

ON THE LIGHTER Side

May 15, 1990

Vol. VII, No. 3

ETC., Etc., etc.

Zippo reports the convention lighters will be shipped May 30 - so you will either get your '90 lighter at the convention if you are there, or if not, I will mail it to you after the convention. I still need more orders for the 1990 Convention Lighter - If you have not ordered a '90 lighter, please do so now. \$12 per lighter, which includes lighter, padded envelope for mailing & postage. PLEASE GIVE ME SOME HELP WITH THIS PROJECT - I MUST SELL THEM SO I DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR THEM PERSONALLY! Zippo just sent me the sample this week and this year's lighter is BEAUTIFUL - 1 side is Aladdin logo & photo of hotel - other side is 'On The LIGHTER Side' and date of convention. Even if you don't collect Zippos, this is worth buying -- and you will make your Editor HAPPY!!!

Our good friend John Cuevas has been very ill - he is improving each day but will be recovering for a while - please write or send cards - we need to let John know we are thinking of him.

The 'Spotlight' section has been left out this month - your Editor has too much to say!

With all the mail coming in to the OTLS Office, there are frequently ideas, comments, photos, etc. which would be of interest to all members. Beginning with this issue we will share some of these ideas & comments as often as possible. This section will be "From the Pen of..."

WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS! Please note we have another from England - Welcome Richard!

One small request - when other OTLS members write to you - PLEASE try to answer - even if you don't want to trade, at least acknowledge your correspondence. You may say I don't have the right to ask this, since I'm always behind - but I get TONS of mail and you might get a few letters a year - anyway please try!

CONVENTION THIS 'N THAT...

EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE CONVENTION - PLEASE READ THIS!

After mailing the March paper, I had a phone call from Warren Boyd. He isn't going to the convention, but still wants some 'new' Zippo lighters from the Zippo booth. I realized then there may be others of you with the same idea. If you are not going to the convention and want some Zippo, Ronson or Win lighters I would be glad to buy them for you if you will let me know what you want. Since we are running out of time, a phone call might be best.

MOST EXCITING! OTLS has received a letter from Ad van Weert of the LIGHTER MUSEUM HOLLAND. Ad van Weert is the Chairman of the foundation which has established a lighter museum in Holland. I am very pleased to report he is coming to Las Vegas for the convention. Not only is he going to 'display' lighters, he will bring over 100 European lighters to trade for American made lighters. So start digging through your duplicates! Hopefully your Editor can interview Mr. van Weert for a future article in OTLS.

If any OTLS Member decides at the last minute to go to the convention, please call me. It is possible to make a few more reservations if I have a few days notice.

Regarding the "book" OTLS is working on - we can't write a book without information. Could some of you please bring information to the convention or send it to the OTLS Office, for addition to the book. We are in particular need of information on some of the smaller companies, such as Kem Co., Elgin American, Everflow, Negbaur, etc.

As you will read on page 6, Urban and Lynn are jointly writing a book on Ronson. They also have agreed to write the Ronson portion of the OTLS book, as well as mentioning our club in their book. If you have any old Ronson material please help them and/or OTLS with this.

FROM THE PEN OF...

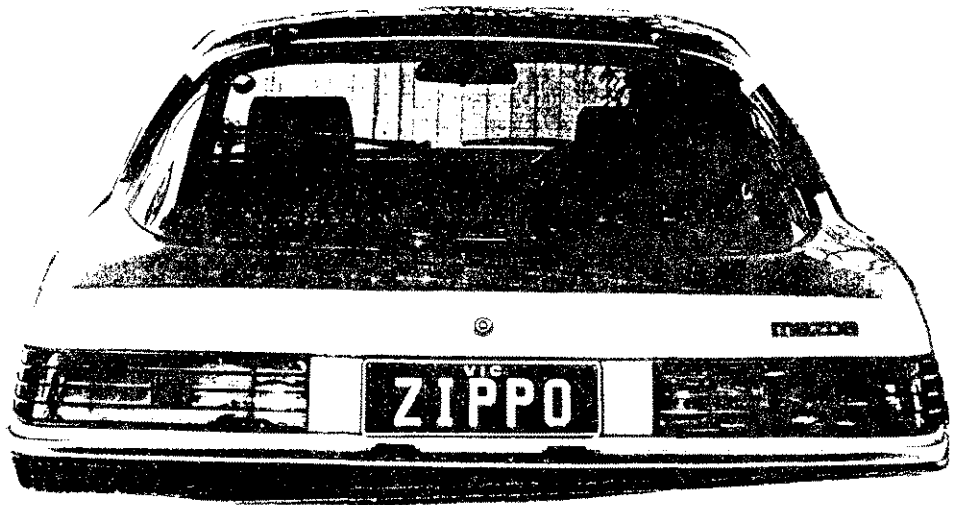
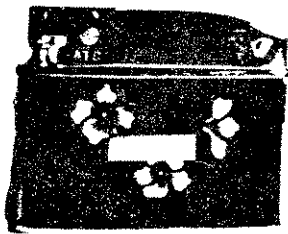
...Guy Nishida

If you have been using WD40 on your lighters, there is a product better suited. The WD40 contains vegetable oils which will break down & hurt your lighter mechanisms. The product I have discovered is called "Archer Precision Lubricator (with Teflon). It comes in a syringe shaped applicator (easier to work with also) and can be purchased at any "Radio Shack" store.

