

ON THE LIGHTER Side

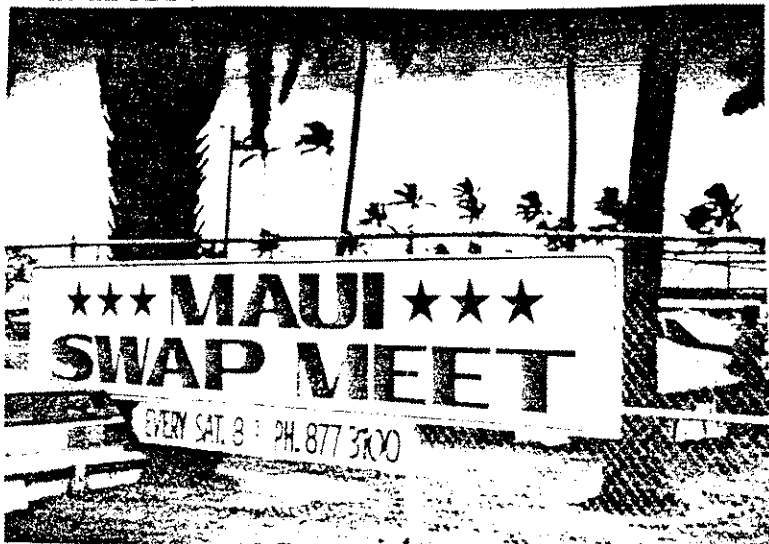
March 15, 1986

Vol. III, No. 3

ETC., Etc., etc.

The format for this month's paper is going to be a little different. Since our last paper came out, your Editor has been very busy! So I'm going to take advantage of my position (in that I'm the one writing the paper) and share my experiences and pictures with you - - I promise next month to be more serious and get back with the regular program.

My trip to Maui was WONDERFUL!! It was very difficult to come back to reality. Besides the usual "tourist" things - - I went to the Maui Swap Meet (see picture below) --- placed an ad in the local paper about OTLS and have already had one response - - hope he joins our club! Didn't find any lighters at the Maui Swap Meet, but one Dealer has a friend who is a lighter collector so, of course, I gave him our address.



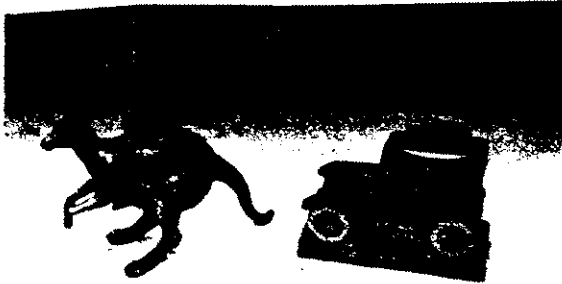
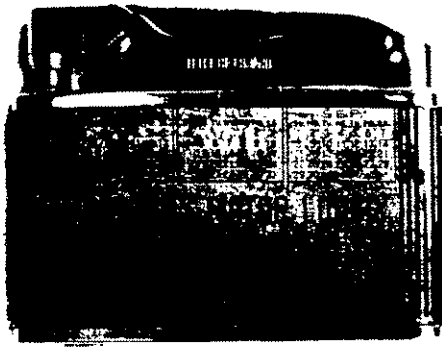
The last day of our trip we went to Honolulu to shop at the International Market - - I was determined to find at least one lighter on my trip! At this Market I bought two (see pictures) which are "new", but I didn't have either one in my collection. The "Foot and Soccer Ball" is silver colored and the

airplane (Lockheed SR-71) is gold colored. I believe these 2 are from the Japanese series that came out about 3 years ago - - feel free to correct me if I'm wrong?



Two days after coming home I had to re-pack and go to Chicago on business - - what a change in weather! The best part of that trip was going to the "Tri-State Flea Market" in Alsip, Ill. (see picture below) I had heard about this one from some of the OTLS members - - believe several members have been there - - nice BIG place. I bought 4 lighters as you can see in the pictures. The prices at this Flea Market are considerably better than the Texas flea markets! I paid \$9.50 for the kangaroo, car, "pen" and pocket lighter - in Dallas the Dangaroo alone would have been about \$15.00.



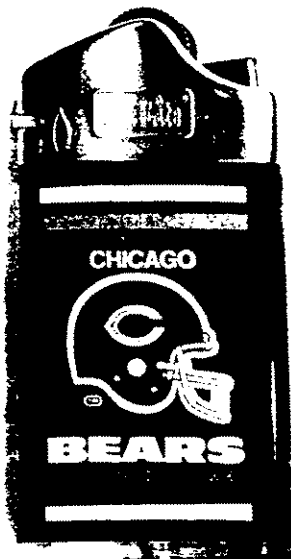


Back to the Hawaii trip, there were 2 other lighters I bought just because I can't resist being a "tourist". You can see pictured on the left one the map of Maui with a "star" where the Maui Plantation is. This plantation grows sugar cane, pineapples (they grow on bushes - not trees) and papaya - - also have a little train to take you on a tour.



