

Casino Chip And Token News



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

Summer Issue
July, August, September, 2002
Volume 15, #3
\$6.⁹⁵

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





NEW ISSUE SERVICE

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COLORADO
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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.

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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



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

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

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Previously unpublished, original articles are encouraged and are welcomed by the Editor.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: Early January

2nd Quarter April, May, June
Mailing Date: Early April

3rd Quarter July, August, September
Mailing Date: Early July

4th Quarter October, November, December
Mailing Date: Early October

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.

President

Complaints/Suggestions,
By Laws Changes,
Committee Reports

Vice President

Chip & Token Update,
New Issues Report

Treasurer

Finances,
Bookkeeping

Secretary

Chapter Club Info.

Membership Officer

Club Directory,
Address Corrections

Convention Chairman

Dealer Table Contracts,
Exhibitor Applications,
Hotel Reservation Cards

Promotions Chairman

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Club chips, logo patches,
Meeting woods, decals,
Back issues club magazine

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webmaster@ccgtcc.com

CC>CC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone Number _____

My collection interests are:

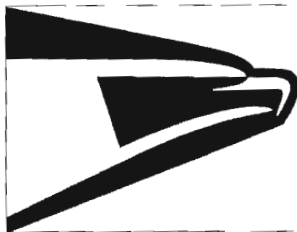
- Chips Tokens
 U.S. Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

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 Do not publish my name and address

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 * postal money order or U.S. funds



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

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

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AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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- 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

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*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.

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1/8 Page	(Business Card) Standard size 2" x 3.5"	\$20.00
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Publisher assumes no responsibility for statements made by advertisers and reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

CONTRACT DISCOUNT ADVERTISING RATES

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Ad Size	One Issue	Full Year	You Save
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Business Card	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$10.00
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1/2 Page	\$60.00	\$220.00	\$20.00
Full Page	\$100.00	\$360.00	\$40.00

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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

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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

4th Quarter Issue 2002
is September 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?

Dont'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*

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ALLAN ANDERSON

WWW.CCGTCC.COM

GREG C. SUSONG
WEBMASTER

Letter

from the editor
John Yee



Having just attended the 10th annual convention, by far, this was the most enjoyable one to date. Each year the convention grows in attendance, club sponsored events, and dealer tables. Again, we were sold out for the early bird banquet dinner with this year's special guest, William Boyd. A lot of work is required to pull off an event and special recognition should be given to the volunteers who give their time and energy so the rest of us can enjoy the event. Start planning for next year's convention at the Tropicana, June 25 – 28, 2003.

In this issue we highlight the 10th Annual Convention at the Tropicana, part one of a very in-depth history of gaming tokens, and some of our regular articles too. If you've got an article or an announcement, you can contact me at editor@ccgtcc.com or giving me a call.

I wanted all of you to know that I will be stepping down and the next issue will be my last as editor. I will be turning over the reigns to Allan Anderson, current assistant editor, who is more than capable of this monumental task. My original intent was to offer my time and expertise to the club. Although the last two years have been challenging and rewarding, following up on contributors and soliciting new articles has required more time than I'm able to give. I've appreciated the opportunity to serve at the board's pleasure and improve the quality of our magazine. Though many of my initial goals have been met, there's always room for improvement and I will be available to assist Allan in any way possible. I've met so many "good" people in our club and really enjoy the original idea of why this club was founded... "COLLECTING".

John

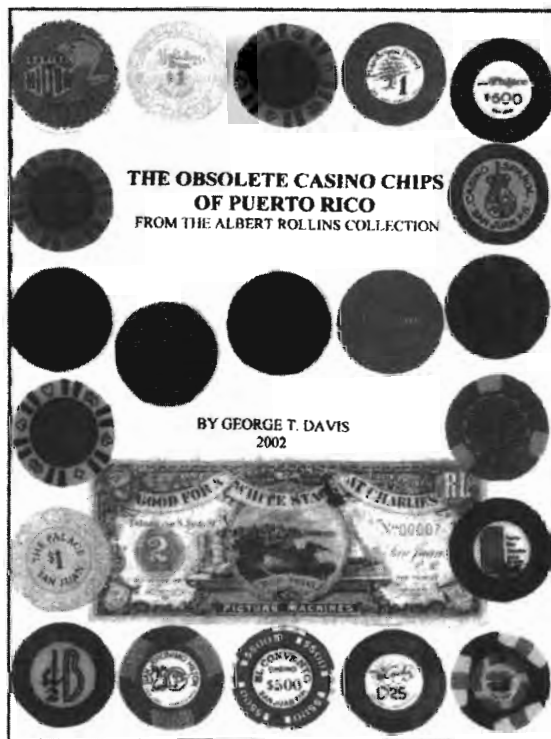
In May of 2000, I received a phone call from John Yee telling me that I had volunteered to help him with the club magazine. Before I could say anything, John had outlined his plans. He would deal with getting the articles, editing, and proofing them. All I would have to worry about was putting the magazine together. Sounded good.

It's been a great 2 years working with John. His professionalism and his ability to get quality articles is second to none. I will miss working with him. But, unfortunately for John, I have his home phone number.

I will be looking for a "volunteer" to help me proof and edit. So, if anyone is interested, please send me an e-mail. (I called Kregg up and asked her. I can still hear her laughing all the way from Minden).

Allan

THE OBSOLETE CASINO CHIPS OF PUERTO RICO



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BOOK

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By George T. Davis
from the collection of Albert Rollins
"25 previously unlisted chips"
almost 1200 illustrations with values
from
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ALBERT H. ROLLINS

CC>CC #R-0278

P. O. Box 190449

San Juan, P. R. 00919-0449

June 10, 2002

Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club
Editor
P.O. Box 35769
Las Vegas, NV 89133-5469

Dear Club Members:

It is with great pleasure that we just learned that Bob Mera had been inducted into the national clubs' "Hall of Fame". Working with Bob on a daily basis we knew how much the club and its' members meant to him. Nothing pleased him more than talking about chips, new or old and recruiting new members. It was his love of chips and the thought that people would meet to discuss them that he came up with the idea of the Atlantic City chapter.

Scott, Lauren and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who bestowed the honor of inducting Bob into the Hall of Fame. We know, that wherever he is, he is smiling.

Thank you,



Joy Mc Alister

Joy Mc Alister

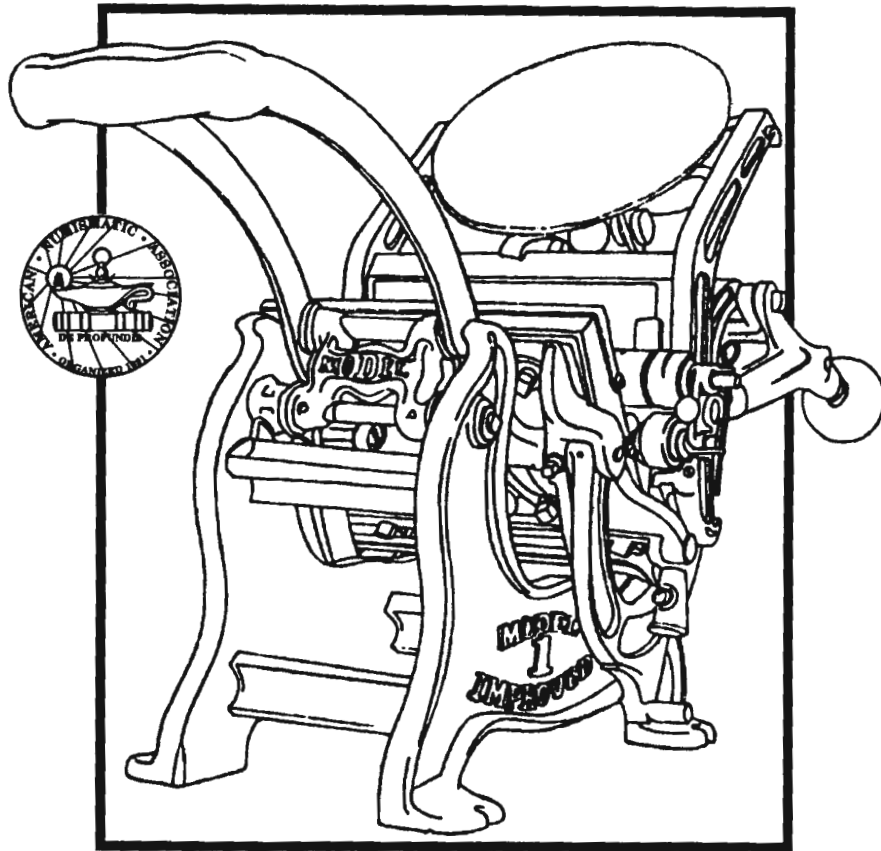


Scott Mc Alister



Lauren Mc Alister

AMERICAN
NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION



THIRD PLACE

SPECIALTY NUMISMATIC PUBLICATION

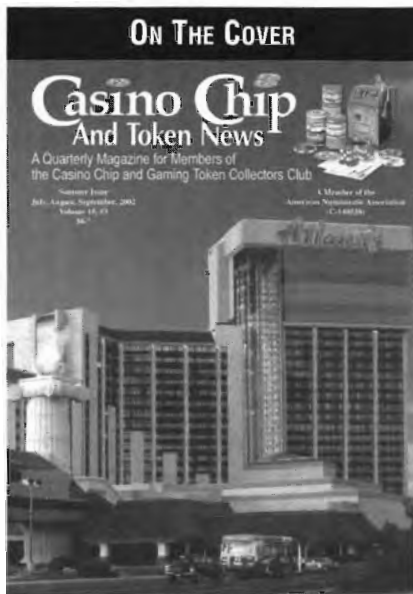
2002

CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN
COLLECTORS CLUB

**Casino Chip and
Token News**

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Atlantis Casino Resort Reno, Nevada

Photograph courtesy of
The Atlantis Casino Resort
Ciara Coyle, Publicist

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President's Letter

Summer, 2002



Nate Pincus

I am writing this not long after returning home from our convention. The last few weeks have been filled with wonderful events and great inspiration. Ten days before the start of our convention, I had the great pleasure to attend the college graduation of my son. Four years of hard work culminated in a superb weekend that celebrated the accomplishments of the young graduates. The commencement speaker was a renowned playwright who spoke of the great future that awaits these men and women and also of the difficult road ahead. There is much for my son to contemplate and many roads to travel. He is a great kid and has a bright future.

Not too many days later, as I was preparing for my trip to Las Vegas for our convention, the excitement that I felt while traveling to the graduation returned. I was again going to attend a thrilling event. In this case, ten years of efforts by countless volunteers was culminating in what would be our 10th annual convention. Our featured speaker at the opening banquet was a distinguished pioneer of gaming and he spoke of his experiences and how he forged a great company from a very humble start. He and his company continue their journey as one of the industry leaders. Bill Boyd is a great man, he has had a long and illustrious career and he and his company have a bright future.

Now I am home after attending our convention. It was a wonderful event, jam packed with activities from the opening banquet right on through the last dance trade session. With over 100 dealer tables there was more than ample opportunity for all members to find additions to their collections. Highlights of the convention included our banquet with guest speaker Bill Boyd, the club auction, the educational seminars, the exhibits and the trading sessions. The educational seminars were superb and very well attended. Our thirst for information about the hobby abounds. And I'm proud of our two newest members of the Hall of Fame, the late Bob Mera and Greg Susong. They have done much to promote and publicize our club and the hobby.

We were all saddened by the loss of George Conrad but he would have been so proud to see what he and Liz started come to fulfillment. A special thanks goes out to Convention Co-Chairpersons, Jim and Sandi Steffner for their hard work and dedication. Our convention would not have been so spectacular without their stewardship. Thank you to all the many volunteers who helped in so many ways to make this our best convention ever. You are the lifeblood of this organization and the reason that we are so vital and strong.

The annual club business meeting was held on the Thursday night of the convention. The larger than normal turnout of members heard reports from each club Officer. I reported that during the previous year we established a Building Fund and allocated \$5000 from our general operating account to the fund, set up the Logo Usage Committee to recommend policy for use of this important asset, set up and staffed the Archives and Standards Committee and stated that we have members working on guidelines for corporate memberships. We are rolling out a new benefit for all club members, ClubMail. ClubMail will make an email account available for all members using the @ccgtcc.org domain. A new award, Slot Card of the Year will be added to the competition next year to accompany the chip, token and silver strike. Long time Chairman, Archie Black is stepping down after chairing this award since its inception. Jim Follis has been appointed as the new Chairman. Jim was responsible for establishing an archival exhibit of all the past winners, all through donations from club members. I also announced that Jim Pierre has been appointed as the club's Claims Director.

Next year's convention will once more be at the Tropicana. It will be held from June 25th through June 28th. Jim and Sandi have again volunteered to oversee the event. As always, volunteers are needed and now is the time to let them know that you are willing to help.

Club Secretary Marty Kaplan has taken the lead with the newly established Chapter Presidents Council (CPC). Marty chaired the inaugural CPC meeting during the convention. This was a meeting of chapter presidents or their representative with the goal to foster a closer working relationship between the club and the chapters. The main item on the agenda was the issue of chapter members being CC>CC members.

The brass core investigation continues. An interim report was posted on the club website and it sent a powerful message. Violation of the Code of Ethics is a serious matter and action will be taken. Information on chips involved and how to identify non-genuine chips had previously been published in the club magazine and placed on the club website so all members are aware. I have directed the Standards and Archives Committee to recommend definitions and standards so that all members will have a clear understanding of what is acceptable and what constitutes proper disclosure. A copy of the interim report (which is posted on the club website) is also available to members by mail. Information on how to obtain a copy is published in this magazine.

One final matter. Your officers are starting the final year of their term. In this magazine there is the call for nominations. I have decided that after four years serving as an Officer, I will be stepping aside and will not run for office. Three of my fellow officers have also announced that they will not be running. We need good people to come forward and run for all the positions. Competition brings out the best in all of us and allows for a fuller discussion of the issues. If you have an interest in running for office and want to know what the jobs entail, I would be happy to speak with you.

So much has been accomplished in the past year and much more will be achieved in the future. Our history is short so consequently we are at the beginning of our journey but we are a great club and we have a bright future.

Happy collecting and best regards to all.

Nate

Secretary's *Report*



Marty Kaplan

WOW!

What a great convention!

Earlier this year George Conrad, our Convention Chair, became gravely ill and tragically succumbed to cancer. Though the concerns were for Liz and the Conrad family during such a terrible time, we also knew that without George at the helm the convention could be in jeopardy. But George's people stepped up and were determined to make sure it got done for George. There is nothing but praise for the job that they did.

Jim and Sandy Steffner stepped up and took on the Convention Co-Chair positions for George and Liz and hit the ground running, and friends, we had us a convention! How they fit in and took over so quickly we'll never know but the results were outstanding. If you missed this year's convention you really owe it to yourself to plan for next year's get together (also at the Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV, June 25-28, 2003). It is the show not to miss.

The convention schedule is a crowded one. Everyday is filled from early morning to late at night with Educational Seminars, Chapter Meetings, Poker Tournaments, the Club Auction, the Club's Annual Business Meeting, the opening Awards Banquet, and let's not forget the bourse floor with about 100 dealers! We pack an awful lot into just a few days. Come rested, enjoy the convention and sleep afterwards.

This year during the convention we convened the first Chapter President's Council (CPC). A meeting which I had the pleasure of hosting. The idea behind the CPC is that there are clearly issues that need to be resolved, issue that may only be resolvable by working together. For example, one of larger problems facing the Club is the Chapter Member/CC>CC Member issue, which looms large. As large as any problem the Club has faced in recent years. The only way it is likely to be resolved is with discussion and cooperation. Frankly, the CC>CC has to find ways to go the extra mile for its Chapters.

Despite the convention schedule and the simple constraint that some Chapter Officer have dealer tables that needed to be manned, we were still able to gather Chapter Officers representing 9 of the 15 CC>CC Chapters. Hopefully next convention we'll be able to schedule the CPC Meeting around the bourse floor hours to circumvent the schedule conflicts that some had.

The Chapter Presidents gathered and engaged in a very open discussion of the issues, and to hear first hand that the Club's Board of Directors wants to do more to support the chapters than has ever before been considered. The agenda to provide that support is evolving and will continue.

This all raises the question; "Meeting only once a year what can the CPC accomplish?" The meeting may have ended but the communication hasn't. The dialogue will not pause and wait until next year's convention. It won't be placed on hold until the next CPC Meeting. The CPC will continue utilizing a closed email forum to try and work through and get past some of these issues.

The CPC is a strong group of people. Officers in their own chapters, often the founders of their own chapters. Working together there is no telling what they may accomplish.

Membership Officer's *Report*



Ralph Myers

Man, was it a great convention or what?

For those of you that missed this years convention, start making plans for next years convention NOW. A special thanks to Jim and Sandy Steffner for stepping up mid year and doing such an outstanding job. A special thanks is also in order for George and Liz Conrad. I know George was watching, and approved of the way the convention went. George you will be missed.

For those of you that couldn't make it to this years convention, I'll give you some news updates. This year the board elected to honor the top ten new member recruiters from the past year. The top recruiter was American Chip Exchange. Followed by (in no special order) Jim Steffner, Greg Susong, C.T. Rodgers, Alan Borenstein, Archie Black, Scott Hartman, Don Lueders, the Chip Rack, and the Casino Hall of Fame. Thank you all for helping the hobby grow.

Congratulations are in order for 7 members who have stepped up to life member status. They are, Barry Hauptman, Doug McKenzie, Jim Follis, Don Crofut, James Sarra, Rodney Quaus, and Michael Riney.

Some interesting facts to share with you.

- Since the last quarterly 180 people have joined us.
- We presently have approx. 2700 members.
- We have 57 life members.
- Since the last convention 407 new members have joined.
- Since the last convention 13 members have become life members.
- We have members in all 50 states. We have members in 8 foreign countries.
- 160 members renewed their membership at this years convention.
- 15 new members joined at the convention.
- 3 members became life members at the convention.

To all of you who came by the membership table at the convention to say hello, thanks. It was a pleasure seeing old friends, and meeting new ones.

Please feel free to contact me by email, phone, or snail mail with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Thank You for your continued support.

Ralph Myers Membership Officer

A name to remember when you need supplies
Charles & Margarita Rodgers CH-033
C. T. COINS – P. O. Box 4572 – Lakewood, CA. 90711
Phone 562-408-2463 – E-Mail ccoins@aol.com



Ernie Whelden, 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



New Books for Your Approval



Shipping charges will be added to all items

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 9th Edition
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\$37.00

Howdy's
 Illustrated Guide to Nevada Silver Strikes
 1st Edition
\$40.00

Obsolete Casino Chips of Puerto Rico
\$30.00

Complete Guide to Colorado Chips & Tokens
 6th edition
\$17.50

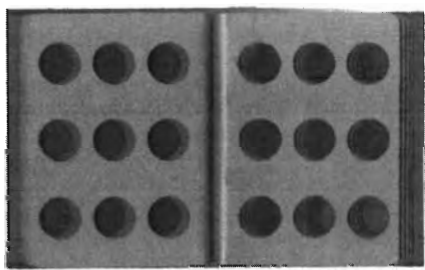
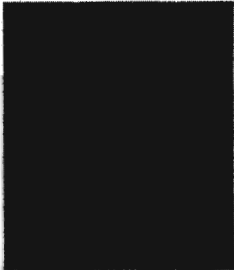
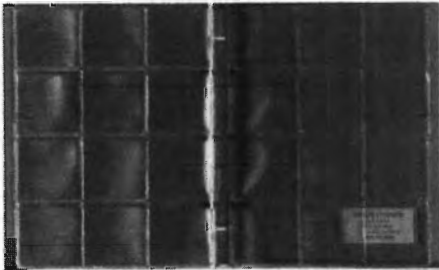
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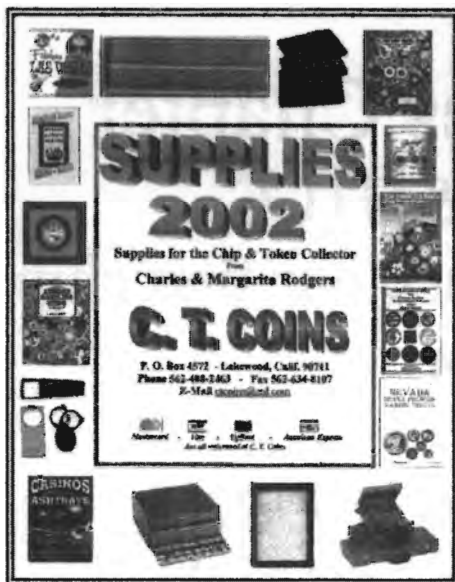
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Just full of goodies for the Chip & Token Collector, over 30 pages with some of the following

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- ◆ Binders for Chips or tokens
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- ◆ Air-Tight Cases
- ◆ Direct Fit Cases
- ◆ Round Cases
- ◆ Square Cases
- ◆ Display Cases & Trays
- ◆ Postcard Pages
- ◆ Matchbook Pages
- ◆ Storage Boxes
- ◆ Storage Tubes
- ◆ Magnifiers
- ◆ Flips 2 x 2 & 2 ½ x 2 ½
- ◆ Chip & Token Wallets

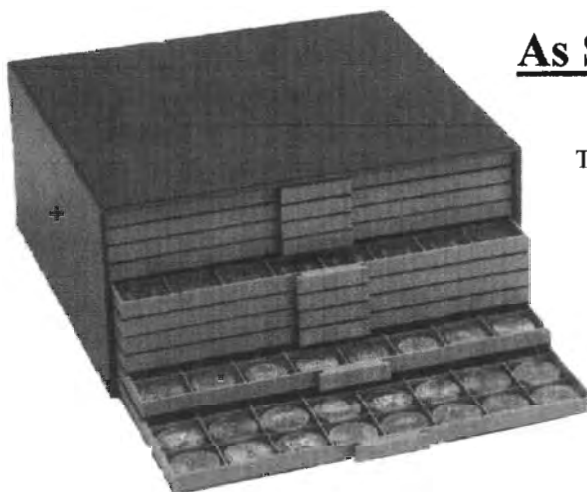
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 Trays have green, blue or red felt inserts to protect items



Tray # 6106

For Chips & Tokens without holders. Tray holds 36 items

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For Chips & Tokens In Air-Tight cases, \$10.00 Silver Strikes in cases. Tray holds 25 items

Tray # 6107

For \$1.00 slot tokens only Not in cases. Tray holds 49 items

Maxie Case with 10 trays only \$182.95 You may mix trays any way you like

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- ◆ Chips listed from roulettes on up
- ◆ A helpful index of chips by subject matter
- ◆ A section on FREE PLAY chips & Tokens





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Saturday September 7th, 2002

9am-1pm. Admission \$2.00

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Fraser MI.

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ascalzo@ees.eesc.com

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REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE CC>CC

We have examined the Treasurer's Report of **THE CASINO CHIPS AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB** for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The Club's policy is to prepare its report on the cash basis of accounting. Consequently, revenue and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the income was earned or the expense was incurred. For this reason the Treasurer's Report is not intended to present results of operations on the accrual basis.

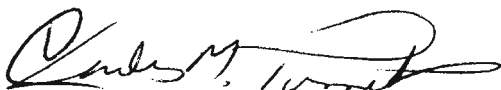
In our opinion, the Treasurer's Report referred to above, presents fairly the income and expenditures of **THE CASINO CHIPS AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB** for the year ended December 31, 2001, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting applied on a consistent basis.



