

Casino Chip And Token News

A Quarterly Magazine for Members of
the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club



Fall Issue

October, November, December, 2002

Volume 15, #4

\$6.⁹⁵

A Member of the
American Numismatic Association
(C-140538)



THE GOOD
THE BAD
AND
THE UGLY

A name to remember when you need supplies

Charles & Margarita Rodgers

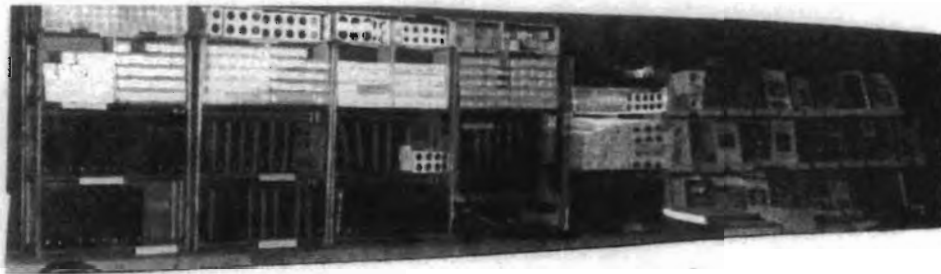
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WE HAVE SUPPLIES !!! &

We look forward in being of some service to you in the near future

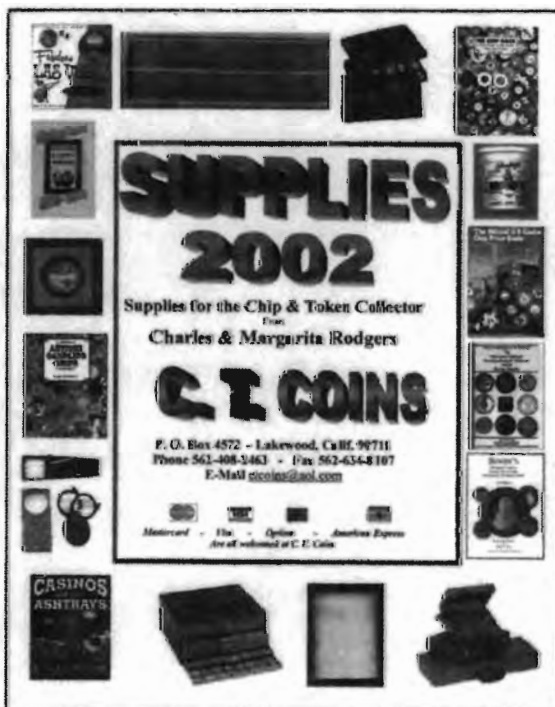


Part of our display on supplies at the National Convention in June 2002 at the Tropicana

SUPPLIES 2002 CATALOG

Just full of goodies for the Chip & Token Collector
Over 30 pages with some of the following.

- ◆ Informational Books
- ◆ Binders for Chips & Tokens
- ◆ Silver Strike Cases
- ◆ Air-Tight Cases
- ◆ Direct Fit Cases
- ◆ Round Cases
- ◆ Display Cases & Trays
- ◆ 12-20-30 Pocket Pages
- ◆ 12-18-24-60-80-96 Chip & Token Wallets
- ◆ Storage Tubes
- ◆ Flips 2 x 2
- ◆ Storage Boxes
- ◆ Match Book Pages
- ◆ Square Cases
- ◆ Flips 2 ½ x 2 ½
- ◆ Magnifiers
- ◆ Postcard Pages

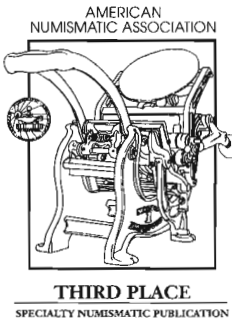


FREE 30 PAGE SUPPLY CATALOG FOR THE ASKING



CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS C.C. & G.T.C.C MAGAZINE

Official Quarterly Publication of
The Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collector's Club



2002

CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN
COLLECTORS CLUB

Casino Chip and
Token News

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CLUB OFFICIALS

Got a question or a problem? Listed below are the names and the addresses of the CC>CC officials and volunteer contacts to whom your requests should be mailed.

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Previously unpublished, original articles are encouraged and are welcomed by the Editor. However, no assurance is implied that such material will be used or returned to the author. Proper credit for all materials that are published will be acknowledged. *No articles will be published without a byline.*

SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION DATES

1st Quarter January, February, March

Mailing Date: January

2nd Quarter April, May, June

Mailing Date: April

3rd Quarter July, August, September

Mailing Date: July

4th Quarter October, November, December

Mailing Date: October

CC>CC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
 Phone Number _____

My collection interests are:

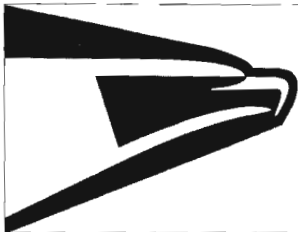
- Chips Tokens
 U.S. Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

- Name and address
 Phone
 Do not publish my name and address

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

- One year \$20.00 U.S.
 Associate \$5.00 U.S.
 Foreign \$35.00*
 * postal money order or U.S. funds



First Class Mail

Check here
 for First Class Postage
 Just \$12 more a year

Foreign mailings are at the First Class rate. All other mailings are via 3rd class mail.

Annual dues will be renewable in the same quarter in which the membership application was processed. Check our address labels for your membership expiration dates. Mail your completed application with your check made payable to CC>CC to:

CC>CC Membership Officer
 Ralph Myers
 P.O. Box 35769
 Las Vegas, NV 89133-5769

Sponsored by: _____

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Our club C.C.&G.T.C.C. is founded under the ANA, maybe you would like to join it too. It is the largest organization of coin collectors in the world.

Regular Student Junior Senior Associate
 Present or former ANA number, if any _____

Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name, please print _____
 Street _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Country _____ Date of Birth _____

ANA bylaws require the publication of each applicant's name and state.

Please check here __ if you DO NOT want your name and address forwarded to the ANA representative in your area. Please check here __ if you would like your name provided to companies with offers we feel may interest you. I herewith make application for membership in the American Numismatic association, subject to the Bylaws of said Association. I also agree to abide by the Code of Ethics adopted by the Association.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Proposer

Casino Chips & Gaming Token Collectors Club

Check Money Order Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature of Cardholder (Required) _____

Dues

- Regular (age 23-64) \$29* outside US \$36*
- Student (age 18-22) \$11 Junior (age 17 or younger) \$11
- Senior Citizen (age 65 older) \$25* outside US \$32*
- Associate (child or spouse of regular or life member living at member's address) \$4

*plus \$6 application fee, first year only

Forward completed application to:

ANA
 818 Cascade Ave.
 Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279

**ADVERTISING RATES
CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKENS
COLLECTORS CLUB, INC.
QUARTERLY PUBLICATION**

“Camera Ready” advertising deadline is the 1st of the month prior to the mailing date. These rates are for camera ready display ads only. Need help with your ad? See next the column over. Please allow 3-4 weeks delivery for 3rd class mail.

DISPLAY AD RATES

1/8 Page (Business Card) \$20.00
Standard size 2" x 3.5"

1/4 Page (Camera Ready) \$35.00
Width: 3.50" x Height: 4.75"

1/2 Page (Camera Ready) \$60.00
Width: 7.50" x Height: 4.75"

Full Page (Camera Ready) \$100.00
Width: 7.50" x Height: 9.50"

Back Cover with Full Color
\$500.00

Inside Covers with Full Color \$325.00
Width: 7.50" x Height: 10.00"

Inside Facing Pages \$150.00
Width: 7.50" x Height: 10.00"

Note a business card is a business card not a two inch ad worked up for this space.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

These rates are for ads per column inch that are up to 3 1/2" in width and \$7.50 per inch in Height (about 6 lines). Additional overrun copy will be billed at the rate of \$1.50 per line for less than full inches, or fraction of an inch.

All ad copy must be accompanied by payment made out to “Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Club Inc.” or CC>CC. No ad will be run without payment.

Publisher assumes no responsibility for statements made by advertisers and reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

CONTRACT DISCOUNT ADVERTISING RATES

Sign up for a full year of advertising and save up to 25% on some ads. Take a look at the table below and see how much you will save.

Full payment must be sent in with your contract ad request

Ad Size	One Issue	Full Year	You Save
1"	\$10.00	\$35.00	\$5.00
2"	\$22.00	\$80.00	\$8.00
Business Card	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$10.00
1/4 Page	\$35.00	\$130.00	\$10.00
1/2 Page	\$60.00	\$220.00	\$20.00
Full Page	\$100.00	\$360.00	\$40.00

Just check off the type of ad you would like. You make changes in any of these ads in each quarter of issue. Full payment must be sent in with your contract ad request.

Yes, I Would Like	Ad Size	Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/>	1"	\$35.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	2"	\$80.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Card	\$70.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/4 Page	\$130.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/2 Page	\$220.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full Page	\$360.00 with placement of ad

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

CC>CC# _____

Need help in working up your ad? Just give us a call at
562-408-2463 and ask for C.T. Rodgers
Fax - 562-634-8107
E-Mail - ctcoins@aol.com

Send full payment payable to “CC>CC”
with your advertisement to:

Charles T. Rodgers
Advertising Manager, CC>CC
P. O. Box 4572 Lakewood CA 90711

**WE NEED YOUR HELP
IN PUBLISHING THIS NEWSLETTER.**

PLEASE NOTE

- Do not send in ads that are folded. May we recommend that you send in your ads by Priority Mail in a flat pack marked "DO NOT BEND", this will only cost you about \$3.00 and we will receive them in about two to three days.
- When you place a one inch or two inch ad for more than one issue, you may make changes in that ad for each issue. Once again try to get the changes to us well before the deadline of each issue.
- Need help with placing an ad, size wording, give me a call at 562-408-2463 and we will work with you for the best results on placing your ads.
- When ordering items from one of our advertiser let them know what issue of the magazine you noticed their ad in.

Send full payment made out to "CC>CC"
with your advertisement to:

Charles T. Rodgers
Advertising Manager CC>CC
P. O. Box 4572, Lakewood, CA 90711

NEXT DEADLINE

1st Quarter Issue 2003
is December 1st 2002

Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

1 st Quarter: Jan-Feb-Mar	Deadline for Ads: Dec 1 st
2 nd Quarter: Apr-May-Jun	Deadline for Ads: Mar 1 st
3 rd Quarter: Jul-Aug-Sep	Deadline for Ads: Jun 1 st
4 th Quarter: Oct-Nov-Dec	Deadline for Ads: Sep 1 st

MOVING?

Don't forget to let our Membership
Director know your new address.

Ralph Myers
P.O. Box 35769
Las Vegas, NV 89133-5769



**CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS
C.C. & G.T.C.C MAGAZINE**

*OFFICIAL Quarterly Publication of
The Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collector's Club*

EDITOR ALLAN ANDERSON
ASSISTANT EDITOR JOHN MOORE
ADVERTISING CHARLES T. RODGERS
PRINTING PALMER PRINTING

PRESIDENT NATE PINCUS
VICE PRESIDENT JOHN ZOESCH
TREASURER MIKE QUINLIVAN
SECRETARY TYRUS MULKEY
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JODI SONES • TOM STROH • GREG C. SUSONG
GENE TRIMBLE • MARY LOU WATERBURY • JOHN YEE

WWW.CCGTCC.COM

GREG C. SUSONG
WEBMASTER

From the Editor's Desk

by Allan Anderson



I'm very excited to be the new Editor of the Casino Chip and Token News. Two years and eight issues later, John Yee has retired from the magazine to pursue a new career. It's been a pleasure to have worked with him as the Assistant Editor during that time. His hard work and dedication to get quality articles has made the magazine what it is today.

I am happy to announce that working with me as the new Assistant Editor is John Moore. John's interest in writing led him to stints as a newspaper reporter, political campaign consultant and campaign manager after his retirement as a field engineer with a Northern California utility company. His chip collecting interests are crest and seals and other "fancy" chips although he's collected many types of chips over the years with an emphasis on Northern Nevada and Tahoe clubs.

As in the past, the success of the magazine rests on the articles that are submitted and on the advertising. So, if you have a human interest story you would like me to print, send it in. Write about your latest chip find, a chip run, your collection or a chip related vacation and don't forget to include pictures. I would also like to see chip articles from other parts of the country that we haven't covered including cruise ships,

In this issue you will find some important club items. There is an order form for the 2003 convention auction catalog and a 2003 auction submission form. On a little different note, there is an order form for \$5.00 and \$25.00 CC>CC 15th Anniversary chips produced jointly by the Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City and the Atlantic City Chapter. The \$1 profit from these chips go directly to the Building Fund. Thanks to the Atlantic City Chapter for putting this together and benefiting a great cause.

Another item of interest for all you creative people out there is the 2003 Convention Chip and Medal Design Contest. Rules and deadlines can be found inside the magazine.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the magazine, please send them in. I'm always open to suggestions.

Allan



I invite you to visit my all new website, featuring the absolute best form of casino chip storage—the TyrusRex Jewel Frames—along with a new photo gallery of both serious and fun Las Vegas photos in the new Picture of the Week section. I have also added scans of my traders of chips, dice, room keys, slot cards, and just about anything else that I have in duplicate that represents gaming.

www.TyrusRex.com

If you do not have online access, please call, fax, or write for information.



TyrusRex, Inc.
P.O. Box 43432
Las Vegas, NV 89116-3432
Phone/Fax (702) 896-5065
Toll-Free (800) 317-1614
Tyrus@TyrusRex.com

Tyrus R. Mulkey
CC>CC# LM2211-21
Southern Nevada Chapter #R-137
Slot Card Chapter #CM-59
Slab-Free Chapter #CM-9
PACK #M-99

Since 1999

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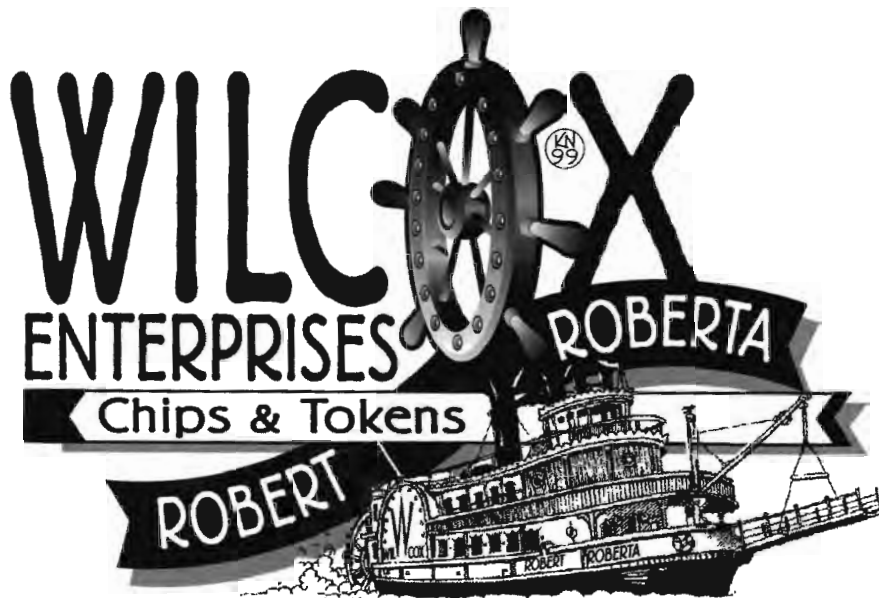
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The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Counterfeits, Misrepresentations and Alterations

by Howard W. Herz

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NEW ISSUE SERVICE

RIVERBOATS

COLORADO
(through 1999)

INDIANS

DEADWOOD

We specialize in keeping your collection up-to-date. If you collect Riverboats, Indians, or Deadwood, let us track down the chips and tokens and send them to you in our monthly shipments. With a 10% discount off our regular retail price, \$1 items cost \$2.70 and \$5 items cost \$7.65. You can specify what items you want us to send you and still return any items you do not want.

We maintain a Web site at <http://www.wlcxnt.com> where you will find a copy of our catalog, recent ads announcing new items and trip notes. We receive e-mail at robert@wlcxnt.com and regular mail at:

WILCOX ENTERPRISES
P.O. BOX 395
CARTHAGE, IL 62321

You can reach us by telephone at 217-357-3308 unless we are off chasing chips, in which case everything stops until we get back.

We have an extensive collection of both current and obsolete items from the area we service. Orders are generally processed over the weekend and shipped on Tuesday, but larger complex orders may take longer. If we can be of assistance to you, we would like to make your acquaintance. Please either phone, write or e-mail.

Robert Wilcox Cook

CC>CC # R-0577

Roberta Cook

President's Letter

Fall, 2002



Nate Pincus

Isaac Asimov, noted science fiction writer has written, "Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome." I've been doing a lot of thinking about transitions lately.

Our club is in transition. I am saddened by the recent resignations of three of our Officers: Vice President Neal Silverman, Secretary Marty Kaplan and Treasurer Dave Shorn. Each stepped down because they felt the sting of criticism directed at the Board of Directors on the club Internet message board. A few members crossed the line of decency subjecting our Officers to constant condemnation, criticism, denunciation and accusation. While most of us would not stand for this level of criticism and denigration in our personal or business lives, these loyal volunteers were forced to read these personal attacks while carrying out their club duties. Resigning was their way of dealing. I regret their decisions to resign; yet, I understand them. They were dedicated Officers who worked extremely hard on behalf of all the membership.

Our Board of Directors is in transition. I am very proud and excited to be able to announce that many members stepped up and volunteered to fill the vacant positions on the Board. I want to thank all of them for their interest and willingness to serve. From this impressive group, I appointed John Zoesch as Vice President, Tyrus Mulkey as Secretary and Mike Quinlivan as Treasurer. All are thrilled to be on the Board and are working diligently in this time of transition.

Our club elections are set for early next year. We have several candidates who have come forward to run for the Officer positions. Information about all these individuals is in this issue of the magazine. Ballots will be included with the Winter issue of the CCTN. As a member of this organization it is your responsibility to vote for the candidates of your choice.

Three constitutional amendments have been proposed. The text of these proposed amendments are printed in this issue. In the Winter issue of the CCTN, we will publish a statement by the three authors stating their rationale. I encourage members to submit their opinions to the Editor who will publish differing views. You will have the opportunity to vote on these amendments at the same time as the Officer's election.

John Yee had announced that he was stepping down as magazine Editor in the previous issue and that this issue would be his final one. His successor would be Allan Anderson who has been serving as Assistant Editor. Unfortunately, due to employment commitments John had to leave the position earlier than expected. Fortunately, Allan was ready to take charge. Allan, along with his new Assistant Editor, John Moore will oversee this seamless transition. While we have had much transition during my term, I want all of our members to know that the business of the club continues unabated. Our financial position has never been stronger. Plans are underway for next year's convention. The magazine will continue to be an award winning publication. Communication between the Officers and the membership has never been better. We have added two new chapters this year. The Building Fund continues to grow along with the prospect for having our own facility. But most importantly, we have many volunteers who make this club a great organization.

I'm having a great time as President of our club. It's a lot of work and it gets frustrating at times; however, I will continue to do what is best for all the members of the club. Managing transitions minimizes problems. With all due respect to Asimov, I revise his aphorism: Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. But in the CC>CC transition is a way of life.

Happy collecting.
Nate

Secretary's *Report*



Tyrus Mulkey

There are many projects currently in the works to assist in the relationship between the Club and the Chapters. Plenty of great ideas have been presented to the Board and action has begun! Already in progress is the use of technology to acknowledge membership by providing Club Mail addresses on the Internet and an email circle of representatives from (almost) all chapters that allows instant communication between Chapters and the Club Secretary to discuss any and all issues important to the Chapters.

We are also looking at how the Club can assist Chapters in maintaining and updating membership rosters and membership cards, as well as providing an easier process for all members to prevent a lapse in their membership at both Club and Chapter levels and to simplify renewals. Other current issues include enhancing the benefits of being a member of the Club and the completion of previous Club business that has kept these and other positive steps from moving forward.

I'm very excited to be a part of the Board of Directors for this great organization. We have a busy agenda ahead, but there is always room for more great ideas and suggestions, so keep 'em coming!

I would like to thank Nate Pincus for appointing me to this position and thanks to Marty Kaplan for getting so many projects up and running and his assistance in getting me up and running!

On a final note, if you don't know me, then please allow me to introduce myself. I joined the CC>CC in 1995 while attending my third convention at the Aladdin. I walked into the first convention and did an about face – "Those people are taking this way too seriously", I thought. "I'll never be into chip collecting that much!" I stayed longer at the second convention but didn't join until the third year. I ran the gamut – at first it was only dollars and fractionals; then my first \$5; then came LE's – "I gotta have them all" followed by reality "Well, maybe not *all* of them". I'm concentrating now on older Las Vegas chips as well as small town Nevada, although I still dabble in illegals, especially Texas, where I was born and raised. I've been in the gaming industry for over 15 years and currently work on the Las Vegas Strip.

I believe in open and honest communication. I encourage and request your suggestions, complaints, stories, thoughts, and ideas on all Club matters and on Chapter issues in particular. Our Board is intact and our Club is solid. Progress and success are never easy. While the Club and the hobby will move forward, the reason for it all stays the same – CHIPPING is FUN! Whether you're after a certain type of mold on a chip, a specific theme to a Silver Strike, any item from a special casino, specific room keys, obsolete slot cards, or a casino collectible that may have been held by someone famous or infamous, this is a great and exciting hobby, full of challenges and rewards! Don't lose sight of how and why you got started!

Tyrus Mulkey
LM 2211-21

Membership Officer's *Report*



Ralph Myers

It was a very nice quiet third quarter, not much to report this time around. If any member wants to remove their personal information from the membership list, please email me.

We do have two new life members, one of which is our first lady Life Member. Congratulations to:

Elaine Martello LM-4383-58

Jay Sands LM-4390-60

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me, phone me, or write me.

Ralph Myers
Membership Officer.

Correction

I am writing in the hopes you will correct & clarify an incorrect statement you made in the last column.

In your Officer's Report you list the top recruiter as American Chip Exchange. This should be American Chip Enterprises, Inc. In our book "The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide" by James Campiglia & Steve Wells, we have a membership application prominently placed in the back of our book. We convinced our publisher to let our club advertise free in the hopes of recruiting new members & we have now been the top recruiters for two years in a row. I am always thrilled to see my company name as a referral. I am now the sole owner of American Chip Enterprises, Inc.; although Steve Wells & I are still partners on the book itself.

Cordially,
James Campiglia



Renew Your Membership
Online with



Treasurer's *Report*



Mike Quinlivan

As of September 30, 2002, the cash balance in the club's accounts is \$130,498.60. For the first 9 months of 2002, the club treasury increased its cash position by \$21,864.70. This includes all revenue (including Building Fund donations) and the expenses related to the 2002 convention, but does not include expenses for the Fall 2002 issue of the club magazine. Please see the accompanying financial statements for more detail related to income, expenditures, and the breakdown of the cash accounts. Please note that the Building Fund Donations listed on the Income Statement is \$5,000 less than the amount in the Building Fund account because \$5,000 was transferred from the General Fund.

New and separate checking accounts have been opened for the General Fund, the Building Fund and the Life Membership Fund. The General Fund is a low-fee checking account for non-profit organizations. The Building Fund and the Life Membership Funds are Money Market checking accounts. All of these accounts now require 2 signatures for any and all expenditures. As of this writing, we are still in the process of transferring funds to the new accounts and closing the previous ones.

If you have any questions regarding the treasury, please feel free to contact me via phone, fax, email or snail mail.

Mike Quinlivan, Treasurer
September 30, 2002

CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB

Income & Expense/Equity Statement (cash basis)

January 1 through September 30, 2002

Income		\$36,997
Dues, including 1st class postage		
Convention:		
Auction	34,200	
Table Fees	27,720	
Promotion	14,693	
Registration	12,186	
Banquet	8,400	
Poker Tournament	6,160	
Convention Total		103,359
Building Fund Donations		9,693
Magazine Advertising		7,194
Directory Sales		190
Interest Income		123
Contributions		65
 Total Income		 \$157,621
 Expenditures		
Convention Expenses		87,500
Magazine		31,359
Poker Tournament		6,380
Postage		2,929
Website		2,819
Miscellaneous		1,181
Insurance		930
Printing (Other than Magazine)		881
Computer Expense		599
Telephone		531
Promotional		317
Bank Charges		190
Filing Fee		140
 Total Expenditures		 \$135,756
 Net Income - 1/1/02 to 9/27/02		 \$21,865
 Beginning Equity Balance - 1/1/2002		\$118,286
Net Income - 1/1/02 to 9/27/02		21,865
Ending Equity Balance - 9/27/02		\$140,151
 Detail of Equity Balance - 9/27/02		
Certificate of Deposit	50,000	
General Fund	48,406	
Life Memebership Fund	17,400	
Building Fund	14,693	
Total Cash Available		\$130,499
Inventory		9,652
Ending Equity Balance - 9/27/02		\$140,151

Respectfully submitted by Mike Quinlivan, Treasurer

September 30, 2002

New Members Since Last Issue

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5735	Reid	Christopher	CA	Landman, Wayne
5736	Manuel	James	IL	web site
5737	Shrope	Chuck	NY	Munding, Jim
5738	Spearman	David	AL	web site
5739	Mullan	Michael	UK	web site
5740	Hewett	Jim	OR	web site
5741	Roiter	Eric	NV	Heiman, Marc
5742	Buckland	Skee	FL	Susong, Greg
5743	Erway	Gregory	NY	Black, Archie
5744	White	Donna	IN	web site
5745	Coushay	J.	CA	Rodgers, C.T.
5747	Campbell	Kevin	TX	Martin, James
5748	Wagner	Russ	FL	Martin, James
5749	Peterson	Ted	MD	Finn, Dennis
5752	Powell	Albert	OR	american chip enterprises
5753	Burton	John	CA.	Follis, James
5754	Fishel	Fred	FL	
5755	Wilson Jr.	Henry	MD	web site
5756	Kozlowski	Susan	IN	web site
5757	Silverman	Sunday	CA	Hale, Greg
5758	Elliott	Pete	OH	web site
5759	Weiss	Gary	NY	
5760	Seichko	Paul	OH	Hartman, Scott
5761	Crowell	Ray	MI	web site
5763	Erickson	Steve	OR	Hewett, Jim
5765	Van Wormer	James	FL	web site
5765-A	Van Wormer	Alison	FL	web site
5767	Babiak	John	FL	atlantic city chapter
5768	Spruill	Rod	TN	web site
5769	Voller	M.J.	OH	the Chip Rack
5770	Peel	Sean	FL	web site
5771	Frizzell	Jim	AZ	web site
5772	Bowser	Vicky	AR	Steffner, Jim
5774	Wagg	Jeff	VA	
5775	Knizer	Diane	FL	club web site
5777	Burger	Andrew	MI	web site
5778	Merher	Virginia	NV	Pamperin, Sharon
5780	Lawrence	Les	WA	Susong, Greg
5781	Foote	John	NV	American Chip Enterprises
5782	Nadzam	Jason	CT	Ginsburg, Bob (CT)
5784	Bates	Nicholas	MA	Black, Archie
5785	Mancini	Al	NV	Susong, Greg
5786	Mehok	John	PA	web site
5787	Cox	Barry	NV	web site
5789	Bolton	Christopher	Mexico	Lucci, Lou
5791	Blye	John	WA	Trimble, Gene
5793	Wall	David	NV	web site
5794	Michael	John	CA	web site
5795	Donatelli Jr.	Fred	N.J.	Black, Archie
5796	Bennett	Bradley	S.C.	Ace
5797	Smith	Danny	KY	web site

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5798	Long	Jack	TX	web site
5799	Walters	Paul	SC	Hartman, Scott
5800	Boyarski	Donald	CA	web site
5801	Stepp	Waylon	OK	web site
5802	Fisher	Charles	NV	Trimble, Gene
5803	Bain	Kelly	NC	former member
5803	Bishop	Carl	NY	web site
5804	Colbert	James	CA	web site
5805	Kalinoski	Sharon	IL	Trewa, Jay
5807	Stormberg	Greg	TX	web site
5809	Szabaga	Peter	NY	web site
5810	Massaro	Clyde	MO	Borenstein, Alan
5812	Derhammer	Ron	MI	web site
5814	Nelson	Forest	LA	web site
5815	Reed	Steve	IL	web site
5818	Brattain	David	IN	Steffner, Jim
5822	Roach	Fred	NV	Lawyer, Joseph

Another Exciting Show Coming **CASINORAMA**

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CONTACT: Jim Munding P. O. Box 4087, West Covina, CA. 91791
(626) 919-0603 for information E-Mail: MUN3335@aol.com

Next CASINORAMA shows are Saturday. Oct 18th and 2003

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Members have submitted three proposed constitutional amendments. These proposed amendments will be on the ballot for a vote by the membership at the same time as the election of officers. Ballots will be included with the Winter issue of the CCTN.

