those of you who do not know Chicago, when a certain area is mentioned one instantly gets a mental picture of the location, for instant; Greek Town, China Town, Pilsen Area, Little Italy, Bronzeville, Gold Coast.

The pre convention Motor coach trip on Wednesday was wonderful, the day started early with the sun shining brightly. As the motor coach headed east to Chicago, via the expressway, our first glance was the Harold Washington Library with its red brick and acroteria angularia lurching down upon us, contains an owl, representing the Greek symbol of knowledge perched in foliage. We headed east passing the Auditorium Theatre, designed by Louis Sullivan, and the Indians on horses. Heading south, our docent, Maria Olson pointed out various interesting sites, the Buckingham fountain, the Field museum, Soldier field, and

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McCormick Place. Heading towards the University of Chicago we toured the Ida Noyes Hall as our first stop to view the building with its “Monkey Door Handles”, then drove passed the Frank Lloyd Wright’s Robie House. Heading north down Lake Shore drive we passed by Navy Pier viewing the Ferris wheel but we did not stop (Navy Pier would take an entire day to view). Then we headed north to our next destination, the Elks Memorial Building. Our docent pointed out interesting buildings and sights. From the motor coach one could view a few of our many beaches in Chicago along with boat docks. (There are fifteen designated beaches in Chicago)

Entering the **Elks Veterans Memorial Building** dedicated in 1926, our ADCA members were in awe at the breath-taking Rotunda with its marble columns and floor, strikingly beautiful murals and art glass windows, the bronze sculpture, and the grand reception room elegant enough for a coronation. The doorknobs and escutcheon plates throughout the building were knobs depicting the elk.



Our next stop was lunch, but first we had to view the home of the Cubs baseball team, Wrigley Field. Then, for the lunch stop, where else but Harry Caray’s Tavern, after we view some of the old hardware on the houses in that area. We then headed south toward Chicago’s magnificent mile down Michigan Avenue, viewing some of the outstanding shopping areas. Our next stop was the Cultural Center where Tim Samuelson met us at the entry hall. The coffered ceiling and walls of the hall are green-veined Vermont marble. The curving stairway with Knoxville pink marble and it features mosaics and ornate bronze balusters. Up the grand staircase to the Preston Bradley Hall we viewed the recently restored 38-foot Tiffany dome. The Cultural Center states this to be the largest Tiffany dome in the world. Our last stop for the day was Millennium Park to view the Jay Pritzker Pavillion, We all enjoyed “The Crown Fountain” and the “Cloud Gate,” also known as the “**bean**”. What a full exciting day spent in Chicago.

Thursday morning began with viewing, trading, selling, throughout the day. Unfortunately the evening attendance “Open to the Public” was down because of a severe storm warning, with only a few public viewers.

At this convention we were fortunate to have Bettie Madison’s, 16-year-old granddaughter Casey with us who baby-sit for the Sullivan’s six-year-old daughter Sarah, while the parents were able to have a little camaraderie with other members.

Friday morning we continued with our quest for interesting hardware followed by the auction Friday afternoon and the banquet Friday evening with a little Birthday cake for Steve and Courtney Takes daughter Taylor who turned two years old.

The evening’s guest was Brian Ogg from Naper Settlement. His presentation was on “**Opening the Door to Joe Naper’s Home**”. We learned all about the excavation of the site of his home and what was learned from the artifacts found there. A most interesting presentation.

Twenty people attended Nemec’s Open house BBQ. They were able to view doorknob displays throughout the house and enjoy watching model trains cruise throughout the back yard. The evening was delightful with a cool breeze blowing and no bugs biting. Thanks for attending,

Doorknob Toss

Reprinted for TDC #15 (June 1985)

During the auction held at the 2008 Convention a set of doorknobs for tossing was sold. We all looked at them and wondered just how they were used. Well, below is the answer.

Item from the East Liverpool, Ohio "Evening Review"

An event called the "doorknob toss" will be brought back as an activity of the 18th annual Tri-State Pottery Festival - and a local pottery will have to begin manufacturing porcelain doorknobs again so participants will have something to toss. Homer Laughlin China Co. worker Harold "Sonny" Rayle said the event was last held in 1978 or 1979 and was discontinued because nobody makes porcelain doorknobs anymore. The last time the event was staged, workers waded out in the Ohio River to dig old, rejected doorknobs out of the river bottom. Rayle showed the association a doorknob blank which Homer Laughlin will make especially for the competition. In the toss, participants toss doorknobs into one-pound coffee cans from a distance of 30 feet.

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:

One or two copies of the 2007 Convention Booklet from Portland, OR..