A little about the above lighters - the kangaroo is silver metal - looks like Occupied Japan, but isn't marked that way. The 1913 Chevrolet is black, w/red trim ceramic or glass and has "1964 by Amico - Japan" on the bottom. The black and gold "pen" is new - butane. The small pocket lighter caught my eye with the 1957 calendar. Also I was told that the Weller's Motor Lodge is somewhere in Ill. - does anyone know where?

And, of course, I couldn't go to Chicago without bringing home the lighter pictured below!! (Even if it is a disposable I'm sure Jim Gartner will be happy about this one!)



Hope you have enjoyed my travel notes - - I just hope I can go back soon!

Enclosed is a new Membership Roster - Welcome to our new members! If any of you wanted your phone number on the Roster and it isn't there, please advise your Editor.

The following members have not paid their dues for 1986: Aho, Blackford, Calkins, Colbert, Comins, Dektor, Fisher (\$5), Flowers, Gee, Johnson, Klarman, Loplowitz, Koznecki, Kramer, Kyosa, Ledbetter, Markham, McCord, McNear, Page, Pelliccia Pfeiffer, Rotman, Ruffles, Sanders (C), Turini, Valerio (\$5), Wayne (\$5), Wolf. Please let me know if you wish to continue your membership. If I have made any errors in this list and you have paid, I apologize in advance - just let me know!

More later.....

Judith

Herman Keith sent in the following article, which appeared in the 1/22/86 Dayton Daily News.

Hobby lights Dayton man's way to rehabilitation

By Kevin Luebben
DAILY NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Jan. 22 - 1986 Dayton Daily News

NEIGHBORS

Herman H. Keith could probably light up with a different lighter every day for the next five years — even if he never buys another one.

Since the 1960s, Keith has collected lighters. He has 1,500 to 2,000 of them and he says every one works.

Keith does not use his lighters to ignite tax forms or overdue bills. He collects them, fixes them when they no longer flick, polishes them and gives them away to friends.

Some of Keith's lighters resemble old-fashioned ticker-tape machines, army helmets, candles, automobiles (one's a green Porsche), eggs, hand grenades, donkeys, angels, kettles, ocean liners, shotguns, footballs, poodles and princesses.

There are others in the shapes of Christmas trees, eagles, Aladdin lamps, horse heads and spaceships.

In the basement of Keith's Dayton home are more lighters. Here, they are scattered, old and new, over his workbench, piled inside cardboard boxes or encased in plastic Zippo Lighter display cases.

One of the display cases proclaims the 50th anniversary of Zippo Manufacturing Co. whose lighters, claims Keith, are, "the best in the world." Keith's collection contains a 1932 Zippo, "One of the first Zippos ever made," Keith said.

One of Keith's lighters dates back to the early 1900s. Others are jeweled, and some have clock faces. Another is a tape measure and still another, a letter opener.

Keith owns several oversized lighters. One measures 7 by 3½

inches. One of his miniatures is an inch long and a half-inch wide. And they all work.

Keith says he finds the lighters at flea markets and garage sales.

A former coin collector, Keith has forsaken that hobby because lighters are "the only thing I can afford to collect."

Keith's collection was only a sort of trivial pursuit until 1982, when a cardiac arrest left him "clinically" dead for a brief time.

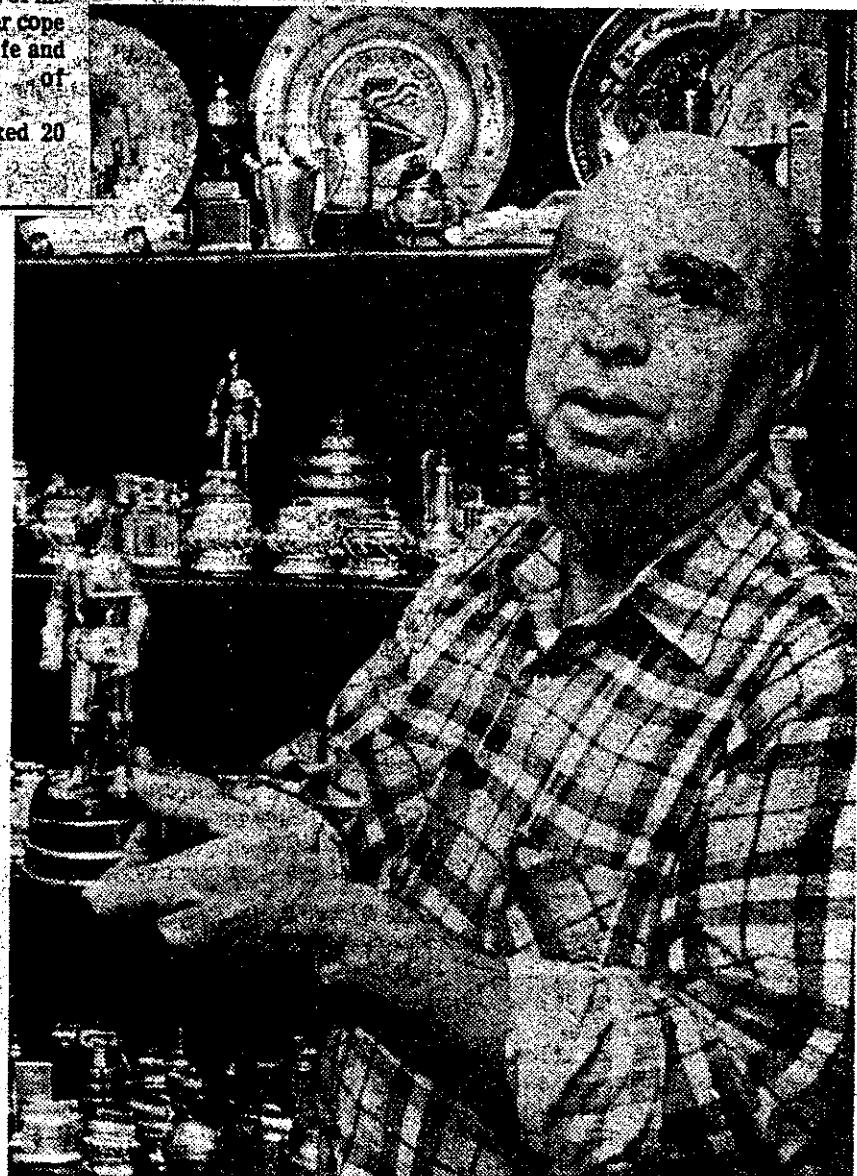
Paramedics were able to restore his life and since then, Keith has been using his lighters in a rehabilitative, self-therapy process.

