



On The LIGHTER Side

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WE WILL SUSPEND OUR NORMAL FORMAT TO GIVE YOU THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 22ND ANNUAL CONVENTION.

2008 OTLS GOLF TOURNAMENT

by Guy Nishida

NOW A WORD FROM YOUR EDITOR

By Rich Weinstein

Wish I was there! This was the first convention I have missed since 1989 and what a disappointment for me. Unfortunately medical issues came up and I was advised not to make the trip at this time. The hardest part was telling Judith I was not going to be able to make it. I want to thank all those that pitched in and really helped Judith and the club out. I received hourly updates from Ira, Judith, Robin, Dana and Guy so I sort of felt I was there in some way. A great thank you to Judith for handling this newsletter for me. Keep all the articles coming and anyone with photos of some great lighters shown, bought, traded as welcome for inclusion in upcoming issues. Sharing information is what this club is all about.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2008 CONVENTION

Notes from Judith

Rich Weinstein has asked me to write most of this issue.

So I will start with my arrival in Las Vegas! I actually went on Sunday this year to spend some time with a friend of mine. Bob Greenberg, the Attorney I used to work for, now lives in Vegas. He picked me up at the airport and that was the beginning of a great day. We visited with a friend of his, drove around to see some new Casinos - lost some money! Later that evening he took me to DJT (that is the actual name of a restaurant). The DJT stands for Donald J Trump and is in the new Trump Tower. And what a fabulous dinner - I could go on for hours about that - but on to more convention details.

When I checked in on Monday I found several members already there. Several members came early to have some vacation days and enjoy Las Vegas.

While our numbers were small, the participants to the third annual OTLS Golf Tournament had a marvelous time. Despite his constant moaning and groaning about his poor play, Al Morrison was crowned the champion. Place honors went to Don Berger and Show money (figuratively only) was earned by Guy Nishida.

Tom Jones, the only golfer who began and ended his round with the same golf ball, received the Bogey award (a small golf ball dressed in a trench coat and hat resembling a curiously-looking Humphrey "Bogey" Bogart. As noted at the awards ceremony, the scores that were tallied in Vegas shall remain in Vegas. See you next year.



THE BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting was officially opened on Thursday afternoon by our President, Peggy Sheils. Peggy had done a "makeover" on the gavel converting it to a Zippo Gavel! The actual gavel which we have used to open every convention has a Made in Japan mechanism - but as you might guess Peggy wanted to change that! So for this year - maybe the only year? - we had a Zippo Gavel!!!

After Peggy welcomed everyone and spoke for a while, she introduced our Vice President Tom Jones. Tom also welcomed everyone and also asked that everyone help at the convention. Then he introduced our Secretary, Judith.

The first order of business was to announce that a Board Meeting had been held the day before. John Elster had sent a letter of resignation from the Board. With his children getting older, and his increasing busy schedule, he needed to have more free time. He also stated that he felt changing Board Members was good

Continued on Page 2

THE BUSINESS MEETING - Continued from Page 1

for the future of the club. The Board nominated and unanimously voted in Robin Baumgartner as our newest Board Member. So Welcome to Robin! Also it will be good to have another female on the Board!

I guess I should get the bad news out of the way at this point! Two days before the convention began Nancy Lloyd called me at the hotel to tell me she had a serious fall and tore her entire knee loose. This is an ongoing problem and we hope she is better soon. However, her Doctor said she could not come to Vegas! A few hours later, Richard Weinstein called to tell me he had to cancel due to a blood pressure problem. He is currently working on that and is improving. But he already knew about Nancy, and he knew when he told me he couldn't come either - two of our most important convention workers - that I would not be a happy camper. While I was trying to resolve all this, Guy Nishida came to my room - I promptly burst into tears telling him about Nancy & Richie. He looked down at the floor and said "And now I have to tell you John Cornelius has put Amelia in the hospital and they have canceled. (Amelia ended up having surgery, but is home now and recovering slowly.) Well I have to tell you I was ready to go back to Quitman TX! But as the news started drifting around several people came to my room and said we will help and we will make it through this convention - **SO A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO HELPED SO MUCH DURING THIS CONVENTION - I COULD NOT HAVE MADE IT WITHOUT YOU!**

I announced my first surprise of the convention at the business meeting. I had ordered some LED flashlights with our club logo on them. I paid for these personally and was selling them for a very reasonable price - \$10 each! At the local discount store, a flashlight not as nice as these sells for \$14.99. Anyway after everyone saw how bright the LED light was I sold every one I had with me! These are great for those of you who go to flea markets in the dark! I do have a few left here at home, so if anyone wants one, let me know.

