

## CC&GTCC 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING, CONVENTION 99

The annual meeting of the Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club was called to order by President Archie Black at 7:40 pm, June 17, 1999 at the Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada.

President Black introduced the officers to the 93 Club members in attendance. Secretary Michael Knapp moved to adopt the minutes of the 1998 annual meeting, published in Casino Chip and Token News, Vol. 11, No. 4. After a second, the motion carried unanimously.

A report was made to the membership and distributed by Treasurer Chuck Tomarchio. During the year 1998, the Club's budget exceeded \$127,000. It spent more than it took in, losing a total of \$1,558. The Club's finances are healthy, though, and no dues increases or member benefit cutbacks are planned. A motion was made to adopt the Treasurer's report, was seconded, and was passed unanimously.

Membership Officer Jim Steffner reported on the status of membership for the year. From June of 1998 to June of 1999, the Club gained a net of 270 additional members, bringing the active total to 2,119. In the 11 year history of the Club, 4,227 members have joined, with about half of those being current members in good standing. Due in large part to the anniversary date renewal system which Membership Officer Steffner has put in place, and to his followup, renewal rates are running at about 77%. The Club has members in every state (with CA, NV, NJ, NY and TX being the top five), and in nine foreign countries.

Convention Chairman Wayne Thompson reported on the preparations and status of the 1999 convention. On the first day of the convention, 218 non-members attended the show and paid admission. Additional non-member attendance came from casino industry employees, who were admitted without charge upon display of an identification card or invitation from an officer.

Chairman Thompson indicated that the location and date for the 2000 convention are not yet settled, but are under discussion. The new board will be making the final determination based on negotiations with at least three hotels, one of which is the Orleans.

Secretary Knapp reported on the results of the balloting to approve an amendment to the Club's Constitution, which all members in good standing received prior to the convention. A total of 480 ballots were cast, with 7 being invalidated because no choice was checked although the ballots were signed. The amendment passed by a vote of 452 to 21.

Secretary Knapp also reported on the status of the Club's chapters. During the past year, four new chapters were formed, and one chapter dissolved, bringing the total number of chapters in good standing to 11. The newest chapter, which submitted its application to the Secretary 15 minutes before the annual meeting was called to order, is the Silver Strikers Chapter, formed with more than 50 members at the convention! The other new chapters this year are N.Y. Metro, N.Y. State, and Mid-America. In addition, the current chapters are: Atlantic City (the largest chapter, with over 200 members), Floridian, Great Lakes, Nor-Cal-Nev, Southern California, Southern Nevada, and Texas (which changed its name and scope from the Houston Chapter this year).

President Black announced the Chip of the Year (Excalibur) and Token of the Year (Golden Gate \$10 silver strike) awards, although neither casino sent representatives to receive their awards.

Recognition awards were presented to Greg Susong (top recruiter of the year), C. T. Rodgers (Club advertising manager), Kregg Herz (magazine editor), Kevin Norris (design of the Club convention chip and medal), Jim Reilly (Claims Director), Bob Pardue (Librarian), Phil Jensen (best magazine article of 1998), and the current officers.

President Black then administered the oath of office to the three new officers: President David Sarles, Secretary Barry Weintraub, and Treasurer Nate Pincus, and passed the gavel to President Sarles.

After general remarks by the new President, and some general discussion, the meeting was adjourned until the convention in the year 2000.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Knapp, Secretary

# COTY/TOTY WINNERS ANNOUNCED

*The 1998 Chip of the Year and the 1998 Token of the Year winners were announced during the club's 7th Annual convention in Las Vegas this past June. In the chip category, Excalibur swept away the competition with their extremely attractive 8th Anniversary \$5 chip featuring Merlin. In the tokens category, the \$10 Golden Gate Bridge Silver Strike issued by Golden Gate Casino was selected as the favorite token issued by the 100 club members who judged the contest. Representatives of both winners were invited to accept the club's prestigious awards during the Early Bird Reception at the club's Annual Convention held at Orleans Hotel. A complete breakdown of the voting is published elsewhere in this issue of the club magazine.*



## FIESTA DONATION TO CLUB LIBRARY

In an extremely generous gesture, the Las Vegas Fiesta Casino has donated a set of their obsolete casino chips to the club's 7th Annual Auction. The entire proceeds from the sale of this valuable chip set to the highest bidder will be set aside for the exclusive purchase of additional resources for the club's library. Club member Gene Trimble was instrumental in obtaining this donation on the club's behalf.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE 1999 HALL OF FAME AWARD



### **Janice O'Neal** **Vice President and Historian of** **CC & GTCC**

Born February 8, 1936, Janice and Jerry her husband, have six grown children and 10 grand-children.

