

ANTIQUE COLLECTIBLES

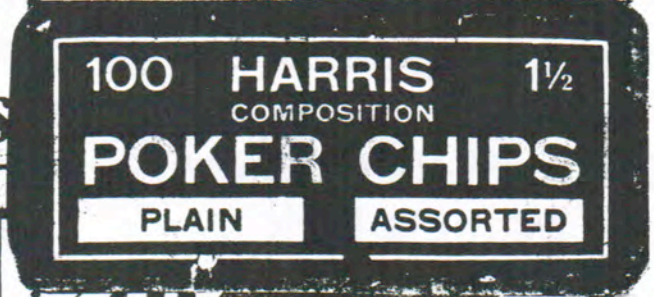
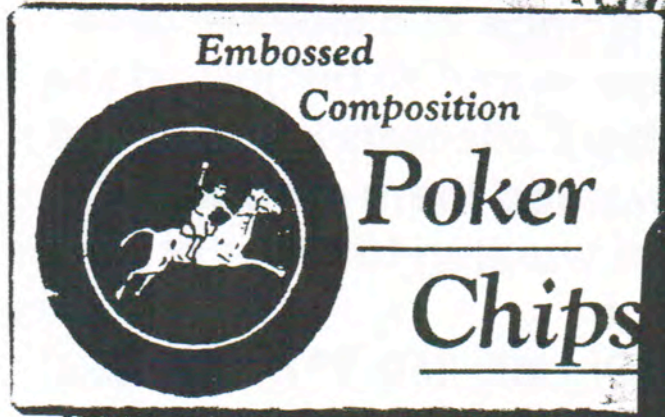
by Dale Seymour & Ken Craig

COLLECTING OLD POKER CHIP BOXES

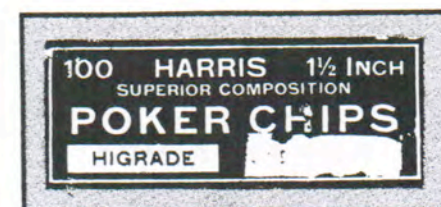
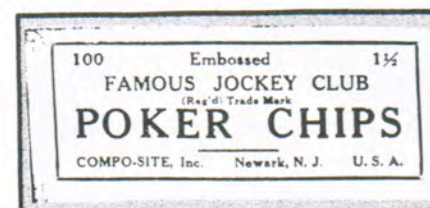
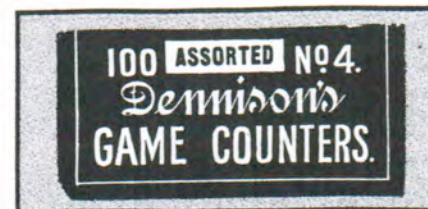
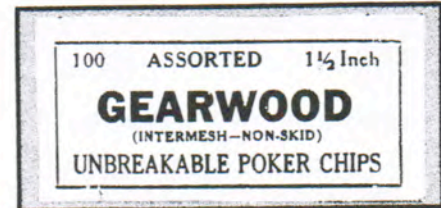
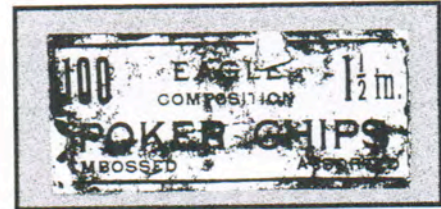
Collecting old poker chip boxes can be interesting and challenging. These boxes reveal the names, addresses and other information about both manufacturers and distributors of early poker chips. The following pages show most of the photocopyable collection of the authors. Most box labels have been copied at 64% of original size to accomodate the page layout.



