

2007 Western States Pin Swap

Lion Dick Hall, Editor, CLPTA "Bear News"

If there was ever any doubt that the Western States Pin Swap (WSPS) is one of the premiere events in the wonderful world of pin trading, all such doubts were removed by what occurred in Reno on October 13-17, 2007. In many respects, it was probably the best, most productive, swap in the WSPS history.

The venue was again, as it has been for several years, the Circus-Circus Casino and Hotel in Reno. The event was planned and supervised by our very efficient WSPS Chairman, PDG **John Holland**, with the extremely capable assistance of his wife, Lion **Jeannine**.

There were 91 registered pin traders, and 103 Lions and their guests for the Swap Breakfast. There were pin traders from all over the country, from Florida to Washington State, Oregon to Virginia, and a bunch from California. We even had one from the United Kingdom. Although it would be impossible to name everyone, some names surely need special mention, as their presence was one of the things that made this WSPS so remarkable. LITPC President, PDG **Larry Shaull**, First VP,



Lion Ken Sherwood
CLPTA President
Presiding at the Breakfast

Lion **Bill Sour**, Second VP, PDG **Jim Minnich**, and Director, Lion **John Leggett**, Past LITPC Presidents **Al Stack**, **Bill Cooper**, and **Bill Prucha**.

In addition to the LITPC people, another Lion in attendance most surely needs to be recognized. This is **Tom Banyard**, who, with his lovely wife, **Sharon**, made the trip under some extremely trying circumstances. For those of you who do not know, Lion Tom's body has been invaded by an evil monster that has stolen his health. That monster is pancreatic cancer, against which Tom has been waging a courageous battle for the last two years. Even though he is now in Hospice care, Lion Tom was determined to attend this year's WSPS. Although he is a very ill man, Tom is still somewhat ambulatory, and able to participate in pin trading. In a short speech at the Breakfast, he promised the group that he would be attending next year's swap. We all hope and pray that this will be so.



Lion Tom and Sharon

Lion Tom was the Chairman of the WSPS for several years, and under his direction, a new and vigorous life was injected into the event. It was by his persistent efforts that our venue was changed to Circus-Circus, and at far better accommodation than we had in the past. Unfortunately, Tom had to resign as WSPS Chairman when he became too ill to carry on. Fortunately, we had a very well qualified replacement in PDG John Holland.

As is usually the case, pin trading was hectic to the extreme on the first day of the swap. The California Lions Pin Traders Association (CLPTA) 20 pin circus poster set was in particular demand, as was the Colorado Traders traditional 8 pin "rope" set. They also had another miniature set which was in keeping with the ones they introduced several years ago, and is made exclusively for the WSPS. The second and third days were far less hectic. All the pins are shown on the last page of this report.



The "Mad Hatter" Enjoyed the Hospitality
Lion Jim DeRouche, Texas

Joe is a member of the CLPTA, and the two of them have been doing the auction for many years. They are professionals who do a remarkable job. Minimum bids were \$5.00 and several were sold at this price. The highest bid was for an early Hawaii pin that sold for \$540.00. All in all it was most profitable, not only for those who submitted pins, but also for the WSPS in funds to help defray the cost of the pin swap.

The Hospitality Room

There was the usual generous hospitality with three nights of ample food and drink to go along with the friendly camaraderie that accompanies these events. The first two nights of hospitality were hosted by the CLPTA, under the ubiquitous efforts of Lions **Kaye** and **Al Stack**, with assistance from Lion **Joe Trezza**, who always provides an ample supply of beer. The third night was hosted by the good people of the Colorado Pin Traders. After the eating and drinking was done, the "Nine Hole Golf" card games got under way with great enthusiasm.

The Auction

The auction was a lively affair with our auctioneers **LaVonne** and **Joe Hinton**.



Our Auctioneers
LaVonne & Joe Hinton

The Breakfast

Bye-Bye Reno and Hello Las Vegas

Our Swap Chairman, PDG **John Holland**, announced that because of a number of problems with the new management at Circus-Circus, it has been decided to move the swap next year to the Tuscany Hotel in Las Vegas. Although the room rates will be a little higher, those arriving by air will find it much easier to book flights into Las Vegas. More to follow in the CLPTA "Bear News".

