

Casino Chip And Token News

A Publication of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Fall Issue

October, November, December 2003



CC>CC
P.O. Box 35769
Las Vegas, NV 88133-5769



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CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS

A publication of

The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

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Previously unpublished, original articles are encouraged and are welcomed by the Editor.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. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not represent those of The Casino Chip and Token News or the Editorial staff.

SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION DATES

1st Quarter January, February, March
Mailing Date: January

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

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

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

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**AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Our club, CC>CC, is founded under the ANA, maybe you would like to join it too. It is the largest organization of coin collectors in the world.

☐ 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

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers

Expiration Date

Signature of Cardholder (Required)

Dues

- Regular (age 23-64) \$29* outside US \$36*
- Student (age 18-22) \$11 Junior (age 17 or younger) \$11
- Senior Citizen (age 65 older) \$25* outside US \$32*
- Associate (child or spouse of regular or life member living at member's address) \$4

*plus \$6 application fee, first year only

Forward completed application to:

ANA

818 Cascade Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279

**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 \$3.85 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

3rd Quarter Issue 2003
is June 1st 2003

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?

Don't forget to let our Membership Director know your new address. Contact:

Ralph Myers
P.O. Box 35769
Las Vegas, NV 89133-5769

ADVERTISING RATES
THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN
COLLECTORS CLUB, INC.
A 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.

DISPLAY AD RATES

1/8 Page	(Business Card) Standard size 2" x 3.5"	\$20.00
1/4 Page	(Camera Ready) Width: 3.50" x Height: 4.75"	\$35.00
1/2 Page	(Camera Ready) Width: 7.50" x Height: 4.75"	\$60.00
Full Page	(Camera Ready) Width: 7.50" x Height: 9.50"	\$100.00
Back Cover with Full Color		\$500.00
Inside Covers with Full Color	Width: 7.50" x Height: 10.00"	\$325.00
Inside Facing Pages	Width: 7.50' x Height: 10.00"	\$150.00

Note a business card is a business card not a two inch ad worked up for this space.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

These rates are for ads per column inch that are up to 3 1/2" in width and \$7.50 per inch in Height (about 6 lines). Additional overrun copy will be billed at the rate of \$1.50 per line for less than full inches, or fraction of an inch.

All ad copy must be accompanied by payment made out to "The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Club, Inc." or CC>CC. No ad will be run without payment.

Publisher assumes no responsibility for statements made by advertisers and reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

CONTRACT DISCOUNT ADVERTISING RATES

Sign up for a full year of advertising and save up to 25% on some ads. Take a look at the table below and see how much you will save.

Full payment must be sent in with your contract ad request

Ad Size	One Issue	Full Year	You Save
1"	\$10.00	\$35.00	\$5.00
2"	\$22.00	\$80.00	\$8.00
Business Card	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$10.00
1/4 Page	\$35.00	\$130.00	\$10.00
1/2 Page	\$60.00	\$220.00	\$20.00
Full Page	\$100.00	\$360.00	\$40.00

Just check off the type of ad you would like. You make changes in any of these ads in each quarter of issue. Full payment must be sent in with your contract ad request.

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

Fax - 562-634-8107

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

CC>CC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone Number _____

My collection interests are:

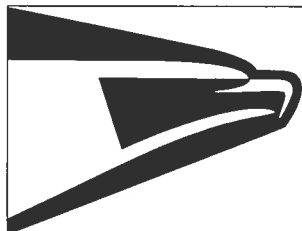
- ☐ Chips ☐ Tokens
☐ U.S. ☐ Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

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

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

- ☐ One year \$20.00 U.S.
☐ Associate \$5.00 U.S.
☐ Foreign \$35.00*
* postal money order or U.S. funds



First Class Mail

- ☐ Check here
for First Class Postage
Just \$12 more a year

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

Annual dues will be renewable in the same quarter in which the membership application was processed. Check our address labels for your membership expiration dates. Mail your completed application with your check made payable to CC>CC to:

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

Sponsored by:



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*A publication of
The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.*

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PRINTING	PALMER PRINTING

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SECRETARY	BELINDA HIXON
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	RALPH MYERS

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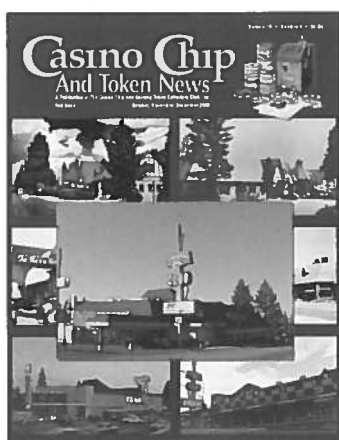
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Casino Chip And Token News

A publication of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.



October · November · December 2003 Volume 16 Number 4



Cover Story Crystal Bay Club

Photos Courtesy
Reno Color Lab
Howard W. Herz
and Allan Anderson

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Letters to the Editor

In reference to your Wendover article, the Hideaway was an unique Nevada casino that I visited several times. In fact, I've often told fellow collectors that I beleive it was the only NV casino in it's day that cheated. Every time I visited, the MO was the same: first of all, the place was so dark that you had to feel your way along the bar to get to the 21 table in the back; one table, one dealer, no players, no cameras, no pit boss. The first 3 hands everybody in my party got pat hands and the dealer either had a BJ or drew to 21. You were always 3 units in the hole in this place. Later on, this scenario was repeated. I never talked to anyone that won in this place. But I didn't mind! I would always come back the following summer and palm more chips out of the game! But I paid for them! Anyway,

Regards, Walter Dirzulaitis CC>CC # CH-031

Corrections

The Casino Chip and Token News strives to maintain accuracy in all our articles and photographs. If you see an error, please let us know and we will print the corrections in the next issue of the magazine.

In the last issue of the magazine, in the article "Exhibitor Awards", we placed the wrong picture of Robert Feeney accepting the first place award. Below is the proper picture.



Robert Feeney accepting the first place award from Joe Shaw for his display at the 2003 CC>CC Convention, "Snappers of the World".

From the Editor's Desk



Allan Anderson

With this issue of the magazine you'll start to see the first of a series of changes. The most noticeable is how the magazine is mailed. Instead of using envelopes and having the labels applied manually, your mailing address is now applied using ink-jet on the magazine. Thanks to Ralph Myers for supplying the printer with a new database to enable us to do this. By mailing the magazine this way, we save a substantial amount of money which enables us to do other things. This brings up the next change - color. On page 45 you will notice that our cover story on the Crystal Bay Club is done in color. In future issues we hope to continue this trend and hopefully add more color pages. Another change is the absence of "A Quarterly Magazine for Members of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. from the masthead. This has been replaced with "A publication of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. Since our publication is now being sold in 2 stores, with more to come, it was in the best interest to make this change. Long range plans are to make the magazine available in stores and casino gift shops.

Some of the pictures in the Crystal Bay article were licensed to the magazine from Reno Color Lab. They have an incredible archive of old Reno, Tahoe, Las Vegas and small town pictures which are worthy of a side trip when in Reno. They are located at 3330 Kietzke Lane (corner of Moana).

The club magazine needs your support with advertising. With the next issue of the magazine we are giving a free one inch add for all membership renewals. If you create your add electronically, e-mail it to me with your renewal information. If you need help with your ad, contact C.T. Rodgers and he'll be happy to help you. Hopefully we can show you how advertising can help you sell your collectibles and you will advertise with us in future issues. Advertising lets us do bigger and better things and it's an inexpensive way to support the club.

I'm also looking for articles on ashtrays, slot cards, room keys post cards or any other type of collectible. I would also like to do regular column on tokens, illegal chips, Indian gaming, Canada, Europe and any other type of chip collecting. If you have questions, or ideas, please e-mail me or give me a call.

Until the next issue, happy collecting.

President's Letter



Mike Skelton

With each new administration there comes a certain amount of change. Some of it comes from a new perspective, some from different talents converging on the same issue at just the right time and some is brought about by necessity. Some of the changes will be subtle and behind the scenes. Some will be bold and out front for everyone to see. But whatever path it takes or however it is arrived at, change is inevitable.

Some of the first changes that will be noticeable are within this issue of The Casino Chip and Token News. Our outstanding Editor Allan Anderson and Assistant Editor John Moore have worked diligently to bring our membership this award-winning magazine. They will continue to do so under Allan's excellent guidance, with more changes coming in the future.

During this years convention, with the unanimous support of the Board of Directors, all the living members of the Club's Hall of Fame were appointed to the Hall of Fame Committee, with Archie Black selected as their Chairman. The Board's charge to this prestigious group of Club members was to set up the criteria & procedures to select future inductees into the Hall of Fame. More information on the committee, their work and a listing of committee members can be found elsewhere in this issue.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to Pam Focazio for all of her hard work on behalf of the Club as interim Promotions Director. She took the position at the behest of Jim Follis and then President Nate Pincus, with the understanding that she would fill the position through the conclusion of the Convention. She honored that commitment, did an outstanding job during the convention and leaves with the gratitude of the Board of Directors for her brief, but invaluable service.

It is with great honor that we officially announce that Tyrus Mulkey has accepted the appointment as the Clubs new Promotions Director. This is in addition to his appointed role as official Club liaison to the Special Collections Department at UNLV. We are equally excited that Wayne Murphy has agreed to take on the new role of Assistant Promotions Director. And Mark Lighterman has agreed to act as the Club's official ANA representative. Mark's years of involvement with ANA and FUN will be of great value to the Board and to our organization.

Change is coming to chip collecting cyberspace as well. Will Knight has agreed to bring his talents and infectious enthusiasm to bear on a complete redesign of the Clubs website. Work has already begun on this project and with Will assisting Webmaster Greg Susong, look for some exciting changes at www.ccggtcc.com in the next several months. At the suggestion of member Robert Eisenstadt (from his posting on the Club's

Message Board), the Club will be presenting a proposal to Ebay regarding guidelines for selling casino-related collectibles on Ebay. This will be modeled after the proposal that the American Philatelic Society (stamp collectors) was successful in getting adopted by Ebay. Jim Reilly, Travis Lewin and Pete Sanders have offered their time and talents to draft this proposal. We will announce the results of this initiative once the process is complete.

The Board is continuing our discussions with the Chapter Presidents concerning mandatory Club membership for Chapter members. When the Club originally started recognizing "official" Chapters it was a requirement that all chapter members had to be Club members. This made sense, as by definition a chapter is a local extension of the National organization. Along the way, the By Laws were changed and this requirement was dropped. This is one of those issues that has simmered just under the surface for a while and needs to be addressed. As I said, the discussions continue, but at some point, decisions will have to be made and action will need to be taken on this issue. The Board will act in the best interest of the entire membership of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Secretary's Report



Belinda Hixon

I'm very pleased that several of our local chapters are highlighted in this issue of the Casino Chip & Token News. I hope that if there is a chapter located near you or if there is one that promotes your collecting interests, you'll consider joining. If you have questions about specific chapters, please use the contact information that's included or feel free to contact me for more information.

The BOD continues to work on the day-to-day business of the Club and we are always looking for comments and suggestions. Please feel free to contact any BOD member with yours.

Happy Collecting!
Belinda



Renew Your Membership Online



Treasurer's Report



Mike Quinlivan

As of August 31, 2003, the cash balance in the Club's accounts is \$161,407. For the first 8 months of 2003, the Club treasury increased its cash position by \$9,891 (excluding Building Fund donations of \$10,081). This does not include the expenditures for the Summer 2003 issue of the Club magazine. Please see the accompanying financial statements for more detail related to income, expenditures, and the breakdown of the cash accounts.

Highlights for the first 8 months of 2003:

1. Online pre-registration was made available for Club members to use their credit card to register for the convention, banquet, poker tournament and blackjack tournament.
2. The Wells Fargo Certificate of Deposit matured in early January 2003 and was transferred into a Certificate of Deposit account at Fullerton Community Bank that offers the flexibility of deposits and withdrawals during the 12-month term.
3. The 2003 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction netted proceeds of \$13,445.
4. Promotional Items sold during the 2003 Convention grossed \$12,406.
5. The Building Fund donations during the Convention and the Saturday night auction totaled \$6,859, and if you include the Club matching funds, the total was \$9,081. The Saturday night auction itself pulled in \$1,880, while the raffle garnered \$342, for a total of \$2,222. The Club matched these funds making it a total of \$4,444 for the night.

Hats off to all those that sponsored and contributed to the Building Fund during the convention. A special "Thank You" to the Palms for contributing the Silver Strikes (\$1,500 of member contributions) and the Atlantic City chapter for their generous contribution of \$725.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Quinlivan - Treasurer
September 15, 2003

Income& Expense/Equity Statement

January 1 through August 31, 2003

Income

Membership Dues (includes 1st class postage) \$37,609

Convention:

Table Fees	\$26,685
Auction Proceeds	\$13,445
Registration	\$12,371
Raffle	\$641

Convention Total \$53,142

Promotion \$13,982

Building Fund Donations \$10,081

Magazine Advertising \$2,575

Interest Income \$1,974

Directory Sales \$300

Total Income \$119,663

Expenditures

Magazine \$44,542

Convention Expenses \$39,256

Printing (Other than Magazine) \$5,070

Promotional Items \$3,969

Postage (Other than Magazine) \$2,737

Bank Charges \$946

Insurance (D&O) \$885

Election \$530

Website \$490

Miscellaneous \$376

Supplies \$300

Telephone \$172

Filing Fees \$140

Advertising \$104

Publicity \$80

Membership \$69

Donations \$25

Total Expenditures \$99,691

Net Income - 1/1/03 to 8/31/03 \$19,972

Beginning Equity Balance - 1/1/2003 \$157,820

Net Income - 1/1/03 to 8/31/03 \$19,972

Ending Equity Balance - 8/31/03 \$177,792

Detail of Equity Balance - 8/31/03

Certificate of Deposit \$74,820

General Fund \$36,972

Building Fund \$29,343

Life Membership Fund \$20,272

Total Cash Available \$161,407

Inventory \$16,385

Ending Equity Balance - 8/31/03 \$177,792

Membership Officers Report



Ralph Myers

Hello again. Well, another quarter has slipped by. Not much to report this time around. We do have a member who was one of the top ten new member recruiters last year decide that he wanted to be the top recruiter this year. Take a look at the new member list to see who this person is. My question to all members is, are you going to let him run away with this prestigious honor? We also have our first member from Japan. Please join me in a warm welcome to Shinichiro Koyama from Tokyo, Japan.

As always, feel free to call me, email me, or snail mail me with any problems, concerns, or questions.

Best regards,
Ralph Myers

New Members Since Last Issue

Member	Last	First	State	Reference
6152	Novak	Mark	WA	Rizzo, Pete
6153	Sanchez	Raymond	CA	Buckner, Jeff
6154	Waugh	George	NJ	Carvotta, Joseph
6155	Walter	Jeff	MI	club web site
6156	Navarro	David R.	KS	Hartman, Scott
6157	Lea	Joyce	NV	Leggio, Tom
6159	Haines	John M.	VA	Murphy, Wayne
6160	Mathews	John R.	CA	club web site
6161	Westfahl	Nicole	UT	Rizzo, Pete
6162	Imbronone	Janice	CA	club web site
6163	Mathews	Jeffrey D.	UT	club web site
6164	Jones	Donald	TX	Rizzo, Pete
6165	Sherman	Michael	MI	
6166	Wooten	Donovan	CA	former member
6167	Inver	Michael	NJ	club web site
6168	Wilson	Dennis	MD	club web site
6169	Sagum	Ray	HI	club web site
6170	Smith	Jak	OH	Rizzo, Pete
6171	Jones	David M.	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6172	Ramos	Steve	GA	Rizzo, Pete
6173	Hempel	Fred L.	FL	club web site
6174	Spiegel	Sherwin	IL	club web site
6177	Wondra	Donald	MN	Rizzo, Pete
6178	Theis	Henry	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6179	Buege	James L.	WI	Rizzo, Pete

Member	Last	First	State	Reference
6180	Spragg	David	UK	Papke, Lynn
6181	Boukas	Lori	IL	club web site
6183	Casey	Kevin	TX	club web site
6184	McGovern	Dana	FL	Knight, William
6185	Darkoski	Dan	CA	Campiglia, James
6186	Unell	Marv	NV	Rizzo, Pete
6188	Everingham	Larry	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6189	Grabinski	Thomas R.	PA	Black, Archie
6192	Ludwig	Jonathan	MA	Ludwig, Joseph
6194	Morgan Jr.	Raymond	NC	club web site
6195	Scott	J. D.	TX	club web site
6196	Castaneda	Manuel	CA	club web site
6197	Kim	Steven L.	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6198	Mace	Justin	CA	club web site
6199	Strohm	Gregory J.	WI	Rizzo, Pete
6200	Fullerton	Suzan	VA	Rizzo, Pete
6201	McClellan	William	PA	Black, Archie
6202	Downey	Michael	TX	Rizzo, Pete
6203	McClary	Ronald	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6205	Bucolo	Vincent	PA	Rizzo, Pete
6206	Brooks	Eric	PA	
6208	Makofske	Robert	NY	Rizzo, Pete
6210	Linduff	Jim	OH	Trimble, Gene
6211	Trent	Eddie	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6212	Re	Richard C.	NJ	Mear, Bob
6213	Golden	Ronald	IL	club web site
6214	Motzkin	Michael	MA	Rizzo, Pete
6215	Madison	Donna	CT	Rizzo, Pete
6216	Baker	Richard	VA	club web site
6217	Johnson	Andy	CA	club web site
6218	Birdwell	Cindie	IL	Rizzo, Pete
6219	Delia	Wayne	NY	club web site
6220	Jordan	Bradley K.	FL	Rizzo, Pete
6221	Wanser	Bruce D.	NY	Rizzo, Pete
6222	Shandor	David	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6223	Colcher	Irving	PA	Rizzo, Pete
6224	Earnest	Mark	CO	Rizzo, Pete
6226	Pylypyshyn	Nicholas	NJ	Rizzo, Pete
6227	Miller	Leslie	CO	Rizzo, Pete
6228	Ranford	Robert	OK	Susong, Greg
6229	Padron	Neil	NY	Rizzo, Pete
6230	Krueger	Daniel	IL	Rizzo, Pete
6231	Jackson	James	AZ	Rizzo, Pete
6233	Singer	Chuck	CA	club web site
6234	Bressler	Richard	CA	Susong, Greg
6235	Kerns	Glen F.	VA	Rizzo, Pete
6236	Klamut	Carl Robert	WI	Rizzo, Pete
6237	Smith	Steve	NV	Susong, Greg
6238	Koyama	Shinichiro	Japan	Rizzo, Pete
6240	Gudorf	Jim	IN	Birrell, Steven
6241	Gotto	Darryl	CA	Rizzo, Pete
6242	Main	Bruce	AZ	club web site
6243	Sanford	Steve	CA	club web site

12th Annual CC>CC Convention – 2004

Riviera Hotel
Las Vegas NV

June 16th – June 19th, 2004

by Jim Steffner

Gentlemen, staaart your engines.” Oops that’s the wrong event. But it’s not too early to staaart making plans for our clubs 16th Anniversary and the 12th Annual Convention. 2003 was a great success with over 3000 attendees coming through the doors. The Early Bird Banquet was once again a sell out and the dealers were doing a brisk business of buying, selling, and trading all kinds of casino collectibles.

