

MAJOLICA INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 2

Howard Silby, Editor

Winter 1991

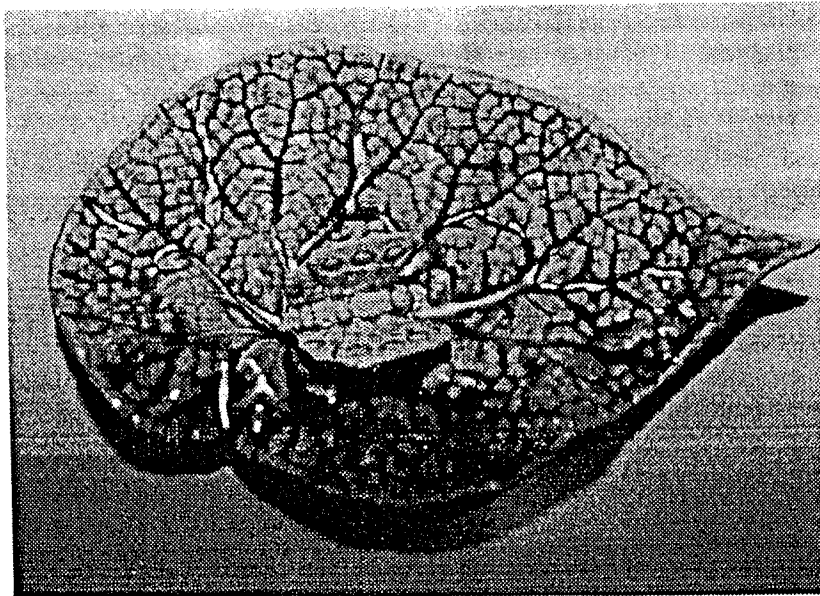
NEXT MEETING 1ST WEEKEND OF MAY

The executive committee has just announced next year's meeting: the first weekend in May, 1992 (exact date to be announced).

It most likely will be held at the same hotel as last year (Sheraton Springfield in Springfield, Illinois) although Jerry Leberfeld is looking into alternative places. It will certainly be in a location close to Brimfield. The executive committee thought long and hard about this, and in light of the very positive feedback from both members and dealers, it was decided to hold it here again. One of the best things about it is that it is located mid way for our East and West coast members. You will receive an application to attend in about 6 weeks, so stay tuned!

SO, PLEASE SAVE THE WEEKEND OF MAY 1-3, 1992.

ALSO, BRING THE COPY OF THE BY-LAWS PUBLISHED IN THIS ISSUE, SINCE VOTING CAN ONLY BE DONE AT THE MEETING.



Etruscan green/yellow leaf dish with yellow attached butterfly, marked, 6" x 4"

WANTED

Lid for Etruscan Lily Sardine Box with white ground (see Karmason/Stacke book, page 153.)

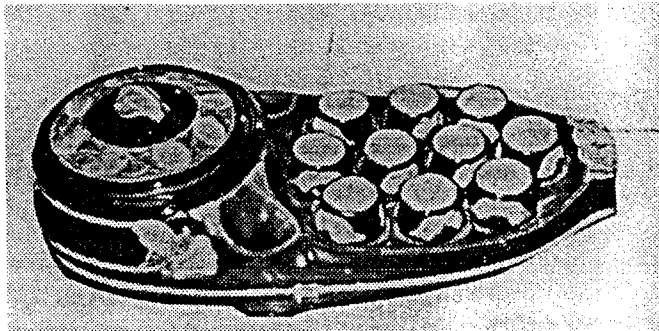
Also lid for Etruscan Shell and Seaweed coffee pot (see first Marks book, page 122, top left).

Please contact:

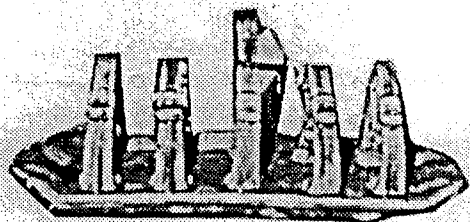
Jim Trout
1990 E. Santa Fe
Olathe, Kansas 66062
913-829-2700.

INFORMATION WANTED

Mrs. Linda J. Pointe asks if any of you have information on the following:



Chutney server, cobalt blue, yellow and white.



Toast holder, oriental motif, yellow, green.

Mrs. Pointe also asks for any information on "Shorter & Sons T.T.D.-Stokes on Trent" potterer.