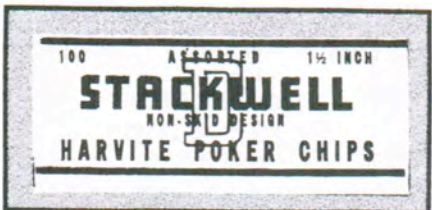
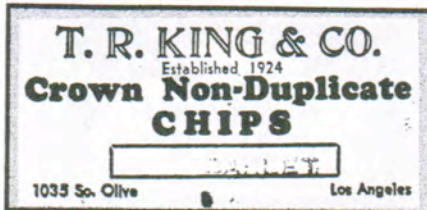
U.S. Unbreakable Poker Chips



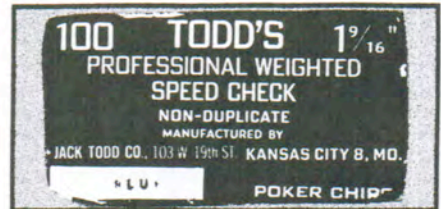
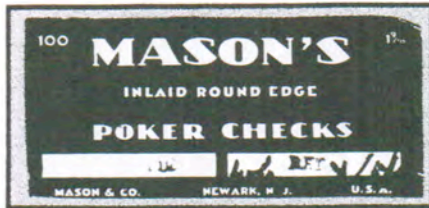
OLD POKER CHIP BOX LABELS



OLD POKER CHIP BOX LABELS



OLD POKER CHIP BOX LABELS



OLD POKER CHIP BOX LABELS

TREYBAL'S
NON-DUPLICATE
CHECKS
COLOR **WHITE**

"U.S."
Rubber Poker Chips
100 ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
ENGRAVED
CHOCOLATE

100
PAPER POKER CHIPS
EMBOSSD—ROUND EDGE
United Cigar Stores Company
Of America

100 U.S. 1 1/2 INCH
UNBREAKABLE POKER CHIPS
EMBOSSD ... PILOT WHEEL
ASSORTED
THE U.S. PLAYING CARD CO.
CINCINNATI, U.S.A.

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
ETCHED
FLAG ASSORTED

U.S.
Assorted
-Thin-

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
UNBREAKABLE
ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
ENGRAVED
FLUSH HAND ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/2 Inch
PAPER POKER CHIPS
PLAIN
ASSORTED
THE U.S. PLAYING CARD CO.
CINCINNATI, U.S.A.

100 U.S. 1 1/2 Inch
ANCHOR
POKER CHIPS
PLAIN **ASSORTED**

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
ENGRAVED
GOLF ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/2 INCH
ANCHOR POKER CHIPS
PLAIN
ASSORTED
THE U.S. PLAYING CARD CO.
CINCINNATI, U.S.A.

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
EMBOSSD
ANCHOR ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/2 in
POKER CHIPS
ETCHED
KITTY ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 1/4 Inch
POKER CHIPS
ANCHOR-BRAND
ASSORTED

U.S.
POKER CHIPS
ASSORTED

100 U.S. 1 9/16 inch
POKER CHIPS
PARTHICK SQUARE EDGE
INL Dull Finish
LARGE CENTER
STAR AND CRESCENT WHITE

100 ASSORTED 1 1/2 Inch
POKER CHIPS
ANCHOR—BRAND

100 U.S. 1 1/2 inch
POKER CHIPS
ENGRAVED
CROWN ASSORTED

B.C. WILLS & CO.
P.O. BOX 139
2295 DICKERSON RD
RENO, NEVADA 89504
BLUE

ANTIQUE COLLECTIBLES (Continued)

From the graphics on the preceding pages, you can see how observing chip box labels can bring up lots of interesting questions. Who were the manufacturers? Who were the distributors? Did manufacturers distribute their own products? Who manufactured a given design?

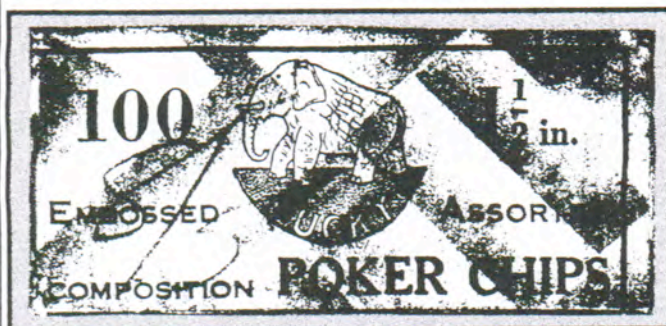
For the most part, in the first half of the 20th century, poker chips made for purchase and use by the public did not have identifiable borders like chips made in that era for private clubs or special order customers. For obvious reasons, chips designed for clubs and custom-designed chips for private individuals were made to be unique. This was not true of all chips designed for home games. If one company had an eagle chip, competitive chip makers made their eagle chip. Often the copied chip was almost identical. Old gambling catalogs and chip box labels help collectors to identify the makers of certain chip designs and variations.