...Jeff Haas

After reading Vol. VII, No. 1 about the b-d FISHER lighters, I found a lighter that looks exactly the same as the picture shown in that issue. However, the lighter I found is an A.T.C. Strange, isn't it!

(see photo below of Jeff's newest lighter and compare with your January issue.)



"REMINDERINGS..."

- ▣ Next paper will be 7/15/90 - send next ads by 7/5/90.
- ▣ Help your Editor by ordering a 1990 Convention Lighter (Zippo)!
- ▣ Back issues of OTLS papers available - see page 7.
- ▣ For last minute reservations to 1990 convention, call Judith.

PUZZLE OF THE MONTH

What OTLS Member has just bought the new license plate shown below?



(answer will be in July issue)

[COLLECTORS' CORNER]

THE FORGOTTEN ZIPPOS

by John Grawe

Looking through some of the pictures I took while touring the Zippo plant during the 1988 OTLS Convention, I noticed some unusual variations of the Marque not yet in my collection. After further examination of the photographs, I decided these were all "Must Have" items. But where would I find them? The lighters I am referring to are the "Forgotten Ones", the framed case of the abused, bruised, neglected and some unrecognizable. How interesting the ways in which they had met their fate. Twenty-seven of the finest examples of death and destruction, with a list of epitaphs from garbage disposals to taxiing airplanes. Looking over the list I decided I would probably not find too many of these at Flea Markets or Antique Shows. So---, the next best thing would be reproductions. I started with the one flattened by the Railroad train. Just so happens I have access to a train twice a week down at work. After a couple of weeks of missing the train, and mysterious inquiries as to when it would come in next, the day finally arrived that I would be in the right place at the right time. I was sitting around shooting the breeze, when one of the guys came in and told me that the train had pulled out the hopper cars and would be back in 15 minutes. A couple of the guys cornered me and asked what I was up to. I told them they would have to come see. So out we went in the 100 plus degree heat and waited. 15 minutes turned into an hour, but I remained cool and calm. Finally the train was coming back. So I pulled out my shiny regular size mint condition Zippo and placed it on to the track. They all looked at me dumb founded and asked "WHY?". I said, "just wait--you'll see." The train slowly inched its way down the track toward the lighter, and then the

the first wheel hit and then the second, until two of the cars passed over and it was jarred off the track. After the train had passed, I searched around and found it laying on the inside of the rails by the ties. I picked it up, held it to their faces and said, "Instant Slim line." I slid it into my pocket saying, "See more compact and no panty line bulge," then walked off. Yes it was flatter than a pancake and best of all matched the one in the picture perfectly.

One example was missing from the group, a Zippo that was shot to death. So--, further experimentation was necessary. Back at home I decided to see how well this kind of lighter would stand up to a 9mm bullet. I got my gun and a handful of Zippos and went out to the backyard. I placed one regular size up against a back stop and moved back about 30 feet. I took aim at the body of the lighter and squeezed off a round. Upon inspection I saw that the bullet had passed completely through. You probably could stick a cork in each side and still use the lighter. I knew I could do better, so I took another lighter and popped two rounds in it. It was a little more impressive but still not right. The third lighter, I decided to aim a little higher this time, just about where the upper and lower case meet. Squeezed off another shot. "Ah yes" perfection, totally unuseable and one rare collectable.

Its been kind of fun destroying these Zippos and I am looking forward to recreating the rest in the picture. If anyone has some different ideas, drop me a line or send my your Zippo and I will be glad to waste it!

