

Larry Click of Arlington, VA, claims to have the largest JOY sticker collection of any individual in the World. His collection consists of an impressive collection of JOY stickers from the United States, South Africa, Australia, Great Britain, China, Germany, New Zealand, and Scotland--a total of 1323 different decals, all having the word JOY or the JOY World logo on them. He also has thousands JOY traders in his collection. His sticker trading friends are as far away as Australia and China and he trades stickers in the mail daily.

Larry keeps a log on every sticker he sends to his sticker trading friends and a record of every sticker he receives. Not only is he interested in stickers, Larry



Decal Collector..... GOING STRONG

also collects anything relating to JOY.

Larry was born and raised in the coal fields of Southern West Virginia, in and around the small coal mining community of War (formerly known as Miner's City.)

His grandfather, Ruben R. Click (who raised Larry), was a life-long coal miner. Larry's stepfather, Lacy M. Musick, worked for Consolidated Coal Company in Bishop, Va, for nearly 40 years--running a JOY machine. However, Larry did not know what "running a JOY machine" meant until years later when he began collecting JOY stickers and started attending the different coal shows that exhibited JOY coal mining equipment.

Larry spent the first 19 years of his life in West Virginia until he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He spent the next 2-1/2 years serving Uncle Sam. While stationed in West Germany, Larry became ill with kidney problems, was flown back to the U.S.A. and taken to Walter Reed General Hospital (WRGH) in Washington, DC, where he was a patient for over a year. Eventually he was discharged from the military on a medical disability.

While on convalescent leave from WRGH, Larry met his wife of 28 years, Dottie.

For several years he worked part-time as a roofer until his condition worsened and he had to retire on permanent disabled Social Security.

Shortly after his retirement in January 1982, his wife's cousin who worked for Big Bear Mining, gave Larry some of his extra coal mine and coal related stickers and told Larry that decal collecting would be a good hobby to keep him occupied while alone at home during the day. And, indeed, collecting has been a "life-saver" for Larry.

In the beginning he collected coal company and coal related decals only. His collection grew so large that he decided he needed more space for his hobby. So, he finished off his attic and moved his collection upstairs. After going to several sticker swaps around the country and different coal shows, the attic became too crowded. That was when Larry--remembering that his stepfather has worked with JOY machinery--decided to direct his energies at collecting JOY stickers only.

At the Carmichaels, PA, sticker swap which is held every August, the JOY collectors would ask who had the most JOYS. That was when Larry decided he would hold that distinction, and he has worked very hard to earn that reputation and continues to do so.

Anyone wishing to compare collections or "talk JOY" with Larry may contact him at the following address and telephone number--1021 North Jefferson Street, Arlington, VA 22205, 703/241-3748. He especially is looking for any old JOY TARGET, old JOYS or HART ELECTRIC stickers with JOY written on them to add to his collection and is willing to buy or trade for them.

Larry and Dottie's latest sticker collecting venture was in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the American Mining Congress' MINExpo '92 where they obtained over 7,000 coal related stickers, enabling Larry to add 18 new JOYS to his collection. While visiting the JOY exhibit, he had the pleasure of meeting many JOY representatives whom he had corresponded with over the years. He was especially pleased to meet Mr. John Blich, Manager, Market Services, Joy Technologies, Inc., Houston, PA, who was kind enough to have JOY's official photographer take pictures of Larry and his JOY bag (with all of his different JOY patches on it). The Clicks have been greatly impressed with the professionalism and the courtesies that have been extended to them over the years, and especially at this show, by the JOY men and women.

Also, while out West, they drove to the JOY plants in Price, Utah, and Green River, Wyoming. They previously visited the Bluefield, VA, Houston, PA, Mt. Vernon, IL and Pittsburgh, PA, plants and offices. They are planning to visit other plants in the near future.

Click, who was 50 years old this month says "Sticker collecting is a time-consuming hobby, but one for me that is worth every minute, even if I live to be 100 years old."

Larry's second most thrilling experience while in Las Vegas, however, was when he hit the jackpot two times in a row and broke the slot machine of all its money. That was, indeed, a "JOYOUS" moment!!