

On The LIGHTER Side

November 15, 1984

Newsletter No. 9

ETC., Etc., etc.

In the early stages of this club I told some of you I would give you an accounting of our club account from time to time. The money for On The Lighter Side is in a savings account at Heritage Savings, bearing interest at the rate of 5 1/4%. There isn't a sufficient amount of money for any type of account bearing more interest at this point.

Up until now my expenses have been low due to the fact one of the attorneys I do work for has let me use his postage meter and some of the xerox. However, I believe this will not go on indefinitely. Even if I have to pay all postage and xerox for the monthly newsletters I feel the present yearly dues are sufficient to cover that expense.

Other than paying newsletter expenses, I would like to continue to accumulate money in this account to use in the event we undertake some big project.

Deposits	\$170.00
Int. 3/84	.07
Int. 6/84	1.26
Int. 9/84	1.59
Total	<u>\$172.92</u>

Less Expenses (xerox, etc.)	20.60
Balance in Acct.	<u>\$152.32</u>

In January I'm going to look into the possibility of the club being a non-profit organization. Any questions or comments, please let me know.

You will note I have left the Collectors' Corner out this month. Too much news for this issue - - will put it back next month.

I think I have my house sold and if so, will be moving in the next 2 weeks. I will advise all of you my new address immediately. Does anyone want to come help pack lighters?

More later..... *Judith*

IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

6 IN ROTMAN FAMILY ALL ARE COLLECTORS

Richard Rotman of University Hts., a Cleveland suburb, one of the OTLS newcomers, can claim one of the largest collections among club members.

He believes he started on his lighter hunt when, in 1956 at the age of 18, he was given a small A.S.R. (American Safety Razor) lighter which he liked but lost when a horse threw him. He contends that he has been looking for a similar lighter for almost 30 years without success, but over this period has assembled some 4,000 lighters.

Because he is a nonferrous metals dealer, many times over the years boxes or sacks of old lighters would come in with other scrap and Richard digs out all lighters that have some potential interest. In this way and through frequent tours of antique shows, flea markets and house sales several times a month, Richard has assembled some 50 Made In Occupied Japan goodies and a general collection of popular lighters extending from before World War I to the most modern. He is on the mailing list for several gift catalogs which feature new and luxurious lighters. He and his wife, Mina, will immediately order any lighter that thrills them, i.e., three "new" butane Rolls Royce, Packard and Lincoln cars now seen in better gift and smoke shops.

Richard's collection covers the walls of a small second floor library where glass-enclosed cases have been built in or mounted on portions of 3 walls. In addition, there are an uncounted number of large and small corrugated boxes and machinists' cases loaded with all grades of lighters.

He says that he enjoys collecting lighters especially because they represent unlimited variety in design and mechanical beauty which has been put into a utilitarian product. He

(continued on page 2)

ROTMAN - from page 1

especially admires lighters fashioned in the art deco period up through the '40's when dozens of U.S. and foreign manufacturers produced lighters in widely different styling and method of operation.

Even when pressed, Richard said it is an impossible challenge to identify his most interesting lighter. In fact, he said he can't pick out 100 "favorite" lighters. He has no MOST WANTED except to say that he'd love to have the lighter that rests on Johnny Carson's desk.

One challenge he must face in the near future is the need for more display space for his ever-growing collection. "It is either more display space or more cardboard boxes," Richard jokes.

Presently, he is looking down the road some 15 years when the children are on their own and he has turned his business over to other operators and he can spend uncounted hours working on his lighters and displays. He isn't particularly interested in trading lighters and he is more interested in buying very unusual and noteworthy lighters than selling any of his goodies.

Richard counts his joining the OTLS club as his entry in the normal hobbyists' phase of contact with other collectors. He mentioned that he has never been in touch with other serious collectors, except this reporter and Richard have had a couple of sessions.

Interest in lighters takes second place to work of the Rotman family in the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation throughout Cuyahoga County. Mina was president of the Cleveland Chapter for 4 years and is on the national leadership council. Richard and Mina have been involved for many years and have been board members of the J.D.F. for 10 years.

Their daughter, Marni, 17, was diagnosed as having diabetes at the age of 4. The Rotmans also have 3 sons: Marc, 20, a student at Kent State U. who collects frogs, Michael, 15, who collects turtles and McCoy pottery and Mitchell, 10, who is

keeping his hobby options open but mostly collects trouble, says his father with a wink. Marni collects dogs in all media.

Mina has a very extensive collection of colorful Royal Doulton Toby Mugs, as well as purple slag and black amethyst glass and leather postcards.

The parents encouraged the youngsters to concentrate on some collectible when they were very young, theorizing that when the children were taken along to shows they were busy looking for their own MOST WANTED and thus stayed out of trouble.

