



NEWARK NEW JERSEY
Renaissance Hotel
OUR 31st ANNUAL CONVENTION!
The Lighter Extravaganza of 2017!

Dear OTLS Members,

The **THIRTY-FIRST OTLS CONVENTION** will be held in Newark, New Jersey. **THIS IS THE ONLY LIGHTER CONVENTION OF THE YEAR. Consider it your vacation and budget accordingly!** If you aren't able to attend; you must wait another year! Keep in mind that if you can sell 2 lighters (well, maybe 3) before June you may well have enough money to pay for your registration and/or a portion of the convention costs.

Judith Sanders had agreed to serve as Convention Chairman this year. Any Board member in attendance will also be available should you require any assistance. Richard Weinstein will once again serve as our Head Auctioneer. We are seeking volunteers to help at the convention for small assignments. If you are willing to help in any way, please email Judith Sanders at Judithlq@comcast.net

WE ARE EXTREMELY PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF LIGHTER CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN (LCGB) WILL BE COMING TO OUR CONVENTION. THIS WILL BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF BOTH CLUBS TO COME TOGETHER.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE PHOTOS OR VIDEOS OF CONVENTION FOR USE ON OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE. WE CAN USE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS YOU TAKE EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE CLUB OR ANY PERSONAL IMAGES YOU ARE WILLING TO SHARE.

The convention begins officially on Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 4:30 P.M. and the official close is after the Saturday night dinner and auction concludes - - June 10, 2017. There will be auctions, door prizes, fun, excitement, LIGHTERS and lighter talk enough to satisfy any collector!

The OTLS Suite will be available for visiting on the afternoon of June 8th. Inquire at the front desk for the OTLS Suite number but call to ensure a member is there.

The hotel chosen is the Renaissance Hotel, 1000 Spring Street, Elizabeth NJ 07201. Phone: 908.436.4600. Please note below to use a different phone number for reservations. The rates are \$119.00 per night. These rates are for single or double occupancy, and are good 3 days before and 3 days after the convention. To request one room on the Club Level (and if it is available), the rate is \$169 per night.

Here is the reservation link your guests can use to make online reservations:

[Book your group rate for On the Lighter Side Conference](#)

Or you can call 1-800-468-3576 or 908-436-4600 to make reservations. Just tell them you are with On The LIGHTER Side Conference or group code OTLOTLA

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2017! IMPORTANT! In the past, many of you were late sending in your convention registration even though you had already

made your room reservations - PLEASE PAY YOUR REGISTRATION FEE BEFORE THE CONVENTION. TO EASE OUR ACCOUNTING BURDEN, WE PREFER THAT ALL PAYMENT BE RECEIVED AND SETTLED PRIOR TO THE EVENT. SEND REGISTRATION TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: JUDITH SANDERS, 4610 EUBANK BLVD NE APT 1213, ALBUQUERQUE NM 87111, USA. Or you may pay with Paypal, send to payments@otls.com – if you use Paypal it will be necessary for you to send the form by mail, or email the information asked on the form to Judithlq@comcast.net.

THE HOTEL CUT-OFF DATE FOR GUARANTEED ROOM AND GROUP RATE IS MAY 1, 2017! IMPORTANT: EVEN IF YOU MAKE A ROOM RESERVATION WITHOUT UTILIZING THE CONVENTION CODE/RATES, YOU MUST ADVISE US SO WE CAN PETITION THE HOTEL FOR CREDIT ON YOUR ROOM. THIS IS CRITICAL AS WE GUARANTEE THE HOTEL A MINIMUM NUMBER OF ROOM NIGHTS.