In the Winter issue of the CCTN, the author of each of the proposals will have the opportunity to explain their rationale. I encourage other interested members to submit their opinion on these proposals to the magazine Editor. He will publish a cross section of views.

Submitted by Archie Black:

Article Four

Section 1

The Club shall be governed by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Membership Officer.

Proposed: The Club shall be governed by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, a Membership Officer, the Immediate Past President, and a Board Member at Large.

Section 2

A Board of Directors will be comprised of the five (5) Club officers.

Proposed: A Board of Directors will be comprised of the seven (7) Club officers.

Section 3

A) The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Officer will be elected for a two year term in each year ending in an odd number.

Proposed: A) The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Officer, will be elected for a two year term in each year ending in an odd number. The Board Member At-Large seat will be elected for a two year term in each year ending in an even number. The Immediate Past President will be automatically installed as a Board Member until a new President is elected at which time the current Past President will occupy the Immediate Past President's Board seat. In the event the Immediate Past President does not wish to serve on the Board, his/her predecessor(s) in inverse order of their elected terms shall be invited to serve in the Immediate Past President's Board seat. In the event no Past President wishes to occupy the Immediate Past President's seat; said seat, with full voting privileges, shall be filled as an additional "At-Large" appointment by the elected Board.

B) Nominations for officers shall be called for by written notification to all members in good standing not later than 180 days prior to the Club's next annual meeting in an election year. In order for a potential candidate to be declared a official nominee in any club election for office, the candidate must receive the equivalent of a nomination and a second in order to be listed on the official ballot as a valid candidate. To accomplish this requirement, a candidate must receive a minimum of two nominations.

Proposed: B) Nominations for the office of Board Member At-Large shall be called for by written notification to all members in good standing not later than 180 days prior to the Club's next annual meeting in each odd-numbered year. The At-Large Board member will be elected for a two-year term in each year ending in an even number year.

C) Election ballots will be mailed to each member in good standing not later than 30 days prior to an election, and shall specify the procedure for casting ballots in advance of the annual meeting.

D) Newly elected officers shall be installed every two years at the Club's odd numbered annual meeting.

Proposed: D) Newly elected officers shall be installed every two years at the Club's odd numbered annual meeting with the exception of the At-Large Board Member who shall be installed every two years at the Club's even numbered annual meeting.

Submitted by Marty Kaplan:

Article Four

Section 1

The Club shall be governed by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Membership Officer.

Proposed: The Club shall be governed by a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and an Officer at Large.

Section 2

A Board of Directors will be comprised of the five (5) Club officers.

Section 3

A) The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Officer will be elected for a two year term in each year ending in an odd number.

Proposed: A) The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Officer at Large will be elected for a two year term in each year ending in an odd number.

B) Nominations for officers shall be called for by written notification to all members in good standing not later than 180 days prior to the Club's next annual meeting in an election year. In order for a potential candidate to be declared an official nominee in any club election for office, the candidate must receive the equivalent of a nomination and a second in order to be listed on the official ballot as a valid candidate. To accomplish this requirement, a candidate must receive a minimum of two nominations.

C) Election ballots will be mailed to each member in good standing not later than 30 days prior to an election, and shall specify the procedure for casting ballots in advance of the annual meeting.

D) Newly elected officers shall be installed every two years at the Club's odd numbered annual meeting.

E) The officers shall serve until their successors have been duly installed.

F) Candidates for office shall be limited to all members in good standing of the Club.

G) In the event of a vacancy in office, the President shall appoint a member in good standing to hold office until the next regularly scheduled election.

Submitted by Michael Knapp:

Article Four
Section 3

(G) In the event of a vacancy in office, the President shall appoint a member in good standing to hold office until the next regularly scheduled election.

Proposed:

(G)(i) In the event of a vacancy in any elected office, which vacancy occurs within the first year after installation of the officer, a special election shall be held to elect a successor to serve the remaining term of such officer. As soon as practicable after such vacancy occurs, the Board shall cause to be sent to each member in good standing, a call for nominations. Regardless of the manner of mailing, the call for nominations shall be sent within 30 days of the vacancy. The special election shall take place as soon as practicable after close of nominations, by mailing to all members in good standing.

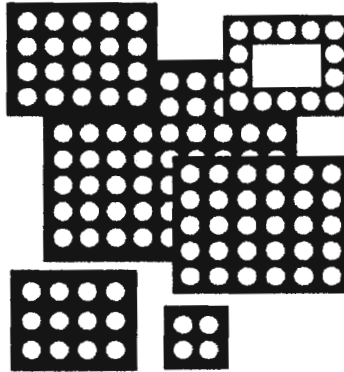
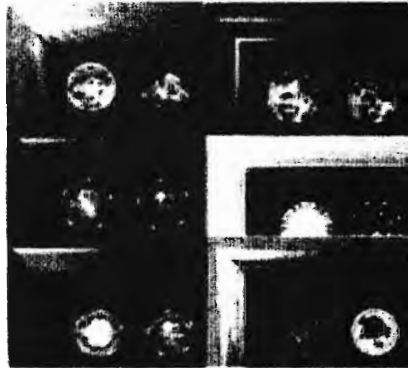
(ii) In the event of a vacancy in any elected office, which vacancy occurs after the first year following installation of the officer, the President shall appoint a member in good standing to hold such office until the installation of the officer's successor.

TOKEN COLLECTORS

Finally a book has been published that lists all of the gaming tokens that are known to exist in the world. The book lists over 10,500 tokens and a completely new issue is published every 3 months. Every new issue grows by 200 to 350 new entries. Each month, anyone that has a copy of the present issue is sent a list that has all of the new token information that has been found since their issue was published. Orders are mailed USPO Priority Mail with USPO Delivery Confirmation. The \$35.00 cost of the book includes all mailing costs. This is the book that you have been waiting for. Why try to use numerous, small, incomplete lists. THIS ONE BOOK HAS ALL THE KNOWN GAMING TOKENS IN THE WORLD. Contact : Earl Donley, The Token Book, P.O. Box 80572, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89180. His phone number is 702-876-8939 .

CC>CC # R-380

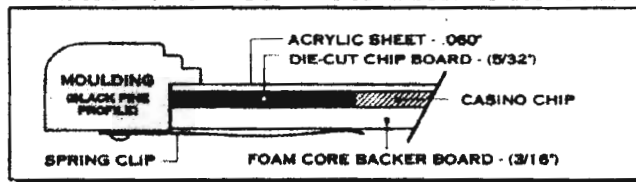
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Club Merchandise

Official Convention Chips & Medal Sets



2002 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$25.00 Set of 2



2001 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$25.00 Set of 2



2000 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$25.00 Set of 2



1999 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$22.00 Set of 2



1998 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$22.00 Set of 2



1997 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$22.00 Set of 2



1996 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$22.00 Set of 2



1995 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze,
 \$20.00 Set of 2 (Silver)



1994 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze,
 \$20.00 Set of 2 (Silver)

Packaged sets are available from 1994 thru 2002



2002 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2001 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2000 Convention Chip
\$4.00



1999 Convention Chip
\$4.00



1996 Convention Chip
\$4.00



1995 Convention Chip
\$4.00

2002 Poker Tournament Set
\$15.00 - 5 chip Set

2001 Poker Tournament Set
\$15.00 - 5 chip Set

Pins and Patches



2002 Convention Pin
\$4.00



2001 Convention Pin
\$4.00



Member Pin
New and Old Style
\$5.00



2000 Convention Pin
\$3.00



1999 Convention Pin
\$3.00



3 1/2" Embroidered Patch
\$4.00



1998 Convention Pin
\$3.00



1997 Convention Pin
\$3.00



One color Logo Sticker
\$1.00

Five color Logo Sticker
\$1.00



Convention T-Shirts



2002 Official T-Shirt
 XXL - \$15.00
 M, L, XL - \$11.00



2001 Official T-Shirt
 XXL - \$15.00
 M, L, XL - \$11.00



2000 Official T-Shirt
 XXL - \$11.00
 M, L, XL - \$10.00



1999 Official T-Shirt
 XXL - \$11.00
 M, L, XL - \$10.00



1998 Official T-Shirt
 Limited Sizes - \$10.00



1997 Official T-Shirt
 Limited Sizes - \$10.00



Polo Shirts
Misc. Colors with Pockets
 XXL - \$27.00
 M, L, XL - \$25.00
Misc. Colors without Pockets
 XXL - \$26.00
 SM, M, L, XL - \$24.00



Embossed Denim Tee Shirt
Blue or Green Washed Denim
 \$14.00



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Heavyweight
 \$49.95



**11 inch gold rim battery
 operated clock with club logo**
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- | | | |
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| Volume 6 issue 4 | Volume 11 issue 2 | Volume 14 issue 2 |
| Volume 7 issue 1 | Volume 11 issue 3 | Volume 14 issue 3 |
| Volume 7 issue 2 | Volume 11 issue 4 | Volume 14 issue 4 |
| Volume 7 issue 3 | Volume 12 issue 1 | Volume 15 issue 1 |
| Volume 8 issue 1 | Volume 12 issue 2 | Volume 15 Issue 2 |
| Volume 8 issue 2 | Volume 12 issue 3 | Volume 15 Issue 3 |
| Volume 8 issue 3 | Volume 12 issue 4 | |
| Volume 8 issue 4 | Volume 13 issue 1 | |
| Volume 9 issue 2 | Volume 13 issue 2 | |
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| 1995 | 1999 | |
| 1996 | | |
| 1997 | | \$10 each postage paid |

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 All prices subject to change without notice.*

CC>CC Wooden Issues

A.N.A. Club Meeting Souvenirs

1992 Official Club Chip "5" issued for the 1992 ANA convention		\$3.00 ea.
1989 "Two Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Pittsburg, Pa	\$1.00 ea.
1991 "Four Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Chicago, Il .	\$1.00 ea.
1992 "Five Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Orlando, Fl .	\$1.00 ea.
1993 "Six Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Baltimore, Md .	\$1.00 ea.
1994 "Seven Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Detroit, Mi .	\$1.00 ea.
1995 "Eight Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Anaheim, Ca .	\$1.00 ea.
1996 "Nine Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Denver, Co .	\$1.00 ea.
1997 "Ten Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	New York, N.Y .	\$1.00 ea.
1998 "Eleven Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Portland, Or .	\$1.00 ea.
1999 "Twelve Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Chicago, Il .	\$1.00 ea.
2000 "Thirteen Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Philadelphia, Pa .	\$1.00 Ea.
2001 "Fourteen Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	Atlanta, Ga .	\$1.00 ea.
2002 "Fifteen Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	New York, N.Y.	\$1.00 ea



Miscellaneous Club Wood Issues

1993 Official CC>CC 1st Convention Wood dollar (Gold or Silver color)		\$1.00 ea.
1994, 1995, or 1996 Official (2nd, 3rd, or 4th) CC>CC Convention Wood dollar		\$1.00 ea.
1997 Official CC>CC 5th Convention Wood Dollar (Blue Hot Stamped)		\$1.00ea.
1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 or 2002 Official (6th, 7th, 8th, 9th or 10th) CC>CC Convention Wood Dollar		\$1.00 ea.
1993 Wooden Nickel "You Are Invited" woodnik		.50 ea.
1994 Wooden Nickel "Repeated By Popular Demand" woodnik		.50 ea.
1995 Wooden Nickel "Bigger & Better" woodnik		.50 ea.
1996 Wooden Nickel "The Place To Be" woodnik (Ty.1 Wrong date & Ty-2)		.50 ea.
1997 Wooden Nickel "The Biggest Yet-Be There" woodnik		.50 ea.
1998 Wooden Nickel "A New Hotel-Don't Miss It" woodnik		.50 ea.
1999 Wooden Nickel "Be sure to - Be there" woodnik (Ty. 1 Teal or Ty.2 Orange)		.50 ea.
2000 Wooden Nickel "Millennium" woodnik (Ty.1 Error, Ty.2 purple, Ty.3 red)		.50 ea.
2001 Wooden Nickel "You will not want to miss this (green)		.50 ea.
2001 Wooden Nickel Error- has dollar graphics (purple)		.50 ea.
2002 Wooden Nickel "You snooze-You lose (blue)		.50 ea.
2003 Wooden Nickel "This is the Big One" (red)		.50 ea.
1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, & 1999 Florida Numismatists Wooden Dollar issued for Club meeting during F.U.N. Conventions		\$1.00 ea.



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Chip & Medal Design Contest

The club is now accepting entries for our Convention Medal and Chip design contest for the 2003, 11th Annual Convention. These club convention commemorative issues are very collectible and popular with the membership. All members in good standing are eligible to participate. Awards for winning entries in both categories will be presented at the convention in June 2003 at the Tropicana.

Contest rules are as follows:

- The obverse side of the medal will be the standard club logo, of which a die has already been prepared.
- The reverse medal design submitted is to be prepared in black and white, on plain paper in a circular area about 6" to 8" in diameter.
- The chip design subject matter may be presented in black & white with color designations, in color, as a photograph, decal, or penciled art layout. Hand drawn or computer-generated art is acceptable. Formal art is not necessary. Your idea is important.
- Up to three entries in each category may be submitted.
- A panel of judges appointed by the Design Chairman will select winning designs. Winning design may be modified to meet manufacturing specifications if needed. Any changes will be reviewed with the designer.
- All entries become the property of CC>CC and may be used for the T-shirt design if appropriate.
- Deadline for entries is February 28, 2003 and MUST be postmarked by the date to be eligible.

Mail entries to:

Design Contest
PO Box 368
Wellington OH 44090



Northern Nevada Casino Chip and Memorabilia Show

by Allan Anderson
Photographs by John Yee and Allan Anderson

On September 20th and 21st, Jim Fredrickson produced the first Northern Nevada Casino Chips and Memorabilia Show at Circus Circus in Reno. Jim has also produced very successful chip shows at the Chinook Winds Casino in Oregon where he is the Poker Room Manager.

The show was a huge success with attendees from all over the U.S. The following dealers had tables:

James Campiglia
Rich Burgel
Larry Hollibaugh
Bill O'Day
Paul Sax
Ed Hoffman
Howard and Kregg Herz
Steve McLendon
Dean Richmond and Jodi Sones
Casino Collectibles
C.T. Rodgers
Jim Munding
Walt Gonski
Jim Bethwell
Dave and Debbie Harber
Cheques in The Mail
Chris and Alicia Colangelo
Tiny Treasures



Jim Fredrickson

Scott and Estelle Hartman
Jim Rauzy
Toni & Clyde Bailey
Al Moe
Armin Pfeander
Steve Goodrich
David & Carol Wendleton
Frank Lonteen
Doug Saito
Gene Shabnow
Ron Minsberg

The building fund table was staffed by Bob Orme, Bob Pardue, Janice O'Neal and Sunday Silverman. Thanks to those who made donations at the show.

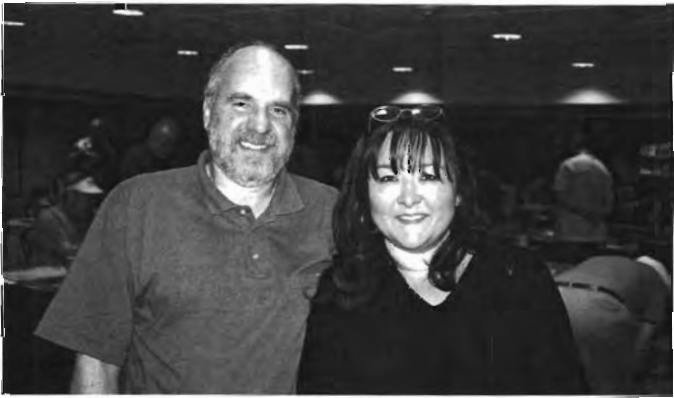
The Reno Hilton issued a chip for the show manufactured by Bud Jones. Thanks to Jim Roets for making this possible.



Look for Jim's next show at Chinook Winds Casino in Oregon on April 11, 12 and 13. Jim is also planning another Reno show for next year. ❖



Estelle and Scott Hartman



Allan and Kathie Anderson



Lou Lucci and Rich Burgel



Dick Bartley and Walt Gonski



Howard and Gregg Herz



Paul Sax, Pat Lamb, Bill O'Day and Daryl Lamb



John Yee and Barry Weintraub



Jodi Sones and Dean Richmond



C.T. Rodgers



Al Moe and Doug Saito



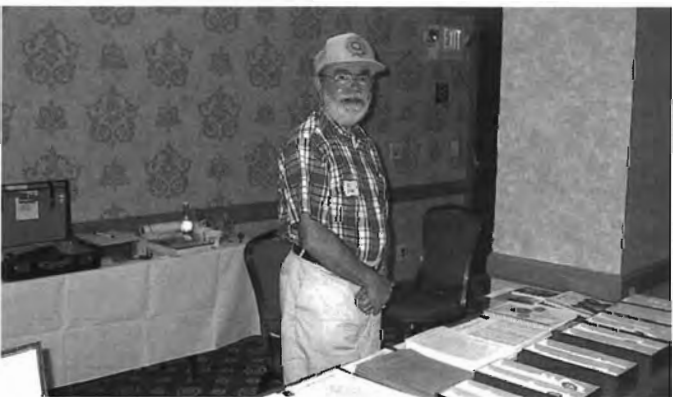
Bob Pardue and Jim Fredrickson



Larry Hollibaugh



Steve Wells and James Campiglia



Ed Hoffman



Lance Deal and Jim Rauzy



Toni & Clyde Bailey



Janice O'Neal and Sunday Silverman



Doug Saito and Steve Blust



Steve Goodrich



Paul Sax and Jim Munding



Steve McLendon



Alexi and Debbie Harber



Doug Saito



Richard Averill

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

by Howard W. Herz

Chip and check collecting as a hobby does not have a built in protection from problems of authenticity and fraud. Almost every hobby has it's darker side and chipping is no exception. Although problems of misrepresentation are not as rampant as in some hobbies, our hobby today is facing an increased number of frauds. Recent events that have cast doubts on slug core checks have brought the question of fraud to the minds of many collectors. I have always believed that education is the best defense for any collector. Taking on the problems of fraud and misrepresentation is an excersise in education and investigation. What you don't know can kill your wallet...but it should not stifel your enthusiasm for collecting. What may suprise most collectors is that counterfeits and alterations have been around for years in our hobby...they are not just a recent phenominum.

One of the fundamental principals that will guide us in our investigation of genuine checks, counterfeits and alterations can be stated as follows: **EVERY CHIP WILL HAVE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROCESS BY WHICH IT IS MANUFACTURED.** Whether those characteristics are from a licensed manufacturer or from a home made

counterfeit, it will be those characteristics that will most likely identify the source of manufacturer.

Let's start with some definitions to build a foundation of understanding. From the standard dictionary definitions, I have selected those that most readily apply to the subject at hand.

original ... **4.** created, undertaken, or presented for the first time.

alter **1.** to make different in some particular, as size, style, course, or the like; modity...

alteration ... **2.** a change; modification

counterfeit, adj. **1.** made in imitation with intent to deceive; not genuine; forged. **2.** pretended; unreal. - *n.* **3.** an imitataion intended to be passed off as genuine; forgery.

fake v., 1. to create or render so as to mislead, deceive, or defraud others. ... **3.** to counterfeit

fantasy ... **8.** an imaginative or fanciful creation; intricate, elaborate, or whimsical design.

faux ...artificial or imitation; fake.

forgery ... **3.** any spurious work that is claimed to be genuine, counterfeit

reproduction ... **2.** a copy or duplicate of an original

restoration ... **3.** a return of something to an original or unimpaired condition. ...**6.** a reconstruction or reproduction, as of an extinct form, showing it in the original state.

To begin with, we have to define what we consider to be "original".

Original Gaming Checks: Any gaming check and chip that is produced by a manufacturer / distributor by agreement with a customer based on the customers specifications, design and consent and is intended for use in a gaming operation.

Re-Ordered Original Gaming Checks: Any gaming check and chip that is produced by a manufacturer / distributor by agreement with a customer based on the the customers request for additional checks from the original specifications and design of a previous order and is intended for use in a gaming operation.

Both of the above definitions seem to be obvious and rather simple. The critical part of the definition is the concept that the checks were made by agreement between an operator and a supplier.

Counterfeits

Historically, alterations and counterfeiting can be grouped into two distinct periods of time. The period before the 1980's, and the period after. Before the 1980's and the rise of active chip collecting, gaming checks were the currency of the gaming industry and their redemption was limited to the gaming operators who issued the checks. Alterations and counterfeits were made to deceive gaming operators and primarily sought to achieve redemption of a check without detection. Counterfeits and alterations from this period of time tend to be of sufficient quality to avoid detection during an active game.

Many parts of the gaming industry have been self regulating throughout its history. The suppression of counterfeiting was primarily the domain of the gaming operators who did not hesitate to use force when a cross-roader was bold enough to try counterfeiting. There are probably both counterfeit checks and a few counterfeiters in Lake Mead. In an industry that is not known for its tenderness to problem makers, enforcement tended to leave the heirs and survivors with a clear understanding that counterfeiting checks was neither popular nor tolerated.

Some of the classic examples of early counterfeits and alterations are noted below: Using the basic definitions above, these items can be classified into counterfeits, alterations or a combination of both.

These classic alterations uses a combination of painted inlays on an original gaming check along with original inlays. The Harrah's \$25/5 has painted inlays.



A large number of the counterfeits in the early period of gaming were made for the "middle" denomination of \$25. It is presumed that this denomination would not bring a lot of attention in a game as would a higher value, yet would be of sufficient worth to make the counterfeiter money.

Fremont Hotel \$25:

Perhaps the most deceptive alteration of all, this check has the almost correct edge insert colors with a reproduction inlay. The primary indication that the inlay is a reproduction, is the fact that the "linen" hatch lines on the surface of the check are not also on the inlay as would be the case for an original. In this particular case, the inlay also displays slight differences of size and clarity.



Genuine Fremont Hotel \$25



Concoction Fremont Hotel \$25

Misrepresentations

With the rise of collecting, the value of many checks began to exceed their face value and the concept of counterfeiting and altering took on a different target. It might be easy and convenient to categorize certain spurious issues of checks into the general category of counterfeits, but the circumstance of their production will provide a more accurate classification. We have used the definitions above to expand the classification of some of the different checks that have been produced under less than original conditions. The stories of their production have been included to give a greater understanding of what these items are.

Original Manufacturer Unauthorized Issues

In addition to the regular counterfeiting and altering by cheaters, some of the counterfeits that are prevalent today grew out of practices of a self regulating industry and were not considered to be problems before collectors and collecting became a factor or consideration in check values.



One of the most interesting examples of “official” manufacturer’s “counterfeiting” of checks began when a group of gaming checks were manufactured for a casino that never opened. In an attempt to dispose of the checks and recover their cost of production, the official checks of an never-licensed casino were offered to a local Las Vegas man. The checks were sold as gift shop items and were quite successful. So successful in fact that the man asked for more checks. Having sold all of the checks from the cancelled order, the manufacturer began to produce checks that they had made from other casinos that were no longer in business. The customer requested that the checks be identical to the originals and the company complied as close as they could. The only difference in the original checks and these MANUFACTURER’S UNAUTHORIZED REPRODUCTION CHECKS was the the edges of the reproductions were perfectly straight whereas the originals had slightly curved edges. In addition, some of the reproductions were made with polished metal inlays by an unintentional accident. These checks constitute our category of unofficial reproductions that we define as:

Manufacturer’s Unauthorized Reproduction Checks

Gaming checks and chips produced by a manufacturer / distributor WITHOUT the consent of the

original customer. These checks are of identical or exceptionally similar design and appearance to the originals.



Genuine



Imitation Reproduction

The story of these Unauthorized Reproductions does not end here. Another Las Vegas man also found that the reproductions sold very well and ordered reproductions of additional defunct casino checks. These reproductions however were not identical. Since the period of time when the originals were made, the manufacturer had changed his manufacturing methods and the unauthorized reproductions that he did produce were identical in colors only. The mold design of the originals been an incused design in the surface of the check. The MANUFACTURER’S IMITATION REPRODUCTION CHECKS that were made had injection molded designs rather than

incused designs. These checks constitute our category of unofficial reproductions as:

Manufacturer's Imitation Reproduction Checks

Gaming checks and chips produced by a manufacturer / distributor WITHOUT the consent of the original customer that imitate the designs of original checks.

The production of these checks was initially done for gift shop sales, but they soon entered the small collectors market of the time and caused an uproar. The manufacturer of the metal inlay checks stopped making the unauthorized reproductions, but they can still be found in the collector's market place.

...The story however, still does not end here....

To obtain additional reproduction checks to meet the growing demand in the marketplace, the original customer who successfully sold the original group of checks from the never-licensed casino went to one of the clay check manufacturers and ordered exact reproductions of several defunct casino checks that they had produced.



These included the higher denominations from a well known Las Vegas casino and a Reno area casino. These checks, however, found their way to a collector / dealer.

The idea of marketing defunct checks appealed to the manufacturer who proceeded to produce a series of FANTASY DENOMINATION checks of high denomination for a defunct casino. These checks constitute our category of unofficial reproductions as:



Fantasy Denomination Checks

Gaming checks that are produced WITHOUT the consent of the original customer in denominations that were never originally ordered by the customer. The color combinations of fantasy checks may or may not conform to generally used colors for the denominations.



Unapproved Denomination Checks

Non-redeemable and non-live gaming checks and chips produced by a casino owner without the required approval of the official gaming control authority specifically for sale to collectors.



With the dramatic rise in popularity of gaming checks, the lure of the collector's dollars became the incentive for a dealer and a casino owner to create a set of checks that we classify as UNAPPROVED DENOMINATION CHECKS for a small casino that could hardly afford penny slots. By ordering a limited number of odd and higher value checks, the owner created special sets to be sold to collectors. The issue of what these checks are is clouded by the fact that the man owned a casino property - but was not fully licensed. It is also interesting that the property could have ill afforded the use of a \$100 check in any of its games let alone the higher denominations. The checks were spurned by collectors as a fraud on the hobby. These checks constitute our category of unofficial reproductions as:

Not satisfied with sales to customers who wanted the look and feel of genuine casino checks, the man who brought the hobby *Manufacturer's Imitation Reproduction Checks*, developed a series of SOUVENIR FANTASY COMMEMORATIVE CHECKS that depicted the logos of defunct casinos along with the dates of opening and closing of the casinos. These checks included values up to \$5000. Each of the casino groups have identical colors for each denomination, a practice that would not be followed between live gaming houses. Although the dating on these checks would indicate that they are not original issues, many people still can not grasp that notion that a business would not put the closing date on a live check.

These checks constitute our category of unofficial reproductions as:

Souvenir Fantasy Commemorative Checks

Unofficial Gaming check produced as a souvenir that depict logos and casino artwork WITHOUT official authorization from the original owners.





Las Vegas gift shops have sold sets of gaming checks for as long as they have existed. These sets have varied from the plain sets of colors to sets of checks with highly detailed inlays and inserts from fictitious casinos. These checks constitute our category of :

Fantasy Casino Checks

Gaming checks with inlays from fantasy or faux casinos.

Manufacturers and distributors usually set aside a specific set of colors to avoid conflicts with live casino checks for these sets. One of the telltale features of these sets is that the colors for denominations and the insert colors will not vary from set to set of different fantasy casinos. In effect, the manufacturers have created fantasy color combinations for these sets.