2004 will be no exception. Our new convention host, The Riviera Hotel, offers a larger show floor, a great convention area (away from the tourist crowds), and a spectacular banquet facility, with a beautiful panoramic view of the strip and a much larger seating area. We will be able to accept everyone who wishes to attend the Early Bird event. The Riviera staff is ready to assist the club in presenting this first class event.

The survey forms that many members have returned offer many good suggestions. Keep watching your club magazine for some new and interesting events for 2004.

Pre-Registration

This has been a very popular method of registering for the convention. Pre-registration enables current club members to pick up your show badge, banquet ticket, poker seat assignments, and any special offer material that may be available while



avoiding the hassle of standing in the long lines on Thursday morning. Pre-registration will be open on Wednesday June 16th from 9am to 4pm, and again on Thursday morning starting at 9am. Your packet **MUST** be picked up in person. Please have proper ID at the time. No packets will be mailed.

Club members under the age of 12 do not need to pre-register. If they will be attending the convention, please list their names and ages as there will be a “special” show packet available for them.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservation slips will be included in the January issue of the club magazine. We have secured some very favorable room rates will be \$70.00 per night, weekdays and weekends. Staying at the host hotel makes it very convenient while attending all the convention activities and also helps the club secure a favorable contract for the following year. Book your rooms at the Riviera and support your club.

Make your reservations as soon as possible after you receive the room reservation form. While the Riviera has set aside a large block of rooms for our members, when those are filled there may not be any additional rooms available. Whether you call in your reservation, or mail in the form, it is a good idea to check back in a few days to make sure your reservation is in the system.

Dealer Tables

Any member who had a dealer table in 2003 will be receiving their dealer contract near the end of October. All application contracts must be postmarked by January 15th, 2004. While we have a new showroom with more space, every effort will be made to keep the table assignments as close to the past as possible. All applicants will be notified by February 15th as to the status of their contract and their table numbers. A floor layout will also be included.

Once the deadline has passed for returning dealers, any remaining table spaces will be made available to those on the waiting list. If you would like to have a table at the 2004 show and did not have one in 2003, please contact the Convention Chairman at convention@ccgtcc.com

ALL dealers and table helpers MUST be active club members at the time of the show. Plan ahead and join or renew as needed. Once again, table rates will remain the same as last year, \$295 for a single table space and \$495 for a corner.

Volunteers

Our convention has always been a great success because of the many volunteers who give an hour, half a day, or many countless hours to make sure everyone has a good time. These volunteers are very important and without them, there would be no convention. If you would like to help please contact Bob Bickford who will be coordinating the volunteer efforts. Bob will work with each of the Chairmen who utilize the volunteer efforts, and make sure he finds you a

suitable place to assist. Contact Bob at oldberea@wideopenwest.com

We are in need of two special volunteers. If any member would like to coordinate the production of the Convention Program book, please contact the Convention Chairman at convention@ccgtcc.com

This position would send out requests for advertising, coordinate the layout of the book as far as articles, ads, announcements, etc. The completed book would then be sent off to our printer. Graphic Arts or layout experience would be helpful, but not necessary.

Our second position to fill would be a Special Events Coordinator. This would ideally be a Las Vegas resident who would be able to assemble a list of activities in which non collectors could participate. Example might be planning a bus trip to Laughlin, a list of things to do or see around the town, maybe coordinate a mini slot machine tournament, or some special show attendance. This position might also be a liaison with the casinos for donations for the raffle or pre-regis-

tration packs. Ideas are welcome. If interested, please contact the Convention Chairman at convention@ccgtcc.com

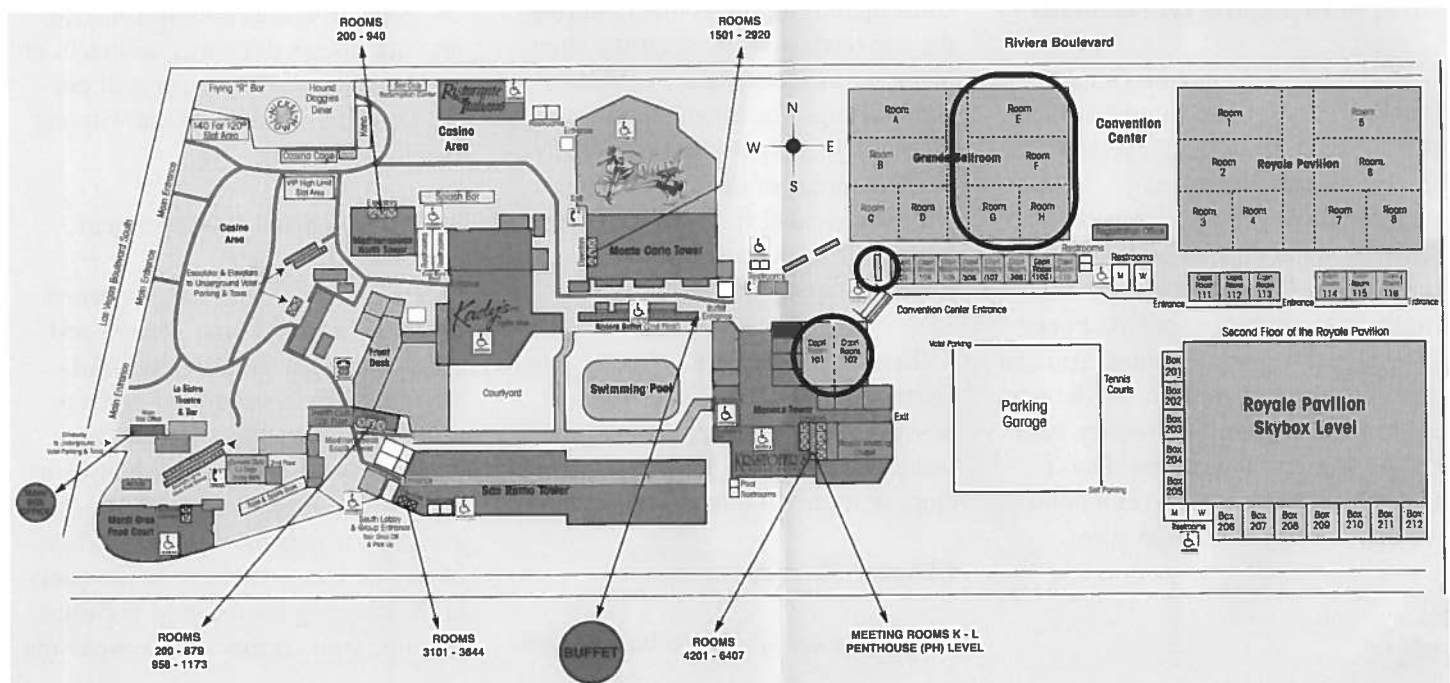
Early Bird Banquet

You won't want to miss this event. The new banquet facility at the top of the Riviera gives a breathtaking view of the strip. The room will accommodate over 500 people, and the Riviera promises a wonderful meal and a memorable evening. Make your reservations as early as possible. This year all seating will be assigned to avoid the mad rush of finding an empty seat. More details on this in the next issue when the reservation form will also be available.

Wayne Thompson will again Chair this event since he does such a great job.

Auction

The Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will be held on Friday evening. This popular event raises money for the operation of your club, as well as gives members the oppor-





Banquet facilities



Newly renovated rooms

tunity to acquire some wonderful chips, tokens, and memorabilia. You can bid my mail if unable to attend. If you would like to submit some lots for the auction, please send in your lots and the auction submission form that was included in the July and October issue by the cut off date to Barry Weintraub, Auction Chairman.

Exhibits

2003 saw some spectacular exhibits. It will be hard to top the variety, complexity, and sheer quantity of some of these past exhibits. But give it a try. Contact Joe Shaw, Exhibit Chairman. databzr@casino-chip.com

Poker & Blackjack Tournaments

Bob Pardue along with Gene Trimble will do a repeat performance of the great Poker Challenge and the Second Annual Blackjack Tournament. Again this year the Palms Hotel & Casino will be hosting both events. Blackjack will be Wednesday afternoon and the Poker Challenge Thursday evening. You can sign up for either, or both, on the pre-registration form in the January issue of the Chip & Token News. Don't miss out on these fun and competitive events. The trophies are at stake.

Educational Seminars

Some very interesting educational seminars are being planned for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning. Some great topic suggestions have been coming in on the survey forms.. We hope your schedule permits attending one or all of the seminars. You won't be disappointed. Dick Covington will again be coordinating these well attended events. Contact Dick at r_k_covington@prodigy.net if you have suggestions for seminar topics.

Trade Sessions

There will be planned trade sessions open for club members during the convention week when the show is not in progress. Please – NO outright selling. The hotel has asked that no trading take place in the hallways or lobby areas of the hotel. Rooms will be provided for trading and the times will be posted when these rooms are open.

Saturday night concludes the convention with the Last Dance Trade Session. Here is an opportunity to make that final deal, find that elusive chip, or trade off a few of your extras.

Chapter Meetings

Once again, space will be provided

for any club chapter that wishes to hold a meeting or sponsor a get-together. Space is open to club members also, if they have some special purpose that is educational or informational.

Chip & Medal Design Contest

Once again we will be holding a Chip & Medal Design Contest. Submit your ideas or designs. The winning entries for the club convention chip, medal, and t-shirt will be selected by our distinguished panel of judges. You do not have to be an artist. A rough sketch or just an idea will be considered. See the announcement in this issue for further details. Deadline to submit entries is February 28, 2004. You may submit finished artwork, rough drawings, a sketch, or an idea. Our club designer will put the finishing touches on the winning entries, if needed.

2003 Convention Survey Form

Thanks to all who have returned the 2003 Survey Form. Many good ideas and suggestions were listed. This is your club and your convention. We are listening. Let us know what you would like to have at your convention. Please return the form, even if it is past the deadline. While those late forms will not be included in the drawing for the paid pre-registrations, your comments are welcome.

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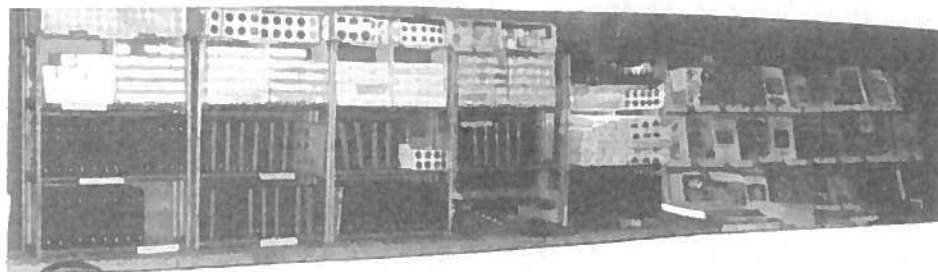
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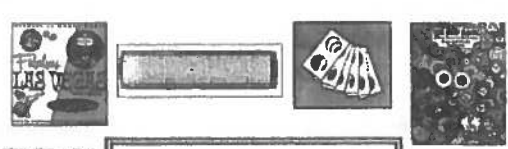
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Hall of Fame Nominations

by Archie **Black**

The Hall of Fame is the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collector Club's highest honor. Each year, several members are considered for inclusion into the Hall of Fame. Members are selected based on their contributions to the hobby and to the Club, which represent exemplary integrity and the greatest impact on the Club and on the hobby as a whole. There is no requirement that a minimum number of members be selected for the Hall of Fame in any year, but there have been one, two, or three new members each year since the inauguration of the Hall of Fame honor.

During the 2003 CC>CC Convention in Las Vegas, a Hall Of Fame Committee was appointed by newly elected CC>CC President; Mike Skelton. This select committee was charged with setting up a procedure to select future candidates into the club's prestigious Hall Of Fame. In the past; two very valuable, and now departed club members, (Gene Grossblatt and Bruce Landau) were instrumental in putting together the club's initial Hall of Fame program. The new committee is comprised of the eleven living members currently in the Hall Of Fame. As additional new HOF members are annually inducted, they too will automatically become a member of the CC>CC HOF Committee.

The purpose of the committee is to:

1. Draft guidelines and qualifications for future HOF recommendations.
2. To solicit potential recommendations from the club membership at large; and also from within the HOF committee.
3. To select and induct future worthy candidates into the HOF.

The HOF Committee was charged with developing a fair system whereby club members could recommend persons worthy of consideration of CC>CC Hall of Fame status. With that thought in mind, a HOF Recommendation form has been prepared in advance for any interested club member to request in helping them to outline the qualifications of the person they are presenting to the HOF committee for consideration.

The current HOF Committee Members as of 2003 (in alphabetical order) are as follows:

Archie A. Black (Chairman)	Dr. Allan Myers
Harvey Fuller	Janice O'Neal
Howard Herz	Douglas Saito
Phil Jensen	Dale Seymour
Michael Knapp	Greg Susong
Bruce Landau (deceased)	Ernie Wheelden
Robert Mera (deceased)	

For background biographies for the above HOF members, please visit the club website at:
<http://www.ccggtcc.com/hof/hof.htm>

The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame is the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club's highest honor. Each year, several members are considered for inclusion in the Hall of Fame. Members are selected based on their contributions to the hobby and to the Club, which represent exemplary integrity and the greatest impact on the Club and on the hobby as a whole. There is no requirement that any member be selected for the Hall of Fame in any year, but there have been two or three new members each year since the inauguration of the Hall of Fame honor.

Following are the current members of the CC>CC Hall of Fame.



Archie Black

Archie Black is known as the founder of the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club. His background was in coins, tokens and medals collecting... having held office in several numismatic organizations on the local, state and regional level. He became involved in collecting gaming material when the first casino, Resorts International, opened in Atlantic City on May 26, 1978.

In 1986-1987, a few chip-collecting friends from around the country were corresponding back and forth with each other. The group promptly grew to a couple dozen "pen pals." Instead of writing individually to each one of them, Archie began publishing an informal "newsletter" on my word processor to send to all of them at the same time. A suggestion was made that he organize a chip and token collectors club since he had prior experience holding office in several coin and token clubs.

The first organizational meeting was held in Cincinnati, Ohio at the American Numismatic Association's Annual Convention in 1988, where Black was elected President of the then-small club that has exploded today to more than 2,800 worldwide members. He served CC>CC as founding President for eleven consecutive years, was also the organization's First Newsletter Editor for several early years and the club's first Convention Chairman in 1992 and 1993 - held at the old Aladdin Hotel Casino in Las Vegas.

Black is the author of two widely accepted standard reference catalogs, Black's Catalog of Atlantic City Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens, first published in 1990 and revised each year through 2001. The 1990 Edition was the first fully illustrated chip catalog in the hobby that featured full-color illustrations of chips. In 1999 Black published a companion catalog, also fully illustrated, Black's Catalog of Puerto Rico Casino Chips. He also runs a new issue service for Atlantic City chips and tokens.

Archie retired in 1996 after 38 years with Bell Atlantic, and lives with his wife Brenda in Brick Township and in Atlantic City, New Jersey.



Harvey Fuller

Harvey Fuller was a Los Angeles police officer from 1946 until he retired in 1977. He developed an interest in gaming checks and their history, but it wasn't until he retired that he had full time to devote to his avocation. Fuller began to travel throughout Nevada, stopping not only in every casino he could find, but coffee shops, diners, barbershops, anywhere that locals gathered and traded stories.

With his investigative training, Harvey listened and steered conversations to old clubs, gaming figures and casino history. His note-taking procedure was unique: he grabbed handfuls of keno tickets with blank backs, and wherever he went he wrote his reminders on the backs of the keno tickets. His research eventually led him to the State's records, although he found a huge gap from 1948 to 1955, because a fire had destroyed many of the Gaming Control Board's original records. With persistence and investigation, Fuller did his best to fill in those gaps.

Through Howard Herz, Harvey's Resort in Lake Tahoe became interested in Fuller's notes and research, and purchased boxes full of his keno tickets, matchbooks, slips of paper, all of which comprised the research he'd been conducting for years. In 1991, with the assistance of Editor Howard Herz, Harvey J. Fuller's Index of Nevada Gambling Establishments was published. To this day, Fuller's Index stands as a primary research source for anyone interested in Nevada gaming history.

In the late 1990's, Doug Saito persuaded Fuller to talk to him in detail about his research, recollections, and experiences in traveling throughout Nevada and talking with old-timers about their memories. Saito occasionally publishes bits of his conversations with Fuller in his magazine, Chip Chat. Those who have attended CC>CC conventions will remember seeing Harvey Fuller with his omnipresent cigarette, always deeply involved in conversation with a seasoned collector, and always telling stories about his original and valuable investigations.



Howard Herz

Howard Herz began collecting gaming tokens and gaming checks as a teenager, in his capacity as curator of coins for Harvey's Resort Hotel. In 1964 he began to form Harvey's collection of both gaming checks and gaming tokens that had replaced silver dollars on the tables. In 1967 he traveled around Nevada visiting more than 200 gaming licensees. The travels resulted in a display at the 1967 convention of the American Numismatic Association - the first time gaming checks and tokens were introduced to a national collecting audience.

Following the convention, the displays were mounted on the walls of Harvey's Resort Hotel. Over the years Howard and Harvey's continued to collect both checks and tokens. In the 1970's, Harvey's supported gaming research by a retired Los Angeles police detective by the name of Harvey Fuller. In 1983, following the death of Harvey Gross, Howard was required by the accounting department to formally catalog Harvey's collection.

The research required to adequately describe the collection led to the publication of the first book devoted solely to casino chips: Harvey's Guide to Collecting Gaming Checks and Chips in 1984. In 1995 Howard published The Collector's Guide to Nevada Gaming Checks and Chips. Since the publication of his Nevada guide, Howard has continued to publish books on checks, tokens and silver strikes, as well as conducting mail auctions from time to time. His auction catalogs (including the annual Club auction catalog) have been significant sources of gaming history.

Howard and his wife Kregg continue their gaming history research through his company, Gaming Archæology.



Phil Jensen

Phil Jensen began collecting coins as a young boy in Wisconsin in 1953 when his father gave him six rolls of Indian head pennies and a folder to put them in. For much of the 1950's, Phil spent Friday nights searching through rolls of coins bought at the local bank. He'd been bitten by the collecting bug!

After a four-year stint at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Phil moved to Lake Tahoe in 1966 where he became fascinated by the 300-piece casino chip collection on display at Harvey's.

For the next fifteen years, Phil traveled Nevada, collecting current and obsolete chips and the stories that went with them. Recently, he has been documenting those travels, chips and stories in articles in Casino Chip and Token News.

