



Pin Trading Club of Connecticut (P.T.C.CT)



Spring 2004 Newsletter

Message from the President

I would like to thank all the Lions of the P.T.C.CT. that had the unanimous faith in electing me your new president. I will do my best to make this an outstanding year for this organization of fine Lions.

The Northeast Pin Trading Swap is coming up fast. We need volunteers that are going to this meet to help out on some of the committees. Please contact myself or our secretary Lion Robert Senkow if you can help.

Coming up even quicker is our next membership meeting and as of press time the head count is very low. We need a minimum of 25 people to get the buffet price which will include Baked Boston Scrod Almandine, Baked Stuffed Boneless Breast of Chicken and Sirloin Tips Teriyaki for \$21.00. If we don't have 25 in attendance we will have to order off the menu.

This is your club and we can't operate efficiently without your attendance at meetings. Please attend all meetings possible and give us your input. If you can't come for the dinner, please attend the business meeting. I promise you that it will be as short as possible.

President, Lion Edgar Tanguay

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 20, 2004; 6:30 p.m.
Angelico's Restaurant; 532 East Main Street; New Britain, CT
Contact President Edgar Tanguay; 860-443-1153 for Reservations

Pin Trading Club of Connecticut
P.O. Box 1594
Torrington, CT 06790



Message from our Founding President

It certainly does not seem possible that two years have past since I was elected as President of our new club. They say that time flies when you are having fun, and it also flies when you are busy. So when you put them BOTH together, it really flies.

About three years ago, I thought about forming a Lions Pin Trading Club in Connecticut, although I had reservations about whether I could create enough interest. I started by talking to a few lions that I thought might be interested, I then went to the M.D. Council and got their approval. I then went to the grandfather of pin trading, Lion Bill Smith, who gave me a lot of help and heading me in the right direction; after which, we got the approval from Lions Clubs International. The rest is history.

At our first meeting, the new club voted to set a date to end our charter membership, rather than waiting for a certain number, we closed our charter membership at our Mid Winter Conference last year, with about 130 members. I would like to thank all of my pin trading friends, for putting their confidence in our new club by joining us. I would take this time to express my concern for Lions that did not get in on the charter membership, as I thought that we had done a good job of advertising. If any of my good friends were left out by my negligence, I apologize and hope that you would join us now.

At our annual meeting this year, we had the largest attendance of any meeting to date, as I sat at the head table, presiding over the meeting, and about ready to turn over the gavel to our new President. I looked at the membership and thought to myself, maybe we are not a large club, but we have some of the best Lions with us, Past International Directors, Past District Governors, Governor Elects and Lions with many many years with District Cabinet experience; and Lions of all ages. We even have a Lion in his eighties. He is a great Lion and a fine gentleman, and the only Lion that I know that wears the helicopter tie clasp in public. By the way, don't get excited; he may be in his eighties, but is quick enough so that I have not been able to remove it, not that I have not tried.

Just before our annual meeting, our first Vice President told me that he had a medical problem and would not be able to devote enough time to the club at this time he asked that we elect someone else to that office. Our thoughts and

prayers are with a good lion and a fellow pin trader Lion Chris Porter. We hope for speedy recovery and that he will soon be back with us.

Our club is in good hands with our newly elected officers, with Lion Edgar Tanguay at the helm. Good luck Edgar.

When we started our new club, I had so many ideas and projects that I wanted to get started. I guess I overwhelmed most of the membership, so they put the brakes on; let's back up and take one thing at a time.

As you know, we are involved in the largest project that our club has taken on. We will be the sponsor of the Northeast Pin Swap, to be held in Stamford, CT from August 5, 6 and 8th. Our members, with Lion Rosmarie as chairman, are working hard to make this a memorable event.

Any Lions that need information about the Pin Swap, please feel free to call me at 860-354-8615. We look forward to seeing you all at Stamford in August.

Thank you again for all the help and encouragement that you gave me. I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve as your fist President.

Lion Curt Fitch, IPP



2004 NE Pin Swap Pin

Shown is a rendering of the NE Pin Swap Pin, thanks to the efforts of Lion Phil Castrovinci, and the P.T.C.T. members that originated this design. The pin will arrive in plenty of time for the August SWAP.