(Following on the next page is a photo I took of the display in the lobby of Zippo of the "Forgotten Ones". JKG)



Garbage Disposal



Dump Truck Bed



Pellet Mill



R.R. Train



Weed Cutter



House Fire



Silage Chopper



Ball & Socket Truck Crane



Sledge Hammer



Cocker Spaniel



License Plate Press



Earth Mower



Ocean Salt Water



Commercial Dish Washer



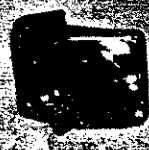
Taxiing Airplane



Power Mower



Box Train Shredder



Grease Filter



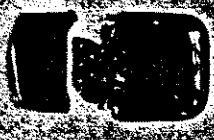
Logging Truck Road Roller



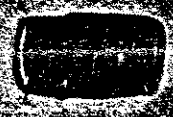
Grinding Machine



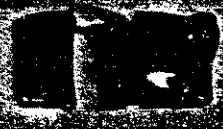
Power Mower



Bull Dozer



Truck



Truck Press

[COLLECTORS' CORNER]

CIGARETTE LIGHTERS IN WARTIME

by Peter Cavanagh

The old adage "Necessity is the mother of invention" certainly applied when troops in the Great War of 1914-1918, not having access to the recent innovation of the pocket lighter, made their own.

They simply took the newly invented flint wheel together with a flint tube and built a lighter around it, using anything they could lay their hands on. Shell cases, belt buckles, any old piece of brass was actively fashioned into a lighter which could be used regularly in the trenches.

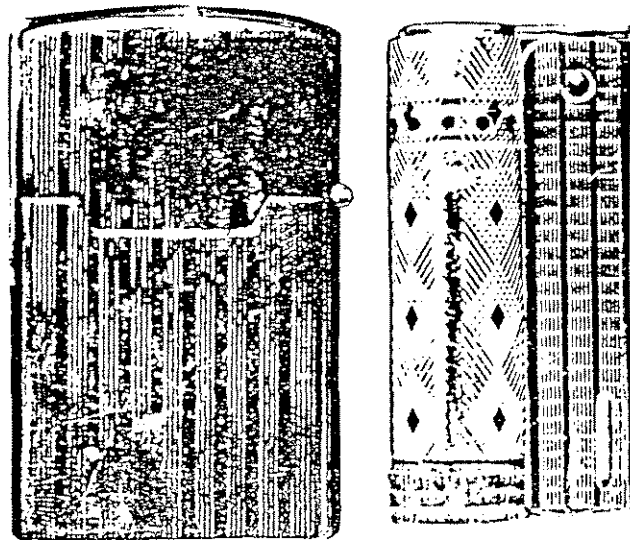
This use of cigarette lighters in wartime has also been documented in World War II.

The famous Zippo Windproof lighter, besides being put to its original use was found to be handy as a type of primus stove for heating meals, an easy means of signalling in the dark, for 'cutting' rope, even at times unwittingly deflecting bullets. In at least one incident (surely others) helping to land a disabled plane by illuminating the darkened instrument panel.

U.S. servicemen would have found many other uses thru-out the 1950s in the Korean conflict.

One use cigarette lighters came in for in the 1960s was pointed out to me recently when an acquaintance photo-copied a military-type handbook from the Vietnam war which illustrates the rather fiendish use of locally made lighters against U.S. and allied forces.

Following is a reduced copy of the article showing the way they were used.



CIGARETTE LIGHTER ASSASSINATION DEVICE

This device has the outward appearance of a common lighter sold commercially in the Republic of Vietnam. The explosive device is located in the fluid compartment and is composed of a detonator and explosive charge. The detonator is cotton saturated with flammable powders and is placed on the same level as the flint. The explosive is below it in the fluid compartment.

FUNCTIONING. The device is detonated when the flint is struck, causing the detonator to ignite and set off the explosive charge.

DISARMING. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISARM THIS DEVICE. Destroy it in place or notify explosive ordnance disposal personnel.

CRAZZZY CONVENTION CLASSIFIEDS

(Editor's Note: Sevral OTLS Members have called, asking what type duplicates other members would be wanting. Other Members were calling telling me what they wanted - so this month only 'Convention Wants' will be published, so other members will know what to bring. HOWEVER, other members should read these ads for future reference - and for the Dunhill ad)

WANTED

Urban Cummings & Lynn Baker have been to Ronson Co. (N.J.) and received permission to write a book on Ronson. They are coming to Las Vegas with pictures of everything they have seen so far and would like everyone's help in locating any they don't have for the purpose of taking photos for the book. Also Urban would like to buy or trade for Ronsons at the convention - will bring LOTS of lighters for trading.

I collect miniature (lever type) lighters. Many of these came from Gumball machines. I will buy all! Please bring any of this type to the convention to sell. David Poore (see new member section) (see photo below.



FOR YOU COMING TO A CONVENTION FOR THE FIRST TIME - EVEN IF YOU ONLY COLLECT ONE TYPE, SUCH AS ZIPPOS, YOU SHOULD TRY TO BUY OTHER TYPES FOR TRADING AT THE CONVENTION!