REGISTRATION & THE PARTY

Registration began at 4:30 P.M. First of all, since we were short on people who knew how to handle registration, I asked Beverley Laird (who has done it before) to help and also Sue Nerlich & Deb Eyerkuss. They all jumped right in and handled everything beautifully - THANKS GIRLS!

After the party we had a great auction. A number of items were donated by Zippo Manufacturing, which were auctioned. Also Michael Cassidy, our Head

Auctioneer, auctioned the first of this year's Limited Edition Convention lighters. The first of the 1 of 8, Silver Plate sold for \$125.00.

The auction ended up being a lot of fun! We had some great bidding wars!!

FRIDAY - THE DISPLAYS BEGIN!

Early Friday morning everyone began arriving in the Display Room to set up their tables. It always take a long time to set up because everyone keeps running around the room to see what everyone else is unpacking - and trying to buy a lighter.

Tom Jones volunteered to take care of the sales of the Convention Lighters and in fact volunteered to take over as Convention Lighter Chairman! Thanks Tom! Not only did he sell out of this year's convention lighters, he also sold a lot of the older convention lighters. (I had already pulled out convention lighters for those of you who pre-ordered and as soon as this paper is done, I will mail those to you!)

Friday afternoon we had the Fine Lighters Auction. I will have to give you a report on that in the next issue.

Friday afternoon Larry Tolkin gave a presentation on "100 of My Favorite Lighters". For several years now Larry has taken the time to present a workshop at the conventions. We really appreciate him taking the time to share some of his vast knowledge with us.

Shown here are just a couple of the rare and unusual lighters Larry discussed.



Here is a round Ronson, watch lighter. This is also a Prototype.



A beautiful figural Lion in Sterling. Also a snuffer

SATURDAY - MORE FUN

We had quite a few people from the public come into our show and some of them were lighter collectors. That is always fun. Thanks to Barry Hoffman & his Assistant Roger for all the great publicity.

Late Sat. afternoon Larry Tolkin had his annual Fire Sale. I can't say often enough that this is one of the most fun events of the convention - I ALWAYS get a good lighter from Larry at ROCK BOTTOM PRICES! There is always a crowd around his table for the sale, but of course, I always push my way up to the front!!! I have to have some fringe benefits!

THE MASTIN AWARD

You may recall Lena Mastin set up this award in Memory of her late husband and OTLS Member, Ralf Mastin.

She wanted this award to be for a very unusual or oddball lighter since that was the focus of Ralf's collection.

This is the third year the award has been presented. We were very pleased to have several entries this year (see photo)

After a review of all entries, the Judges submitted their results. The winner of the Award went to Richard Ball, for the very unusual lighter he had. Please see photo below. This lighter ignites a pilot flame using the mechanism. A chain would be attached to both ends of the rocker bar for on and off. It would be connected to the gas main, and the Pilot lighter would ignite a gas lamp which is also part of this mechanism. The lighter was made in 1908 in England. This lighter is now in the personal collection of Guy Nishida.

We were very pleased this year to have Eric Mastin stop by the show. He decided to participate in the judgment for the Award and agreed with the Judges on the winner. We decided to present the Award on Saturday when Eric could be with us.



Eric Mastin announcing to Richard Ball that he was the winner of the Ralf Mastin Awards

SATURDAY NIGHT - DINNER, AUCTION, ETC.

One again the hotel furnished us with a delightful buffet of food and desserts - well they outdid themselves on the desserts! I had three! And I noticed a few others had more than one!

After dinner it was time to announce the winners of the Awards given annually. They are as follows:

THE JOHN CUEVAS - JUDITH SANDERS FOUNDERS AWARD

The Founders' Award has become an acknowledgment of members of OTLS who have contributed to our hobby. This is our way of publicly thanking members for their many contributions to this club. Lighter collecting will only continue and can only exist with help from the many members.

The Board of Directors of OTLS picks a person or persons each year to receive this award based on the following: helping at conventions, contributions to the newsletter, someone who is willing to help new members, someone who has a true interest in our hobby, and someone who is just an all around great person.

One aspect of this award is that we will continue giving it each year until we have acknowledged every person in the club who has helped us grow.

The Board did something a little different this year. First we gave the award to two people. Secondly because one of the winners was not present, we created a small award to send back to the second winner.

The award this year was given to two members who have belonged to this club for many years - and who have helped with all of the above projects and are very deserving of this honor.

It is with great pleasure that I announce the Winners of the OTLS Founders Award this year went to **LINDA MEABON** and **ZIPPO MANUFACTURING COMPANY**. Congratulations to both of these OTLS Members.