With an ever increasing number of movies being filmed in casinos that include gambling scenes, a separate category of MOVIE PROP CHECKS is appropriate. These are a distinctly separate category, having been created in the name of a faux casino for the movie or as non-redeemable movie props for an operating casino shown in the movie. These checks constitute our category of :

Movie Prop Checks

Gaming checks of non-redeemable values created as movie props for either existing or faux casinos.



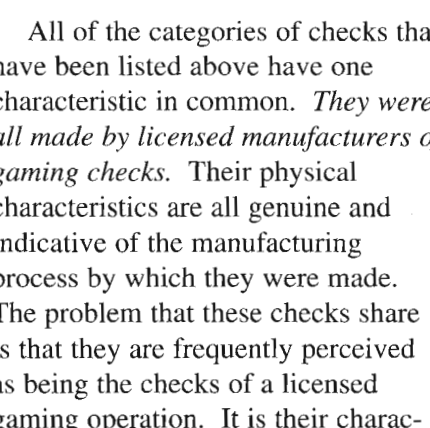
Our final category of gaming checks represents genuine checks that were produced for a casino operation that never opened. In the pure sense of the definition, if the casino never operated, the checks were never live checks and by most collectors standards are not "casino" issues. A number of cases exist where a manu-



facturer has sold these checks to recover their cost. It is the choice of individual collectors to consider these as “casino” checks or reject them for never having been in play. These checks constitute our category of:

Non-Operating Casino Checks

Gaming checks made for a casino that never opened and have never been in play by the original gaming operator who ordered the checks.



All of the categories of checks that have been listed above have one characteristic in common. *They were all made by licensed manufacturers of gaming checks.* Their physical characteristics are all genuine and indicative of the manufacturing process by which they were made. The problem that these checks share is that they are frequently perceived as being the checks of a licensed gaming operation. It is their characteristics of denomination, color

inserts, detailed inlays, and original molds that tends to give them an “official” look without any “official” sanction what so ever. We feel that collectors should educate themselves and be aware of these “imposters” that masquerade as “official” looking checks.

Counterfeit checks today are a rarity. With improvements in technology, check manufacturer’s have made counterfeiting difficult but not impossible. From a collector’s perspective, problems are more likely to arise in the form of checks that misrepresent than those that are total fakes. And this is what brings us to another area of deception found in our hobby.

Alterations

alter 1. to make different in some particular, as size, style, course, or the like; modify...

alteration ... 2. a change; modification

The definition of alterations stresses that the item has been CHANGED from its original state to represent something else. In the case of gaming checks, alterations are used to change the appearance of a check. This change can be to enhance the value by creating a rarity .

It is arguable that alterations can vary in the seriousness of the fraud they perpetuate based on the amount of change that they make. So what is the difference between an alteration, a restoration and a repair. We would define the essential differences as follows:

An ALTERATION changes the item from what is was to something new. An example of an alteration would be removing the plastic from a

slug-core check and applying a new, different color plastic to the core - thus creating a different color than what the original was. A number of these types of alterations have been made to slug core checks to create new patterns and trial pieces that in fact never existed. This type of alteration is clearly a fraud.

A RESTORATION is any process that brings an item back or near to its original condition. It can be said that cleaning and the removal of dirt might be considered as a restoration. The restoration of faded color with dyes would be an alteration as the original coloring of the check is replaced with a similar, but different coloring agent.

A REPAIR is a process that would bring a damaged item back or close to its original condition. An example of this would be glueing an inlay back in. A more extreme example might be glueing a broken check back together or mending a broken edge chip back into place.

To collectors, the most difficult problem in detecting alterations is the fact that they include original material that has been manipulated to create a new item. The "original-ness" of the item often distracts your attention from the true changes that were made. One of the most interesting examples of alterations involved the brass core gaming checks of Harvey's Resort Hotel. A gang in the San Francisco area purchased a number of the \$1 slug-core checks from Harvey's. Unfortunately, all of Harvey's checks had the same number of brass inserts on each denomination. The gang removed the original yellow plastic covering from the \$1 checks, then removed the brass \$1 denomination. They then glued brass \$500 denomination lettering to the slug core and

replaced the plastic coating with pink plastic. The triple alteration passed inspection in the casino cage until the total count of \$500 checks in the cage exceeded the total the club had ordered. Upon examination the fraud was detected



Recently, a number of brass core checks in previously unknown colors has surfaced in the hobby. These checks were primarily alterations of the plastic coloring to produce "rare off color samples". By using the same color formulas as the original manufacturer, the alterations appeared authentic. In the case of the brass cores, the core was original, but the plastic was altered. As of June, 2002, the producer of the altered cores was working on a two step alteration to create both a new color and an unreported denomination for an unethical dealer who had a target customer. Fortunately, the controversy over the brass core checks has dampened the dealer's greed, but the potential hazard remains.

Unfortunately the best protection against alterations is knowledge. With the limited amount of research that our hobby has due to its infancy, knowledge is not always easy to obtain. There are a number of analytical tools at the collector's disposal that will help with detecting alterations.

Each Alteration is Unique.

Alterations are not the product of a consistent manufacturing process - they are generally hand made and will often bear the "fingerprints" of what ever process was used to produce them. Their uniqueness can be the most valuable indication of an alteration

Even in cases such as the Fremont \$25 checks, the process was not identical to the original manufacturing process and the characteristics of the alterations had "fingerprints" such as the lack of detail, lack of "cross hatching" and crude inlay placement.



Genuine



Altered

Is the Item Consistant with Genuine Manufacturing Process?

Does the item in question have the characteristics of a genuine item. This, of course, requires a certain amount of knowledge for comparison, but a little research may clarify the question.

Provenance. Does the item in question have a know origin. Frequently, the source of an item can be an excellent testament to its authenticity. In the recent controversy over the authenticity of the Harrah's pink \$2.50 check, the original had come to the market place from the estate of one of Harrah's top executives while the others had surfaced without any apparant pedigree.

Source. Is the source of the item reliable? The reputation of the source can be helpful, but honest people do make mistakes.

Is It Logical? Is the item logical. Does its existance make sense. When you analyse the item, is it historically correct? Is the item composed of the right elements in the correct order? Here, again, knowledge may be lacking and research can be required. One of the best tests can be a historical one. A good example might be that Hat & Cane molded checks were not around in the 1930's...etc.

What Alone Does the Item Represent. Is the item, or is the holder it is in, making a representation that may not be correct or truthful. In any examination for alteration, pay attention to the holder first, but then pay more attention to the actual item. Do not be mislead by the package. Frequently the obvious is hiding in plain sight.

Compare. If you can compare the item to another from a different source, this may give you the best test of authenticity.

Seek Expertise. Many of your fellow collectors have gained an expertise in certain areas of collecting. Although they may be modest in their outlook, their knowledge can be very helpful. Two points of view can also expand the possibility of a solution.

Document Your Research. As a collector, you can contribute to the body of knowledge of checks that will help others. By keeping a record of what you have found, you can assist others as well as be certain that your findings are not forgotten.

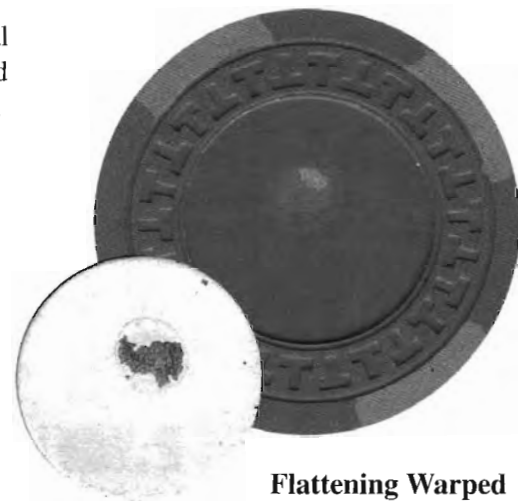
Alterations present a special challenge to collectors. They can inflict financial damage on a casual buyer, but knowledge, research and determination can greatly diminish their damage.

Restorations & Repairs

Restorations and repairs constitute a category of alterations to the condition of a check that will always remain controversial. By definition, they are an attempt to bring a check or chip back to a more original condition. Unfortunately, I do not agree that restorations and repairs are always necessary. What ever life a check has had is part of its character and history and I tend to respect that character. What is important in restorations and repairs is that they do not bring a check to a state of condition that is better that it ever was! Some of the more common types of restroration and repair are listed below.

Cleaning. Definitely a type of restoration, cleaning attempts to remove debris and dirt from th surface of a check. The effect of cleaning may be an enhancement of the color and mold definition when dirt is removed, but should not alter the base color of the check. The most common inconsistency that cleaning produces is that the color and lack of dirt in the details of the check are not consistant with the wear of the check.

Repairing Inlays. Inlays frequently loose their adhesion and can fall out of a check. Restoring an inlay can be a difficult task as the position should be exactly as the original for the texture on the face of the check to remain in allignment. Inconsistancies between the edge of the inlay and the check are common in repairs.



Flattening Warped Checks. Heat can be applied to remove a warp from a check, but the heat and pressure may flatten the detail of the surface of the check.

Filling Cancellation Holes. Holes and other types of cancellation can be repaired, but the consistency of the repaired area and the other surface areas of the check will often reveal the repaired area.

Removing Cancellation Hot Stamps. Cancellations of a check by using a hot stamp can be removed. In most cases the color of the cancellation is removed, but the impression of the stamp will remain impressed in the surface of the check. Be sure to examine the surface of the check in differing levels of light and from different directions.



Restoring Faded Colors. In most instances a faded color can not be successfully restored without the introduction of a dye. An attempt to restore color frequently results in variations that are not original and can be easily detected.

Repairing Breaks and Cracks. One of the most frequently made repairs to gaming checks is an attempt to fix a break or crack in the check. Only the most careful and diligent repairs of breaks are hard to notice. By turning the check in a constant light source, the crack should become visible. ❖



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COTY/TOTY/SSOTY/SCOTY AS THE DEADLINE APPROACHES

by Jim Follis,
COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and SCOTY Chairman

As 2002 draws to an end, we will soon be starting the Club's Annual Awards Competitions, in preparation for the Annual Convention. (Already? All right! I can hardly wait!). Mid-night, December 31, 2002 marks the closing date and time for qualification as a COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and SCOTY Nominee Candidate. So now might be a good time to begin looking back on the chip, token, Silver Strike and cards issued during 2002 that you would like to see in the competitions. But remember any item released up until the deadline will still be eligible for the 2002 competition. Placement of this notice is simply meant to serve as a reminder to reflect back to all the 2002 releases and not be swayed by recent issues.

In the next issue of the Club's magazine (Winter '03, January, February and March) we will include an article describing the various ...OTY Award Competitions and how the membership may nominate qualified candidates for judging. Additional details will also be provided to reflect where our on-line members may view many 2002 releases, and also allow them to submit and post scans of other 2002 releases not shown at the web-site.

May everyone enjoy the year-end holidays that are rapidly approaching.

Jim Follis
COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and SCOTY Chairman

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Quarterly Southern Nevada Limited Edition "Cheque" List

by Dave and Debbie Harber

Summer is over, school is starting for some, which means we have another three months of chip releases to report. June was a crazed month for chippers. We had our 10th annual CC>CC convention that appeared to be a huge success. For the convention many new chips were released along with the usual fare. Without further adieu lets start. Please remember when casinos issue varied denominations with the same artwork we will only picture a single chip here.

June 2002

June begins where May left off with 55 more possibilities to add to your chip collection. The chips that followed included, but were not limited to CC & GTCC convention chips, more horse racing chips for the Belmont, tennis chips for Wimbledon and of course the 4th of July holiday. To start off the month the El Cortez released a 300 mintage 60th Anniversary chip. This chip was one of two anniversary chips to be issued. Later in the month, the Excalibur also celebrated their twelfth birthday in June and had 1,000 chips manufactured by Chipco to commemorate the event.



The chips that really jump started the month were issued by 7 different casinos in honor of CC & GTCC's 10th annual chip and token collectors convention. Each casino used the club logo for one side of the chip. The Aladdin issued 1,250 five dollar chips and 250 twenty five dollar chips. The Fiesta had a \$5 chip with a mintage of 1,000. The Las Vegas Club varied from their usual releases and issued 1,000 \$5 chips. The Tropicana, the host casino for the convention, made 1,500 five dollar chips. The Palms really got into the act by issuing a \$1 chip with a mintage of 1,000, and a \$2.50 and a \$5 chip each with mintage of 1,000 and a \$25 two-hundred mintage chip.

But, that's not all folks. The Palms was also kind enough to manufacture 850 No Cash Value (NCV) chips for the convention. They gave one free to each person who presented a coupon at the Palms Keno lounge. The coupons were given in a "goody" bag to those people that pre-registered for the convention. The other NCV chip to be issued during the convention came from the Hard Rock. It was also available free to those who pre-registered for the convention if you were able to get to the Hard Rock Pink Taco restaurant to redeem the coupon before they were unexpectedly pulled. Finally, the Riviera had 3 chips targeting chip collectors. One was a \$5, 1,000 mintage chip with the club logo like all the others. The real gems were the \$5 and \$25 chips which seem to depict a child collecting sea shells on the beach and the phrase "Once a Collector...." on the obverse and a grown man standing in front of stacks of chips and the phrase "Always a Collector" on the reverse. There were only 500 five dollar chips and 100 twenty five dollar chips made.





Baseball chips were the next to come. Both Harrah's and their sister property, the Rio, each released baseball chips. The Rio with a mintage of 1,000 and Harrah's a mintage of 500 for the start of baseball season. The other chip to appear from the Rio at his time was their "Show in the Sky" chip with an unconfirmed number released.



Two holidays other than Independence Day were also recognized this month by none other than the Four Queens. The first was Flag Day. 750 five dollar chips and 100 twenty fives were released. The second holiday to be commemorated on chips this month was Armed Forces Day. A \$5 and \$25 chip with 750 five dollar and 100 twenty five dollar chips made.



The last of the Belmont chips came from the Las Vegas Club and Harrah's Laughlin. The Las Vegas Club issued another \$10 chip with a mintage of 200. Harrah's Laughlin finished their horse race series with 2,000 chips for this event.



During the convention a few more chips conveniently made their way out of the casino cages. These well timed releases included the Riviera's "Medalist World Championships" being held at the casino. Thirteen-hundred of these chips were made.



Tennis or Wimbledon, to be specific, was the next event to be chosen for chip distributions. While none of these chips actually have the printed words "Wimbledon", they were released during the same time frame that the matches were taking place. The Tropicana started it off by releasing 500 \$5 chips with a picture of Big Ben. Later in the month, the Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget each participated by issuing a 1500 mintage \$1, a 450 mintage \$2.50, a 450 mintage \$5 chip and a 50 mintage \$25.



Still more chips were released for every reason you can imagine and maybe some you couldn't. Tonopah Station in Tonopah re-opened and made a 500 mintage Grand Opening chip for the occasion. Even though the chip is dated "April", it was not released until early June. The El Cortez put out a two-piece \$5 set commemorating Hoover Dam. Three hundred of these sets were made. The Four Queens, after a year of waiting, finally issued their \$2.50 Red Planet Day 2001 along with a \$5 and \$25 Truck Driver Week 2001. There were 1,000 Red Planet chips, 750 \$5 Truck Driver and 100 \$25 Truck Driver chips made. Harrah's released a \$5 1,000 mintage race car chip.



Finally, we had a slew of 4th of July chips to run around and get. Circus Circus released 750 4th of July chips. Harrah's Las Vegas issued a \$5 chip with a mintage of 500. The Four Queens released a \$5 and \$25 chip with different artwork. They made 750 fives and 100 twenty-fives. The Tropicana had two patriotic \$5 chips for the Fourth each with mintage of 500. The Golden Nugget Laughlin got into the action by issuing "Rockets over the River" a \$5 chip with a mintage 1,000. Last but not least, the Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget again made \$1's, \$2.50's, \$5's and \$25's for the Fourth. Each casino issued 1,000 ones, 450 two fifty's, 450 fives and 50 twenty fives.



chips to be released included road trips. One road trip was out to Pahrump. The Pahrump Nugget had an unconfirmed number of \$5 chips made for the holiday. The second road trip took us to Laughlin for the second time in recent weeks. The Ramada Express and Edgewater each did Fourth of July chips. The Edgewater had 750 five dollar chips produced and the Ramada Express minted 1,000.



That does it for the June releases and not a moment too soon. I don't know how everyone survived this month with the money spent at the convention acquiring those much desired pieces along with trying to keep up with any new releases that might have tickled your fancy. Now on to July!

July

July started off with a bang so to speak with nine more Independence Day chips. The Las Vegas Club released a \$10 chip with a mintage of 300. The Excalibur did their part with 1,000 \$5 chips. The Rio released a \$5 one-thousand mintage chip. The Fiesta in North Las Vegas made 1,000 five dollar chips. The Aladdin released 800 \$5 chips and 200 \$25 chips. The El Cortez had 350 \$10 chips manufactured. The last three



and Busch Stadium in St. Louis. 500 of each were manufactured.

The Palms added to the month with another No Cash Value souvenir chip. This chip was given to attendees of the infamous Jimmy Tipton's Naughty Nighty Nite party. The remaining chips were placed on sale in the Palms Gift Shop. For those of you who do not know who Jimmy Tipton is, he is a host at the Palms and quite possibly the most renowned host in all of Las Vegas. He was previously the number one host at the Hard Rock Hotel but was persuaded to join The Palms when it opened in November. His Hard Rock Naughty Nighty Nite parties were so renowned that the Travel Channel did a story on the party. The requisite for women attending was none other than lingerie. The guys invited were given pajamas to wear for the event. From what we hear the party this year at The Palms was every bit the hit it had previously been at the Hard Rock and the remaining chips are disappearing quickly from the gift shop.



Month end brought us three chips from Texas Station in North Las Vegas. The casino issued a \$3, \$5 and \$1000 chip for "Love Shack" a local 80's cover band that performs at the casino. There were 8,100 three dollar chips, 3,400 five dollar chips



and an unknown number of thousand dollar chips manufactured.

It was lucky for our pockets that all in all July was a slower month for southern Nevada chip collectors. The casinos gave us somewhat of a reprieve this month by issuing only 16 new LE's. After all, last month they got us pretty good. With June being one of those record breaking months and July turning out to be somewhat of a dud, who knows what might be in store for August.

August

What could we expect for August? Not surprisingly not too much was released from the casinos this month either. Historically, limited edition chip releases during the month of August have been few and far between in southern Nevada.

The month began with a \$5 Jackie's Club chip released from the El Cortez with a 400 mintage. The there was the Excalibur. They issued a \$5 chip for seemingly no other reason than it was August. If any one knows of the reason behind this chip please fill us in. There were 1,000 of these made.



Much to our surprise, for a month that started out sizzling, it slowly fizzled in terms of new limited editions (LE's). The Tropicana began what looks to be a series of Baseball Stadium chips. The first four stadiums to be released were Yankee Stadium in New York, Turner Field in Atlanta, Jacobs Field in Cleveland



The Palms and Hard Rock each had chips manufactured for concerts being held at their venue. The Palms had Sugar Ray chips made in the \$5, \$25, and \$100 denominations with mintage of 1,500, 300, and 100 chips respectively. The Hard Rock issued a Moby chip for his performance at The Joint. 5000 of these chips were made.



Palace Station produced three hundred sets for the Senior Poker Tournament being held there. There were 25 five dollar chips in each set.

The Palms was the place to be for Stuff Magazine's VIP Party Weekend. The event hosted by Stuff Magazine models had a \$5 chip with a mintage of 2,000 available for purchase. The Riviera hosted the American Pool Association National Team Championship and manufactured 500 five dollar chips for the event. The Las Vegas Hilton issued a \$5 chip for the Star Trek convention being held at the hotel. Rumor has it there were 1,000 made.



The Tropicana released their next four \$5 stadium chips in the series. Again, each chip had a 500 mintage. The stadiums depicted this time included Camden Yards in Baltimore, Miller Park in Milwaukee, Wrigley Field in Chicago and Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego.

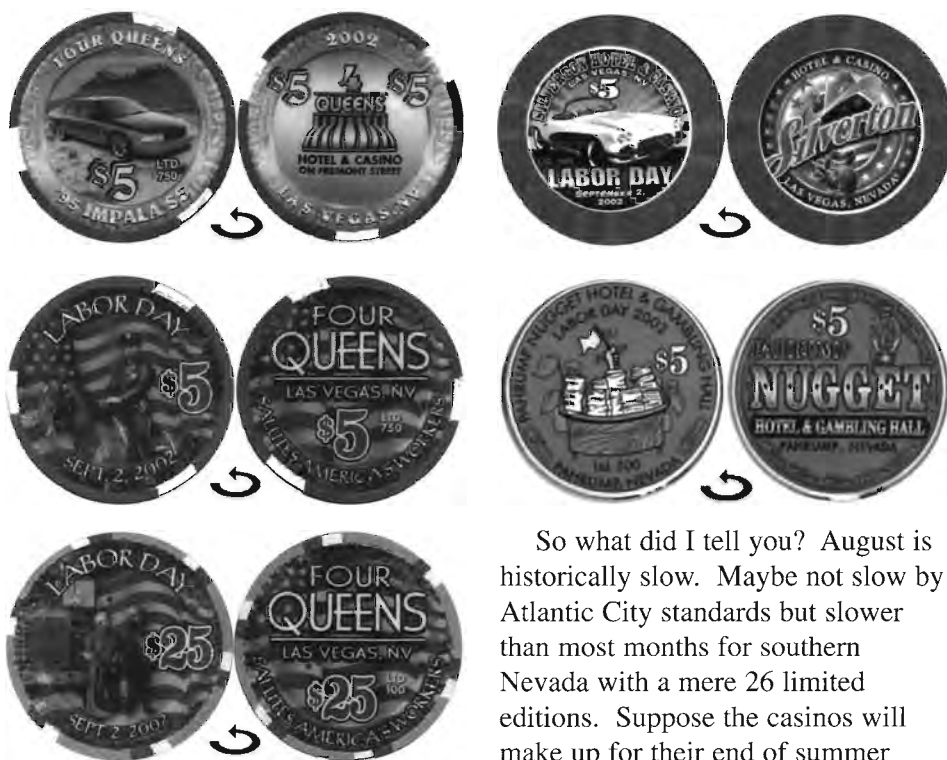


The Rio issued a Miss Rio chip. It is a \$5 Bud Jones chip with a picture of a girl in a bathing suit top with the caption "Miss Rio 2002". They made 1,000 of these chips. The Hard Rock, after a long lapse between chip releases due in part to the untimely death of bassist John Entwistle and the subsequent cancellation of The Who concert, announced they were re-issuing the much desired Barris car sets. The time and date was announced. The usual chip line formed and everyone was patiently waiting. We were told the chips had unfortunately been detained but they should be arriving shortly. Eventually



the line started to move, there was excitement in the air and then we found out it was not for the much anticipated Barris sets. It was the Moby chips which we mentioned above that were made available for sale. After a short time the line stopped and chips were no longer being divvied out. We all thought the Barris chips had arrived. Yeah!!! After all, George Barris was there to sign the sets

starting at 6 PM. But that was not to be. The next thing to happen has never happened in our 7 year experience of standing in chip lines in various casinos. We all had to loop around the line in order to have the person, who had originally been first in line at the beginning of this fiasco, back up in the front of the line when the Barris chips finally did arrive. After a minimum of 4 hours in line (if you arrived right at 5 PM for the original release time) the chips were distributed. Each person was able to purchase 5 sets each time they made it through the line. Upon first glance, the chips appear to be identical to the original set but if inspected thoroughly the hat & cane security mark on the new chips is larger than on the original chips. The other change was the packaging inside the jewel case. Those who had the fortitude to continue waiting could then stand in another line to have your set(s) autographed. Thankfully, George Barris also waited patiently all those hours with the rest of us in line to autograph the sets even though he was only scheduled to be there a few hours. Thank you Mr. Barris. There were 1,000 of the second Barris sets available.



The last chips to be obtained for the month of August were also Labor Day chips. The Silverton stuck with their previous classic car theme and issued a 1,500 mintage \$5 chip. The final Labor Day chip to obtain actually required some work. It required another road trip to Pahrump. The Pahrump Nugget released 500 \$5 chips for the holiday.

So what did I tell you? August is historically slow. Maybe not slow by Atlantic City standards but slower than most months for southern Nevada with a mere 26 limited editions. Suppose the casinos will make up for their end of summer hiatus in September, October and November? We'll see.....

Until then, as always, Happy Chippin!

At this time we would also like to recognize the following individuals for providing a few of the images contained in this article; Andy

Hughes, Chuck Smorse and Pete Rizzo. Thank you for your contributions.

Dave and Debbie Harber have been limited edition chip collectors since 1993 and together own the World's largest Nevada LE chip brokerage, Cheques in the Mail, Inc. They can be reached through their websites at: www.lasvegas-chips.com or www.lechips.com. ❖



To wrap up the month, the Four Queens released four chips this month. The first two chips were \$5 and \$25 chips which pictured a 1995 Impala SS. There were 750 five dollar and 100 twenty five dollar chips issued. The other two chips to be released were for Labor Day and were also in both \$5 and \$25 denominations.