Looking for Thorens lighters & parts - please bring to the convention. Al Grosskopf
Another Zippo collector looking for new or mint Zippos to add to collection at convention - Wally Laird

New Member wants to trade Zippos & other of my duplicates for the following Zippos: Footballs Teams, American Flag, Leather wrapped, Alligator wrapped and other old Zippos. Terry Cairo (See new Member List

Looking for old Trench Art & WWI lighters - also old, unusual mechanisms. John Grawe

Wanted unusual Ronson lighters - if you don't want to trade I want a photo of them anyway! Also any names of American made lighters.

Judith Sanders
ATTENTION CONVENTIONEERS! Have over 500 Zippo, Dunhill, Evans, Occupied Japan, Novelty & Logo lighters. I want to trade for Ronsons at the convention. Need toknow your wants & what you have. Also will buy Ronsons & literature or trade through the mail. Lynn D. Baker

I will be at the Convention - will bring all Zippos! Peter Cavanagh

Wanted - lots of novelty type lighters - especially 'KOOL' penquin. Bringing lots of trading material. Judith Sanders

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

1. Richard Ball
30 Heathfield Rd.,Croydon
Surrey, CROLEU
ENGLAND
2. William J. Koppany
5618 Sunlight Place
Los Angeles, CA
90016-5031
3. David Poore
306 E. 9th
Cozad, NE 69130
308/784-3184
4. Terry Cairo
105 W. Natoma
Addison,IL 60101
5. Les Druyan
P. O. Box 1270
Long Island City, NY
11101
6. Howard H. Osborn
10837 N. Pinto Dr.
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
7. Frank L. Watts
403 S. Edgemont Cir.
Huntsville, AL 35811
8. Robert Hefley
8926 E. 58th
Tulsa, OK 74145
9. William C. Weage
1945 Stoner
Los Angeles, CA 90025
10. J. Arthur Cox
465 Interstate Pkwy
Bradford, PA 16701

FOR SALE ONLY

At the convention there will be two 14 K. Dunhill lighters for sale at \$250 each. If anyone who isn't going to the convention is interested in these, please advise your Editor. These lighters belong to an Antique Dealer in Dallas, who wants to sell them.

For Sale or Trade

Two Dunhill Tinder Pistol lighters for trade. One U.S. made, the other only marked Dunhill on bottom of trigger guard. Want to trade 1 or both for rare old Ronson touchtip or strikers. Urban Cummings

Six Zippo Table Lighters MINT (& work) \$35 ea. (Barcroft Model). One Parker Table Lighter w/original box MINT \$50. Sid Chase

I have many 50's, 60's advertising lighters & misc. duplicates. Will trade for 20's, 30's, 40's pocket lighters. I like lighters that show use, but still work. Contact Mike Holm

Wanted to Buy or Trade

New Collector & Appreciator would like to buy some representative Zippos of earlier eras. Not the best or worst of shapes, but good examples of all Zippo styles (seems to be a good place to start?!) Michael Kolb

WANT Ticker tape lighter, Steam Roller Lighter, Motor Scooter Lighter & Morse Code Lighter. Colin Day

See ad on Page 6 - also want to buy or trade the miniature lighters with other OTLS members. David Poore

Want to trade for War Ship Zippos - do you have any of these (shown below) type to swap or sell - PLEASE! Travor Orr

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Wanted: Any very different, rare or old lighters, both in shape or in structure. The larger the better. Write & describe or photo. Chin Hsu
WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE! Zippos & Dunhills. Will trade from my 1200 pocket lighters. Write to me 'Down Under'. Peter Cavanagh

Wanted: Thorens lighters & parts, especially Standard Original model. Al Grosskopf

Wanted: Imco Pocket Lighter, Model 2200. Also interested in other old Imcos. Greg Smith

Pocket or Table Watch lighters wanted. Bob Stowe
Interested in locating an extra "Kool" penguin lighter. Judith Sanders
Willing to buy entire, quality collections, John Cuevas

BACK ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTERS MAY BE PURCHASED FOR \$1.00 EACH (INCLUDES POSTAGE). ISSUES INCLUDE AS FOLLOWS: 1984 - 10; 1985 - 12; 1986 - 12; 1987 - 12; 1988 - 11; 1989 - 6.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS & OTHER CHANGES!

1. Add Dot Turini to your Membership Roster (Leo's wife!). She has always collected lighters, but just now became an "Official OTLS Person"
2. Kevin Kelley
9400 Norwalk Blvd.
Santa Fe Springs, CA
90670-2928
(Marked "Personal")
3. Phil Alexander
331 Stonehedge Ct. #A
Indianapolis, IN 46227
4. John Grawe has a new AREA CODE - it is now 708



OTLS IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW ADS! DIG OUT YOUR DUPLICATES!

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE
International Cigarette
Lighter Collectors

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Lynn Baker	V.Pres.
Judith Sanders	Sec./Treas
	Editor
Jay Meddaugh	Historian

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