

**CAVEAT EMPTOR**  
**"BUYER BEWARE"**

With literally hundreds of new members joining the club since Michael Knapp's article on bogus casino chips which appeared on these pages last year, (Volume 5, Issue #2). I thought it would be a good idea to bring some of our new members up to date with this timely warning. The following chips are NOT legitimate casino chips! Some were made for movie props and were never used in any legitimate casino. Subsequently, they are now being sold over the counter by Paulson's for about .60 cents each for home use

PYRAMID CASINO; CASINO DE ISTHMUS; CRAZY LEGS CASINO; CASINO DE MEXICO; "SS" (for Silver State Casino); and others.

In fact, there are no such casinos with these names. They are "fantasy" chips. We have no quarrel with dealers who sell them for what they are. We do have serious objections when these items are misrepresented as genuine casino chips on the part of those who know better. We object to ripping off collectors who are new to the hobby for the sake of turning a quick buck on questionable material. Technically, these chips could be considered as "gaming chips" since many of them might have been used as wagers during "Vinny's Saturday Night Poker Games" at his kitchen table. "Casino" chips they are not! If you think that you have been "taken" by someone who sold you these items as genuine, I would suggest that you find yourself another source of chips, because in all probability you'll be taken advantage of again by those who are unscrupulous.

Actually, club member J. Lewi prompted this message by bringing to the club's attention that during the Sacramento Valley Coin Club's "Coin-A-Rama" held earlier this year, "no fewer than three dealers were selling "Casino De Isthmus" movie prop chips as if they were legitimate casino chips." One dealer stated that he knew "nothing about them". A second dealer insisted that they were "real casino chips". The third, when Mr. Lewi explained the origin of the chips and suggested that the dealer place them with other chips he had marked as "souvenir chips", the dealer became irate and demanded that Mr. Lewi leave the area in front of his tables. Should any of our members encounter some of these "dealers" at future similar type shows, I would suggest you bring the matter to the attention of the show officials. They don't want dealers misrepresenting what they are selling either. You might also want to follow up with a letter of complaint to the club officers of the sponsoring organization who put the show on.

Folks, if you see dealers at shows offering this material as "genuine casino chips", please send me their names. If they are members of CC&GTCC, we will take action if they are found guilty of misrepresentation. If the offenders are members of the American Numismatic Association, the club can file a complaint with the A.N.A. I've already filed complaints with Numismatic News and Coin World about classified ads which misrepresented these type chips. These ads have been stopped after the newspapers contacted the advertisers. YOU can make a difference, and together we can wipe out some of these ugly blots on our otherwise fine hobby.