THERE ARE SHUTTLES AT THE AIRPORT - JUST MAKE SURE YOU GET ON ONE THAT IS GOING TO RENAISSANCE HOTEL. THE SHUTTLES ARE FREE FOR HOTEL GUESTS. THERE ARE ALSO CABS BUT THEY ARE MORE EXPENSIVE. PLEASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR SHUTTLES FOLLOWING:

AFTER CLAIMING LUGGAGE PROCEED TO THE AIRTRAIN. FOLLOW SIGNS FOR THE AIRTRAIN. AIRPORT PERSONNEL WILL BE THERE TO DIRECT GUESTS. TAKE AIRTRAIN TO “STATION P4” AND WAIT FOR THE RENAISSANCE NEWARK AIRPORT HOTEL SHUTTLE. SHUTTLE SERVICE RUNS EVERY 15 MIN. TO AND FROM AIRPORT FROM 4 A.M. & 12:00 A.M. AND EVERY 30 MIN. BETWEEN 2 A.M. AND 4 A.M. PHONE: 908.436.4600.

The hotel also has some other amenities arranged for us. We will announce some of those later. For you who were there before, there is a beautiful, indoor swimming pool. Bring a bathing suit!

PLEASE BE ADVISED I WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FROM MAY 3 TO MAY 17.

ALTHOUGH THE CONVENTION SCHEDULE IS FULL YOUR EVENINGS ARE FREE TO ATTEND A SHOW OR SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS! NEVERTHELESS, IF YOU PLAN TO SIGHTSEE, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ARRIVE A FEW DAYS EARLIER.

We are pleased that Rob Giarretta has agreed to allow us to ship packages to his office. His address is:

**ROB GIARRETTA
CENTURY 20, LLC
51 GLENDALE AVE
EDISON NJ 08817**

Rob has dedicated delivery from all carriers (no deliveries are left unattended) and all packages will be kept in storage with monitored alarm in his warehouse. Rob is an OTLS Board member and utilizes this same warehouse for all his Ebay selling and shipping needs. He has also volunteered to assist in return shipping. Email: rob523@aol.com

Please have your packages to his house no later than May 25, 2017

In the event you must ship materials for a function at the hotel, all package/box deliveries must be addressed as follows:

- 1) Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel
1000 Spring Street
Elizabeth NJ 07201

ATTN: TAMI MAZZOLLA/ON THE LIGHTER SIDE CONFERENCE/JUNE 8

- 2) Cost is \$5 per standard size box. Shipping charges will go directly to master account. The hotel cannot charge each individual vendor for their shipments. This means you must notify Judith Sanders if you are shipping a box. We also need the total number boxes shipped & tracking numbers.

- 3) THE HOTEL HAS STRESSED THAT **DELIVERIES WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ONE DAY ONLY! JUNE 8.** ANY PACKAGES RECEIVED BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DATE MAY BE REFUSED OR MISPLACED! THE HOTEL HAS NO STORGAE ROOM! IF YOU CANNOT SHIP TO ROB, WE

STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU UTILIZE AN OVERNIGHT OR EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE WITH A GUARANTEED DELIVERY DATE for JUNE 8!

4) If you wish to use the hotel staff for return shipping after convention, you must have complete shipping labels, sealed and schedule for pick-up. Hotel is not responsible for shipping out or scheduling any pick-ups.

For your convenience the hotel will post our schedule and location on their in-house Daily Events screen. The Displays will run from Friday Morning 9:00am - 5:00pm or later on Friday. We will assign a person to stay until everyone has exited and then the hotel will be instructed to lock the room. Saturday hours are 9am – 4:30pm. However, be prepared to have your tables cleared by 4:30pm so the 6:30pm dinner set-up can begin. Printed schedules are available from Judith upon request at the convention and you can also request that she forward a copy to you in advance.

Note that there is no security guard in the exhibit room on Friday night. Although the room will be locked, if you have concerns about any valuable items, please take them with you before you depart for the evening.

Also, in case of an emergency where you need to re-enter the room after closing, you can contact Judith who can coordinate with hotel staff to open the room. We do not have a personal key. An emergency would include leaving a phone, purse or medication in the room. We cannot authorize opening the display room to retrieve a lighter.

Everyone is urged to bring your special lighters or displays strictly for "Show & Tell", along with the lighters you want to sell or trade. To minimize unnecessary bulk for those not driving, we would respectfully suggest leaving any lighters at home that you would consider common.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are seeking a specific lighter at the convention, please send an ad to your editor Richie Weinstein and he will place it in the May newsletter to alert attendees.