P.T.C.T. Officers

President:	Ed Tanguay
Immediate Past President:	PDG Curt Fitch
Vice President:	PDG Dan Uitti
Secretary	Bob Senkow
Treasurer	Blanche Sewell
Two Year Directors:	Joan Bielizna, Ralph Dolan, and Dave Burgess
One Year Directors	Dan Uitti, Rose Marie Spatafore, and Trish Holmes

In this issue

Northeast Pin Swap
Minutes of April & May Meetings
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Articles of Interest

Connecticut Pin Trading Club Minutes: Meeting 04/18/2004

Attendance: Curt Fitch, Ralph Dolan, Blanche Sewell, Elaine and Phil Dzurnak, Gordon and Trish Holmes, Fransesco and Maria Medina

President PDG Curt Fitch opened the meeting at 3:30PM at Bickfords Restaurant, Plainville, Ct.

The second "Indian" pin has been completed.

President Curt advised that they had cost \$1.87 each.

Motion by Trish Holmes, second Phil Dzurnak: Pins be sold at \$2.00 each. All approved.

Motion by Blanche Sewell, second by Gordon Holmes: Out of state members be offered two pins each, CT Lions be allowed an unlimited number. All approved.

There were no new details to report on the New England Pin Swap.

It is to be held August 6th to 8th at the Stamford Marriott.

The hotel has its deposit. It is still early but things look good.

The Pin Trading Vest is available at \$63.00 each (\$68 for XXXL).

Secretary report by Ralph Dolan:

Minutes of previous meeting had been distributed with the Newsletter.

Motion to approve by Curt Fitch, second by Gordon Holmes. Ayes.

Treasurer's report by Blanche Sewell is attached

Motion to accept by Elaine Dzurnak, second by Phil Dzurnak. Ayes.

Details of the Live Auction at the Pin Swap on Friday Night were discussed.

Needs several members to assist. Trish Holmes volunteered to be lead cashier.

We need an auctioneer.

Silent Auction: Proceeds to be donated to CLERF and Low Vision.

That requires desirable pins to bid upon.

Discussed other Pin Swap needs: Registration badges/pins & Program of Daily events.

Discussed our next meeting at the State Convention.

Motion by Ralph Dolan, second by Blanche Sewell

All members be sent a card to encourage their attendance at the State Conv. Meeting.

Ayes all around. Ralph was given the task.

A picnic will be held in August as has become our tradition. Date was set as Aug 15th.

Trish Holmes volunteered a location.

Next meeting will be held May 15th at Villa Roma Resort during our CT State Convention. Time to be determined.

Motion to adjourn made by everyone, then we all ate.

All approved of the meal and adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Ralph Dolan
Secretary

Connecticut Pin Trading Club
Minutes: Meeting 05/15/2004

President PDG Curt Fitch opened the meeting at 10:00AM
at Villa Roma Resort, Callicoon, NY.

Secretary Ralph Dolan read the **minutes** of the previous meeting
Motion to approve made by Gordon Holmes, second by Bob Weiss. All voted aye.

Treasurer Blanche Sewell gave the **treasurers report**. See attached.
Motion to accept made by Bob Weiss, second by Len Johnson. All ayes.

Pres. Curt informed us that 1st Vice President Chris Porter will be unable to serve as President. Motion by Carolyn Messier, second by Len Johnson that First Vice President candidate **Ed Tanguay become President** of PTCCT for 2004 - 2005. Vote was unanimous.

Motion by Syd Schulman, second by Blanche Sewell, PDG **Dan Uitti become 1st Vice** President of PTCCT for 2004 – 2005. All voted aye.

Motion by Dave Burgess, second by Ed Tanguay, the Secretary cast one ballot for the remaining offices. All voted aye.

Secretary Ralph Dolan voted to **accept the nominees** as listed below:

Secretary Bob Senkow

Treasurer Blanche Sewell

Two Year Directors: Joan Bielizna, Ralph Dolan, and Dave Burgess

One Year Directors Dan Uitti, Rose Marie Spatafore, and Trish Holmes

Immediate Past President: Curt Fitch

President Ed took the seat. As Bob Senkow was not present Ralph Dolan continued as acting Secretary for the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curt Fitch reported on the **Pin Swap**.

There has been some difficulty with Hotel concerning room prices for those coming in “early.” The correct price is the \$80 per day negotiated for the days of the Swap. However, those calling are being quoted \$250 per day. Promises by the Hotel to correct their system have been given.

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PDG George Lomnitzer DONATES PINS to the CAUSE

During our search for Pins and Lions that wish to join the Northeast Pin Swap AUCTION, we learned that Lion George Lomintzer, PDG intended to move to smaller living quarters to Farmington from their spacious home in East Granby.