MITCHELL B. SMITH, CPA



MICHAEL CUSTODIO



CHARLES M. TOMARCHIO

June 6, 2002

New Members Since Last Issue

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5541	Horwath	John	MD	Donohue, Paul
5542	Dobson	Scott	CA	American Chip Enterprises
5543	Miller	LeRoy	UT	Silver Strike Chapter
5544	Fellela	Ken	RI	club web site
5546	Hernandez Jr.	Enrique	TX	club web site
5547	Razor	Dan	KY	club web site
5548	Rosales	Richard	CA	web site
5549	Gleed	Carolanne	NV	Wendleton, Carol
5549-A	Gleed	Jim	NV	Wendleton, Carol
5550	Gawlik	Lois	IL	web site
5550-A	Gawlik	Russell	IL	web site
5551	Howell	Rickey	OK	web site
5552	Watson	Larry	KS	former member
5552-A	Watson	Sharon	KS	former member
5553	Bashore	Mark	OH	Litnar, James
5554	Carpenter	Joel	ME	Blanchard, James
5555	Gee	Wilson	MO	Watts, Brian
5556	Zajeski	Tim	IL	silver strike chapter
5557	Boyle	Mike	UK	
5558	Hooper	Andrew	OK	web site
5559	Summers	Brandy	WA	Wendleton, David
5560	Schirmer	Raymond	WI	web site
5561	Psota	Al	OH	
5562	Kay	James	CA	
5563	Hyams	Stuart	NV	web site
5564	Bundy	Steve	Ca	web site
5565	Iddings	John	FL	web site
5566	Gersie	Mike	IA	
5567	Pugmire	Ralph	NM	web site
5567-A	Pugmire	Connie	NM	web site
5568	Leal	Antonio	CA	Hartman, Estelle
5569	Hennessey	Mike	OH	Stanton, Bill
5570	Young	Kenneth	NV	
5571	Thompson	Cheri	TX	web site
5572	Weder	Dennis	UT	web site
5573	Sipes	Kevin	NV	Rasmussen, Wes
5573-A	Sipes	Barbara	NV	Rasmussen, Wes
5574	Noble	Larry	CO	web site
5575	Mode	Roy	CA	Hayden, Bob
5576	Tereno	Lloyd	WA	American chip enterprises
5577	Reslock	Chris	NJ	Burt, Wayne
5578	Canna	Gerard	NY	Black, Archie
5579	Bruno	Ray	CA	web site
5580	Grant	Bill	CA	Rodgers, C.T.
5580-A	Grant	Freddie	CA	Rodgers, C.T.
5581	Spier	Chip	CA	Ruffell, Sherry
5582	Fernandez	Ray	CA	web site
5583	Frey Jr.	Harold	TN	Steffner, Jim
5584	Love	James	OK	web site
5585	Zabel	Bjoern	Germany	website
5586	Wilson	Susan	NY	Gregory, Christie

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5586-A	Wilson	Mark	NY	Gregory, Christie
5587	Gunter	Doug	TX	Gregory, Christie
5588	Thomas	Wayne	HI	Ace
5589	Crate	Charles	NV	Hartman, Scott
5590	James	Adrian	MI	web site
5591	Krauss	Christopher	MO	web site
5592	Luckow	Richard	NY	web site
5592-A	Luckow	Florance	NY	web site
5593	Sabin	George	MN	web site
5593-A	Sabin	Cynthia	MN	web site
5594	Culver	Ric	CA	web site
5595	Lucci	Lou	NV	Burgel, Rich
5596	Gasper	Jon	HI	web site
5597	McCammon	Ross	CA	Campiglia, James
5598	Dowdy	Matthew	VA	Miner, Rick
5599	Fahey	Thomas	NJ	web site
5600	Renshaw Sr.	James	MI	web site
5601	Whiteside	Ian	CA	web site
5602	Salyers	Jimmy	KY	web site
5603	Garavaglia III	John	MO	Zacchi, Steve
5604	Robinson	Frank	WI	the Chip Rack
5605	Rada	Merl	CA	American chip enterprises
5606	Maxwell	Keith	NV	Allard, Dick
5607	Saroka	Mary	CT	web site
5608	Craig	Joe	AR	web site
5609	Meyer	Mary	IL	web site
5610	Osborne	David	CA	web site
5611	Walsh	John	MA	web site
5612	Jezuit	Fred	IL	Steffner, Jim
5613	Cocozza	Carmen	PA	web site
5614	Kinard	Brian	CA	web site
5615	Kopp	Larry	CA	Shore, Josh
5615-A	Kopp	Alice	CA	Herhold, Donna
5616	Kulwicki	Lari Jo	MI	Joe
5617	Hersh	Myrl	PA	web site
5618	Cooper	Jack	NY	Rodgers, C.T.
5619	Wronker	Steve	CT	web site
5620	Rogers	Kirk	CA	Rodgers, C.T.
5620-A	Rogers	Pearl Ann	CA	Rodgers, C.T.
5621	Gersie	Ann	IA	Gersie, Mike
5622	Gilbert	Henry	FL	Markman, Lawrence
5622-A	Gilbert	Barbara	FL	Markman, Lawrence
5623	Berkowitz	Barry	NY	web site
5624	Chen	Abraham	CA	Bundy, Steve
5625	Greenwood	Janice	NV	web site
5626	Conner Jr.	Ulysses	PA	American Chip Enterprises
5627	Bruehl	Chuck	FL	Steffner, Jim
5628	D'Amico	Sam	PA	Weaver, Marvin
5629	Keithley Jr.	David A.	TX	website
5629-A	Keithley Jr.	Sheri	TX	website
5630	Strausbaugh	Bob	PA	club website
5631	Willman	Neil	WA	Borenstein, Alan
5632	Whaley	Rick	TX	Web site
5633	Davis	Theran	IL	web site
5634	Paradiso	Pino	NV	Rizzo, Pete

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5634-A	Paradiso	Stephanie	NV	Rizzo, Pete
5635	Jones	Larry	MO	past member
5636	Moser	Tom	MA	Bishop, Brian
5637	Dencer	Richard	OH	Steffner, Jim
5638	Kocian	Joseph	OH	past member
5639	Weber	Scott	CA	Campiglia, James
5640	Schoening	Brian	MO	web site
5641	Wattman	George	NJ	Poppel, Ross
5642	Bondi	Thomas	IL	Steffner, Jim
5643	Moericke	Nick	Nv	past member
5644	Marple	K. David	WA	web site
5645	Shaffer	Terry	OH	web site
5646	Hall Jr.	Clifford	TX	web site
5647	Maxwell	Jeremy	NY	web site
5648	O'Keefe	M. Dean	CA	O'Keefe, Michael
5649	Quast	W. Garry	PA	Pincus, Nate
5650	Rings	Steve	OH	web site
5651	Coughlin	Patrick	SD	American Chip Enterprises
5652	Paul	Mike	LA	Borenstein,, Alan
5653	Scanlin	Terry	NY	Matthews
5654	Robertson	Lance	NY	google search
5655	Bitzer	Jeffrey	IL	Bjornson, Ralph
5656	King	Wayne	OR	Rasmussen, Wes
5657	Nelson	Randy	WI	web site
5658	Ross	Rolla	FL	
5659	Conrad	Warren	UT	
5660	Fair	Jerry	PA	Borenstein, Alan
5661	White	Bob	CT	
5662	Petty	Michael	NE	former member
5663	Hasemann	Keston	IL	web site
5664	Freer	Diane	CA	web site
5665	Blackford	Todd	NV	Mancino, Bennie
5666	Suslo	Charles	NV	Harhoff, Skip
5667	Wong	Russell	UT	Hughes, Andy
5668	Sheppard	Tom	IN	web site
5669	Jollie	James	CA	Jollie, William
5669	Shue	September	PA	Lischak, Ron
5670	Brooks-Hovland	Jenna	CA	web site
5670-A	Baker	Brandon	CA	web site
5671	Stein	Scott	NJ	coin world
5672	Peterson	Greg	TX	web site
5673	Diamond	John	MA	Moser, Tom
5674	Brady	Scott	CA	web site
5675	Rorex	Barry	FL	web site
5676	Williams	Bill	TX	web site
5676-A	Williams	Carolyn	TX	web site
5677	Guendling	Ronald	IL	Lucci. Lou
5678	Mooney	Michael	MI	Episale, Jim
5679	McLean	Brian	MI	Starling, Tom
5680	Madrid	Albert	CA	web site
5681	Edwards	Susan	CA	web site
5682	Gallimore	Glen	NV	Susong, Greg
5683	Hayden	Mack	AZ	Hayden, Bob
5684	Busha	Lennie	AZ	Hayden, Bob
5685	Pinchiff	Edward	CA	web site

Member	Last	First	State	Referral
5686	Lucas	Vince	CA	web site
5687	Hamada	Kenneth	IL	Campiglia, James
5688	Barringer	Robert	NY	
5689	Belle	Hazel	CA	
5690	Wagner	Marc	NV	
5691	Saley	William	NV	
5692	Wright	Barbara	AZ	Smith, R.C.
5693	Brown	LuAnna	CA	
5693-A	McNeese	Miriam	CA	
5694	Chase	Jeff	IL	
5695	Lineberry	Charles	TX	Myers, Ralph
5696	Decker	Mark	NV	Harber, Dave
5697	Borders	Michael	Nv	
5699	Fernandez	Victor	NV	Ault, Andrew
5700	Macioek	Joe	NY	
5701	Weingardt	Bob	CA	Quinlivan, Mike
5702	Muscat	Frank	CA	
5703	Jones	Al	TX	Borenstein, Alan
5704	Thompson	Raymond	NV	Hartman, Scott
5704	Bostwick	Me Me	NV	
5704-A	Bostwick	Ken	NV	
5705	Lambert	Mike	CA	
5706	Davis	Max	TX	Weaver, Marvin
5707	Byers	Paul	TX	
5707-A	Byers	Linda	TX	
5708	Osborne	Carl	NV	
5709	Logerwell	Don	WA	web site
5710	Stanley	John	CA	web site
5711	Butler	David	CO	web site
5712	Miller	Stephen	NY	web site
5713	Selig	James	PA	Hughes, Andy
5714	Sundin	Charles	NV	Smorse, Chuck
5715	Barrett Jr.	Malcom	AZ	web site
5716	King	William	WI	web site
5717	Encarnacion	Steven	CA	web site
5718	Sharp	Gana	CA	web site
5719	Carden	David	GA	Rizzo, Pete
5720	Swan	Peter	MI	web site
5721	Spencer	Eric	TN	web site
5722	Dixon	Barbara	MI	Myers, Ralph
5723	Schwarz	Rick	NJ	Black, Archie
5724	Thomas	Philip	CA	American Chip Enterprises
5725	Hogan	Robert	TX	Borenstein, Alan
5726	Eastridge	Ed	OK	Borenstein, Alan
5727	Musch	Denise	IN	Thompson, Wayne
5728	Joranko	Michael	MD	Myers, Ralph
5729	Tassie	Donald	NH	American Chip Enterprises
5730	Underwood	Joan	WA	silver strike chapter
5731	Wells	Shane	CO.	web site
5732	Richardson	Scott	MD	web site
5733	Roberts	Ralph	WI	web site

Club Merchandise

Official Convention Chips & Medal Sets



2001 Official Convention Medal
 \$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
 \$25 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 2001



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

2001 Poker Tournament Set
\$15.00 - 5 chip Set

Pins, Patches and Clocks



2001 Convention Pin
\$4.00

2000 Convention Pin
\$3.00



Member Pin
New and Old Style
\$5.00



1999 Convention Pin
\$3.00



1998 Convention Pin
\$3.00



3 1/2" Embroidered Patch
\$4.00



1997 Convention Pin
\$3.00



One color Logo Sticker
\$1.00

11 inch gold rim battery operated clock with club logo
\$25.00



Five color Logo Sticker
\$1.00



Convention T-Shirts



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



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

Polo Shirts
 Misc. Colors with Pockets
 XXL - \$27.00
 M, L, XL - \$25.00



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



Front

Embossed Denim Jacket
Heavyweight
 \$49.95



Back



Embossed Tote Bag
Blue Washed Denim
 \$14.00

Casino Chip & Token News Back-Issues

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Volume 6 issue 3 | Volume 11 issue 1 | Volume 14 issue 1 |
| 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 8 issue 2 | Volume 12 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 | |
| Volume 9 issue 3 | Volume 13 issue 3 | |
| Volume 10 issue 1 | Volume 13 issue 4 | |
| Volume 10 issue 2 | | |
| Volume 10 issue 3 | | |
| Volume 10 issue 4 | | |

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| 1996 | | |
| 1997 | | \$10 each postage paid |

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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, Ill .	\$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, Ill .	\$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.



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 or 2001 Official (6th, 7th, 8th or 9th) 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.
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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Nevada's Golden Age of Gambling **Revised and Expanded**

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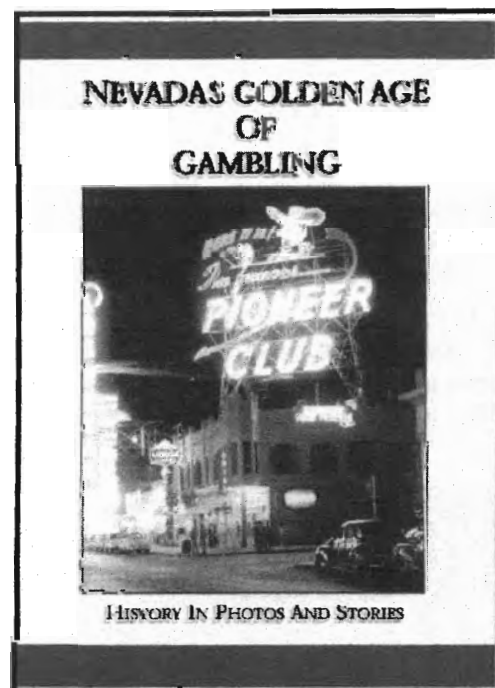
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152 Pages of Fun!
Fully indexed for easy reference

59 Photos

10th annual CC>CC Convention



by Jim and Sandi **Steffner**
Convention Co-Chairs

The CC>CC 10th Anniversary Convention is over – Who would have thought way back in 1987 when an idea was born for a few collectors to get together to trade chips that it would become what it is today. Each year we grow in membership, quality and number of dealers, and diversity of collectibles.

This year saw the largest and best convention yet in terms of the number of dealer tables, educational seminars, early bird banquet, pre-registration, raffles, chapter meetings, and trade sessions. Pre-registration processed 710 members who moved through the lines quickly and efficiently. An additional 170 members registered on Wednesday, 42 registered during the convention, and over 800 walk ins were able to tour our show floor.



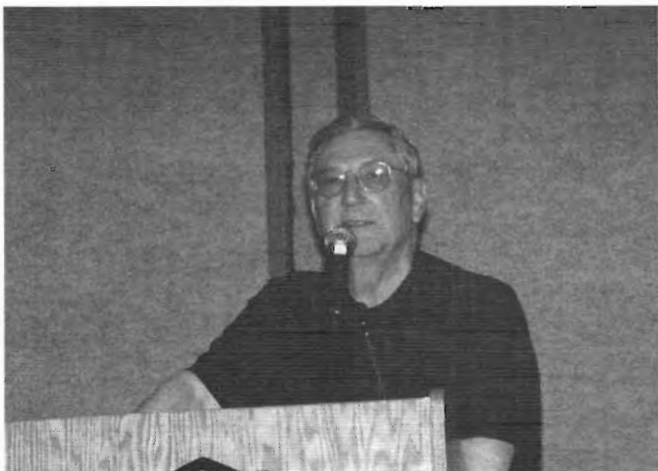
Ninety six individual dealers, two chapters, the building committee, club promotions, and membership occupied 112 tables. Several dealers indicated that they had the best Thursday of any previous convention.

A large number of the attendees enjoyed three excellent seminars. Doug Saito presented “Chip Stories”, John Kendall of CHIPCO talked about “Casino Chip Development,

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”, and Michael Knapp & Richard Covington continuing their series with “Chipology 110”. The Early Bird Banquet featured guest speaker William S. Boyd of Boyd Gaming who related the story behind the company from the time Sam Boyd started with a few dollars in his pocket and

a dream to the present giant corporation it is today. Mr. Boyd was presented with a fabulous quilt, assembled by our own auctioneer, Jim Kruse, who used t-shirts from the different Boyd Corporation casinos. A wonderful meal preceded the awarding of numerous plaques to the directors and chairmen who helped make this convention a great event.

The Hall of Fame inducted Bob Mera, posthumously and Greg Susong, still alive and flipping Sonic



William S. Boyd, Boyd Gaming



Mr. Boyd receives quilt showing Boyd Corporation casinos



burgers as the latest members who have given so much to the club. Congratulations to both! Steve Goodrich received the award for the best book of the year, “Casino Chips of Washington State” and Allan Anderson received the award for best magazine article, “Cal-Neva Resort, 75th Anniversary” which appeared in the Fall 2001 issue of Casino Chip & Token News. American Chip Enterprises recruited the most new members with a total of 18.

The Third Annual Poker Challenge took place at the Orleans with Rick Aliperti walking away with the first place trophy and a bundle of cash. This was a very exciting event that shouldn't have been missed, even if you just want to watch.

Our Friday night auction was very well attended and some fierce bidding was enjoyed by all. 250 lots sold between \$5 and \$3500 so there was something for all budgets.

Attendees were offered a chance to enter a raffle for hourly prizes. Many members walked away with golf shirts, t-shirts, golf balls, books, and many other fine prizes, all donated by various casinos. The proceeds went to the clubs general fund. A special, members only, raffle drawing won by Bud Meyer gave him the use of a Garden Suite for next year's convention at the Tropicana. Congratulations and enjoy, Bud! This raffle generated \$1100 for the clubs building fund. Palmer Printing, our club magazine printer, held a drawing and six lucky

members won custom designed four color business cards. Thanks Palmer!

The exhibits set up by members keep getting better each year. Competitive exhibits were entered by 10 members with three members submitting exhibits in the non-competitive category. Peter Van der Kar placed first with his O'Shea's exhibit. Chris Colangelo took second place with “Caesar and the Grape Girl”, and Robert Pardue captured third with a display of “Del Webb: Casino Builder and Operator”.

This year saw an increase in the number of trade sessions and from the attendance, they were very well received and utilized. None of the sessions were open during show



Greg Susong receiving the Hall of Fame award



Russ Diaz and Jerry Birl accept the award for Bob Mera



Ralph Myers and Jim Follis



Debbie Reynolds and Katie Smith at the Orleans



Registration Table



Paul Bender and Paul Sax



Volunteers stuffing pre-registration bags



Archie Black receiving an award from Jim Follis after serving 10 years as chairperson for the COTY, TOTY, SSOTY awards. Jim Follis will be taking over next year.



Jim Kruse at the Club Building Finance Committee Table



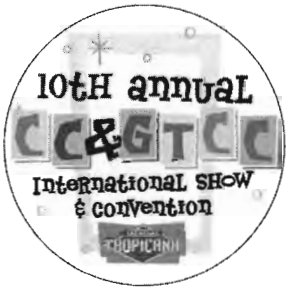
Building Fund Chip



Allan Anderson and former editor Kregg Herz

hours. Several chapters conducted their meeting during the convention and the first Chapter Presidents Council was held.

Special CC>CC Convention commemorative chips were issued by the Tropicana, Aladdin, Palms, Fiesta, Las Vegas Club, Hard Rock, and the Riviera. It has been reported that Nevada Gaming Control confiscated about 200 of the 800 Hard Rock chips after a complaint was received. No further details available at this time, but now only about 600 of the special Pink Taco chips exist in collectors hands. The Tropicana live chip was designed by Dick Covington, and the CC>CC club promotional chip was designed by Todd Barrett with Paul Dell taking second place. The club medal was designed by Patrick Milligan. Congratulations to Todd, Paul, and Patrick, and to all those who took the time to submit entries.



The 2003 Convention will again be held at the Tropicana from June 25th to the 28th. The hotel and catering staff continue to treat us very well and provide the best of service. Start planning now to join us for the 11th Annual Convention and celebrate the 15th Anniversary of our club.

Enclosed in this issue of the magazine is a survey form. Please fill it out and mail in the form. Your input is important to help us make future improvements. Everyone's opinion is important and will help us make next year even more enjoyable. While you are not required to put your name on the form, a drawing will be held for those who do and five lucky submitters will each receive a **paid** pre-registration for the 2003 convention. Your opinions and suggestions are valuable even if you wish to remain anonymous. Please mail your form.



Steve Wells, Mark Freitag, James Campiglia, & Randy Pisane



Estelle Hartman



Liz Conrad



Nate Pincus and Dave Shron



Linda, Rocco and Steve Zacchi



Robert "Big Bear" Mc Colum, Rich Burgel



Wayne Thompson



Chuck Tomarchio, Richard Covington, Jim Serra



Greg Susong and the Hard Rock run



Mark Lighterman



Rena & James Perlowski



Bruce and Eileen Landau



Doug Saito and Steve Passalacqua



John Yee - Your editor hard at work



Barb Bender, Allan Myers, Ernie Wheelden



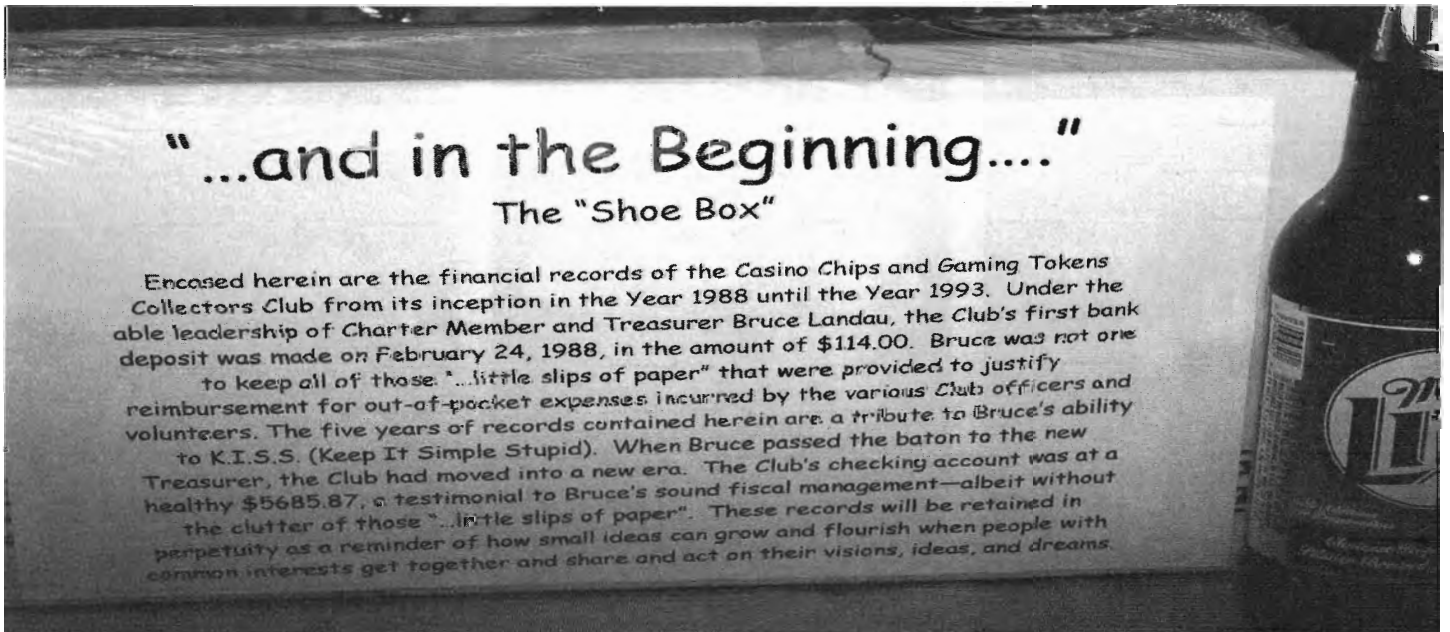
Tyrus Mulkey, Wayne Murphy, Kerry Waite



Sue McHargue and Rick Miner



David Sarles, Myrna Lighterman



Financial records and the "Shoe Box"



Chips released by casinos for the annual convention



Poker Tournament chips designed by Dick Covington for the 4th Annual Poker Tournament held at The Orleans Hotel Casino



Rick Aliperti, this year's poker tournament winner



Russ Diaz, last year's poker tournament winner



Jim Follis, the second year's poker tournament winner



Larry Hollibaugh and Belinda Hixon



Ralph Myers

Marce Herz



Ex-Convention Chairpersons

Last but not least – a big THANK YOU to all the dealers, the many members who attended and the great volunteers who gave their time so everyone could enjoy this year’s event. There are so many members who donate even a few hours to help in so many ways. Without all of YOU, we couldn’t have a convention.

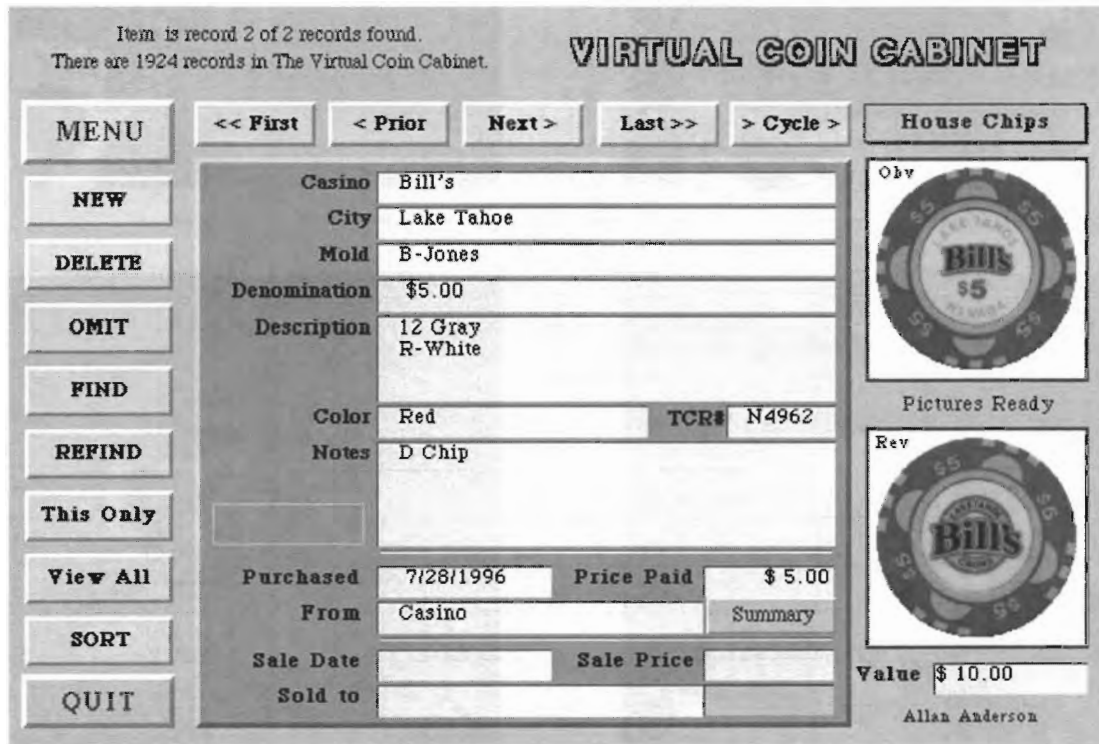
See you next year!

Jim & Sandi Steffner
Convention Co-Chairs ❖

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The Virtual Coin Cabinet was designed to handle all kinds of casino chips, silver strikes, tokens and coins. The Virtual Coin Cabinet provides collectors with more features for organizing and managing collections than most dealers have in their business inventory systems.



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10th Annual Convention

Volunteers



The 10th annual convention would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the following volunteers.

Liz Conrad
Jack Weingarten
Ken Fari
Gordon Ellison
Fran Ellison
Colin Bull
J.J. Engle
Mike Pasternack
Bob Ziegler
Al Scalzo
Pam Scalzo
Alan Westfall
Charles Kaplan
Mike Skelton
Ann Skelton
John Berube
Jim Buell
Bob Bickford
Henry Bernard
Eileen Landau

Mary Lou Fortner
Paul Fortner
Alex Cilento
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Paul Sax
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Jeff McCracken
Brian Jimison
Rick Miner
Fred Bergman
Travis Lewin
Allan Anderson
John Yee
Bernie Sloan
Mike Custodio
Gene Trimble
Myrna Lighterman
Steve Goodrich
Bob Hermans
Daniella Tayart de Borms

10th Annual Convention

Committees

Auction Chairman Co-Chairs	Bruce Landau Howard Herz Kregg Herz
Auctioneer	Jim Kruse
Banquet Chairman	Wayne Thompson
Budget & Finance Chairman	Dave Shron
Chip, Token, and Silver Strike of the Year Chairman Assistant Chairman	Archie Black Jim Follis
Chips / Raffle / Program Ads	Steve Zacchi
Convention Chairman Co-Chair	Jim Steffner Sandi Steffner
Educational Chairman	Dick Covington
Exhibit Chairman	Joe Shaw
Legal Council	Eric Rosenblum
Licensing & Fees	Dave Shron
Membership Officer	Ralph Myers
Photographer	Mark Lighterman
Program	Allan Anderson
Promotions Chairman	Dick Allard
Registration Co-Chairs	Brenda Black Vernon & Alice Blanck Art & Muriel Sanderson
Set-up / Tear-down Chairman Co-Chair	Paul Bender Barb Jones

Will the Genuine Harrah's Pink \$2.50 Please Stand Up!

by Howard W. Herz



Genuine Pink \$2.50



Altered Pink \$2.50



Genuine Yellow \$2.50

Our hobby was recently rocked by the revelation that a number of altered brass core gaming checks had been produced to defraud collectors. After an investigation that sought to find the culprit(s) was released to the hobby over the internet, a heated debate ensued. The substance of that debate, over issues of authenticity, punishment and incriminations, seems to have had more heat than light. Among the various comments that I found to be the most disturbing was the assertion by several individuals that there never was an original Harrah's pink \$2.50 brass core check. The people who made that statement should have known better - and one of them did!

Sale No. 5

On March 18, 1993, Gaming Archæology conducted its sale No. 5 that featured Harrah's Club checks from the collection of Rome Andriotti, a well known Harrah's executive. Bill Harrah did not collect gaming checks that I know of, but one of his top executives did and a great number of rare Harrah's issues were in his estate. In late 1992, Gaming Archæology received his collection for sale. Among the numerous rarities were a number of brass core items, including four slug cores and ten (10) brass core checks. Among the brass core checks were a number of samples including a black

\$5 with an aluminum core, a white \$25 with brass core and a pink \$2.50 with a brass core. Four original cores without plastic covering were also in the sale; a trimmed brass \$2.50, a \$25 brass core, a \$500 aluminum core and a \$500 Baccarat core.

Prior to the date of the sale, a catalog was sent to Harrah's. Within days of the sale, Gaming Archæology received a call from Harrah's corporate attorneys requesting information on the sample cores that were in the sale. Because these cores represented a possible problem if they were ever released, all of the raw cores were withdrawn from the



sale and remain to this day in the archives of Gaming Archaeology. The other Harrah's checks were sold to collectors.

