

On The LIGHTER Side

July 15, 1984

Newsletter No. 5

ETC., Etc., etc.

Just a few words on a subject that isn't necessarily exciting, but might be enlightening - INSURANCE. The local Antique Flea Market News did an article I wrote on the front page of their paper with my address and phone number. It occurred to me after this that I should have some insurance for my collection - in addition to my regular homeowners' insurance. Sounds easy? Wrong!

After discussing this subject with various insurance agents I have accumulated the following: Most insurance companies now have a whole new area for "Collectibles" since there are so many collectors in different areas. One of the first requirements they ask for is an appraisal - - now begins the problem. Who can or will make an appraisal on a lighter collection? Most of your Certified Appraisers are not knowledgeable enough about a lighter collection to do an appraisal. (My own appraisal of my collection might be a little biased!)

In the alternative, one agent told me they might accept my catalogue that I keep on my collection. So if you haven't been keeping records on your collection maybe you would like to consider it. He said a catalogue should include a brief description of each lighter, date purchased and amount paid for it (or if it was a trade or gift). If he would see my catalogue at present he would probably have a nervous breakdown---pages and pages of my own shorthand about all my lighters---guess I better start typing!

Another possibility suggested was to also have pictures of your lighters.

Anyway these are the facts I have gathered and if you are in the market for insurance this might give you an idea where to start.

More later.....

Judith

IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

In January of this year I saw an ad in the Collectors News asking for Dunhill Lighters----subsequent letter and telephone calls between the author of this ad and myself inspired me to start our club. I'm pleased to share with you all a few words about this man - - JOHN CUEVAS.

According to John, he is retired. And it is probably a good thing because with his various collections; going to Flea Markets and auctions; having interest in reading, yachting, deep sea fishing and race cars; along with a busy social schedule I don't think he has time to work!

Although John's major interest with his lighter collection is Dunhill lighters, he tells me he also collects the older, more exotic Ronson lighters. His oldest working, mint condition, lighter is the Ronson "Banjo", which he thinks came out around 1929. Another of his more unusual lighters is a walking cane with a Dunhill lighter built in it (I wonder if it looks like the cane lighter in the June issue?). He also has some of the Ronson Touch tip lighters. Right now he is looking for some Dunhill watch lighters to buy - - anyone have one for sale?

His other collections include old fountain pens and Rolex watches. If anyone runs into any of these items John might be persuaded to do some trading for one of his duplicate lighters?

His final comment to me, in our conversation, was that he thinks our Club will be the greatest thing that happened for our hobby - - needless to say your Editor liked that comment!

COLLECTORS' CORNER

It's always good to hear about another cigarette lighter collector, but I find it especially interesting to hear about a well known personage being a lighter collector. I have recently received information about Fred Waring and his lighter collection which I will share with you.

Fred Waring and his "Pennsylvanians" have been for many years one of the great "Big Bands" and choral groups, having recorded over 2,000 songs. Mr. Waring traveled all over the world giving concerts to thousands. I once had an opportunity to meet him, when he and his orchestra and choral group came to Tulsa, Oklahoma to do a show - - but I didn't know then he was a lighter collector.

Following are excerpts from an article he wrote, which appeared in Hobbies, the Magazine for Collectors. I have only printed the paragraphs pertaining to lighters, however, I can send reprints of the whole article if anyone wants it.

COLLECTING: CIGARETTE LIGHTERS TO TOY ORCHESTRAS

by

FRED WARING

There are many kinds of collecting, but the kind I find most difficult is collecting my wits! I have no trouble whatsoever in assembling some nice collections of such things as toy orchestras, cigarette lighters (although I don't smoke) and phonograph records, not to speak of a small collection of watches.

I have shopped everywhere for cigarette lighters in an effort to see how many kinds are made. After exploring shops in large towns and small towns, in this country and abroad, I have found, oddly enough, that the cheapest were the most dependable. They come in a thousand peculiar shapes and designs, from cane heads to revolvers. There are all sizes, too. The smallest I have is about one-half inch long and as big around as a small pencil. It isn't filled with fluid but is a kind of container for an everlasting match which you strike against its own flint and which never fails. It cost only \$4.00 and came from Paris. The largest I ever purchased was a lighter which was part of a marvelously carved alabaster piece that was a combination of cigarette box, tray and lighter. It cost five thousand francs, or about \$200.00 at the time. But the ones I liked best were a pair of little lighters made especially for me with my initials enameled in silver. And of all the collection, these had to be stolen shortly after my return to the United States!

(This information was contributed by James Gartner. Mr. Gartner is also a cigarette lighter collector.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale or Trade

Aurora "45" pistol, 4" long, also flashlight. \$3 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

Luden's Cough Drops/5th Ave. Candy Ads - Scripto Vu-lighters. \$5 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

(Japan) Old flintlock pistol (replica), silver & black w/wood stand. \$20 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

Continental (old shape) with Lucky Strike ad. \$3 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

Pepsi-Cola. \$10 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)



Storm King with Dallas Cowboy Super Bowl VI World Champions. \$7 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

"Penguin" (old shape) Winston ad in original box. \$3 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Dunhill lighters. John Cuevas. (Member)

Lighters with following State names or emblems: Ala., Ct., Del., Ga., Ida., Mass., Ky., Wyo., Va., R.I. Judith Sanders (Member)

Authentic flint & steel flintlock tinderboxes & other pre-lighter fire-making devices. Warren Gerber (Member)

Occupied Japan lighters. Judith Sanders (Member)

Musical lighters. Warren Gerber (Member)

Novelty type lighters. Judith Sanders (Member)

1910-1930's round, brass/copper, similar in size/shape to man's hunter case pocket watch, French, German, English, flint post pulls out, hole/fitting for wick, WWI scenes or leaders or coins NOT Japanese-made "Belgium or French" coins, Warren Gerber (Member)

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Will pay \$25 and up for "Ceramic Occupied Japan" cigarette lighters. Send complete description. Bob Gee (Member)

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Printed Once a Month
for Collectors

Judith Sanders
Editor

All ads appearing in this section need to be received in this office by the 10th of the month in which you want the ad to appear. If you wish an ad for more than 1 month, please specify. Ads are free for members. There will be a \$1.00 charge for ads placed by non-members. Please send ads in type-written form. For information, write or call:

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