Phil has been a casino dealer for 36 years, and currently lives in Las Vegas.



Michael Knapp

Michael Knapp was one of the Club's organizers, Charter Member 007, and was its first Secretary, a position he held from the inception of the Club until 1999. He was co-chairman of the first Club convention in 1993 with Archie Black, was the Club's Educational Chairman from 1993 until 2001, organizing all the seminars at the conventions during that period. He currently serves as Chairman of the Committee on Standards and Archives. In 2002, he was awarded an honorary life membership for his contributions to the Club over the years.

Michael has written many articles for Casino Chip and Token News, including a regular column which ran for several years, called "The Information Booth." He wrote the "Knapp on Books" column for the Chequers web magazine, and now writes the same column for the Club magazine. Michael has also written articles about chip collecting for a number of other non-Club publications. He was a pioneer in electronic chipping, arranging for a regular meeting place for chip collectors on the original Prodigy service. For a number of years ran the first live online auctions of casino chips, tokens and memorabilia in which a substantial number of Club members participated live, from coast to coast, before the Internet was readily accessible.

Knapp has a large collection of casino chips, gaming memorabilia, ivories and mother-of-pearl chips. His passion for the history behind the chips has also helped him build one of the most complete libraries of books about gambling, gaming figures, and casino history.

He is one of the co-authors, with Allan Myers and Ernie Wheelden, of *The Chip Rack* and *The Gaming Table*, which have become standard reference works for the hobby. Michael and Bobbie live in Columbus, Ohio, and plans to move to the Flathead Valley, Montana, within the next year.



Bruce Landau

Bruce Landau was one of the initial organizers of CC>CC, becoming Charter Member #002 and the founding Treasurer. He was an early collector of casino chips and tokens, starting on a small scale in the early 70's and expanding his collection substantially in the late 70's. He concentrated almost exclusively on Nevada chips and he was fortunate enough to make many trips to Las Vegas on business, helping to feed his hobby.

Following his term as Treasurer, Landau took on the responsibility of chairing the annual auctions when the Club began conducting them at each annual convention. His efforts, combined with those of the numerous volunteers who assisted in the auctions, resulted in the single largest money-making event for the Club each year. The annual auction has been named after Bruce in recognition of his organizational talents and as a memorial to his contributions to the hobby. He was also, after his own induction, Chairman of the Hall of Fame committee.

In 1996 Landau received an offer he couldn't refuse, and sold his entire collection. Typically, however, he immediately started collecting again, concentrating on Nevada but only on specific denominations.

There were few people in the hobby who did not know and like Bruce Landau. He was always optimistic and upbeat, and was always able to provide understanding companionship for established collectors and advice for new

ones. His wife Eileen was always by his side and always helping with whatever Bruce chose to do.

Bruce Landau passed away December 19, 2002.



Bob Mera

Bob Mera was an avid blackjack player who eventually became a dealer in several Atlantic City casinos. It was as a dealer that he developed his love for casino chips. In the early 1990's, Bob began selling casino chips and related items from a pushcart at the Boardwalk One mall near Caesars Atlantic City. Soon he opened a retail shop in the mall and called it the "Gaming Emporium."

Mera's shop became the unofficial headquarters for chipping activity in Atlantic City, with many club members stopping in whenever they were in the area. As a result of his enthusiasm for the hobby and his unique exposure in the mall, Bob became the top recruiter of new members for CC>CC for an unprecedented five years in a row: 1990 through 1994.

In 1995, Mera became the driving force behind the formation of the Atlantic City Chapter of CC>CC, one of the Club's first chapters. He is credited with having recruited a majority of the members of the 350-member chapter.

Bob Mera passed away in 1999, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame posthumously.



Allan Myers

Allan Myers has been collecting chips longer than most members of the Club. His collections of ivory, mother-of-pearl, clay poker chips, and casino chips, as well as antique gambling and cheating devices, are among the most extensive known.

His experience and search for further information about chips and their history initially led to his contributions to Dale Seymour's *Antique Gambling Chips*. Allan has written articles for *Casino Chip and Token News*, and is well known among the collecting hobby because of the assistance he's provided to new collectors and his constant willingness to share whatever information he has been able to obtain.

Myers is one of the co-authors, along with Michael Knapp and Ernie Wheelden, of *The Chip Rack* and *The Gaming Table*, two standard reference works for chip collectors.

Allan and his wife Diane live in Louisville, Kentucky.



Janice O'Neal

Janice O'Neal is one of the founding members of CC>CC, with Charter Membership number 008. She was the Club's Historian from 1989 through 1990, when the Bylaws were amended to create the position of Vice President, to which she was elected. For several years, Janice's "Nevada Update" column in the Club magazine was the main source of new issue information for most members.

When Tribal casinos and riverboats began to open in the Midwest, O'Neal was posi-

tioned to keep track of them, and that she did. At the time, she and her husband Jerry lived in the Detroit area, and they traveled to virtually all the Tribal casinos in the upper Midwest. Not only did she keep members informed through the Club magazine, but she amassed what is perhaps the most extensive and complete collections of Tribal chips known. Her riverboat collection is also one of the largest.

O'Neal's love of the history of casinos and their chips has stimulated her to collect information no matter where she goes, and her notebooks of data are extensive. She has – without much credit – contributed history notes for more than one book about casino memorabilia.

Janice and Jerry currently live in Las Vegas, to which they retired several years ago.



Doug Saito

Doug Saito is one of the best-known chip collectors and dealers in the Club. His thirst for knowledge about the history behind the “little colored pieces of clay” we collect has led him to conduct original and unique research, which often finds him talking to owners of clubs long gone from the Nevada and California gambling scenes.

Saito's collection of stories about those figures, the old clubs, and the old chips they used, eventually find their way into Chip Chat, the irregularly-published magazine that Doug writes, and to which many collectors subscribe. His sense of humor and eye (and ear) for detail make the magazine and the stories always fun to hear.

Doug has written articles for the Club magazine and has served as a panelist for annual convention educational seminars. He has conducted his own casino chip auctions, and has packed his auction catalogs with the same kinds of stories and detail found in Chip Chat.

Doug lives in San Diego, California.



Dale Seymour

Dale Seymour is an educator and publisher of education materials. He liked to play black jack and to collect things, and began collecting chips in 1970. He would go to flea markets frequently to pick up old, inexpensive game pieces (spinners, dice, pawns, etc.) to help in designing games for the classroom to teach math concepts. Seymour began to wonder when the pieces were made, who made them, whether there were more different designs, and if so, how many.

Seymour's interests centered around old poker chips, especially ivory and mother-of-pearl chips, of which he has what is likely the most extensive known collection. He has also collected virtually every type of gaming chip, including tokens, spielmarks, Siamese ceramic pieces, and old vintage casino chips.

His academic curiosity led Dale to the conclusion that if the chips could talk, they would have fascinating stories to tell. Ultimately, after advertising in Antique Trader and receiving numerous responses, he realized that there was a need for more information on these, so the idea of putting together a book for collectors was hatched. It took many years and thousands of hours to put together the first edition of his book, *Antique Gambling Chips*, now recognized as the first book ever published, solely devoted to collecting gaming chips. The book is now in its second edition.

Dale, who is now retired, lives with his wife in northern California.



Greg Susong

Greg Susong is one of those who brought the Internet to chip and token collecting. His website, ChipGuide.com, was the first site devoted entirely to chip and token collecting, and serves as a tremendous resource for chip collectors throughout the world. The Chip Board, the message bulletin board Greg created as part of his site, is the primary location for posts from chip collectors and those who wish to know about the hobby.

Greg Susong has written articles for the Club magazine, has served as a panelist on annual convention educational programs. He currently serves as the Club's Webmaster, maintaining the Club's website as well as his own. Greg is the author of An Illustrated Guide to the Casino Chips of American Riverboats.

Greg and his family live in South Central Kansas.



Ernie Wheelden

Ernie Wheelden has collected chips and gaming memorabilia for many years. Living in southern California, his involvement with the large California contingent of chip collectors and dealers is extensive. Similarly, his location has enabled him to be present at far more chip shows and flea markets where chips have been available than is the case in most other parts of the country.

His interest in what lay behind the chips themselves got Wheelden involved in researching the casinos that issued them. Eventually he began exchanging information with Michael Knapp, who was at the time writing his column "The Information Booth" for the Club magazine, and with Allan Myers. Wheelden suggested that they pool their information. That correspondence led to the formation of KMW Publishing Company, and the two books that Wheelden, Myers and Knapp have published: The Gaming Table and The Chip Rack. Both books have become standard reference works for the hobby.

Ernie and Jeanine Wheelden live in southern California.

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The Strike Zone

by Jack Haddock

John Ascuaga's Nugget Brings Back Memories with New Silver Strikes

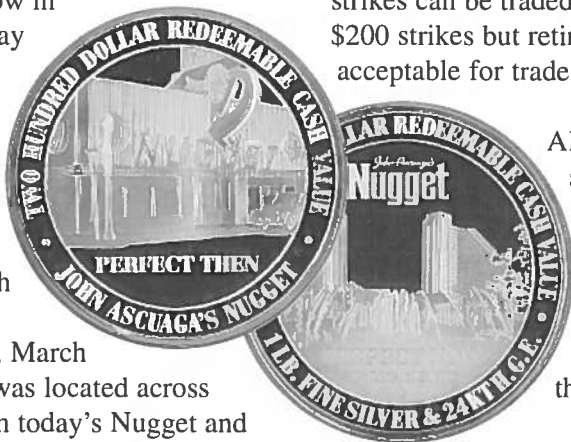
The new \$200 silver strike now in play at the Nugget in Sparks, has artwork on one side of the original Nugget, which opened on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1955. It was located across the street from today's Nugget and was really a sixty-seat café with just a couple of slots. It was famous for its "Awful-Awful" hamburger.

The other side brings you up to date with the image of today's 2003 Nugget. Today's hotel-casino has 1,600 rooms, 8 restaurants, 110,000 square feet of convention space, and of course, two silver strike machines along with hundreds of other casino games. The casino is still famous for the quality, innovative food, as well as its great silver strikes.

The \$10 strikes, of which there are two, depict the original Nugget on one and today's Nugget on the other.



The buildings are identified as "PERFECT THEN" & "PERFECT NOW." Both strikes are available in the Casino's one machine. Twenty in any combination of these new \$10 strikes can be traded for the NEW \$200 strikes but retired strikes are not acceptable for trade.



All of the silver strikes issued before now are officially retired, though they can still be cashed in for their face value.

Reno Airport Pays the \$1,000 Jackpot in Silver Strikes

The lucky gambler who got the three "sevens" lined up on the bottom row of one of the silver strike machines at the Reno International Airport exercised his right to take the \$1,000 jackpot away in silver strikes. That's one hundred strikes in two heavy bags. Of course, this was a smart move since each bag contained five of the "chase" (limited issue – only 444 produced)

strikes in each bag. Most of the machines indicate that the Super Jackpot will be paid in cash. Some of the casinos that offer \$200 strikes will throw in one of those if you get the big one.



Same Designs on Silver Strikes for a Long Time. Why?

There is a requirement by IGT (owner of the Silver Strike game) that each design used in the production of a silver strike be utilized for 1,750 strikes, or the casino must pay the nearly \$800 for the die. This produces a problem for the smaller casinos, which do not have the strike "take home" volume, which would expedite meeting the minimum requirement. Hence, the smaller casinos with fewer players simply use the same design on one side and put on a different reverse logo, usually just changing the year. If the casino offers several different designs, this minimum requirement really works against them as they have to see the 1750 minimum strike requirement times how many designs they have, go out the door before they're "off the hook".

Casinos pay for the dies of all the limited issues (mintage of 777, 444, 500, 750, etc.) by limiting the number of "chase" strikes per fill, thus, increasing the play. The "twenty \$10 strikes trade for a \$200 strike" helps zilch when trying to reach the 1,750 goal. Motto of the story: "Take them strikes home with you!"

The \$2 Silver Strike

This was a venture of Anchor Games in 1994 and 1995. They tried their souvenir token in a five-cent machine; the prize was a \$2 brass "silver strike." Three Nevada casinos

gave it a try: The Aladdin and Harrah's Reno offered the Seven Wonders of the World, and Edgewater in Laughlin did Eleven Wonders.



The Teller House in Colorado offered Seven Man-made Wonders, and Seven Natural Wonders. The Grand in Colorado played the seven wonders with both 1994 and 1995 dates. Deadwood went all out and had the Seven Wonders dated 1994 and 1995 and four cars and five motorcycles. Two years, and that was the end of that series. These \$2 strikes were made of solid brass (no silver), were housed in plastic, and about the same size as a dollar coin. By definition, these are indeed of the Silver Strike family, and make a fun collection to put together.

Patriotic Strikes had Quite a Run

The patriotic theme continues to expand its availability. Since September 11, 2001, our country has rallied to the support of the concept of patriotism in America. Several \$200 strikes have been introduced from Las Vegas Casinos: Palms, Plaza, El Cortez, Imperial Palace, Flamingo, and Slots-A-Fun.

In addition, there have been over seventy \$10 strikes make the scene from casinos all across the state of Nevada. They have been in cartoon form, the Pentagon, Statue of Liberty, eagles, the American flag, Abe Lincoln, firemen, policemen, and military personnel, along with several combinations.

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THE LIMITED EDITION PHENOMENON

by Michael Knapp

It may sound like the title of a Ludlum spy novel, but it's really the trend in casino chips checks throughout the United States. Traditional hotel casinos in Nevada and Atlantic City, tribal casinos, riverboats and card rooms have all found that the issuance of commemorative, special or limited edition casino chips can boost their bottom lines, attract chip collectors, and more.

The commemorative chip is not a recent addition to the casino's arsenal of income-producing and marketing tools, although the publicity surrounding limited editions may seem new. In fact, the



first known commemorative chip issued in Nevada is 35 years old! In 1968, the Sahara

Hotel issued a \$1 chip commemorating the 11th Annual World Airlines Christmas Party held at the hotel. Not until 16 years later – 1984 – was another commemorative chip issued, this time by Westward Ho, in honor of its second anniversary. That chip, pictured here, even said “Limited Edition” in the center inlay.



The major advance in limited edition chips came in 1990 when CHIPCO International created a “Collector Series” chip for Harrah's Lake Tahoe. The edge-to-edge

graphic chip pioneered by CHIPCO lent itself especially well to colorful, innovative pictorial, designed to appeal to those who would save chips from casinos, taking them home without cashing them in at the cages.



The success of the Harrah's chip was mixed: they were in fact taken home by players, but dealers in the casino hadn't been given “the word” about the purpose of the chips: when players requested several of the colorful checks, they were often told that the chips were special, and that there was a one-to-a-customer limit. When the chips were finally removed from the tables, there were still many in racks.

Limited editions (“limited” is a relative term – Harrah's reportedly ordered *one hundred thousand* of the sailboat chips, more than enough to meet collector demand) as the concept grew slowly. The next issue to receive substantial notice was the 25th Anniversary chip which Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, issued in 1991. A Caesars press release accompanying the release of the \$25 chips indicated that a total of 50,000 of the chips were made, and would be



placed on the tables to be played during the 25th anniversary year. Whatever chips remained at the end of the year would be removed from the tables and destroyed: a reverse limited edition concept.

According to John Kendall, President of CHIPCO International, Inc., the Caesars anniversary chip was the most successful single issue the company has ever done. Successful financially, that is, for the casino. Within nine months, every one of the checks put into play was gone, and demand did not cease. For months, collectors showed up at the cage seeking anniversary chips that may have found their way back into play. Maintaining the integrity of the issue, however, Caesars did not reissue the chip, but remained true to the original press release intention.

In the past ten years, limited edition chips have become mainstays of the casino industry. Paul-Son, Bud Jones and B&G have joined CHIPCO in producing ever more complicated and intriguing full graphic designs on chips, and the number of limited editions produced by some casinos has exceeded 100 in a single year. In some cases, commemorative chips have contributed significantly to small casinos' bottom-line year-end profit. It's not difficult to understand that a \$5 chip which costs 20% of its face value, and which is never redeemed at the casino cage, can represent pure profit to the issuing casino.

Not that limited editions represent a profit center for chip manufacturers. PaulSon Account Executive Pat Butrico, for example, says that his

company produces commemorative chips for its casino clients as a service, not because there's much profit in them for PaulSon. "The design and approval aspects of limited edition production are very labor-intensive," he says, "and we do the chips for our clients as a favor to them, not because they're profitable for us."

It's easy to see why a small casino might issue limited edition chips to boost the bottom line, but why would a larger hotel casino with many sources of revenue issue them? Gene Trimble, whose position includes managing the limited edition chip program, is currently Poker Room Manager at the Palms Resort in Las Vegas. He previously managed the chip program at the Fiesta Hotel Casino in North Las Vegas, and before that, at the Four Queens. His first limited edition chip was the 1994-1995 New Year's Eve chip for the Four Queens. The success of that issue was the beginning of an aggressive limited edition program at the Four Queens.

"At the Palms," Trimble explains, "our limited edition chips aren't intended solely for chip collectors. For us, they're marketing tools more than revenue-producers." Trimble carefully controls the Palms limited edition chip program, both in terms of subject matter and in terms of release policies. Unlike some casinos, which seem to have gone "commemorative crazy" to the point that many collectors have ceased to save the chips, believing them to be meaningless, the Palms is careful to limit its chips to commemorating performers who appear at the Resort, restaurants that are part of the hotel, and the occasional gaming-specific subject like this year's chips honoring the great racehorse Seattle Slew.



The Palms Resort's limited edition chip issue for their Playboy home video promotion at the hotel.

Although there is such a thing as too many chips in a particular issue, Trimble says that the Palms probably issues a few more of its commemorative chips than others do. "I make sure all the collectors have access to our limited editions," he points out, "and that may be more work than it's worth for smaller properties. And if there are chips left over, they go out on the tables. They'll disappear quickly!"

As Trimble is quick to mention, it's not just casino chip collectors who save limited editions. Especially when the subject of the chips is a

rock group that performs at the Palms, he says, the crossover sales to devotees and to fan clubs can be meaningful. At the Palms, Trimble is focused on customer service. He knows that chip collectors are the primary target for limited edition chips, and he spends a substantial amount of his time replying to e-mails, greeting chip collectors who come to the casino, educating cage personnel on the importance of commemorative chips, and making sure that chips are available to collectors.

All that in addition to design revisions, gaming authority approvals, clearances, licensing fees, and negotiations with the subjects of the chips, makes for a significant investment in time and effort to produce a good limited edition. "For smaller properties," Trimble says, "a good limited edition chip program may well be more trouble than it's worth."