Please write your information to:

MRS. LINDA J. POINTE
152 PIKELAND RD
MALVERN, PA 19355

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Melody and Roger Parker on the birth of their son October 1991; also to our President and his wife Karen and Michael Strawser on the birth of their son in November 1991.

ANNUAL MEETING

We thought we'd let you know again to save the first weekend in May. But also, we need your input and ideas on what type or kind of lectures, discussions, information you would like. Also, if any of you wish to present a talk on some aspect of majolica, or if any of you have info that you could present on the various sales and auctions that have taken place this past year, please contact:

DR. MARILYN KARMASON
MAJOLICA INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
1275 FIRST AVE.
SUITE 103
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

THE BYLAWS:

What follows is a draft of our Society's by-laws. Please read carefully, make any corrections, additions, deletions, etc. you wish, and send same to Marilyn at the above address. These, along with any suggestions from the floor, can be discussed at the May meeting, and then voted on so that we can be a full fledged business like society. Remember, you must be in attendance to vote.

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE
MAJOLICA INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY**

ARTICLE I: NAME:

The name of this society shall be the Majolica International Society. (M.I.S.)

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES:

A. The objectives of this Society shall be:

1. To promulgate and encourage the study, knowledge, and appreciation of Victorian majolica, and its historical and cultural relationship to the field of ceramics.

2. To develop an atmosphere that supports friendship and exchange of information among its members, and with members of other societies interested in the ceramic arts.

3. To publish and distribute the results of discussion and research dealing with Victorian majolica, and to bring to the Society's membership material of educational or aesthetic value.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution and bylaws, the Society is organized exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: charitable, scientific, literary, and educational purposes, as specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. In the event of dissolution of the Society, remaining monies and property shall, after necessary expenses are paid, be distributed to an organization or organizations dedicated to goals and interests similar to the those of the M.I.S., i.e., the study and appreciation of antique pottery. This organization or these organizations must be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and the amended Code of 1986. The determination of the organization(s) shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee in office at the time.

C. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Internal Revenue Code section 501(h)), or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be three classes of members: a) annual membership b) honorary membership c) museum or institutional membership.

Section 2. Annual Membership: Any person interested in the objectives may submit a written application for membership and one year's dues to the Treasurer. Persons who were annual members on or before the Society's first meeting in 1989 shall be known as charter members.

Section 3. Honorary Membership: Any person of distinction in Victorian majolica scholarship, of special note as a majolica collector, or of renown in the fields of ceramics or the decorative arts, may be elected at any regular meeting of the Executive Committee, upon written notice, and a two-thirds vote of the members present at the said Committee meeting. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues, and shall not be eligible to vote or hold office, but they shall enjoy all other privileges of members of the Society.

Section 4. Museum or Institutional Membership: Shall be open to any appropriate organization that applies for such membership, or that is proposed by the Executive Committee and/or a member of the Society. Two members of the museum, institution or organization may attend any of the Society's meetings or exhibitions. All newsletters and publications will be sent to these memberships. Dues shall be waived as these institutions' research resources are usually available to the Society's membership.

Section 5. Termination of membership: Non-payment of dues. Dues shall be payable for the period ending December 31 of each year. Any member in arrears for one year shall be notified in writing by the Treasurer as soon after January 1 as practicable, that unless dues are paid within thirty days, the name of said member will be presented to the Executive Committee for termination of membership.

A delinquent member will not receive any further mailings or publications, and may not attend any of the activities or social functions of the Society. Upon majority vote of the Executive Committee, thereafter, the membership shall be terminated. Membership may be reinstated by the payment of delinquent dues.

Section 6. Any former member who has resigned from the Society in good standing may re-apply for membership by application in writing. The application shall take the usual course of membership admission, and with payment of the current dues, membership will be reinstated.

Section 7. The Executive Committee, may, upon cause shown, and after notice to a member, at its sole discretion, by majority vote at a regular meeting of said Committee, expel any member of the Society. The member may request a hearing at the next Committee meeting stated in the notice.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor of the Newsletter, Chairman of the Annual Meeting, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee, and three Delegates-at-Large, chosen to increase geographic representation on the Executive Committee. These above officers constitute the Executive Committee of the Society.

The Executive Committee shall meet the number of times per year necessary for the administration of Society matters, and for the preparation of the annual meeting. Because of the national and international membership, it may not be possible for all Executive Committee members to attend all the meetings. Committee members will be notified in writing of all issues that require voting. Committee members who do not respond to 50% or more of these issues, either by non-attendance at meetings or by not responding in writing, will be asked to resign from the Executive Committee, unless the lack of response has been due to a temporary measure that has been resolved. If it is appropriate, necessary, and feasible, Executive Committee meetings may be held by telephone conference calls or "serial" calls among the members. These telephone calls will constitute valid attendance at a Committee meeting.