CHIPS OFF THE OLD BLOCK

Terry Lazarus, R-2708

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Web site: <http://ocvirtual.com/cotob/>

Selected Specials: { *Catalog of over 90 pages, 2500+ chips ...\$4 }

Mandalay Bay \$1 Year of the Horse	\$19	Caesar's (S. Lake Tahoe) \$1 Gray LgKey	\$22
Mandalay Bay \$5 Year of the Horse	\$22	Horseshoe -1995 WSOP NCV's 1-5000	\$99
Treas Is- 5 Diff- Table 10 - Never Opened	\$25	Frontier Hotel 50c H&C(CJ) "PAN"	\$39
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 S-Mold (Sinatra Era)	\$48	Riviera (LV) 25c; White w/ Red HS; 80's	\$45
Stardust (Tahoe) \$5 Arodie	\$99	Foxy's Firehouse - 4 Colors H&C NCV's	\$45
Incline Village \$100 H&C(CJ) Drilled	\$199	Golden Ngt Rare NCV's 6 Diff : 1-1000	\$249
Giudici's (Sparks) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$59	Fiesta -Royal Flush Series of 24 \$5 Chips	\$230
Sierra Tahoe Dealer's School \$1, \$25, ND	\$42	Cactus Pete's 25c Brown H&C HS Gold	\$89
Silver Nugget H&C NCV's: 1,5,25,100	\$32	Hard Rock \$25 Cinco de Mayo 2002	\$120
Hard Rock "Rock 'N' Rods - Set of 4 \$5	\$50	Texas (LV) 4 Colors: 8-Suit NCV's	\$32
Town Tavern \$5 Purple Sm Crown 4-Yel	\$48	Bally's Grand (AC) Hall of Fame Set of 5	\$65
Silver Nugget \$25 Mike Tyson (25 Made)	\$139	Mint (LV) 25c Purple 2-Yellow pic-Hotel	\$39
Stork Club (LV) \$5 OR \$25 OR \$100	\$349	Ore House (Reno) - Plain Mold \$1,2,5,10	\$55
Laughlin - 12 Diff - River Run 2002	\$99	Gold Strike (Jean) NCV's: 5,25,100,500	\$38
Hard Rock "Who" at the Joint \$5 & \$25	\$55	Pink Pussycat (Reno) \$1, \$2, \$5 w/ "\$"	\$49
Opera House Unicorns-5,25,100 With \$	\$49	Pink Pussycat 1,2,5 Error Set - No "\$"	\$59
Opera House Unicorns-5,25,100; No "\$"	\$45	Joe's (Gerlach) \$1 Orange Sq-in-Circle	\$69
Bladensburg (Md.) Complete: 60 R'lettes	\$169	Curzon House (London) 10 Pd Plaque	\$45
Harvey's H-Mold 3-Skull/Wheel R'lettes	\$89	Curzon House (London) 50 Pd Plaque	\$75
Ponderosa \$1 Navy LgKey 3-Pink	\$38	Sahara Gardens (Santa Cruz) Obs Set - 7	\$69
Opera House 9/11 Charity Set 3 NCV's	\$100	Bellagio - Ocean's 11 Dia/Mermaid Set 5	\$95
Harrah's \$2.50's Dry Heat #1, #2, #3, #4	\$28	Harrah's Reno \$5 V2714 "Happy B-Day"	\$85
Sahara (LV) \$20 Baccarat Plaque (60's)	\$45	Harrah's (Laughlin) Set 3 - Triple Crown	\$29
Jailhouse - Set of 4: 50c, \$5, 2 Diff \$25's	\$65	Trop (LV) - Brooks Robinson - SIGNED	\$49
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 Black Rectangle	\$129	Stockmen's (Elko) \$25 Pink; Metal Inlay	\$89
Mesquite Star - 5 Diff \$5	\$59	Hard Rock: 7 Obs R'letts Yel/Org-Flame	\$69
International Dealer's School (LV) 1,5,25	\$28	Sands 3 Chip Tourney Set \$5, \$25, \$100	\$95
Sahara \$1 - Christmas 1968 1 st LE	\$12	Trop (LV) 5 Match Play Gray/Pink Pie	\$50
Harvey's Obsolete Brass - \$1, \$2.50, \$5	\$29	Harrah's Reno \$5 Octagon "Satisfaction"	\$35
Harvey's Obsolete \$25 Orange Brass	\$49	Ponderosa Reno N.D. Red Plain V5305	\$119
Opera House \$1 71 Yrs Only 231 Made	\$7	Opera House 71 Yrs \$1,5,25,100 (19 Sets)	\$389
Sonoma Inn (Winnemucca) \$5 N3350	\$38	Town House \$5 V9907 Brn SmKey None	\$70
North Shore Club Zigzag "NSC 2" Navy	\$65	North Shore Club 50's "A" SmKey 3 Diff	\$129
Harrah's Tahoe Obs. NCV's 1,5,25,100	\$39	Hard Rock - Manchester or London '02	\$19
Harrah's Tahoe - Bud Ice - Matched Set	\$169	The Gambler (Reno) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$59
Harold's Gun Club - 3 Diff Roulettes	\$99	CasinoCareer Inst \$1, 2.50, 5, 25, 100, 500	\$29
Saddle West: 1 st Issue H&C: 25c, \$1, \$5	\$49	Foxwoods \$10 - Frank Sinatra	\$38
Reno: Hot August Nights '02 - Set of 7	\$125	Jim Kelly's Nugget \$1 Lg Key Maroon	\$28
State Line N.D. V9838 Chinese Warrior	\$79	The Shack (Lake Tahoe) \$5 Diamond	\$69
Heinie's Reno - Red, Green, White	\$22	Meeks Bay (Tahoe) \$1, 2.50, 5, 25, 100	\$49
Sands (LV) \$1 N2128 70's Lg Pinwheel	\$35	Trump Marina \$25 Hooters (Hologram)	\$50
The Nugget \$25 Home of More Jackpots	\$575	Circus Circus - Emmett Kelly Set of 6	\$59
Mr. C's (Reno) \$5 H&C 4-Brn 4-Purple	\$95	Monte Carlo (Reno) \$1, 2.50, 5, 25 O/S	\$49
Eddie's Fabulous 50's: 5, 25, 100 NCV's	\$89	Trump Castle - Royal Flush - Set of 20	\$249
Tahoe Nugget \$1 Red H&C(CJ)	\$59	Mandalay Bay \$5's: Vargas & DeLaHoya	\$19
Eldorado RARE \$5 NCV - "Fly Away"	\$125	Nugget (Reno) Green H&C(CJ) 3-Red	\$49
The Nugget \$.25 Oran. Sm Key pic of Ngt	\$69	Nugget \$1 Maroon SmKey pic of Nugget	\$69

P&H: Up to \$100 = \$2.50

\$100 to \$299 = \$4

\$300 or more = No Charge



CHAPTERS

In some areas of the country, CC>CC members have formed local chapters and hold regular meetings with educational programs, swap meets, trading sessions, and auctions for their members. More chapters are being formed all the time, and every one welcomes members from other parts of the country when they happen to be visiting. Contacts for current CC>CC chapters are listed below.

Atlantic City Chapter - Dick Brach - 908-647-0814 - <http://www.chiptech.com/acchapter/>

Casino Chip Collectors Club of New York - Travis Lewin - 315-443-1222

Colorado Chapter - Lee Bruton - 303-279-1299

Deep South Chapter - John Mayercik - jmayercik@aol.com debi Stultz - dstultz214@aol.com
<http://www.home.cfl.rr.com/deepsouthchips>

Florida Chapter - Howard Kaplan - hkaplan@cfl.rr.com - <http://home.cfl.rr.com/floridachapter/>

Great Lakes Chapter - Albert Scalzo - 810-794-3378 - <http://www.GreatLakesChips.adahost.com/>

Greater Houston Chapter - Vern Blanck - 713-587-0734 - <http://chipster.net/houston.htm>

Southern Nevada Chapter - Mary Lou Fortner - 702-228-0827 - <http://www.ccgctcc.com/chapters/sonev/home.html>

Mid America Chip Collectors Club - Greg Susong - greg@chipguide.com

NY Metro Chapter - Charles Kaplan - 516-763-2327 - <http://ccgctcc.com/chapters/nymetro/>

Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter (Northern California) - Todd Dingley - 916-393-6464
<http://www.anderson-design.net/norcal.html>

Ohio River Valley Chapter - Amy Andrae - arandrae@peoplepc.com - <http://www.geocities.com/orvccc/index.html>

Silver Strike Chapter - Mary Lou Waterbury - mlwaterbry@aol.com

SlabFREE Chapter - Pete Sanders - psand@slabfree.znn.com - <http://www.slabfree.com/>

Southern California Chapter - Scott Hartman - 800-582-5707 - Jim Munding
<http://www.ccgctcc.com/chapters/socal/Home.htm>

Auction 2003

at the Annual CC>CC Convention, June 28, 2003

All of us will agree that our Club Auction was one of the highlights of our 2002 Convention. It is now time to consign lots for the 2003 auction.

Each member (and Associate Member) may submit 2 lots – please, no current or common items. They should be sent insured return receipt request to:

Bruce Landau
44 West Gate Road
Suffern, NY 10901

Please do not delay sending in your lots!!! We are planning to limit the sale to approximately 250 lots. When we reach this total, additional lots will be returned.

This year we are making a modification to the auction and we ask you to consider the following when consigning your lots. As we have done in the past, lots will carry no minimum or reserve. We plan however; to include approximately 15-20 lots valued at a minimum of \$1,000 (last year the amount was \$1,500). These lots will be only ones with a reserve. If the lot is not sold, the consignor will be charged \$100. Also, while all other lots have a 10% buyers and sellers fee, these lots will only carry a 5% fee for both the buyer and seller. In addition, these lots will be featured in color on the cover of our auction catalog and an extensive write-up will be included for each lot. So, if you have that “special” piece you want to sell, this is the best opportunity for you. There is virtually no risk and a potential of a very high return. When the piece is consigned, please be sure to indicate that it is a “Reserve” piece and state your requested reserve.

If you want, please feel free to write a description and a “sales pitch”. We of course reserve the right to edit the copy. No slabbed or graded chips will be accepted for auction. There will be no other changes for the Convention Auction.

All Lots Must Be Accompanied By A Copy Of The Submission Form. Upon receipt of your lots, Bruce will return a signed copy of the Submission Form which will be your acknowledgement of receipt. In case of duplicate submissions, the first one received will be accepted. Your auction deadlines are as follows:

- December 31, 2001: Last day to submit auction lots.
- March 31, 2002: Last day to order Auction Catalogs.
- May 15, 2002: Auction catalogs will be mailed.

- 10 Days before Sale: Last day to submit mail bids.



PLAYBOY *at the* HOME VIDEO



by Gene Trimble

I thought, you might like to see the progression of a work in progress. The Playboy chips were in the works for some time but we had reached the point of no return and had given up on them.

On 8/12 the OK came from Playboy. We made a call to France

but Bourgogne et Grasset was going to be closed until late August for a company holiday. Bud Jones agreed to do the art and push Bourgogne et Grasset to produce the chips and deliver on time.

On 8/13 Bourgogne et Grasset guaranteed delivery. It would be a job

to get it done. Art, approval by The Palms and Playboy, art approval by gaming which normally takes 7-10 days! Then production of notched chips, shipping from France and normal 7-10 days in gaming. Final production and shipping from France all this with Bourgogne et Grasset not opening again until the end of August.



1st art delivered on 8/13.

Nicole and Dalene spelled wrong. Neither the Palms or Playboy noticed this. Playboy felt Dalenes picture was bigger than the others and could cause spats between the ladies.



8/14

Dalene smaller. OOPS, too small!!!!



8/15 No 1

Dalenes picture OK. OOPS, her name is spelled wrong!

8/15 No 2

OOPS, Nicole is spelled wrong.



8/15 No 3

OOPS. A Playboy lawyer in Chicago voiced his concern that we did not have the right to use the names even though we did have the rights to the picture.



8/15 No 4.

1/2 of the order arrived in Las Vegas yesterday. The rest expected by this Friday.

Thank you to Playboy, Bud Jones Company, Bourgogne et Grasset, and Nevada Gaming.

Special thanks to Bud Jones artwork specialist Pearson for putting everything on hold for this job. Thanks to all on The Chipboard who have responded in a positive manner on this issue and all Palms issues. We will continue to promote in house promotions with our chips. We have some good ones in the works. ❖

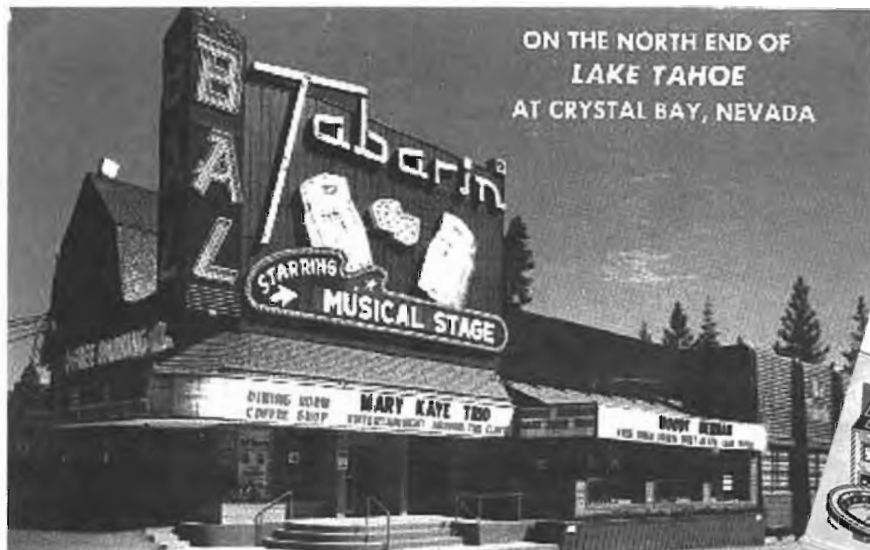


Final Chips

Dean and Jodi's Legendary Casinos

by Dean Richmond and Jodi Sones

Lake Tahoe



Bal Tabarin

The La-Vada Lodge, a speakeasy with gambling, was built on the North shore of Lake Tahoe at Crystal Bay in 1927. When it received a gambling license in 1931, the name was changed to the Cal-Vada Lodge. Joby Lewis purchased the Cal-Vada in 1955, and he resold it the following year to a group that renamed it the Bal-Tabarin, after the San Francisco night club. Lincoln Fitzgerald bought the Bal-Tabarin along with the Tahoe Biltmore in 1959. Fitzgerald closed the Bal one year later when he caught employees stealing.



Nevada Lodge

Lincoln and Meta Fitzgerald bought the Tahoe Biltmore in 1958, renaming it first the Nevada Club and then finally the Nevada Lodge. Lincoln Fitzgerald died in 1981 and the Lodge was sold in 1986. The Fitzgeralds were involved in Nevada gaming for 41 years.



George's Gateway

George Cannon opened the Gateway Club next to Harvey's Wagon Wheel in 1949. Cannon opened his Quonset-hut at the California-Nevada state line when Placer County outlawed his slot machines at his Highway 50 location. In January of 1955, Bill Harrah bought the Gateway Club for \$500,000. Harrah's opened Harrah's Lake Club on the site on June 20, 1955. One Year later Harrah's sold the club to Harvey's for \$5 Million.



Sparks

Shy Clown

Rod's Shy Clown Casino opened at 865 S. Rock Blvd. in Sparks Nevada in 1974. In 1976, "Rod's" was dropped from the name and it continued as the Shy Clown until 1981. It was closed for a period of seven years and in 1988 the property reopened as Baldini's Sports Casino.. ❖



CC>CC Announcement Board

CC & GTCC Publicity Director

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 10/19/2002 5:54 p.m.

It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Len Cipkins as the new CC & GTCC Publicity Director. Len is a new member (#5479) but a long time collector. He is a great example of the expertise and excitement that many of our new members bring to this organization. He brings a wonderful background and a wealth of experience and contacts to the position. Len is presently the Publicity Director of Huntington Press and Anthony Curtis' Las Vegas Advisor. Both are involved in the publication of casino and gaming related books and periodicals. He has been employed in the publicity field for his entire career including a stint with Casino Player Magazine.

Len would like to have your ideas and your help in developing and carrying out a plan for publicizing the club and the hobby. I know that he would welcome your input.

Please join with me in welcoming Len to this very important and crucial position.

CC & GTCC Promotions Chairperson

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 10/19/2002 5:53 p.m.

I am pleased to announce that Pam Focazio has been appointed as the CC & GTCC Promotions Chairperson. Pam is succeeding Dick Allard who held the position for many years. Pam is a resident of Las Vegas and oversees a company that sells supplies to school districts, government and business. She will be taking responsibility for the inventory and for filling member's orders for club promotional items. Pam will also be responsible for the club promotional sales table at the convention.

There will be a period of transition so please be patient if you have placed an order. Pam will need help at the convention so if you have a couple of hours available, please contact her or Jim Steffner to volunteer.

I'm gratified to have someone with Pam's qualifications to step forward and assume this important club position.

Club Promotions Chairman

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 9/18/2002 8:57 p.m.

Dick Allard has tendered his resignation as the club's Promotions Chairman. Dick is planning on moving from Las Vegas and will be unable to continue. Dick has done an outstanding job over more years than I can remember handling the sale of club promotional items. Dick has sold many thousands of dollars of club branded merchandise, with all the proceeds going directly to the club treasury for the benefit of the membership. My deepest thanks go out to Dick along with best wishes for a successful relocation. I know that he will always make himself available to help the club in any way possible.

Dick is a great example of a member who has quietly worked for this club for many years without much recognition. Please extend your appreciation to Dick for all his extraordinary efforts.

New Magazine Editor Appointed

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 9/18/2002 8:52 p.m.

I am very pleased to announce that Allan Anderson has been appointed Editor of our award winning club magazine. Allan will be taking over the Editor's post after two years as Assistant Editor. Allan worked closely with John Yee during that time and was responsible for most of the layout and technical aspects of the publication. Allan also wrote articles and worked with other contributors on their submittals.

We are fortunate to have someone with the experience and willingness to step forward and take over this very challenging position. Please join with me to congratulate Allan and to offer encouragement and assistance.

Magazine Editor Resigns

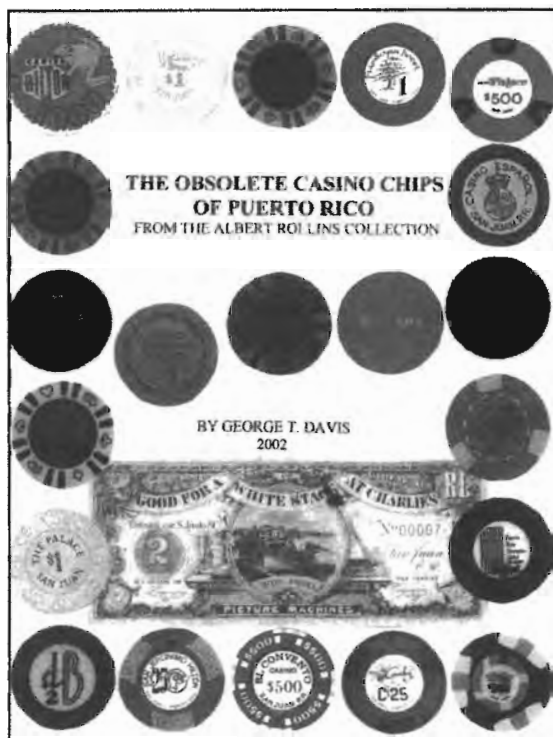
Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 9/18/2002 8:49 p.m.

John Yee called today to inform me that he is stepping down as our magazine Editor effective immediately. Earlier this year, John told me of his intention to resign effective with the publication of the Fall issue of the CCTN due to personal time constraints. John's premature departure is a result of his accepting an employment opportunity that will involve travel and will not leave sufficient time to devote to the very demanding Editor's position.

Our club magazine, under John's leadership steadily improved in both quality and content. He was able to raise the level of what was a marvelous publication to one that was recently recognized by the ANA as outstanding. My thanks go out to John for all his hard work and dedication and I wish him the best in his new job.

THE OBSOLETE CASINO CHIPS OF PUERTO RICO

NEW



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"25 previously unlisted chips"
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from
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Offer #2 Autographed Puerto Rico Book, plus 100 Puerto Rico chips (Cat Value \$2500)
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Offer #3 Puerto Rico Book & my chip list for only \$60.00 pre paid

ALBERT H. ROLLINS

CC>CC #R-0278

P. O. Box 190449

San Juan, P. R. 00919-0449

11th annual CC>CC Convention 2003

June 25th – June 28th, 2003
The Tropicana Hotel
Las Vegas NV

It's not too early to start planning for the 11th Annual Convention and Show. Join your fellow members in celebrating our club's 15th Anniversary. More than 1700 individuals attended the 2002 show, total three day attendance was close to 3500 and we expect 2003 to be even bigger and better. If you have not attended one of the Club's Conventions in the past, you are missing the premier event of the year.

The 2003 convention will reflect our tremendous growth and will have something for every member; chips, tokens, slot cards, silver strikes, casino memorabilia, dice and ashtrays. You won't want to miss the educational exhibits, seminars, trading sessions, chapter meetings, and much more.

The Tropicana Hotel & Casino will be the site for the Convention and we know the staff of the hotel is again anxious to assist the club in presenting this first class event. The Tropicana sits on one of the busiest corners in Las Vegas and is convenient to many amenities. The Grand Ballroom is beautiful and spacious; there is a large selection of fine restaurants, headliner entertainment, a spa, and even swim-up blackjack, as well as the convenience of being close to the convention activities and all your fellow chippers.

We have some new and interesting things planned for 2003, thanks to all the suggestions received. Keep watching your club magazine for new events as well as any last minute changes, additions, and updates.

Pre-Registration

This has been a very popular method of registering for the convention and show. Current club members can avoid the hassle of standing in a long line Thursday morning before the show opens. Pre-registration enables you to pick up your show badge, banquet tickets, poker challenge material, show program, and any promotional items donated by the casinos or show dealers. Pre-registration packets will be available starting at 9AM on Wednesday. The packets MUST be picked up IN PERSON with proper ID. NO packets will be mailed.

Associate members under the age of 12 do not need to be pre-registered. If they will be attending the convention, please list their names and ages, as they will receive a "special" show packet.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservation slips will be included in the next issue of the club magazine. Because so many of our members booked rooms at the Tropicana for 2002, we were able to secure a lower room rate for Sunday through Thursday at only \$45.00. Friday and Saturday rates have not increased and are \$99.00. We hope you will elect to stay at the Tropicana and support your club. Your room nights help us negotiate for the following years convention.

Make your reservations as soon as possible. We are allocated a certain number of rooms at these special rates and when those are gone, the hotel cannot guarantee our club rates for additional rooms. The room rates are good for June 20th through July 1st, for those who wish to arrive early or stay after the show is over. To insure accuracy with your reservations, please use the reservation form. If you call in your reservation, be sure to mention the special code number

listed on the form. It would be a good idea to check back a few weeks after you have made your reservations to double check on your reservation confirmation.

Dealer Tables

Any member who had a dealer table at the 2002 show and was in good standing regarding their dealer contract will receive a table application form and related information near the end of October. Applications are to be returned, postmarked no later than January 15th, 2003. Every effort will be made to make table locations for returning dealers comparable to their 2002 locations. All applicants will be notified by February 15th as to the status of their application and their table number(s). A floor layout will also be included.

Once the deadline has passed for returning dealers, any remaining tables will be made available for new requestors. If you did not have a table at the 2002 show, but are interested in a table for 2003, please contact the Convention Chairman and your name will be added to the list. To have a dealer table you must be a member in good standing.

Volunteers

Each convention is a great success because of the many volunteers who give an hour, half a day, or countless hours to make sure everyone has a good time. These volunteers are very important and without them, there would be no convention. If you can help please contact the Convention Chairman. We need help on Tuesday morning for table set-up and/or pre-registration, Wednesday for registration, and throughout the remainder of the days for various assistance. Saturday after the show is over, helpers are needed to clear the show floor and pack up until the next year.

We are in need of a Las Vegas resident who can handle promotions for the convention. This would involve notifications to casinos, media news releases, and any other type of promotion to let everyone know about the club and show. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Convention chairman.

Early Bird Banquet

You won't want to miss Wednesday evening. Start out with the Early Bird Banquet. This is a big success every year and 2003 will be even better. We are trying to arrange for additional seating. Make your reservations early as space fills quickly. This member's only event is followed by the general trade session. Trading should be limited to what you can easily carry. Other members will be sharing table space with you.

Wayne Thompson will again be the Chairman for this popular event. Watch for Banquet Registration forms in the next issue of the magazine.

Auction

The renowned club auction will again be held on Friday evening, June 27th starting at 6:30pm. Many great lots change hands and there is something for everyone from low cost chips, to high-end specialty items. Don't miss the fun of witnessing bidding fever. You can bid by mail, bid on the show floor during the day, or bid in person at the auction. Registration for a bidding number is required, and you must be an active club member to participate. Auction Chairman, Bruce Landau promises another great lot of interesting items. See the submission form if you would like to consign a lot.

Exhibits

There are already plans being made for some great exhibits. Many members put a lot of work and effort into creating an educational exhibit for the other members to enjoy. If you would like to submit an exhibit of your own, please contact Joe Shaw, Exhibit Chairman. Remember to vote for your favorite.

Poker Challenge

Plans are underway for another fine Poker Challenge. The trophy is at stake, the competition is warming up, and the cards are ready. If you play poker, plan on joining the fun and competition. Sign up on the pre-registration form that will be in the next magazine.

Educational Seminars

Some very interesting educational seminars are being planned Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings. We have some very informative topics and speakers lined up for everyone's enjoyment. We hope your schedule permits attending one or all of these seminars. You won't be disappointed.

Trade sessions

There will be numerous trade sessions open for club members throughout the convention when the show is not in session. Please bring what you can easily carry and leave space for others at the tables. Please – no outright selling. The hotel has asked that NO trading or selling be conducted in the hallways of the convention area. Please use the rooms designated for such activity. Saturday night concludes the convention with the "Last Dance" trade session. Here is an opportunity to make that final deal, find the item you have been looking for, or trade off your extra chips to other members.

Meeting Space

There are time slots open and rooms available for use as Club meeting space. If any local chapters or any member in good standing would like to make use of this space for a meeting or presentation, please contact the Convention Chairman for available dates and times. THE PURPOSE MUST BE INFORMATIONAL OR EDUCATIONAL.

Chip & Medal Design Contest

Once again we will be holding a Chip & Medal design contest. Submit your ideas and/or designs. A winning entry will be selected for the CC>CC Convention chip, and the Convention medal. One of the remaining designs may be used for the Convention T-Shirt. You do not have to be an artist. Your idea is more important than a professional drawing. More details are enclosed with this issue of the club magazine and the deadline to submit entries is February 28, 2003. You may submit finished artwork, rough drawings, or just a sketch and an idea. Our club designer will put the finishing touches on the winning entries, if needed.

2002 Convention Survey Form

Thanks to all who have returned the survey forms that were included in the last issue of the club magazine. We have received many good ideas and suggestions and even the few negative comments provide insight as to how our members feel about the convention. If you have not returned the form, please do so now. Results of the survey and the five winning names of paid, pre-registration packets will be in the next issue of the magazine. ❖



What Do You Collect?

by Joe Shaw

“What do you collect?” A question that has been asked of me countless number of times over my years of chip collecting. The answer would be “Depends”. My chip collecting interests have changed numerous times and what I would like to do is to share my chip collecting interests and experiences over the years. Along the way, I would also like to share some of my favorite Silver Strikes and chips.

Oddly enough, my foray into chip collecting did not start with chips, but with Silver Strikes. Flashing back to June of 1994, I remember being with the family taking a vacation to Reno. It was late in the evening and we were waiting for the tram at Circus Circus to take us back to the wing that we were staying at. I recall seeing a slot machine that had 2 interesting looking “coins” on display. One had a lion and the other had an elephant. I was impressed with it, but oddly enough, I did not play the machine. The next morning we checked out, so I never got a chance to play the machine. I did get matches from all over Reno, which was something that I did collect at the time. On the drive back, I remember thinking that I wished I got one of those coins before I left. Maybe next time.

December 1994. I was in Las Vegas on business. Staying at Harrah’s. To my surprise and amazement, I found the same looking “coins”. Put a \$20 in and left with 3 Silver Strikes. Pretty cool. On the same trip, I then found the same at the Mirage, Treasure Island and the

old Hacienda on the strip. Guess that is when I started collecting Silver Strikes. Every trip back to Las Vegas I would always look for Silver Strike machines at every casino I went to (since I was already hooked, a better description might be “went to every casino looking for a Silver Strike machine”).

The most exciting moment in my Silver Strike collecting experience probably was when I decided to tackle the \$200 Silver Strike machine at Bally’s in LV. That was the only Silver Strike machine that I have not played. Compared with the normal 25¢ - \$10 Silver Strike machine, \$5 a pull was a big jump for me. I was determined to go for the one-pounder token. I was ready for the euphoria of when the bells went off and when they came presenting a one pound Silver Strike in a blue velvet case. I started with \$50, and after playing for close to an hour, I still had not won the Silver Strike. However to my amazement, I had close to \$600 in credits. That is when I decided to intercourse the Silver Strike and take the money and run. To this date, I still have never won a \$200 Silver Strike.

Other memorable and not so memorable moments in Silver Strike collecting for me include:

- Hitting for 3 - 7’s at the Hacienda (on the strip), only to realize that it was on the 2nd Pay Line.
- Cashing out with 12 Silver Strikes after putting in \$20 at the Riviera.
- Put in \$140 trying to win a \$20 Silver Strike at the Tropicana, and

not getting one. Only to have a fellow collector put in a \$20 seconds later and hit for 2. (and to top it off, they were selling those at the cage at face at the convention 2 years ago)

- My first trade was for a Silver Strike. It was with Dick Covington. First convention that I went to (at the Aladdin) was for Silver Strikes. That is when Dick Covington introduced me to Doug Saito.
- Hand carrying close to 80 Silver Strikes as traders to the convention, and coming back with over 150 after the convention. (I do not check in luggage when I fly by myself)

As time went by, my interest in collecting Silver Strikes started to lessen in favor of chips. I was tired of hauling what seemed like my equivocal body weight around each show or meeting. I was also disenchanted with the standard designs (Miner, Stagecoach etc) along with some of the casinos reissuing the same design Silver Strikes, but with a new year on it. Soon after, I migrated from Silver Strike collecting to chip collecting.

As with other chip collectors, my chip collecting started with commemorative chips. At the same time that I was collecting Silver Strikes, I started buying commemorative chips. On the frequent trips that I would make from the Bay Area to Las Vegas, I would always buy the latest commemorative from each casino that I went to. That was all that I collected. Never bothered with house chips.