Todd Moyer, Senior Vice President of Marketing at Trump Marina in Atlantic City (and previously V. P. of Marketing with Station Casinos, Hard Rock Hotel and Tropicana Resort and Casino in Las Vegas), agrees with Trimble's assessment. "Limited edition chips are primarily produced to advertise a particular special event or promotion." And, he adds, they are "also produced to promote a property's market positioning or brand."

A unique approach to the use of limited edition chips for marketing purposes is the set of chips made by CHIPCO for the Las Vegas Station Casinos. There were five chips in the set, and when stacked the chips displayed a unique design on the edges of the checks. But the set was only available one at a time from each of the five Station casinos – it could not be purchased from any indi-

vidual casino cage. Cage and gaming personnel helped collectors with directions to the other Station properties, and told them how to obtain the chips, but the purpose of the set was to ensure that Station's guests, especially their core patronage of Las Vegas locals, became aware of all of Station's casinos.

The Hard Rock Hotel and Casino has also been noted for its popular limited edition chip program. With the exception of a few holiday chips, and even those have rock 'n' roll themes, the Hard Rock limits its commemorative chip issues to groups that appear at The Joint, the hotel's performance venue. Again, crossover sales of chips to fans as well as to those who collect anything and everything with the Hard Rock logo, can exceed sales to casino chip collectors.



Some of the popular Hard Rock Hotel chips which, like those of the Palms Resort, usually commemorate performers who appear at the venue.

What of casino chip collectors, the major audience for limited edition commemorative chips? The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, a not-for-profit corporation organized in 1988, now has more than 2,800 active members, representing every state and 9 foreign countries. Many of the club's members collect limited editions, and the colorful, design-intensive chips have been responsible for a significant portion of the club's growth over the past five years.

The growth of the organized hobby and the plethora of chips produced every year has given rise to chip dealers who specialize in obtaining new chips for collectors throughout the country. Dave and Debbie Harber of Las Vegas run a business called "Cheques in the Mail," a "new issue service." They, among others, purchase new limited editions, usually from the casino cages, then post their new finds on the Internet for collectors to order. I asked them what makes a good commemorative chip issue. "Design is a primary consideration," says Dave Harber, "and a chip that's well-designed and thematically related to the casino that issues it is going to be popular with collectors." The Harbers make a point that contrary to what some casinos apparently think, an issue that is too small to meet the demand for new issues can alienate collectors rather than attracting them.

On the other hand there are a number of casinos where past limited editions can be found readily on the tables, which means that collectors did not snap up every available chip. And this is so even though the chip issue was limited to 500 or 750 chips. Why? "Because the

designs weren't very attractive, or because there were simply too many chip issues from that casino," Harber indicates. "I've lost a number of customers because some casinos insisted on issuing more chips than the market could readily absorb, and the chips they issued had nothing to do with the casinos themselves or with gaming themes. Limited edition collectors aren't a bottomless well of patronage."

Some of the most popular chip issues have been strictly related to a casino's theme or events. Grand opening chips have also generally sold out unless the casino produced too many of them. What's an "ideal" number of chips in a limited edition? "That varies somewhat with denomination," says Harber. "There are far more collectors who will save \$5 chips than will spring for \$100's or even \$25's. In most cases, 1,000 to 1,500 \$5's are enough to satisfy the existing market of chip collectors." Of course, that doesn't take into account the crossover sales to markets other than strictly casino chip collectors.

Like the Palms, Trump Marina's policy is to make sure that limited edition chips are put into play. Moyer says, "Enough chips should always be made to satisfy collector demand. It is very important to us that some of the chips also make it to the gaming tables. We would like to see a guest pick-up a limited edition chip and take it home with them as a reminder of the good time that they had at Trump Marina. They tend to be



excellent conversation starters. We would like them to show the chip to a friend and recommend the property (word-of-mouth advertising is extremely important). Most of our most-valued guests came to the property the first time as a result of a referral from a friend.”

CHIPCO’s John Kendall indicates that a limited edition run of more than 2,000 checks is now quite rare, and issues of as few as 500 are produced.

Secondary (collector) market values for limited edition commemorative checks are generally not much different from regular casino chips. As with any collectible, two major considerations determine chip collector value: rarity and interest in the casino or the particular issue. The vast majority of limited editions command a slight premium when they are issued (unless the edition is a very small number of chips, in which case the initial dealer prices are a bit higher), but within a few weeks most fall to the level of the casino’s regular chip issues. The exceptions occur in

areas where there are strong crossover sales to people who are not normally chip collectors, making the chips harder for chip collectors to find, and in issues that are extremely limited in number.

The Harrah’s riverboat chip, for example, even though it is 13 years old and the first “modern” commemorative chip produced, commands only \$10 or so at chip dealers’ tables, simply because so many were made. They’re not difficult to find. As another example, most of the Hard Rock chips shown above do not command a significant premium either. The exceptions are the Sheryl Crow and ZZ Top chips, which regularly sell for \$35 to \$50 each, even though they were issued in larger numbers than many: 4,000 and 5,000 respectively.

The limited edition commemorative chip phenomenon came into being largely because of the advances in computer and chip manufacturing technologies which enabled complex and photographic designs to cover


much of the surface of the 39 millimeter standard chip, rather than the old standard 20 millimeter center inlay, and because of the recognition that casino chip collectors have become a cohesive and organized group. With sufficient attention to design, program integrity, customer service, and a willingness to do the work necessary to obtain required approvals, limited edition chips can be a significant marketing tool and revenue source for casinos.

Michael Knapp is a gaming historian and author of several books and magazine articles about casino history and chip collecting. He is a founding member of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, and can be reached for information by e-mail at ChipProf@aol.com

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The Club Library

by Robert Pardue

ver the past months, the library has received additional donations of various older books, chip guides and publications. We appreciate the donations from the following club members: Sue Wells, Len Cipkins, Michael Knapp, Kerry Waite, Dennis Finn, Vince Mowery, Archie Black and Mark Lighterman. And if I forgot anyone, I apologize.

As a not-for-profit educational organization, the club provides the research materials and books in the club library for the benefit of its members. Each member may check out up to 4 items at a time for 3-4 weeks. The club mails the books to you; you only pay for return postage. The easiest way to request books is by email at: librarian@ccgtcc.com.

Mailing address is:
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P.O. Box 2014,
Laguna Hills, CA 92654

For a list of items in the club library, check out the listing on the club website or contact me for a copy of the list.

CC>CC *Chapters*

Atlantic City Chapter

Nine Years of Chippin, Education,
Fund Raising and Friendship

1994 - 2003

by Jerry Birl

It seems like only yesterday when a small group of Atlantic City Chippers got together and decided to form the Atlantic City Chapter of the CC>CC. The formation of the Chapter was spearheaded by deceased Hall of Fame Member Bob Mera. Two other Hall of Famers, Archie Black former National Club President and our beloved departed renowned chip authority and the "Heart and Soul of the Hobby", Bruce Landau, have also played major roles in the continued success of the Chapter over the years. A great deal of credit for the Chapter's success must also be given to Dick Brach, the Chapter President since it's beginning in 1994. Dick has worked tirelessly over the years to see that the Chapter is successful in all of it's undertakings.

Now let's go back to the early days of the Chapter and see just how far we have come and where we are headed. The following are excerpts from Chapter Meeting Minutes from 1994 through 2003

February 24, 1994 - Inaugural Meeting of A.C. Chapter. - Shops of Ocean One Mezzanine Level across from Caesars Casino Atlantic City, New Jersey. Bob Mera of The

Gaming Emporium opened the Meeting. Archie Black National Club President addressed the gathering. The following officers were nominated and elected by acclamation: President - Dick Brach, Vice President - Russ Diaz, Secretary - Jerry Birl and Treasurer - Tom Duffy. The approximately 35 chip collectors in attendance donated \$77.00 to get the Chapter started. Bob Mera conducted an Auction of Casino Chips and a lively trading session took place. We were under way!!!

March 27, 1994 - 2nd Meeting of A.C. Chapter - Shops of Ocean One - Charter Members filled out Membership applications, paid their yearly dues and received their Membership Cards. Charter membership will be limited to the first 50 Chapter Members. Shirley Bucko won the Chapter's first 50/50 drawing. Shirley got \$30.50 and the Chapter got \$30.50 for Chapter expenses. President Dick Brach donated letterhead, envelopes and membership cards to get the Chapter started. Archie Black gave a detailed report on National Club activities and the upcoming Convention in Las Vegas.

April 29, 1994 - Aladdin Hotel Las Vegas, Nevada - 15 Members attended this Meeting at the National Convention. There was a discussion of whether Chapter Members had to also be Members of the National Club. This issue will be decided at the Club's Annual Meeting (This issue has still not been decided.)

May 22, 1994 - Shops of Ocean One - 35 Members in attendance. Bob Mera received plaque as Top Recruiter for the National Club for the year of 1993. Resorts \$5.00 Baccarat Chip sells for \$2,000.00 in Auction conducted by Bob Mera. Jerry Birl was the guest speaker and his topic was "Collecting Roulette Chips".

June 24, 1994 - Shops of Ocean One - 30 Members - Jerry and Janice O'neal, Club Vice President and Historian attended the Chapter Meeting from there home In Howell, Michigan. Jonathan Kalikow was the Guest Speaker and his topic was "Gaming Chips as an Investment". Tom Duffy, Chapter Treasurer reported that the Chapter had \$525.00 in our Bank Account.

October 2, 1994 - Caesars Casino - Marcus Aurelius Room - 33 Members - Steve Piccolo gave a very informative presentation on "Electronic Chip Hunting" using home computers and the Prodigy Computer Network. Chapter now has 110 Members.

December 4, 1994 - Mardi Gras Room Showboat Casino - 45 Members - Bruce Landau gave a humorous and very informative presentation on "Collecting Nevada Chips".

February 5, 1995 - Showboat Casino - In spite of a big snow storm 65 Members attended the Meeting. Bruce Landau reported on the proce-

dures for the National Club Chip Auction. Jerry Birl gave complimentary copies of his R.I.C.H. Atlantic City Roulette Catalog to Bob Mera and Archie Black for their help and inspiration in publishing the Catalog. Members continue to enjoy the chip swapping session and 50/50 drawings

1995 - 1997 The A.C. Chapter continues to grow and meeting are held on a bi-monthly basis.

January 11, 1997 - Showboat Casino - 85 Members - 3 prizes in 50/50 drawings George Davis wins 1st prize of \$100.00. Annual Pizza Party for Members will be held after the Meeting at the Baltimore Grill Treasurer's Report shows \$3451.50 in the Chapter Bank Account. The Chapter now conducts it's own Auctions and Bruce Landau acts as the Chapter Auctioneer. The Chapter gets 5% of all sales for the Chapter Treasury.

September 14, 1997 - Showboat Casino - Chapter Membership is now over 200 - Over 100 Members and guests attend the Meeting - Large Auction and lively swap session.

September 20, 1998 - Showboat Casino - David Sarles, candidate for President of the National Club addresses the Meeting in his bid for President to replace Archie Black who is stepping down after 10 years as Founder and President of the National Club.

March 14, 1999 - Showboat Casino - 80 Members - Election of Chapter officers Brach, Diaz and Birl are re-elected for another two year term. Bill Karr is elected to replace Tom Duffy, who resigned as Treasurer. Neal Silverman will set up a Chapter bulletin board on his Chequers internet site. We now have \$4,413.00 in the Chapter bank account.

September 26, 1999 - Showboat Casino - 130 Members and guests - Special Auction and 50/50 Drawing to raise funds to help Bob Mera pay for medical costs. Bob is battling Leukemia. The Chapter raised over \$6,200.00.

December 1999 - Bob Mera founder of the A.C. Chapter passed away after a long battle with Leukemia..

November 19, 2000 - Resorts Casino - 100 Members - Guest speakers were candidates for National Club Officers: Nate Pincus, President - Jim Episale and Marty Kaplan candidates for Secretary. Chapter Treasurer Bill Karr reported that donations of \$500 each will be made to the Leukemia Society and Thomas Jefferson Hospital in memory of Bob Mera. The balance of the Funds raised for Bob Mera will be used in the future to benefit the Chip Collecting Hobby.

November 18, 2001 - Resorts Casino - 110 Members - Gerald Chicowski of Gamingpit.com was the guest speaker. Gerald is a former Blackjack card counter and now runs a web site giving advice on gambling and betting strategies used to beat the Casinos. We now have over 300 Chapter members. Bruce Landau conducted the Chapter Auction.

May 5, 2002 - Resorts Casino - 125 Members - Randy Pisane of Casino Rarities spoke on "Collecting High Value Casino Chips". Chapter Treasury now has \$12,275.00 (including \$4,068.00) in the Bob Mera Fund. Mike Custodio passed out a Collecting Survey to all Chapter Members. The Survey will help the Chapter plan for speakers and topics that will serve the educational needs of the Chapter collectors.

December 19, 2002 - Bruce Landau, Hall of Fame Member, Nevada Chip Specialist and A.C. Chapter Auctioneer passes away of a hearty attack. The entire Chip Collecting Community is saddened, as are all of his close friends in the Atlantic City Chapter.

July 13, 2003 Sands Casino - 100 Members - Chapter officers are now Dick Brach, President - Mike Custodio, Vice President - Jerry Birl, Secretary - Bob Irving, Treasurer. Archie Black gave a report on the National Convention, Election of New Officers, Auction, Banquet, Poker Tournament, etc. Charlie Kaplan reported on the meeting of Chapter Presidents that was held during the Convention. The National Club is addressing several legal and tax issues concerning the status of Chapters and insurance coverage. There may also be a 2nd Convention style meeting/show held each year due to the increased demand by Chip Collectors. The National Club now has nearly 3000 Members and the A.C. Chapter has over 350 Members. Sales of the Taj Mahal CC>CC Chips have raised over \$700.00 for the Building Fund. The A.C. Chapter has now raised and pledged almost \$5000.00 to the Building Fund.

As you can see we have come a long way in nine years and I can only guess what the next nine years will bring. This is a Great Hobby full of Great People. To get the most out of the Hobby, take part in all of the Club and Chapter activities, get involved and give something back to this Hobby.

If you are interested in Joining the A.C. Chapter check out our web site <http://ccgtcc.com/chapters/ac/> or contact Dick Brach - Cabodick@aol.com.

**Deep South Chip Collectors'
Chapter
Riverboats? What Riverboats?**
by John Mayercik

Mississippi and Louisiana residents have always been lovers of the gambling habit. Illegal casinos in the area date back to well before the Second World War. In fact we have a Member of our Chapter who once ran an illegal gaming club right here on the coast. It was at a hotel here. The old Edgewater was the name. He has a telegram from the governor at the time warning him to close the place-- or else. You'd think he might have done so, but the gamblers here in the area wouldn't let him. There are still a few chips around from that place. Then there was the old Isle of Capri, which was accessible only by boat to a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico. You wonder where the name came from? That's it. In fact, the Isle of Capri Casino here has an old roulette wheel and a slot machine from the place, which were found at the bottom of the inlet. There also used to be a cruise ship, which traveled out into the Gulf, "let 'em gamble and brought 'em home". That ship was later purchased by the Copa casino and used for some time as their place on the water as a legal casino.

There are a lot of stories surrounding the gambling activities in the Louisiana, Mississippi area, but you'll have to ask me about them when I see you at the Convention or at one of our Quarterly Meetings. I won't tell you the name of the Member who ran the Edgewater, but he's not shy about telling you all of his stories---and they're good ones.

Since then, gaming has been made legal in both states. The old Edgewater is now a shopping mall (named the Edgewater Mall) and that

island where the old Isle of Capri was is left with only the ghosts. The first LEGAL casino (Isle of Capri) opened its doors in August 1992.

I guess what bothers me a little is the casino handle that Mississippi has. All of our casinos are referred to as RIVERBOATS. There is over 1 million square feet of gaming area in just twenty casinos. There are almost 28,000 slots and 888 table games. One casino alone has more than 100 table games. Yes, we had a couple of riverboats once, and it looks like we may have another one here on the coast before long. But the majority of them are SERIOUS casinos. I'm not belittling riverboats. They're a viable gaming facility and I have several chips from many of them. But I have difficulty referring to a casino with 134,000 square feet of gaming area, 8 restaurants, 3028 slots and 100+ table games as a "riverboat".

We have 12 casinos on the coast alone with plans to bring in 3 more including a Hard Rock Casino. The Beau Rivage (which replaced one of our riverboats) is a sight to behold - built by the same guy who set up the Bellagio. The place is GAWJUS!!!



The Grand Casinos here in Biloxi and Gulfport are first class. The Copa casino (where our Chapter holds its Quarterly Meetings) has increased in size to 98,00 square feet. And I challenge you to find a non-friendly member of their staff. As an example of the cooperation we receive from the Copa, they'll be producing a Commemorative chip for our 2nd Annual Meeting in February. The chip design was recently approved by the CC>CC BOD and the limited edition will be placed in the cage on the eve of our Meeting. They have a great poker room, and a nicer guy you'll not find than the Poker Room Manager there, Kermit Holden. In about 8 weeks they'll be producing a chip, which you don't see very often. It's a double anniversary chip with a picture of the old cruise ship on the obverse side and the new casino on the reverse. It will be a \$5 chip and only 500 will be struck. It ought to be



pretty popular within our hobby. This casino treats its customers right. I might also add that it's locally owned. In fact we don't have a small casino anywhere on the coast. Tunica (up near Memphis) isn't much different. Unfortunately, my old brain can't remember how many casinos there are in that area, but there are at least 8. And none of them are "cheesy" either. Not one "riverboat" among them.

Having said all that, I realize that the way the law was written here and in Louisiana, the requirement was that the casino portion of the complex MUST be on the water. That requirement is now under study, at least on the coast, because of the possibility of hurricanes. Casinos MUST have been constructed so as to withstand a category IV hurricane. That means winds in excess of 131 mph and tides 13-16 feet above normal. Since there are only 5 categories (5 being the highest---155 mph+), that's pretty safe for most of them. The Gaming Commission here seems to feel that it's time to get off the water. When you walk into a casino from the street or hotel, unless you are familiar with the layout, you'll find it pretty difficult to tell when you've entered the part that's actually ON the water. The layout of the casino is a clone of any casino in Nevada and a lot better in many cases. I must admit, however, that I'm a little biased.

Okay. I got that off my chest. Now let's talk about the hobby a little. I haven't been in the Club that long (3 years). I became an enthusiast like the rest of you. I had a bunch of chips I

had picked up as souvenirs and thrown into a drawer when I got home. Then I discovered that there were some other folks as strange as I was. I had no idea there were so many until I tripped over the Convention in Vegas while I was there as a player. WOW!!! Am I ever hooked? What were once a few chips in a drawer is now---well, more than I REALLY need. But I've never had so much fun. Mike Skelton said that this hobby ought to be fun. I think Mike hit the nail on the head. If it ain't fun, you're doing it wrong.