Rich Kennedy (#238)

Knobnews@optonline.net or 973-635-6338

Things Other Than Knobs at the Doorknob Convention

By Faye Kennedy



When you come to an ADCA convention, you will always see lots more than just doorknobs. There are door knockers large enough for a castle and small ones.



Patty Ramey wins hands down for LARGE hardware. See her Lion and Entwined Snake bronze knockers here. Those doorknobs in the picture are about twice the size of a normal knob. As she said she should have labeled her display "Jewelry for Castles".

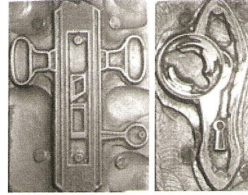
Rich Kennedy's backdoor knocker, "The Kiss", is pressed steel and the two kiss when you knock.

You will also see a vast assortment of hinges, escutcheon plates, keyhole covers, and any other door hardware that you can think of. John Roberts' display has a bit of everything.

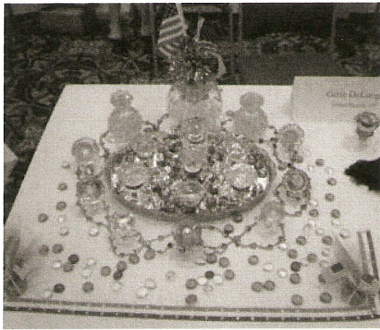
The 2008 Display Winners



Steve Hannum is receiving his award from Rich Kennedy for the **“Best Display of Hardware”**. He had a most interesting collection of miniature printers plates of doorknobs and mortise locks probably used to print hardware catalogues. Here you see only two examples.

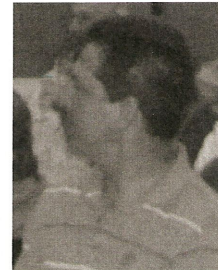
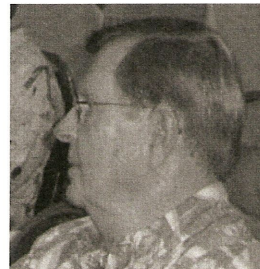


Miriam and Gene De Lange won the **“Most Creative Display”**. It was a sparkling display of glass doorknobs. One of the most unusual was a gold and black painted mirror knob. Glass does not photograph as well as the metal knobs so this picture does not do the display justice. It was dazzling.



And Finally, Steve Takes receives his plaque for **“Best Display of Door Jewels”**. He found out about the win after he arrived home. Here he is very involved in the auction.

Additionally, Harry Parkhurst was surprised to receive a one-year gift membership to ADCA for his winning entry to the **“Quiz”**.



The Arnie Award is a very special recognition of members who have gone above and beyond for the club. This year the club honored Ray and Loretta Nemec. Maude Eastwood presented the plaque at the banquet with a full laundry list of their accomplishments much to the delight of the group. The list of what they did is so long that we will have a full report in the next newsletter.

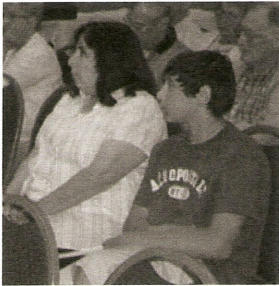


Tom and Bonnie Otte and
Loretta and Ray Nemec, our hosts



Helpers were Mariam De Lange, Betty Madison, Vicky Berol
(It was **really** cold in there so we wrapped her) and Casey.

We Had Fun



Norma and Vincent Castro



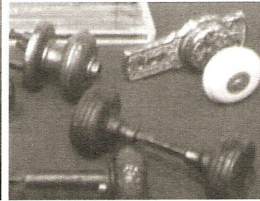
Maud Eastwood



President, Steve Rowe, Nancy Ormann, Nick Doto,
with Auctioneer



Allen Joslyn, Patty Ramey, Liz Gordon



Courtney and Taylor Takes, Ann Parkhurst
A 2nd birthday party



Linda Smeltzer, Jeff Orman, Frank Dvorak



Bill and Helen Byington



Linda Smeltzer, Jackie Rode

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The Brass Knob and Back Door Warehouse Owners: Donetta George and Ron Allen The Brass Knob 2311 18th St. N.W. Washington, DC Phone: 202-332-3370 Fax: 202-332-5594 Email: BK@theBrassKnob.com Web Site: www.theBrassKnob.com	Back Door Warehouse 2329 Champlain St. Washington, DC 20009	Webwilson.com Owner: H. Weber Wilson PO Box 506 Portsmouth, RI 02871 Phone: 800-508-0022 Web Site: www.webwilson.com Email: Hww@webwilson.com

Let us know of your displays or talks so we
can post it on our Calendar of Events
www.AntiqueDoorknobs.org

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