The Altered Cores

The Harrah's slug core checks were only a few of the many Harrah's rarities that were in the sale and after seven years, I had forgotten about them. During a Las Vegas show I was approached by a collector who asked if Gaming Archaeology had ever sold a Harrah's pink \$2.50. I replied that I did not honestly recall, but that I would check our archives and records. A short time after that conversation, I was advised by several people that someone was making altered brass core checks from raw cores that had been released at the time that Reliable Manufacturing Co. had been sold. I was deeply concerned about the alterations and did inquire as to who was altering the raw cores and what was being made.

Several months after the news of the altered "brass core" checks broke, I checked our records and verified that Gaming Archaeology had sold a Harrah's pink \$2.50 trial piece. I also contacted the collector who had purchased the piece. Fortunately, he still had the piece in his collection and generously agreed to send the piece to me for inspection. I was also able to inspect two of the altered pink \$2.50 pieces.

The comparison proved to be quite interesting. The altered piece had been produced from the same pink plastic that Reliable had used on a number of genuine samples that we have in the Gaming Archaeology archives – a flat pink color that is extremely opaque. I had been advised that the alteration had been



Altered \$2.50



X-Ray



Original \$2.50



X-Ray

made based on the original formula materials that Reliable had used. In comparison, however, the original Harrah's pink \$2.50 from sale No. 5 had been made with a slightly translucent pink plastic. A number of other details were also different. Out of curiosity, I had both the original and the altered examples x-rayed and under the plastic was a telltale flaw in the altered piece.

Although I was grateful that the original Harrah's pink \$2.50 could still be authenticated by its characteristics, I was deeply saddened that members of our club would debase their integrity for satisfaction of their greed. For 5 years in the 1980's I was the director of counterfeit detection seminars for coin collectors. I have always been certain that once gaming check values reached higher levels, the chip hobby would be subject to the same problems that plagued numismatics. I am disappointed, but not surprised. But I am not discouraged, education

and knowledge are still the keys to enjoying our hobby. So for those who wish to know... now the real Harrah's pink \$2.50 can stand up... ❖



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HOT AUGUST NIGHTS®

RENO • SPARKS

by Allan Anderson

Once again Hot August Nights rolls into the Reno, Tahoe, Sparks area bringing back the good old days with cars, music and special events. The event which runs from August 3rd to the 11th, features 5,000 cars from 38 states and 3 Canadian provinces.

As with years past, various hotels released their Hot August Nights chips. Jim Roets, Vice President Casino Operations at the Reno Hilton went with 2 different Mustangs on their \$5 and \$25 chips. Kim Sumimoto, Director of Games at Caesars Tahoe went with a '56 Chevy on both the \$5 and \$25 chip. Jerry Hunt, Casino Operations at Harrahs Reno placed a vintage fire truck on their \$5 chip to commemorate the fire fighters of September 11. The fire truck is on display at Harrahs Plaza during Hot August Nights. The Peppermill has a pink Cadillac against a sunset for their \$5 chip and the Atlantis celebrated Hot August Nights' 16th Anniversary with a sweet 16 design on their \$5 chip. ❖



Reno Hilton \$5 and \$25



Harrah's \$5



Peppermill \$5



Caesars Tahoe \$5 and \$25



Atlantis \$5

Quarterly Southern Nevada Limited Edition "Cheque" List

by Dave and Debbie Harber

Well, it's that time again! The last quarter has flown by and so as not to disappoint anyone there was no lack of chips to report on being released from southern Nevada casinos. Keeping the numbers of chips in mind and the space needed we will only picture one chip when chips of different denominations from the same casino have identical artwork. In our last update we left off at the end of February so we'll begin with March.

March 2002

March was a busy month for chippers out here. Chips were released for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, March Madness and Easter to name a few. But who needs these events, we can come up with other things to commemorate out here too. Just you wait and see!

The Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget each released their Valentines Day chips a bit late. Each casino released a \$1, \$5, \$25 and \$100 chip. The mintages for the Opera House were 1,500 \$1 chips, 550 \$5 chips, 80 \$25 chips and 30 \$100 chips.

550 \$5 chips, 80 \$25 chips and 30 \$100 chips.



Another holiday commemorated was St. Patrick's Day. There was no lack of casinos who wanted to get in on this celebration. Eight casinos in all made chips for the day. The Tropicana kicked off the releases with their 500 mintage \$5 chip. The Aladdin also joined in with a 777 mintage \$5 chip with a pot of gold on it. Mahoney's Silver Nugget and the Opera House each contributed with ones, fives, twenty fives and hundreds. They each made 1,500 one dollar chips, 550 five dollar chips, 80 twenty five dollar chips and 30 hundreds. The Las Vegas Club issued 200 colorful \$10 chips featuring a leprechaun on a pot of gold. O'Shea's also released 500 \$5 chips and 100 \$25 chips to mark the occasion. The Four Queen's issued a \$5 and \$25 chip with mintages of 500 and 100 respectively. Last but certainly not least, the Ramada Express in Laughlin issued a St. Pat's chip too. It is a \$5 chip depicting a girl (in green) holding a pot of gold (mintage 2,500). Now, on to the next group of chips, March Madness.





March Madness is also a big celebration out here. They say it is one of the busiest times in the sports books. It was also a busy time for chippers. The Tropicana had a 500 issue \$5 chip. Harrah's, Las Vegas had a 2 chip set for the basketball tournament. There were 500 of each chip produced. The Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget also bounded onto the court with \$1, \$5, \$25, and \$100 chips. There were 1500 ones, 550 fives, 80 twenty fives and 30 hundreds made for each casino.



Now if you remember, last month the Fiesta started a series of Pai Gow Poker chips in the \$5 and \$25 denominations. The plan was to release a "Fiesta Fortune Pai Gow Poker" chip each week. This program started in the end of February with Hearts. It continues now with the release of Diamonds (3/4), Clubs (3/11), and Spades (3/18). There were 750 of each \$5 and 100 of each \$25 chips manufactured. While we are on the subject of the Fiesta, we might as well mention the other chip to also come out this month was their April Fool's chip. This too was available in \$5 (mintage 500) and \$25 (mintage 200) denominations.



The Hard Rock did not disappoint. While they did not make a limited edition for a holiday, they did for the performance of the band "No Doubt". We had the usual amount of collectors waiting in line for this 5000 mintage chip.



Easter was commemorated this year by three casinos. The Four Queens issued a 600 mintage \$5 and 100 mintage \$25 depicting a Faberge egg. The Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget each did sets that told a story. Each casino issued a \$1, \$5, \$25, and \$100 chip. Each chip had part of the story written on it. The mintages for the \$1 chips from each casino were 1,500. The numbers for the \$5 chips were 550, the \$25 chips were 80 and 30 for the \$100's.



You may think that does it for March but we still have a few more to go. Harrah's Las Vegas also released their Carnival Court chip a \$5 500 mintage chip and their \$5 Kentucky Derby also with a mintage of 500. The Opera House issued a 71st Anniversary of Gaming set. This set consisted of a \$1, \$5, \$25 and \$100 chip. Since only 19 \$100 chips were made, only 19 complete sets were possible. Here is the break down for the rest: 231 \$1 chips, 631 \$5 chips and 31 \$25 chips produced. The Riviera held a Foosball Tournament and released a "Table Soccer/Foosball Tournament chip for the event. It is a \$5 chip and only 500 were made. Lastly, down in Laughlin, the Edgewater Casino (part of the Mandalay Group) issued a \$5 River Stampede chip (750 minted) to mark their annual spring rodeo.



We told you March was crazy out here. April was not quite as busy but we wouldn't necessarily call it easier on the pocket either.

April 2002

April did have a sluggish start. As you might expect we planned for April Fool's day chips, World Series of Poker chips, River Run chips and maybe even an early Kentucky Derby or Memorial Day thrown in there but there were few we did not plan on. One of these was a late comer to the March Madness scene. The Rio released a two piece \$5 chip set honoring the NCAA tournament games with mintages of 500 for each.



Next we continue with the sort of "expected" April Fool's chips. Each year we can count on one casino to do them. The Fiesta as reported released theirs in the end of March. Well, on April 1st the Las Vegas Club also issued their \$10 April Fool's chip. This one had a mintage of 200. Mahoney's Silver Nugget also jumped in on April Fool's chips but the Opera House did not. There were 1,500 \$1 chips, 550 \$5 chips, 100 \$25 chips and 30 \$100 chips.



Did we say April was slow to start? Well, there was no problem quickly making up for it. Let's start with the Four Queens and their April releases. They released 3 different cars and the memorable Federal Income Tax Day chips. The first to leave the casino was the 1960 Impala released on 4/5 with both a \$5 (750

mintage) and \$25 chip (150 mintage) available. Next came their tax day chips with a huge difference. There were no \$1 chips this year. Instead they made 1040 \$5 chips and 100 \$25 chips. The 1968 Mustang chip followed. There were 600 \$5 chips and 100 \$25 chips made. The 1964 Thunderbird was the last of the cars to be released again with 600 \$5 chips and 100 \$25 chips.



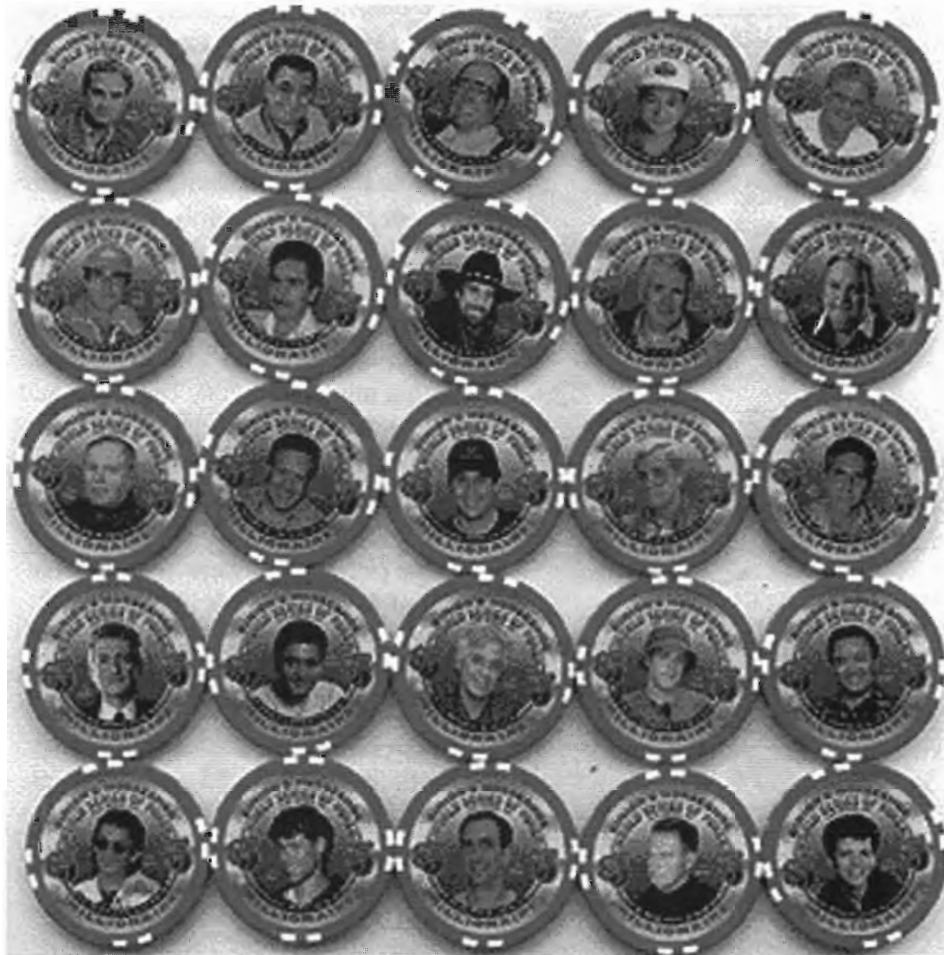
Harrah's released their A.J. Foyt car set again this year. It is a 4 piece \$5 set with the exact same artwork as last year. There were 1,000 sets made. Harrah's, Las Vegas had an early release of a 500 mintage \$5 Memorial Day chip depicting a soldiers medals.



The Palm's got an early start on Derby chips. They released a \$2.50, \$5, \$25, and \$100 chip for the race. Each chip had a different picture of Secretariat on it. There were 1,500 each of the \$1 and \$5 chips, 300 of the \$25 and 100 of the \$100 chips.



Another yearly event where we can expect to have a line for chips is the World Series of Poker that is held at Binions Horseshoe. This year Binions again had Bud Jones not only manufacture the \$2.50 World Series of Poker winner Carlos Mortensen with a mintage of 2,500 but a \$5 Lyle Berman chip. This chip, while it is not orange or oversized is an add on (like Popwell and Moore) to the previously released Hall of Fame set. The mintage of this chip is 2,500. But wait, that was not the end of it. There were also 2,500 sets of 25 \$5 chips with the World Series of Poker Millionaires pictured on the chips.



The Riviera had two releases. The first one "I Got Divorced in 2002" is a \$5 chip with a mintage of 1,000. The next chip they released was also a \$5 chip for the Dart Tournament being held at the hotel. There were 500 of these chips made.



One more release to mention before we go further south to Laughlin. The Speedway in North Las Vegas released a \$3 and \$5 chip which states on the chip "The Party has just begun". There were 1000 of each of these made. There was a \$25 chip also with a racing theme to match the casino with a mintage of 500. These chips are pictured on the Chipco web site and described as the Grand Opening of the New Speedway.



Now down to Laughlin for their annual spring River Run! For those of you not familiar with the event it is held yearly and is reported to be the runner up to Sturgis, another motorcycle enthusiast gathering. Unfortunately, what has always seemed like a peaceable gathering for many years was marred by shootings

between two rival motorcycle gangs. Lucky for us it did not hinder the release of the Spring Run chips. The common theme on these chips for many years has been bikini clad babes or shall we say women on bikes. This year was no exception. The Ramada Express chose a blonde bikini clad gal to adorn the front of their five dollar chip. Mintage 1,000 . The Colorado Belle followed suit and released a 1,000 mintage \$5 chip with a skimpily clad brunette and the words "20th Annual Spring Run". The Edgewater (sister property to the Colorado Belle) issued a 2 piece \$5 set. Each chip is labeled "20th Laughlin River Run". One has a blonde in a patriotic swim suit and the other in what appears to be a black leather and black knee high boots. There were 1,000 of these sets available. Finally, the Pioneer kept the theme going with a 5 piece set of scantily clad women on bikes. They contracted Chipco to manufacture this five dollar, five piece set. There were 500 sets made plus an additional 100 sets made that were sequentially numbered and stackable. By stackable we mean that when these chips are stacked together they form a picture on the side of the chips. Moving away from the above mentioned theme, the Riverside joined in after quite a long hiatus. This \$5 (5,000 mintage) chip commemorates the 20th Anniversary of the event. The Golden Nugget kept the skull and cross bones theme they used last year but dressed it up with patriotic ribbons. It is also a \$5 chip with a mintage of 1,000. Harrah's, Laughlin (where the tragic shooting occurred) released the 5th chip of their "Dry Heat" theme. This \$5, 3,000 mintage chip depicts a skeleton on a motorcycle. As one might expect these chips sold out pretty quickly.



That does it for April in southern Nevada. About time huh? On to May...

May 2002

May did not give us the break we all needed! We had a continuation of Kentucky Derby chips, plus Cinco de Mayo, Memorial Day and many others. First, lets cover the Derby chips. There were six other casinos besides the Palms and Harrah's to release chips. The Rio released a \$5 chip with a mintage of 500. It is of interest to note that the number 5 horse which was depicted on the Rio chip coincidentally turned out to be the winner of the Derby. The Tropicana issued a 500 mintage \$5 chip. The Las Vegas Club had a \$10 chip for the Derby with a mintage of 200. They also had available in the cage the two other chips planned in the series for the Preakness and Belmont. However, these were only made available to those people who were visiting from out of town. Harrah's in Laughlin trotted in and issued 2,000 \$5 chips for the event. Lastly, the Opera House and Mahoney's Silver Nugget in North Las Vegas contracted Paulson for their \$1, \$2.50, \$5 and \$25 chips. Each casino issued 1,500 one dollar chips, 450 \$2.50 chips, 450 five dollar chips and 50 twenty five dollar chips.



Keeping with the horse racing theme. Chips also came out for the Preakness and the Belmont races. The Palms released a \$2.50, \$5, \$25, and \$100 chip for each of these events. We will not picture them here as the artwork was the same as the Derby chips. For the Preakness the chips said "Triple Crown Winner Secretariat" and for the Belmont they said "Belmont Winner Secretariat". The mintages, however, for these two releases were different than the Derby. For both the Triple crown and Belmont there were 1,000 \$2.50's, 1,000 \$5's, 200 \$25's, and 100

\$100's. The Las Vegas Club continued their series by officially releasing the Preakness, the second \$10 chip in their series again with a mintage of 200. Finally, Harrah's Laughlin also made a 2,000 mintage \$5 chip with the date of the Preakness written across the top. It appears similar on the front to the Derby chips with the exception of the date and the color of the covering on the horses head. We know we can count on more in June for the Belmont! At least the locals will be waiting until June for that last Las Vegas Club to complete the series and of course Harrah's, Laughlin.

The next chip event to report would be Cinco de Mayo. Cinco de Mayo is another holiday the casinos love to celebrate. This year only two casinos released a chip for the holiday. The Aladdin had 700 \$5 chips manufactured and released them on 5/4. The Hard Rock also celebrated Cinco de Mayo by issuing a 3000 mintage \$5 chip and a 500 mintage \$25.



The Riviera had three releases in May all related to pool or billiards. The first was a 500 mintage \$5 marking the American Pool Players Association (APA) Pool Tournament being held there. The second release was for the Billiard Congress of America (BCA). There were 500 \$5 chips and 100 \$25 chips produced. Lastly, the Valley National Eight Ball Association (VNEA) also had their

tournament there and had a \$5 chip to commemorate the event. It had a mintage of 1,000.



Other things the casinos like to commemorate are concert acts and venues. The Palms released chips for the band "Pink". They made a \$5 chip, \$25 chip and \$100 chip for the concert. There were 2,000 five dollar chips, 500 \$25 chips and 100 \$100 chips. The Rio coming back heavily into the chip arena made 500 chips for each of the following: Club Rio, Voo Doo Lounge and the Scintas. They were all \$5 chips. Harrah's (LV) issued a 1,000 mintage \$5 chip for their show "Skintight". Out in Henderson the Green Valley Ranch did chips in the \$5, \$25 and \$100 denomination for two of their venues, "The Whiskey Sky" owned by Randy Gerber (husband of Cindy Crawford)

and "Drop Bar". There were 500 of each of the \$5 and \$25 chips minted and 100 of each of the \$100's.



The Hard Rock, who usually releases chips for their performers had another in May for the Sammy Hagar concert. The release was scheduled for 5/17. The usual line formed. There were 5,000 \$5 chips and 250 \$25 chips manufactured. However, when the line finally started to move the casino was only selling the \$5 chips. To the disappointment of many collectors the \$25 chips had been given to high rollers in jewel cases. A very few diligent and also lucky collectors were able to obtain a couple that were on the tables. This is one chip that many of us will be hunting.

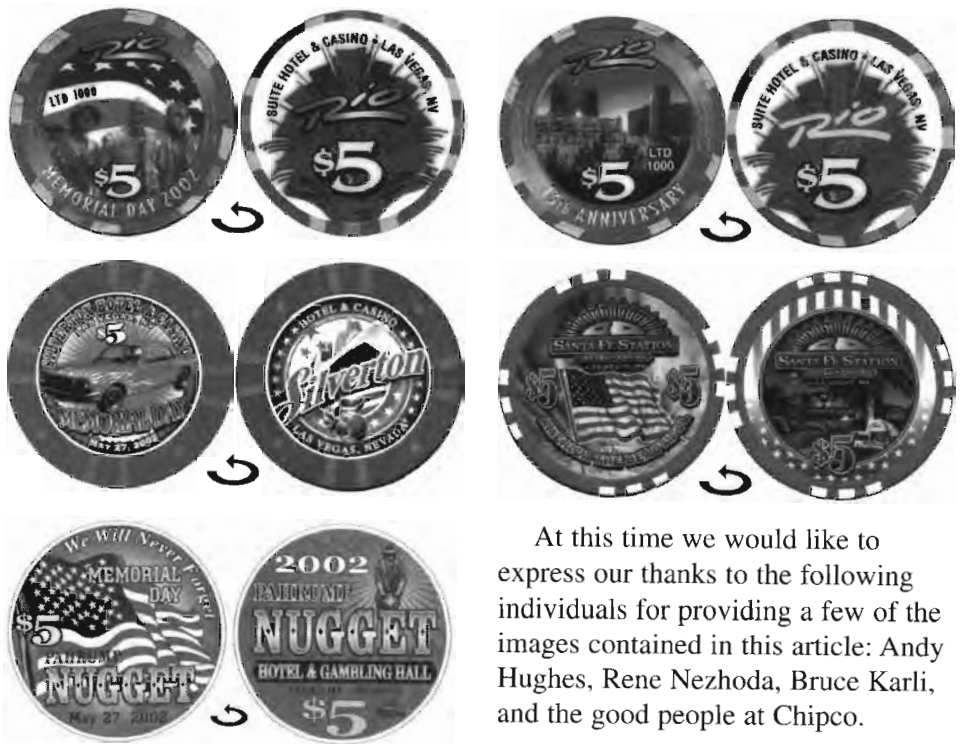


While we briefly mentioned Memorial Day back in April with the release of Harrah's first Memorial Day (yes we did say first) we need to continue here. Not only did Harrah's (LV) release another \$5 Memorial Day chip with a mintage of 500 but the Rio also issued two. The first \$5 Rio Memorial Day had the same exact artwork as the first Harrah's chip released in April with the medals. There were 500 of these made. The

second Memorial Day chip to come from the Rio was also a \$5 chip with a mintage of 1,000. It is very similar but not exactly the same as the second one issued by Harrah's. Silverton Memorial Day is much like last year with another \$5 car chip. There were 1,200 of these manufactured. Lastly, the Pahrump Nugget over in Nye County also released a 500 mintage \$5 chip.



Finally to end May and the chipping frenzy. Another chip not previously mentioned but issued in May was the Rio 13th Anniversary chip. It



At this time we would like to express our thanks to the following individuals for providing a few of the images contained in this article: Andy Hughes, Rene Nezhoda, Bruce Karli, and the good people at Chipco.

is a 1,000 mintage \$5 chip depicting the building. Lastly, the Sante Fe Station released a \$5 "America the Beautiful" chip. This should not be a hard issue to get as there were 7000 made. I am sure even with all the chippers coming to town for convention there will still be plenty for all.

See you back next quarter to inform you of the releases from June, July and August. We know there will be club chips galore, Belmont chips, anniversary chips, and 4th of July to name a few. Until then, as always, Happy Chippin'! ❖

During the recently concluded Annual Convention, I realized that I wanted to be actively involved in the Club again. To that end, I am announcing my candidacy for Secretary of the CC & GTCC Board of Directors.

The Board has an incredible responsibility. As the Club grows, the challenges and issues that the group faces will become more and more complex. It's important that the people elected to decide these issues are dedicated to doing what is right for Club as a group. Our hobby is growing every day. I believe I can effectively represent the general membership and help lead the organization as it grows. The office of Secretary fits my training and my interests. My plans if elected are to expand on the communication between the Chapters and the Board, work with the Chapter presidents to promote all branches of the Club, to communicate with the general membership on a consistent basis and to positively represent the CC & GTCC.

I've been a member of the CC & GTCC for five years. I've served as a convention volunteer, most recently as the Convention Co-Chair for the 2000 and 2001 events. I produced the Convention Program, managed volunteers, organized the first registration packages and handled various other aspects of the convention. Those duties required that I work with many other members and that I listen to concerns and work through problems in order to be effective in my job. I believe those skills will suit me in the position of Secretary as well.

I hope you'll support me in my candidacy.

Belinda Hixon

Clean Chip Anecdote

by Jim Follis

When I first started collecting chips I was eager to accept any and everything the cage was willing to part with and that I could afford. Almost immediately I ended up with a lot of chips in pretty poor condition. As time passed I became much more selective and I would ask for new chips. The word “new” more often than not meant a *new release* to the cage and I was often told no. Then I would explain that I was looking for regular chips in real good condition, you know, *clean*.

After a short period of time I started abbreviating my request to something of the effect of, “Hi, I’m a chip collector and I’m looking for some new, real clean chips. Do you have any?” This seemed to work reasonably well when they had new chips, and if not, then it was easy to answer, No. On one of my frequent trips between Los Angeles and Las Vegas, I stopped in at Buffalo Bills and made my usual inquiry. “Hi, I’m a chip collector and I was wondering if you have any new, real clean chips?” The older woman in the cage replied to my question, “Oh boy, our chips are pretty bad off, but let me look in back and I’ll see what I can find.” And with that she wandered around the corner, beyond my eyesight and disappeared for at least 20 minutes!

Although the cage had several positions, only two were in operation and the lady, looking for new, clean chips in back for me, was one of them. The line of customers waiting

to cash-in chips or get change suddenly seemed to grow rather large. The cage supervisor notice the line and came to the window where I was. She asked if I was being helped and I said, Yes. She then went around the corner where the lady helping me went, and I suddenly felt very self-conscious. My silly little request was going to get her in trouble. A few minutes later the supervisor came back with a different employee and they opened another window. The supervisor looked at me and I didn’t say a word. Here it was that I had asked for a couple of new, clean \$1 chips and I was tying up a window for quite some time.

After awhile, when the line went away, the newly arriving cashier asked me if I was being helped, to which I replied, “I think so.” I was puzzled, did the older lady forget about me, did she go on break, did she get fired? I had no idea as I stood there at the window waiting for her to come back from around the blind corner. And suddenly she appeared, a full twenty minutes after my basic question. Twenty minutes into my 30 minutes of hunt time while my wife

waited in the car with our grandchild. Twenty minutes of needing to go to the restroom, but patiently waiting for the possibility of brand new fresh out of the box, uncirculated Buffalo Bill \$1 chips!

Imagine my surprise when she repositioned herself at the window, opened her hand and there they were, four, yes FOUR very clean, and very worn Buffalo Bill \$1 chips. She looked at me and said, “All our chips are pretty old, but I found the best ones I could. I’m sorry it took so long, but the only thing I could find to clean them with were those little wet-naps. Boy, I sure did go through a lot of them, but these four chips look pretty good.”

With that I simply said, “Thank you very, very much, these are very nice.” And as I paid for the \$4.00 for the very worn, but very clean chips, I included a \$2.00 tip.

Jim Follis LM-53
jim@gamingore.com ❖

Brass Core *Update*

by Nate Pincus

Your Club Officers have gone where no previous Board Members have had to go in pursuing a matter of this magnitude and importance. We needed to traverse this ground cautiously. Arriving at the correct conclusion by traveling the longer and slower road, though certainly the road with more bumps and potholes, has given us all comfort in our difficult decisions.

On a personal note, this has been an extremely difficult and gut wrenching experience for me. The conclusion and subsequent action, though taken unanimously by the Board, gives me no comfort, nor solace. While I have never had any allusions about life and greed, I always held out hope that it was different within our hobby. That all club members treated each other in an open and ethical manner, promoting goodwill rather than practicing deception, helping their fellow collector instead of hurting our hobby. The lessons that I have learned are to be cautious, ask questions, get a written receipt and report any suspicious items to a club Officer. We all need to take the initiative to move our club and hobby to the highest level of integrity.