The Deep South Chapter was formed when a few of us got together in January 2002 and kick-started it. We've grown to around 55 Members now, and we are all having a great time. We meet quarterly to enable us to do some serious trading. Once a year at the Convention just wasn't hacking it. We kick off the meeting with an active trading session for about 2 hours. Then business. Follow that with some super door prizes and a drawing for a REALLY valuable chip. We have the greatest group of collectors I've seen anywhere, and they're all committed to one thing---having fun. Right now we meet at the Copa, but, when our budget gets better next year, we hope to be able to move around to some of the other cities in Louisiana and Mississippi which have casinos. We have offers from several already. What could be better than this?

I like the fact that the BOD has opened the door for more communications between the Club and the Chapters. We all are better informed;

more cognizant of each other's needs, and generally make the Club a little better for it all. The last BOD created the open door and this one has grabbed the ball and is halfway down the field already.

This Chapter has Members from at least 8 states. Most of us are from the Deep South and are committed to promoting the casino chips in our area. I think that's the interest of all Chapters. I'm especially proud of this one. We'll continue to grow as more folks in our area become aware of our existence, but the Members we have at this moment are the best there are, in my opinion.

I think I've rambled on long enough. For those of you who haven't fallen asleep yet I want to tell you about our Website before I run out of ink. Ed Bigley has created a masterpiece. We can be found at <http://home.cfl.rr.com/deep-southchips/>. We try to post any new chips from our immediate area, and Ed works hard to keep the site updated and attractive. The e-mail addresses and websites of all of our Members can be found there and any of us will be happy to assist you in finding any local chips.

In the meantime, have fun at this hobby---and HAPPY CHIPPING!!!

John Mayercik
President
Deep South
Chip Collectors' Chapter.

Great Lakes Chapter *by Doug Cundiff*

The Great Lakes Chapter of the CC>CC originated in June, 1997. The club meets every other month on the second Saturday. The meetings are very informal. Our next meeting will be Saturday September 13th 2003, which will be our 2nd Annual chip show and BBQ. Everyone is encouraged to bring your traders as we trade before and after the meeting. Topics discussed range from the previous meeting, new club topics and any and all collecting questions. We also discuss future planned events, as well as having guest speakers to enlighten us about different topics, our annual dues are now \$10 a year.

We have a wide variety of collectors from all over the Great Lakes area and beyond who collect everything from chips to slot cards to ash trays. With your membership you will receive a club newsletter 6 times a year a membership card and invited to join our meetings. All New members are given a copy of the club's Code of Ethics. At this time we have 32 active members, we have members that collect chips, silver strikes and we also have members that are enrolled in a 12 step program trying to break the hold that slot cards have over them, all are members of the National as well. The chapter runs a website at www.greatlakeschips.ada-host.com for promotion of our chapter and for information about the National club and the other local chapters

On August 20th 2003 Our Chapter President - Douglas Cundiff and Past President - Albert Scalzo were interviewed by Detroit News financial reporter Becky Yerak, for a article that was published September 2, 2003 in the business section of the Detroit

News paper, this was made possible with the help of Publicity Director Len Cipkins.

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The Greater Houston Chapter *by Frank E. Chalfant*

The Greater Houston Club is a chapter of the National Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club. We meet on the first Monday of every month (holiday pending) to discuss and trade chips from every part of the country and every era of gambling. We have a good mix of old-time collectors and newcomers to the hobby. Whether your interest is riverboats, Nevada, Native American, or the old illegal clubs, the Houston CCCC has it covered.

Our officers are;
President
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Treasurer/Secretary
Jeff Willcox,
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Phone 281-778-8730

Our club has had two great blessings for our many members who collect the illegal Galveston gambling items. The Balinese Room is open again, less the gambling of course and the play "Galveston the Musical." The Balinese Room is open seven days a week and has bands that play Thursday thru Sunday. They are also open for special occasions. Visit the B. R. web site www.balineseroom.net for a visual tour. The owner, Scott Arnold, has put a lot of time and money into the repair and reconstruction of the original décor. The dance floor area is just like it was in the good old days.

The Balinese Room was the setting for one of the biggest events to hit Galveston since the last hurricane. The fund raiser for "Galveston the Musical" was held at the Balinese Room. I did a benefit book signing with my book "Galveston Island of Chance." There was mock gambling, a silent and live auction, a faux raid by the Galveston County Sheriff and his deputies, with some of the cast members performing a sampling of scenes from the play. The benefit was attended by many supporters of the play, both large and small. On the next page are photos of the sons of Sam and Rose Maceo.



Sam Maceo & Frank E. Chalfant



Rose Maceo & Frank E. Chalfant

The play was preformed at the Strand Theatre in Galveston. It was scheduled to run for nineteen performances, but was soon sold out. They added four more performances which were also sold out. There was a standby list forty five minutes before each performance with twenty to thirty people in line. I did another benefit book signing at fourteen of the performances. I met so many people that were part of the glorious history of the gambling area in Galveston. There was one couple that flew in from California, just to see the play.

The great news is that next year the play is going to be held at the

1894 Opera House in Galveston. Even if you do not like plays or musicals you have to attend this one. I saw it at least a dozen times and each time was like the first. I can not sing enough praise, it was just wonderful.

While my wife, Ellen, and I were shopping at the Rare Find Gallery antique shop in Galveston, she found one of the twelve original curved booths that were in the Balinese Room. She immediately new what it was and struck a deal with the shop owner. He even delivered to the Balinese Room that evening. Can that lady drive a hard bargain or what?.

This is just part of the good times we have at the Houston CCCC meetings. Come and join the fun at out next meeting. Hope to see you there.

Frank E. Chalfant.
Greater Houston Club

Club web site <http://chipster.net/houston>



Cast members from the play cutting up at the Balinese Room after the play



Balinese Room owner Scott Arnold & Ellen Chalfant in booth at Balinese Room

Mid America Chip Collector Club *by Ron Clewell*

The Mid America Chip Collectors Club was founded in 1997 by Greg Susong and Jim Kruse. The first meetings were held quarterly at the Sam's Town Casino in Kansas City. The club started out with approximately 8 to 10 members.

Today our club has bimonthly meetings and our membership has grown to 20 active members. We have members that drive from Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa to attend the meetings. We have a diverse group of collectors (newbies to hardcore collectors) who collect just about anything casino related. Even though the Midwest has not had Silver Strikes for a few years; we do have quite a few Silver Strike collectors in our chapter. The club welcomes everyone who has an interest in casino memorabilia.

To increase awareness of our club among other collectors, we have taken our trade session on the road. In 2003, we held sessions in Booneville, Missouri and Council Bluffs, Iowa. In 2004, plans are in the works for 4 to 6 trades session in other parts of the Midwest.

A new web site is currently being constructed and should be online by the end of 2003. You can get to our web site by going to <http://www.ccgtcc.com/chapters/midam/midam.htm>

The club meets every other month (February, April, June, August, October, and December) on the second Monday of the month. The current meetings have been held at the Ameristar Casino in Kansas City.

For more information regarding club meetings or future trade sessions, please contact Ron Clewell at rclewell@sprintmail.com.

Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter *by Todd Dingley*

The Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter strives to share knowledge and news, provide a forum to meet other collectors and develop friendships, and above all else, to have fun with the hobby of gaming collectibles.

The membership of the NCN Chapter is chiefly from the large geographical area of northern California and northern Nevada. The NCN Chapter tries to serve the interests of all collectors of casino collectibles including, but not limited to, chips (cheques), tokens, silver strikes, dice, slotcards, room keys, playing cards, gaming tables and machines, matchbooks, dishware, glassware, ashtrays, napkins, swizzlesticks, and coin buckets to increase their knowledge and appreciation of these items for their added enjoyment of the hobby of gaming collectibles.

The NCN Chapter has fun Get-togethers (not stuffy or confrontive Meetings) approximately every other month in different areas of the Chapter's geographical area. The NCN Chapter publishes a newsletter for NCN members and other CC>CC Chapters prior to each Get-together. The newsletter contains news about the next Get-together, information about some things that are going on in our hobby and other topics of interest to collectors of gaming collectibles.

The Nor-Cal-Nev web site has a pictorial listing of all current casino chips, new limited edition chips, no

cash value chips, room keys and slot cards. On the web site you will also find casino pictures, city maps of open and closed casinos, information on upcoming chip shows, and membership applications. For access to the site go to: <http://www.anderson-design.net/norcal.html>

Membership in the Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter is open to all collectors and members of the CC>CC. If you would like to join us, please complete an application form and the survey about your collecting interests on our web site.

Chapter officers are:
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sandpointe@aol.com

Vice President
Steve Blust
sblust@charter.net

Secretary
N. Takahashi

Webmaster
Allan Anderson
adesign@accesscom.com

The New York Metro Chapter *by Charles Kaplan*

The New York Metro chapter of the CC>CC has an active membership that meets every other month in Baldwin, NY on Long Island. Members come to our meetings from all around the New York Metropolitan area – Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island, New York City, Westchester and upstate New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Since many NY Metro chapter members are also members of the Atlantic City chapter, that also has meetings every

other month, we alternate so that there is only one meeting each month.

We typically have 20 to 30 attendees at our meetings, with both experienced collectors and newbies. The meetings start at 1 p.m. and last for a couple of ours. Activities include chip, token, strike, slot card and room key trading. Each meeting is finished up with a discussion of the issues of the day. At our recent August meeting we discussed how our membership might flourish if there was a casino in the New York City area. Having a casino as a location to hold chapter meetings gives members and their families a variety of interesting activities. We also discussed the possibility of holding a future meeting at one of the Connecticut casinos, the Foxwoods or the Mohegan Sun.

We've had a couple of the summer time chapter meetings at my house, which included a BBQ and hot tub. A holiday party was once held at a Chinese restaurant on Staten Island. And we had an outing on one of the day cruise boats, the Majesty, that sailed from Freeport, NY, also on Long Island. In 2002, the American Numismatic Association (ANA) held their annual convention in NYC and the NY Metro Chapter was given the honor of representing the CC>CC at the show by staffing the Club's table.

If you live in New York City area, why not stop by one of our meetings? For meeting information, visit our website – www.ccgctcc.com/chapters/nymetro, send me an email ckaplan@attglobal.net or call me at 516-763-2327.

See you soon

Silver Strike Chapter

by Don T. Nesbitt, Jr

Greetings to all the Silver Strike Collectors out there. It has been about two months since the convention and the fun and excitement of Las Vegas is still on my mind. I look forward to the convention every year and I am already making plans and getting things done for the upcoming 2004 convention. This convention will mark our fifth anniversary as a Chapter. It is hard to believe the strides this chapter has made over the past four years. We started as a group of sixty silver strike enthusiast with a common goal of forming a chapter just for silver strike collectors. Year after year the number of members joining our chapter has grown and it continues to grow as we speak. We now are one of the largest Chapters of CC & GTCC and have nearly six hundred members from all over the USA, Canada and England. I have been told that silver strike collecting is the newest trend sweeping the country. I don't know if this is true but it sure sounds good to me. Lets keep up the recruiting efforts and keep our chapter growing. If you are not a member and are interested in joining just go to our web site at www.silverstrikers.com and download a membership application, fill it out, attach your membership dues and send it in.

The founding Board of the Silver Strikers Chapter did some very exciting things for our chapter during the first four years. The one thing that I think is the most remarkable and will be for years to come is that they were able to get commemorative Club and Chapter logo silver strikes produced and put in play just for us. Did you know that during the past three years we have had our Chapter logo or the CCGTCC logo on ten

different silver strikes and have had five different casinos put them in play for us to win. These commemorative logo silver strikes are a must have for every collector I know. Do you have them all in your collection? Let's hope we are able to continue with this trend in the future. I have been told that it will be harder this coming year than in years past. This I have been told is due to a number of complaints from collectors of gaming related items to the Gaming Control Board. Due to these complaints, approval is no longer a given and may not be granted, for us as it has been in the past. Many of you may not be aware but the control board did not allow us to have our Club's name on a live chip for this year's convention. This was a first for us and I hope it can be turned around. Please do not make complaints directly to the commission because this has caused them to look negatively upon us as collectors and may cause them not grant any approvals for the use of our logos on strikes in the future. This is a very sensitive subject and is something the CC & GTCC Board is working on. Lets hope they are able to succeed in their endeavor to turn this around. I sure hope so.

Now on to a more positive subject. Several Nevada Casinos have put new silver strikes in play during the past two months. The Reno / Tahoe Airport released a new set in July and John Ascuaga's Nugget has a new set out with a Perfect Then and Now theme. New York New York has a new series out depicting Rita Rudner. The Palms has released a new series with a Playboy theme and it took about an hour for the Four Queens to run out of their newest \$200 Joker silver strike that had a mintage of only one hundred. Lets hope that they will increase the mintage in the future so more collectors will have a shot at



one. I sure do look forward to seeing the Nevada Gaming Control Board's approval list every month to see what is newly approved and which clubs will be issuing them. It is like a kid in a candy store looking for a treat. I wish we could get the same kind of information from other states that have strike machines. It sure would be nice.

Many of you know that IGT is working on a new silver strike machine that will be totally different from the current style that we are used to playing on. It will be a welcome improvement over the current design that has a problem with jamming. It would be great to see strike machines in play in every casino in the country. We sure would have a lot more strikes to play for and collect. But we won't see that until the new machines are approved and available. The old machines are breaking down

and are being removed from service due to a lack of new parts to repair them. I have been told that there are less than 150 strike machines left in play. I sure hope that IGT will get their new machine in play soon. I wish they were ready to go and had them approved for use in the casinos now. We are running out of strike machines to play on. Did you know that strike machines are still in play in the following casinos outside the state of

Nevada? 1. Harris, Michigan, Chip-In Casino, 2. Tower, Minnesota, Fortune Bay, 3. Biloxi, Mississippi, Imperial Palace, 4. Albe, New Mexico, Isleta, 5. Odanah, Wisconsin, Bad River, 6. Turtle Lake, Wisconsin, St. Croix. If you are traveling this great country of ours and are in the area of any of these casinos, stop in and give the strike machines a spin. You're sure to win a strike or two. Once the new machines are available and in play, this list should grow. It would be great to see strikes back in the markets that once had them. I know I would love to be able to go to the casinos in Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Dakota and South Dakota and play for new silver strikes. How about that for a list of states that have had strikes in play in the past. Lets hope that they will put them back in play once the new machines become available. Happy trails to you and keep on striking.

Best In Collecting,

Don T. Nesbitt, Jr.
President of the
Silver Strikers Chapter

Slot Card & Room Key Chapter by Dave Johnston

Slot card and room key collecting is the newest area of casino collectibles, and is growing quickly. It is also one of the easiest to get started in, as your initial investment is usually zero. All you have to do is go to a casino and apply for a card, get the key to your room, and bingo, you are on your way to an instant collection.

Although the hobby of collecting slot cards and room keys has been around for a few years, there was no official organization within the CC>CC. In order to be recognized for convention trading rooms, etc., we were required to become a chapter. Therefore, the Slot Card and Room Key Chapter was founded in January 2003, and has quickly grown to 150 members. Jim Munding, of West Covina, California, is the President. Pat Lamb, of Commerce City, Colorado, serves as Vice-President. Dave Johnston, an ex-Wisconsinite, but now living in Las Vegas, is the Secretary/Treasurer.

Since we are a fledgling chapter this year, our convention business meeting was rather short, as there was no old business, and we hope to continue short meetings into the future. Less time for business means more time for trading. We also had grab bags of 35 different cards and keys, available as a fund raiser and raffled off dozens of casino-related items. Plans are on the "drawing board" for an even bigger event for next year's convention at the Riviera.

The highlight of the convention, though, was our chapter table, which was manned 99 and 44/100 percent of the time by volunteers Jerry Sinkovec and Dave Johnston. They

signed up new members (14), and gave away close to 1,000 donated cards and keys just for signing up, or renewing your membership at the convention. Of the 150 chapter members, 103 attended at least one day of the convention and stopped by the chapter table to say "HI".

Several people (non-members) attending the convention even brought in older slot cards to be appraised at the chapter table. They said that they had had them for years, just laying around the house. We looked the cards up in the Wells/Lamb Price Guide and advised the people of the approximate value and scarcity of their cards. One little old man stopped by each day of the convention. Each time he brought more cards he had found around the house. Most of the cards he brought were of the common variety, but we did find several that were listed in the \$50-\$200 range. We even found a few at over \$300, and some that weren't even listed in the book. Your author picked up a few these cards for his own collection.

This year was also the first for a new category in the "Of The Year" competition - SLOT CARD/ROOM KEY OF THE YEAR. Two of the four keys nominated finished in first and second place, with third place going to one of the six slot cards nominated in the new category.

For further information on the SLOT CARD & ROOM KEY Chapter, or to join the chapter, please send an email to me at SlotCardKing@aol.com. Membership is just \$5 per year. You can mail your check to me at the following address:
Dave Johnston,
344 East Desert Inn Road
Las Vegas, NV 89109-9032

Southern California Chapter has grown and is prospering *by Jim Munding*

Back in 1996 a handful of collectors gathered in the San Fernando Valley and started an informal swapping session. They met fairly regularly and the group seemed to grow and grow.... Since then this group has become the Southern California Chapter and enjoys the Hollywood Park Casino as its home.

The Chapter has over 70 members and usually half of them attend meetings regularly. Most meetings consist of a very short business meeting (the Southern California Chapter is probably one of the most non-political Chapters) followed by an hour or more of trading and "shooting the bull". Interesting guest speakers, such as Doug Saito and other chip and history experts, sometimes make the meetings a little longer....But that is certainly worth it. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm, usually in

the Seabiscuit Room. Everyone is invited to come early (around 5:30 pm) for dinner. We usually gather at the hot dog stand or snack bar.

Current goals are to get the Chapter's website up to date and to make it a little more interesting. Allan Anderson will become the new web master and has agreed to bring us up to date and keep us that way. We also want to build our membership list with new collectors. There are some fun events planned for the future, including a trip north to visit a casino or two and meet with our Northern California Chapter members.

Everyone is invited to our meetings...our goal is to have fun and ENJOY the hobby.....and we do that very well.....Hope to see you at a meeting soon.

Please contact Chapter President Jim Munding at (626) 919-0603 or mun3335@aol.com if you need more information.