The U.S. Playing Card Co. in Cincinnati, Ohio was by far the largest manufacturer of poker chips in America between 1890 and 1940. What we collectors are trying to sort out is --- Which other companies that sold chips, actually manufactured their own chips? and Did the US Playing Card Co. custom-design chips for other major chip distributors?

Company identification did not always appear on the box end label. It might be on the side or top of the box. Chip boxes in our collections not pictured on the previous pages identify such companies as: Noll, Inc., Pasadena, CA; AP Games; Dymont Co., Cleveland; Pioneer Co., Cincinnati; Pattberg Novelty Co., New York; Walgreen Drug; Square Chip, Inc., Dallas; Victory Mfg. Corp., Chicago; and Van Dyke Products, Milwaukee.

A number of chip boxes contain graphics and descriptions of chips but no mention of the manufacturer or distributor's name and location. A few examples of these are given in the column

below: (These labels are copied at actual size).



Cylindrical and miniature chip containers from the U.S. Playing Card Company.

New Ivory Chip Codes



ID-IH
Crescent & Star / v:m



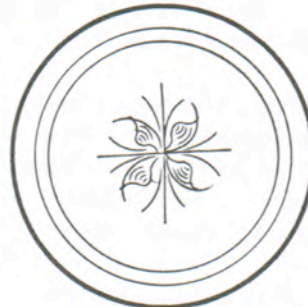
ID-QU
Coat-of-Arms / v:m



ID-RJ
Crown / v:p



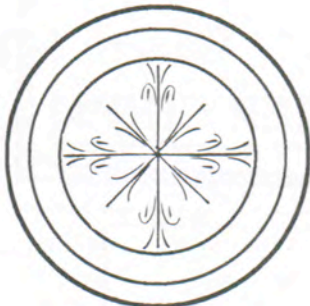
ID-XB
Four Leaves / v:k



ID-XP
Four Leaves / v:k



ID-YH
Four Leaves / v:k



IE-CQ
Straws / v:k



IE-PD
Blossom / v:m



IE-UZ
Rose / v:l



IE-VA
Rose / v:l



IN-FC
Corrected Graphic(40mm)



IN-GI
F/F/F / v:l



IO-IA
v:m



IO-IP
v:p

New Ivory Chip Codes (Continued)



IO-MH
v: m



IO-SX
3/F/3 / v:m



IP-DW
3/F/3/3 / v:m



IQ-AS
v:n



IR-CI
Cottage / v:t



IR-CK
Gloucester / v:s



IR-GY
York / v:r

Crash McQueen found 4 ivories with initials "G E" on one side and a numeral on the other. We have delegated these chips to the suspected fake category and given them the following codes:



Common Obverse



IZ-TA



IZ-TB



IZ-TC



IZ-TD

Many thanks to Walt Gonski, Howard Herz, Bud Meyer, Crash Mc Queen, Colin Narbeth, Chuck Pilgrim and Ralph Pollack for submitting graphics for this column. Happy Hunting! If you find something new, let's hear from you. Send information or questions to Dale Seymour, 11170 Mora Dr., Los Altos, CA 94024, tel: (650) 948-0949, fax: (650) 941-3695 or Ken Craig, 3927-H Waring Rd., Oceanside, CA 92056, tel: (760) 945-9722, fax: (760) 726-8904. If you are a beginning collector and want to know more about antique gambling chips, you may want to order the book, *Antique Gambling Chips* from Past Pleasures, PO Box 50863, Palo Alto, CA 94303.