However, my commemorative/LE chip collecting would only last a very short time. One of the first chip shows that I went to was Bill Akeman's Superbowl show at Arizona Charlie's. My intention was to go to the show and pick up some of the older commemoratives that I was missing. The very first dealer table I went to had what seemed like 3 - 4 tables full of commemoratives. Seemed like there were hundreds of them. My first thought was, "I am never going to get them all". Worse part being, there is going to be more, as new ones will be issued. Not to mention that some of them were coyote ugly. 30 seconds later my commemorative/LE chip collecting days were over.

I now had a new dilemma. I knew enough to know that I cannot collect everything. I had to "specialize" in one area. Problem being, I did not know what that area was going to be. Should I collect by mold? By denomination? By type? By casino? Over the next years, I would end up specializing and collecting Arodies, Dove-Tails, Quarter Pies, Paulson Metal Centers, Brass Cores, \$2.50's, 25¢ chips, 50¢ chips, \$1 chips, Rectangle molds, Hard Rock chips, Christy & Jones chips, Christy & Jones sample chips, Harrah's Lake Tahoe/Reno roulettes, MGM (LV) chips. In looking back, maybe I was trying to collect everything. I just did it a bit at a time. Just wait till you hear the area that I collect at the end of this story. But that will have to wait.

When I abandoned collecting commemoratives, I started getting interested in obsolete Nevada chips. Collecting current chips did not interest me until later on. In the beginning stages of my chip collecting, I was fortunate enough to

be introduced to Doug Saito. More specifically, his publication, Chip Chat. What caught my eye at the time, was a pair of 50¢ dove-tail chips from Fort Lucinda, along with a Brown/Yellow quarter pie \$5 chip from Jim Kelly's Nugget in Lake Tahoe. Those chips became my very first "obsolete" chip purchase.



I decided that dove-tails was the area that I was going to collect. A pair of Diamond Jim's & Lucky Nevada Club 50¢ Free Plays was soon added to my collection. A pair of Castaways \$1 Free Play Craps Only was also added to the collection. Unfortunately, it sort of stopped there. That was when I found out that ones that I wanted or needed still were hard to come by, and it was going to cost a wee bit more than what I had planned on paying (especially as a beginner). I kept what I had and over the years, managed to come up with a few nice ones. I've always liked dove-tails and still do. Never found one that I did not like. Shown are my favorites from the Mustang Club. Thunderbird & the Monte Carlo.

Even though I loved dove-tails, there were two things about them that bothered me. One was the fact that they were always hot stamp chips. Never an inlay on them (guess an inlay would have covered up the "tail" and made it a half-pie instead). I never cared too much for hot stamped chips, but they were still great looking chips. The other was the fact that since they had 2 different colored "tails", that also meant that I had to get both chips. Aside from

having to spend twice as much, there was also the challenge of getting the right colored tail that I was missing.

What intrigued me even more than dove-tails were quarter pie chips. Not just any quarter pies, they had to be Christy and Jones mold quarter pies. No small crowns for me. There was something about the color combinations of the quarter pies and those shiny Christy and Jones mold hats that I just loved.

Best of all, unlike dove-tails, they had inlays. One of the most interesting facts about C&J quarter pies is that you can actually still get one at face! Shown is the \$25 black/green quarter pie still in use at the Commercial Hotel in Elko. Also shown is my all time favorite - the companion \$5 purple/grey quarter that is *not* in use (IMHO, a real tough chip that I was fortunate enough to come up with)



Arodies. I also managed to venture very very briefly into Arodies. I actually had one in my collection. A Cal Neva Biltmore \$1. Even though I thought that Arodies were a great looking mold, I gave up on that idea after a quick reality check on pricing of Arodies. Sometime later, I did come across

about 60 ND arodies from the Palace Club in Fallon. Always liked the fact that I can brag about having a collection of 60 arodies. Granted that the conversation goes downhill when they ask the question of “Where from?”. Recently, I did manage to get a few of the Binion’s Horseshoe arodies. From the low denomination 25¢ all the way up to the \$500.



Next came Paulson Metal Centers. Price was reasonable. Compared to Arodies, everything was reasonable. Not too many to collect either. Which can translate into a blessing or a curse. Depending on how you look at it. I soon found that I had most of the Paulson Metal Centers, which again meant that I had to look for something to collect. What also set me looking for something else to collect was that Metal Centers start looking the same. They were always H&C mold, along with a round-octagonal-shield shaped metal center, and mostly the same old red color (if it was a \$5 chip). Just got boring after a while. I never managed to get the one Metal Center that I impressed me the most. It was the Hacienda \$100. Something about a black chip with a red shield metal center that still sticks in my mind. However, I did end up getting the companion Landmark \$2 & \$5 chips shown.



Low denom 25¢ and 50¢ chips were also on my list of collecting interests. At least for a short period of time. I also soon realized that most of them also had the curse of being hot stamps. Kind of hard to find low denoms with inlays. I was also wrong in thinking that they would be cheap. How much could an obsolete lowly 25¢ or 50¢ hot stamp chip cost right? Wrong! Shown are what I thought were nice looking hot stamp and inlay low denoms. All are in Christy and Jones mold.



Brass cores were probably the one specialized area of collecting that I managed to get everything up to and including the \$100’s, except for 2 chips. The Crystal Bay Club \$5 & \$100. Surprising thing about it was that it took very little time and cost to complete everything. I even got all of the California brass cores, such as One Two Eight Pai Gow Club, Top of the Vine, Viejas, Lucky Chances and Hollywood Park Year of the Tiger, Ox, & Rabbit series. Only thing about brass cores that still puzzles me is why does the Reno Ramada \$100 not match up with the other denominations?



I don’t know who came up with the idea or suggestion, but \$2.50 chips were next in line. For the first time, I also ventured into collecting chips outside of Nevada. I was now collecting \$2.50 chips from everywhere. This was one area that I had a lot of fun collecting. I remember going to a chip show at the Four Queens years back. Picked up tons of Riverboat \$2.50. Best part was majority of them were under \$10 each. I soon found myself with binders full of pinkies. Not a very “man-ly” colored chip according to my wife.

Because of the overlapping collecting interests, there were certain \$2.50 chips that I liked more than others. Take the Harrah’s \$2.50 yellow chip. It was a \$2.50 and it was a brass core. Even better was the Mint, \$2.50. It was a \$2.50 chip, a dove-tail, and a Christy. It had a fulfillment factor of 3! Collecting chips was certainly getting to be fun (and expensive). In looking back, I have passed on chips early on because I did not have the funds, or as a beginner, spending \$200 on a chip was a lot. I’ve managed to get most of the chips eventually later on. There was one chip that I regret passing on. I still have not seen one for sale since. It was a Primadonna, Reno purple H&C \$2.50. I was still a beginner, and passed on the

opportunity to get the chip for \$350. How I regret that to this day. There is a good ending to the story though. Instead of getting the Primadonna, I bought a Lady Luck \$2.50 instead. It was in used condition (something I do not usually buy), but it was such a pretty chip. Turns out the \$100 spent on this chip was a decision that I never regretted.

The bulk, in terms of number of chips, of my collection lies in what I have been collecting in the past 4 or 5 years. Majority of which are \$1 chips. More specifically, \$1 chips from Las Vegas (and N. Las Vegas). I stopped counting after 600 different ones. Close to that number are the Christy and Jones mold collection. Hard for me to explain why I love

Christy & Jones mold chips, but I'll try to next time, along with the rest of what I collect. How can anyone not like these. ❖



Collection of Nevada chips offered at auction. Some rare chips seldom offered are included. Auction consists of 49 lots. If you are interested in participating please send \$4 for a color copy of the lots as well as descriptions, bid sheet and rules for the auction. This is a mail bid only auction, closing February 28, 2003.

Please send check or money order to:

Steve Piccolo
P.O. Box 1937
Bayonne, NJ 07002-6937



RIVERBOATS

by Greg C. Susong

Hello riverboat collectors! It has been a sloooooow period for riverboat chips. Only 12 new chips for me to report on this time.

Boomtown Casino in Bossier City, LA opened July 1, 2002 after completing their purchase of the Casino Magic.



The President Casino in Biloxi, MS celebrated their 10th anniversary with this chip.



The Gold Strike Casino in Robinsonville, MS (Tunica), issued a new \$2.50 chip. This is the first \$2.50 they have used there.



Fitzgeralds in Tunica, MS was the location of the Tyson Training Camp and issued this chip in June.



And here is a surprise! I found this on eBay not too long ago. I don't know how we all missed this chip that was issued for Christmas 2001. Apparently the casino has pulled all of the remaining chips and is holding them for re-release during Christmas 2002. I don't understand the reasoning behind that because it sure makes these tough to get. I don't know of any other collectors that have these. Hopefully someone will pick up a bunch next Christmas!



Thanks to everyone that helps keep me informed about new casino openings and new chip releases. It

would be impossible for me to gather all this information without your help. If you are connected to the internet, please stop by <http://www.chipguide.com> to see my complete online guide with all these photos and thousands more in full color. There are several hundred chip collectors who get together every day and discuss the hobby on The Chip Board at <http://www.thechipboard.com> Please feel free to join in.

Greg C. Susong ❖

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AREAS OF INTEREST

All \$7 \$10 \$20 \$40 \$200

All Nevada Colorado Atlantic City Riverboats Other _____

May we publish the above information in the club roster Yes No

PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES OF	\$10.00
NEW MEMBER PROCESSING FEE	\$ 5.00
OPTIONAL - * SPOUSE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	\$10.00
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Silver Strikes Chapter

by Mary Lou **Waterbury**

Fall greetings to all of you out there. Hope you are having nice weather wherever you are.

A big hand to the editors of this magazine for the great coverage the Silver Strikers Chapter got in the last issue. We will miss John Yee very much as he was such a booster for our group. Am expecting that will continue with the next editors. This magazine has just gotten better and better since we started subscribing in 1995. It was always under great leadership, but as John showed — there was still room for improvement.

A big thank you to Gene Trimble and the Palms Casino. We now have four new \$10 silver strikes to collect plus a \$200 one. What I like best about these new strikes are that they also feature different scenes than have appeared before. Of course, good reason as they depict their restaurants,

Gardunos, N9NE, and Little Buddha. The 1956 Chevy Bel Air is on the fourth strike and other casinos have featured that car, but now quite in this manner.

Be sure to vote/nominate as the time dictates. We have a nice group who have either volunteered themselves or been nominated. That does not mean that others cannot throw their hats in the ring. As of this writing we do not have anyone running for treasurer — so all of you accounting-minded people out there, please consider or reconsider as the case may be. With over 500 members we should have plenty of people willing to step up to the plate and take their turn.

My husband and I have been selling some of our duplicates on Silverstriker Auctions and Jackpot Auctions. Both of these websites are

run by Silver Striker Chapter members and we should patronize them.

My husband and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, September 22 with friends and family. The actual day was September 23.

With all of our packing and getting our house ready for sale, I shall sign off at this time and apologize for not having a larger article.

Good luck to all of you out there trying for the new strikes, doing trades or finding that elusive strike that you want to buy.

Mary Lou Waterbury
President, Silver Strikers Chapter ❖



HOLOGRAM TOKENS

by Earl **Donley**

In the Spring issue of 2001 I wrote an article about the Hologram Tokens that were being developed by the Osborne Coinage Corporation and the Riviera Hotel. Since that article that announced the first token celebrating Valentines Day, the Riviera has released seven other Holograms for the following events. In 2001 they were the 4th of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. For 2002 their first three tokens have been for these winter sports; Snowboarding, Hockey, and Skiing. The Riviera has now released the plans for eighteen additional designs that are being developed for the next two years.

The Holiday Series

April Fools Day	(April 2002)
Canada Day	(July 2002)
Independence Day	(July 2002)
Halloween	(October 2002)
Nevada Admissions Day	(October 2002)
Veteran's Day	(November 2002)

The Zodiac Series

Aires	(March 2002)
Cancer	(June 2002)
Libra	(September 2002)
Sagittarius	(November 2002)
Capricorn	(December 2002)
Aquarius	(January 2003)
Pisces	(February 2003)
Taurus	(April 2003)
Gemini	(May 2003)
Leo	(July 2003)
Virgo	(August 2003)
Scorpio	(October 2003)

The Riviera has also started a program where if you send them your computer email address, they will notify you of the date and time for future token and chip releases. To be added to their notification list, notify Barbara Wolfe at, BWolfe@theriviera.com. Future Hologram Tokens will be a Limited Edition of 1,000 tokens. The Riviera has also discontinued mailing token purchases to dealers. If you wish to obtain tokens from the casino you must have someone at the casino in person on the release date. ❖

2003 Elections

the Candidates

President

Mike Skelton, HLM-1003



My name is Mike Skelton, HLM-1003 and I am running for the office of President of the CC & GTCC. I graciously ask for your support in the upcoming election.

Club Experiences

Convention Chairman 1995-1998 * First member to receive an Honorary Life Membership for Service to the Club * Past Hall of Fame Nominee * CC & GTCC Member since 1993 * Past Officer of the SlabFree Chapter * Charter member of the SlabFree Chapter * Honorary Member of several Chapters * Chip Collector

Personal Experiences

I am Currently President and CEO of an office equipment company in Dallas, Texas. Most of my professional life has been spent in management and marketing. I have been married to my wife Ann for 16 years and have lived in Texas all of my life.

Issues

There are many issues facing the Club today, some short term and some that have a far greater horizon to them. They all need to be dealt with in a conscientious, businesslike manner, with the good of the whole organization as the driving force in the final decisions. With the growth of the Club and the hobby, some of the lines between this being a hobby and a business have become blurred. While we can attempt to keep the hobby aspect in the fun of collecting, the business of the Club needs to be conducted as a business.

Building Fund and Building Project – I fully support the raising of funds for the eventual acquisition of a place for the CC & GTCC to call “home”.

Slabbing – NO slabbed chips in the Club Auction or in the Convention Exhibits. NO Slabbing Companies with tables at the Convention.

Brass Core Scandal – The selling of fake, repaired or altered chips as “genuine”, with the purpose of defrauding fellow collectors will NOT be tolerated.

Communication – The Board Members of this organization have an obligation to keep the lines of communication open with the membership at all times.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at bugsy46@aol.com or post a question on the Club Bulletin Board.

Vice-President

Wayne Thompson HLM-2733 wayne@casinocheques.com



I'm seeking your support for my candidacy for Vice-President. Based on my experience with the Club over the last few years I feel that I am well qualified for this position.

For those that I haven't met I have been a member of the Club since 1996. For the three-year period from 1999 to 2001 I was Convention Chairman. During these three years we took the Convention to a higher level with many new activities and the highest participation we have ever had. I was extremely honored when the Club presented me an Honorary Life membership for my contributions as Convention Chairman. Since then I have served as Banquet Chairman and at the request of the Board I have prepared a proposal for the creation of a new category of membership for corporate members.

Everyone has concerns for the Club so I want to outline my views so you will know exactly where I stand on various issues.

Communication – One of the highest responsibilities that a Board member has is to be accessible and responsive to the membership. I have always made myself available in my other Club duties and this position will be no different. Whether you prefer to communicate through the Club Board, direct e-mail, phone or letter I will be available to address any issues of concern.

Slabbing – This issue has been a very heated controversy that has gone to the heart of the Club. I believe that slabbing is detrimental to our Club and support the current ban on slabbed chips in the auction and in the exhibits. I will further support a ban of any company having a table at the Convention for the purpose of actual slabbing or promoting the slabbing of chips. However I do not believe I have the right to tell any individual what they should collect. Therefore I would not support a ban on the sale of slabbed chips at the Convention. Each member has to make up there own mind whether they want these chips in their collection.

Fake and Remanufactured chips – The recent Board investigation of the manufacturing of brass core chips by a private individual has substantially reduced the value and desirability of these chips. We have to make every effort to stop this before other areas of the hobby are hurt. We all have a stake in knowing that what we are buying is genuine. I support full investigation of any complaints and punishment to the fullest extent possible of anyone knowingly manufacturing or selling as genuine a chip they know to be remanufactured.

Building Fund – The members involved with this project have gotten it off to a great start. I think we need to make every effort to grow the support for this effort. With the already expressed interest on the part of the city of Las Vegas and the generous support of our members this can become a reality. The current Board has proposed a formal study when the fund reaches \$50,000 and I fully support this idea.

Promotion of the Club – We have a great Club and we all enjoy meeting and getting to know as many members as possible. But the Club and hobby have to grow or they will slowly die. I believe we must make every effort we can to get as much good exposure and publicity as possible. I feel that we need to have a publicity director or committee that is responsible for putting out articles and press releases to all media with the purpose of promoting the hobby. We also have to do a better job of retaining members. We need to develop new ideas that will help to retain members and keep their interest high.

Fun – Last, but certainly not least, we all got into this hobby for the fun and enjoyment. Let us never lose sight of this!

Lastly, I want to commitment to all members that I will devote my best efforts to the Club and assure you that I will always make myself readily available to any member. I would appreciate your support and vote. Thank you.

Vice-President

John Zoesch, R-3145



Hello fellow chip collectors. My name is John Zoesch and I am the current Vice President of the CC & GTCC. I was appointed to this position recently after Neal Silverman stepped down. I have decided that since I am already in this job, if I want to do any real good for the club I need to continue as Vice President. So I am announcing my candidacy for the position of Vice President for the next term. I originally offered to take this job because while I have been a member for over 5 years I have not had the time to be able to help with the management of the club. Since I plan to sell my business and retire in the next few months I should have plenty of time to help the club in the future. Now it is time to give back to the club for all of the enjoyment I have had over the last 5 years.

Where do I stand on the issues? Here are a few of the current issue and my position:

New Membership – Growth is important to a small club like ours. We need to do more to get new members and keep current members. The casinos are helping indirectly by issuing new LE chips with some regularity. But we need to find ways to get more casual collectors interested in collecting chips on a regular basis. These people are going to be the new club members. I am currently working on the feasibility of the club issuing a casino coupon book to each member. I think that this would be a great incentive to keep members renewing every year and the first casino that was contacted has expressed interest. Keep in mind that this is in the preliminary stages and lots of details need to be worked out. If it is a viable project I am hoping to have the first issue out in time for the convention in 2003.

Brass Core Problem – I don't know when this issue will be concluded but I get new information almost every day. And the more I get the more questions I have. I will push to make sure that all of those involved are treated fairly. So let's get rid of the scoundrels as quickly as possible while not harming the innocent.

Slabbing – There is not much to say about slabbing. I just don't see any way that slabbing could ever be good for the hobby. The recent discovery of professionally slabbed fake baseball cards is just one more nail in the coffin.

Building Fund – This is a great idea but gets back to the first item – new members. Getting and maintaining a building will result not only in the initial cost but also annual maintenance. A larger member base would make this easier to bear and the building itself should attract even more new members. A true win/win situation when it becomes reality.

For those of you who don't know me I was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI and moved to Tennessee in 1992 to get away from the cold. I worked as an engineer for most of my career and then started my own steel fabricating business in 1994. My wife Cindy and I are celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary this year and we have 2 lovely children, the youngest of which is a senior in college. I collect all types of casino chips but really like those from Mississippi and Illegal clubs.

There are other issues involving the club today so if you have any questions or want to know my position on a topic feel free to e-mail me at chipnut@bellsouth.net. Thank you for your support.

Vice-President

Ken Hallenbeck

Ken is running for the office of vice-president. Ken's biography and position statement were not available at press time.

Treasurer

Mike Quinlivan, LM-3194-54



With pleasure, I accept the nomination to run for the office of Treasurer on the CC & GTCC Board of Directors. As of 8/22/02, I have been serving as interim Treasurer, volunteering for the job when the position was vacated on 8/20/02.

I have been a member of the Club since the 1997 Convention. I recently became Life Member 54, and I am a member of the Southern California and the Slab Free Chapters. I am a collector of Nevada obsolete chips - mostly of the more detailed inlay chips or chips that have historic significance. I specialize, however, in the Flamingo Capri. I stayed at the Flamingo Capri for a few months in 1974 during a temporary military assignment (no base housing was available). When the chip collecting fever hit me in the mid-90's, it was only natural that this little casino would be at the top of my want list. Oh, had I only known then what I know now!!!!

The office of Treasurer certainly fits my training and background. I have held positions in the financial and management areas for several large manufacturers for more than 25 years. I am currently the Chief Financial Officer for an aerospace manufacturing company located in Placentia, California. I firmly believe in being honest and credible...above all, dealing in an ethical and fair manner. These values form the core of my dealings with those around me – personally and professionally.

I am running for Treasurer because I wish to continue to support this wonderful Club and its very diverse, interesting members. The best way I can do this is to volunteer my time and energy using the gifts I possess – organization (my wife calls it being “anal”), fair dealings with others, and my financial skills. I have already stepped up to the plate to provide interim financial assistance to the Club, and as such, will prove to the membership and the Board that I am very well qualified to fill this position at the will of the membership.

On June 21, 2002, prior to being appointed Treasurer, I posted my interest in running for Treasurer on the Club website. I had listed what I believed needed to be changed with the treasury function.

This is a brief summary of what has been accomplished since filling the Treasurer position on an interim basis:

Audit – Transferred, organized and audited the 2002 income and expense records.

Account Activity – Opened a General Fund (day-to-day operations) checking account, a Building Fund money market checking account, and a Life Membership Fund money market checking account. They are now shown separately on the financial statements. All 3 accounts require 2 signatures for all disbursements. As of this writing, we are still in the process of transferring funds to the new accounts and closing the previous ones.

Financial Statements – Published financial statements and a Treasurer's report in the club magazine.

The following still needs to be accomplished to further enhance the treasury function:

Budgeting – The Club has grown to such an extent that it really needs to run within an operating budget. Our success at increasing our member base now requires a more businesslike approach to financial management. Spending “whatever amounts” on “whatever” needs to be a thing of the past.

Signature Authority – At least one of the signatories on the accounts should be bonded. I have started looking into this and should have this completed in the very near future.

Funding – The Board of Directors has not yet met to discuss the possibility of setting aside some monies for a Reward Fund, a Library Fund or possibly transferring more of the general funds into the Building Fund.

Outside of the treasury function itself, this is where I stand on a couple of the current issues.

Slabbing – As stated above, I am a member of the Slab Free chapter. I personally do not believe that commercially grading and slabbing chips is good, nor is it necessary for the hobby. It is no business of mine what each member chooses to include in his or her own collections, but I will vote not to allow slabbing companies in our conventions or any other club sponsored activities.

Brass Core Investigation – As interim Treasurer, I have received copies of the documents related to the current investigation. The Board of Directors will be meeting soon, and hopefully will be able to bring some closure to this lengthy ordeal. However, I can emphatically state that *if a seller fraudulently misrepresents an item that he/she is selling (whether it be brass core chips or any other chip, token, etc.), then he/she is in violation of our Code of Ethics and this member has no place in the Club.*

On a personal note, I have been married for 19 years to my lovely wife, Corni (Cornelia), and we have 2 children, Sarah (13) and Sean (11). We have lived in Pomona, California all of these years, and have recently moved to Yorba Linda, California. Besides chip collecting, I spend my “free” time with the family, enjoying their activities.

I believe that I would be an excellent representative of the Club. I consider myself as a member of the “general” population of the Club, and I want to see the Club grow and prosper in the years to come.

Secretary

Belinda Hixon, R-3505



The issues facing the CC>CC now as well as those we’ll face in the future are of great concern to me. I believe I can represent the membership and promote the Club and the hobby in a positive light.

If I’m elected I will work diligently to communicate the Board’s activities on a consistent basis. In addition to the quarterly BOD update to be published in the Casino Chip and Token News, I will make it a priority to update the online membership on a regular basis via the Club bulletin board.

I believe it’s important for Chapters to promote the Club and will work with the Chapter Presidents to achieve that and to find ways that the Club can more effectively support the Chapters. I’ll work with the other Board members to resolve issues in a timely and appropriate manner and to try to insure that above all, the membership as a whole is represented.

If the Club is to grow we must find ways to bring new collectors into our midst. I’ll work to publicize and promote the Club and hobby among both the gaming industry and the general public.

As members our main benefits are an exemplary quarterly publication, and an annual convention that grows and gets better year. I’d like to begin a project to consider member suggestions for other benefits.

For those who don’t know me, I’m a native Texan currently living in the Dallas / Ft. Worth area. My husband and I have been married for 26 years and we have 3 grown children. For the past 10 years I’ve been a volunteer in my community and the local schools.

I’ve collected casino chips and gaming paraphernalia for about 6 years. My collection consists of mainly Las Vegas chips but I also collect illegals, MOP’s and anything else that catches my eye.

I joined the CC>CC in September of 1997 and I've volunteered for the Club since attending my first convention in 1998, most recently serving as Co-Chair for the years 2000-2001. During that time, I produced the Convention Program, was responsible for the first pre-registration bags, recruited and worked with volunteers as well as provided support to the Convention Committee Chairpersons. I was also responsible for the production of the first Club logo polo shirts.

Membership Officer

Ralph Myers, LM-3957-57



My name is Ralph Myers member R-3957, and I am your current Membership Officer and I am running for a second term.

I live in Las Vegas with my wife Rhona. We have two grown children, and two grand children. I work at the MGM Grand in the Race and Sports book.

I feel I have done a good job in this position since taking office in June 2001. I have always voted for what I felt was in the best interest of the club. There are some who will disagree with that last statement, but no one person can please everyone.

On the three most important issues...

Slabbing – I am against slabbing and am a charter member of the slab-free chapter. Slabbed chips have no place in my collection. However, I feel that each member should have the opportunity to make that decision for themselves. I voted to allow the slabbing companies to have a table in the last convention,(although they didn't attend). If this issue was put to a new vote, I would vote the same way again. Exclusion is not the answer, education is.

Building Fund – I am pleased to see a committee formed to collect funds for our own "home" and I applaud all those that have worked so hard to get this project off the ground.

Brass Core Issue – This has been the most gut wrenching issue to come up since I've been a member of the Board of Directors. It is important to expel any member who sells "fake" chips knowing their origin to another member. It is also important to make sure that all information is accurate and a member is not false expelled. I know that this investigation has taken longer then most people feel is necessary. We have to take as much time as necessary to make sure it's done right, and that we don't leave the club open to litigation.

If there is any other issue that you would like me to comment on, please feel free to email me.

I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election for my re-election as your Membership Officer.

Membership Officer

Sunday Silverman, R-5757



First, a short introduction. Since December 1998 I have been CC>CC member 4065A. My life partner, Greg Hale is the member with whom I am associated. I've been involved in the hobby full time since we joined and have been able to make three of the four conventions since joining. I am charter member #74 of the Slab Free Chapter and am a proud member of the Pardue family of the Building Fund Committee.

In the past year I have had concerns about my status as an associate member. Although I have been involved in club activities, voted in elections and for COTY/TOTY etc., I could not get a definitive answer as to what my status would be should something happen to Greg. Two separate incidents of separation of the regular member that were treated in totally different ways have occurred in the last year. I have reread the bylaws and found that since I am not the 'spouse or child residing at the same address' of the regular member, my status could be in jeopardy. As much as I love my chips, there is no way I'm going to get married in order to maintain my associate membership status. I am pleased to announce that I am now member R-5757!

All of the above being said, I am officially throwing my hat in the ring for the position of Membership Officer of the CC>CC. I would like to see a more precise policy in reference to membership so that others won't confront the same dilemma that I have.

I am a staunch opponent of slabbing. I would vote consistently to keep slabbing companies out of our convention. If you want slabbed chips in your collection, that is a choice you are entitled to, and I wouldn't consider a ban on slabbed chips in private collections. I don't like too many rules, just stringent enforcement of the ones in effect.

On that note, I would like to see better communication between all officers and the general membership. I am eternally grateful to the members and non members who have given their time and information in regard to the current 'brass core' investigation. I believe that there is information that is being kept from the membership that will prove harmful to many, as in uninformed buyers being taken in by untrustworthy sellers. Let's get the facts out to the membership, and the public, and allow intelligent people to make informed decisions of their own choice! Article Three B of our constitution: "Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Constitution or of the Bylaws, the Club is organized exclusively for educational purposes as specified in Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code."

I've spent over 20 years working in casino gaming in various parts of the country. I have recently settled down in the place my soul is most at peace. I've taken over the management of a friend's publication and am leading what until now I had thought of as a 'normal' life. I have the time to devote to the hobby and club that I love and I hope you will give me that opportunity.