Lion George served as President of the Lions Gallery of Vision Services from 1990 to 1992 at the time when the Low Vision Center project had begun. It is his intent that all of the proceeds from the auction sale of his pin collection be contributed to the Low Vision Center project. Lion George served as District Governor from 1984-85 and had attended many Lions International Conventions. His collection contains many pins from all over the world through the 1970s and 1980s. A number of Connecticut pins from this era will also be auctioned, including a few from the 1960s.

Lions that wish to auction off some pins at the pin swap should contact Lion Dan Uitti with a list of pins that they wish to auction, so they can be cataloged before the event. The NE Pin Swap will be raising money for the Lions Low Vision Centers and Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation. Ten Percent of the Starting Bid or Winning bid will go toward these projects. Certain RARE pins may be included in the SILENT AUCTION.

a Pin is BORN

by Lon Philip R. Castrovinci

7251 E. Brisa Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ 85262-4258
phone no: 480-437-1141
email: pcastrovince@cox.net

This article explains the simple process that a pin trader can go through to have a pin produced.

1. We can start with a sketch or a finished drawing.
2. Our artist designer will help you come up with the perfect artwork
3. After the artwork is approved we get a prototype in Magnesium made of the original drawing to make the production mould.
4. We then spin cast metal into the silicone mould.
5. The pins are sent out for plating. This

process is the base finish of the pin. It can be gold, silver, copper, black nickel, bronze or antique finish.

6. The pins are then returned to us to apply the epoxy colors.

7. Then the pins are placed in an oven after each color for drying and heating.

8. The pins are then placed in individual bags, packed and shipped.

The process to manufacture a pin takes about 4 weeks from the approval of the colored drawing. We would need to add some time if we need to mail out a sample for approval, about a week. Most often the colored drawing is sufficient. I have been working with Creations Myriade, Inc. for the past 6 years, and have found them fair in their pricing, accommodating in their response to quick orders and excellent in working from a sketch or sometimes just from an idea.

Creations Myriade, Inc is an official licensee of Lions Clubs International.

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Getting to Know your Pins and Pin Trading - the perspective of a NEW Pin Trader

By Cynthia S. Bercowetz

A pin is a pin is a pin. Is that so! I don't think so.

I was very impressed with the pin trading meeting and the pin traders that was held during the state convention at the Villa Roma.

I feel as if I am a novice as to knowing how to select a pin. Usually it is said that beauty is in the "eye of the beholder" and I would like to know if this applies to the pins traded at meetings and special events.

I have been pin trading for several years or more at international conventions. My mentor, Syd Schulman, has explained pin trading to me but I don't know if I get it entirely.

I know how to sift through club and multiple district pins, but sometimes I like a pin for its beauty. It may be a ship or have an Indian origin. Is a pin selected for its value to members only? How do you know when you have a rare pin?

I have beautiful pins that are dear to me but do not know if they would be to others. I would appreciate it if there are any kind pin trader souls out there who would answer these questions for me.

Has anyone ever been stuck with a pin or is there no such thing? Finally, why is pin trading so important to pin traders? I believe that most pin traders started some years back. Do they look at their pins frequently or are they set aside like some photo albums.

I find pin trading fascinating but do not know if I am approaching it the right way. Please help me. I think I am more advanced than my husband, Herman, as he knows nothing about the selection of pins. However, he is a good cook.

A little knowledge it is said is a dangerous thing, therefore, I would like to become educated along pin trading lines.

LITPC Event Calendar

Event Dates, Information & Contact Information

August 5-7

Northeast Pin Swap

Stamford, CT
Stamford Marriott
PDG Curt Fitch
860-354-8615
pdggcf@aol.com

October 10-13, 2004

Western States Pin Swap
Circus Circus Reno, Nev
Lion Tom Banyard
530-335-4643
tlban@c-zone.net

August 5-7

Missouri Lions Pin Traders Swap
Branson, MO
Branson-Hollister Lions Building
Lion Ernie Schlichting
417-334-2219

November 2004

Virginia Pin Swap
Winchester VA
Site to be announced
PDG Bill Smith
703-903-6301



The P.T.C. CT Chief Big Eagle pin for 2004 is now available

Lions everywhere are welcome to join the Pin Trading Club of Connecticut as a new regular member. This club meets several times a year. A meeting is held at our state's MD-23 Mid Winter Conference and State Convention. Other meetings are held throughout the year, at least quarterly. Members receive information about pin trading in our state; as well as highlights of Pin Trading activities around the world. Pins are a great way to show pride in our organization from publicity and personal points of view. The P.T.C. CT encourages Pin Trading at all levels and encourages Clubs, Districts, District Governors and other Lions related organizations to develop pins that bring a sense of pride to our organization in all aspects. We encourage members to attend meetings, Pin Swaps, Conventions and Forums for the improvement of Pin Trading and our movement of Lionism. Encourage your friends in your Lions Club to join us.