Janice began collecting slot tokens and casino chips in 1980. The collection has since grown to include: Deadwood, South Dakota, The three gaming towns of Colorado, Indian Casinos, and Riverboats covering the entire United States.

She now has extensive collections of table chips and checks, slot tokens, match book covers, single playing cards, swizzle sticks, ash trays and other odds & ends of casino memorabilia. The latest to be added are slot player cards and plastic room key cards.

From the beginning she conducted her collecting from her home state of Michigan and in 1995 when her husband Jerry retired from Ford Motor Co., they moved to Las Vegas. She has been Vice President and Club Historian of CC&GTCC for approximately nine years and thoroughly enjoys researching casino histories, tracking opening & closing of casinos and helping everyone keep up with all the new issues around the country. As CC&GTCC Historian she has amassed a vast amount of material on casinos and spends much of her time helping other collectors by sharing this information with them.

She writes the on going new issue column for CC&GTCC's quarterly Chip & Token News magazine and also a monthly column for the privately published Gaming Times Magazine. She has maintained the club's presence at shows and functions around the country as much as possible. She has received the President's award from the ANA for her outstanding service to this hobby.



### **BRUCE LANDAU** **CH-002**

Bruce is one of the pioneers in our hobby. He started collecting in the mid 70's and his hope at that time was that there were some other collectors pursuing the same hobby. It wasn't until the early 80's that he made contact with such "oldtimers" as Phil Jensen, Harvey Fuller, Bill Borland and Starr Warwick, Don Bestle, Frank Mantell, Howdy Herz, Dale Seymour, Carey Burke and Bill Payne. He clearly remembers many visits to Bill's house. They sat at the table, each examining to others traders. When finished they piled up their findings and the trade was made. Sometimes the piles were even and sometimes they were not. In those days, it just didn't matter.

The true growth of our hobby probably began in 1986. Archie Black had a vision and he contacted Bruce, Michael Knapp and a few others and they formed our National Club. Bruce's charter number is CH-002. Now, about 13 years later Bruce is very proud to be at least partially responsible for where we are today.

He was born in Brooklyn, New York and raised on Long Island where he met his high school sweetheart, Eileen. They have been married for 31 years. Her understanding and support has enabled him to spend much of his free time collecting and helping the hobby. She has become active as a volunteer at our National Convention and she occasionally surprises her husband when she throws out such terms as "hot

stamp”, “arrowdie”, or “limited edition”. Bruce and Eileen have three wonderful children. Their daughter Jodi is married to Frank, and two sons, Jason and Michael. The “kids” have accepted chips as a way of life since they have always been surrounded by them. Occasionally their father bores them with one of his many stories and they respectfully listen.

Bruce received a Masters Degree in Business from Long Island University and currently holds the position of Vice President of Bogen Photo.... a company he has been with for over 20 years. He was the Founding Treasurer of CC&GTCC and he has been the Auction Chairman for every one of our annual conventions. He is very active in his local Atlantic City Chapter where he runs their bi-monthly auctions. He has been a guest speaker in A.C. as well as at the Las Vegas and So. California Chapter meetings and was active as part of the Educational Seminar at our 1998 Convention.

Throughout the years Bruce has been considered one of the most obsessive chip collectors. Another long-time collector, Al Moe, once wrote that no one has come close to Bruce to putting on more air and ground mileage in pursuit of the hobby. This pursuit enable him to gather what most people considered the finest Nevada chip collection. In 1996, Jerry Wall made him an offer he couldn't refuse and the collection was sold. Bruce immediately started collecting again but this time limiting his focus to only specific denominations. He knew he was “loved” when so many people said they were happy he stayed in the hobby after the sale.

Bruce has seen many changes throughout the years. These include Limited Editions, Riverboat gambling, Price Guides, local chapters, regional shows and chip and tokens condition grading. He sees Casino Collectibles and Memorabilia the next major growth area. He is extremely confident that the newly elected board headed by David Sarles, will continue the strong efforts of Archie, Janice, Chuck, Michael and Jim and he has offered his services to David to help in any way possible.

It is obvious to those who know Bruce that he truly loves our hobby and does his best every day to be our Club's Good Will Ambassador. He encourages new as well as old collectors to “pick his brain” anytime, day or night. His enthusiasm and support of our hobby is unsurpassed.

Congratulations on your induction to the Hall of Fame.





CASINO CHIPS & TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB  
With Great Appreciation to  
**ARCHIE BLACK**  
Founder - 1988  
President - 1988-1999  
June 16, 1999

The ORLEANS

The ORLEANS

EVER  
STRIKES

MIL  
TOKEN