I want to thank Jim Reilly for all his work on this matter. He worked tirelessly, interviewing and investigating. He wrote an extensive report that was presented to the Board and is the basis for the Board's interim report and decisions.

Let me assure you that the investigation will continue and I urge any member with information relevant to this matter to come forward.

Brief Summary of the Interim Report including the Board's Decision

During the 2001 Convention, based upon a conversation with a club member, the Board initiated an inquiry into the possibility of a misrepresented brass core chip sale. That is to say, chips sold as original in nature that were in fact non-genuine.

The interim report deals with the investigation of a complaint subsequently received from Dean Porter (R-2123) concerning Mel Jung (R-291) and sales made by him. Porter alleges that Jung sold him certain brass core chips that Jung knew were non-genuine without disclosing this fact to Mr. Porter.

Jim Reilly (the then CC>CC Claims Director) undertook this investigation directly after our 2001 Convention in June, 2001. Reilly's report was sent to the Board of the CC>CC in early February, 2002. The Board, with Secretary Marty Kaplan taking the lead, followed up with some of the principals in the investigation, as was suggested in Jim Reilly's report.

The Board of the CC>CC unanimously found as follows:

Based on the information contained in this report and the accompanying detailed reports of Jim Reilly, CC>CC Claims Director and other documentation gathered by the Board and included as exhibits, we find as follows:

- 1) That Mel Jung sold to Dean Porter a \$2.50 pink Harrah's chip without proper disclosure that it was a non-genuine chip. This is a violation of paragraphs 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the CC>CC Code of Ethics, which requires members:

CoE #2- To conduct myself so as to bring no discredit to the Club or to impair the prestige of the Club or its members.

CoE #3- To base all of my dealings on the highest plane of justice, fairness and morality.

Getting down to “brass” tacks...

The fundamentals of the recent inquisition of the brass core chips needs to be told. I want to clear up all the distortions of fact and misinformation. Before Dave Whalen produced counterfeit brass chips, the brass core rack chips of Harvey's Casino and Harrah's Reno/Lake Tahoe were counterfeited in the \$100 White and \$500 pink issues. I was asked to investigate the matter and resolved the problem at the request of the staff of both casinos. The counterfeit issues were discovered in 1995 and all the high denomination chips were pulled in 1996.

The production of a brass core chip involves manufacturing the basic brass core and then injection of the colored plastic. The vast majority ordered by casinos were injected by the casino after delivery of the cores. The casino developed their own color charts and had the cores injected as needed. Harrah's and Harvey's stored them until it was determined more were needed and ordered original cores in the thousands.

Injection molding was never done by Reliable, nor Royce 600 until bi-metal chips were ordered and made by Royce, but never brass cores. It is not impossible that a core destined to be a \$2.50 Harrah's green chip might have been mixed into a box of \$500 cores to be injected pink. It would create an errored \$2.50 pink with 8 brass inserts. Not a pink \$2.50 with 16 inserts which is the counterfeit in question. The only correct 16 insert chip made for Harrah's was the dollar yellow. The \$2.50 yellow core was an error core that remained in circulation well after it was discovered at Harrah's... but never a pink. And these facts were disclosed to the novice as well as seasoned brass collectors that coveted a pink \$2.50. The most determined brass collectors and \$2.50 collectors constantly searched and asked about the pink and the answer has always been that none ever came out of Harrah's to anyone's knowledge. I clearly recall Gene Grossblatt being determined to find one and would pay well over \$2000 to acquire it. Every interested brass collector was advised that neither Harrah's nor Reliable Die Casting ever recalls producing a \$2.50 pink with 16 brass inserts. Dean Porter was told. It is not reasonable that the owner of the most extensive collection of brass core chips was not aware of these facts from numerous conversations and common knowledge among brass core collectors. I introduced him to both generations of brass core manufacturers and the current owner. He has met with them extensively and was recently offered purchase of the manufacturing process. He was more than an innocent buyer of brass core chips that could determine real from counterfeit. To this extent, he even wanted to sell his collection, insisting that he was fed up with all the counterfeits being produced and that he was having a hard time discerning the good from the bad.

It takes a lot of brass....

To believe the past inquiry was fair and just. I was asked a total of 8 questions by Claims Director Reilly and promptly answered. It appears he spent hours of time with Whalen, Porter, and “anonymous” sources to conclude my guilt. This was after he had written that he candidly would be biased and not conclude recommendations to the board. There was never a request for rebuttal or answer by me or Lisa. If Porter was unhappy, why didn't he confront me personally with the issue in the months we conversed prior to the inquiry? If he was damaged, why didn't he ask for a refund which would have been promptly paid? And why would Whalen join in condemnation? That's easy. I originated the request to have Reilly stop Dave Whalen's activities.. And why did the Claims Director seem insistent on creating chaos at the cost of my membership. I believe that is an issue that festers around not signing the list of “anti-slabbing” and taking their inane oath. It's time for mature collectors to take responsibility for their trades and purchases. “He who injures himself through his own stupidity ought not to look to others for compensation.” Amen.

Errors vs. Counterfeits

When thousands of chips are being produced and handled through 6-10 processes, accidents occur. Cores fall on the floor and might be put back in the wrong box of denominations. By the time the plastic injection process is concluded, a maximum effort is made to remove and destroy the errors. And yet, over the past 30 years, many brass cores errors have reached the hands of collectors. All I contend is that 99% of us have never held an pink \$2.50 error in our collection and that all the executives at Harrah's and Reliable deny its production. If any are out there, its most likely a Whalen counterfeit. I believe that the vast majority of brass core chip collectors know the source of their acquisitions and can rely that they have genuine chips. Brass samples, errors, and trial chips are clearly defined. Still, basic mistakes clearly continue to surface. The Ranch House \$50 mentioned in Nates article cannot be taken very seriously since no records exist that a \$50 denomination die was ever produced. No die, no casting and no kidding. If it exists, it's about as

Rebuttal to the Brass Core Inquisition

As the manufacturers representative for the brass core chips in Nevada, it has been crucial that I maintain the authenticity of this collectible. When Dave Whalen began making counterfeits or “re-makes”, I was told they were for his own collection only. This was not the case and he has been expelled from the club. I discussed and warned collectors and dealers of this activity well before last years convention including Dean Porter. At the 2001 convention, I pointed out Whalen to Claims Director, Jim Reilly, and asked him to investigate the activity.

On Oct. 2001 I received an e- mail inquiry from the Claims Director Reilly requesting answers to a claim filed by Dean Porter regarding brass cores. Reilly requested I answer him as follows”:

Quote from Reilly: E-mail 10/10/ 2001

“I would prefer to have an email response, for a couple of reasons that are probably obvious and one that is less so. I will, as previously mentioned, be preparing a report to the board. I have already advised Nate, however, that I will not be making any recommendation of action to take, at least in your case. I’m concerned that no matter what I say, it will be seen as “tainted” by either our long term friendship or our recent disagreement over slabbing. While I may make recommendations in the normal course of concluding the inquiry with respect to others, I will simply to presenting the facts I obtain regarding your transactions with Dean, which the board can then deal with.

Therefore I will look forward to receiving your best recollection of the events. Thanks.— jim o\—S
Jim Reilly, Claims Director, Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club, LM-3606-38”

Within two days, I complied by fully answering each question and denying any wrongdoing with my long history of full disclosures to Dean Porter as with all chip collectors. On Dec.20th 2001, I was notified by a letter that the CCGTCC had nominated me for the Hall of Fame and I replied to them with a requested resume of my 34 years in chip collecting. When I met with Nate Pincus at the Palace show in Jan 2002, he regretfully told me my nomination to the Hall of Fame had been withdrawn due to the ongoing inquiry although it was his opinion that nothing significant would prevail against me.

The club board appears to have come to their conclusions upon the advice and recommendations of Claims Director Reilly. Evidence of this can be found in his report to the board related as follows on page 3, dated 5/7/2002 Reilly to the CCGTCC Board:

Quote from Reilly report to the board:

“The long and the short of it is, someone is lying. To believe Mel’s version of these events, it is necessary to believe that both David and Dean are lying. It is with considerable regret that I have reached the conclusion that David and Dean are not lying.”

On May 7th 2002, Lisa and I received notice that we both were expelled from membership and our tables had been taken back for the coming convention only four weeks away.

I believe there is clear evidence of collusion by Porter, Reilly and Whalen to mislead the board. It may require a civil law suit for “Defamation of Character” to prove the matter. Ironically, their collusion “Defamed” me right out of club and the “Hall of Fame”... forever.

Both Silver Strike and chip club members have responded to us, that the process which led to expulsion is flawed and outrageous. When an admittedly “biased” Claims Director can conclude what is the “truth”with such damaging results, the club needs drastic changes. And that is the reason for this writing.

In my case, the damage has been done. For the future, the club officers need hear a response from the often “silent majority” to see that this never happens again.

Mountain Range, and additional concierge guest amenities including butler service.

The convention facilities were expanded to include an additional 20,000 square feet of space. This includes 5,000 square feet of Grand Ballroom expansion, 5,000 square feet of event space and 2,500 square feet of breakout meeting space for a total of 32,000 square feet of flexible multipurpose space. An in-house audiovisual department offers state-of-the-art equipment and technical support that can meet the needs of the most sophisticated meeting presentation requirements.

Atlantis offers families fun and games while staying at the resort. A 10,000 square foot family Entertainment Fun Center offers over 100 video, arcade and redemption games. The redemption prize counter features a selection of prizes ranging from penny toys up to Nintendo 64 systems. For children ages eight

through adult the center features a large variety of state-of-the-art video games and a Snack Bar & Soda Fountain when it's time for a break

The Casino floor was expanded by 16,000 square feet for a total gaming space of 52,000 square feet. The lost city of Atlantis themed casino space will be expanded to include extensive water features adding to the existing tropical paradise with indoor waterfalls, palm trees and thatched huts. There are 500 more new slot and video poker machines bringing the total to 1,500. 10 new table games brings the total to 45. The expansion also includes the introduction of a new poker room with a state of the art air extraction system. Soon to come is a brand new full-service, high limit slot area.

The new indoor pool, deck and spa, which are connected to the outdoor pool area and year round hot tub, is a spectacular glass enclosed structure. The new area includes

expanded work out facilities, a styling salon and massage therapy by appointment.

Recently voted "Best of Reno," Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille is now the largest buffet in northern Nevada including many new specialty stations. The Xanadu cocktail lounge will offer tropical drink specialties and appetizers. The new 200-seat MonteVigna Italian Ristorante features delectable Italian specialties by our award-winning Chef. This restaurant offers casual fine dining, three intimate private dining rooms (which also serve as small boardrooms, meeting or break-out rooms), a private wine cellar featuring wines by the flight, and an outdoor dining patio.

The resort currently boasts seven restaurants with seating for more than one thousand guests, Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille, Café Alfresco, The Purple Parrot, the Snack Bar & Soda Fountain and the acclaimed Atlantis Seafood Steak House, Oyster Bar on



White
4 Blue Inserts
Smooth Rim Surface



White
4 Blue Inserts
24 Lines Rim



White
4 Blue Inserts
24 Lines Rim,
BJ Mint Mark



Red
8 Blue Inserts



Red
8 Blue Inserts
BJ Mint Mark



Green,
4 Orange Inserts



Green,
4 Orange Inserts
BJ Mint Mark



Black
16 Yellow, 8 Pink Inserts



Black
16 Yellow, 8 Pink Inserts
BJ Mint Mark



Hot Pink
12 Navy, 8 White

Current house chips. Chip scans courtesy of Larry Hollibaugh

the Sky Terrace and MonteVigna Italian Ristorante.

Nightlife is part of the experience at Atlantis Casino Resort where you can play the casino floor games 24 hours a day, relax with a cocktail, watch a live performance nightly (except Mondays) on the Center Stage Cabaret, or dance the night away, Wednesday through Saturday, in the Atlantis Nightclub. And for the young at heart or the kids you bring along, there is an exciting Entertainment Fun Center on the second floor above the casino with more than 100 state-of-the-art video and redemption games.

Atlantis History

1972: The Farahi family purchased the Golden Road Motor Inn, a 142 room property, located three miles south of downtown Reno. Purchase included the Copper Kettle restaurant. The Farahi family later signed a franchise agreement with Travelodge.

Late 80's: An agreement was reached with Choice Hotels International and the hotel was renamed Quality Inn. The Copper Kettle Restaurant was renamed the Purple Parrot Restaurant.

September 1990: Quality Inn breaks ground on Phase I expansion, including a 160-room hotel tower, 17,000 square feet of casino space, meeting and banquet facilities and a new restaurant, Café Alfresco. The expansion was completed April 1991.

An agreement was reached with Choice Hotels International and the hotel was renamed Clarion Hotel Casino.

December 1992: The Clarion Hotel Casino opens the Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse and Nightclub.



Golden Road Motor Inn

Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort



Travelodge

Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort

August 1993: Monarch Casino & Resort Inc. officially takes financial responsibility of Golden Road Motor Inn (d.b.a. Clarion Hotel Casino) through a public offering on the New York Stock Exchange. The Farahi family maintained a large majority of the stock. More than \$15 million in funds were raised in the offering.

October 1993: The Clarion Hotel Casino breaks ground on a \$30 million Phase II expansion. The expansion included a 283 room deluxe hotel tower, expanded casino and banquet facilities, Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille, additional parking, a

new third floor sun deck, heated pool and health club and a new family Entertainment Fun Center with more than 100 video and arcade games plus the Snack Bar & Soda Fountain. The expansion was completed November 17, 1994.

September 1995: The Clarion Hotel Casino Announces its Phase III \$120 million expansion, including a new 27-story hotel tower with more than 900 rooms, an additional 25,000 square feet of casino space, three new restaurants, expanded health club and pool facilities and a 40,000 square foot event and entertainment center.



Quality Inn
Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort



Pool and Spa
Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort



Clarion Hotel Casino
Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort

Awards

Voters in Reno are making their voices heard and they've voted Atlantis Casino Resort their favorite casino in Reno. The results of the 2001 "Best of Reno" poll conducted by the Reno News & Review and Atlantis took top spots in seven categories. For the second year in a row, locals named Atlantis as the "Best Place to Gamble." With nearly 1,500 state of the art slot, video poker and keno machines, players have a choice of their favorite games. Atlantis also constantly changes and rotates its selection of slots and video poker machines to give guests a new and fresh gaming experience. Atlantis also maintains direct communication with guests to gauge which machines they prefer. In the casino category, Atlantis also scored the most votes for the titles of "Best Casino for Locals", "Best Blackjack in Reno" and a local favorite for slots and "Best

March 1996: The Monarch Casino & Resort Inc. Board of Directors made a decision to pursue establishing an independent identity. On April 29, 1996, a grand opening celebrated the arrival of Atlantis Casino Resort, a subsidiary of Monarch Casino & Resort Inc.

June 1998: Atlantis Casino resort breaks ground on Phase III, a \$75 million portion of the slated \$120 million expansion. Phase III is scheduled to be completed in stages.

March 1999: Sky Terrace opens as stage one of the expansion. This enclosed glass skyway spans South

Virginia Street connecting the property with the expanded parking lot and features the Oyster Bar, Java Coast Espresso Lounge & Pastry Bar, and "Gaming with a View".

July 1999: Grand opening of completed \$75 million expansion. Property has 1000 guestrooms, Reno's only Concierge Tower, seven restaurants, increased meeting space, expanded gaming facilities including a poker room and high limit slot area, a full-service business center, state-of-the-art health spa with indoor and outdoor pools, sauna, spa, styling salon and massage therapy.



Grand Opening



Happy New Year
1997 - 1998



Bowling 1998



Hot August Nights
1997



Hot August Nights
1998



Hot August Nights
1999



Hot August Nights
2000



Hot August Nights
2001



Hot August Nights
2002



Millennium
2000



Millennium
2000



Commemoratives over the years. Chip scans courtesy of Larry Hollibaugh

Casino to Take Visitors". It has also been named as one of the Top 10 casinos in the country where you are "more likely to win". The Atlantis' 4-star Poker Room, already named one of the three best poker rooms in the country, was also voted "Best Poker Room" by readers of the Reno News & Review.

Atlantis Casino Resort is known throughout the region for its award-winning dining. That's why Atlantis restaurants won three first place awards from



Sky Terrace

Photo Courtesy of the Atlantis Casino Resort

readers. Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille, consistently voted Best of Reno, won top honors again. Voted "Best Casino Buffet," patrons find a world of choices when they enter Toucan Charlie's. Fresh seafood, succulent meats, Mongolian Barbecue, Asian Wok selections, Southwestern Tex-Mex, made-to-order salads and breakfast items and, of course, the award-winning Dessert and Sundae Bar await you inside Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille. The Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse, two-time



Current Slot Card



Special Slot Cards used for Tournament Play

winner of Wine Spectator's Award of Excellence, was voted "Best Steakhouse" in the 2001 Best of Reno poll. MonteVigna Italian Ristorante also took top marks from voters as "Best Italian Food." MonteVigna is the newest Atlantis restaurant at just two years old. In that short time, the restaurant has earned an Award of Excellence from Wine Spectator Magazine.

Atlantis Casino Resort, General Manager, John Farahi is excited about the Reno marketplace, the future of gaming and tourism in Northern Nevada and the rebounding economic health of the California visitor market. "The time for expansion is right now. When you combine our established high standards for quality and value with new rooms, increased restaurant and casino floor space, and new convention areas, we have a formula

for success," says Farahi. "New and expanded marketing and sales goals will help us grow the Reno Tahoe market. We are positioned to be the leader in our marketplace. Our goal is to be the 'Best in Northern Nevada.'" ♦

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 A decorative border surrounds the text. It features ornate scrollwork and several circular medallions. One medallion shows a globe, another shows a figure, and another shows a card. There are also images of poker chips and a card.

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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.deepsouth.com>

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.ccgccc.com/chapters/sonev/home.html>

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

NY Metro Chapter - Charles Kaplan - 516-763-2327 - <http://ccgtcc.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.ccgccc.com/chapters/socal/Home.htm>



RIVERBOATS

by Greg C. Susong

Hello riverboat collectors!

What a great convention we just had! I want to thank everyone who had anything at all to do with it. You did a first class job and I thoroughly enjoyed myself the whole time. On Tuesday, just before the convention, we held The Chip Board 2nd Annual Get-Together at the Hard Rock Casino. There were 74 people in attendance and it was a lot of fun. About half of us rode over from the Tropicana in buses provided by the Hard Rock. We ate at the Pink Taco, talked, laughed and gambled for several hours. It was nice to meet some of you that I had not met before and of course visiting with those that I've known for several years. I passed out a little party favor to all those who attended.



I have a few of these left and am selling them for \$5 each, with the money going to support our Club Building Fund. If you would like one, please send \$5 + .50 postage to me at:

Greg Susong
P.O. Box 654
Wellington, KS 67152

The Club Building Fund thanks you for your support!

Harrah's in Maryland Heights, MO, a suburb of St. Louis, celebrated their 5th Anniversary with this chip.



Caesars in Harrison County, IN put out this red, white and blue beauty to honor the 2002 Kentucky Derby.



This next one slipped by undetected for a while, but I finally caught up with it. It is from the Isle of Capri in Marquette, IA and celebrates their Grand Opening.



The Beau Rivage in Biloxi, MS issued the following Year Of The Horse 3 chip set.



Harrah's Showboat in E. Chicago, IN opened a new hotel and issued this chip.



Sam's Town in Tunica, MS issued this great .50 chip. It is not very common to find a fractional with both an inlay and inserts anymore.

They also issued this great set of 3 fight chips. I lost a little money on this fight during the convention.



The Copa Casino in Gulfport, MS has issued this next chip. It is the 5th in their series of All Harley Memorial Day Blowout chips.



Casino Magic in Bay St. Louis, MS has opened a new hotel also and issued this chip for that occasion.



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. ❖

My name is Mike Skelton (HLM-1003) and I have officially announced my candidacy for the office of the President of CC & GTCC in the upcoming elections.

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.

For those members who may not know me, just a brief background on my Club and personal experiences:

Convention Chairman 1995-98 * First member to receive a Honorary Life Membership for service to the Club * CC & GTCC Member since 1993 * Past Officer of the Slab Free Chapter * Charter member of the Slab Free Chapter * Honorary Member of several Chapters

I am the President and CEO of an Office Equipment company in Dallas, TX. 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 my entire life.

My positions on the issues facing the Club will appear in the next issue of the Club magazine. If you have any questions prior to that, please feel free to email me at bugsy46@aol.com.

I would graciously ask for your support and your vote in the upcoming Club elections.

Sincerely,
Mike Skelton, HLM-1003



CC>CC at the ANA Convention



by Archie Black

Henry Garrett took home a First Place Award for his “Betty Boop/Big Daddy” display of chips at the Annual American Numismatic Association Convention in New York City last week.

Charles Kaplan won Second Place for his “Picture Chips” display in close-scoring competition in Classification #23... “Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens”. Charlie also staffed our club booth on the midway for all four days of this major International convention.

The club also had a Non-Competitive exhibit of all past COTY/TOTY/SSOTY Winners on display which drew lots of attention from convention goers. Charles Kaplan took on the responsibility to bring this permanent club display to the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel, site of the ANA 2002 Annual Convention, and set it up in the three display cases.

Next year’s ANA convention will be held in Baltimore, Maryland. If you are an ANA member, and would like to enter a chip or token exhibit next year ... it is not too early to begin planning the layout and assembling the exhibit pieces now. In fact, you may want to set up your display at the club’s Annual Convention in Las Vegas in June and repeat the same display at the Baltimore ANA Convention in August. ❖



Jack Weingarten (l) and Charlie Kaplan (r) at the CC>CC promotion booth that was taken last week during the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Convention in New York. Charles Kaplan staffed the club table on the midway for all four days of this major International annual convention.



Charles Kaplan (l) accepts Second Place Award for his chips exhibit he entered at the Annual American Numismatic Association Convention held this past August in New York City at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. Presenting the Award is ANA Board Member, William H. Horton, Jr.



Henry Garret (r) won First Place honors in the Casino Chips category at the recently concluded American Numismatic Association Annual Convention held in New York City this past August.

In the background is ANA Board Member William Horton Jr. (l) and ANA Chief Judge Joe Boling (c)

COTY/TOTY/SSOTY/SCOTY NEWS

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

SCOTY? What's SCOTY? I imagine that you know what a COTY is, Chip of the Year, and that TOTY is Token of the Year. I'd be willing to bet that you are even familiar with the relatively new SSOTY, Silver Strike of the Year, now in its third year of competition, but you are probably asking what on Earth is a SCOTY.

Well, as announced at the 10th Annual Convention a new category of "OTY" ("...of the Year") Award Competition has been added to the line up of OTY's. Referred to as the SCOTY, the CC>CC Membership will be paying tribute to the best of each years growing crop of Slot Club Cards, produced by casinos around the world. The SCOTY will recognize this rapidly growing segment of casino collectibles and will function in cooperation with the newly emerging Slot Card and Room Key Chapter of the CC>CC. For additional information on the formation of this new Chapter, please contact Jim Munding at P. O. Box 4087, West Covina, CA 91791 (or on-line at: mun3335@aol.com).

In other news, Archie Black has announced that after ten years of COTY and TOTY Chairmanship, which also included two years of SSOTY Award leadership, he is stepping down from that position and has recommended that I replace him in that capacity, to which the Club Officers have agreed. Shortly following Archie's announcement, I was

honored to be able to award Archie a plaque of recognition and achievement for his 10 years of service in that capacity.

Please join me in expressing the Club's thanks and appreciation to Archie for his efforts in managing the Club's OTY Awards Program, which installed quite a few striking and memorable chips, tokens and Silver Strikes in the overall history of the Awards Program. This then brings me to my next topic, which is a follow-up to a plea that was made in the last issue of the CCTN. I am please to announce that as a Club, we are now the proud owners of a complete set of all past winners of the COTY, TOTY and SSOTY competitions. Of special significance is the fact each item in the collection was donated by various members of the CC>CC.

The collection, referred to as the Permanent Collection, will be retained by the OTY Awards Chairman, until it can be housed at the some-day-to-be-realized Club Headquarters. From time-to-time, as authorized by the Club's Officers, the Permanent Collection may be shipped to various locations and put on display. One such example will be the ANA, New York Convention this August, at which the Permanent Collection is being entered as a Competitive Exhibit, in the name of the CC>CC. Our thanks go out to Charles Kaplan for receiving the collection and setting up the display in New York City and hope-

fully receiving the ANA's Archie Black Award, which is the award given to the winning Competitive Exhibit in the casino chips and gaming tokens category.

I would like to thank all the CC>CC members that made the donations of all the items that make up the Permanent Collection. Included are the three newer OTY Awardees, the Aladdin Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, \$5 9-11 Commemorative as the COTY, the Caesars, Atlantic City, New Jersey, \$1 Rotunda slot machine token as the TOTY and the O'Shea's, Las Vegas, Nevada, \$200 Leprechaun with Pot-O-Gold Silver Strike as the SSOTY. (See sidebar for a list of donors.)

Well, believe it or not we are already more than half way into the window of eligibility for all four OTY categories, which runs from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002. As we did for the 2001 competitions, we are asking all our on-line members (with access to a scanner and eligible chips, tokens, strikes and cards) to up-load images (both sides) of any and all eligible items to the appropriate Internet viewing sites, as follows:

Chips –
www.thechipgallery.com/COTY/
Tokens –
www.thechipgallery.com/TOTY/
Silver Strikes –
www.thechipgallery.com/SSOTY/

Slot Cards –

www.thechipgallery.com/SCOTY/

Remember, those sites (pages) are simply viewing locations of eligible OTY nominees. All internet-savvy members are encouraged to up-load images of any eligible candidate, regardless of any merit other than being released (for the first time) during 2002.

We will once again, during the course of the 2003 Convention (already set for June 26, 27 and 28, at the Tropicana, Las Vegas) set up two Exhibits (non-competitive) that display the Permanent Collection and the 40 OTY Nominee Finalists (10 each for COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and SCOTY). Also, just like the 2001 competition, we will be seeking Club members to “loan” the different Finalists (for the Exhibit) and to also donate, to the Permanent Collection, the winning entry for each category, with the exception of the winning COTY entrant. The COTY for 2002 is already excluded, as a Club member has already heeded the call for out-year donation(s) of winning contestants, as was published in the last issue of the CCTN. On a first come, first reserved basis, we continue to make the same offer to any and all Club members. If you would like to make the commitment, we will accept your offer to donate any of the winning COTY (except 2002), TOTY, SSOTY and SCOTY winners to the Permanent Collection for any future year(s).

Speaking of commitment, I want to thank the several individuals who helped me in creating the 2001 COTY, TOTY and SSOTY Awards Ballot. These individuals provided actual chips/tokens/strikes for my scanning, or scans that I could use to publish the full color, 10-page, keep-sake ballot. My thanks to: Christie

Gregory, Dennis Finn, Paul Hegge, Andy McGhee, Ross Poppel, Gene Trimble, Dan Wickett and Archie Black.

The following Club members are hereby recognized and thanked for their contributions to the Club’s Permanent Collection Project (the project to acquire all past COTY, TOTY and SSOTY winners). The members listed below, have all donated individual pieces to the Permanent Collection. In one instance, a syndicate was formed, to equally share the cost of acquisition and subsequent donation of one of the higher valued items. Not to diminish the value and efforts of other individuals who have donated pieces to the Collection, there were two donations, by lone individuals, of rather high value items. Thank you to each and everyone of you, and for as long as there is a Club, there will be a record of these donations (and future donations) as recorded on the plaques and stands that hold each year’s winners.