ANTIQUE COLLECTIBLES

by Dale Seymour and Ken Craig

We receive photo copies of new chip finds every month. Most collectors would probably credit E-bay with the continuous flow of chips surfacing that have not previously been known to chip collectors. This column focuses on ANTIQUE (more than 60 yrs old) ivory and clay chips. Most ivory chips, found in America, were custom made for private individuals, not clubs. On the other hand, most clay chips were mass marketed for home poker games. Clay chips could be special ordered with monograms in various type-font styles. We code the ivory monograms but not the clay monograms. Sometimes a chip was custom designed with a picture of a buffalo or some other animal or design. We cannot be sure by its appearance only if the chip was sold to the general public or whether it may have been a one-time special order for an individual. We have probably coded some private party chips.

Recent finds include interesting embossed Chinese monogram chips, numeral chips, some creative clay chips to mention a few. The chip finds we have chosen to code are found on the following pages. Robert Eisenstadt found the paper chip stamped with the flapper girl and the letters A. B. This chip, we believe, was hand stamped by Mr. "A. B.". No codes for hand altered chips.

Michael Par found the new three fish chip and Mike Spinetti came up with the new owl sitting on the moon. The owl is actually sitting on a silver

crescent moon that is very difficult to see in a picture. The clay chip PD-NY, found by Doug McKensie, seems to have been made by affixing the three stars to a plain clay chip and then sealing the entire chip. The stars can be felt above the surface of the chip so they are definitely not inlaid chips

The fourth Gilbey chip to be coded is the Gilbey's Dry Gin (PY-EO) chip. Robert Eisenstadt points out that each separate Gilbey's advertising chip has its own unique color: Gilbey's Port (white); Gilbey's Spey Royal (blue); Gilbey's Rum (green); and the new find, Gilbey's Dry Gin (red). Suppose there's a yellow Gilbey's to be found. First one to find it gets a bottle of gin.

There seems to be more interest recently in old gambling chips from Europe. Some incredibly beautiful chips have been found. We will show some of these in a future article. A special thanks to Colin Narbeth of England for bringing several uncoded ivories to our attention. Send clear photocopies of your new finds to:
Dale Seymour,
11170 Mora Dr,
Los Altos, CA 94024
(seymourdg@aol.com)
or to:
Ken Craig,
3927-H Waring Rd,
Oceanside, CA 92056
(drkenny@cox.net). ❖



A. B. Flapper
(Hand-made?)



PY-EO Gilbey's Dry Gin
Engraved Wood / v:e



ID-RM Crown
v:p



IM-BK Reverse



PA-WA Three Fish
Engraved / v.f



PB-OR Owl on Moon
Inlaid Litho / v.f



PD-NY Three Stars
Sealed Addition / v.f



ID-CN Standing Lion
v.p



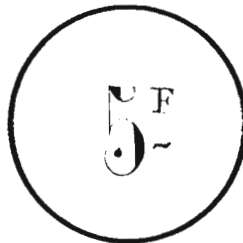
ID-RF Coat-of-Arms
v.p



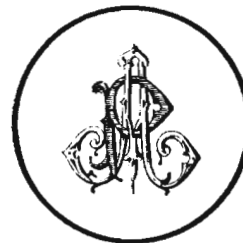
ID-RJ Crown
variation



IM-BA AC
v.q



IM-BA Reverse



IM-BK AP
v.q



IM-CY CC
v.k



IM-CY Reverse



IO-HCa Five
v.n



IO-IZ Five
(better graphic)



IO-PV Five
v.q



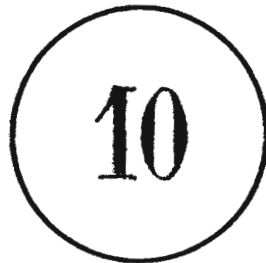
IQ-BN C.R. One & Two
v.l



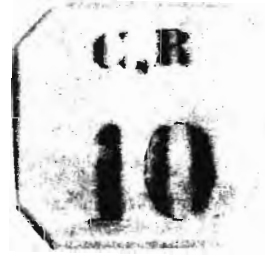
IQ-AJ C.R. One
v.l



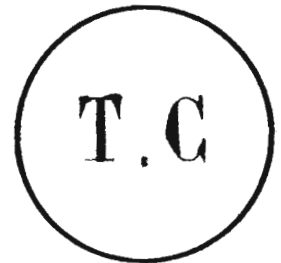
IQ-DS C.R. Five
v.l



IQ-FR Ten
v.j



IQ-GG C.R. Ten
v.l



IQ-HE T.C. Twenty
v.l



IQ-HE Reverse



IQ-HS Fifty
v.j



IQ-IA One Hundred
v.l

Antique Chips Value Rating Code*

a: 50¢ b: \$1 c: \$2-\$3 d: \$4-\$5 e: \$6-\$7 f: \$8-\$9 g: \$10-\$14 h: \$15-\$19
 i: \$20-\$29 j: \$30-\$39 k: \$40-\$49 l: \$50-\$69 m: \$70-\$89 n: \$90-\$109
 o: \$110-\$149 p: \$150-\$199 q: \$200-\$299 r: \$300-\$399 s: \$400-\$499
 t: \$500-\$699 u: \$700-\$999 v: \$1000-\$1999 w: \$2000-\$2999
 x: \$3000-\$3999 y: \$4000-\$499 z: \$5000+

*It is important to remember that quantities of one chip or a set of chips would have a much lower unit value per chip.

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Atlantic City R E P O R T

by Archie Black

I owe an apology to Editor John Yee, and his valuable Assistant Editor Allan Anderson, for not submitting my A.C. Report in time for the previous issue of the club magazine. John & Allan are doing a tremendous amount of work putting this publication together each quarter, and they surely don't need contributors like me being late submitting my quarterly article copy to them for publication.

John Yee has announced that the summer issue will be his last issue as Editor. He's done a terrific job, under sometimes difficult and controversial circumstances. I know that I speak for everyone in extending our appreciation and thanks to John for all of the work and time that he has devoted to this task. I have full confidence in Allan Anderson as he takes over the awesome responsibility in getting the next issues of our award-winning publication out to the membership.

Let's begin this installment where we left off back in the 2nd Quarter, Spring Issue, of our magazine...

Actually, not too much has been happening over these past few months in Atlantic City as far as new issues are concerned. if one looks at one month at a time.

In APRIL only ONE LE chip was issued (well TWO... if we count the promo NCV giveaway at Showboat). This release was significant in that it

represented the very first Limited Edition (or commemorative chip) issued at Showboat in their 15-year history in Atlantic City...with a 15th Anniversary chip. The NCV chip bore the same design ... but was blue in color, where the \$5 chip was the usual red. 1500 of the \$5 chips were produced ... and 10,000 of the NCV promo chips were manufactured. I don't know where all of the key chain chips wound up... but they certainly are not in the mass of chip collectors hands as one needed to present a postcard sent by Showboat to selected slot players in order to obtain one.



In May, once again, only two LE chips were issued ... one from Trump Plaza, a \$100 Kentucky Derby chip of which only 120 were made.



The second May chip was released by Resorts to commemorate the appearance of Whoopi Goldberg. 1000 Goldberg chips were issued



In June, one again, chip collectors wallets were spared as only ONE LE chip was issued during the entire month. The minor-league baseball team that plays at the beautiful Sand Castle Stadium in Atlantic City, A.C. Surf, was honored with a \$5 commemorative chip issued at Trump Plaza. 1500 chips were released.

The A.C. Surf has won their Division for the 2nd half of the season, and are currently engaged in playoffs for the Atlantic League Championship.





And now for the budget buster!! Resorts has begun a NV series of chips as a promotion for their higher-end players with a set of 26 No Value chips that players can begin to assemble. After accumulating 25 points on their slot card, or four hours of play on table games, players are eligible to pick (at blind random)

ONE chip from the series. The casino provides an attractive album to store the accumulated chips in. Those players who complete the collection (recorded in the computer) are eligible for substantial prize drawings at the end of the promotion. Some of these individual chips have been appearing on ebay ... where high reserves are being placed on singles (\$50 reserve on one sale in September) ... so not too many are being sold.

In July the flood-gates were opened for the 4th of July and chips were appearing virtually everywhere with chippers hopping from property to property, crossing paths on the same day.

Trump Plaza issued a new \$5 Paulson table chip, and removed ALL CHIPCO product LE chips from the property for destruction. Interestingly, the \$5 regular table chip was discovered to exist in two distinct shades of red. Seems like this chip was held in reserve as the \$5 back-up chip that had been stored at Trump



Plaza for several years. When the casino decided to make it their primary chip years later, and destruct all of the CHIPCO's, it was discovered that they did not have enough chips to replenish the entire gaming floor, so they re-ordered more. The re-ordered chip did not exactly match the red color of the original back up chips and collectors were quick to spot the differences. I'm only showing the one design with this article as the color variations would not show up in black and white.



Trump Plaza also issued three 4th of July issues as well ... a \$5, \$25 and \$100 denomination. 1200 of the \$5's; 400 of the \$25's and of the \$100.



Meanwhile, across town at Trump Plaza's sister property, Trump Marina..., two 4th of July issues were being released. (1000) \$5's and only (100) \$25's. The \$25 4th of July Marina chips are currently selling on Ebay for around \$200! If this were a Las Vegas LE from Hard Rock as an example, the price would be into the four-figures. We just don't get any respect here in A.C. <g>



Towards the end of the month of July, Resorts in keeping with it's new policy of issuing chips with notable headliners after the Whoopi chip, issued a \$5 LE for Tom Jones ... following up in August with a Martin Short \$5 issue. Both chips had a 1000 production run.



In September, Trump Marina issued (1000) \$5 T-Games chips. Some folks say that T-Games represents "Table Games" ... while others say it represents "Trump Games". I don't know which term is correct ... possibly both are.



As this report is being written, the rock group Heart chip will be released at Trump Marina, on 9-11. The group had appeared at the Marina earlier in the year, but for some reason the chips were delayed. 9-11 was chosen by Marina's management as the day for the release ... even though Heart is not scheduled to perform.



On the token front ... a few new slot tokens have appeared in A.C.

Harrah's now has a 10¢ token machine ... while Showboat has issued new \$5, \$10 and \$25 tokens to match their earlier issued \$1 & \$100 denominations. BTW: Showboat has removed all of their \$2 slot machines ... so there are no more \$2 tokens in play at that property.

Happy hunting everyone ... and may all your new finds be good ones! ❖



Atlantic City Chapter Continues to Raise Money for the "Building Fund"

by Jerry Birl

In addition to its regular activities, the Atlantic City Chapter of CC>CC continues to raise money for the National Club "Building Fund". At the March 3rd 2002 Chapter Meeting, the membership approved a \$4,000 donation to the "Building Fund". The \$4,000 donation was from the remaining balance in the Bob Mera Memorial Fund that had been originally raised to defray medical expenses of Chapter Founder Bob Mera who passed away from Leukemia in December of 1999. Bob's many contributions to our hobby were recognized when he was inducted into the National Club Hall of Fame at the Convention in Las Vegas in June of 2002.

The Chapter has also made arrangements with Trump Taj Mahal to issue \$5 and \$25 chips with the Club logo. Sale of these chips will generate an additional \$1,500 for the "Building Fund".

The AC Chapter held its regular meetings at the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on March 3rd, May 5th, and July 14th. The meeting activities include; 50/50 drawing, introduction of new members (our total Chapter

membership continues to grow), Chapter auction, chip swapping session and reports by Chapter officers.

Each Chapter meeting also featured a guest speaker. March 3rd Speaker was Grace Dimato, author of "Chance of a lifetime" a book about her brother-in-law, Skinny Dimato and the famous 500 Club in Atlantic City. Grace recounted excerpts from her book about illegal gambling in Atlantic City prior to the opening of licensed Casinos in 1978. Grace told many stories about million dollar Gin games, "wise guys", famous personalities, including Frank Sinatra, Joe Dimaggio, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis who were all part of the gambling and entertainment scene in AC from 1940 through the 1970s. May 5th guest speaker was Randy Pisane of Casino Rarities, who spoke on the appreciation of high value, rare Casino chips and the outlook for the future of these "high end" chips. On July 14th, Jerry Birl, a.k.a. "Mr. Roulette" spoke on the ways and means of roulette chip collecting, which is becoming an increasingly popular part of our hobby.

Also at our May 5th meeting a Collecting Survey was distributed to all members. The Survey will help to identify Chapter members collecting preferences so the Chapter can tailor programs and speakers to discuss topics which will further the educational needs of our membership.

The final two Chapter meetings for 2002 are scheduled for September 22nd and November 14th. All Club members are invited to join the AC Chapter, come to the Chapter meeting and participate in Chapter activities. ❖

THE EVOLUTION OF LAS VEGAS ARCHITECTURE

by Alex Cilento

The travel industry has always been important to Las Vegas. The City's location is due to the natural springs of the Las Vegas Valley and its position along the route from Salt Lake City to Southern California. The town's history is the history of the gambling industry in which Vegas becomes a destination and not a rest stop. Much has been written about the history of Las Vegas. Mostly the focus is the unique cast of characters who ran the casinos and the evolution of the industry from miners playing faro in sawdust bars to today's palaces of slot machines for retiree's. This article chronicles the evolution of Las Vegas architecture. The City's pioneering roles in both the gambling industry and casino architecture are deeply intertwined. The inspiration for this article is a wonderful book by Alan Hess: "Viva Las Vegas: after hours architecture."

A Railroad Town - 1905 - 1930

In 1905 Montana Senator William Clark completed the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad. The Las Vegas Valley was the obvious choice for a townsite because it was approximately midway and had plenty of groundwater to support the railroad as well as a town. Las Vegas was laid out as a typical railroad town. The train station formed the base of the town with the main road at right angles to the tracks. Today the station would be in the back of the Plaza Hotel and Fremont Street remains the heart of downtown. The early Vegas economy was driven by a

railroad repair facility and as a supply station for the mines to the northwest. For much of this period the Mission Revival railroad station was the grandest building in town. Fremont Street was an undistinguished collection of single story wooden structures. In the late 1920's a road is punched through from Baker to Vegas and the automobile began to replace the train as the dominant means of travel to Las Vegas.

Legalized Gambling - 1931 - 1945

The construction of Hoover Dam in the early 1930's brought Las Vegas a measure of prosperity through the depression. Dam workers and dam tourists provided the customers for the small clubs that lined Fremont Street after gambling legalization in 1931. The single story wooden structures on Fremont Street were replaced with two and three story brick buildings. Neon was first used in signs in the early 1930's. By the end of the decade neon had become a major architectural feature of Fremont

Street and Vegas began its long romance with over-the-top glitz. Special mention needs to be given to "The Meadows Club". Built in 1931 by underworld figure, Tony Cornero, it featured an elegant nightclub/casino and hotel. Long gone, the Meadows Club was at the current intersection of Fremont and Charleston. A mob run, upscale joint that preceded the Flamingo by fifteen years!

This era was complete with the construction of the El Rancho Vegas (1941) and the Last Frontier (1942.) While downtown was centered on the pedestrian, these hotels were focused on car travel, primarily from LA. The highway into town provided lots of inexpensive land and both these hotels were comprised of spread out single story buildings and bungalows. Architecturally they had their roots in the motor courts that were spreading all over the country. Both had a casual "dude ranch" theme. To attract passing motorists the El Rancho had a short tower with a windmill while the Last Frontier put its pool next to the



The Meadows Club (1931)

highway as an incentive to stop. The Last Frontier is at the location of the current New Frontier.

Sophistication 1945 - 1957

For many Las Vegas history fans, this was the golden era. It begins with Bugsy Siegel and the Flamingo. Before the war, the Sunset Strip outside of LA was notorious for wide open gambling in swank surroundings for the Hollywood crowd. LA got a reform mayor and Vegas got a bunch of mobsters anxious to show how exciting their gambling industry could be when practiced out in the open. Like the El Rancho and the Last Frontier, the Flamingo was a glorified motel. But the Flamingo was no dude ranch. Mr. Seigel wanted a building where LA high rollers would feel at home. The result was a spacious, elegantly appointed building that used the clean lines, materials and angles that were becoming popular in the upscale homes and clubs of the Hollywood elite. Actually, the Flamingo was conceived by Billy Wilkerson, who owned several upscale nightspots on the Sunset Strip. But this article is about architecture and not history. While the



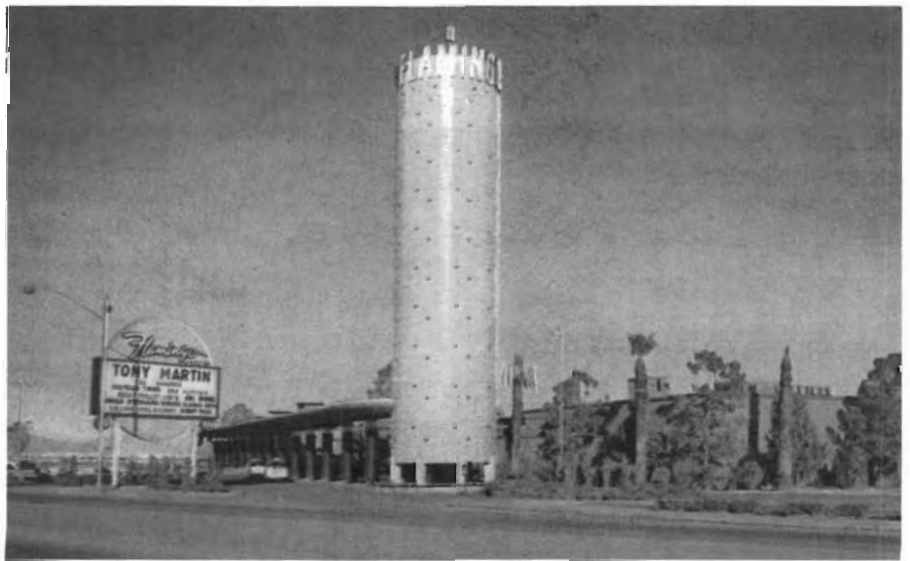
The Sands (1952)

Flamingo was conceptually similar to the motel-inspired layouts of the El Rancho and Last Frontier, its contemporary/ urban style and use of exotic landscaping began the trend of creating “other worlds” in the desert. Unfortunately Mr. Seigel was to die of unnatural causes before his Flamingo became wildly profitable. The mob was ecstatic with their new

(almost) legitimate industry and the next decade brought to Vegas the Desert Inn, Sahara, Sands, Riviera, and Dunes. Each of these casino/hotels followed the lead of the Flamingo with an emphasis on sophisticated contemporary designs. The Sands broke new ground with the incorporation of the marquee as an integral part of the architecture.



The Flamingo (1947)



The Flamingo (1953 remodel)

The older hotels were forced to keep up. The El Rancho's Round-Up Room became the Opera House, the Last Frontier became the modern New Frontier and, in 1953, the Flamingo underwent a major remodel including the "champagne tower". The Riviera became Las Vegas' first high rise in 1955. At nine stories, many doubted the ability of desert soil to support the structure. The Riviera's design was taken from the clean, almost art-deco theme prevalent in Miami buildings. The original building is still in use today among all the high rise expansion towers. Almost no other structures from this era remain (OK, the low-rise rooms of the Royal Nevada, now part of the Stardust.)



The Mint (1957)

Downtown the neon explosion continued with the addition of Vegas Vic at the Pioneer and the grand marquee of the Golden Nugget. Combining sign and architecture was never better done than The Mint in 1957.

Gambling Goes Mainstream 1958 - 1965

Remember Tony Cornero, builder of the prescient Meadows Club? Well the Meadows "burnt down" and "Admiral" Cornero then ran a fleet of gambling ships off the California coast until 1939 when his fleet was

attacked by the US Coast Guard. In 1944 he opened the SS Rex in the Apache Hotel on Fremont Street but that lasted only six months because of licensing problems. He went back to his offshore gambling boat business, this time further out from California's jurisdiction but was put out of business in 1948 by a new Federal law prohibiting gambling in US coastal waters. Besides being one hell of an interesting guy, Tony was a pioneer in realizing the potential of the low stakes gambler. His off-shore gambling ships were targeted at middle class folks looking for fun. Cornero's ultimate creation was the Stardust Hotel which opened in 1958.

Tony did not make the opening as he had a fatal heart attack at the dice tables of the Desert Inn in 1955. Architecturally, the Stardust was a gambling warehouse and began Vegas' love affair with the low roller. It was also Vegas' first 1000 room hotel. The hotel part consisted of long rows of barrack-like buildings behind the casino. The casino was an ordinary building with its entire facade covered with an extraordinary 216-foot long neon sign. While the Stardust was the last major strip hotel to be built until the mid-1960's, it began a wave of expansion for the existing hotels. Operators began to realize that the gambling business was a numbers game: so many rooms produced so much profit. Several casinos including the Sahara, the Riviera, and the Desert Inn all added nondescript towers to their casinos to increase business. Innovative architecture and design sophistication were of little use when the core strategy is lots of low stake gamblers lured in by ultra low room rates.



The Stardust (1958)

The Strip was becoming a crowded mixture of neon and building towers. To attract passing motorists in the

1960's several hotel built magnificent freestanding signs. The Stardust and Frontier signs are still in use but the Sahara sign is gone. The best was The Dunes.

Special mention has to go to the Landmark. Built in 1964, it finally opened as a casino in 1969. Someone obviously watched the Jetsons too often. The wild architecture of LA car washes and diners didn't translate well into hotel/casinos and represented an architectural dead-end.

Downtown continued to get brighter. Fremont Street was a nearly unbroken facade of neon.

We're Not in Kansas Anymore! 1966 – 1980

Jay Sarno built Caesars Palace which opened in 1966. Sarno was quite a guy. He was heavily mob-connected, loved large quantities of food and women and was a compulsive gambler who usually lost. Here's a guy who owns a casino yet he keeps losing a good part of his net worth at the craps table. Also, he was a devoted family man and another Las Vegas visionary. Sarno had experimented with soft rounded architectural shapes and elaborate driveway landscaping in his nationwide Cabana motel chain and Caesars was to be the flagship. Caesars was the first major hotel built in Las Vegas in eight years. Hotels like the Dunes or the Sahara might have a desert design theme but Caesars was another world. Turning off the Strip, you followed a long driveway of fountains and statuary into imperial Rome. The concept continued with the interior architecture, furnishings and employee costumes. Las Vegas was in the desert but reality was not as profitable as putting visitors in an exotic fantasy world where you could be less



The Dunes (1980)



The Landmark (1969)

inhibited. This has been a strong architectural trend that guides Vegas to the present.

Another milestone was Circus Circus which opened in 1968. While not exactly the highest level of architectural sophistication, it began the effort to attract the family tourist dollar. Interestingly, the ultra-low-roller Circus Circus was conceived and built by Jay Sarno.

This is the era of Howard Hughes. Hughes bought six hotels but never built one. His most lasting legacy was that he brought a sense of legitimacy to gambling as a business and began the current period of corporate ownership. However it was another individual, Kirk Kerkorian, who built the International Hotel in 1969. Its design included a central core with three tower wings and no main facade to face the highway. This design has been repeated in many Vegas hotels including the Mirage, Treasure Island, Monte Carlo, Mandalay Bay and Venetian. Interestingly, the Paris has four wings. The International had 1500 rooms and was then the worlds largest hotel. Each wing has been expanded and is now the Las Vegas Hilton. Kerkorian's next hotel, the MGM Grand (now Bally's), was almost a standard urban high rise office building with a little extra glitz.



Caesars Palace (Late 1970's)



Circus Circus (1970's)

Corporate Las Vegas 1981 – present

The architecture of the present era is dominated by two forces. The first is corporate ownership. Decisions are not made by individual entrepreneurs but by committee after extensive market research. The second is that Strip real estate has become so valuable that the car no longer has a dominant role on the strip. Your car is quickly

sent to a multistory parking structure in the back of the hotel and out of sight. The Mirage began the current wave of the modern mega-casino in 1989. Today, architecture is probably the main method of providing a hotel with its identity. The Luxor pyramid, the Stratosphere tower, and the Eiffel tower are among the most obvious examples. New York New York is an almost unbelievable fusion of sign and building. The Excalibur is

probably the lamest attempt at triumphant architecture.

Downtown blocked all traffic and put a two million light canopy over Fremont Street.

That takes us to today's Las Vegas Strip; an instantly recognizable world icon. New hotels are careful blends of over-the-top architectural presentation and cost control targeted at

specific psychographic and demographic market segments. There's an unmistakable Disneyland culture at work. One interesting aspect has been Steve Wynn, His Mirage, Treasure Island, and Bellagio have all featured grand scale attractions designed for the pedestrian. His track record may suggest that the future strip does away with the car entirely.

The evolution of Vegas architecture is an interesting story. It is natural that Vegas change. Gaming (not gambling) is a business and evolves to follow the money. Walmart does not look like a Woolworth's five and dime. All in all, I wish we still had the Dunes sign, the Landmark, the Sands..... ❖

Books & Videotapes

for the Club Library

by Robert Pardue

CC>CC Library Videotapes

Thanks to Michael Ludwig for continuing to compile new videotapes of gaming-related programs. These videos, along with others in our library, are available to club members. The videos - #11 through #13 - contain the following programs.

Video #11

- "Beyond Closed Doors with Joan Lunden" - The Aladdin Implosion & Cirque du Soleils in LV (2000) - *A&E* - :30
- "Haunted History: Haunted Nevada" (2000) - *The History Channel* - 1:00
- "Extreme Homes" featuring Dale Seymour's home (2000) - *HGTV* - :30
- "E! True Hollywood Story" featuring Wayne Newton (2000) - *E!* - 2:00
- "E! True Hollywood Story" featuring Frank Sinatra (1998) - *E!* - 2:00

Video #12

- "E! True Hollywood Story" featuring Liberace (1998) - *E!* - 1:00
- "E! True Hollywood Story" featuring Dean Martin (1998) - *E!* - 2:00
- "Best Of" - "Las Vegas" (2000) - *The Food Channel* - :30
- "E! True Hollywood Story" featuring Donald Trump (2000) - *E!* - 1:00
- "FBI: The Untold Story" - Harvey's Casino bomb extortion case (1999) - *The History Channel* - :30

Video #13

- "Vegas Nights" (2000) - *The Discovery Channel* - 1:00
- "Biography" featuring Wayne Newton (1997) - *A&E* - 1:00
- "Casino Diaries" - #1 "Cat & Mouse" *The Discovery Channel* (2000) :30
- "Casino Diaries" - #2 "Executive Host" - *The Discovery Channel* (2000) :30

- "Travelers" - "Las Vegas" - *The Travel Channel* (1999) - 1:00
- "World's Best Places To Strike It Rich" - *The Travel Channel* (2000) - 1:00
- "Las Vegas: Get Lucky" - *The Travel Channel* (2000) - 1:00

For complete contents of the library, see the updated list posted on the club website, or request a copy by mail. If you have a donation to offer, or have questions about the library, please see me at the convention or write to me at:

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California Chips

by David Moore

Far up north, the Blue Lake Casino also opened in August. This much smaller operation is four miles east of Arcata. Rolling Hills in Corning also issued a grand opening \$5 chip for its August beginning along with \$5 and up rack chips. Augustine Casino in the Coachella Valley of Southern California had their official grand opening in August as well. Chips include \$1, \$2.50, \$5, \$25 and \$100. It is a fairly small casino with only 400 slot machines and 10 table games. Perhaps a fitting situation since the entire Augustine tribe consists of only eight members!

Thanks to the booming expansion of Indian gaming, quite a few chips have come out recently in the Golden State. The first "name brand" chips were issued by Harrah's Rincon, including an attractive Grand opening chip, which opened in August in the highly competitive San Diego County area. The opening was a mob with patrons being kept outside for hours until other customers had left to make room for them. Also in San Diego County, Casino Pauma issued the first California roulettes, although reportedly a wheel is not used but rather cards determine the winning numbers.





In May, the Black Oak Casino in Tuolumne issued a \$5 first anniversary chip, apparently in conjunction with the Indian Motorcycle Company.



The Pechanga Casino replaced their rack chips in conjunction with the opening of their \$262 million complex of over one million feet of gaming space. Denominations go up to \$1,000 but includes \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$25 for lower-budget collectors.