Judith presenting Linda Meabon with the Founders' Award.

THE ESTELLE TOLKIN AWARDS

by Larry Tolkin & Judith Sanders

Larry Tolkin asked me to announce the winners of the Estelle Tolkin Awards this year. He had to leave early to catch a plane.

The Judges for this award decided on 3 winners this year, who had either written articles or contributed photos.

The following members were winners this year:

FIRST PLACE	John Cornelius
SECOND PLACE	Guy Nishida
THIRD PLACE	Urban Cummings

The last thing I did before the auction was to present a special lighter to Dana & Robin Baumgartner. Not only was it the 25th Anniversary of OTLS, it was also the Baumgartner's 25th Anniversary - so we presented them with another lighter.



Judith presenting Dana & Robin Baumgartner with a lighter for their 25th Anniversary.

After dinner and the awards were presented, I then introduced our World Famous Head Auctioneer, Michael Cassidy. And the fun began! We had some great auctioneers this year - Michael Cassidy, George Gordon, Ron Eyerkuss, Richard Ball, and one new auctioneer - Jace Meabon. Jace did a great job and we look forward to having him to auction some more in the future. Thanks to "Vanna" (Robin Baumgartner) and all the men who either counted money or helped in some way.

The auction was successful bringing in almost \$5,000.00 to OTLS. So THANKS to all of you who bought items.

SUNDAY

Most of the day was spent telling people good-bye and doing a few last minute trades.

Sunday night we had our usual "Last Supper" with most of the folks still in the hotels. We had a group of Michael Cassidy, Jim & Peggy Walters, Rob Giretta, Barbara Giretta, Richard Ball and I went to a lovely restaurant in the hotel. We had a great dinner!

MANY THANKS TO.....

All of you who jumped in to help after some of our members had to cancel. A particular big THANKS to Nick Rogers and Jace Meabon who worked all weekend helping anywhere they were needed. Thanks to Dana & Robin Baumgartner for staying in the suite Friday night so I could go out to dinner! And of course thanks to George & Nicole Gordon for inviting Linda Meabon and I to the wonderful dinner at Delmonico's. Thanks to Bob & Irma Beyers for allowing us once again to ship boxes to their house. And a big thanks to Sue, Deb, Linda & Jace for going to pick up most of the boxes for us and bringing them to the hotel! And then the next day, thanks to Daniel Brewer who went to Bob's house to get MORE boxes! Thanks to the employees of TEMP AGENCY who worked for us over the weekend.

A special thanks to Guy Nishida and George Gordon, who allowed me to lean on them so much during the convention since Nancy & Richie weren't there. They really came through for me in a big way!

Thanks to Zippo Manufacturing for always allowing Linda Meabon to come to our conventions. And thanks to Linda for all her help.

To Nancy Lloyd for volunteering to be Convention Chairman again. And although she fell and was unable to attend the show, she had been working on items for quite a while and fortunately had already mailed everything to Vegas before she fell. So she did all the copies of the items in your Welcome Bags, sent the work lists, pens, pencils, and a lot of other supplies - thanks Nancy.

And last but not least, please be sure to read the Sponsors List on our website to see all the wonderful members and companies who donated items or money to our convention.

And if I have forgotten anyone could I please just say THANKS to everyone!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD....



Congratulations to Rob Giretta, who after a 12 year hiatus, went back to college and finished his degree. He has just become a graduate of Rutgers University - way to go Rob! Ira Pilosof had knee surgery after the convention and is recovering at home. Judith went on vacation to Albuquerque to see family. After their various problems before the convention, Nancy, Richie & Amelia are all recovering fine now. Our sympathy to Paul Rowan on the loss of his brother, Mike. Several of you met Mike when he came to a couple of conventions. Congratulations to Urban Cummings, who won the drawing at the Zippo Display - we may turn him into a Zippo collector yet!

FOR SALE OR TRADE

**IMPORTANT
TWO MAIL AUCTIONS**
SINCE WE RAN OUT OF TIME AT THE CONVENTION, WE HAD TWO MAJOR DONATIONS WHICH WE DID NOT HAVE TIME TO AUCTION. SO THE BOARD HAS DECIDED TO AUCTION THEM THROUGH OUR PAPER, WHICH WILL ALLOW ALL OF YOU TO SEE THE ITEMS AND BID. YOU CAN BID AS MANY TIMES AS YOU WANT - YOU CAN GIVE ME YOUR HIGH BID AND I WILL KEEP RAISING YOUR BID IF NECESSARY (LIKE EBAY). I WILL NOT BID YOUR TOP PRICE IF IT IS NOT NECESSARY. YOU MAY BID BY EMAIL OR PHONE. ALTHOUGH FOR THE LAST 3 HOURS OF THE AUCTION, I WILL ONLY ACCEPT TELEPHONE BIDS. BOTH AUCTIONS WILL END AT 5:00 P.M. ON AUGUST 16.