I look forward to the day that the Permanent Collection will be on perpetual display at the CC>CC’s World Headquarters facility in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Listed in descending order of year of awards.

2001
Dave Harber [COTY]
Archie Black [TOTY]
(anonymous) [SSOTY]

2000
Bob Bessler [COTY]
Gary Oryniak [TOTY]
Andy Hughes [SSOTY]

1999
Ralph Myers [COTY]
Archie Black [TOTY]

1998
James Follis [COTY]
Richard Hirsch [TOTY]

1997
Stephen Cutler [COTY]
Linda Weisenstein [TOTY]

1996
Scott Brodsky,
Clyde/Toni Bailey [COTY, tie]
Richard Allard [TOTY]

1995
Ross Poppel [COTY]
Carl/Kathy Rodgers [TOTY]

1994
Nate Pincue [COTY]
Bob Orme [TOTY]

1993
Marty Robbins [COTY]
Group D* [TOTY]

1992
Fred Bergman [COTY]
Roy Baldwin [TOTY]

1991
Robert Pardue [COTY]
Brian Cashman [TOTY]

1990
John Yee [COTY]
Chuck Mades [TOTY]

*Group D
Paul Donohue
Don T. Nesbitt, Jr.
Brian Watts
Rick Miner

Jim Follis
oled@ccgtcc.com ❖

10th Annual Convention

COTY/TOTY/SSOTY Winners

by Archie **Black** and Jim **Follis**,

Well, the ballots have been officially tabulated and the 150 judges have decided that the following chips, gaming tokens and silver strikes have been deemed the winning entries in the club's Chip Of The Year 2001, Token Of The Year 2001, Silver Strike Of The Year 2001 contest.

Congratulations are in order to the three top GOLD winners.

FIRST PLACE GOLD "Chip Of The Year 2001"



Aladdin Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas NV \$5 Tribute to 9-11 263 points

FIRST PLACE GOLD "Token Of The Year 2001"



Caesars Atlantic City, NJ \$1 Rotunda 200 points

FIRST PLACE GOLD "Silver Strike Of The Year"



O'Shea's, Las Vegas, NV \$200 Prize Token 178 points

SECOND PLACE SILVER AWARD

COTY



O'Sheas, Las Vegas NV
\$1 70th Anniversary of Gambling 118 Points

THIRD PLACE BRONZE AWARD

COTY



Hard Rock, Las Vegas NV
\$5 April Fools Day 116 Points

TOTY



Delta Saloon, Virginia City, NV
\$1 Suicide Table 191 Points

TOTY



Showboat, Atlantic City NJ
\$1 Mardi Gras Jester 167 Points

SSOTY



Reno Hilton, Reno, NV
\$10 Neal Armstrong 178 Points

SSOTY



Plaza, Las Vegas, NV
\$10 CC>CC Convention 115 Points



Jim Follis presents the Chip of the Year award to the Aladdin Hotel Casino



Kregg Herz and Allan Anderson present the second place award for Token of the Year to David Beasley of the Delta Saloon



Archie Black presents the third place award for Chip of the Year to the Hard Rock Hotel Casino

First of all, I would like to sincerely thank my valuable Assistant Chairman, Jim Follis, who will be succeeding me as Chairman for next year's annual contest. I urge every club member to give your unflinching support to Jim when he calls for the COTY, COTY, SSOTY 2002 nominations to kick off next year's event.

I would also like to thank those 150 club members who served as judges and who answered our call for nominations and sent in their choices of candidates they felt were worthy for this annual honor.

Some statistics that may be of interest to some readers:

Total number of COTY nominees submitted; 177 different chips
Total number of TOTY nominees submitted: 45 different tokens
Total number of SSOTY nominees submitted: 103 different silver strikes
Only the top ten nominees in each of the three above categories were placed on the final ballot;

COTY (alphabetical order)

Aladdin Las Vegas \$5 9-11
Caesars Palace Las Vegas \$5 35-year Anniversary
Casino Del Sol/Casino of the Sun, Tucson, AZ \$1 rack chip
Hard Rock Las Vegas \$5 April Fool's Day
Hard Rock Las Vegas \$5 4th of July
Las Vegas Club Las Vegas \$10 God Bless America
Las Vegas Club Las Vegas \$10 United We Stand
O'Shea's Las Vegas \$1 70th Anniversary Legalized Gaming
Trump Marina Atlantic City \$5 Hooters
Trump Taj Mahal Atlantic City \$100 Casbah Night Club

TOTY (Slot tokens only – alphabetical order)

Barley's Henderson, NV \$1 5th Anniversary
Bronco Billy's Cripple Creek CO \$1 Happy Birthday MVP
Caesars Atlantic City, NJ \$1 Rotunda
Caesars Atlantic City, NJ \$1 Temple Lobby
Casino Del Sol/Casino Of The Sun Tucson, AZ \$5 regular issue
Delta Saloon Virginia City, NV \$1 Suicide Table
Green Valley Ranch Station Casino Henderson, NV \$1 regular issue
Palms Las Vegas, NV \$1 regular issue
Showboat Atlantic City, NJ \$1 Mardi Gras Jester w/mask
Wildfire Las Vegas, NV \$1 regular issue

SSOTY (alphabetical order)

Caesars Lake Tahoe, NV \$10 Hot August Nights
Caesars Lake Tahoe, NV \$10 Ltd. 777
Hilton Reno, NV \$10 Neal Armstrong on Moon
O'Sheas Las Vegas, NV \$10 CC>CC 2001 Convention
O'Sheas Las Vegas, NV \$200 Leprechaun prize token w/Pot o'Gold
O'Sheas Las Vegas, NV \$10 Christmas – Leprechaun with one reindeer
O'Sheas Las Vegas, NV \$10 Christmas – Santa's sleigh, reindeer and moon
O'Sheas Las Vegas, NV \$10 Halloween
Plaza Las Vegas, NV \$10 Silver Striker's Chapter/CC>CC Convention
Plaza Las Vegas, NV \$10 CC>CC Convention 2001 ❖

10th Annual Convention

Exhibitor Awards



Joe Shaw, Bob Pardue, Jim Steffner, Peter Van der Kar, Chris Collangelo

Peter Van der Kar placed first with his O'Shea's exhibit at the 10th Annual CC>CC Convention.

Chris Colangelo took second place with "Caesar and the Grape Girl", and **Robert Pardue** captured third with a display of "Del Webb: Casino Builder and Operator".

Competitive exhibits were entered by members with two members submitting exhibits in the non-competitive category.

Other exhibits on display and their titles were:

Steve Goodrich
The Chips of Montana

Jeff McCracken
Chips and Cards in Frames

James E. Noll
Machine Readable Slot Machine
Cashout Tickets:
A New Casino Collectible

Don Lueders
Dovetail Chips

Robert Hoadley
A Selection of Casino Chips from
Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel's
Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas

Charles Kaplan
The Sheraton Logo

Henry Garrett
Betty Boop & Big Daddy Collect
Chips

Dean Porter
Sharkey's Brasscores
(Non-Competitive)

Jim Follis
2001 COTY, TOTY, & SSOTY
Nominees
Past COTY, TOTY, & SSOTY
Award Winners
(Non-Competitive)



1st Place
Happy Days at O'Shea's
Peter Van der Kar



2nd Place
Caesar and the Grape Girl
 Chris Colangelo



3rd Place
Del Webb: Casino Builder and Operator
 Robert Pardue



Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel's Exhibit



Dovetail Chips



Cashout Tickets



Chips of Montana



Betty Boop & Big Daddy



Sheraton Logo

Exhibiting is a great way to show off one's collection and interests and sharing your knowledge with others. Hopefully more new exhibitors will enter displays at the club's 2003 convention next June. ❖



Sharkey's Brasscores



Past COTY TOTY SSOTY Winners

A Brief History of Gaming Tokens

Part One

by Vince Mowery

1965 was a turning point in the history of gaming tokens – a very significant dividing line. In Part I of this history, we briefly review the use of tokens in games of chance before the mid 1960s, and in Part II we will cover gaming tokens from 1965 to the present day, with some speculations of the future. Our attention will be restricted to United States tokens or tokens used in the U.S.

The distinct dividing line was due to the sharp rise in the price of silver. Prior to this epoch, more silver dollars were probably used in games of chance in casinos throughout Nevada than those in use for commercial purposes everywhere else. Part II will review the consequences of the disappearance of silver dollars in gaming.

I recall several coin collecting friends telling me they nearly completed their collections of Morgan and Peace dollars by saving coins from Nevada casinos. Apparently the practice got out of hand, as evidenced by these comments about silver dollars with missing dates: “When the silver dollar boom started in the 1960s, several of the casinos resorted to grinding the dates off the coins so that they wouldn’t be grabbed for their collector value.... The stunt got the casinos in trouble with the government for mutilating coins”¹ And it wouldn’t be long before the coins would be carried off for their bullion value.

We can personally attest to the use of silver dollars in casinos. For example, in 1955 while driving across the country, Bettye and I decided on a side trip to Reno, where our first stop was Harolds Club. Bettye was on a winning streak, placed a dollar coin on four numbers at the bottom of a roulette table, and won. She moved the silver dollar up to the next four numbers in line and won again. Moving the bet this way each time, she worked her way to the top of the table, winning each bet and paid off each time in silver dollars. I stuffed all the coins in my pockets and we walked over to a crap table. Her luck was still with us. Finally, the stick man standing next to Bettye tapped the box of two sixes. Bet boxcars, he said. She did (although a terrible bet) and won. By the time we left, the pockets of my pants and jacket were loaded with silver dollars. (Yes, in those days it was common for men to wear jackets in casinos.)



Morgan



Peace

Should we call these gaming tokens?

Today, although common on blackjack and related games, we seldom see gaming tokens used on crap tables (probably because throwing a heavy metal token halfway down the table to make a bet can be hard on the green felt). And rarely would a metal token be seen on the inside of a roulette layout. It should be recognized that the type and use of tokens can change over time. We will see more of this later and in Part II.

Many would claim, with considerable validity, that silver dollars should not be identified as true gaming tokens, since otherwise we would need to so identify quarters, nickels, etc. which are also used in slot machine play. In the late 1960s or early 1970s, we played a machine in Reno that paid-out some jackpot winnings in Morgan dollars. Should we classify as a gaming token any object used as payment from a slot machine? I think not, unless suitable for replay. But we will have more to say about the definition of gaming tokens later.

Slot machines and the tokens accompanying them, have been with us sometimes more – sometimes less, for over a hundred years.

I. The First Half Century of Slots

“If there is a ‘first’ original chance slot machine, it has to be the card machine created for saloon and cigar counter placement, ... the ‘Free

Drinks and Free Cigars' trade stimulator card machines made rapid... advancements, moving... into card drop, hold and draw, and a wide variety of other formats."² The basics of these machines were developed by the end of the 1880s, with Patent Pending notations appearing on machines before the end of 1890.

1901 Draw Poker Machine

"Two Chances for One Nickel"

1. Drop Nickel and Pull Lever Down

2. Hold any Card you wish by Pressing Down Corresponding Button on Top

3. Prizes paid on **SECOND CHANCE**

Sound familiar? Only the buttons and prizes have changed. These early mechanical marvels should be considered forerunners of today's electronic video poker machines.



Note "FREE CIGARS" on payout schedule card on front of machine.

Payout of winnings on slots was the responsibility of counter attendants. It wasn't long before manufacturers, attempting to ease this burden, "added a swivel base so the bartenders could swing the machine around fast to see if a claimed winner was a liar."³ But this probably did not suffice for the bustling bartenders on a busy Saturday night, and further help was soon forthcoming.

The use of tokens as a medium of exchange or a promise to pay a stated amount was quite likely familiar to most at this time, following the widespread use of tokens during the Civil War as substitute money when hoarding caused government specie to disappear. "The trade check, or 'good for,' started coming into its own in the 1866-1889 period, but the 1890-1900 period saw issues of trade checks increase dramatically."⁴ It is only reasonable therefore, to expect proprietors to use nickel size tokens to pay slot winnings, particularly when the winning combination indicated 5, 10, 20, or more "Free" cigars or drinks. Cigar smokers and nickel beers were very common in those days; but proprietors expected the tokens would be replayed – for obvious reasons.



A.H. ROUNSEVELL
CONFECT. & CIGARS
5
TONOPA, NEVADA



MONTE CARLO SALOON
GOOD FOR ONE DRINK
TONOPA, [sic], NEV.



RHODES CIGAR STAND
GOOD FOR 5¢ IN TRADE
GOLDFIELD, NEV.



ROTHOLTZ BROS
GOOD FOR 1 CIGAR
Tonopah, Nevada



The use of trade stimulators (slots) and “Good For” gaming tokens to supplement income for small businesses spread rapidly, as did the number of machine manufacturers and the variety of machines. “A substantial number of cigar makers made machines that they gave away as free premiums..., with some of them ending up as coin machine makers after dropping their cigar lines.”²

One of many collectible cigar tokens, this one in aluminum—made possible by a drastic reduction in price when the electrolytic process for refining aluminum was introduced in late 1888. “In the 1891-1894 period, aluminum came into extensive use in the manufacture of tokens”⁴ contributing to their proliferation.



THE ST. JOHN CIGAR CO
G.F. 2 1/2 CENTS I.T.
MUNCIE, INDIANA
(Two for a nickel)

The economic depression of 1893 was a severe jolt to the economy, but also served as a stimulus to the spread of trade stimulators. Small merchants struggling to compete or survive and attract customers, paid out, “at least as much in trade as... played, and sometimes more,”² by means of “trade” or “merchant” tokens with the proprietors name on one side and “good for” 5¢, 6 1/4¢, 12 1/2¢, etc. in

trade (or in merchandise) on the reverse side. This practice continued for many years. Some likely examples follow:



COMMERCIAL HOTEL
GOOD FOR 6 1/4 IN TRADE
BRASS
ELKO, NEVADA



J.D. LOTHROP CO.
GOOD FOR 5 IN MERCHANDISE
ALUMINUM
GOLDFIELD, NEV.



RUTH POOL HALL
GOOD FOR 5¢ IN TRADE
BRASS
Ruth, Nev.



W.J. DRYSDALE
GOOD FOR 6 1/4 IN TRADE
BRASS
TONAPAH, NEV

Part of the pleasure of collecting these older tokens is uncovering the history and circumstances surrounding their use. We are not aware of any research on the above examples and many other similar tokens from around Nevada. (Not all Trade or Merchant tokens were used in games of chance). But some interesting research has been carried out for gaming tokens of this time period

used in San Francisco, a hot-bed of slot activity. An example is shown in outline form below:



HENRY LODERHOSE GROCERY
ASH AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO

“Loderhose’s grocery store was at 318 Polk Street on the northeast corner of Polk and Ash Avenue.”⁵ This is an area wiped out by the fire of 1906 and occupied today by the Civic Center Plaza. “Loderhose [was] a groceryman in 1897 and 1898... Like many such stores..., it had a bar. The practice had been almost universal in town since the Gold Rush... The 316 street number indicates that the bar was [as common practice or required by regulations] separate from the food sales section. The token was made for slot machines and issued in the late 1890s after the use of coins had been declared illegal.”⁵ “Objections were raised to the use of coins because, it was claimed, this was open gambling. In the late 1890s, the city voted to permit the devices [machines] as long as tokens were the only means of setting them in motion. ‘Trade Checks,’ as they were also known, were commonly brass..., 21 mm in diameter [nickel size],... Larger sizes were used for higher denominations.”⁵

Ownership and operation of slot machines was very turbulent everywhere at the end of the 1800s and into the twentieth century. For example, an 1898 San Francisco ordinance “decreed that the machines were prohibited from paying out in money, but operators soon circumvented this law by substituting payouts in trade checks redeemable only in merchandise.”⁶ Needless to say, cash exchange was common. All this probably stimulated the spread of gaming tokens.

Machine manufacturers responded to the shifting morals and regulations. In the late 1890s the Leo Canda Company of Cincinnati produced “an automatic check or token payout model...called THE EXCELSIOR.”² The Mills Novelty Company of San Francisco, “made a tall boxed vertical cabinet machine in 1897 with a token payout... calling it the FIGARO CHECK MACHINE.”² In this time period, manufacturers were freely copying each others’ machines.

There was one side excursion, however. Machine Paper Payouts, becoming prevalent today, were predated by almost a hundred years by the payout scheme used in the Mills SUPERIOR 5 card machine, produced between 1904 and 1916. “With each winning play the machine advances a pre-printed fortune ticket from a roll, which is then rubber stamped with the number of the payout, be it one cigar, or 2, 3, 4, 8, 12, 16, 24 or 100.”³ Today these old “fortune tickets” are very rare. We will have more to say about Paper Payouts in Part II. The more things change, the more they remain the same.

Early on, some manufacturers were renting machines or serving as slot route operators by maintaining their own machines on a profit sharing basis. (We will have more to say about this practice also in Part II). In

1904, the Puritan Machine Company Ltd. of Detroit manufactured a machine called, appropriately, PURITAN with “a mechanical gimmick whereby every fifth or seventh coin – was tossed into a separate cash box inside the machine. The operator could use this extra cash box as the merchant split...”²

Some slot tokens used by slot operators:



MILLS NOVELTY CO.
GF 5¢ IT
SAN FRANCISCO

(Used with CRICKET introduced in 1904)



ROYAL NOVELTY COMPANY
GF 5¢ IT

411 Market Street,
SAN FRANCISCO

(Founded in 1900 to make machines to sell & operate)

Some Great Early Gaming Tokens



*SILVER CUP – CHAS, FEY & CO
GOOD FOR 5¢ IN TRADE
PAYOUT TOKEN FOR 1907 SILVER
CUP MACHINE [6, P. 70]*

*“Charles Fey... issued several
tokens, as did other manufacturers.”
[7, p. 7]*



*MILLS NOVELTY CO.
SAN FRANCISCO
(COUNTER-STAMPED DM)
GOOD FOR 2 BITS IN TRADE, WITH 2
HORSE BRIDLE BITS.
CENTER STACKING PIN HOLE.*

Counter-stamps with initials, as seen on some operator tokens, could have been used to distinguish a proprietor's token from others.

What about all those tokens (checks) with holes? Well, they allowed machines to accept both coins and tokens while paying out only tokens, as required by law in some jurisdictions. Note, this automation further eased the payout burden of proprietors and attendants.

“Originally, a small hole was punched in trade checks for storage on a vertical pin inside the machine. Charlie Fey enlarged the stacking hole in the check to permit a detecting pin... to pass through the token, thus allowing it to remain in the coin chute leading to the payout tube. A nickel, obviously having no center hole, would be pushed into the cash can. The first Check Separator token, used on the 1898 Fey LIBERTY BELL is shown.⁶



Gaming tokens with stacking-pin holes:



*L. DEL PAPA & CO.
GF 5¢ IT
(Tonopah, nv.)*



*MODEL CIGAR STORE
GOOD FOR 6 1/4¢
(Tonopah, nv.)*



*H.E. SAWYER
GF 12 1/2¢ IT
MCGILL, NV*



TEXAS BAR
GF 6 1/4¢ IT
(Goldfield, nv.)



NEVADA SMOKE HOUSE
GF 12 1/2 CENTS
RENO



HOTEL LAMOILLE
GF 12 1/2¢ IT
(Lamoille, nv.)

And tokens for use in check separator machines:



MAMMOTH CLUB
GF 5¢ IT
(Tonopah, nv.)
Note cancellation punch.



THE PIONEER
GF 12 1/2¢ IT
ELKO, NEV.

The large number of nickel size tokens with center holes is testimony to their widespread use over decades. "The slot machines of the years between World War I & II used tokens extensively, principally of the type with a hole in the center."⁷ Perhaps this triggered the use of a round washer with a string tied to it as a simple means for slot cheating. Many token holes appear to be drilled or punched, rather than stamped; and some holes obscure lettering, indicating the tokens were modified for use in check separator machines.



DEWEY TRADE CHECK
GF 5¢ IT
ELY, NEV.
(no hole)



*DEWEY TRADE CHECK
GF 5¢ IT
(Ely, nev.)
(stacking hole)*

It may be difficult to conclusively identify some trade checks as definite slot tokens. For example, a cataloger of the common tokens above stated: "...these Dewey tokens were thought to have been used in Dewey slot machines."⁸ However, in my opinion, the hole for a stacking pin in some Dewey tokens from Ely, NV is rather conclusive evidence that the tokens were used in slot machines.

There is one large class of tokens that are clearly slot tokens. Some samples are shown below. "Tokens with thousands of different numbers are known. The numbers represent individual machines or machine operators or businesses."⁹ Although we are certain these are slot tokens, uncertainty remains as to what the numbers designated. Reverses of all the tokens below read Good For 5¢ In Trade.



31524



38450



4114



2804

"The full story behind these numbered tokens remains unknown at this time. Most of the numbers are probably serial numbers of specific machine operators."⁷ But, in my opinion, with numbers in the thousands, this appears unlikely.

Moreover, the token shown here, which reads Machine – 109 on obverse and Good For Five (with plain numeral 5) In Trade on reverse, could lead one to conclude that numbers were associated with machines. But the questions remain: Why? And what made economic sense?



Attempting to create an air of legitimacy or willing acceptance. Slots were developed with the appearance of vending machines, dispensing gumballs, packs of chewing gum or rolls of mints. In addition to a candy treat, some "vending" slot machines also paid out good for tokens euphemistically called "profit sharing coupons".



*ALL QUALITY MINTS
GOOD FOR A 5¢
PACKAGE OF MINTS*



35054
GOOD FOR ONE
PACKAGE OF MINTS



TILLITSON SPECIALTY CO.
AURORA, ILL.
MACHINES RENTED
MINTS SUPPLIED



“When [Frank] Costello was questioned about the legality of his machines during the 1951 Kefauver Investigation proceedings, he answered, ‘Ya got mints every time ya put in a nickel.’”⁶

Slots spread extensively over the first few decades of the twentieth century, tempered now and then by on-and-off moral backlashes. Machines and their tokens graduated from pennies and nickels to higher denominations. Vigorous moralists,

anti-mobsters and crusading politicians often led to confiscating and destroying tons of machines and tokens. For example in New York City on February 24, 1934, police raided the Mills Novelty Co. office “seizing 350 slot machines and 30,000 slot tokens. Simultaneously they confiscated 300 machines and 10,000 tokens at the Tru Mint [Vending Company, a front for mobster Frank Costello] warehouse and snapped up 32 slots and 20,000 tokens at the hotel headquarters of Frank’s brother, Edward Costello.”^{vi} So many gaming tokens lost forever!

In 1944 the U.S. government decreed it illegal to make or use tokens of the same size or very close to the diameter of U.S. coins in use. “A new style of reverse appeared (probably due to the above law, as most stock reverses were now the wrong size). The new reverse style has the denomination as a large number with ‘In Trade’ or ‘In Mdse’ in a superimposed panel.”⁹ Some examples are shown here:



REGAN BROS.
5¢ IN TRADE
Reno, Nevada



KEITH'S MODEL 'T'
CAFÉ & CASINO
25¢ IN TRADE
Winnemucca, Nevada



After World War II there was a resurgence of slot machines, oftentimes with the law winking or looking the other way. But the use of tokens probably did not follow. Nickels, quarters and dollars were good enough. Cigar stores and neighborhood general stores had become passé, along with their trade stimulators. Suburbs and supermarkets changed our way of life, and anti-gambling sentiment changed the public outlook. Many states passed anti-slot laws. The death knell for slots came on January 2, 1951 when a federal law prohibiting interstate shipment of “gambling devices” became effective. Shipment to states where gambling was legal was exempt, and the rest is history.

II. American Gaming Counters

The previous section identified gaming tokens as tokens (or checks, as they were often referred to) used in slot machines. In this section, we broaden the definition to include tokens (frequently called counters) from private, non-government mints used in games of chance. The beginnings of gaming counters are lost in

the shadows of antiquity; but some evidence indicates that tokens were used in games of chance in the Roman Empire, and most likely much earlier.

“Originally counters were, as their name implies, small metallic discs used to ‘count’ beyond the limit of one’s fingers and toes. The use of reckoning counters was a fairly well-established practice in the Roman world, ...”^X Doing arithmetic with Roman numerals was not simple. It is only natural to presume that these counters also were used in games of chance.

“Metal counters were used in parts of Europe from the 13th century through at least the early 18th century in conjunction with counting ‘boards’ as a reckoning mechanism. It was probably largely during the 1600s that the use of Arabic figures came to dominate the practice of reckoning accounts in Europe, ... American counters were issued after this transition period. Consequently, even the earliest known American counters probably served as game counters rather than as counting board counters.”¹¹ Game counters are intimately tied in with the fascinating history of arithmetic.

As in the previous section, we restrict our use of the name “token” to coin-like metal discs. (This will require some modifications in Part II). Nearly concurrent with the use of metallic game counters, this country also saw the use of chips made of bone, mother-of-pearl, ivory, etc. (also called counters).¹² Which came first, metallic discs (tokens) or non-metallic chips, is probably a chicken and egg question. Both share similar heritage. We review here several early American metal gaming tokens.

“Success” game counters show a uniformed bust of George Washington on the obverse with his name around the rim and a Radiant eye surrounded by 15 stars and the words SUCCESS TO THE UNITED STATES around the rim of the reverse. “Originals of these tokens appeared in 1793, honoring the second inauguration of the president on March 4, 1793. Their maker is unknown but probably they were struck in England.”^X Photos of these tokens can be found in RS. Yeoman’s Red Book^{xiii}, where they are called Medals and state they “are believed to have been made in the mid nineteenth century”. Apparently Yeoman is referring to “Restrikes of the tokens, ... made about 1860”¹⁰.

“Henry Kettle was a button and buckle maker of Birmingham, England at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century. ...but he also executed the first-known imitations of United States gold coins for use as game counters”¹⁰. Many of his early game counters used in this country were patterned after 1803 U.S. gold coins. However, he also “copied” an 1805 Eagle (\$10 U.S. gold coin), despite the fact that no U.S. Eagles were struck dated 1805 to 1837. These early game counters did not need to be truthful representations of U.S. coins. Early Kettle counters are quite scarce, with fewer than 200 known for many varieties and far fewer for some varieties. So far we have not acquired any for our collection, but photos can be found in the Rulau-Fuld article.¹⁰

“Whist counters were a series of British tokens sold at street shops or given away as advertising cards from the time of George III [1760-1820] through the reign of Victoria”.¹⁴ Whist, a popular game during this time period, was a forerunner of Bridge. “...most of Thomas Kettle’s exonomia products issued after the

mid 1830s served primarily as counters for use in the game of Whist”.¹⁵ Thomas was the son of Henry and ran the kettle from from about 1812 to the 1830s or later. “Although Whist counters had been issued prior to... Thomas Kettle, his were probably the first to portray a woman playing Whist”.¹⁵ Some examples from our collection are shown below: (There are many varieties.)