Robinson Rancheria in Nice on the Clear Lake Riviera has issued 25cent and 50cent chips in the diamond mold.



The Indian casinos and chips show no sign of slowing down. On the horizon is a new rack for Barona in San Diego County in conjunction with their end of year expansion into

a huge new casino. The River Rock Casino in Sonoma County also looks to be well on its way to a controversial opening in Northern California's wine country. The Shingle Springs Casino in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada is hoping to open in late 2003.

On the card room scene, Diamond Sport Bar & Casino opened this summer in Fresno with 50cent, \$1, \$2, \$3 and \$5 and up chips.



If I've missed a new chip issued in the last three months or if you know of upcoming California chips, drop me a line, and I'll include them in the next issue of the club magazine. Contact me at: moored@pacbell.net or write: David Moore, 1750 San Luis Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. ❖

STARDUST

Memories

by Bobby Bryde

Bill Brennan walked out of the casino with \$500,000 one afternoon 10 years ago and was never seen again. We replay the day.

(Editor's note: The following story combines fact and conjecture. It is reconstructed based on witness testimony, law-enforcement records and the insights of former Stardust employees and others who knew Bill Brennan, including the author.)

"The most peaceable way for you, if you do take a thief, is to let him show himself what he is and steal himself out of your company."
-Shakespeare,
"Much Ado About Nothing"

It's been 10 years since Bill Brennan, a cashier in the Stardust sports book, gave new meaning to "punching out"—carrying with him \$500,000 in cash and chips.

Everyone who knew Bill agreed that he was a nice, friendly guy, but most were not surprised he did it. The Stardust staff ignored the obvious hints. Bill, while a supervisor, had been caught giving favorable prices to a customer and was demoted to cashier. He overpaid a buddy \$5,000 on a ticket, for which he was suspended two weeks. A fortnight prior to the theft, Bill had a tantrum in the back office, yelling "F— this place!" Bill asked some fellow workers about Costa Rica and was seen carrying a book on extradition treaties. Rumors that Bill was heavy into bookies failed to set off red lights. An

employee called Bill a flunky: "He started gambling and got in with some people he shouldn't have."

Perhaps that explains why Stardust officials told law-enforcement officials that Bill neither drank nor gambled. The Stardust refused John Walsh permission to film "America's Most Wanted" inside the property. The FBI never saw any tapes. And neither Metro nor the FBI were informed about Bill's earlier \$5,000 theft.

Why? We'll probably never know. Just put those on the pile of other unanswered questions about what happened on that infamous Monday night, Sept. 21, 1992, when the largest casino heist in Las Vegas history took place.

5:48 p.m. William John Brennan, known as Bill, signs in at the Stardust Race and Sports Book, where he is a cashier. He types in his password on the computer and counts down his bank: \$300,000 in cash and chips. It is all there. Brenda, the cashier next to him, is upset that he's late—it's Monday night, the football game is close to kickoff and she has been swamped by bettors cashing tickets left over from yesterday. If Bill is concerned about his tardiness, he doesn't show it. He throws his blue bag inside the lower cabinet, ignoring Brenda. She is hoping to leave early, and that means later having to ask Bill to take over her bank, saving her a trip to the cage. He has always done it for her; she considers Bill a nice guy.

6:05 p.m. The Bears win the coin toss, elect to receive. Matt Bahr's kickoff is returned to the Chicago 22-yard line, and the game is under way.

6:10 p.m. Nick stops by to chat with Bill. They are drinking buddies. "Do you want anything?" Nick asks. Bill shakes his head no. Nick is surprised; Bill often slipped a \$100 or two under the window for Nick to bet for him. "Yeah," Nick says, "a light schedule tonight." Bill nods, wishing his friend would leave. Nick, picking up on it, raps his knuckles on the counter, saying, "OK, Bill, just wave if you want anything." Bill's friend fights the sports-book crowd and plops back in his chair. Some fans in the book cheer: The Bears have scored a touchdown and Nick, who took the 5.5 points with New York, sees his Giants trailing 7-0.

6:35 p.m. Bill locks his drawer, and tells Brenda he is going to the restroom. She wonders what is wrong with him tonight. He seems distracted, not even watching the game on the small portable television in the back of the cage. "Oh well," she thinks, "so long as he takes my bank, who cares?" Bill bumps into Andrew, the sports-book director, on the way. "Going to take a leak," he explains to his boss. Andrew says nothing. He doesn't trust Bill, and certainly had his suspicions when Bill claimed to mistakenly overpay a customer \$5,000 two months ago. Andrew wanted to fire him on the spot, but some "important customers" (a euphemism for big bettors) swore by

Bill. Andrew, not wanting to alienate them, just suspended Bill for two weeks.

6:50 p.m. Dave is a Stardust security guard assigned to the north side of the hotel, meaning he gets to spend some time in the sports book (where he can watch the game) and also shoot the breeze with the dealers in the 21 pit near the book. Dave thinks the blue jacket identifying him as an official Stardust security guard impresses customers, but he doesn't fool the regulars. Six months ago, more than \$1 million in cash and negotiable checks was stolen from the casino, and runners (bettors playing funds for someone else) know not to spend too much time in the restrooms or parking lot, where they are easy prey. Dave looks at a screen and frowns. It's almost halftime and the Giants have tied the score at 14-14; Dave bet \$22 on the Bears, a big bet for him.

8:00 p.m. Brenda, figuring Bill isn't watching the game anyway, changes the channel on the TV set, putting on Channel 8. "Murphy Brown." Bill turns, says nothing. "Tonight, she goes after Dan Quayle," Brenda explains. Bill has no idea who Murphy Brown is and doesn't really care. He is staring ahead, thinking "I wish I had never met this guy," referring to Jimmy, who had talked him into scamming the \$5,000. "It will be easy," Jimmy said then. "I give you a \$10 parlay ticket and you punch in a number for a big winning ticket." Bill knew this happened often on the system most sports books use. But a good cashier, when paying a sizable amount, knew to double-check both the ticket and the computer screen.

After Jimmy had left the sports book, Bill ran out, pretending to be chasing a customer who ripped him off. Not only did they get away with it, but Bill, who expected to be canned on the spot, was only suspended, and his share of the \$5,000 more than covered his loss of two weeks pay. But now Jimmy wanted more. "Hey, it's Monday night. You're bank will be loaded!" Jimmy hinted that if Bill didn't agree to do the job, he might drop a dime on him about the \$5,000 ticket. Bill shook his head; he knew he was the one taking the risk. "Screw it," he thought, accepting his fate, whatever it might be. "I owe this place shit."

9:00 p.m. The crowd in the sports book is thinning out; with four minutes remaining, the Giants ice the game by taking a 27-14 lead. Only those holding New York tickets are waiting for the final gun. Dave the security guard curses and leaves the sports book; he won't return to the book until 2 a.m., and by then it will be too late.

9:30 p.m. Nick waits 15 minutes in line to cash his ticket at Bill's window. "Not bad, huh, Bill?" Bill hands him \$210. Nick, not knowing when to quit, asks: "Say, do you think you can return those two Civil War books I loaned you last month?"

Bill pauses, answers, "Sure, Nick. I will bring them in tomorrow night."

"Great. But, I mean, if you didn't finish them."

Bill finally grins. "No, Nick. Really, I don't need them anymore."

Nick nods, leaves Bill \$2, then heads for the bar, where he will still be celebrating his football win when Metro arrives at 2:30 a.m.

9:45 p.m. All the ticket windows are now closed and the only sports-book employees remaining are Bill, Brenda and Joe, a supervisor who will spend the rest of his shift in the back office doing reports and other paperwork.

10:05 p.m. It's time for Bill to take lunch; Brenda handles the few customers left who straggle in to cash tickets. She knows that when Bill comes back she will be able to count down and leave. Bill locks his drawer, goes into the back and tells Joe he is taking 30 minutes for lunch. It never occurs to Joe that this will be the last time he will ever see Bill Brennan.

10:50 p.m. Brenda passes her bank to Bill, watching him as he counts the cash and chips. "It checks," is all he says. Brenda thanks him and leaves without saying goodbye. "Hell, he sure was in a mood tonight," she thinks. She looks at her watch and quickly forgets about Bill; if she hurries, she can get in an hour playing a poker machine across the street at Silver City before her husband comes to pick her up.

Just like that, Bill has added \$180,000 in cash and chips to his bank.

1:15 a.m. A customer Bill doesn't recognize approaches the cashier cage and pushes a ticket through the window. Bill punches it in. "Oh, shit," he says to himself. He has to pay a \$40,000 parlay. His hands shake as he reluctantly pays the

customer, who tips him \$100. "Thanks," Bill says, shoving the \$100 into his shirt pocket. He knows he can't risk another high payout; he dials the Convention Center Lodge across the street, where Jimmy is waiting for his call. "I'm getting ready now," Bill tells him. "And don't forget my stereo and General Grant." Bill hangs up.

1:20 a.m. Dave the security guard is hitting on an Asian dealer in the near-empty 21 pit, thinking he might get lucky; it would be nice to have someone take his mind off of the \$22 he lost on the Bears.

1:25 a.m. Bill knows that of the many cameras in the race and sports book, only two or three are working; none inside the cage. He fills his blue carry bag with all of the casino chips and cash from his drawer and places a rumpled Philadelphia Flyers jersey over the top of the cash. Jim locks Bill's apartment door; no one sees him. He drives across the street to wait at the north entrance by the sports book. The engine is running. General Grant, Bill's Siamese cat, is frightened, meowing loudly in the back seat. Jim debates getting out and putting the cat into the trunk with the stereo, but decides against it. Bill might back out if he didn't see General Grant. "F—ing cat," Jim says.

1:30 a.m. Bill leaves the cashiers cage and, seeing the race and sports book deserted, he nervously walks the 150 feet to the north exit. In the bag over his shoulder is \$224,000 in cash and \$283,000 in casino chips. It is the largest theft of money and tokens in the history of Las Vegas.

1:35 a.m. Maria, a Stardust housekeeper, uses her last break to go to the sports book to check a score on

the Padres game; she and her husband are baseball fanatics. She is disappointed to see the cashiers cage empty, as she looks forward to talking baseball with Bill, a Phillies fan, a nice guy. She glances around and sees Bill leaving the sports book. "Gee, he's lucky," she thinks. "He gets to leave early tonight." Maria locates the San Diego score, which depresses her even more: San Francisco beat the Padres 7-1. "Mierda," she mutters (roughly translated as "shit"), then goes back to work.

1:55 a.m. Joan picks up her phone and dials the cashiers cage: no answer. The sports book cashier normally turns in his bank at 1:45, and is late. She dials the security podium. "This is Joan in the cage. Anyone know what time the sports cashier is coming?"

2:00 a.m. Dave is the first to arrive in the sports book; as yet, no one suspects Bill is gone. Joe, the sports-book supervisor who has been in the back office for almost four hours, comes out. "Bill never called down for an escort," Dave says. "Where is he?" Joe quickly searches the men's room, then ruefully admits something isn't right. Joe checks the cashiers cage and finds the top drawer empty; in the second drawer-laying face up-is Bill's nametag. Two more security guards arrive. "We should call Metro," says one. "No, let's look around for him first," says Joe, who then calls the sports-book director at home. Two dozen security guards frantically search the casino and outer grounds. Thirty minutes pass. There is no sign of Bill Brennan. The sports-book director arrives, and Metro is finally called. It is 2:30 a.m.

• • •

Where Brennan went after the theft is unknown.

"After 'America's Most Wanted' aired the case," said FBI Special Agent Henry Schlumpf, "we got some solid leads. Bill (originally from Palmsertown, Penn.) was reportedly seen in Pennsylvania, but by the time we got there, he had cleared out."

Some are convinced he is sipping a cool drink in Costa Rica, celebrating his 10-year anniversary with diamonds instead of tin. Others believe he is providing fertilizer for a cactus in the desert, murdered by his accomplice.

But there is also disagreement over the involvement of an accomplice (presented here as "Jimmy"). The police maintained that Brennan acted alone, but those close to Brennan agree that he did have an accomplice—the same man who earlier helped him steal the \$5,000.

An arrest warrant for fraud and embezzlement was issued for William John Brennan on Sept. 24, 1992; Brennan, still wanted by the FBI for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution, has not been heard from since.

Case No. 92F06988X remains open.

This article first appeared in *Las Vegas Weekly*. ❖

So, What is This “OLCD” Thing?

by Jim Follis

OLCD” is the acronym for On-Line Communications Director. This Club position was created earlier this year by the Club’s Board of Directors and after a selection process, from among several qualified volunteer candidates, I was selected to hold the first posting (no pun intended). The OLCD position, as described by Nate Pincus, is as follows:

This is a new position that has been created to address the needs of monitoring and communicating on the Internet. Jim will be responsible for tracking the on-line bulletin boards, responding to member inquiries and posting announcements. His goal will be to help keep members better informed and provide timely answers regarding the Board’s status and position on various issues and on general matters affecting the membership.”

So, if the OLCD is the “on-line” person for the Club, then why does he have an article in the Club’s magazine? First and foremost, he likes to write. Secondly, he would like to connect with the off-line members of the Club and invite them to perhaps take the plunge into the on-line world of casino memorabilia collecting. I plan a “thread” (pun intended) of articles that will detail various attributes of on-line communication and collecting, as well as some of the hazards and pit-falls.

On the positive side of the on-line world, there is instantaneous messaging. On the hazardous side, there is also instantaneous messaging. Another positive is Ebay, and another negative is, well, Ebay! I guess you can say that being on-line is full of good and bad, but I see mostly good.

Future articles will discuss “Collecting @ the Speed of Light”. An informative How To participate in, or even organize your own Round Robin. Whether it be a \$1-only Round Robin, or RR, a \$5-only RR, and Mixed RR or even a Mixed Deluxe RR, the pros and cons will be fully explained. Even the hybrid Shotgun RR, with 1, 2, 3 or more loads will be detailed.

I will also be discussing such matters as on-line etiquette (or the absence there of), emoticons, the art of inserting your body language into a written line, how to search the Internet for information, using Ebay and even derivative, specialize auction venue just for casino memorabilia collectors. There is plenty to do ahead and I encourage any reader to always feel free to contact me.

The Club provides a unique email address for me, which is olcd@ccgtcc.com, but you can also email me at jim@gamingore.com.

I’m also available via snail mail at:
5169 N. Windriver Pl.,
Tucson, AZ 85750,
and I can be called or Faxed at:
520.529.3245.

As a final remark, I’d like to relay a short bit of conversation I had with Nate Pincus when I was selected for the position. At the time that Nate informed me of being selected to be the Online Communications Director, he asked what I thought the name or position title should be? I thought about it for a day and responded Online Communications Director, or OCD. Nate asked me if I was sure, as OCD had another meaning, one that was very germane to our hobby, i.e., Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. At first I thought that was an interesting coincidence and was prepared to go with it. But then Nate said, You know, our other halves tend to think of all of us as having an OCD problem. If you use that acronym, you’ll just be adding fuel to the fire. Consequently, I added the hyphen in “Online” and used “L” in the acronym.

But the True Love of my life, Pam, still thinks that OCD is a better descriptor!

Jim Follis
On-Line Communications Director ❖

Not Quite A Chip Off The Old Block

by Jimmy Litnar

This is a story, a true story about how every day brings something new. When one wakes up in the morning there is always that feeling of new possibilities. What will today bring? Something good, something bad, or something just plain different. I woke up on the morning of February the 26th, 1970, little suspecting that day would change my life. I was as I always had been...me. That's it, just me, Jim Litnar. I had a father, Nick, A mother, Betty, a brother and a sister. Dad was Russian, mother was Hungarian, and I was...well, I was in the U.S. Navy.

I was home on leave, and on this day in February I was celebrating my 21st birthday. I had spent the day with a few of my high school buddies. They had names like LaRusso, Plescia, Amicrarelli, and Devito.

Get the picture? It seems all of my close friends were Italian. Since I was about fourteen, I had always regretted that I was not Italian. Oh sure I had dark hair, dark eyes, dark complexion, but still, when I was with my friends it was as if they shared a bond, a brotherhood if you will, that would at times make me feel just a little like an outsider.

My brother and sister both had blonde hair and blue eyes, light complexion. "Why is that"? I would ask my mother. "Because it is" she would reply. Why am I Catholic and the rest of the family is Lutheran or Russian

Orthodox I would ask. "Just because", mom would reply. But on this evening in 1970, at the tender age of 21, my life would change. Not that it would change in a good way, or a bad way, it would just change in a strange way.

"Well Jim", mom started, I need to tell you something, something about your dad. "You see, I met your dad when I was a waitress at the old Wagon Wheel Restaurant. Your father would come in quite often. He would soon disappear into a back room that was set up for gambling for private customers. This restaurant was a local hangout of many mob figures. Your dad was at the time a member of group of fellow's from Detroit, known as The Purple Gang".

Well by this time I could contain myself no longer and began laughing loudly and rolled off the couch and onto the floor. That was pretty funny mom, dad in the purple gang. Good old boring, cutting the grass, painting the house, watching the Browns and falling asleep on the couch dad. Dad, afraid of guns, never swore in his life, a member of the purple gang. Mom sure had a great sense of humor.

"Not Nick, she said, your real dad." Now she had my attention. The story she laid out for me that night left me numb and dazed. I think it was when she began taking out the bags of

Newspaper clippings, magazine articles, and snapshots that I began to feel my life slowly changing. Who Am I?? Who is this guy, my real father that I have never met?

So the story went, how my mom met, and fell in love with James Licavoli. A rather handsome fellow in his younger days. He was a good bit older than my mom it turns out. This dashing dangerous fellow that would often ask her out on a date. He would often leave her five-dollar tips (quite a bit in 1948). She would not go out with him at first although she was attracted to him. Dating a mob figure was not quite what she had planned on, especially having strict Hungarian parents that would highly disapprove.

Mom did give in to his charms as it turns out. Mom was in love; it was as simple as that. She had met the man of her dreams. Of course in her dreams he was an airline pilot not a hit man for the mob. They lived together for a short time, keeping their relationship as private as possible. In 1949 the Kefauver Commission on crime met, and the heat on organized crime was turned up to an inferno. James Licavoli was subpoenaed to appear before the Commission and testify. He pleaded the 5th repeatedly, and upon being dismissed left town. He would now go by the name Jack White. He gave a simple explanation to my mother. He could not have a wife, could not have a family, could not stay in one place.

Licavoli would eventually return to Cleveland. When he found out that I had been born in February of 1949, he visited mom and I. He placed \$500 in my cradle and asked mom to "Get the kid some decent clothes." I wish he had just left chips instead.

Licavoli would, in time, take over the position of “ Don “ or godfather of the Cleveland mob. Although his image would appear on television from time to time, I only met him one time, a memorable meeting in Little Italy of Cleveland. It would take a short book to describe this meeting.

I happened to see Licavoli on the main street, Murray Hill, in Cleveland’s Little Italy. It was during the festive Feast of the Assumption. He appeared to be with two large bodyguards, but suddenly he was alone, and with some apprehension I approached him from the crowd. “ Are you James Licavoli”? I asked. “ No I’m not”, he replied. “Jack White”? I asked. “No!” was his reply. I’m Jimmy Litnar, Betty’s kid, I said..

I was running out of nerve at this point. Licavoli looked at me for a long moment and then said “You’re Jimmy”? That was the groundbreaking. “ Can I buy you a drink?” he asked. Soon we were in a very dimly lit small bar. I remember when we walked in together the entire place emptied. Not that it was crowded, but the few people drinking and talking went silent and then left. We were alone with the exception of a lady bartender. She quickly poured Licavoli a drink. When he asked me what I was drinking, I couldn’t even remember if I drank or not, let alone what I would prefer. I said a beer would be fine. “Sure you don’t want a shot?” he asked. “No just a beer “ I answered. I took my beer and began drinking from the bottle. I think I was in a state of shock. Here I was,

Jim Litnar, Me, just your everyday putz, drinking a beer with my father, the Godfather of the Cleveland Mob. The Don....For Christ sake...it was Marlon Brando.

What was wrong with this picture? I felt like a fool when I suddenly realized that he was holding his shot glass in the air, a toast, a salute, and here I was guzzling my beer. I touched my raised bottle to his glass, and again came the long stare from this larger than life Sicilian. He asked several questions about my mom, then a clumsy silence until I asked the question. “May I shake your hand”? He looked at me and nodded, he shifted his drink to his left hand, the one holding his cane. The cane I would later find out concealed a 16-inch stiletto. We shook hands, but he did not let go, not right away. He held my hand for what seemed like 10 minutes, it was probably only two. I will never forget the hand-shake. I will never forget his eyes. He never called me son; I never called him dad. Nothing was said that would answer any burning questions.

James Licavoli died in prison in Wisconsin on November 24th, 1985. He was 81 years old. He had taken to wearing a hearing aid, at government expense of course, and suffered from arthritis. He died of a heart attack. He had been serving a seventeen-year sentence for conspiring to control organized crime in Northern Ohio.

This Mafia boss as it turned out was well liked by most all that had come to know him. The judge that

had sentenced him issued a statement stating that he was truly saddened by Licavoli’s death. The community in which he lived mourned his passing as he had given much to the churches and underprivileged.

Two personal notes: It is interesting that I have had this love affair with Vegas and it’s casinos. I have helped support the Vegas strip with my frequent donations at the craps and roulette tables. I read an article that Licavoli and the Cleveland mob made quite a killing over the years with the skimming of Vegas loot being delivered to the Cleveland crime family on a weekly basis for many years. Where Vegas was a very lucrative investment for good old dad, it seems to be just the opposite for the kid.

Secondly...Mom passed away a few months ago. She kept many secrets during her 85 years on this planet. One secret that only those closest to her would ever know, she never stopped loving James Licavoli. He was her first love. When they met in 1948 mom was beautiful (movie star qualities), he had James Bond good looks.

What a story. Sorry I can’t do it justice in such a small space. Is this a chips related story? Most would say no. But I recently picked up a illegal chip from Terry Shafer, a chip from the Hollywood Club, an illegal joint in Ohio where Licavoli once took mom. Perhaps he held this chip in his hands. I can only wonder. ❖

Steve Cutler Day in Las Vegas!

by Jim Follis

You would have thought that October 11, 2002 was his *special* day, and although it was not his birthday, it was still, very much in deed, his special Day! Here it was, the culmination of months and months of hard work. Of tedious coordinative efforts. Of complicated schedule manipulations. Schedule refinements, adjustments and wholesale last minute changes. But for all that work; the hundreds of telephone calls, the personal tours and the unexpected, yet anticipated, cancellations, October 11th was indeed Steve Cutler Day.

And to prove it, the Honorable Oscar Goodman, Mayor of Las Vegas (a bit of Vegas histrionics himself) had issued and signed into effect, a Proclamation that October 11, 2002 was to officially be known as, Steve Cutler Day. Why October 11th? Why Steve Cutler? Well that's because Steve himself, as well as his already established affiliated the Tropicana Hotel and Casino, is becoming an integral part of Las Vegas history. Of course Steve's involvement is that of having a prized collection of gaming memorabilia which centers on the gaming history of Nevada and in particular, Las Vegas.

Most of us know Steve as the Curator of the Gambling Museum located at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, which for



the past four years has stood as the Temple of every chip and token collector in the World. It is the center of the gaming memorabilia universe, and we are all somewhat envious of Steve's ability to showcase his collection (or nearly 10 %) in front of a non-collecting audience and very much in a museum setting.

However, the word "museum" is not what Steve uses to denote the facility, tucked away inside the aging Tropicana, just past the Slots Promotion booth, and past the casino gift store. And further still, past a namesake Legend's Deli, through the museum gift store, and if you make a wrong turn, you end up in the Sports Books. But once you find it, you will soon discover that the museum's more publicized and formal name is the Casino Legends Hall of Fame.

Quite a mouth-full, but then the Hall of Fame has much to boast of, not to mention it's annual tradition of Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies. Which as it happened, October 11th happened to be this year's ceremony. Although the Mayor's Office proclaimed that day to be Steve Cutler Day, every time there is an Induction ceremony, each time seems to be Steve Cutler Day.

It was great honor for me (and my wife and son) to be invited to this year's ceremony, and I wanted to share a little bit with you, the reader, about the events of this most recent ceremony. I won't be able to remark on the ability of others to be included in future events, as my own participation has evolved over the years. In the beginning, the Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies included being Open to the Public. Starting with this year's event, that is no longer the case. But my first participation was as a stand-in-line, wait for a leftover, unused seat, which of course was in the back; the way waaaay back, of the Tiffany Theater.

Now the Tiffany Theater of course is home to the Tropicana's renown Folies Bergere Review, and because the Tropicana, in association with Steve Cutler, have developed the Casino Legends Hall of Fame program, it is only fitting that the induction ceremonies take place in a

comparable, legendary theater, like the Tiffany Theater. But for my first Induction ceremony, it may as well have been the Chicago Stockyards; I was simply one of the tourist cows, roaming the back area corral, fenced off from the invited guests, paparazzi and honorees. But just the same, it was cool!

Some time later, I recall having a conversation with Steve at the Legends Deli while he was taking a break from his then involvement with the Hall of Fame gift store, about my John Q. Public attendance at the ceremony. I remember saying that it was cool, but I'd sure like to be on the other side of the corral. I was pleasantly surprised when Steve offered an invitation for the next go-round and I was quite chagrined to miss the event. (Shame on me!) I then had to beg my way in to the next event, which was cooler still.

The October 11th event was my forth, and it was the best yet! After a big format change, I think that Steve and the Tropicana have hit upon something that can become a spectacular celebration, even for Las Vegas. Previously, the event included a guest speaker/host, who would announce the Inductees, one by one, have them come up front (from back stage) and present them with their certificate. After a brief acceptance speech it was on to the next Inductee.

This year it was quite different. After a few opening remarks from Hector Mon, President, Tropicana Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, who then announced a new Lifetime Achievement recognition award, named after it's first recipient, Mr. Joe Delaney, a well known and highly regarded Journalist in Las Vegas. The award was received by Delaney's daughter, Ms. Kathleen Delaney, as Joe had passed away some months earlier.

Attentions then shifted to Steve Cutler who was presented with Mayor Goodman's Proclamation, along with Certificates of Recognition from two of the Senatorial and House of Representatives Congressmen for the State of Nevada, Steve then took the stage and after a few short remarks the program was off and running. Unlike all past events, this Induction ceremony was being video taped as a possible future television offering. To start things off, and keep the show rolling, Las Vegas icon and entertainment personality Clint Holmes was acquired as the Emcee/Master of Ceremonies.

The first presenter, Bob Anderson was introduced, who then introduced Mafalda as the first Inductee. Mafalda, for those who may not recognize the name, is an accomplished pianist who has spent a great deal of her career in the Vegas scene. Of course there was a piano nearby and Mafalda showed everyone that

after all these years, she still knew how to excite the Ivories.

Clint Holmes then reclaimed the stage and introduced Rich Little as the next presenter and after a few trademark impressions (yes, even the loose jowled Richard Nixon, quickly followed with a "I was having quite a jowl movement" comment). Rich then Inducted Frankie Randall. Randall, well known as a singer, has also been an Entertainment Director (Golden Nugget, AC, NJ) and Bally's Grand Hotel Vice-President.

Next up it was Buddy Greco and Lezlie Anders to induct Mamie Van Doren. It was most difficult to recognize that Van Doren still had her trademark blonde hair, as one struggled to get past her low-cut gown, and I say this both figuratively and literally! Clint then took over and sang "You Are so Beautiful" after which, he ad-libbed a few minutes while the camera crews went for fresh tapes. The mention of video reminded me of when I first arrived for the event and needed to pick up my admission tickets at the registration table.

When the envelope was handed to us, Pam and I had quite a discussion as to what the penciled notation on the envelope meant. It simply read, "camera seat" and all the while we awaited entry into the theater we



could hardly contain our anticipation that “camera seat” meant close to the stage. Close to the stage meant a continuous Kodak Moment for my camera. Better yet, “camera seat” could have been a designation that seating was close to the video camera operator(s) (within their view) and from time to time we would appear on the televised portion of the ceremony. Turns out that our second estimate of “camera seat” was in fact a bit more accurate, except that the camera operator was within *our* view, not us within his. Gratefully, the camera operator was not a large person!

