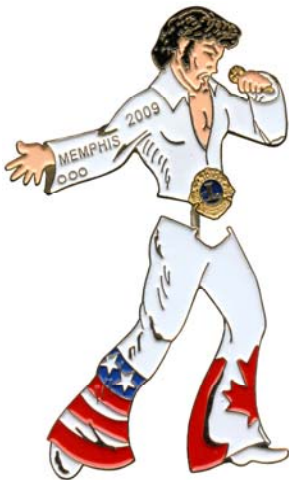


The “Bobble-Hipped Elvis Story

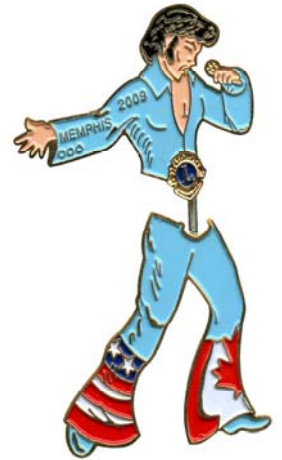
Our thanks to PDG Clarre Crawford, TN, for furnishing the information for this article.



Prior to the 2009 USA/Canada Forum, the (Memphis) Host Committee was discussing ways to promote the Forum. Since Memphis has always been known for its music, the Host Committee decided to use that theme for a promotional pin. They made the large music note with the USA and Canada Flags. After further discussion they decided that since Elvis was probably Memphis’s most famous musician that they would make a second promotional pin featuring him. One of the Host Committee members, Carolyn Schriber, stated that since Elvis was known for his “shaky” hips that it was a pity that they could not include that in the pin. Another member of that committee, PDG Clare Crawford, a member of the LITPC, took that as a challenge. Since she loves pin trading and designing pins she immediately set out to design such a pin. She had long had the idea of designing a “bobble head” pin, so in her estimation this was just a natural progression. She contacted a former co-worker and old friend who is an accomplished artist and he did the artwork. C.P Enterprises made a sample of the pin leaving off any color or wording. The committee then decided that the USA/Canada symbol (the flags of the two nations) should be added by putting color at the bottom of the pants legs and the wording of the 2009 Forum was added.



Hence the origin of the first, white suited wiggly hipped “Elvis” pin. A later conversation between the committee members brought up the fact that Elvis is associated with a number of things—blue suede shoes, his pink Cadillac and numerous gold records. Before much longer they realized that the pins needed to be a set. These pins were sold for \$5.00 each to raise funds for the Forum Host Committee to help defray the cost of putting on the 2009 Forum in Memphis, TN. The decision was made to order only 100 of the original smaller plain white Elvis pins and those were given to the Forum Host Committee and Planning Committee members as well as some selected International guests.



As a side note, there is one other Elvis pin that was made at that time. It was a personal pin released by PDG Frank Young and PDG Clare Crawford. That pin features a cape that is in the approximate shape of the state of Tennessee with a character Elvis done in the Tennessee cat motif. (Shown here) The money raised from the sale of the “Tennessee Elvis” pin went towards their White Cane Projects which include Leader Dogs for the Blind, Tennessee School for the Blind scouting program and Tennessee School for the Deaf summer camp program.