“Cards in left hand, playing a card with right, four counters on table (3 under 1), no table leg shown... two curls in front of ear”. Legend: KEEP YOUR TEMPER¹⁴



“open collar and puff sleeves at shoulder, holding cards in left hand..., right hand playing a card...”. Legend: KEEP YOUR TEMPER^{xiv} Some gilt remains on this token

Also, many varieties have a male player facing left. Some claim they were issued as male-female counter pairs. An example of the male card player is shown here:





Cards in both hands, card on table does not touch border of dots, four counters on table arranged two under two, no table legs show, carpet plain. Legend: KEEP YOUR TEMPER¹⁴ Other side: Young queen head, Legend: VICTORIA REGINA. Almost full gilt (gold-like plating) remains on this token

“Keep Your Temper’ is a reminder to the players – especially to the men – to keep their emotions in check and to abide by the rules of the game”.¹⁵

Many early game tokens portray the head of Victoria, crowned queen in 1838 at the age of eighteen. Another example – one of many:



Obv: VICTORIA QUEEN OF GREAT BRIT around young head of Victoria.

Rev: Prince of Wales crown and three plumes surrounded by Order of Garter motto: HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENS.¹⁵ Gilt is rubbed off high points on this token.

“According to German law, a woman was not permitted to occupy the throne of Hanover. Consequently, Victoria’s uncle, the Duke of

Cumberland, was granted that position in 1837. It is quite likely that the rider on both the Kettle varieties and non-Kettle varieties of To Hanover counters is the Duke of Cumberland.”¹⁵ A kettle game counter:



Obv: VICTORIA QUEEN OF GREAT BRIT sides of large head.

Rev: TO HANOVER above crowned rider on horseback, sword in scabbard, three-headed short dragon beneath horse, date 1837.^{xv} This is a beautiful, worn Kettle piece.

“To Hanover varieties by the firm of Kettle most easily can be distinguished from those by other die sinkers by the absence of a raised sword”.¹⁵ There are many different non-Kettle imitations with drawn swords: large and small dragons, large and small crowns, horselegs up and down, etc., and different obverses. Copying game counters during this time period seems to be about as prevalent as copying slot machines in the early 20th century.

To Hanover game counters undoubtedly were take-offs of the British 20-shilling gold sovereign introduced in 1817, with a portrait of the British ruler (starting with George III) on the obverse and portrayal of St. George slaying a dragon on the reverse.

Nuremberg, Germany was the center of token production for a few hundred years, culminating with the Lauer family in the 19th century.

Many game counters that found their way to this country were the product of Ludwig Christian Lauer (1817-1873). An example of German made Whist counters is shown below:



Obv: VICTORIA QUEEN OF GREAT BRIT: around head of queen, WHIST MARKE in small letters under head. Rev: SPIEL MARKE inside wreath..

Definitions of Spiel include play, game, etc., and Marke means money, token or coin. Compositions means to adjust a debt, to facilitate, etc.

Some imitations of United States gold coins made to be used as game counters appear below.

Half Eagle (\$5) Counters:



Obv: Liberty Head left 11 stars around, SP. MARKE below^x. Spotted gilt on token



Obv: Liberty Head left 10 stars around, COMPOS. SPIEL-MUNZE below¹⁰. Dark patina on token



Common Rev: Eagle with shield on breast, COMPOSITIONS-SPIEL-MARKE around, one star below.

Eagle Counter:



Obv: Liberty Head left, eight stars around, COMP. S. MARKE below.



Rev: Eagle with shield on breast, COMPOSITIONS SPIEL-MARKE around, three stars above eagle, and three stars below.¹⁰ Considerable gilt remains.

And Double Eagle Counter:



Obv: Liberty Head left, 15 stars around, COMP. S. MARKE below.



Rev: Eagle early type U.S. Double Eagle, IN UNITATE FORTITUDO above, COMPS. SPIEL - MARKE below. Reference nice patina.

This token is a close copy, both Liberty Head and Eagle, of the U.S. twenty dollar gold piece first minted for circulation in 1850.¹³ “Die sinking was an infant industry in the United States until the mid 1830s...¹⁵ This was the reason for use of tokens minted in England and Germany. But not all gaming tokens of this era were imported.

The gold rush in California was a rush of people, and a legendary spread of gambling, with inadequate supplies of circulating hard money. Resourceful forty-niners resorted to the use of counters, usually imitations of United States gold, with values determined at the start of the games. “Only a few of these California counters emanated from German sources. Most seem distinctly American in style and were probably struck by several of the brass works then in operation in San Francisco.”¹⁰

Gold Miner Counter: (This example shows pleasing wear which may evoke images of many card games, unlike many of today’s casino “collectibles”.)



Obv: Copy of Coronet Type Half Eagle with 13 stars, dated 1849.



Rev: Gold miner kneeling left, with pick, spade and ore sack. CALIFORNIA above, 1849 in exergue. Horizon shows to left of spade handle; a mountain overtops two hills right background; two palm trees in distances.¹⁰

Flag Counter:



Obv: A so-so copy of 1847 Coronet type Eagle coin, but correct diameter.



Rev: American flag displayed right has 24 stars. CALIFORNIA above, COUNTER below, two stars each side.¹⁰ & 15



A montage of early card counters and jetons with playing cards and card suit symbols.

Summary

So we have early American gaming counters evolving out of ancient reckoning counters at least as early as the end of the 1700s, leading to a variety of types, interrupted somewhat by the Civil War when many tokens were used as substitutes for hard money. This probably led to the ready adaptations of tokens for use in a variety of trade stimulators and three-reel slots by the end of the 1800s, sometimes to evade laws and sometimes to satisfy them. The Gay 90's evolved into the Roaring 20's with a tolerant attitude and use of gaming tokens, even surreptitiously through the depression days of the 30's. Again there was a wartime interruption, when slot machine manufacturers turned to other outputs during the 40's. After the war, gambling sentiment shifted, as it had many times in the past. "A demand for further gaming regulations developed after 1950 when the U.S. Senate Committee for the Investigations of Organized Crime, headed by Estes Kefauver, exposed a gangster element..."⁶

And gaming tokens didn't flourish again until another dramatic event in 1965. This will be part of the history reviewed in Part II.

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⁴ Russell Rulau, "Tokens of the Gay Nineties 1890-1900," Krause Publications, Iola, WI, 1987

⁵ Jerry F. Schimmel, "The Old Streets of San Francisco, Early Street Names on Some Brass Tokens", Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, San Francisco, Monograph No. 1, 1993

⁶ Marshall Fey, "Slot Machines, A Pictorial History of the First 100 Years", Fourth Edition, Liberty Belle Books, Reno, Nev. 1994. (Beautifully illustrated Slot machines and early gaming tokens).

⁷ Stephen P. Alpert and Kenneth E. Smith, "Video Arcade, Pinball, Slot Machine and Other Amusement Tokens of North America", Amusement Token Collectors Association, Redondo Beach, CA, First Edition, 1984.

⁸ Fred Holabird Americana, "Auction #10", Reno, NV., August 3, 2001, p. 58.

⁹ Stephen P. Alpert and Lawrence E. Elman, "Tokens and Medals, A Guide to the Identification and Values of United States Exonumia", Stephen P. Alpert, Los Angeles, CA, First Edition, 1992

¹⁰ Russel Rulau and George J. Fuld, "American Game Counters", TAMS Journal, Volume 12, Number 6 (Part II) December, 1972, reprint.

¹¹ L.B. Fauver, "American Counters, Part 1, Double Eagle & Eagle Gold", Oak Grove Publications, Meno Park, CA, 1983.

¹² Dale Seymour, "Antique Gambling Chips", Revised Edition, Past Pleasures, Palo Alto, CA, 1998 Part I Historical Perspective.

¹³ R.S. Yeoman, "The Official Red Book, A Guide Book of United States Coins", 55th Edition, St. Martin's Press, New York, NY, 2002.

¹⁴ Melvin Fuld, "English Card Counters, Gaming House Inns, Lottery Pieces, Racing Tokens' Spiel Marken, German Whist, Whist and Other Gaming Pieces", TAMS Journal, Volume 14, Number 4 (Part II), August 1974.

¹⁵ L.B. Fauver, "Exonumia Symbolism & Classification", Oak Grove Publications, Menlo Park, CA, 1982. ❖

Panguingue (Pan): Luck of the Draw

by Larry Pang

The mucker deals out ten cards to each player after they put up their tops. Player one throws her pisser away; player two has a bong, plays, and hopes he doesn't get peckered; player three tosses his hand into the muck; player four has three pairs for no pay and throws her hand in also; player five has a two pay, a pair of valle cards, and another non-valle pair and plays; player six has a pay in fours and two pairs, both non-komokers; and player seven is an automatic with a chip, a pair, and a chair.

Pan or Panguingue is a card game going the way of Faro. Not many casinos offer it anymore. Those that do, don't have a large following. In Las Vegas, only the Plaza and Sahara offer it. It was very popular in California in the days of Lowball and Draw Poker only. Today, only the Bicycle, Commerce, and the Hustler offer it in the Los Angeles area. With the proliferation of table games and slot/video games, hardly anyone wants to spend the time to learn the game and its strategy. It actually is a game designed for social settings. Not a lot of attention is required to play, and it doesn't have to be played for a lot of money. Six to eight persons can play around dinner or conversation and enjoy an evening out with friends.

When it was popular, chips were made especially for Pan. Often they were non-denominational. In smaller venues, it wasn't uncommon for a game to be a rainbow game. Colors were introduced to represent konditions, and the kondition was agreed upon by the players. Each player pays and gets paid in their own kondition, requiring different chips as in roulette.

For the most part, the chips were plain hot stamps. For the chip collector, older molds are represented, like the HCE, large and small crown, squares and rectangles, diamonds and rectangles, and the old workhorse hat and cane. They represent many closed clubs and casinos, like Harolds in Reno and the Rainbow in Gardena, California, the former Poker Capital of the World. Within the next couple of generations, gamblers and collectors will only know Pan as a game of the past.

Historically speaking, the origins of the game are not well documented. Some believe that it started in the deep south, possibly New Orleans created to pass time by persons in the "oldest profession" while waiting for customers. Slang used in the game such as pisser, pecker, muck, and the french word valle, meaning value,

point towards this possibility. Others believe it started during the Alaskan Gold Rush, where Klondike is the same game, but each player must play their hand out regardless of how bad the possibilities of winning are.

The game of pan is very similar to most rummy games but is unique in that it has its own special deck of cards and slang. The pan deck consists of 320 cards, eight regular decks of cards with the 8's, 9's, 10's, and jokers removed. The game is best played with six to eight players. The objective of the game is to meld eleven cards into valid conditions.

A meld, or a spread, consists of a minimum of three cards in sequence or of equal rank.

If the cards are in **sequence (rope)** a minimum of three cards must be used of the same suit. Additional cards may be added to the sequence, but must follow the sequence and be of the same suit. For example, the sequence of 5, 6, 7 may add the 4 or the Jack. Note that the 8, 9, and 10's are removed from the deck, therefore, the Jack follows the 7. No card precedes the Ace, as in A, 2, 3, 4 ... or follows the King, as in ...7, J, Q, K.

If the cards are of **equal rank (set)** a minimum of three cards must be used, and must be either of the same suit or of all different suits. Additional cards can be added of any suit, but must be of the same rank.

To begin the game, the **mucker (dealer) mucks (shuffles)** the

front of the deck and deals ten cards, five at a time, to each player who puts up a **top (ante)**, starting with the previous winner. The dealer then collects the antes and places them on top of the block, characterizing the name of “tops”. The block is a semi rectangle, semi triangle, on which the tops are placed and the deck is placed against, face down.

Each player in turn, starting with the previous winner declares to play or discards their hand into the **muck (discards)**. Note that muck is a verb and a noun. If the player declares play, s/he must continue to play until a winner has **panned the hand (successfully melds eleven cards)**. In other words, the player may not surrender the hand in the middle of play as in poker. The decision to play or muck depends on the number of cards in the hand that can be melded, the number of discards, and the number of potential pays the hand can make.

Once each player declares to play or is **on top (out of the hand and forfeits their ante to the tops)**, the first player to declare play **plucks (draws)** a card from the front of the deck. S/he must decide to meld the card or discard it to the muck. The card may not be placed in the hand, if it is, the hand is fouled and forfeited. The hand must be discarded to the muck, and the player must continue to pay all konditions and outs. If the card can be used to create a valid meld or add to a valid meld, the meld must be placed on the board (table) for all live players to see. If the plucked card is thrown to the muck, the next player may use it to create or add to a valid meld.

The exception is the first pluck. The first player, has the option to pluck two cards. If the first pluck is thrown, it is not available to the next player, unless they are **heads up (only two players)**. Then the second player has option on the

thrown card. If the second player cannot meld the thrown card, s/he plucks a second card and continues as described above.

If the plucked or thrown card is used in a meld, the player must discard a card, and only one card. At no time must any player have more than a total of ten cards in their hand and on the board, except on the **outs (winning and ending the game)**, where there are eleven properly melded cards.

A unique rule of the game is the player’s option to rearrange valid melds on board to create new melds by adding cards. No cards may be taken away and put back into the hand or discarded when borrowing or rearranging cards.

For example, a meld with four 3’s, two are clubs, and one each of hearts and diamonds can create a new meld of A, 2, 3 of clubs by borrowing the 3 of clubs and adding and Ace and 2 of clubs. The 3’s of club, heart, and diamond remaining is still a valid meld.

A second example uses a meld of J, Q, K of diamonds and another meld of J, Q, K of spades. By adding the J of clubs, Q of hearts, and K of diamonds, the player creates three new melds consisting of three J’s, Q’s, and K’s. Notice the Kings have only two suits represented. **Kings and Aces are called non-comoquers.** Their sets aren’t required to have three different suits.



What may be considered cheating, is acceptable as long as the player has not fouled (caught breaking a rule) by another live player. For example, a meld on board of three cards of the same rank that has only two different suits is valid if no live player points it out. Once a live player points it out to the other players, the invalid meld must be corrected or the hand is fouled. Interestingly enough, the spread may be made valid if the player plucks a card that makes it valid and adds to it before being detected.

Another common foul is for a hand to have too many cards, usually the player was dealt too many to begin with or forgetting to discard after melding a card; or too little cards, because the player wasn't paying attention and discarded twice in one turn. To assure starting with the correct number of cards, the player should count his cards before declaring play. If more or less than ten cards are dealt, the player informs the dealer to correct the hand by adding or removing the appropriate number of cards. Note the reduction of excess of cards can be obtained by discarding twice, which is a foul, only if the other active players catch the act before the player plucks again.

It is considered bad form for a player on top to make comments during live play of a hand, especially to point out a foul to the active players. It is also bad form to throw away or hide cards off the table.

It is possible a player may not want to use a card from the pluck or discard that can be added to a meld on board. The other active players may force the card (the card must be added to the meld on board and the player must discard a card from the hand). Strategy dictates when to force a card or not. If the player may appear to be **dropping out (ready to win needing one more card)** the other players can break the hand by causing the player to discard. If it appears that the player just missed the card, the other players may not want to add to the melds on board, reducing the number of discards the player is holding.

Certain melds (**konditions**) are **worth chips**. The value of each chip is determined by the kondition playing for. Home games can be for two for a nickle or in some casinos as high as \$100. Most commonly dealt games in California and Nevada are \$1, \$2, or \$5 per kondition.

All ropes of A, 2, 3 or J, Q, K are worth one, if the suit is spades, they are worth two. If the rope has not collected one yet, all cards added to a rope that create the above can collect one.

All sets of the same suit are worth one, spades are worth two. If the set has not collected one yet, any card added to a set that creates three of the same suit can collect one, two for spades. Each additional card of the same suit beyond three may collect one, two for spades.

Valle sets, ranks of 3's, 5's, or 7's, of different suits are worth one, same suits are worth two, and all spades are worth four, the spades are also known as a **bong**. Each additional card of the same suit beyond three may collect one, two for spades. The bong is second only to the outs in excitement due to the large number of chips collected. A player can still come out ahead in chips and still not **put the hand out (win the hand)**.

If the player does not ask the other player for the konditions due prior to discarding a card the other players are not required to pay. However, on the next card melded, and only when the player is able to meld a card, s/he may ask for any unpaid konditions. This could be disheartening if the player is unable to meld another card before someone goes out; not only did they not win, but also have to pay the winner without collecting any chips.

The winner, the person who melds eleven cards, is awarded the tops, and is entitled to collect from each live player, two chips for outs (winning) plus each kondition must be paid again. If a kondition is created on the outs, the winner may collect double the value of the new kondition. Its doubly exciting for a player to "go out on a bong", that is win the hand with a bong as the last kondition made.

Usually the game is played for table stakes. As in poker, no money (chips) may be added to a players stack after the game has started, unless previously declared

to all players. A player cannot collect more than the number of chips in front of them. For example, if a player has only three chips and melds a bong, he can collect only three from each player, but can collect the additional one when s/he melds his/her next card. Once a player runs out of chips, the hand must be discarded and their top is forfeited.

It is very important to evaluate a hand not only for the ease of melding eleven cards but also the potential of collecting konditions.

If no possible **pays (konditions)** are in the hand, it may not be worth playing. Although the winner collects two chips on the outs, without collecting for any konditions, the winner may have paid out more than collected during the course of the hand.

The attraction to the game is that a player can collect more than double their starting chips and compound upon the amount collected during the hand. It's possible to collect 38 chips from each player starting with only a couple

chips. The ultimate optimist receives added excitement, because s/he knows the best hand doesn't always win. Its possible for a total **pisser (a bad hand with very little possibility of winning)** to go out with the right plucks and discards.

The player's skill comes from knowing when to go on top or when to play. This is a true gambling game, because of the number of possible combinations of hands and melds, the winner is truly dependent on the luck of the draw. ❖

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 .

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Stardust (Tahoe) \$5 Arodie	\$99	Foxy's Firehouse - 4 Colors H&C NCV's	\$45
Incline Village \$100 H&C(CJ) Drilled	\$199	Silver Star (LV) \$1 White H&C 3-Blue	\$19
Giudici's (Sparks) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$69	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
Colorado Belle Poker Room NCV - Red	\$12	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	Mapes \$5 Brown & \$25 Green T-Molds	\$22
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	Corner Bar (Fallon) 10c Zigzag Mold	\$29
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	Harvey's - 2 Diff \$5 With & W/O Panes	\$32
Harvey's Obsolete \$25 Orange Brass	\$49	Ponderosa Reno N.D. Red Plain V5305	\$119
Opera House \$1 71 Yrs of Gaming	\$10	Opera House \$1,5,25,100 71 Yrs (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	\$20
Harrah's Tahoe - Bud Ice - Matched Set	\$169	The Gambler (Reno) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$69
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
Dunes - Golf Course Set 12 Diff \$1-5000	\$349	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
SaharaTahoe \$1& \$5 "TableGames"	\$24	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	Eddie's Fabulous 50's - 4 Diff Roulettes	\$29
Tahoe Nugget \$1 Red H&C(CJ)	\$59	New China Club \$5 W/ Chinese Writing	\$15
Sahara Tahoe \$100 Orange Lg Key NN	\$49	The Nugget (Reno) Grn H&C(CJ) 3-Red	\$49
The Nugget \$.25 Oran. Sm Key pic of Ngt	\$69	The Nugget \$1Maroon Sm Key pic of Ngt	\$69

P&H: Up to \$100 = \$2.50 \$100 to \$299 = \$4 \$300 or more = No Charge

Hagar's chip a hit at the *Hard Rock*

by Al Mancini

The next time you're gambling at the Hard Rock, you may want to take a close look at your chips. There's a new \$25 commemorative chip issued several weeks ago that almost immediately became one of the two most valuable in the hotel-casino's history. But while the chip represents a potential windfall to anyone who comes across one, it's also got some hardcore collectors upset.

The chip dates back to May 17, when Sammy Hagar played the first of two shows at the Joint. As it often does with major performers, the casino honored Hagar by slapping his face on a set of chips. Five thousand \$5 chips and 250 \$25 chips were created, all worth face value at the casino's tables. Over the past weeks, however, bids on eBay for the \$25 chip have repeatedly reached the \$1,500 mark.

What separates this particular chip from the countless other Hard Rock commemoratives is that while most of the \$5 version were offered to the general public, the majority of the \$25 chips were presented as gifts to Hagar's entourage and high-rolling guests of the casino. Some were also put directly on the tables for use, but none were exchanged through the casino cage. That left the collectors and dealers who line up for hours every time the Hard Rock issues a new chip out in the cold, along with collectors across the country who purchase new chips from local entrepreneurs at a markup.



Instead of that network of buyers, sellers and traders, this already-limited edition wound up in the hands of people who probably had no idea what they're worth and have no need to sell them to make a few extra bucks.

That distribution method not only severely limited the chip's supply among collectors, driving up the price; it also created a potential jackpot for gamblers and savvy dealers at the Hard Rock. While collectors and dealers aren't likely to bet their prized chips at the tables, the \$25 Hagar chips could turn up anywhere. Who knows when one of those high rollers or a friend of Sammy will return to the casino and put one into circulation?

Collectors aren't interested in searching for chips at the tables, however, and the \$25 Hagar chip has become a controversial topic in their circles. While an exceedingly rare chip might be part of the hobby for collectors who focus on older casinos, Hard Rock collectors see things differently.

According to Andy Hughes, who runs the Nevada Casino Chips website: "The people that have been in the hobby since '95 when the Hard Rock opened, they had full expectations of always being able to get

those chips." Those expectations were lowered when the Hard Rock issued a very limited Cinco de Mayo chip two years ago, and the Hagar chip has many questioning why they're bothering to collect Hard Rock chips at all.

"How many holes to fill are the collectors going to take?" Hughes wonders. "They could take the Cinco de Mayo, and maybe they'll get over the Hagar. But boy, one more, and who knows?"

Hughes has already heard customers talking about giving up on Hard Rock chips, as has Josh Shore. But Shore thinks they're overreacting.

"If anyone wants to complete their collection, they can," insists Shore, who runs the Internet chip store Dice702.com. "It just costs them more money."

At a recent meeting of the Las Vegas chapter of the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club, opinions on the Hagar chip varied. Some felt it could drive collectors away from Hard Rock chips, while others saw it as simply a minor PR problem that's unlikely to have any long-term effect.

Hard Rock Hotel President and Chief Operating Officer Don Marrandino seemed surprised at the excitement and the uproar over the chip.

"Although Sammy's an incredible artist, we didn't think that there would be this kind of demand for them," explains Marrandino. He admits to being new to the world of chip collectors, however, and says he has learned lessons from this issue that will be applied to future commemorative releases. ❖

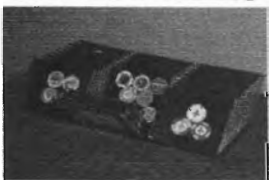
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I am interested in becoming a member of the slot card/room key Chapter of the CC>CC.
Here is my application:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Current CC>CC Membership number: _____

Note: In order to be a Slot Card/Room Key Chapter member, you must be a member of the CC>CC.

My Collecting interests are: _____

By accepting my application, the Chapter may print my name and address in the membership list. This list will be available to other members for the purpose of trading cards, keys and collecting information.

Please mail this application and yearly dues of \$10.00 to:

Jim Munding
P.O. Box 4087
West Covina, CA 91791
(626) 919-0603
mun3335@aol.com

Check should be made out to CC>CC, Slot Card/Room Key Chapter. The dues will start after the Chapter has been formed. If you are not currently a member of the International Club, please include a check for \$20.00 made payable to CC>CC.

If you would like to help with the forming of this Chapter, please let me know.

Charter Membership will be accepted for applications received by September 30, 2002.

10 Years of Chipping

by Dan Kobylarczyk

It started with a single... chip...from the Tropicana Casino in Atlantic City. Actually from The Gaming Emporium in Atlantic City, NJ.

While on vacation from California, we decided to take a little break from my favorite place (the casinos) to visit Susan's favorite place (the mall) called Ocean 1 just off the Boardwalk. Susan and I were admiring the chip collection on display and decided to purchase a Tropicana roulette chip (because Susan liked the color – Bright Orange and Lime Green). The sales clerk stuffed an application for membership to the CC>CC into the bag with Susan's first chip.

Throughout the years on my many visits to Las Vegas, I began bringing home \$1.00 chips from all the casinos that I visited. Our little collection of "house" chips began to grow and grow.

While cleaning out her desk, Susan came across several of the chips that I brought home along with the Tropicana chip and the CC>CC membership form.

Susan filled out the form and joined CCGTCC as member R-690 (I became an associate)

Along with our membership cards was a flyer announcing the "First CCGTCC Annual Convention. Great news, I now had a legit reason to visit "Fabulous Las Vegas". Who knew that the first convention at the Aladdin Hotel & Casino would continue to be such a successful undertaking, getting better and better with each passing year.

Well, ten years have passed and Susan's collection is quite sizable including \$1.00 ; \$2.50; \$5.00 chips and an occasional \$25.00 (but it has to be a real special \$25.00) and we look forward to spending a few days every year with many of the wonderful collectors and dealers we have met throughout our decade of collecting.

This year's convention at the Las Vegas Tropicana, looks to be the biggest and best ever and I hope we will have seen you there. ❖

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Next CASINORAMA shows are Saturday, March 22 and Saturday, October 18, 2003

Musin' in Minnesota

by Ernie Vietor

There isn't an awful lot of noteworthy happenings at the casinos in Minnesota! In fact, by Las Vegas standards, new chip issues are very S-L-O-W arriving and far between. So when we do have new chips issued, it is a grand day and it sends most collectors into afterburner mode!

With the exception of the following facilities, the casino chip and token situation remains basically unchanged from last year.

Seven Clans Thief River Falls:

This facility was formerly known as the River Road Casino. It was renamed Seven Clans Thief River Falls and opened in May of 2001. A new four story, 151 room luxury hotel and greatly remodeled expanded casino is directly connected to a massive indoor water park. The waterpark is 40,000 square feet of FUN. The complex contains 8 water slides that have a total of 750 linear feet of slippery slopes. Four of the slides start inside and go through the walls to the outside and then re-enter and empty into a large pool of 80 degree water. The largest slide is 275 feet long and drops 32 feet to the pool. For toddlers and smaller youngsters, there are 3 starter slides. There is also a 473 feet 'lazy river' that is perfect for wading and floating and is complete with waterfalls and even a 'rapids' section. So while your family is enjoying the waterpark, you can be in the newly remodeled casino. It now has 30,000 square feet of gaming area and over 800 slot machines. They have upgrad-

ed the blackjack area and it now contains 12 tables. The new casino also features a new 200 seat buffet—the WOW factor certainly kicks in with this new facility. New chips, from \$1 to \$100 were issued on 5/25/01. The new \$1 chip is already "out of play". I talked with administration and there are no plans to revive the \$1 chip at this time. The tables currently use new \$1 tokens. The new \$5 house chip, as well as the \$25 and \$100 are still in play, but the new \$5 Grand Opening chip has practically disappeared. (The G.O. chip has the phrase 'Hotel & Waterpark' underneath the denomination and the phrase 'Grand Opening' along with 'Thief River Falls' displayed on the edge). The old 50 cent Red Lake Gaming Enterprises chip rounds out the selection of chips at this really fun facility.



Seven Clans Red Lake:

This casino has always been known as the Red Lake Casino. The facility at Red Lake, as well as the ones at Thief River Falls and Warroad are all owned by the Red Lake Nation and are operated by Red Lake Gaming Enterprises. Now named Seven Clans Red Lake, they have eliminated all table games. They do have video blackjack, but this facility seems to rely mostly on its slot machines, keno and the bingo parlor. I have talked with management and they can't see the return of the blackjack chips and tables in the near future. The only thing new here is a new Seven Clans logo \$1 token.