Keith says he started working on his lighters, replacing consumed and jammed wicks and making sure they shined brightly enough to win his admiration.

His work with the lighters, Keith said, helps him eliminate some of his boredom, enables him to better cope with the 1979 death of his wife and gives him a sense of accomplishment.

"One day," he says, "I fixed 20 lighters in a few hours."

One day, I fixed 20 lighters in a few hours.

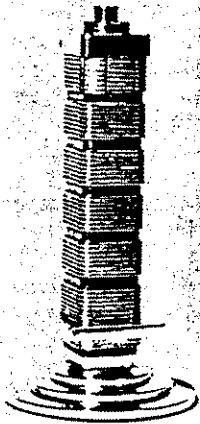


BILL SHEPHERD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Herman Keith with some of his lighter collection

For Sale or Trade

Herman Keith is interested in selling his lighters "if the price is right". He wants to sell it in its entirety and does not want to break it up. He is working on an inventory now. If you are interested in making an offer, contact him direct. NOTE: If anyone is interested in trying to make an offer jointly with your Editor and splitting the collection please let me know. I don't know if it is possible to "split" but it's a thought!



Johnson's Wax Research Tower, Racine, Wisconsin - Lighter. 2-3/4" circular base. 1" sq. tower, 5-5/8" tall. Chrome-plated. Recessed areas are rusty-orange. Probably made in 1949 or 1950 for tower's opening. Frank Lloyd Wright designed the tower which was built in 1949. It features

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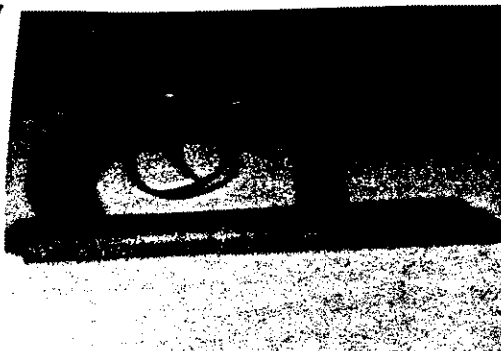
a smooth, curved exterior of brick and glass. \$15, plus \$2 postage. Thomas J. Brown, 3166 Ridge Ct., Placerville, Ca. 95667

Interesting ads for lighters from 40's & 50's. Also ads for other products. Let me know your interests. Good variety of ads. J. W. Kramer

Dallas Dealer would like to sell a Ronson "Banjo" lighter in original box. He wants \$200 for it. If interested, contact OTLS Office for more information.

I have 30 Ronson wired wicks. I will sell them for \$2.00 ea. You can make 2 wicks out of one. Send self-addressed envelope with \$2 and I will send wicks. Sidney Chase.

Actual size of pistol lighter is 8" long. Silver & black mounted on walnut base. \$5 plus postage. Judith Sanders



Wanted to Buy or Trade

Wanted: Any ceramic lighter that is marked "Made In Occupied Japan". Will buy or trade. Bob Gee

Want Dunhill lighters with watches in them. John Cuevas

Will trade cigarette lighters for old fountain pens. John Cuevas

Ronson "Bartender" lighter --will pay good price! Judith Sanders

Want to buy lighters for a reasonable price. Send picture & price and I'll respond soon after. Joe Fink

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Printed Once A Month
For Lighter Collectors

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Robt. W. Gee, Sr. Vice Pres.
Judith Sanders Sec/Treas.
Judith Sanders Editor

Ads in this paper are free for members. There is a \$1 charge for ads placed by non-members. Please send ads in printed or type-written form. For information, write or call:

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