

Report of the Rushlight Club 2010 Summer Meeting with the NAALC, August 5–8, Columbia, MO

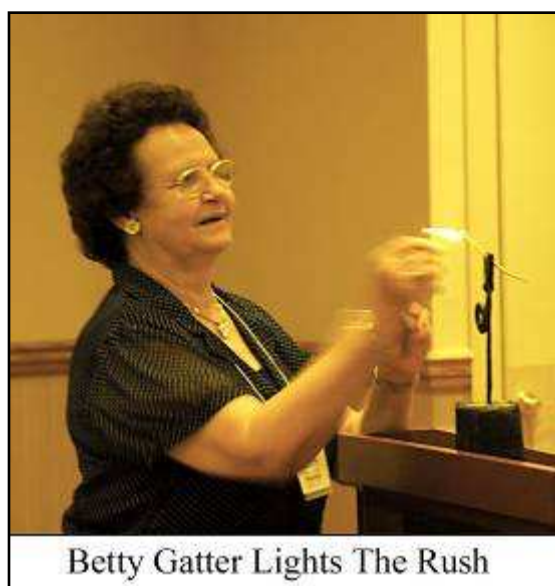
An interesting and informative joint Rushlight Club/ Aladdin Gathering concluded Sunday, August 8th with a delicious farewell brunch. The Gathering began earlier in the week with lamp selling in hotel rooms, an auction on Thursday and the renewing of friendships. The Rushlight Club officially began its meeting on Friday. The morning was “lamps show set up”, where the Club arranged a table to display books, posters and an assortment of lamps that highlight our organization.



Donna Schoenly Welcomes Show Attendees to Join The Rushlight Club

The intent was to promote interest and membership in the Club (four new members signed up at the meeting and several others took applications home with them). During the Lamp Show on Friday and Saturday, members of the Club took turns welcoming meeting attendees and providing facts about the Rushlight Club that would hopefully encourage any lighting enthusiast to join our organization.

Friday evening, the Rushlight Club held its banquet and business meeting. Thirty-eight meeting attendees enjoyed a delicious meal and renewed or made new friendships. The business meeting followed with President, Don Schoenly welcoming all and then proceeded with the traditional lighting of the rush, with Betty Gatter given the honor.



Betty Gatter Lights The Rush

Details of the Fall meeting, to be held at Colonial Williamsburg, were highlighted along with remarks from Bill Courter, a Rushlight Club member, author and founder of the Aladdin Knights.



Dan Shows First Kerosene Lamp

Educational Seminars highlighted the meeting throughout the day on Friday and Saturday. This year four members of the Rushlight Club gave interesting and informative presentations. Stan Walker conducted a seminar about “Reproduction Shades and Lamps”, Tom Logan spoke about “Lantern Makers of the Great Lakes Area”, and Daniel Mattausch showed a video about early kerosene lamps, and, at the end showed us the very first kerosene lamp, presented to John Austen by Robert Cornelius in 1855. What a treat! Last but not least was Keith Letsche’s presentation on “Thomas Edison Incandescent Lighting”. Kudos to all for sharing their knowledge.



Keith Relates Early Edison Work

Saturday evening was the Gathering of the Knights’ banquet and program. In addition to the Aladdin and Rushlight Club, the Historical Lighting Society of Canada and the Miniature Lamp Club were represented at the Gathering.

All the Clubs had members from the respective organizations to provide knowledge and answer questions for the attendees. In addition there were displays of lamps along with a variety of lamps to purchase at the show.



Kerosene Lamp Presented to John Austen by Robert Cornelius



Early Edison Wooden Fuse Holder