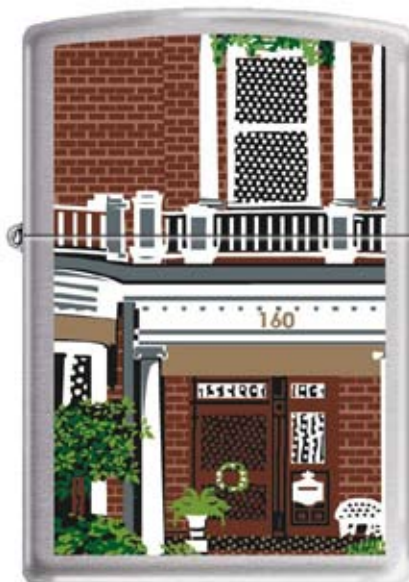
ITEM #ONE
A ONE OF A KIND ROSEART TABLE LIGHTER CREATED FOR OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY BY ROSEART. THIS LIGHTER WAS A LOVELY DONATION TO OUR CLUB. PLEASE NOTE THE LIGHTER IS ENGRAVED ON BOTH LARGER SIDES AND BOTH OF THE SMALLER SIDES. IF THIS PHOTO ISN'T ENOUGH, PLEASE EMAIL ME AND I WILL SEND YOU MORE PHOTOS BY EMAIL.



FOR SALE OR TRADE



ITEM #TWO
"A ZIPPO HERITAGE SERIES" DONATED BY THE STUDIO (JOHN CINELLI & EARLE MILLER). THIS IS THE FIFTH RELEASE IN THE SERIES. THIS IS A LIMITED SERIES, WITH ONLY 1500 SETS. THIS FIFTH RELEASE IS GEORGE G. BLAIDELL'S HOME ON JACKSON AVENUE IN BRADFORD PA, WHICH HE PURCHASED IN THE SUMMER OF 1944 AND OWNED FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS. THE ZIPPO LIGHTER DEPICTS A PORTION OF THE FEATURED STRUCTURE (SEE PHOTO BELOW).



WANTED



**REWARD
\$1,000.00**

FOR THE RECOVERY OF, AND INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST/CONVICTION OF THOSE WHO STOLE OR POSSESS OUR CIGAR LIGHTER. THE BURGLARY OCCURRED IN APRIL 2008 FROM OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO STATE HISTORIC PARK. CONTACT CA. STATE PARKS OFFICER OLSON AT (619)572-3992, CASE #289010120. THIS LIGHTER BELONGS TO OTLS MEMBER GEOFF MOGILNER.



I am interested in buying Canadian Pat Pending Zippos. Also I have acquired a collection of Barcrofts and will have to sell some of them. Hen Gilinov (818)335-8267 or email hengilinov@gmail.com (see New Member list)

I can repair Zippo Cam Springs. Also repair Trench Art lighters. Email pyrotjp@velocity.net or write to Tom Prylinski

The Lighters...



Judith got this cute pair of ducks from Bob Rogers - the one on the right is the girl and the one on the left is the boy. So you say how do I know? the one on the left is green and the one on the right is pink!



This was a great find for Dana and Robin - they have the matching Zippo rule! The lighter was done to celebrate the opening of the new baseball stadium located in Columbus, Ohio. See photo of the front and the back.

Richie Weinstein was high bidder by proxy on this beauty. This is a replica of a 1937 Zippo lighter engraved on the side "No. 184" and, on the back, "1903-2003 Gulf Centennial Celebration." This was donated to OTLS by Takashi & Kiyoko Fujii.



Judith also got this not only a cute Mini Lighter, it is also on a pin so you can wear it on your shirt. This was a gift from Al Grosskopf - thanks Al!



Judith, Here is a photo of the Eterna Lighter I got in Vegas from Bob Rogers. It is in excellent condition. Vince Brascia.



Guy Nishida got this one from Richard via Daniel Brewer. it has a push button that release the snuffer cap. Also engraved to Captain Webber

1941 - 1944 on the inside of the little compartment underneath the hinged door. All around the edge on both sides are hand engraved images of tanks, planes, soldiers, buildings, boats, bombs, and more. unlike most trench, the flint wheel assembly does not pull out. it is reflinted

and refueled by removing screws on the bottom.

Larry Tolkin sent photos of these two beautiful Sterling Lancel lighters he acquired at the convention!



On The LIGHTER Side
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