

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WHAT A WEEK!! Of course I'm referring to the 2nd Annual CC>CC Convention held in Las Vegas on the last weekend in April. The week began with the huge IGBE (International Gaming & Business Exposition) show which opened up at the MGM Grand on Tuesday, the day before our own set-up day and Early Bird Welcome at the Aladdin for our show on Wednesday. Many of our members and dealers were in attendance at the IGBE event and had the opportunity to stop by the booths of such giants in the industry as CHIPCO, Paulson, Bud Jones, Olde Philadelphia Mint, Nevada Coin Minting, and others to pick up samples of their products and to meet some of the executives and key employees of these firms which we have all heard about and respect.

Tuesday evening: Much of the convention materials that had been shipped from New Jersey to Vince & Bettye Mowery over the past several months and stored in their Las Vegas outskirts garage, had to be picked up and transported into town. What we could not fit in our rental car, or in the O'Neal's vehicle earlier in the week, was brought to the Aladdin by the Mowery's the next day. Other convention materials such as 50 display cases, which had to be unloaded off a truck along with membership files, permits, tax forms, etc., were delivered by Secretary Donley early Wednesday morning.

On Wednesday afternoon, during our Officers Board Meeting, we experienced some anxious moments when it was learned that the club's live auction scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings would not be allowed to take place due to a Clark County ordinance which prohibits live auctions in hotel casinos. Our deepest thanks go to club members Michael Knapp, Esq. and to Eric Rosenblum, Esq. for their outstanding legal representation on behalf of the club which resulted in a last minute "go ahead" from the Clark County officials of the licensing bureau who overturned their earlier ruling.

An excellent turnout of members, spouses and guests showed up for the Early Bird Welcome wine & cheese reception early Wednesday eve. We thank those dealers and members who contributed much of the advance cash towards funding this annual ice breaker social event. A very enthusiastic swap session followed the Early Bird Welcome... which could be accurately described as a "Chip-In", or "ChipStock"; reminiscent of the famous Wood Stock festival of a generation ago. Festive it was! Collectors were literally sitting on the floors and tables in the hallways telling tall stories and swapping chips and tokens from 3 ring binders and stock boxes and valises in great earnest. This "swap meet" went on for hours, well into the night... while preparations by Security Chairman Jerry O'Neal and his committee were going on inside the "big room". Dealer table signs which were printed up in advance by Nebraskan club member Michael Petty had to be attached to wooden uprights constructed by Vince Mowery which were clamped to each dealer table during the dealer set-up time. Our outside security firm we hired for round the clock coverage, "Security Unlimited", performed their jobs well with no reported incidents for the entire duration of the convention.

On Thursday, almost 250 non-members paid a \$2 admission to get

(continued next page)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT..... continued

into the show which opened with an official ribbon cutting at 12 noon. More than 50 booths, with close to 100 "dealers", or family members of club members who booked table space, were on hand to welcome the visitors to the convention to buy, sell and trade all types of casino collectibles. 20 cases of exhibits of portions of member's collections, placed by a half dozen club members, were also on display for viewers to admire and to educate themselves. Club member Tom Hitzelberger of Virginia randomly distributed ballots for viewers to vote for the one exhibit that pleased them the most. A big help with getting cases out to exhibitors and dealers and collecting case rental fees was Tom Duffy of New Jersey.... who also stayed around to help pick them up when it was all over. Also helping the club officers with packing up for next year were the Sandersons and Blancks. Club member Jack Hoyer also gave much of his time seving on Security Chairman Jerry O'Neal's Committee.