Campaign Sight First II Project

Next on the Breakfast "Menu", LITPC President **Larry Shaull** spoke of the Sight First II Campaign project to raise \$50,000 that would be presented to the LCI President at the LCI 2009 Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Lion Larry assured the audience that the Campaign was bound to raise at least twice as much money as was anticipated. He now hopes to have a check for more than \$100,000.00.

Nine Hole Golf

The final business of the Breakfast was a presentation of the prizes to the winners of the "Nine Hole Golf" card games that had taken place after each evening's hospitality. The presentations were made by PDG **Jerry Romig** and his very humorous and clever wife, **Lucille**. It was definitely the most amusing (in the comical sense) part of the entire program. The over all winner of the tournament was Lion **Jerry Walden** from California. In addition to a cash prize, he was awarded a fabric flower vase, which could be used to hold a bouquet of flowers, or, if adjusted just so, it could be turned into a beret type hat, as shown below. All of this brought the audience into hysterics of laughter. The final "blow" of the presentations was made to Lion John Holland who ranked at the very bottom of the tournament. He will have his name engraved on a special plaque that will be given to next year's biggest loser.



PDG John Holland, Swap Chairman



Nine Hole Golf Director
Lucille Romig and Her Helper



Lion Gene French
Sound Asleep With His Eyes Wide Open



Lion Jerry Walden
The Winner With His "Trophy"



PDG Larry Shaull, LITPC President
Pushing CSF II Project



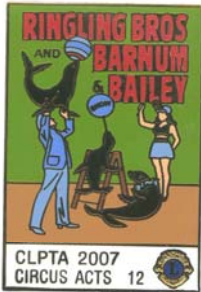
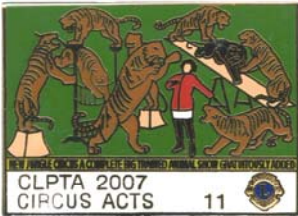
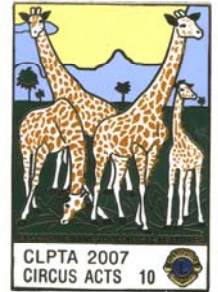
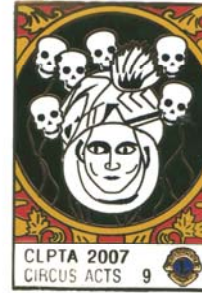
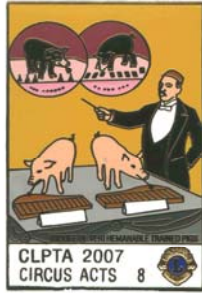
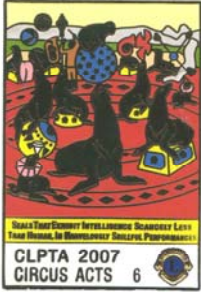
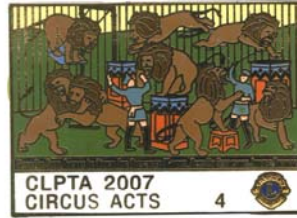
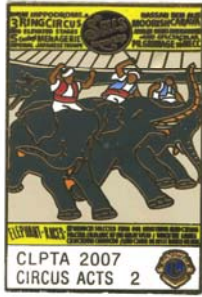
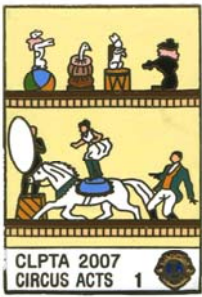
Lion Jeannine Holland
The Force Behind Chairman John



Lion Harry Fulwiler, LITPC Treasurer
One of the Good Old Boys from Virginia

We'll see you next year in Las Vegas, **Dick Hall**

2007 Western States Pin Swap Circus Posters



The Swap Pins

WESTERN STATES
RENO 2007