Section 2. Terms of office shall run for three consecutive years. The Executive Committee will select the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and two committee members. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates for all the offices to the membership at the annual meeting, beginning at the meeting of 1992, and continuing each succeeding third year. Outgoing officers may be nominated for re-election or for election to other positions on the Executive Committee. Candidates may also be nominated and seconded from the floor at the meeting. Officers will be elected by a majority vote of members present at the meeting. Voting shall take place by closed ballot. In case of a tie, there shall be a closed re-vote, and again failing a majority vote for a candidate, the outgoing Executive Committee will designate the winner. Elected candidates will take office at the end of the meeting.

Section 3. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by the vote of a majority of the Executive Committee. If possible, out-going officers shall be in office until their successors have been elected. Appointed officers are eligible for re-election.

Section 4. Meetings:

The annual meeting shall be held in April or May, unless the Executive Committee determines that the membership would be better served by a meeting scheduled at another time during the year. The location shall be decided by the Executive Committee, with the President casting the deciding vote in case of a tie. There shall be input by the general membership before the Committee votes, both by discussion at the current annual meeting, and from the results of a questionnaire sent after the current annual meeting to the membership in good standing. The Executive Committee is charged to investigate meeting sites in different areas of the nation, and to select the area most consonant with the opinions of the membership.

Section 5. Dues

Dues are to be set by the majority vote of the Executive Committee. In case of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote. Current dues are \$25 (twenty-five) dollars per calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of each year. New members may sign up at any time during the course of a year, but bills for annual dues will be sent to all current members in January of each year. Dues are applicable to individuals or to family units. Dues outside the United States are \$30 (thirty) dollars per annum. See Article III, Section 5 as to the consequence of non-payment of dues.

Section 6. Duties of Officers:

President: The President of the Society shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee. As executive officer of the Society, he shall perform such duties in the management and operation of the Society as ordinarily pertain to this office and to the furthering of the best interests of the Society. He may call special meetings of the Executive Committee to deal with unforeseen issues. The President shall be responsible for all programs of the Society even though he delegates this authority. He shall also be responsible for the hospitality accorded to guest lecturers.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President, and perform other usual duties of the Vice-President's office. The Vice-President shall be a member of the Executive Committee. He shall complete the President's term of office in case of the President's resignation or death.

Secretary: The Secretary, a member of the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for Society correspondence, including notices of annual meetings, Executive Committee meetings, notices of dues, and shall keep a record of member-

ships. The Secretary will respond to requests from prospective members for information about the Society. The Secretary will take minutes at the annual meetings. He will arrange for publication of press releases and advertisements pertaining to the annual meeting as well as contributing newsworthy items on Victorian majolica to both the Society's Newsletter and to trade publications. The Secretary will answer all written questions regarding majolica sent to the Society by members and non-members. The Secretary, together with the Treasurer, has the power to employ professional secretarial help and to sign checks for bills incurred by the Society's secretarial needs. These expenses and checks will be reported to the Treasurer.

Treasurer: The Treasurer, a member of the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for, and have custody of and keep records of membership dues payments. He is responsible for the receipt and disbursement of all funds. Bills for over \$1000 are to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval before orders are placed. Checks for \$1000 or more will require two signatories.

The Treasurer shall account in detail, at annual meetings and at Executive Committee meetings, the current financial status of the Society, and provide, if requested, any additional data. At the annual meeting, the Treasurer shall report, in written detail, all income and disbursements for the preceding calendar year, details of all financial transactions of the Society, and numbers of paid memberships at the beginning and end of the period. Upon retirement, the Treasurer shall turn over to the successor all funds, books of account, financial and other records, and any other property or data of the Society in the Treasurer's possession.

Editor of the Newsletter: It shall be the responsibility of the Editor to publish the Newsletter three or four times a year, depending upon the availability of sufficient material. He may appoint a publications staff to work with him as needed. The Editor shall also be a member of the Executive Committee.

Chairman of the Annual Meeting: It shall be the function of the Chairman of the Annual Meeting to make arrangements with the management of the selected hotel in which the annual meeting will be held. The Chairman shall be responsible for all arrangements of the meeting. He may appoint a staff to work with him as needed. The Chairman shall also be a member of the Executive Committee.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee: See Article II, Section 4. The Chairman shall also be a member of the Executive Committee.