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CC>CC 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

<http://ccgtcc.com/chapters/ac/>

Colorado Chapter - Bobby Hayden - oldmanchipper@yahoo.com

Deep South Chapter - John Mayercik - jmayercik@aol.com or debi Stultz - dstultz214@aol.com

<http://www.deepsouthchips.com>

Florida Chapter - Mark Lighterman - mlichter@bellsouth.net

<http://home.cfl.rr.com/floridachapter/>

Great Lakes Chapter - Doug Cundiff - Doug48001@Yahoo.com

<http://www.greatlakeschips.adahost.com>

Greater Houston Chapter - Jeff Willcox

<http://chipster.net/houston.htm>

Illegal Collectors Club - Ed Hertel - edhertel@prodigy.net

Mid America Chip Collectors Club - Ron Clewell - rclewell@sprintmail.com

Nor-Cal-Nev Chapter (Northern California) - Todd Dingley

<http://www.anderson-design.net/norcal.html>

NY Metro Chapter - Charles Kaplan

<http://ccgtcc.com/chapters/nymetro/>

Ohio River Valley Chapter - Amy Andrae - andraes@insightbb.com

<http://www.geocities.com/orvccc/index.html>

Silver Strike Chapter - Don T. Nesbitt, Jr. - DONT44@aol.com

<http://www.silverstrikers.com>

SlabFREE Chapter - Jim Reilly - RunTam@PacBell.net

<http://www.slabfree.com/>

Slot Card & Room Key Chapter - Jim Munding Mun - 3335@aol.com

Southern California Chapter - Scott Hartman or Jim Munding

<http://www.ccgtcc.com/chapters/socal/Home.htm>

Southern Nevada Chapter - Bill Judge

<http://www.ccgtcc.com/chapters/sonev/home.html>

Upstate New York Chapter - Travis Lewin - thdlewin@law.syr.edu

A THOUSAND GUINEAS

by Colin **Narbeth**

a new book has just been published which will be of great interest to collectors of gambling items. Titled "A Thousand Guineas" by W. Bryce Neilson. It lists and identifies a 1000 gambling counters produced in Great Britain during the 18th and 19th centuries being imitations of the gold guineas and their fractions produced for gambling purposes.

They start with the date 1701 in the reign of Queen Anne and with her portrait, but were not actually produced until around 1761 in the reign of King George III. Slight differences in the shield from the real gold coin, such as "RIG" instead of "REG" (abbreviation for Regina = Queen), and only two lions in the English Shield instead of the normal three, may have been insurance against the gallows. The Queen Anne imitations are scarce.

But the vast majority are the imitations of the Spade Guinea, so named because the shape of the shield on the reverse is that of the pointed blade of a spade. They were first issued in 1788 in the reign of King George III—just a year after the introduction of the genuine gold coinage! A multitude of legends, dates, makers names and symbols make them a fascinating field for the collector. A great many were produced by firms to advertise their wares. Even major, and still existing, firms such as Sainsbury's produced quite a few different spade guineas. (25 varieties are listed).

Perhaps even more important for new collectors is the fact they most of them are inexpensive. In the London markets they are found in dealers boxes marked as low as 75 cents but more often the \$1.50 boxes. Until now dealers have not had an authoritative listing of such pieces. Of course there are dealers who quickly identify imitation spade guineas that are not common and price them accordingly. One dealer advertises to pay \$500 for the rare Isle of Man guineas.

Bryce Neilson has spent many years studying these pieces and has been assisted by three other major British collectors, David Magnay, David Young and J. Gavin Scott. The first listing of imitation guineas was produced by the late R.N.P. Hawkins who identified some 250 types as early as 1963.

Prior to the reign of King George III the gaming market was satisfied with medalets and jettons (many of them produced in France and Germany). The imitation spade guineas were overtaken in the 1830s by other products, mainly the "To Hanover" series which were political. Queen Victoria was unable to take the throne of Hanover because Salic law forbade female succession. The position was taken by the next male in line for the throne, the Duke of Cumberland. The counters, featuring him on horseback going to Hanover, were effectively saying "good-rid-dance." Other counters include the



Prince of Wales Model half sovereigns, and at the turn of the century, counters based on the Kruger pond, and featuring Kruger.

The profusion of counters led to the laws being more rigorously

applied and legal actions against producers in the 1860s. Finally the Counterfeit Medal Act of 1883 stopped the circulation of imitation counters resembling coin of the realm.

But imitation spade guineas were back in vogue in the 1860s because the design was now obsolete and could not be confused with legal tender coin. A vast series of "In Memory of the Good Old Days" and similar

legends became common currency among gamblers. The imitation spade guineas went out of use shortly after the Great War of 1914-18.

As the author tells us, work has now begun on a valuation guide and volume 2 which will include original boxes and containers, die-links and new finds and illustrations. Now would seem a good time to put together a representative collection of these gambling counters which form

part of the political and social history of Great Britain.

A Thousand Guineas is published by:
Galata Print Ltd.,
The Old White Lion,
Market Street, Llanfyllin, Powys,
SY22 5BX, UK.

E-mail paul@galata.co.uk

Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. Reward Offer

Several years ago, the Club had a standing offer to help deter theft of member's collections. Somewhere along the way it was either dropped, forgotten or just faded into obscurity. The Board has voted to reintroduce the reward offer.

We would like to thank Jim Reilly for his research and assistance with this project. The terms of the offer are similar to those used by the ANA. Please contact any member of the Board of Directors for further information.

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc., offers a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons charged with the theft of any part of a club member's collection.

The CC & GTCC will pay a reward as follows: If the retail value of the stolen property is less than \$5,000, the reward is \$250; if \$5000 to \$20,000, the reward is \$500; and if greater than \$20,000, the reward is \$1000.

The purpose of this reward offer is to increase the likelihood of apprehending and convicting those who steal from club members, as well as to increase the likelihood of recovering the stolen property. The reward offer, however, is not intended to reimburse any club member's loss. It is each member's responsibility to maintain insurance against losses of this kind.

Mike Skelton
President

Crystal Bay

CLUB CASINO

Lake Tahoe • Since 1937

by Howard W. Herz

Contributors: Allan **Anderson** and Larry **Hollibaugh**

The Ta-Neva-Ho Block

In the summer of 1937 the North Shore of Lake Tahoe was a busy place for construction and business activity. With the May 17th fire at the Cal Neva Lodge and its frantic rebuilding under way, another casino and business area was hardly making headlines. A small article in the Reno Evening Gazette noted a development being built that has lasted to this day.

The Ta-Neva-Ho began as a conglomeration of businesses that were intended to serve the rapidly developing community on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. Long before the up scale development of Incline Village, the finger of land that juts into the north shore of Lake Tahoe at the state line between California and Nevada developed first. In the 1920's developer Norman Biltz constructed a building that served as a land sales office. This building became the Cal-Neva lodge in 1929 and hosted gaming even before it became legal in Nevada (1931).

In the early 1930's with the Cal-Neva Lodge and the Cal-Vada Lodge operating on the north shore, the growing community was in need of business services. Seven businesses other than gaming were located in the block along with the Ta-Neva-Ho gaming area. These included over the years, a bank, drug store, bakery, several bars, furniture store and other gaming operations.

Jim McKay and his Reno associates are reported to have been the first gaming operators at the Ta-Neva-Ho at the time of its opening. A 1937 article in the Nevada State Journal states that the building includes the Club Fortune, however Washoe County gaming records do not show any licensing under this name but does list the Ta-Neva-Ho as having been licensed for roulette,



Ta-Neva-Ho under construction

Photo courtesy Reno Color Lab

WORK IS RUSHED ON BUILDING AT LAKE

TAHOE CITY, Calif., May 16. — (Special).—A new business block, now nearing completion on the Nevada state line overlooking Lake Tahoe, will be ready for occupation on the first of June, according to the foreman of construction there.

The first of eight new business establishments to open its doors to the public in the new building will be the Tahoe branch of the First National Bank in Reno, which is to occupy large quarters at the extreme southern end of the block. The bank is scheduled to open on May 17. The seven other stores in the building have been leased to business firms and are expected to be open and operating by the middle of June.

The Casino, at the extreme north, has been leased by James McKay of Reno and will be opened for the summer soon. Finishing touches are now being added to the elaborate hall by Bert Pierson, Hollywood interior decorator. Huge murals adorning its walls depict the early pioneering days in Nevada, showing wide stretches of the Carson basin, glimpses along the Emigrant Trail and a view of the early day Kit Carson pass. The entire decorating scheme is carried out in Washoe Indian design.

The Sierra Construction Company headed by Norman Biltz and Oscar Alexander of Reno, is at work this week on the installation of a new all-year water system for the business block. An eight inch main is being laid to the lake through which the water will be pumped to a 300,000 gallon reservoir tank on the mountain above the vicinity. This huge tank is constructed entirely of concrete, sealed and ventilated. An eight inch supply main leading from the tank will be equipped with laterals to connect with the various buildings.

A sprinkling system will be added later for special fire protection.



Ta-Neva-Ho

Photo courtesy Reno Color Lab

craps, 21 and 9 slot machines. Given the fact that Bill Graham and Jim McKay's Cal-Neva Lodge had just burned to the ground on May 17th, It is very possible that McKay licensed the Ta-Neva-Ho for gaming while construction was under way at the Cal-Neva Lodge.

Tracing the gaming operations that were in the Ta-Neva-Ho block does require some speculation and investigation from several sources. Opening only in the summers from June through August, the Ta-Neva-Ho licensed the same gaming in 1938 as it had in 1937. In 1939, however, the only licenses that were issued to the Ta-Neva-Ho Bar were for three (3) slot machines and a roulette table.

The 49er was licensed on July 1, 1940 for craps, roulette and blackjack. At the same

time, the Ta-Neva-Ho was licensed for 10 slot machines and no table games. This would indicate that the "lodge" was operating a smaller area or that the name of the gaming operation had been changed. Photographs of the Ta-Neva-Ho block show a "The 49er" sign on the building.

The summer seasons of 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 give an uncertain picture of what gaming was operating in the Ta-Neva-Ho block.

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TA-NEVA-HO

Hawaiian entertainment and music direct from Honolulu. Excellent food served at all hours at popular prices. Come... a barrel of fun for less money!

COME AS YOU ARE

Dining
Dancing
Gaming

Entertainment

The entire decorating scheme is carried out in Washoe Indian design by Bert Pierson. Huge murals adorning the walls depict the early pioneering days in Nevada, showing wide stretches of the Carson basin, glimpses along the Emigrant Trail and a view of the early day Kit Carson Pass. A branch of the First National Bank in Reno and shops nearby for your convenience. Come play and enjoy yourselves.

1941 again has 7 slot only licenses for the Forty-Niner (The 49er) along with 5 slot machines in the "Ta-Neva-Ho Grocery". 1942 gaming records show the Ta-Neva-Ho with 1 slot machine in the "bakery", 1 slot machine in the "grocery", 5 slots in the "bar" and 3 slots in the "alley". Our best guess is that the "alley" was a reference to the bowling alley that was in the building. 1943 records indicate that NO licenses were issued to the club. One of the better histories of the club indicates that Frank Fat and August Nyberg had purchased the club in the 1942-1943 period. This sale may have been the reason for the limited slot gaming during this period of time. In 1945, Fat and Nyberg et.al. sold their interest in the club to John Rayburn.

The summer seasons of 1945 indicate that only slot machines were licensed to the Ta-Neva-Ho, although an entry does exist under the name "John Rayburn" for craps, roulette, blackjack and 11 slot machines. Although this entry does not specifically refer to the Ta-Neva-Ho, John



The 49er

Photo courtesy Reno Color Lab

Rayburn had leased the gaming from Frank Fat and August Nyberg. With the United States still at war with Japan, the summer season was still somewhat limited.

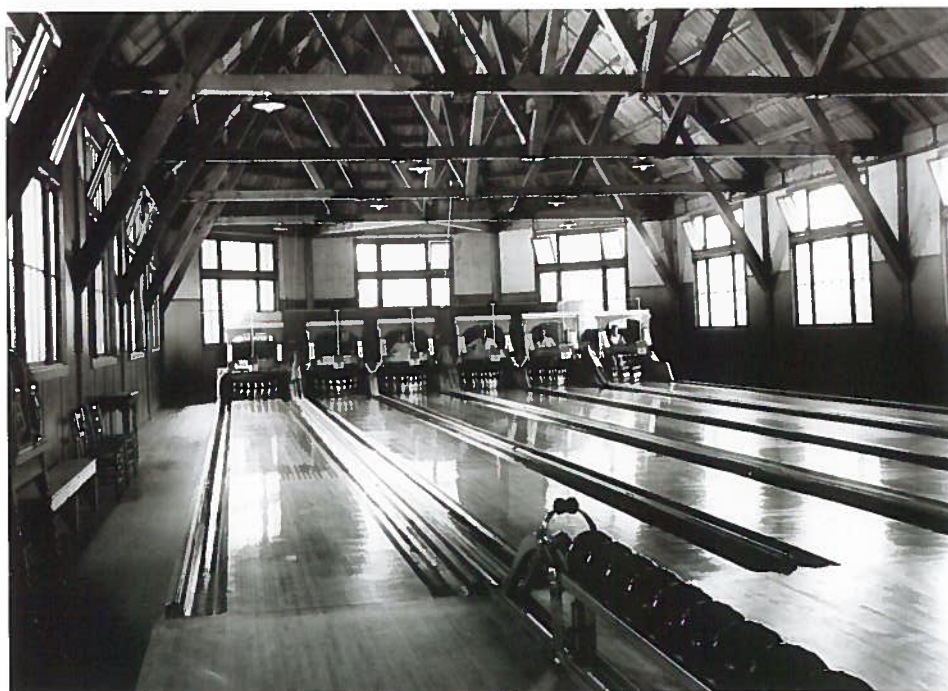
The 1946 season of the Ta-Neva-Ho with John Rayburn and his associates began a period of expansion and development for the club. In 1946, the grand opening

was announced with major advertising in the Reno papers. Featuring roulette, craps, blackjack and 37 slot



machines, Rayburn was certainly challenging the competition that was itself swelling in the ranks. By the summer of 1947, the Crystal Bay area was alive with gaming. The 1947 season opened with not just the traditional Cal-Neva Lodge and Cal-Vada Lodge, but with a whole new batch of casinos. The Sierra Lodge, the Log Cabin, Cappy Rix and the Crystal Bay Bar were now all in contention for players money.

The summer of 1948 brought out one of the first attributable gaming checks from the Ta-Neva-Ho. The large crown issues of the club were made for the Washoe Investment Co. by T.R. King of Los Angeles. These hot stamped checks with values of \$5, \$25, \$50 and \$100 are the earliest checks that we have been able to



Ta-Neva-Ho Bowling Alley

Photo courtesy Reno Color Lab

definitely attribute to a time of operation of the Ta-Neva-Ho. From 1949 through the summer of 1955, the Ta-Neva-Ho continued to operate. Although we can not make an attribution from original records, we can presume with some safety that the later Ta-Neva-Ho issues that appear on the zig-zag mold of Noll & Co. are later than the large crown issues.

John Rayburn and his associates undertook a major renovation of the Ta-Neva-Ho block in the winter of 1955-56 and on May 1, 1956 re-opened the club under the name of The Crystal Bay Club. Not only



would the new club now challenge the competition, it would extend its seasonal operation. Starting with the 1958 season, the Crystal Bay Club opened in April and closed in October.



Crystal Bay Club

Photo courtesy Howard Herz



Crystal Bay Club

Photo courtesy Reno Color Lab

In 1960, John Rayburn sold his interest in the Crystal Bay club to his partners Mac McCoskey and Hjalmer "Slim" La Borde. Eventually La Borde sold his interest to Mac McCoskey and retired. McCoskey's ownership lasted until 1968 when he sold the club to the Ohio Investment Company of Cincinnati.

Operations of the club by the Cincinnati group lasted until 1979 when the club was sold to a group of Nevada investors headed by Conrad Priess. This group of investors operated the casino until May 24, 2002 when the club entered a chapter 13 and closed.



A Newly Renovated Crystal Bay Club

It had rained all day on July 31, 2003 and the owners of the newly renovated Crystal Bay Club had been hoping to have a quiet "soft" opening. Word of mouth had been the only advertising the casino had for the opening, mostly spread from workers on the renovation. At midnight a small crowd of 40 or so people had assembled outside the casino and were waiting. Across the street, people were watching out of the windows of the Tahoe Biltmore. At 12:01am (midnight) the doors were opened as the small crowd surged in. To a chorus of whoops and hollering the crowd descended on the slots and gazed at the casino renovation. It was not as quiet as the owners had expected it to be.



Such a simple opening belies the effort that Elise and Roger Norman have put into an almost entirely re-made Crystal Bay Club. Tons, yes literally tons of junk, asbestos, old mechanical equipment and a whole attic of accumulated items had to be removed and a gutted building had to be renovated.

After purchasing the casino out of bankruptcy, the Normans passed the rigorous Nevada State Gaming Control Board licensing in record time. Then they plunged into a renovation that has been spectacular. Elise Norman's exquisite taste and decorating skills are reflected in everything from the antique chandeliers to the Grohe bathroom fixtures to even the gaming check design.

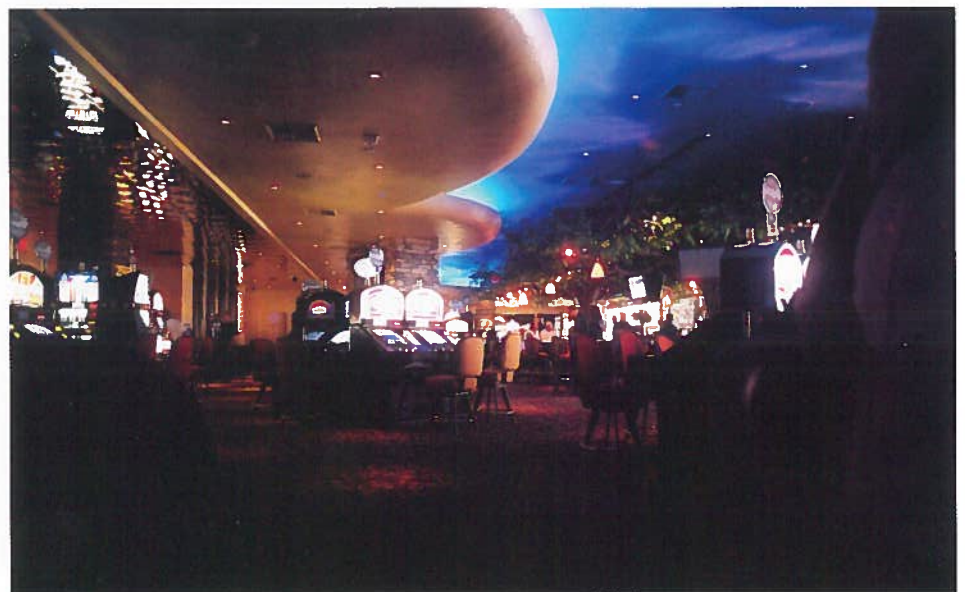
An environment of very comfortable elegance is what customers find in the remodeled Crystal Bay Club. Tan to brown colors and accents of rock blend with Tahoe's majestic north shore pines. The state of the art electronics that drives this casino are as unobtrusive as I have ever seen in the gaming industry. A small fortune in flat screen TV monitors (30 HD TV's) are found throughout the casino, but they seem natural to the comfortable environment. At all times if there is a special event to be viewed, including all sporting events, volume control and audio video sources can be changed by a touch of a button on the micro cash registers.