Today, the family also serves as "spotters" for Richard at shows. At one charity bazaar where a wide table about 30 feet long was loaded with lighters, Richard discovered the price range with the first few lighters he picked up. He then told family members to go down the table and buy every lighter.

The Rotmans themselves have "worked" both sides of the tables as occasional Flea Market Dealers and, at one time, Richard and Mina operated an antique store on a street lined with antique shops in Cleveland.
(by Warren W. Gerber)

OTLS IS IN THE NEWS

A few months ago Bob Gee sent your Editor a list of 30 different collectors' type newspapers and suggested we write and ask for some publicity for our club. So I wrote all of them, enclosing a "Press Release". The response has been WONDERFUL!

Every day since Oct. 22 (the day the first ad came out in Tri-State Trader) I have received another letter from an Editor, or a copy of an ad. Various ads (free of charge) will be coming out in the coming months telling about our club - - which I hope will bring even more new members (2 of our new members this month came via Tri-State Trade - WELCOME!)

Your Editor would like to say THANK YOU to Bob Gee for his valuable assistance!!!

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale or Trade

Silver shell casing with lighter in top - says 43 S.L. on bottom of casing. Mounted on black plastic base. \$5 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)



ectro-Match, red with gold trim. Actual size about 5" x 11 x 15 1/2" around. \$5 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)



For Sale or Trade

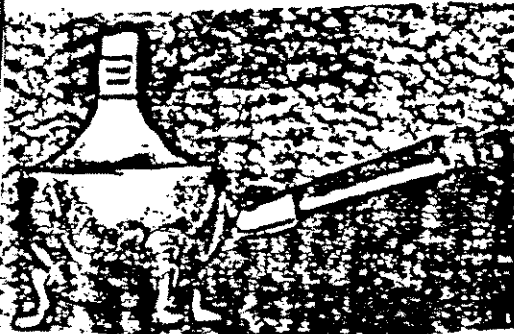
Starter Lighter Collection

For Sale - \$500 Warren Gerber (Member)

100 mostly "Plain" Pocket, .75 ea.....	\$ 75.00
50 Advertising/Souvenir Pocket, 2.00 ea..	100.00
10 Plain Zippo, 2.00 ea.....	20.00
10 Advertising/Souvenir Zippo, 3.00 ea...	30.00
20 Miscellaneous Table, 3.00 ea.....	60.00
20 Novelty/Figural Table, 5.00 ea.....	100.00
5 Pocket/Table "Made In Occupied Japan",	
15.00 ea.....	75.00
5 Different Cigarette Case Lighters,	
8.00 ea.....	40.00
<u>220 Lighters</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>

For Sale or Trade

This is an ASR lighter. I have 1 brass colored or 1 silver colored. \$5 for either one or \$8 for both. Judith Sanders. Member.



Budweiser Beer Can (5") with lighter in it. \$3 or trade. Judith Sanders. Member.

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

Zippo with Republic National Bank of Dallas ad. \$3 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)

Match-O-Matic, silver with brown grip. Actual size 5" high x 10" long, mounted on walnut base. Looks like James Bond type pistol. \$7 or trade. Judith Sanders (Member)



I have frame, wheels, chassis, working lighter for small M.I.O.J. Lucky Car. Needs body. \$10 plus postage or trade against Warren Gerber's "Wanted". Please see Gerber's Wanted. Warren Gerber. Member.

DEADLINE FOR DEC. CLASSIFIED ADS IS DECEMBER 10 - SEND ADS - SELL YOUR DUPLICATE LIGHTERS!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Will pay \$25 and up for "Ceramic Occupied Japan Cigarette Lighters". Also will buy other O.J. lighters. Send complete description w/prices. Bob Gee (Member)

Dunhill lighters. John Cuevas (Member)

Musical Lighters. 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)

Wanted to Buy or Trade

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 scene or leaders or coins. NOT Japanese made -- "Belgium or French" coins. Warren Gerber (Member)

I'm still trying to get one "tourist" type lighter from every state -- NEED Ala., Ct., Del., Ga., Idaho, Ill., Kan., Kentucky, Md., Mass., Montana, Neb., N.J., N.C., N.D., Oregon, PA., R.I., S.C., S.D., Va., Wash. (State), W.V., Wis., Wyo. Judith Sanders (Member)

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

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 charge for ads placed by non-members. Please send ads in type-written form. For information, write or call:

Judith Sanders
4409 Hyer
Dallas, Texas 75205
214/528-1926

TRIVIA - NEW MEMBERS
CAN ORDER BACK ISSUES
OF NEWSLETTERS FOR
50 CENTS PER ISSUE.