For all OTLS activities casual is the norm. Feel free to wear shorts, jeans, sandals, and bring a bathing suit if you wish to enjoy the outdoor swimming pool. **EXCEPTION:** For the Saturday night dinner, we do request you elevate your attire - - a dress/nice pants suits for the ladies and business casual for the men.

The downside of prioritizing a Northeast location and a better quality hotel has been the increase in convention costs. This year they have more than doubled. We are forced to adjust the registration costs to offset just a portion of the added costs. We count on your generosity in donating lighters to this year's auction and additional monetary donations to reduce our shortfall further. Thank you as always.

The registration fees for the convention will be as follows:

Schedule of Convention Fees

- 1- Registration -- \$140.00 -- includes a table, Saturday dinner/auction and all other attendance privileges.
 - a. Family members and significant others -- \$75.00 each - includes dinner/auction and full Convention admittance.
 - b. Extra tables -- \$50.00 each.
 - c. **Assistants - Friday \$60.00 each / Saturday \$30.00 each.** Add Saturday dinner/auction - \$45.00 ea
- 2- Single-day member-buyer attendance
 - a. Friday -- \$30.00
 - b. Saturday – FREE – if you want dinner/auction -- \$75.00

We hold a fund-raising auction after the Saturday night dinner and we urge all members to attend. This auction helps pay for incidental convention expenses and club projects. Auction items (not always lighters) are contributed by our members or are obtained thru appraisals and other efforts of your Board members. You are NOT required to contribute but all donations are gratefully accepted. We accept donations whether or not you attend the convention. All the auction proceeds benefit **OTLS!** In any event, you will LOVE the auction and our **WORLD FAMOUS AUCTIONEERS!**

***** PLEASE RETURN YOUR REGISTRATION FORMS BY MAY 1, 2017. *****

OVERSEAS & CANADIAN MEMBERS - IF YOU WANT ME TO MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS - PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THE DEADLINES! On the registration form it is **IMPORTANT** to list all names in your party - for name tags, table tags, etc.!

There may be items I have forgotten to cover, but will give you any Convention Updates in the May paper.

PLEASE FILL-IN ALL BLANKS ON THE FORM AND RETURN TO JUDITH SANDERS BY MAIL OR EMAIL.

CLEARLY PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

NAME: (Please list **ALL** names in your party)

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

THERE WILL BE _____ PERSONS (INCLUDING MYSELF) AT THE SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER. MY REGISTRATION FEE OF **\$140.00 PER MEMBER plus \$75 PER GUEST.**

PLEASE LIST THE NAMES OF ANY ASSISTANTS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING:

LIST THE DAY(S) THEY WILL ATTEND. FEES ARE STATED ABOVE FOR ASSISTANTS. PLEASE INCLUDE ANY FEES FOR THEM.

NUMBER OF TABLES NEEDED FOR DISPLAY: _____

(If you are requesting more than 1 table, please send **\$50 PER EACH EXTRA TABLE. TABLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME; FIRST SERVED BASIS. THEY ARE BASED ON SPACE AVAILABILITY. NO GUARANTEES.** If we cannot accommodate your request, any additional table payment will be refunded. _____)

REGISTRATION FEE SHOULD BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2017. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, REQUESTS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT JUDITH.

TOTAL PAYMENT REMITTED: _____

IF YOU ARE AN OVERSEAS OR CANADIAN MEMBER OF OTLS & WANT US TO MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT JUDITH SANDERS AT 505.433.5303 (Mountain Time Zone) OR JudithLQ@comcast.net & FILL OUT THE REMAINDER OF THIS FORM:

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SPACES - ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ACTUAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS & DATES A ROOM IS NEEDED FOR: _____

TYPE ROOM DESIRED: TWO DOUBLE BEDS _____ ONE KING SIZE _____

ANY SPECIAL NEEDS? (Such as non-smoking, wheelchair, etc.)

CREDIT CARD NAME (Master Card, Visa, etc.) & NUMBER & EXP. DATE: (ONLY FOR HOTEL)_____