The total renovation went from the basement to the attic. A glittering new count room hides behind a deceptively modern casino cage. What is behind the scenes is as impressive as the public areas. The totally renovated kitchens are staffed with employees trained in hygiene as well as their normal duties, just another extra protection for customers.



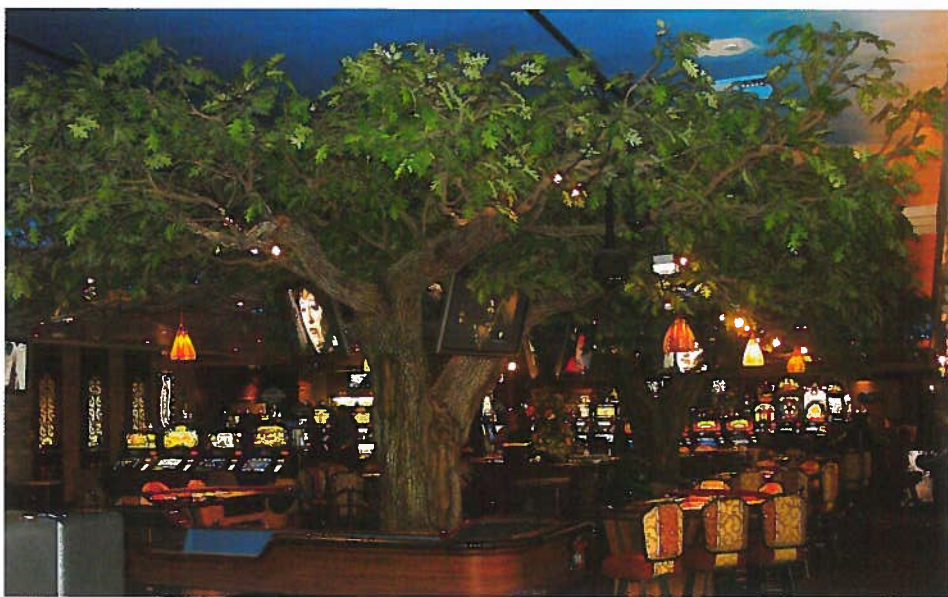
Crystal Bay Club 2003

Photo courtesy Allan Anderson



New Crystal Bay Club Interior

Photo courtesy Howard Herz



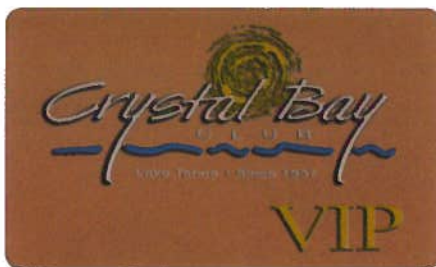
Interior showing the custom made trees

Photo courtesy Allan Anderson

The players club cards are totally integrated with the machines as well as the bar and restaurants, a feature that gives the management an advantage in customer care. Player tracking includes your preferences at the bar for extra service.

Perhaps the most spectacular renovation is the restaurant that was once a bowling alley in the original Ta-Neva-Ho. By blending the original ambience of the Tahoe classic Ta-Neva-Ho mountain lodge beam ceiling with natural rock pillars and wrought iron fixtures, the Crystal Bay Cafe has a spectacular open feeling. It is one thing to blend into Tahoe's scenery, but the Crystal Bay's interior enhances the comfort you feel at the lake.

The slot gaming area has the usual state of the art machines, but the clink of gaming tokens is definitely absent. Paper pay outs are on all of the machines. Sorry - token collectors - but you will have to be content with the original 1965 Michigan Tool and 1980-Franklin Mint issues of this club. Table games are located in a single pit that has a forest of trees covering the supporting pillars in the



pit area. State of the art table games feature MP21 technology security play protection. All of the casino

action is dutifully covered by video that unobtrusively records every turn of a card. A Cal-Neva sports book and a very comfortable lounge round out the present amenities.

What is in the works to come? The club's traditional steak & lobster room will be refurbished next. A convention area and a concert venue are in the plans.

And just how totally can they tweek the casino environment for customers? The music videos on the flat screen TV's can start out with mellow music in the morning and graduate to more stimulating afternoon sounds - they can even cater to a special players choice of sounds on the flat screen near his gaming table.

In this comfortable casino, the only necessity for any player to bring on his own, is his luck and his some cash. We are looking forward to watching this high tech operation bring new life to one of Tahoe's classic gaming houses.



Coffee shop with the wood beams from the Ta-Neva-Ho bowling alley

Photo courtesy Allan Anderson

West World and Old Vegas

Old Vegas was the name of an amusement park located in Henderson, Nevada on 126 acres of land. It operated for eight years between 1978 and 1986. It featured a replica of an old western town and actually housed various Hollywood sets of popular westerns. The \$7.2 million park employed about 100 people in its prime. Also located on the property was a casino called West World. It was named after its Houston based owner. The only live gaming it featured (in addition to slots) was blackjack. In 1986, when the parent company failed, the park and casino were forced to close.

Here is your chance to add the three known West World chips and a previously unknown \$25 West World chip to your collection at VERY attractive pricing.



N3044

\$18



N2983

\$24



N2293

\$28



Unlisted
Green, 3-Orange

\$38

*****Set of All 4 – 50c, \$1, \$5, \$25... \$99*****

To order your chips, please add \$4 P&H for the set of 4 chips or \$3 for up to 3 chips
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RESORT & CASINO PECHANGA



by Allan Anderson

The modern structure of Pechanga Resort & Casino rose up from the hard work, toil and struggle of the 900 adult members of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians. Throughout history, challenges and hardships have been placed in front of Native Americans, with perhaps the biggest challenge of all being to overcome the threats to sovereignty that continue to rear themselves in a multitude of ways. While this challenge is ceaseless, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians strives for a balance between the record and culture of its ancestors and the modern aspirations and demands of contemporary living.

The economic opportunities for the Pechanga Tribe were limited. They were carved out a plot of land of approximately 5,400 acres in the arid

Temecula Valley with no fresh water source nearby. They persevered and when the state of California passed a law allowing tribal gaming in 1987, these hard-working Native Americans saw their shining opportunity.

Through the years, the town, and now city of Temecula has grown, due in large part to the undertakings of the Pechanga Band. Since the Pechanga Entertainment Center opened its doors to the public in 1995 with a small, 200-machine casino, gas station and RV Park, the property has enjoyed a constant state of growth and expansion. It has become a significant provider of jobs for the tribe and the community as a whole. It has also established itself as a force in the economy of small business in Temecula and of suppliers in Southern California. The current and future Pechanga Resort & Casino will

add substantially to this record of success, providing even more opportunities for tribal members, community residents and local businesses to participate in an expanding economy.

Pechanga Resort & Casino carries the prestigious title of California's only AAA Four Diamond Resort. As guests enter the lobby, they are met by relaxing water features with granite and stone that elegantly enhance the Front Desk check in area. The Concierge Desk, able to assist with tours, travel arrangements, special requests and more, is also located at the end of the Front Desk. Guests staying at Pechanga Resort & Casino will find all the comforts and amenities they expect from a top-level hotel - spacious rooms and suites, a full-service spa, pool and sundeck, 24-hour room service, stay

and play packages, express checkout and more.

Pechanga offers comfort and luxury in every one of its 522 rooms and suites. Guests may choose from deluxe rooms or lavish suites overlooking the lush Temecula wine country or the San Jacinto mountains. Each oversized deluxe room is unique with floor to ceiling windows and an impressive master bath. One bedroom suites offer sitting rooms with a wet bar, separate sleeping quarters and a one-and-a-half bath. Jacuzzi Suites combine the comfort of a deluxe room with an additional cozy sitting room and a full Jacuzzi tub for two.

Pechanga Resort & Casino boasts seven of the area's most exceptional restaurants, as well as a gourmet espresso bar to get you going in the morning. You'll find a world of tastes at Pechanga's restaurants. From fine-dining steakhouse and Italian to casual and hearty favorites, they're all right here.

The Great Oak Steakhouse - The ultimate in fine dining. Wine-country cuisine coupled with steakhouse favorites, only hand-selected, USDA Prime, dry-aged beef is used. Winner of Wine Spectator "Award of Excellence", more than 400 selections are featured on the restaurant's wine list. Open Wednesday through Sunday at 5pm.

Paisano's Italian Ristorante - Set amidst ambience reminiscent of a quaint Italian village, Paisano's offers fabulous fare from across the regions of Italy best known for their culinary expertise. Paisano's offers an extensive wine list including many Italian varietals. Open Tuesday through Saturday at 5pm.

The Grotto - Serving the freshest seafood from the West Coast and featuring an exciting, interactive Oyster Bar with 18 varieties of shellfish. Choose from under-the-sea delights such as oysters on the half-shell, brothy steamers, made-to-order pan roasts and stews and much more. The menu ranges from the casual Grotto Platter to the elegant stuffed sea bass with lobster and French por-salut cheese. Open Thursday through Monday at 5pm.

Blazing Noodles - Add some spice to your life and dine here. Featuring Pan-Asian specialties that embody the Orient. Flavors of Thailand, China, Japan and India can be found at this casual and relaxed restaurant. Open daily for lunch and dinner at 11 am.

The Buffet - The choices are endless at the buffet. Diners can enjoy an international selection in a casual and comfortable setting. An array of entree items await guests including an extensive soup and salad bar, baron of beef, roasted turkey and succulent pork roast at the carving station, plus seafood, Italian, Asian and other favorites. Save room for a trip to the make-your-own-sundae bar and dessert station featuring freshly baked pies, cakes, cookies and more. Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Friday at 11 am. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday at 8am.

The Pechanga Cafe - The Cafe offers 24-hour menu selections ranging from light snacks to hearty dinners. Breakfast, lunch and dinner, plus a scrumptious dessert selection; are served around the clock in this casual, coffee shop atmosphere.

The Snack Bar - Located on the east side of the casino floor, the Snack Bar offers favorites such as hot dogs, pizza, crepes, ice cream and drinks for those who don't want to stray too far from the casino action. These delicious items are served 24-hours a day.

With Temecula's warm and sunny climate, Pechanga's outdoor pool and sundeck are open throughout the year. Located on the third floor, access to the pool is easy for guests as they step through the double glass doors after exiting the elevator.



Pechanga offers free membership to its Player Rewards Club, providing players with more rewarding fun as they earn valuable points for play. Unlike many other casinos in which guests have to guess or keep track of their playing time to figure out how many comps they have accumulated, Pechanga's Rewards Club makes it easy and simple for everyone. Players earn one point for every dollar in slot play and every two dollars in video poker. Points may be redeemed for cash or merchandise like TVs, cameras, camcorders, watches and more from the exclusive Club Gift Catalog. Qualified members also receive special monthly offers and invitations to exclusive promotions and special events. Guests may also sign up for the Pechanga Rewards Club online so they can go directly to the casino and start having fun, instead of having to wait in line to obtain a player's card.

Pechanga Resort & Casino features 2,000 of the hottest and newest slot and video poker machines for our guests' gaming excitement. Spread across the 88,000 square-foot casino, players will find their favorite games such as The Price Is Right, I Dream of Jeannie, Triple Play Poker and more. Pechanga expanded its gaming area in April 2003 to include a new, entirely non-smoking, 10,000 square-foot section of the casino.

In two separate areas of the casino floor, guests will find their favorite table games including Blackjack, Three-card Poker, Let It Ride, Pai Gow Poker and Pechanga Stud. A total of 88 tables, 60 are located in a cluster toward the north end of the casino. Eighteen more can be found on the east side of the casino, in the former location of the Bingo Center. These 18 tables are designated non-smoking for the comfort of Pechanga guests.

The secluded Pechanga Fortune Room is the ideal setting for those players who appreciate higher limits and personal attention. With \$10 to \$100 slots and Blackjack tables with \$100 to \$5,000 limits, the gaming action is exhilarating.

Poker players will find gaming excitement, plus privacy seven days a week in Pechanga's newly expanded 29-table Poker Room. The Poker Room is located on the lower level, away from the busy casino floor. The



Theatre Showroom

poker room does not allow smoking, however, it does feature an adjoining, enclosed smoking lounge.

Tournaments start daily at 10am with a variety of games including Omaha High/Low, Texas Hold 'Em and more from which players may choose. All weekday morning tournaments have a \$2,000 guarantee and can seat up to 100 players. These tournaments require a \$23 buy-in and a \$2 entry fee.

Pechanga Resort & Casino is known throughout the Southern California region for its top-tier entertainment and events. Headliner concerts, free nightly cabaret entertainment, theatrical productions, live boxing events and more are all here for the enjoyment of Pechanga guests.

Internationally recognized performers regularly take the stage in the 1,200-seat showroom. Top acts such

as Julio Iglesias, Chicago, Dana Carvey, Wynona, The Beach Boys and many others have taken the stage and delivered outstanding performances at Pechanga. Thousands of people have also experienced and applauded Broadway musicals and shows such as Grease, Amadeus, Moulin Rouge and more. The showroom includes a concessions and beverage area in the foyer, an orchestra seating section and usher service to escort guests to their seats. With a full-scale production stage, sound, lighting, set changes, special effects and more are able to be carried out with ease for the most demanding of performances.

The comfortable atmosphere of the no-cover Cabaret Lounge makes it a popular gathering spot every night. Located on the main casino floor, guests can enjoy a dance floor, video monitors positioned around the lounge playing music video favorites and full bar service.

The rooftop Eagle's Nest with its sweeping views of the Palomar and San Jacinto mountains offers a relaxing cocktail lounge atmosphere to Pechanga guests. Live piano artistry adds to the sophisticated charm and ambience of this full-service 14th floor lounge. The Eagle's Nest is open Wednesday through Saturday from 8pm until 1:30am.

Pechanga Resort & Casino regularly presents championship boxing matches in the Grand Ballroom with seating for up to 3,000 fans. Many of Pechanga's boxing events include live television coverage and reports on networks such as HBO, FoxSports and NBC.

The Pechanga Bingo Center was recently moved and expanded. Players will now find all the excite-



ment of bingo action in the newly renovated and remodeled Bingo Center adjacent to the main Resort & Casino building. The Bingo Center is open 6 days a week with doors opening at 10 am each day. The Center houses more than 700 bingo seats with thousands of players making their way through the doors each week. Bingo players may also sign up to become members in the Pechanga Bingo Club. It's free to sign up and members receive Club discounts and special offers. Pechanga has also been noted to utilize the most cutting-edge technology in bingo today.

Nestled beneath the foothills separating the Rainbow Gap from the Temecula Valley, the RV Resort lies on the property owned by the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians. Each of the 170 sites offers full electric hookups (20, 30 and 50 amp), water, cable TV and sewer service. There are 25 pull-through sites available. The Resort is Internet friendly and has three Internet access stations in the Clubhouse available to guests at no charge. The RV Resorts Recreation Room adjoins a patio featuring a full barbeque. A heated pool and two spas complete the view beyond the patio.

The Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians governs itself with a sovereign, fully-functioning and modern government. Elected by a majority of the General Membership (adult voting members of the Band), the Pechanga Tribal Council, much like a city council or county board of supervisors, is responsible for setting policy and administering a wide range of governmental programs within the boundaries of the reservation. The Pechanga Reservation is patrolled by its own security force, and has built and now maintains a modern fire

department. Children living on the reservation receive after school instruction in the Reservation School, and children of all ages and their families participate in recreational activities and cultural programs of the fully staffed Pechanga Youth Center. Both the school and the community center are located directly across the street from a new community park, which includes playground equipment, softball diamond, handball courts, picnic areas and a community amphitheater. The tribal government also provides a senior citizens' center called "Silver Feathers." It offers nutrition programs, as well as a multitude of activities planned by the Senior Citizens' Committee. A health clinic and the Indian Health Service have also been established and continue to be funded by the Pechanga Band.

The Pechanga Cultural Committee provides archeological monitors to preserve sacred sites and artifacts when discovered on reservation or nearby lands. A professionally staffed Pechanga Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for administering reservation environmental programs. The Pechanga Band also operates its own water system and is responsible for maintaining roads, a cemetery, fencing, providing flood control along Pechanga Creek, landscaping and upkeep of reservation lands. The Pechanga government and lands are subject to, and must meet all federal environmental laws relating to clean air, water and wildlife protection. Enforcement of regulation is through the Pechanga Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Local and community governments and programs also

benefit from the operation of Indian Gaming establishments, namely Pechanga Resort & Casino. Millions of dollars in gaming revenues go toward city roads and infrastructure, local schools, charity organizations and much more. Before Pechanga Resort & Casino opened its resort facility in June of 2002, it funded the widening of the roadway renamed Pechanga Parkway, as well as the construction of the Pechanga bridge on that same roadway. Pechanga Resort & Casino annually gives \$100,000 to local high schools, donates tens of thousands to a chosen local charity through the annual Pechanga Golf Benefit and helps a myriad of charitable organizations requesting assistance throughout the year.

With continued development and improvements to Pechanga Resort & Casino slated for the near future, the Pechanga Band looks to the future and sees that it cannot forget its beginnings. A people of tradition, they will not let the sun rise or set without remembering who they are. Like a well-nourished oak tree and its acorn fruit, the symbol of the Pechanga Band, they are now once again lifting their branches to the sun, providing roots, shelter and food, restoring balance and harmony to the valley. They truly are reclaiming their place in the sun.

Quarterly Southern Nevada Limited Edition "Cheque" List



by Dave and Debbie Harber

With the dog days of summer behind most of us (it is still 98 degrees here as we write this), we hope everyone enjoyed themselves over these past three months. For chippers, the summer started off with a bang with chips coming out fast and furious no doubt due to the convention. They must know a chipper profile of coming into Vegas early or staying a few extra days after because there were plenty of chips to be had leading up to the convention as well as during and after the event was long over. As we expected June was the busiest month of all in this quarter. So without further adieu, let's get started.

To kick off the summer the Pahrump Nugget released the second in the series of seasons. Five hundred chips celebrating the arrival of summer were made.

Next it was over to Henderson to the Fiesta Casino (formerly the Reserve). A 1,000 mintage chip "Living the American Dream"/50 Years of the Dream was released to



commemorate the city of Henderson's 50th birthday.

The Palms joined into what we



now know was to be the start of the June chip frenzy. They released a \$1 (5,000); a \$2.50 (1,000); a \$5 (1,000); a \$25 (500) and a \$100 (500) chip featuring the Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew.



Next came the Stardust with the first of a series of chips to honor their 45th Anniversary. They issued a \$5 chip with a mintage of 2,000 and a \$25 chip with a mintage of 500.



The Tropicana then released the last five venues in their baseball stadium series. Like the previously released "sub-sets" each chip has a mintage of 500. These chips are the 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th in the series. Featured in this "sub-set" are the Boston Red Sox' Fenway Park, Montreal Expos Olympic Stadium, Pittsburgh Pirates PNC Park, Oakland A's Network Associates Coliseum and the Toronto Blue Jay's Sky Dome.