After refreshing the videotapes, Clint then introduced Nevada’s Lieutenant Governor, Lorraine Hunt as the next presenter. It seems that Lorraine Hunt’s picture can currently be found on nearly every street corner of Las Vegas. Luckily for her, each picture is also accompanied with her political affiliation and words to the effect of Re-elect Lorraine Hunt for Lieutenant Governor. Nevada is currently experiencing a statewide election. Hunt then inducted Nelson Sardelli, known locally as a longtime singer, actor and even a quick-draw artist. He is reputed to have taught and gotten Sammy Davis Jr. interest-

ed in competitive quick-draw. Upon taking the podium Sardelli remarked that had he known Mamie Van Doren would be dressed as she was, he too would have brought his 44’s! After a hearty chuckle, Sardelli treated everyone to a song.

Well, if anyone was beginning to tire, it was left to the next presenter to wake up the house. It was Charo! Wow, what a spark plug, and of course, plenty of “hoochee goochee!” Charo gave us Norm Crosby as the next inductee, and while Crosby gave us his wonderful butchery of the English language, Charo (who could share the same reputation) was like a wound up spring standing to the side of Crosby while he performed. His slow and measured comedic commentary, as juxtaposed to Charo’s partially self-contained, bubbly effervesce while he spoke, was quite a scene. It was fun to watch her and listen to him.

The last presenter, actually, presenters and inductee, were the Checkmates (Sweet Louie and Sunny Charles) inducting Mr. Lou Rawls. Rawls, The Checkmates and Clint Holmes all sang together and when Rawls accepted his induction, nearly every female in the house swooned,

while every male (except Sweet Louie) asked themselves “Why, why can’t I sound like Lou?” What a voice!

To cap everything off most everyone was brought back on stage. The Inductees, the presenters, the Officials/organizers and of course, the ever present Tropicana Show Girls to take a final bow. Pam, Casey and I, from behind the camera operator, waved to the assembled group and applauded our loudest. We had a really, really good time and hopefully, we will continue to be on the invitee list.

Our Congratulations and thanks are extended to our fellow collector, Steve Cutler, CC>CC Member 1002 and to Associate Member 1002-A, Sheryl Cutler, Steve’s wife.

Note: The Casino Legends Hall of Fame is Open 7-days per week, 9 am to 9 pm. Steve has recently modified several displays in the museum, so if you have not been there in the past month or two, then it will be a new experience. As benefit to CC>CC Members, Steve waives the admission price however, you must show your membership card for entry. ❖



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CHIPS AND TOKENS FROM PLAYBOY'S HYDE PARK (LONDON) CASINO

by Tom Stroh

I enjoy collecting Playboy chips because of the challenge in finding them, the challenge in finding out about them and the large variety of types, styles, and denominations used. This article covers what I have been able to piece together about the chips, tokens, and plaques of just one of the Playboy casinos, the London casino in Hyde Park.

Victor Lownes the founder of this, the first Playboy casino, had left his job with Playboy management in Chicago because he felt constrained by the corporate environment. After moving to London in 1965, he witnessed first hand the impact from the change in British gaming laws. It wasn't long before he was planning a US style Playboy club with gambling. It opened in July 1966.

It's important to separate the Hyde Park casino from the other Playboy English properties; the Clermont, the Victoria Sporting Club, and club casinos in Portsmouth, Manchester, all of which came later. The Hyde Park casino was the golden goose of the 1970s as well as the first casino in the Playboy Empire. It wasn't long before Playboy was the largest casino operator in England. This article addresses only the Hyde Park chips which generally are marked "London".

Lownes initial planning for the first Playboy casino included an arrangement with Crockford's, an established British gaming house. Crockford's would manage the club for a percentage of the profits. This arrangement eventually fell through, but not before Crockford's had ordered a large supply of chips with the Playboy logo from an American manufacturer. A deal with the cheque manufacturer could not be reached, so Playboy ordered a complete new set of cheques from another American manufacturer (T. R. King, Small Crown mold pattern). A few years later some of the Crockford chips appeared in the London Playboy casino. The source of these chips was traced back to an official of a Las Vegas casino causing Playboy to file a complaint with the authorities in Las Vegas, this according to Victor Lownes as he tells it in his book.

I am certain that the Hat and Cane chips, that have lately become so plentiful in unused condition, are the "Crockford Chips." That would explain the large quantity of London Hat and Cane chips surfacing in the US over the years, all in new condition, as well as the absence of these chips in casino photographs.

Unable so far, to positively verify this one way or another, the London Hat and Cane chips are listed here,

the first series. Used or not, they are a part of the Playboy casino legacy.

Another item worth mentioning here is the currency change to the decimal system that took place in England in 1971. Originally there were 4 Farthing to a Pence, 2 Pence to a Florin, 12 Pence to a Shilling, 5 Shillings to a Crown, and twenty shillings to a Pound which was also called a Sovereign or a Quid. Don't forget the Guinea which weighted in at 21 Shillings! This changed in 1971 to simply 100 pence (new pence) to the Pound. Since all the other English Playboy casinos opened after 1971 and later, any English Playboy chips carrying the old money system should be attributed to the Hyde Park casino.

As mentioned above, the Hat and Cane series was questionably the first, even if you accept that they were never actually used!

It is well documented in photos that, when the club was new, the chips on the tables were of the Small Crown mold. This is labeled as the first issue in the illustration. The denominations used in this issue were from the old currency system. The larger small crown denominations, the five, twenty-five and fifty Pound chips are present in photographs of the casino and in the records from T. R. King but I don't know of any actual examples in collections.

The second series with the Triangle-Club or triclub mold was a result of the currency change in 1971. The denominations smaller than a pound were marked “n.p.” for New Pence. These were later replaced by the fourth issue, still the triclub mold but with the small denominations only marked “p” for Pence, the “n” for new being dropped.

One thing that made researching these issues confusing was that the casino only ordered chips that were needed on an as needed basis. They did not replace, completely, one issue with another. This was verified by past employees. For example, in 1971 when the currency changed to a decimal system only the small denominations that were affected were replaced. The casino continued to use the small crown chips, one Pound and above, for the next 5 or 6 years.

The Large Greek Key issues came around 1972 and included denominations from 50 pence to 100 Pounds, possibly higher.

Around 1977 new chips in the Scroll mold pattern were ordered. I believe that again only small denominations, 50 pence and less, were ordered in the Scroll mold issues

The Bud Jones coin insert chips appeared around 1981 after Victor Lownes had been fired and the Chicago offices of Playboy took control of the European properties. Only two denominations have surfaced, the 50 pence and the one Pound. These chips show the influence of Chicago taking over. These Bud Jones coin insert style chips were used extensively in the Bahamas and Atlantic City Playboy casinos.

Plaques were used for high denominations up to 100,000 Pounds throughout the casino and plaques with small denominations were used on the French roulette tables. No plaques from any of the Playboy Casinos have surfaced yet, but, there is a good chance that a few survived and only need to “be discovered”. Jetons were used in the VIP rooms on the French Roulette tables. One of the differences between American Roulette and French Roulette is that French Roulette chips have the denomination on them.

Gaming tokens were allowed for use on the tables in the casino, there were no slot machines. It didn't go unnoticed that the original 1966 one Pound (about \$2) tokens ordered from the Franklin mint were disappearing on a regular basis. That was fine with management since they paid only 23 Pence (45 cents) each. Eventually removal of the tokens was encouraged by the club handing out free key-rings that fit the token and by offering the tokens to US club members by mail order.

Later date tokens, which just recently surfaced, are made of very light weight material, but otherwise look just like the original 1966 tokens. The ones that recently appeared are dated 1972, 1976, and 1977. The 1977 has an obverse design honoring the queens silver jubilee. There probably are dates other than what I've listed here. A past employee told me that they were ordered every year from 1972 until the casino closed. Surprises for collectors like the previously unknown tokens dated 1972 and 1976 periodically pop up.

The Playboy London Training School was established in 1972 in a newly acquired mansion called Stocks House located outside Aldbury in Hertfordshire. Here, bunny croupiers were trained for their future positions in the various UK Playboy Casinos. The training school was closed in 1982 along with the other Playboy Gaming assets in England.

The mold patterns used at the training school changed in accordance with those used in English casinos at the time. Training school chips with the Scroll and Triclub mould patterns can be found in private collections.

In Figure 1, I have shown the seven issues of chips and the new and old denominations. While not complete, it represents most of the London Playboy chips available today. Next to nothing is known about the higher denominations from Hyde Park. The second figure displays some of the roulettes and training tokens that can be found today.

Collectors of Playboy items experience a sense of discovery periodically when new, uncataloged, items show up in the market. Most of these new finds come from the estates of past visitors who carried home their own personal souvenir from their visit to the casino and as such, new discoveries should continue for many years. ❖



































1966 Hat & Cane Not Used	1966 Small Crown	1971 Triclub w/ n.p.	1972 Lg Greek Key	1973 Triclub w/ p.	1977 Scroll	1981 Coin Insert	
							£ 50 & 100
							£ 25
Not Produced							£ 10
							£ 5
							£ 1
    							50p
							25p
							20p
							10p
	Old Currency						5 p

Figure 1. The seven chip issues of Plyaboy's London (Hyde Park) Casino

Figure 2. Top right; The original 1966 Playboy/Franklin Mint token in the cardboard holder as sold in London. Second, the same token in the cardboard holder as sold in the US. Below:

- Queens Jubilee one Pound token.
- Playboy Training School chip
- One Pound. Five Shilling Jeton from the French roulette tables.



The London Playboy Club

ONE POUND GAMING TOKEN
 THE PLAYBOY CLUB - LONDON
 SIZE: 39.7MM EDGE: 200 REEDS
 1966

First Issue—Net Mintage	Proof	Proof-Like	Mint-Run
Franklinium II (The Franklin Mint)	0	1511	25,297

This Specimen Struck On	Original Condition	Year
Franklinium II	Mint Quality, Unc.	1966

This Gaming Token redeemable for One Pound sterling at The London Playboy Club.

© Rabbit Head and Playboy Key Club © HMH Publishing Co., Inc.

Franklin Mint

LONDON PLAYBOY CLUB
 "One Pound" Gaming Token

Size: 39.7mm Edge: 200 reeds

First Issue · Net Mintage	Proof	Proof-Like	Mint-Run
Franklinium II	0	1511	25,297

This Specimen Struck On	Original Condition	Catalog No.
Franklinium II	Proof-Like	C2-66-01

Chapter Web Sites

www.ccggtcc.com

www.ccggtcc.com

The Atlantic City Chapter

Besides the bi-monthly meeting, the Atlantic City Chapter of the CC>CC maintains a website to let the chapter officers communicate with the chapter members. Some of the content of the site includes a schedule of upcoming meetings, information about guest speakers, and even a printable membership application for prospective members.

The site, hosted by our friends at Chequers, also has a very active message board where officers, chapter members, and other chippers can communicate regarding chapter, club, or Atlantic City chipping information. It's a great place to contact other chippers with similar interests and quickly get information about some of the chips released by Atlantic City Casinos.

We have a section dedicated to Chipping in Atlantic City, where you can find scans of the current house chips from the 12 local casinos, scans of all new LE releases for 2001 to date! We do our best to keep the content current and relevant. In the future we will be adding additional information.

In addition, some of our members have contributed great articles – such as Steve Piccolo's multi-part Gaming in Atlantic City, History of Legal Gambling in New Jersey, and Mike Custudio's impressive list containing all commemorative chip releases (with dates, quantities, and manufacturer info). That's over 20 years of data on limited edition chips available directly through the site!

The site also contains links to the National site, other chapter websites, the CCC (who, among other responsibilities, make the laws regulating the design and manufacture of chips), and even links to our casinos. Please stop by the site and browse around. It can be accessed by pointing your browser at:
<http://www.chiptech.com/acchapter>.

Atlantic City Chapter Website
of the Casino Chip & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club

October 13, 2002


- Home
- Message Board
- Meeting Schedule
- Membership Application
- Chapter Notices
- Atlantic City Information
- Chapter/Casino Web Links

Chip Information:

- Current house chips
- NJ CCC Rules on Chips
- New releases Jan-Dec 2001
- New releases Jan-Dec 2002

Chapter Officers:

- Dick Brach, President
- Charles Kaplan, Membership
- Jerry Birl, Secretary



Welcome to the home page of the Atlantic City Chapter of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club. The CC>CC is an international organization for people with a common interest - casino chips and gaming tokens of all types, shapes, and sizes.

Take a look through the information on the site. We will try to keep the content interesting and up-to-date. If you're not already a member, join us as a guest at our next meeting. And please download a membership application. If you have any questions, please send them to our chapter president, Dick Brach.




The next meeting is **November 17, 2002** in the Starlight Room at Resorts International. The trading session will begin at 11:00am with the chapter meeting and auction starting at 12:30pm. There is more information in the Meeting Schedule link.

Great Lakes Chapter

The Great Lakes Chapter website has been up for about a year and half. It started out with only 5 pages and since that time has grown to over 150 pages with hundreds of images of chips, slot cards and silver strikes, all from the Great Lakes area. Most of the images are donated from collectors.

The chapter also has a message board where you can post questions, and an online application to join the Great Lakes chapter. Another great benefit is the members page. Great Lakes chapter members can have their e-mail, collecting interests and even post their trade list on the website for other collectors to see. The website also has a map for our meetings and a listing of casinos in the Great Lakes area.

Great Lakes Chapter of the CC>CC

- Home
- Next Meeting
- New Releases
- Great Lakes Chapter Members
- Membership Information
- Club Officers
- Message Board
- CC>CC Chapters

Welcome to the Great Lakes Chapter of the CC>CC Web Site.

The Great Lakes Chapter of the CC>CC originated in June, 1997. The club meets every other month on the second Saturday. The meetings are very informal. Our next meeting will be Saturday Nov 9th 3:30pm. [Click here for directions and a map.](#) You are encouraged to bring your traders as we trade before and after the meeting. If you are not sure about joining the club feel free to stop by and check us out. Topics discussed range from the previous meeting, new club topics and any and all collecting questions. We also discuss future planned events, as well as having guest speakers to enlighten us about different topics.

We have a wide variety of collectors from all over the Great Lakes area and beyond who collect everything from chips to slot cards to ash trays. With your membership you will receive a club newsletter 6 times a year a

Great Lakes





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- CC>CC Chapters
- Links

GREEKTOWN CASINO






If you have any suggestions or would like to add something please let us know and be sure to check out our website at: www.greatlakeschips.adahost.com

Happy Collecting
Great Lakes Chapter of the CCGTCC

Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter

The Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter strives to share knowledge and news, provide a forum to meet other collectors and develop friendships, and above all else, to have fun with the hobby of gaming collectibles.

The NCN Chapter will try to serve the interests of all collectors of casino collectibles including, but not limited to, chips (cheques), tokens - including silver strikes, dice, slotcards, playing cards, gaming tables and machines, match-books, dishware, glassware, ashtrays, napkins, swizzlesticks, and coin buckets to increase their knowledge and appreciation of these items for their added enjoyment of the hobby of gaming collectibles.

The membership of the NCN Chapter is chiefly from the large geographical area of northern California and northern Nevada, although all

Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club (CC>CC) members are welcome to join us. The NCN Chapter has fun Get-togethers (not stuffy or confrontive Meetings) approximately every other month in different areas of the Chapter's geographical area.

The web site is a wealth of information with pages of chip scans, from house chips to LE's, broken down by city. There are also pages with scans of the latest slot cards and room keys from Northern Nevada, and pictures of open and closed casinos along with custom maps showing the locations.

An online application form is available for those who would like to join our chapter along with information about chapter meetings, including directions and maps.

Visit our web site at <http://www.anderson-design.net/norcal.html>

The NY Metro Chapter

If you live in New York City, Long Island, Northern New Jersey or Southern Connecticut, you will not want to miss the exciting events at the semimonthly meetings of the New York Metro Chapter of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club (CC>CC). Our meetings have a trade/sale session and a discussion of topics of interest to collectors. Our membership includes both experienced and new collectors of casino chips, tokens and slot cards. So there something for everybody.

Our meetings are held once every two months and do not conflict with the Atlantic City chapter meetings. In fact many of our members belong to both chapters. We usually meet on Sunday afternoons at 1 pm. at the American Legion Hall, 1924 Grand Avenue, Baldwin, NY. Come join us for a trading session at the NY Metro Chapter and pickup something new for your collection or trade away some of your duplicates. We would like to meet you. For meeting schedules and directions, you can visit our web site at www.ccgccc.com/chapters/nymetro or please contact me at 516-763-2327.

Keep on chippin'.

New York Metro Chip Club



**You Are Invited To Join Us
At Our Next Meeting!**

About the Club

Meeting Dates

Directions

Membership Application

Club Officers

Casinos of the Northeast

Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collector's Club

Other CC>CC Chapters

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for either the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM.
The meetings last about 2 hours. Meeting dates, times and locations may be changed.
Check the Club Bulletin Board (www.ccgccc.com) or e-mail (ckaplan@attglobal.net) before attending.

Bring some chips to talk about, trade or sell. Newcomers are always welcome.

Agenda

Trading Session
Club Meeting

2001

February 11
April 29
June
August
October
December

2002

April 14th, 1 pm
June
August
October
December

Home Page

Southern California Chapter

The So. California web (URL: <http://www.ccgcc.com/chapters/socal/Home.htm>) site is a work in progress - as most web pages are. The web site currently has ten sections or pages (with easy navigation between any of the pages).

Pages include an INTROduction page, where there is a brief description of the going on at the chapter meetings, as well as an invitation to join us - and/or to become a member.

Southern California Chapter of the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club meets at 7:30 P.M. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Hollywood Park Casino in Inglewood Ca. Meetings are in "Seabiscuit Room" on the second floor of the casino. With over 50 members, meetings are full of active discussions, stories and facts as they relate to casinos, casino owners, local/national legislation of the gaming industry and/or some ol' fashion trading of everything related to casino collectables. Members attend the meeting from all over Southern California and Nevada - as they drive in from San Diego and Laughlin & Las Vegas, NV. Newcomers are always welcome to join in the fun!

Occasionally the members of the Southern Cal. Chapter of the CC>CC also have the chance to here from notables in the casino collectables hobby. Doug Saito has addressed the membership with details of how historians (Harvey Fuller, Doug Saito and others) dig out information from the various casino owners in towns all over Nevada, California and other areas of the world. Other meetings we have had the pleasure of listening to various speakers. These have included casino chip manufacturers, and casino operators. All with amazing information about our hobby in general.

The NEWS page has updates of the chapter meetings. The LINKS page contains links to our host (Hollywood Park Casino) web page, and to other chapter web sites that we have swapped links/banners with. One of the most important pages is the DIRECTIONS page, where you will find a map and directions to the Hollywood Park Casino (as well as a night shot of the casino - actually taken after one of our chapter meetings by the web master). The MEETINGS page is where the visitor will find the dates and location for the entire year. Additionally there are special dates, where the chapter has swap sessions - usually the first Saturday of the specified month. Of course, the So. Cal. Web site has an APPLICATION page, with an application that can be printed out and sent in to become a member of So. Cal. CC>CC. The MORE INFO page lists some contacts that the visitor may write or phone if they have any questions that are not answered on the web site. The OFFICERS page is a chronology of the various administrations that have been voted in office, from the beginning back in 1997. Of course the So. Cal. Chapter of the CC>CC has a HALL OF FAME! Currently we have one member in the Hall of Fame - Gene Grossblatt, who was inducted in March of 2000. The reference section or SO. CAL. CASINO page is where the visitor will find a list of all the known casinos in Southern California. This list is broken down in groups of casinos by county - this list is maintained by one of our members Jim Noll. The last page is an information page about the Orange County Chapter. Including meeting day, time and location as well as a key contact.

The So. Cal. Chapter web site is updated as often as we can (or have information to update it with). Please stop by and give us a visit. May be you will find that you would like to either join us in person, or just become a member!!!

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Or Comments to
R. K. Cowington

Last Updated
29 Sept. 2002

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Southern California Chapter of the CC>CC

CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB

CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB

CHAPTER

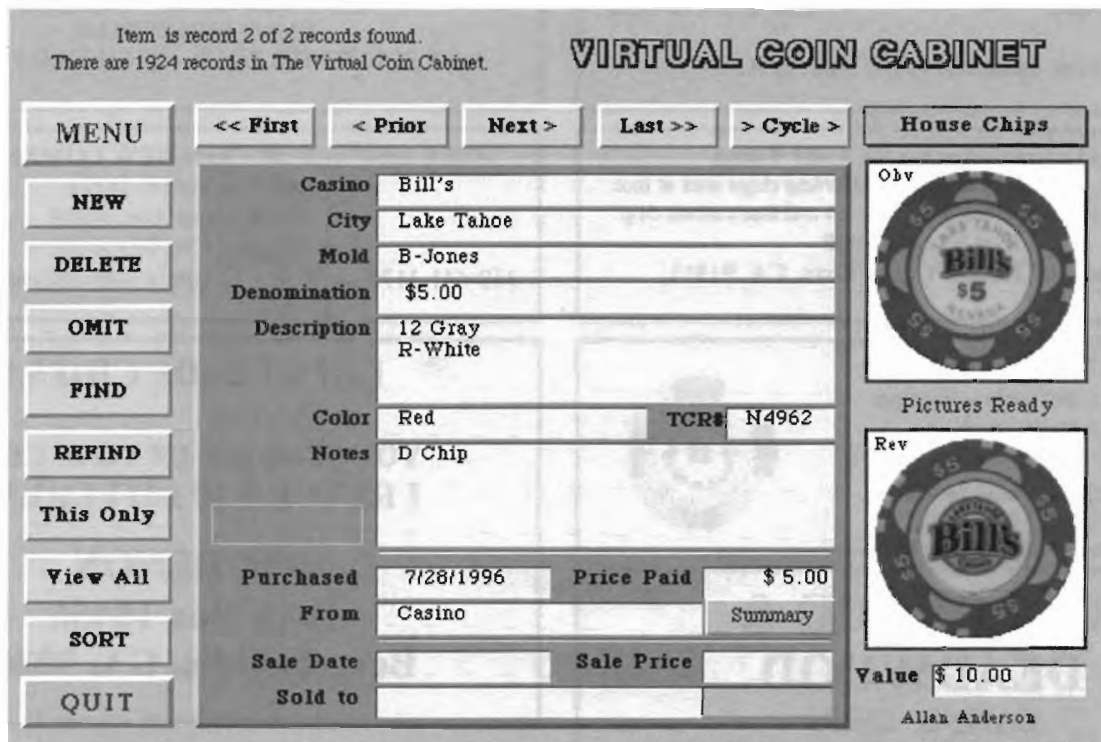
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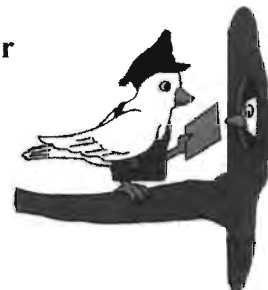
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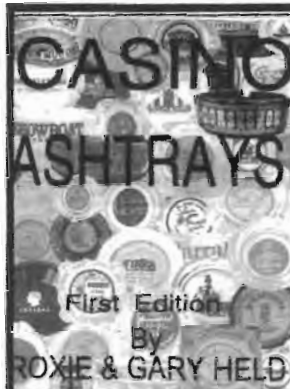
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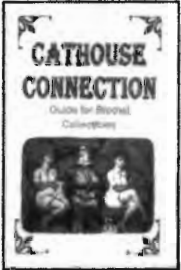


Ernie Whellden, one of the authors of the chip rack & C. T. Rodgers with the New 9th edition Chip Rack

C. T. Rodgers with some of his stock at the National Convention



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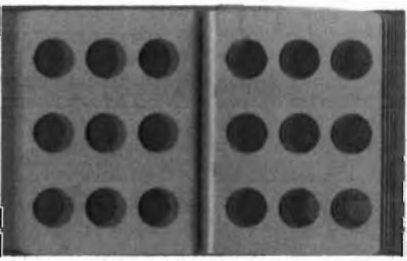
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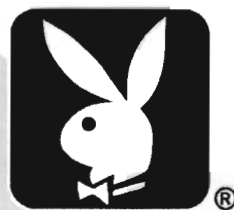
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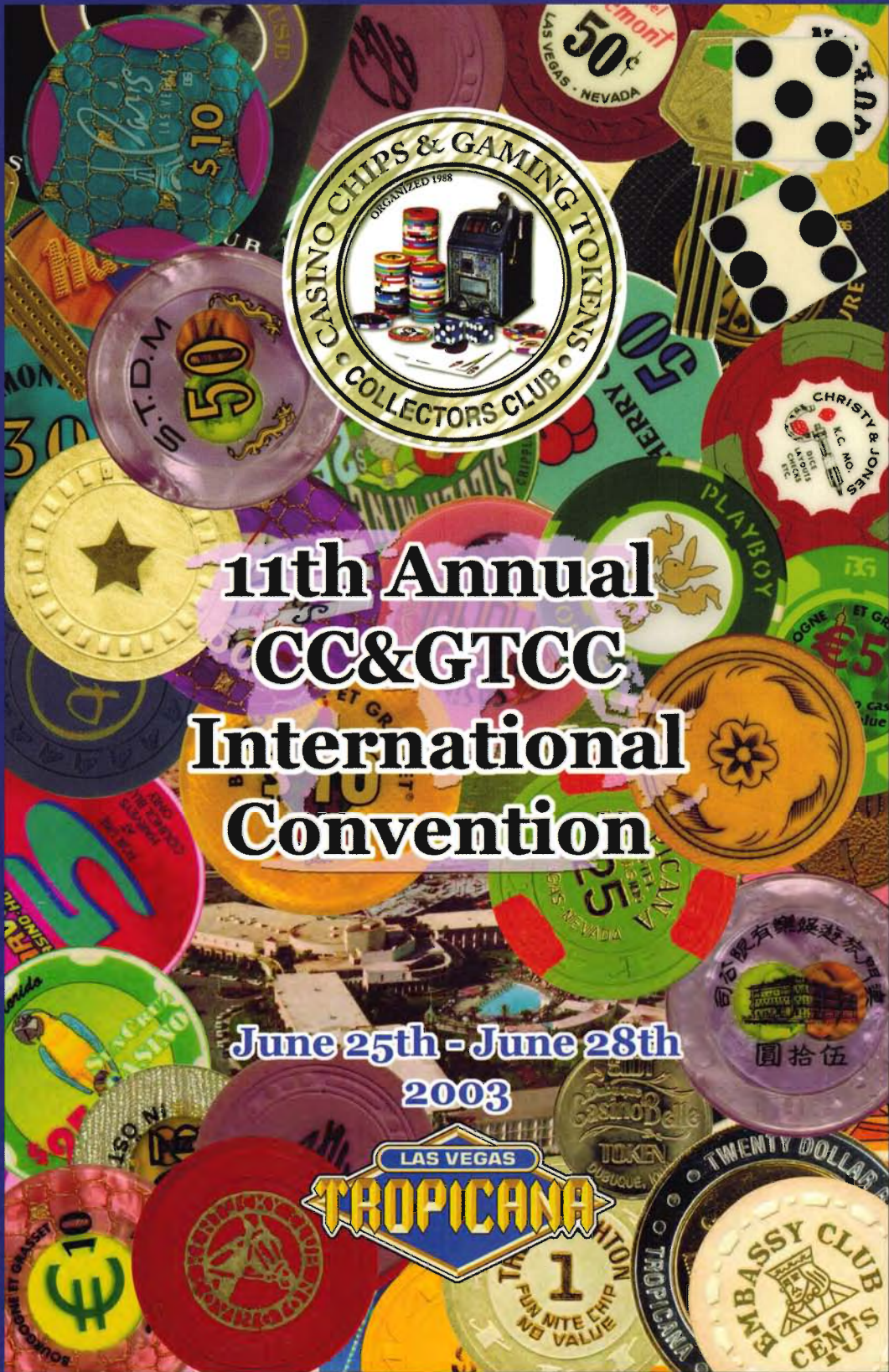
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