Chairman of the Bylaws Committee: Maintains a current copy of the bylaws and amendments. He is responsible for presenting to the membership information about the bylaws and any requests for amendments to the bylaws. He may, with

the President's approval, assemble an ad hoc Bylaws Committee. He is a member of the Executive Committee.

Delegates-at-Large: There shall be three Delegates-at-Large serving as voting members of the Executive Committee. In addition to the geographic diversity and counsel they bring to the Executive Committee, they will fulfill various functions (i.e., membership on ad hoc committees) as directed by the President of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

Section 1. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds of the Society in a bank or banks designated by the Executive Committee. Funds are to be drawn from the bank as directed by said Committee.

Section 2. Bills over \$1000 shall be submitted for approval to the Executive Committee and payment shall be made by check signed by the Treasurer and Secretary, or by the President in the absence, indisposition or illness of the Treasurer or Secretary, or by such other persons as may be designated by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the Society, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the organization), and no member, trustee, officer of the Society, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the organization's assets on dissolution of the organization.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Nominating Committee. See Article II, Section 4.

Section 2. Ad Hoc Committees. Chairmen and members shall be appointed as necessary by the President. These positions may be filled by members of the Executive Committee and/or the voting membership at large.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of all voting members present, provided that a notice and copy of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least two months before said meeting.

*****End of Bylaws Draft*****

SAMPLE AMENDMENTS

1. Funds received from family and friends who wish to honor or memorialize M.I.S. members would be used to endow a commemorative or memorial lecture, or to sponsor other activities as specified by the donor of the gift.

2. A specific sum of money, either from the Society treasury or from a contributed fellowship fund, may be designated for research in the field of Victorian majolica. This research may be carried on by a student in the decorative arts programs of a university or museum, or by an advanced independent scholar. A Fellowship Committee would be established to administer the fellowship and to select the most promising candidate to receive the fellowship grant. There would be a stipulation that the candidate would present the results of his research at the appropriate annual meeting.

END

AND LASTLY...

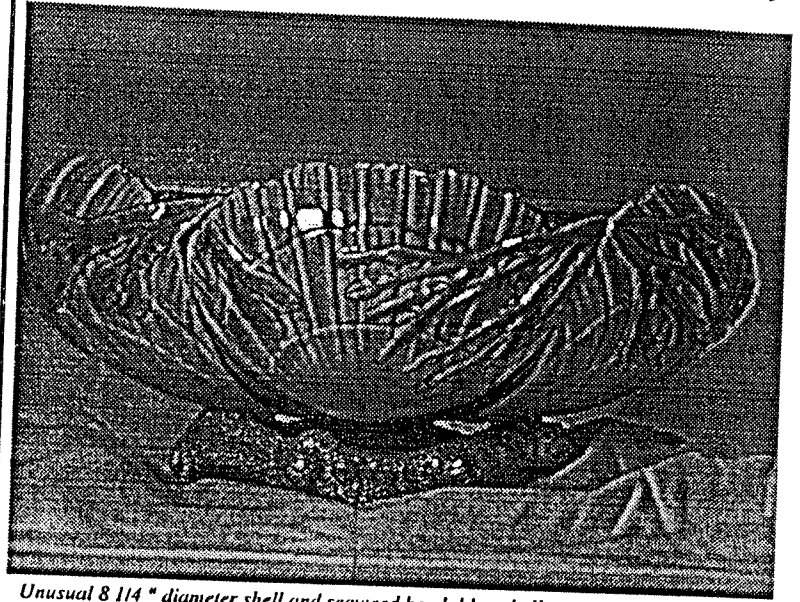
Total members to date is 263, of which 60 are dealers. Another 177 are interested but have not yet joined.

AND REMEMBER...

that since we are a society of bright, educated collectors, the words of H.L. Mencken resonate:

"A society made up of individuals who were all capable of original thought would probably be unendurable. The pressure of ideas would simply drive it frantic."

Go ahead, drive the executive committee frantic! Let's hear your ideas. And send in your thoughts, requests, photographs, etc.



Unusual 8 1/4" diameter shell and seaweed bowl, blue shells, green seaweed, yellow trim on top, maroon coral base, deep pink interior, marked VPC.



Unusual flower vase, "outline" pattern, flower, leaf, and berry outlined in gold and dark green, white background, sits on 3 berry feet, 9.5" tall, 4 3/4" diameter, marked "Avalon".

Why not send us photos of your unusual or never before photographed pieces?