Seven Clans Warroad:

This facility used to be called Lake of the Woods International Casino in Warroad. They do have a small addition started, and did purchase a local Super 8 motel nearby and a well known lakeside restaurant, so there does seem to be a major plan in the making. I was casino hopping and stopped in for a looksee and counted 324 slot machines, and 6 blackjack tables. They are still using the Lake of the Woods International Casino logo chips and I look for this to change soon, though I couldn't get anybody to commit as to when this might happen. They don't utilize any form of players club. The only thing new here is, again, the \$1 token featuring the new Seven Clans logo.

Casino. The gaming facility has a very 'Vegas like' feel to it, plus the incredible ever changing sky scenes in the dome ceiling adds to the tremendous atmosphere. Here is what I found:

- More than 600 (\$.05 to \$1) slots
- Draw poker, keno & progressive machines
- \$3-\$200 live blackjack tables
- Full Bar featuring all your favorite cocktails.
- 24-hour restaurant.
- Live entertainment every week (usually free)
- Snowmobile Corral in the winter
- Heated gear storage in the winter
- "Goodie Bags" For snowmobilers.

New chips were issued (\$5 - \$100), but were pulled shortly after, and the casino has reverted to using the old logo style Northern Lights chips, though both old and new style \$1 tokens are being used throughout the facility. We hopefully will see the new chips resurfacing again soon!

Fond-Du-Luth:

This casino, operated by the Fond-du-Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, is located in downtown Duluth. The place has always been hopping when I've been there. The situation there remains unchanged with the exception of a new 2002 \$1 token issued in March 2002. This token is not just a new '02 issue of the older style token, it is a totally new and redesigned dated token.



Grand Casino Hinckley:

This fantastic place has 163,000 square feet of space just in the gambling area alone! I counted more than 2000 slot machines and found 46 table blackjack tables in operation, with six restaurants and 2 hotels. The blackjack tables offer a betting range of \$3 to \$5000 and they also have a 320 seat bingo hall, 12 video blackjack machines, 6 video craps machines, and 387 video poker machines.

They do have a "Advantage Players Club" and with four personnel manning the counter, the waiting line doesn't get very long. The sumptuous accommodations of the hotel complex with a total of 535 rooms also adds to the draw of this great getaway location. Another big plus is the RV Resort. It is within easy walking distance and has 274 RV pads with year 'round hookups, and also offers 50 fully furnished one and two bedroom chalets, which include touch-tone phones, cable TV and kitchen facilities. This is an awesome



Northern Lights:

The Northern Lights Casino located 4 miles south of Walker, also constructed a totally new facility. The Grand Opening was held on May 19, 2001 when they ushered everyone into the new facility and closed the doors on the old one at midnight. The plan is to have an ongoing Hotel & Convention Center project being constructed around the totally completed



casino where the seemingly non-stop action really enhances the overall gambling experience. A whole new chip rack in the following denominations: \$1, \$2.50, \$5, \$25, \$100 was distributed for use beginning in early March 2002 (HOORAY!!!), are certainly beautiful and nicely designed. A very nice place indeed!



Grand Casino Mille Lacs:

I found the gaming at this fine facility to very very stimulating and lively (that's code for having won!!). Here is some of the interesting data I found out about this 178,000 square foot casino.

The gaming floor contains 1,500 slots with \$.05 to \$25 bets and 36 blackjack tables offering betting limits of \$3 to \$1000. The Bingo Hall has 350 seats and there is also *Progressive Video Poker*, *Video Blackjack*, *Video Craps*, standard

Video Poker, and *Video Roulette*. The hotel complex has 284 rooms and overall there are 4 restaurants. But - the only thing new or different that I found here is a 2002 reissue of their \$1 token. It might be the 'old' style, but it certainly is a beauty!



Prairie's Edge Casino Resort: (under construction)

This very ambitious project by the Upper Sioux Indian Community is going to be located on a bluff overlooking the Minnesota River Valley about 5 miles south of Granite Falls. It is slated to open in January of 2003 and supposedly is going to replace the Firefly Creek Casino. The new complex is being built on 30 acres and will include a 90 room hotel. The gambling area is rumored to be half again as large as the current Firefly Creek facility and NEW CHIPS will be issued! So keep a watch out and remember that date (and start hoarding any Firefly Creek chips that you have!).

Shooting Star:

Last, but not least is the Shooting Star Casino located in Mahanomen. This great facility about 70 miles NE of Fargo, ND also has undergone a major expansion project. With the addition of a convention center, a new hotel complex and numerous shops, it has reaffirmed its' position as a major player on the Minnesota casino scene. The real modification affecting us as collectors and traders was the *addition of the new Poker Room in the gaming area of the casino*. This very

popular pastime, has a faithful following and there is almost always at least 1 game going on in this area. There are 4 poker tables to accommodate almost any type of betting situation and 7 card stud seems to be the game of choice. The chips need to be purchased and redeemed in the poker room, and I have seen the poker room manager go out onto the general gaming floor to request that the player return to the poker room and redeem his poker chips before leaving the poker area! These chips are extremely hard to get out of there with. It's almost as bad as trying to get roulette chips! Also, they have quit using the special \$1 High Roller Room tokens and are now using standard \$1 tokens instead.



Well, that seems to sum up the current major changes in the casino scene in Minnesota for the moment.

Vaya con dios and keep on chippin'! ❖

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<u>TOTAL ENCLOSED</u>	\$ _____

*Spouse's name _____

Silver Strikes Chapter

by Mary Lou Waterbury

Convention Time for Silver Strikers

We are now home and it is so quiet. No humming of the machines, clanking of coins, no canned or live music. There is not to be heard, the call of "cocktails." Another CC>CC convention come and gone.

I can't urge all of you silver strikers enough to be sure and go to the next convention next June. You will not be sorry. This year there were so many new strikes to pick up. Silverton had three, the Luxor five, Golden Gate six, Treasure Island one, Slots of Fun - four, one from the Las Vegas Club, four from Sahara, 12 from California, four from Gold Coast, six from Paris, two from the Golden Nugget, Orleans - two, and the blue ones from both the Plaza and the Las Vegas Club.

By now most of you know that the second silver strike tournament by the Flamingo and O'Shea's was canceled. Milton Sculky from New York, no less, arranged with the Las Vegas Club to have a trading room for all of us silver strikers on Monday and Tuesday before the convention started. This was well attended and all of us made some very good trades. It seemed the big topic of the day — all during the convention and those two trade days were — are the strikes in at Silverton? How about the airport? Have you heard anything about the Barbary Coast? By the time we

left on Monday morning, June 10, the strikes were not in at the Aladdin, the Barbary Coast or the airport. It had been iffy if the New York New York would get their new sports set in and they had not when we left.

The convention floor was busy all three days. It just barely slowed down before the end of the day Saturday. The Silver Strikers had the first table as you entered the convention room. We were selling the Chapter tee shirts and pins. Of course we were also renewing memberships and also signing up new members. That total will be coming out in our newsletter. I just know we signed up more people this year than we did last.

Finally it was The Last Dance. By then with all the trading that had taken place all week, I was wondering if there would be anyone left to trade. Not to have worried! We were one of the last out at around 10:30 p.m. We came home with many of the new strikes along with the \$200's that were available. We felt it was a very successful convention for everyone. The announcement was made that your current officers are going to be stepping down and new officers will be elected in the coming year. We want to thank everyone for the great experience and the opportunity to lead the Silver Strikers these first four years. We are proud of what we have accomplished.

The convention is time to meet

your old friends and put faces to names that you have only traded with during the last year. This has to be one of the greatest hobbies that you can get involved with!

See you all next year.

Mary Lou Waterbury
President, Silver Strikers ❖



Chris Calangelo, of Tiny Treasures
Speaker



Mary Lou Waterbury

Continued on next page



Ray Moritz & Mary Lou Waterbury



Ray Moritz & Sue Cohenour



Howard & Kregg Herz



Milt & Beth Sculky



Lester Carter & Gail Takenaka



Evelyn Grosklaus



Dennis & Linda Finn



Milton Sculky &
Mary Lou Waterbury



Jack Haddock & Brian Bishop



Jack Haddock



Pam Corry & Mark Gyde



Ed Mahan



Ray Moritz & Jack Haddock



Clayton & Mary Lou Waterbury



Mike Watkins & Don Nesbitt



Rick Andrae, Evelyn Grosklaus & Mary Lou Waterbury



Tony & Christie Gregory, Pam Corry



Don Nesbitt



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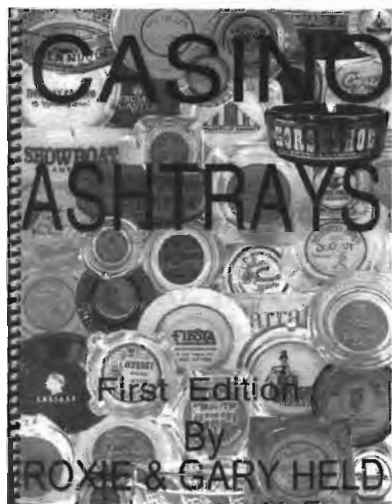
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Auction Results

Lot#	Description	Bid	Lot#	Description	Bid
1	Medal #1	\$100	44	\$1 Deadwood Livery & Slot	\$50
2	25¢ Prell Aladdin	\$1,250	45	\$5 Deadwood Livery & Slot	\$100
3	\$500 Aladdin	\$380	46	\$25 Deadwood Livery & Slot	\$200
4	\$7, Aladdin Silver Strike	\$15	47	\$5 Desert Inn, WC	\$560
5	\$7, Aladdin Silver Strike	\$23	48	\$5 Desert Inn	\$300
6	\$25, Aspin Mine & Casino	\$30	49	\$5 Desert Inn	\$100
7	Group, 10 Arrowdie, NV	\$275	50	\$100 Desert Inn	\$200
8	\$100 Ballys	\$140	51	\$20 Desert Inn, Baccarat	\$0
9	\$100, Bank Club, Reno	\$125	52	\$1000 Desert Inn, Baccarat	\$275
10	\$2.50 H of F set, Horseshoe	\$140	53	\$5000 Desert Inn, Baccarat	\$350
11	\$5 H of F set, Horseshoe	\$110	54	\$5 Dopey Norman	\$160
12	7 checks, Horseshoe Club	\$90	55	\$5 Dunes Hotel	\$575
13	\$5 Bird Cage	\$50	56	Dunes, roulette	\$175
14	2 checks, Atlantic City	\$25	57	\$1 token, 1965-FM Dunes	\$25
15	\$5 Bonanza Casino	\$40	58	\$25 Dunes	\$170
16	Brighton roulette	\$75	59	\$5 Dunes Casino	\$400
17	\$5 Golden Nugget	\$2,800	60	50¢ Dunes, card room	\$125
18	\$25 Caesars, Atlantic City	\$211	61	Group intern checks & jetons	\$25
19	\$5 Caesars Palace, LV	\$373	62	\$25 EB (Broderick)	\$90
20	\$100 Caesars Palace, LV	\$135	63	\$5 Sierra Sid's	\$25
21	\$100 Caesars Palace, LV	\$180	64	50¢ El Cortez	\$1,100
22	100 Caesars Palace/Tahoe	\$80	65	\$25 El Rancho Hotel	\$75
23	Group Cruise Ship checks	\$25	66	\$1 El Rancho Hotel	\$100
24	\$5 Cal's, NLV	\$75	67	\$5 El Rancho Vegas Hotel	\$150
25	\$1 Cal-Neva Biltmore	\$80	68	\$5 El Rancho Vegas	\$225
26	\$5 Cal-Neva Biltmore	\$125	69	\$25 El Rancho Vegas	\$250
27	WITHDRAWN	\$0	70	\$25 El Rancho Vegas	\$350
28	\$5 Cal-Neva Lodge	\$70	71	\$25 El Rancho Vegas	\$50
29	\$25 Cal-Neva Lodge	\$150	72	\$25 El Rey Resort	\$175
30	\$100 Cal-Neva Lodge	\$125	73	\$25 El-Inca Casino	\$30
31	\$100 California Club	\$100	74	\$5 Exchange Club	\$75
32	\$1000 Casino Del Rio	\$150	75	\$5 Riviera Hotel	\$2,047
33	\$2.50 Casino Queen	\$20	76	Group bone checks, Carib.	\$275
34	9 checks, Castaways	\$110	77	Group Cuban casino checks	\$125
35	\$25 Christmas Tree	\$75	78	\$1 The Farm	\$50
36	\$25 Claridge Hi-Ho	\$125	79	2 Flamingo Hotel	\$200
37	\$5 Las Vegas Club	\$0	80	50¢ Flamingo Hotel	\$150
38	\$5 Club Bingo	\$110	81	50¢ Flamingo	\$176
39	\$5 Club Boheme	\$30	82	\$1 Flamingo Hotel	\$150
40	\$100 Colbrandt's	\$75	83	\$1 Four Queens	\$100
41	\$5 Copa Lounge	\$425	84	\$5 Four Queens	\$475
42	\$25 Curacao Hilton	\$20	85	\$1 Four Queens	\$150
43	10 Deadwood SD	\$50	86	\$1 Fremont Hotel	\$150

Lot#	Description	Bid	Lot#	Description	Bid
87	\$1 Friendly Club	\$50	136	Slot card, Landmark	\$250
88	25¢ Frontier Club	\$60	137	25¢ Las Vegas Club	\$40
89	\$1 Frontier Hotel	\$65	138	WITHDRAWN	\$0
90	\$5 Frontier Hotel	\$60	139	500 Casino Du Liban	\$30
91	\$25 Flamingo	\$3,100	140	N.D. LL, Pen Yan Club	\$200
92	1965 Franklin Mint Proof	\$300	141	\$5 Louigi's Broiler	\$70
93	Group Cruise Ship checks	\$40	142	Group 25¢ & 50¢ NV checks	\$55
94	\$25 Glass Crutch	\$225	143	roll tokens, MGM Grand	\$40
95	\$5 Golden Club	\$325	144	\$5 Main Street, Black Hawk	\$35
96	pair checks, Golden Hotel	\$50	145	50¢ Mint	\$150
97	\$5 Golden Gulch	\$75	146	\$100 MGM Desert Inn	\$200
98	\$5 Golden Nugget	\$525	147	\$20 MGM baccarat	\$200
99	\$25 Golden Nugget	\$200	148	Group checks MGM Grand	\$300
100	Group Habana Hilton chips	\$90	149	\$25 Monte Carlo	\$100
101	Group Havana paper items	\$90	150	Group checks, Montgomery	\$25
102	N.D. Hard Rock Hotel	\$85	151	\$25 Moulin Rouge	\$625
103	set \$5 Barris chips Hard Rk	\$100	152	\$100 Moulin Rouge	\$625
104	Hard Rock roulette set	\$60	153	\$100 Paddlewheel	\$0
105	Hard Rock roulette	\$130	154	\$5 NSC, North Shore Club	\$325
106	Group Hard Rock checks	\$3,300	155	Roulette, North Shore Club	\$20
107	Harrahs Tunica roulettes	\$40	156	\$100 Nevada Club	\$126
108	\$5 chip/token Harrahs Reno	\$150	157	Pair checks Nevada Club	\$30
109	\$25 Harrahs Reno	\$225	158	\$20 Nevada Club	\$95
110	\$500 Harveys Lake Tahoe	\$375	159	\$5 New Town Tavern	\$225
111	star roulette, Hilton AC	\$10	160	10¢ Orbit Inn	\$100
112	\$5 Holiday Queen	\$1,250	161	\$25 Paradise Hotel	\$250
113	\$1 Hollywood Casino	\$5	162	25¢ Pequop Casino	\$200
114	Chinese New Year set	\$35	163	Pioneer 12 pc set	\$75
115	\$25 Hoot Gibson D4C	\$100	164	25¢ The Pit	\$70
116	\$5 Hunters Lodge	\$60	165	Group Interantional checks	\$45
117	Group \$25 Nevada checks	\$60	166	\$2.50 Playboy AC	\$550
118	Group 99 Indian Gaming cks	\$90	167	\$2.50 Primadona	\$175
119	\$5.25,100 Imperial Palace	\$125	168	\$25 Puerto Rico Sheraton	\$10
120	\$5 International	\$250	169	\$5 Pussycat a Go Go	\$85
121	Group 6 illegal checks	\$20	170	Group \$1 Nevada checks	\$40
122	Super lot casino slot cards	\$1,200	171	\$5 Resorts International	\$0
123	Check set, J&J, Anaconda MT	\$45	172	Set \$5 Red Dolly Casino	\$45
124	\$1000 Jet Set, Caesars	\$75	173	\$100 RR, Reno Ramada	\$150
125	Group of 3 \$5 checks, LV	\$65	174	\$1 Riviera, Miami FL	\$20
126	Group 5 mother-of-pearl	\$40	175	\$100 Riviera, Miami FL	\$30
127	\$25 & \$100 King 8	\$75	176	50¢ Riviera Hotel	\$100
128	WITHDRAWN	\$0	177	Pair Las Vegas checks	\$60
129	Group \$25 Nevada checks	\$80	178	Trio \$5 Riviera checks	\$375
130	\$5 Dunes Hotel	\$0	179	Group \$10 tokens Riviera	\$160
131	\$1 Lady Luck	\$175	180	\$100 Riviera Hotel	\$175
132	Group 9 Lady Luck	\$150	181	Group mfg samples, B&G	\$75
133	\$5 Landmark Hotel	\$800	182	\$5 Sahara Hotel, Del Webb	\$150
134	Landmark Hotel	\$175	183	\$5 Sahara Reno	\$250
135	\$1 Landmark	\$150	184	\$2.50 Sahara Reno	\$350

Lot#	Description	Bid	Lot#	Description	Bid
185	\$2.50 Sahara Tahoe	\$50	218	\$2.50 Sundance	\$225
186	Group checks Sahara Tahoe	\$50	219	WITHDRAWN	\$0
187	\$1 Sahara Thunderbird	\$100	220	\$5 Swede's	\$25
188	Group \$100 checks NV	\$200	221	Group checks Sands & TBird	\$60
189	\$5 Sands	\$2,257	222	\$25 Tahoe Palace	\$100
190	\$1 Sands	\$350	223	Roulette Tahoe Village	\$150
191	\$5 Sands	\$3,000	224	\$25 TB	\$30
192	\$5 Sands Hotel	\$70	225	\$5 Flamingo	\$3,500
193	\$100 Sands	\$275	226	\$5 Thunderbird	\$150
194	\$1 Sans Souci	\$75	227	\$25 Tony's Club	\$125
195	\$25 Sandy Sandquist	\$100	228	\$4 Top of the Vine	\$20
196	\$5 The Shack	\$50	229	\$5 Town Club	\$25
197	\$5 Shamrock Hotel	\$25	230	\$1 Travelodge	\$500
198	25¢ Sharkey's Casino	\$50	231	\$5 Treasure Chest	\$20
199	\$1 Sharkey's Casino	\$25	232	Group 4 checks Treasure Isl	\$40
200	\$3 Sharkey's	\$35	233	\$100 Tropicana	\$75
201	25¢ Sierra Lodge	\$80	234	500 Tropicana Hotel	\$70
202	\$5 Sierra Tahoe	\$25	235	\$100 Trump Taj Mahal	\$130
203	Group 9 checks Silver Bird	\$75	236	\$5 Royal Flush Trump Castl	\$75
204	\$1 Silver Palace	\$60	237	\$25 Colorado Checks	\$0
205	\$5 Silver Slipper	\$25	238	10¢ United Club	\$10
206	\$25 Silver Slipper	\$300	239	\$1 Viejas Valley Casino	\$20
207	\$100 Silver Slipper	\$275	240	\$25 checks Wagon Wheel	\$100
208	Group 4 Nevada checks	\$25	241	\$1 Wagon Wheel	\$150
209	\$5 Sky Line	\$10	242	\$5 Willows	\$40
210	\$100 Thunderbird	\$1,500	243	Group mfg samples B&G	\$90
211	\$20 Sonoma Inn	\$180	244	Building Fund Picture	\$5
212	\$25 Sonoma Inn	\$45	245	Chip Rack 38	\$10
213	Pair Lake Tahoe cks	\$50	246	Chip Rack	\$10
214	\$1 set checks Splendour	\$30	247	Chip Rack	\$10
215	Group checks St Johns	\$100	248	Medal	\$25
216	Group checks Stardust	\$825	249	Jacket	\$50
217	25¢ Steve's Gay Ninetys	\$20	250	Black Chip	\$30



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THE COLLECTOR'S PSYCHE

TO KNOW IT IS TO LOVE IT

by Dr. Avram Eskin

The following thoughts came out of a brief but memorable conversation I had with a fellow collector, Ralph Mancinelli. He pointed out to me the various motives we have for being in the same hobby together and I found it thought provoking. Perhaps you will find it helpful to acknowledge these different styles of collecting when dealing with other collectors. Thank you Ralph.

We all love to collect for different reasons. Just as collecting different items naturally separates two collectors, collecting for differing reasons also hinders our transactions. So I think it is good to at least be aware of our varied "modus operandi". We usually don't speak of our motives in collecting but if we did it might help us to understand and accept each other a little more and have the fewest miscommunications with each other.

Some people collect chips and some people collect silver strikes. OK, you understand that. You understand that a silver strike collector might find it difficult to approach a chip collector and expect to receive a trade for silver strikes. Likewise, it is equally difficult for a strictly "roulette chip collector" to trade with a "commemorative chip collector". You get my point; we automatically take these things into account when we negotiate with another collector.

We find it helpful in some ways to define ourselves to each other. For instance, someone might define them-

selves by stating "I collect only \$5 or under House Chips from Northern Nevada". This person is saying "please don't ask me to accept that \$25 commemorative from Shreveport Louisiana no matter how rare or valuable it is because I really don't want it in return for the chip that we are negotiating". It helps to set ground rules on our individual trading practices. It eliminates misunderstandings.

Consider further that it might also help to define yourselves not only by what you collect but for the reasons you are a "Collector". I write this article so that you might consider your own motives and express yourself even more clearly when working closely with another collector while trading or selling.

Ralph, who is a long time coin collector made the following observation to me one day - He said that most coin collectors started collecting like this:

In their earliest experience of collecting coins, most coin collectors are actually not collectors but more accurately described as "Accumulators". They pick up a nice looking coin wherever it falls across their path-in pocket change, doing business at the bank, out of a cash register, etc. After having casually "accumulated" the various dates in the nicest condition as much as they can in their daily life, they are left with the option of taking the next step toward completing their collection. To do this would mean more aggressively looking around the

coin collecting community to fill the remaining holes in their collections. Taking this action steps them up from a casual "Accumulator" to that of a more serious "Collector".

To me, the serious "Collector" means something pretty specific. It means someone who is eventually going to put together a defined "collection". In my mind, in order to finish this task the serious collector will eventually be faced with the proposition of filling those last 10 or 15 holes in order to complete their collection. The serious Collector may not realize it when they start out, but they will find out toward the completion of the collection process that they will most likely spend exponentially more and more money filling the last 2% of the holes in their collection than they did "accumulating" the first 98% of their collection. You know what I mean if you have ever tried to complete a collection. The point I am making is - the "true Collector" will do it. Whatever it costs, it doesn't matter, the "true Collector" completes the task so he or she can stand back and say to themselves "now it is complete". The collection process has a beginning, a middle and a definite end to it.

I have spoken of "Accumulating" as a style and truly "Collecting" as another style; there is yet another style of approaching the collectibles market: When the true Collector chases down those final pieces, often years after beginning the process; after the more casual "accumulation"

phase and the more rigorous “collection” phase, they realise that only a small percentage of the entire collection will have steadily risen in price through time. These select pieces, I would refer to as “investment grade” material. Investment Grade Material again is that part of the collection that is hardest to find and tends rarely to fall in price, it’s cost simply goes in one direction over time and that is up.

Some people, after finishing their first collection, will start new collections by immediately going after the investment grade pieces of their next targeted collection first. They know that these pieces will eventually be the hardest to find in the future and more expensive later on. Often some collectors of investment grade pieces will stop right there and only collect “the good stuff” - Ralph referred to these people as “Investors”.

Within our vast hobby of chips, tokens, silver strikes, dice, ashtrays, room keys, slot cards, etc. in my mind I’ve decided to loosely divide people into four general categories, all of whom chase the same collectibles that I go after but for different reasons and in different ways. You will find “Accumulators”, “True Collectors”, “Accumulator/Investors” and occasionally some real “Hardcore Investors”.

The psyche of the people who make up these four categories usually differs slightly in sometimes subtle and sometimes not so subtle ways.

The Accumulator accumulates - most collectors do this! You pick up a piece you like for the picture, the sentiment, the diversity, etc. The people who do this exclusively and don’t aspire to anything of a more obsessive-compulsive nature are “Accumulators”. I might describe them as collectors who get what they

can get, when they can get it. The beauty of what they do and the way they do it is they have fun, they stay relaxed, they wheel and deal but at the end of the day they can’t loose. They are content to have fun and accept that they may never have the “complete” collection that another more obsessive-compulsive person might have to have. You might say these people are into the “process” of collecting but not worried about the final “goal”. This is merely one style of doing things - I don’t mean to insinuate that it is any more right or wrong than any of the other styles in which people collect. I’m merely trying to describe one type of personality you might come across.

The true Collector, I believe, is a “horse of a different color”. This person may begin their career as an Accumulator but ends up being the most finely tuned end product of an efficient accumulating machine. This person is “driven” obsessively soon after beginning their process as an Accumulator. Once they have defined a succinct collection for themselves, they must complete it. It is important that they can put the definition of their collection into words and relate it to others. Once it is defined, they will complete that very thing which they have defined in words. The true “Collector” won’t rest until he gets to his final goal - the completed collection of “this, that, and the other thing”. While This person also enjoys the “process” he can not experience it without also remaining conscious of the day he reaches his “goal”. Nothing right or wrong about this person - just a different personality type who is chasing the same collectibles you do.

The Investor/Accumulator is another story. This person loves “the hunt” for something and “the kill” when he finds it. He tends not to

waste his time or energy on hunting and killing just anything. He wants to know that someday he will be rewarded for his efforts and the more handsomely he is rewarded the more he can justify the time, the energy and the expense he expends while practicing “the hunt and the kill”. This person will look at his one or two or three or ten or twenty real “scores” in his time of accumulating and savor those particular pieces. He never knows when the next real “score” will be or where it will come from but just hopes that he will be in the right place at the right time to hit another one again. Very often this person is also an accumulator, of sorts. He tends to “accumulate that which he thinks is destined to go up in value” which is the simple definition of his final goal. Again, the Investor/Accumulator enjoys the “process” and has a less strict “goal” for himself than the “Collector”. He simply wants what he has to “appreciate in value” over time. He envisions seeing his efforts bear fruit by selectively going after items he believes have the greatest potential to become “investment grade quality” pieces someday. He hopes that his predictions come true over time.