Pin Trading Club of Connecticut

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please print all of the following applicable information

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address (show exactly as it should be typed) _____

Date: _____

Spouse: _____

City: _____

Country: _____

Lions Club: _____

District: _____

Multiple District _____

Send check for \$10.00 to P.T.C. CT; Robert Senkow; 26 Colonial Drive; Waterford, CT 06385.
(Membership renewal is \$5.00 per year)



NORTHEAST PIN SWAP

Hosted by

Pin Traders Club of Connecticut

Thursday August 5th to Saturday, August 7th, 2004

Stamford Marriott Hotel

Two Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT. 06901 1-800-228-9292 for reservations.

.KICK IT UP A NOTCH AND JOIN US FOR:

Fun - Excitement – Fellowship & Seminars

Welcome to all Lions -Learn what Pin Trading is all about.



Thursday: Optional trip to the Mohegan Sun Casino and shopping mall.

Trip will depart the Stamford Marriott at 4:00 pm and return at 11:00 pm

Meal Voucher and Casino Bonus offers will be included.

Price: \$20.00 pp. (Based on 30 people) Visit their web page at www.mohegansun.com

Thursday: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Set up tables

Hospitality Suite: 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm –light snacks

Friday: Pin Trading 9:00 am to 5:30 pm

Pin Auction: 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The PTCCT will charge 10% to seller.

Silent Auction: 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Seminars: 10:00 am to 11:00 am

1. Pin Trading for Beginners.
2. Special Pin Series - how they started and what to look for.
3. How to Design your personal/club Pin.

CARIBBEAN PARTY- BAR B-Q 7:00 pm 10:00 pm - Come in your Island Garb and join the fun and dancing on the Pool Deck. Prizes, fun & fellowship

Hospitality House 10:00 pm to 12:00 pm : Stop by the Hospitality House for light snacks.
Special drawings for prizes.

Saturday: Pin Trading 7:30 am to 3:00 pm -Bag Swaps

Breakfast: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

PRE AND POST STAYS AT THE HOTEL MAY BE ARRANGED.

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

CURT FITCH, PRESIDENT 1-860-354-8615 / fax 860-354-9103 / email pdggcf@aol.com

Rose Marie Spatafore, Chairperson 203-735-9574 ext 580 or 1-800-922-2242 ext 580.

rosemaries@rifkintravel.com

For more details, visit www.lionwap.org/ctpintrading

NORTHEAST PIN SWAP

Hosted by

Pin Traders Club of Connecticut

Thursday August 5th to Saturday, August 7th, 2004

Stamford Marriott Hotel

Registration Form

Registration package Includes:

One 6ft. trading table

Friday Night Caribbean Party – Bar-B-Q

Breakfast on Saturday morning

Pin Trading Friday and Saturday

Use of Hospitality Suite

Collectors Pin

Admission into the Grand Prize Raffle

Price Pin Traders: \$55.00

Non Pin Traders: \$ 45.00

Please list each attendee

Name _____ Badge Name _____

Name _____ Badge Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Club/District _____ Office _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____) _____

Registration pin traders	\$55.00		\$
Reg. Non pin traders	\$45.00		\$
Extra table (upon availability)	\$10.00	1	\$
Trip to Mohegan Sun	\$20.00		\$
Total			\$

Please make all checks payable to the PTCCT and mail to:

C. Fitch, PO Box 1017, New Milford, Ct. 06776

Make your room reservations with the Stamford Marriott direct at 203-357-9555

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 15TH, 2004. Inform hotel that you are with the **Northeast Pin Swap**. **If you have any trouble making Hotel Reservations, please call Rosemarie Spatafore at Rifkin Travel.**

ROOM RATE \$84.00 Plus tax

- Directly off I95 exit 8 Downtown Stamford
- 45 min. from Manhattan/ 1 hr from Hartford/ within 3 hrs from Boston , Philadelphia and Providence
- Shuttle ride from the Stamford Train Station / Budget Rental Car in building
- Tri-state airports, Conn. Limousine home base.
- All travel arrangements can be made by calling Rifkin Travel, Inc. 1-203-735-9574 ext 580, 1-800-922-2242 ext 580, fax 203-736-0542 or email rosemaries@rifkintravel.com Right in the heart of the Stamford Town Center. Best shopping malls and shops.

Any Packages shipped to the Marriott must be addressed to the attention of Douglas Simon, CHSP and marked with PTCCT on it. Shipments should not arrive any earlier than 3 days prior to event.