



KEITH LETSCHE



JERRY MERCER

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Keith Letsche is a retired municipal attorney from suburban Chicago, and Jerry Mercer, a retired production supervisor from the Longaberger Company, is from suburban Cincinnati. Both are long-time collectors of American lighting and members and past-presidents of The Rushlight Club, an international association of collectors and students of historical lighting, founded in 1932. Additionally, Keith is the editor of the Club's journal, *The Rushlight*, which has been published since 1934. In conjunction with Museum Quality Restorations of Salem, New Jersey, both Keith and Jerry worked on the conservation and interpretation of the mid-nineteenth-century gaslighting system in the Shrewsbury-Windle House in Madison, Indiana, as part of the house's \$2.1 million, award-winning restoration. Keith has also done consultations for The Henry Ford and historic sites such as the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum (Hyde Park NY), Hollyhock House (Los Angeles), Glessner House (Chicago) and Hearthstone (Appleton WI). His published articles have appeared in *The Rushlight* and the Victorian Society of America's magazine, *Nineteenth Century*, for which has also served as a peer reviewer.