Lastly we have the hardcore form of “The Investor”. I guess we can call him the “True Investor”. This person also enjoys the hunt and the kill but lets money and timing be his weapon of choice. As this person sees a select piece emerging from the vast sea of his chosen field of collectable, and he identifies that this one select piece is apparently destined for greatness by the public opinion of the collecting community at large, he will seek out that one piece and pay the price of acquisition. For some Investors the higher the price, the more his feeling of satisfaction in acquiring that piece can be. Hard for you to understand? Look at it this way: The faster this

piece is appreciating the more the True Investor likes it because he wants the wild ride up to whatever level this piece will take him and he has the pride of ownership all the way up. He will eventually point to his collection of select pieces with pride and can boast about what each and every piece cost him to acquire. No matter how much The Investor initially paid he is mentally assessing what level of value his pieces have obtained and it gives him a sense of power and self worth to think that all of you other collectors are possibly a little jealous. He wants you to know that you did not have the same "cahones" he had in the "hunt and kill" instinct while acquiring your own collection. It's a very "machismo"

kind of thing! Financially, The True Investor knows that in the long run even though his collection will have cost him a lot to procure, it will still be only a fraction of what it's eventual worth will be. He also takes solace in knowing that his collection of expensive pieces will be exemplary and someday be described in superlative terms, maybe even written up in a book. In other words, this person owns the best of the best and doesn't care about getting a deal or not; all he cares about is owning "The Best Of The Best".

There you have it, differing styles of gathering the exact same collectibles that you acquire. It explains why one person will

absolutely jump at an opportunity to own the "rare" piece and another doesn't care, and another wants it but only if you cut him an absolutely crazy deal, etc. The beauty is in the diversity of all of our different human natures coming together in pursuit of the same collectibles. There is also beauty in our civility with one another even though we all think that we are "right" in the way we personally approach "The Hobby". Accept it,

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CC>CC Announcement Board

NEW: Election Co-Chairpersons

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 6/19/2002 5:19 p.m.

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of long-time club members Vince and Bettye Mowery as Election Co-Chairpersons for the upcoming club election. They will be responsible for receiving the nominations and contacting those prospective candidates. Election ballots will be mailed to Mowery's who will assemble a committee to verify, open and count the ballots.

The Call for Nominations will appear in the upcoming Summer issue of the club magazine. To be a candidate, a member needs to receive at least two nominations for a specific position. Our club always needs concerned and dedicated members to run for office and I encourage those with an interest in serving to step forward.

Thanks to Vince and Bettye for their willingness to serve in this very important and crucial position.

CC & GTCC Website

Claims Director

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 5/23/2002 10:40 p.m.

I am very happy to announce the appointment of Jim Pierre as the new CC & GTCC Claims Director. Jim has been a club member since 1996 and collects chips from many areas including downtown Las Vegas, his home state of Washington and Russia.

Jim brings many years of experience to this position. He was an engineer for Boeing Co. for 35 years before retiring in 1999. During his tenure at Boeing, Jim had the responsibility to resolve conflicts between engineering groups and between engineering and manufacturing. He was a long time member of the union that represents engineers and technical employees at Boeing and he held various leadership positions, including President. He was also a member of the contract negotiation team.

Jim has been married to Pauline since 1957. In his personal life, he has served on the Board of Adjustments in Auburn, WA and was state president of a referee's association that oversaw youth soccer throughout the state.

In the future, all complaints and claims should be directed to Jim. He can be contacted at piebo@attbi.com or by mail at:

Jim Pierre
2615 Dogwood St. SE
Auburn, WA 98092-7971

I know that you join with me in welcoming Jim to the position and wishing him the best.

Financial Statements

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 5/14/2002 11:29 a.m.

Financial statements for the first quarter, 2002 have been posted on the club website. They can be viewed by going to the Treasurer's contact information under the Officers tab. Here are the direct links.

Profit and Loss Statement

<http://www.ccgtec.com/PL-03-2002.jpg>

Balance Sheet

<http://www.ccgtec.com/BS-03-2002.jpg>

Brass Core Interim Report

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 5/7/2002 9:02 p.m.

The Board of Directors has issued an interim brass core report that includes the Board's decision regarding one aspect of the investigation. The interim report can be viewed at <http://www.ches.net/chips/core3.htm> and will be posted on the club website as soon as possible. This interim report will be made available to the entire membership in the next issue of the magazine.

Your Officers have gone where no other previous Board members have had to go in pursuing a matter of this magnitude and importance. We needed to transverse this ground cautiously. Getting to the correct conclusion by traveling the longer and slower road, though certainly the road with more bumps and potholes, gives us all comfort in our difficult decisions.

On a personal note, this has been an extremely difficult and gut wrenching experience for me. The conclusion and subsequent action, though taken unanimously by the Board, gives me no comfort nor solace. While I have never had any allusions about life and greed, I always held out hope that it was different within our hobby. That all club members treated each other in an open and ethical manner, promoting goodwill rather than practicing deception, helping their fellow collector instead of hurting our hobby. The lessons that I have learned are to be cautious, ask questions, get a written receipt and report any suspicious items to a club Officer. We all need to take the initiative to move our club and hobby to the highest level of integrity.

I want to thank Jim Reilly for all his work on this matter. He worked tirelessly, interviewing and investigating. He wrote an extensive report that was presented to the Board and is the basis for the Board's interim report and decisions. While Jim and the Board had differences, neither party lost sight of the mission to perform in the best interests of the club members.

Let me assure you that the investigation will continue and I urge any member with information relevant to this matter to come forward.

I am sure that there will be questions and comments. Please post them on the Club Message Board and the Board will address them.

Nate Pincus

Brass Core Interim Report

The Report is now located on the Club's Website

Greg has posted the report on the club's website in the reference section

<http://www.ccgccc.com/bci020503.htm>

Logo Usage Committee

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 4/22/2002 10:59 a.m.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Charles Kaplan as the new Chairman of the Logo Usage Committee. This committee has the responsibility to establish the guidelines and requirements for use of the Club's logo and name. Charles will be appointing other members to work with him on this very important matter.

Charles has been a very active volunteer, presently overseeing the Club's Glossary and helping with Atlantic City Chapter correspondence.

Our logo and name are very significant assets and Charles and his committee are charged with developing a plan to assure their use is in the best interests of the Club. I'm sure that Charles would like to hear from interested members on this subject.

On behalf of the Board and all Club members, I thank him for accepting this position and wish him well.

ClubMail Postmaster

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 4/20/2002 7:11 a.m.

I am pleased to announce that Kyle Gorman has been appointed as the Club's first ClubMail Postmaster. Kyle will be responsible for setting up and maintaining email accounts for all club members. ClubMail is a new feature being offered to all members as a benefit of membership. You will be hearing more about this after Kyle gets the infrastructure in place.

Kyle has extensive computer experience and knowledge and is responsible for creating and maintaining the Great Lakes Chapter website. Please welcome Kyle to this new position.

Club Building Project

Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> — 4/18/2002 10:27 a.m.

I am extremely excited to announce that the Club Building Project Finance Committee is now active. Chairman Jim Kruse will be spearheading the efforts to establish a headquarters building for the club. This long-term effort has been split into two functions. The early effort will be centered on raising funds with an initial goal of \$50,000. Once this goal has been reached, a separate Development Committee will develop the actual detailed plan and budget necessary to acquire and maintain the CC>CC Headquarters building.

The Board has voted to transfer \$5000 from our general operating account into a new headquarters building account to get the Finance Committee started. You will be hearing more from Jim in the near future about his plans to raise the substantial funds needed to bring this project to fruition.

This is just the first step in a long and difficult journey. There is much that needs to be accomplished and I feel confident that with Jim's leadership, success is just a matter of time.

Online Communications Director

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 4/17/2002 10:23 p.m.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Jim Follis as our Online Communications Director. 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.

Please join with me and my fellow Board members to welcome Jim to this new and very crucial position.

Nate

Club Publicity Director

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 4/11/2002 12:17 p.m.

Rich Burgel has submitted his resignation as Club Publicity Director due to outside business commitments. Rich is in the process of opening additional retail stores in the Las Vegas area and is not able to devote the necessary time to the Publicity Director position.

Rich, Thank you for all his efforts on behalf of the club and I wish you success in his new ventures.

I am seeking a volunteer to assume the Club Publicity Director position. The job involves publicizing the club and our activities nationally and in local markets, working with the Convention Chairman to promote our annual convention and to develop and manage marketing and advertising campaigns on behalf of the club and the hobby. Experience in any of these areas would be a tremendous asset. Interested members should contact me at president@cgtcc.com .

Claims Director

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 4/11/2002 12:16 p.m.

It has recently become obvious that Jim Reilly and the Board of the CCGTCC disagreed about certain aspects of the brass core matter. Due to these on-going differences, Jim and I agreed that he should resign his position as CCGTCC Claims Director. On April 10, Jim Reilly submitted his resignation.

Thank you to Jim for all that you have done for the club during your tenure as Claims Director. I want to assure Jim and the membership that the Board is committed to continuing the investigation.

Brass Core Update

Nate Pincus <president@cgtcc.com> — 4/11/2002 12:06 p.m.

In regards to the continuing brass core investigation, the Board is committed to taking action against any members who violated our Code of Ethics and to releasing information. We are currently pursuing and documenting leads while working under the guidance of the Club's legal advisor.

The conservative approach in releasing information is intentional due to concerns over potential liability. I am not willing to place our club in jeopardy by taking action against members and/or releasing information prematurely. And I am not willing to name anyone who may be involved without specific and corroborative evidence.

I understand everyone's desire to have all the information now. But please understand that this is an on-going investigation, probably the most serious investigation this club has ever undertaken with very grave implications and we need to move ahead deliberately.

Online Communications Director

neal <vicepresident@cgtcc.com> — 3/30/2002 7:21 p.m.

CC>CC Online Communications Director

New Position - Can You Fill It?

Primarily as a result of the Internet's popularity and a desire to improve communication in general the Board of Directors has created a new position - Online Communications Director.

Today questions and inquiries posed on the Internet often need to be addressed very quickly, in some cases almost immediately, where in the past the CC&TN publication dates often guided the calendar in terms of responding and announcing. It is intended that the Online Communications Director will help keep members better informed and provide more timely answers requiring the Board's status and position on various issues. The Director will have to focus on the Board's positions for accuracy in communications rather than on his/her own feelings on a given issue.

The Online Communications will be responsible with tracking several of the key message boards that deal with our collecting community, handle emerging issues, respond to member inquiries about the Board of Directors, and to provide a continual stream of relevant announcements when they are available.

As we continue to wrap ourselves around technology it is hoped that the Club's Online Communications Director will be able to host an online (on our Club's site) chat room. This is foreseen as a monthly event with a member from the Board of Directors sitting in to help field member questions. One of the areas this might impact would be in providing the Board's perspective on controversial issues. Hopefully this will aid members in getting a better sense of the Club's intended direction. Once implemented it is worthy to note that some chat room software packages are able to record the chat and provide a transcript could be subsequently published in the CC&TN.

We have been coordinating a growing IT staff and implementing new features on the web site. This new position of Online Communication Director is an adjunct to that work that, hopefully, will allow us to use the Internet to improve overall Club communications.

So we need some volunteers. The pay stinks, but the feeling of satisfaction and the rewards to both the Club and hobby are significant. Please contact any member of the Board, or President Nate Pincus, directly. ❖

Book Reviews

Howdy's Illustrated Guide to Nevada Silver Strike Redeemable Premium Tokens

1st Edition (2002)

Authors: Howard W. Herz & Kregg L. Herz

Kregg's Guide to the Records of The United States Playing Card Co.

First Edition (2001)

Author: Kregg L. Herz; Edited by Howard W. Herz

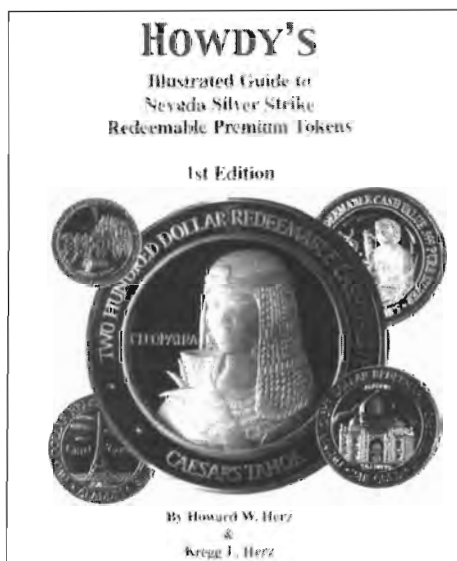
by Robert Pardue

A new publication by Howard (Howdy) and Kregg Herz always sheds new light and organization on a particular facet of chip or token collecting. Before commenting on the two specific books in this review, allow me to introduce the authors, in the unlikely event that you are not already familiar with their contributions to the hobby. Howard and Kregg Herz operate Gaming Archaeology, selling chips and tokens at some of the chip shows, publishing books about chips and tokens, conducting auctions (including composing the auction catalog for the annual convention), researching chip and token history and myriad other projects related to casino collectibles.

The early Herz works — *Harvey's Guide to Collecting Gaming Checks* (1985) and *Chips and A Collector's Guide to Nevada Gaming Checks & Chips* (1995) — were two of the first attempts to explain chip molds and manufacturing techniques and illustrate many of the Nevada casino chips issued up to the date of publication. The basic information contained in these two early works is still important for a well-rounded chipper to know, even though the price estimates in the 1995 guide have been eclipsed by increases in many obsolete chips. The illustrated format (usually 8-10 items per page, with

concise information and representative photo) is carried forward to these newest Herz publications.

Howdy's Illustrated Guide to Nevada Silver Strike Redeemable Premium Tokens

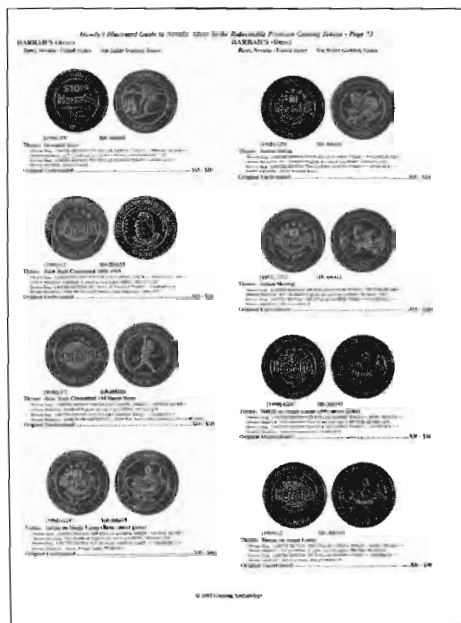


(aka Howdy's Silver Strike guide) is the newest Herz publication, with 197 pages in 8 1/2 x 11 spiral-bound format. Background information about Silver Strike tokens, minting procedures and definitions and some history about these tokens provides the collector with a context of their use. The usual Herz knack for researching, organizing and presenting information in a clear format makes this an easy guide to use for the casual reader, and at the same

time, offers additional background information for the more serious Silver Strike collector. The guide lists these tokens sorted by denomination first, then alphabetically for all the Nevada casinos known to have issued these premium tokens that have become a fast-growing specialty within the chip & token collecting hobby.

Typically, 8 pairs of photos (both obverse & reverse) are presented on each page of the guide, with accompanying complete language of the ring & medallion on both sides. For collectors who may focus on a specific artistic or historical theme, the authors have listed the theme for each token. In addition to the photos and written information, a value estimate is stated for each token in the guide.

Howdy's Silver Strike guide is easy to use, with dividers for each group of tokens. Use it as a checklist, or read it from cover to cover if you're a serious collector. The ease of use may even mask the effort required to compile and present the contents of this new guide. The research involved in cataloging Nevada Silver Strikes and price ranges is significant, and evident in this new work.

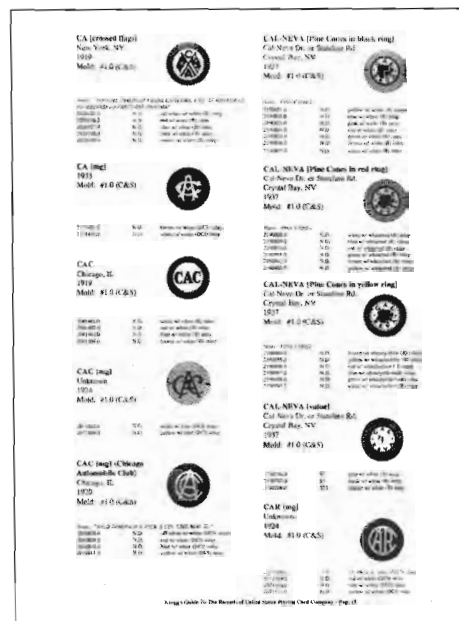


Sample pages from Howdy's Silver Strike Guide

Kregg's Guide to the Records of The United States Playing Card Co.



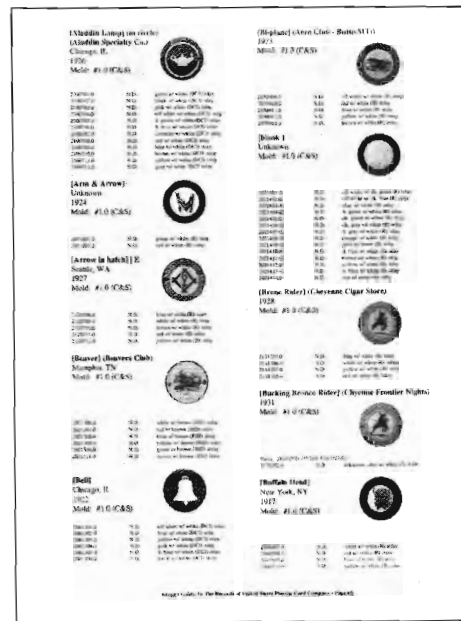
(aka Kregg's USPC guide) was published last year, with 77 pages in 8 1/2 x 11 spiral-bound format. For the collector of crest-and-seal or plain mold type chips, this guide is a must. But the audience of interest should also include any historically-minded chip collector who wants to know more about the early days of chip manufacturing.



Sample pages from Kregg's USPC Guide

USPC produced chips in their Cincinnati manufacturing plant from 1908 to the 1940's, according to this guide. It is a pleasure to see many of these chips, produced over 60 years ago, illustrated and cataloged in Kregg's USPC guide. Most of the chips were made for private or club use in the era before licensed casinos after 1931, though an occasional casino order (e.g. Cal-Neva "pine cone" chips from Lake Tahoe) are also represented.

A representative photo accompanies the information about each chip order, including known colors and denominations (most are non-denominational chips). The end-user of the chips ordered from USPC may not be the same as the purchase information, as these chips travelled through distributors or other conduits in cases where an "unlicensed" use occurred. But these historical records, gleaned from the original manufacturing source, is just the tantalizing "tip of the iceberg" for intrepid chip researchers and even for casual chippers wanting to know more about those round pieces of clay. ❖





Phenomenon

by Avram Eskin

I have now been involved with the CC& GTC Club for about ten years. I can't help but notice the effect that Ebay has had on our various hobbies. I do not have my finger on the pulse of everything that we collect under the banner of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club but I have watched Silver Strikes more than anything else and this is my observation of how "The Ebay Phenomenon" manifests itself to me. Please be advised that I do not claim to be an expert, I merely offer this article for discussion purposes. In my logical mind, Ebay should represent a very tried and true marketplace. One where supply and demand are reflected to perfection because I assume that the Ebay community is as big as the internet itself; but logic dictates that this is not true in reality.

Theoretically speaking, in a very large marketplace made up of thousands upon thousands of people, supply & demand would most likely be reflected in the following manner: When a new piece of potentially endless supply would be offered, it should go for the minimum amount of money that collectors will be willing to spend. A new silver strike that comes out within the last week or so should go for the cost of the silver strike, plus the smallest premium to cover the cost of offering it on Ebay and shipping it out to another collector - like a minimal "service or sweat equity charge" placed on top of the basic cost of the strike. It should be a

minimal expense because the strike will potentially be available for the next 6 months. The strike should be very high on the supply side of the equation (there is an endless supply as long as the casino continues to order new strikes) and at a moderate to low point for the demand side of the equation, (since there is no time limit on how long the strike will be in the casino, there should be no real rush or "demand" to get the strike).

In my perfect supply/demand marketplace the strike should first begin to rise in price when it is officially discontinued. Then it should rise either quickly or slowly over time depending upon A. the amount of residual demand for the strike, B. the number of pieces that were produced to supply that demand and C. their relative ease of availability. I hope you followed all of that! If not go back and read it again before you go on and see if you don't agree with my idea of how a perfect marketplace should be reflected.

To me it appears that the Ebay marketplace works opposite from what the theoretical "norm" should be in a large unencumbered "free" marketplace. For instance, in the silver strike realm of the Ebay market, the more expensive strikes are the ones that have just been released, and after they have been out for a month or two they settle down to slightly less than the same price levels that many of the obsolete strikes that will never be reproduced again are trading at. This baffles me since it appears to be

180 degrees contrary to what you would think it should be.

I don't claim to understand why this happens with silver strikes on Ebay, but I theorize that the EBAY marketplace for silver strikes is actually very small and therefore does not act like a true marketplace should at all.

I suspect this small marketplace is made up of quite a few pretty savvy people who hang around Ebay in Strikes and probably Chips and Tokens too. When a novice goes into that arena to play, they should be wary of their own ignorance. It happens more often than not that if they want to sell really good pieces by "price guide standards", they usually sell them too cheaply by those standards. Why? Because they are selling to people who won't pay full "book" price, but rather "wholesale". The savvy Ebay Strike collector knows to wait for that "wholesale" price. On the other hand, when a novice wants to buy a newer item that temporarily has some higher demand due to the newness of the item, they appear to jump too soon and they pay double what they would pay simply by waiting a month or so like the savvy people do. I tell you this not to cast dispersions on the hobby or Ebay, but to help the new people so they don't hurt themselves too badly during the learning process.

The problem I personally run into as a "Trader" and what stimulated this article, is that some of the collectors that I try to trade with will use the Ebay pricing of a strike as the "actual value" of the strike vs. what, for me, is a more logical and consistent pricing of the strike - the price guide. When I consider a strike's age, the amount of time that it has been obsolete, how often you come across them, and how hard it is to obtain - the "price guide" value reflects all of that. Yes, I understand the argument

that the price guide is “one man’s opinion”; but it is usually compiled from that person’s experience along with many others who he/she consulted and all of their combined experiences as well.

For instance, there are way too many old obsolete strikes that trade on Ebay for merely a slightly higher premium above the new, currently available strikes. This makes no sense. There will be thousands and even tens of thousands of new strikes produced (depending upon the casino and the length of time before they change their strike program). You might estimate that there is only a couple of hundred strikes floating around from casinos that have recently discontinued a strike program or a particular strike. You might estimate that there is less than a hundred strikes available for sale or trade from casinos that discontinued their strike programs a year or two ago. So what about a casino that no longer exists? Yet look on Ebay and you will see strikes in all of these categories trading around the same prices because there is no demand for them amongst the regular Ebay community (mostly seasoned strike collectors). Is this reality or is it Ebay?

It seems to me that if we don’t at least acknowledge this dichotomy that is taking shape in the pricing of strikes and perhaps chips and tokens too, The Ebay Phenomenon could have the potential to divide the hobby into two factions.

You could have the “Ebay Buyer and Seller of Silver Strikes” who can quote you a strikes past history of sales (usually wholesale). They tend to make all of their trading decisions based around the information generated by this small microcosm of a marketplace and only trade and sell at this “wholesale” level. When you try to trade with them they make “wholesale” the trading standard on your

strikes but sometimes may or may not use it for their own tradeable strike - buyer beware.

Then you have the traditional, “Old Fashioned Trader” who looks at a strike as either current or “long gone”, as being “readily available” or “rarely offered” and logically thinks that certain strikes should command a little more respect, value wise if it is infrequently available for sale or trade, irregardless of what it did on Ebay 2 months ago.

What should I conclude from this? I’m not really sure, but I am tempted to conclude that “supply and demand” only truly exist in “milk, eggs, wheat and orange juice”; but certainly not in silver strikes.

I do not mean to make it sound deliberate or “sinister”, and I don’t want to get on the Ebayer’s case because I think they are having fun doing their own thing on Ebay. Actually, as long as someone knows what they are doing in silver strikes or chips and tokens and money is their game vs. trading, they can often find some great bargains on Ebay. I just can’t see it being used as a consistent reference for quoting a pieces “true value” across the board. I would like to believe in Ebay as a true marketplace that offers us a “birds eye view” of the true market value of strikes, chips and tokens, but my logical mind overrules my desire to blindly believe in something. To be most honest, I personally am afraid of Ebay because I can’t always explain it - to me, it is often illogical.

It seems to me that when a person has a really good piece that hasn’t been seen or sold recently on Ebay, they should be wary of how they offer it on Ebay or even whether to offer it on Ebay. If they offer it in such a way as to protect the pieces rarity and value, they often won’t get even the first bid. But if they make

the mistake of offering the piece the way the Ebay community likes for pieces to be offered, the seller will often take a considerable loss from “book” value. They will sell it, but at “wholesale”. A person should always ask themselves how desperate they are to “sell”. They probably would get more value out of their strike by trading it. Even though Ebay provides a readily available marketplace to quickly access and sell items into, you are potentially gambling with that pieces future image within the collecting hobby who is watching Ebay. Once a piece appears in the “strike section” of Ebay it is jaded from that time forward with the results of the pieces activity on this small, inconsistent, microcosm of a marketplace. More times than not the price of a strike on Ebay is greatly reduced from the estimated relative values that many collectors and price guide authors put upon those same strikes.

The avid Ebayer will argue that the Ebay marketplace is truer than the possible manipulations of the price guide authors. My own opinion is “to some extent they have an arguable point of view but without proof”. Now the trading faction of the collecting community would counter-argue that the price guide reflects more than merely a price, it also reflects a level of trading status that a strikes age and diminished availability might have earned it. Who is right? That is for you to decide. The purpose of me stating my observations is simply to make the hobby aware that this tug of war exists and that The Ebay Phenomenon is a huge and influential force. Time and continued growth of the hobby will tell the highest and most conclusive truth, so stay tuned.

I would love to hear others’ opinions on The Ebay Phenomenon.

What do you think? ❖

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. ❖

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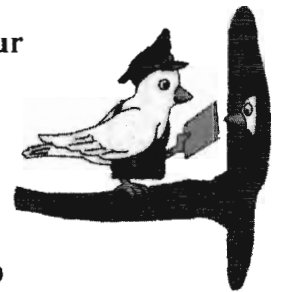
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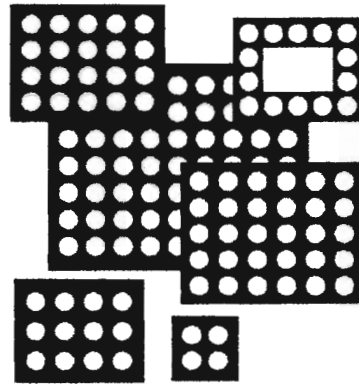
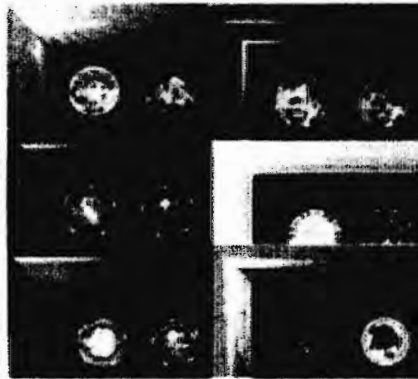
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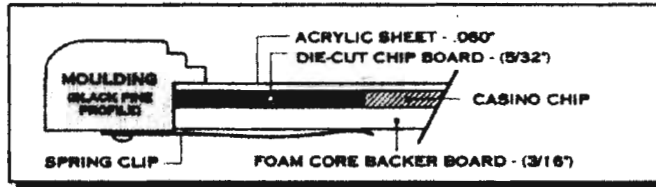
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