On Friday, the lots for the auction were available for inspection prior to the sale which was limited to club member participation only. Club members were assigned their CC>CC membership number as bidder numbers. The newly formed Atlantic City Chapter of CC>CC held an informal Chapter meeting late in the afternoon. The CCGTCC club promotions table, staffed primarily by very busy V.P. Janice O'Neal and newly appointed Club Promotions Chairman Dick Allard, had a hectic crowd around it throughout the convention, and sales of the official convention chip and medal were extremely brisk. Meanwhile, at the club convention registration table, another 250 paid admissions of \$2 each from non-members were again collected by Georgians Sandy and Muriel Sanderson who served as Registration Co-Chair. Vern & Alice Blank of Texas also were a big help, registering over 1250 visitors to the show. More than 70 new club members, plus 20 new associate members were eventually signed up by Secretary Earl Donley during the three day convention. The first session of our auction on Friday night saw an enormous crowd in attendance. More chairs, in addition to the 150 seats previously set up had to be brought into the large auction room. Prices on many scarce items, primarily from Nevada, set bold new records as Club Auctioneer Jim Kruse's hammer signaled, "SOLD!" (A separate accounting of the prices realized is included with this issue of the club magazine).

Early Saturday morning, our Annual Meeting was held. Not a great turnout, but those who were in attendance were brought up to date by the club officers on many matters relating to the convention and to the continuing progress of our growing organization. Reports of our finances were distributed by Treasurer Tomarchio and a change in our Bylaws providing for Chapters of CC>CC to be established was voted upon and authorized. Secretary Donley reviewed a graph which illustrated the growth peaks and valleys of our membership increases. V.P. O'Neal reported that a volunteer successor (Dick Allard) has been found to take over her club promotional sales program. It would appear that a new Convention Chairman has also been found for our 1995 event and that a replacement for Recording Secretary Donley would also be announced shortly. I was completely caught off guard (to put it mildly) and overwhelmed to be the

(continued next page)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT..... continued

recipient of a surprise gift at our annual meeting by Club Treasurer Tomarchio on behalf of 99% of the dealers who "chipped in" (no pun intended) to present me with a beautiful hand embroidered club logo jacket that I will wear proudly for a long time to come. Thank you all!! I only wish that every officer could have been presented with a similar gift for all of the hard work they put in.

Saturday: Once again, as was the case on the two previous days, about 250 more non-members were registered and paid the \$2 admission to get in on Saturday. At 1 p.m. our annual club awards were announced and presented to the recipients. Chip Of The Year honors went to the Luxor for the \$5 Queen Neffertitti; while the Token Of The Year was awarded to Aladdin for their \$28 token. The most popular exhibit was captured by Mark Lighterman of Florida for his display of Monte Carlo Chips and Plaques. One hour later, the club members in attendance were treated to a fascinating presentation at our Annual Educational Forum by Mr. Louis DeGregorio, National Sales Manager for the Paulson Dice & Card Company. Mr. DeGregorio gave an interesting slide presentation on the History of the Paulson Company and answered many follow-up questions from the members present about chip manufacturing and Paulson Company policies. Saturday evening was highlighted by Session #2 of the superb auction put together by Gregg & Howard Herz of The Coin Company/Gaming Archeology from Minden, Nevada. The emphasis on this session was Atlantic City chips, which like the prior evening of Nevada offerings, resulted in many new record prices being realized. Strong mail bids were experienced in this 2nd session, while most of the action in Session #1 came from floor bidders. The actual auction catalog published by the Herz' will serve as a valuable reference source and as an excellent addition to any club member's personal library.

No, the frantic hobby activity did not end on Saturday night!! All week long, the famous World Series of Poker Tournament was underway at downtown's Binion's Horseshoe. On Sunday, a 20 piece limited issue of 1,000 sets of commemorative \$2.50 chips were released for sale at the Horseshoe. (See story published elsewhere for details) Many club members who were still in town after the CC>CC Convention had ended the day before, were on line early Sunday to pick up these rationed ("limit 2 per customer") Paulson's sets. One hour after the \$50 per sets were placed on sale, they were all sold out!! A testament to the impact and zeal of today's chip collectors!

Well, that's a very brief overview glimpse on our 1994 convention activities for those of you who were not there. Thanks to Mark Lighterman of Florida, who shot nine rolls of 35mm film, we are able to publish lots of photographic convention memories in this issue of our club magazine that we can refer to back over the years and say, "I was there!" A personal thank you to every member who had anything to do with our overwhelmingly successful 2nd annual club convention. Vince and Bettye Mowery did an exceptional job on pre-convention publicity. The very capable staff at the Aladdin was superb. Every reasonable request we made was granted.... and more.

(continued next page)

1994 CONVENTION AWARDS

Several awards were presented to club members during our 2nd annual convention held at the Aladdin Hotel Casino in Las Vegas. Some of the more significant plaques were presented to the following recipients:

"PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD" was won by MARK LIGHTERMAN for his magnificent five case display of Monte Carlo Casino Chips and Plaques. This award was chosen by visitors to the convention who were randomly chosen to vote for the exhibit that pleased them the most.

"1993 TOP RECRUITER" was won again by ROBERT MERA of Atlantic City, NJ for signing up the most members during the previous year. This is the 3rd consecutive year that Mr. Mera has captured this outstanding award.

"1993 CHIP OF THE YEAR" was won by LUXOR CASINO HOTEL for their attractive \$5 CHIPCO issue of Queen Nefertitti.

"1993 TOKEN OF THE YEAR" was captured by the ALADDIN HOTEL & CASINO for their beautiful \$28 gold on silver slot token.

CLUB MEMBER RUSTY GOE was presented an award in recognition of his heroic actions taken on April 12, 1993 in which member Goe was instrumental in capturing a wanted murder/robbery suspect in his Las Vegas Coin Shop. (See page 12, Volume 6, #4)

"BEST 1993 MAGAZINE ARTICLE" was awarded to club member FRED J. BORGMANN for his illustrated article which appeared in Volume 6, #4 titled, "A TOKEN TOUR OF WISCONSIN'S INDIAN CASINOS."

1994 CONVENTION COMMITTEE AWARDS

The following club members and guests were presented "Awards Of Appreciation Plaques" for all of the work they did heading up convention committees on behalf of the membership and visitors. The time some individuals put in before, during, and after the convention, was tremendous. Our 1994 convention would not have been as successful had they not offered their services.

Thank you all!!

REGISTRATION CHAIRPERSONS:
SANDY & MURIEL SANDERSON

SECURITY CHAIRMAN:
JERRY O'NEAL

CLUB PROMOTIONS SALES:
JANICE O'NEAL

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN:
VINCENT MOWERY

LICENSING & FEES CHAIRMAN:
EARL DONLEY

BUDGET & FINANCE CHAIRMAN:
CHUCK TOMARCHIO

EDUCATIONAL FORUM SPEAKER:
LOUIS DeGREGORIO

FORUM MODERATOR
MICHAEL KNAPP

LEGAL COUNSEL:
ERIC ROSENBLUM

1994 AUCTION CHAIRPERSONS:
HOWARD & KREGG HERZ

AUCTIONEER:
JIM KRUSE

CONVENTION CHIP & TOKEN DESIGN:
KEVIN NORRIS

SEE CENTERFOLD FOR CONVENTION PHOTOS



actioneer Jim Kruse gavels down another "SOLD" lot.



A small port



View of Club Promotions Table where Janice & Jerry O'Neal spent countless hours of their time during the 1994 Las Vegas Convention.



Club President A displays surprise convention dealer



Mark Lighterman accepts "People's Choice Award" for his exhibit of Monte Carlo chips & plaques.



Vince Mowery, Convention Publicity Chairman, accepts his deserved award.



on of the huge standing room only auction crowd in attendance.



Archie Black proudly
gift jacket that
contributed to.

**PHOTOS BY
MARK LIGHTERMAN**



Luxor cage supervisor accepts 1993
CC>CC "Chip Of The Year Award".



Kevin Norris is presented with an
award as the winner of our 1994
Convention Medal design contest.



Club President Archie Black announces
winner of CC>CC "Token Of The Year"

CLUB OFFICERS ACKNOWLEDGED FOR THEIR HARD WORK



**PHOTOS BY
MARK LIGHTERMAN**

Club Officers wait their turn to give reports



V.P. Janice O'Neal accepts Appreciation Award for her valuable work as Historian and Promotions Chairperson



Earl Donley, "retired" Recording Secretary, accepts his plaque.



Michael Knapp explains "auction snafu" to membership prior to receiving his appreciation award



Chuck Tomarchio, Club Treasurer and Convention Finance Chairman is presented with appreciation plaque from President Black.



Jerry O'Neal did a superb job as our convention Security Chairman