After the Hard Rock it was off to downtown, Las Vegas. Two chips were released from the Four Queens. A Father's Day chip and a Flag Day chip were issued. Each of these had mintages of 500.



Next stop was the Hard Rock for the release of the "Matchbox Twenty" chip. 3,500 chips were made. Of interest, after arriving we were informed that the \$10 On-line Bonus chips would also be released. These chips had previously only been available to those who booked a hotel room online at the Hard Rock in the month of June. Prior to this a few were sold for ridiculously high prices on eBay. If only those anxious bidders had waited a few weeks... Mintage is 5,000.



The Palms then came out with chips for Nelly, a rapper performing there. Denominations included a \$2.50, two fives, a twenty five and one hundred. Each of the chips had a different picture of Nelly. There were 2,500 \$2.50's, 2,000 of each of the fives, 500 twenty fives and 500 one hundreds.



In honor of the CC & GTCC 11th Annual convention the Riviera was kind enough to make 500 No Cash Value (NCV) chips for the occasion. Coupons were provided in the pre-registration packets for chippers to take to the Riviera to redeem. Once signed up for the slot club you presented your coupon for the chip. Our thanks to Barbara Wolfe who runs the chip program at the Riviera for making this possible.



The next stop for chips was the Four Queens. They released a 37th Anniversary chip and a 4th of July chip each with mintages of 500.



The Tropicana was not to be left out especially since our convention was held there. Three chips were issued. The first was the 1,500 mintage 11th Annual International Convention chip (CC & GTCC). The second chip was the 500 mintage 4th of July chip. The third was a NCV Tropicana CC & GTCC convention chip. Since these chips are NCV's they are available through the club.





Harrah's was the next to release their 4th of July chip. They too only had 500 made.



Excalibur released their June and July dragons. The June dragon is the Western Dragon and has a mintage of 1,000. The July chip features the Hydra Dragon also with a mintage of 1,000.



To wind up the month of June, the Palms Poker Tournament NCV chips for the convention were also issued. This set includes a \$1 (700), \$5

(1,100), \$25 (1,100), \$100 (700) & \$500 (700). All five chips have identical artwork.



That does it for June. It's on to July.

July

As would be expected in July, there were a few more chips released in celebration of Independence Day. Two properties in Laughlin issued Fourth of July chips. The two casinos were the Golden Nugget and the Ramada Express, each with a mintages of 1,000. During this time the Colorado Belle had their 16th birthday. In celebration, an anniversary chip with a mintage of 1,000 was made.



Now back to Vegas for two more Fourth of July chips. Green Valley Ranch in Henderson released a \$5 chip. Unfortunately this mintage has not been confirmed.



The Rio issued an Independence Day chip as well, again with artwork identical to Harrahs. This has a mintage of 500.



The Stardust issued the second chips in their 45th Anniversary series. Again, there were 2,000 \$5 chips and 500 \$25 chips produced.



Sunset Station in Henderson opened a Hooters Restaurant on the property. To mark the event a set of five \$5 chips and a \$25 chip were made. There were seven hundred and fifty of each of the \$5 chips depicting different girls and five hundred of the

\$25 chips featuring one of the previously pictured girls. All have the owl logo as a common back.



Famed Palms host, Jimmy Tipton, held his much anticipated Naughty Nighty Night Pajama Party again this year. As with last years "PJ" party there was a NCV chip for the event. Two thousand of these chips were made with some given out at the party and others for sale in the gift shop.



The Riviera then released their Medalist chip for the annual dart tournament being held there. Six hundred of this \$5 chip were made.



To finish off the month, 80's mega band Duran Duran rocked the house at the Hard Rock's intimate show room, "The Joint". To commemorate the event 5,000 Duran Duran chips were produced.



August

To start off the month the Stardust released their 3rd in the series of 45th anniversary chips. A \$5 chip limited to 2,000 and a \$25 chip limited to 500.



The next chip came from the Excalibur with the release of their August dragon, the Wyvern Dragon. It has a mintage of 1,000.



The Four Queens came out strong in August with 5 new chips released throughout the month. Each chip depicts a sharp looking car like those found in the movie "2 Fast 2 Furious". The cars included, the Nissan Skyline, the Toyota Supra, the Subaru WRX, the Acura NSX and the Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution. Each has a mintage of 500. You can expect a sixth and final chip in this series to come out soon.





It was back to the Rio for the Miss Rio Contest 2004 chip. One thousand of these were made. Some were in key rings and given out to attendees in a presentation box. The rest were available on the tables and at the casino cage.



Next it was across the street to the Palms. The Palms had chips made for the "Stuff Magazine Casino Weekend. There were 2 different chips this year each with mintages of 2,000. These chips feature MTV's Daisy Fuentes and NBC's "Dog Eat Dog" host, Brooke Burke.



In coordination with this years competition, the Riviera released their APA National Team Championship Billiard Tournament chip. Seven hundred and fifty \$5 chips were made.



The Hard Rock had a new issue this month as well. The \$100 Ringo Starr chip was released the weekend he appeared at "The Joint". It has a mintage of 550. You may wonder as did we, why no \$5 or \$25 chip. Rumor has it that Ringo's management simply wouldn't hear of it, afterall, "Ringo is a Beatle"!



Two chips that were not easy to get this month, came from the Las Vegas Hilton. They were sold from within the exhibit hall floor of the Star Trek Convention for \$20 each. This was in addition to the convention admittance fee of \$30. One chip pictures William Shatner as Kirk and the other, Leonard Nimoy as Spock. One thousand of each were made with most going to "Trekkies".



The last chips to be released in August surprisingly came from the MGM. They have not done chips for any events since the millennium. A five dollar, a twenty five dollar and a hundred dollar chip was made for the Oscar De La Hoya vs Shane Mosley fight being held there. There were

2,500 fives, 1,000 twenty fives and 500 hundreds all with identical artwork.



Well, that's it for the summer limited edition releases from southern Nevada. We'll be back next quarter to report on what happened in the chipping world out here. Until then, happy chippin'

At this time we would like to thank Pete Rizzo and Chuck Smorse for providing a few of the images contained in this article.

Dave and Debbie Harber have been limited edition chip collectors since 1993 and together own the World's largest Nevada LE chip brokerage, Cheques in the Mail, Inc. They can be reached through their web sites at www.lasvegas-chips.com

The CC>CC Building Fund

by Andy Hughes



For a donation of \$100 or more you get the above numbered oversized (44mm) chip. Only 100 made.

CC>CC Building Fund Mission

There has been discussion for several years among the club members about how nice it would be to have a location where meetings could be held, materials stored and just have a place to call home. Some have even suggested a casino chip museum could be located in the new home. The problem was money - how much and how to get it. Since maintaining a building, even if it is leased space, is rather expensive the Board of Directors decided that before any plans are made it would be necessary to see if there was enough interest in this project to raise the needed funds.

It was determined that while it may not be enough to complete the project it would be necessary to get at least \$50,000 just to get things started. In April 2002 the Board of Directors approved setting up a committee to work on collecting the necessary money to accomplish the goal.

In the first year, through the hard work of many club members, the donations to the building fund totaled

about \$20,000 and are being kept in a separate bank account. Once the \$50,000 total is raised a different committee will decide how to proceed in locating the permanent home. This could include purchase of a building, leasing space or working with a government organization such as the City of Las Vegas or a University. Committee members have met with the Mayor of Las Vegas and his people in an attempt to develop something a lot faster than we ever thought possible. These meetings have been very productive and will continue as the project comes closer to reality. There have also been meetings with various casinos concerning our needs.

When this project is completed we will have a place we can be proud of, a place that belongs to the membership, and probably most important, a place where future members will be able to honor the memories of all of the great members and collectors that started and built this great hobby and club.

CC>CC Building Fund Committee

The Building Fund Committee is comprised of the following club members:

Jim Kruse (Chairman)
Robert Pardue
Andy Hughes
Archie Black
Greg Susong

To make a donation, send a check to Mike Quinlivan at:

Mike Quinlivan
Treasurer CC>CC
P.O. Box 249
Atwood, CA 92811-0249

Mike will let the committee know if a donation of \$100 or more was made and you will receive your chip in the mail.

Club Merchandise

Official Convention Chips & Medal Sets



2003 Official Convention Medal

\$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
\$25.00 Set of 2



2002 Official Convention Medal

\$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
\$25.00 Set of 2



2001 Official Convention Medal

\$7.00 - Bronze, \$18.00 - Silver,
\$25.00 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 2003



2003 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2002 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2001 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2000 Convention Chip
\$4.00



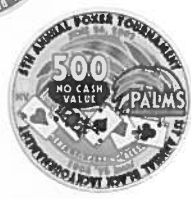
1999 Convention Chip
\$4.00



1996 Convention Chip
\$4.00



1995 Convention Chip
\$4.00



2003 Poker Tournament Set
\$15.00 - 5 chip Set

2002 Poker Tournament Set
\$15.00 - 5 chip Set

Casino Chip & Token News Back Issues

Volume 6 issue 3
Volume 6 issue 4
Volume 7 issue 1
Volume 7 issue 2
Volume 7 issue 3
Volume 8 issue 1
Volume 8 issue 2
Volume 8 issue 3
Volume 8 issue 4
Volume 9 issue 2
Volume 9 issue 3
Volume 10 issue 1
Volume 10 issue 2
Volume 10 issue 3
Volume 10 issue 4
Volume 11 issue 1
Volume 11 issue 2
Volume 11 issue 3
Volume 11 issue 4
Volume 12 issue 1
Volume 12 issue 2
Volume 12 issue 3
Volume 12 issue 4
Volume 13 issue 1
Volume 13 issue 2
Volume 13 issue 3
Volume 13 issue 4
Volume 14 issue 1
Volume 14 issue 2
Volume 14 issue 3
Volume 14 issue 4
Volume 15 issue 1
Volume 15 Issue 2
Volume 15 Issue 3
Volume 16 Issue 1
Volume 16 Issue 2
Volume 16 Issue 3

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Call for prices on multiple
copies

Convention T-Shirts



2003 Official T-Shirt

XXL - \$15.00
M, L, XL - \$11.00



2002 Official T-Shirt

XXL - \$15.00
M, L, XL - \$11.00



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



Polo Shirts

Misc. Colors with Pockets

M, L, XL - \$24.00

Misc. Colors without Pockets

SM, M, L, XL - \$22.95

Check for availability

Pins, Patches and Stickers



2003 Convention Pin
\$4.00

2001 Convention Pin
\$4.00



2002 Convention Pin
\$4.00



Member Pin
New and Old Style
\$5.00

1999 Convention Pin
\$3.00



2000 Convention Pin
\$3.00

1997 Convention Pin
\$3.00



1998 Convention Pin
\$3.00



3 1/2"
Embroidered Patch
\$4.00



One color
Logo Sticker
\$1.00

Five color
Logo Sticker
\$1.00



Tote Bag
Green, Navy or Black
\$12.95

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



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, Il .	\$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, Il .	\$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.
2002 "Fifteen Wooden Dollars" ANA club wooden dollar	New York, N.Y.	\$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, 2001 or 2002 Official (6th, 7th, 8th, 9th or 10th) 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.
2003 Wooden Nickel "This is the Big One" (red)	.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.

Make checks payable to:
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Total cost of order up to \$5.00 add \$1.50; up to \$10.00 add \$3.00; up to \$25.00 add \$5.95; up to \$50.00 add \$6.95; up to \$100.00 add \$8.95

*Nevada Residents subject to 7.25% sales tax
All prices subject to change without notice.*

Bob Hope

by Bill Holman

Editors note. I was stationed at CCKAB with my friend Bill who wrote this article, and I was also fortunate to see the show. Bob Hope was a great humanitarian who did many great things for people worldwide. As a veteran I will never forget the show and what it meant to all of us there.

The article is reprinted with permission from *The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 535 Newsletter*, volume 13, issue 9.

The armed forces lost a good friend last month, when Bob Hope died on July 27, 2003. Since World War II Bob Hope has been putting together USO shows to entertain American servicemen during the holidays.

I was fortunate to see Bob Hope's 1969 USO show when I was stationed at Ching Chuan Kang AB, Taiwan. Hope's 1969 tour included U-Tapao, Thailand, and Cu Chi AB, Chu Lai AB, Da Nang AB and Bien Hoa AB in Vietnam, during their eight day tour.

Bob Hope's USO tour didn't normally stop in Taiwan for their holiday tour, but because CCKAB supplied the C-130s and the flight crews for his tour, Hope wanted to

reciprocate by having his USO show do their last 1969 show in Taiwan at our base.

Some of the entertainers in Hope's show included Neil Armstrong, Connie Stevens, Romy Schneider, The Goldiggers, Teresa Graves, Suzanne Charny, Eve Reuber-Staier, Les Brown and his band, and Hector and Ted Pierro.

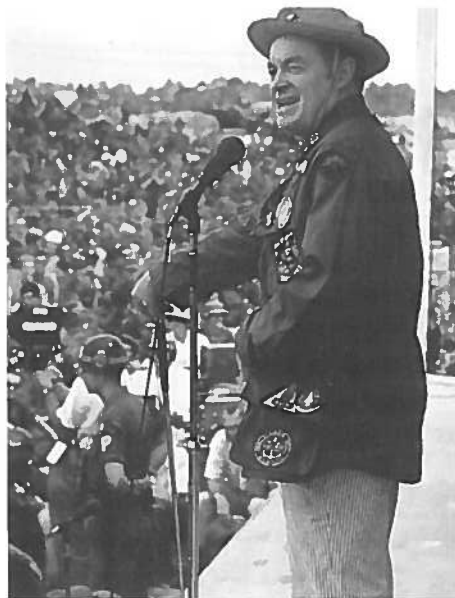
For one hour and 45 minutes Hope and his troupe brought laughter and a little bit of home to the men and women stationed at CCK. Six thousand people saw Bob Hope's show at CCKAB.

Part of being in the military is being away from home and families on the holidays. There were very few who had the luxury of having the holidays off. At CCK AB we ran 24 hours a day 7 days a week. It was not lost on those of us in the audience that Bob Hope and all the entertainers in his show were also away from their homes and families during the holidays to entertain us. It was because of Bob Hope that so many GIs overseas had a Christmas show that reminded them of home and brought some brightness into lives when they were so far away from home.

Bob Hope will be missed. Thanks for the memories Bob.



Picture courtesy Bob Hope Collection



Picture courtesy Bob Hope Collection

Silver Strikes Chapter

by Mary Lou Waterbury

Greetings to all you silver strikers out there!

This is the second year that this magazine is featuring the Silver Strikers Chapter and also the other Chapters. I can't imagine anything that would bring all of us closer. I, for one, am really looking forward to getting this issue.

Take a look at these pictures and you can see that we were all having a great time at the convention this year.

For those of you who couldn't make it this year, perhaps it will be the push that will get you there next year. I always like to hear the comments of people who opened the magazine and see themselves featured. All of these pictures were taken by Les Hassel who has been the man behind the camera these last three years. Thanks Les! I also want to thank Allan for doing such great work on the magazine.

The original officers were very surprised to receive a beautiful plaque

with a blue silver strike inlaid. The strike is from the El Cortez and is of our logo. What a beautiful and significant way to end our terms of office. Our thanks to the new officers who came up with this idea. Side note: I don't know how Les was able to get a good picture of us as everyone was putting their plaques in front of my face! No respect.

Mary Lou Waterbury
R3262 - CHSS-001



Original Officers

Standing in back: Jack Haddock, 2nd Vice-President, Ray Moritz, 1st Vice-president, Rick Andrae, Secretary,
Seated in front: Evelyn Grosklau, Treasurer;
Mary Lou Waterbury, President



New Officers

Standing in back: Kevin Pyles, 1st Vice-president/Membership Officer, Don T. Nesbitt, Jr. President
Doug Conley, 2nd Vice-president.
Seated in front: Sharon Pamperin, Secretary
Ed Ciesla, Treasurer



Ed Mahan and Evelyn Grosklau



Silver Strike cake



Doug Conley and helpers



Pam Corry and Mark Gyde



Don Nesbitt, Don Hallmark, Gene Trimble



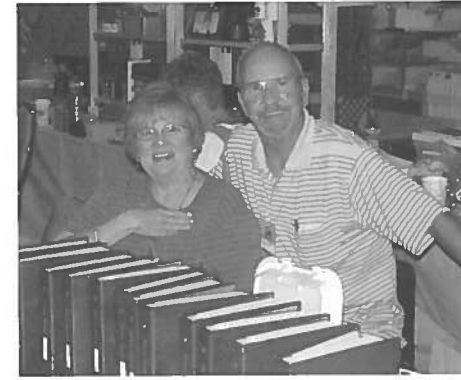
Kitty Stoops and Don Nesbitt



Jackpot Auction crew



Howard Herz



Liz Kneisley and Doug Jacob



Kevin Pyles, Ray Moritz, Evelyn Grosklau and Jack Haddock



Evelyn Grosklau



Dennis Finn, Ed Mahan, Jimmy Mahan



Jack Haddock at the auction



Dennis Finn and Ron Minsberg



Jack Haddock exhibit



Robert Chaffin exhibit



Doug Conley exhibit



Ray Moritz



Ida Turner and Gary Shepherd



Jack Haddock



Doug Conley, Jack Haddock, Evelyn Grosklaus and Rick Andrae



Don Nesbitt, Ed Ciesla, Kevin Pyles, Sharon Pamperin, Doug Conley

Interested in Silver Strikes?

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Silver Strikers



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

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Name _____
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

AREAS OF INTEREST

() All () \$7 () \$10 () \$20 () \$40 () \$200

() All () Nevada () Colorado () Atlantic City () Riverboats () Other _____

May we publish the above information in the club roster () Yes () No

PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES OF \$10.00

NEW MEMBER PROCESSING FEE \$ 5.00

OPTIONAL - * SPOUSE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP \$10.00

OPTIONAL - ROSTER \$ 8.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

* Spouse name _____

Visit our web site at <http://www.silverstrikers.com>



by Larry Hollibaugh

March through August 2003

*a*ll in all it's been a pretty good spring and summer in Northwest Nevada, with a total of 24 new chips issued from March through August. Let's start with a hard-to-get NCV from the Peppermill Casino. The 2003 WIBC Championship Tournament was held March 20th through July 9th at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno. Peppermill gave each bowler a commemorative No Cash Value chip.



Also in March the Reno Hilton issued a \$5 chip for the World Poker Challenge 3, which was held from March 13th through April 2nd. There was no \$25 chip this year. With the new 500 chip minimum rule, Hilton has decided not to do any \$25 chips for the foreseeable future. It is interesting that last year's chips commemorated the first year's event, so there are no chips for World Poker Challenge 2. Also in March, the Reno Hilton released a \$5 Silver Anniversary chip in honor of the building's 25th year. This casino originally opened in 1978 as the MGM Grand, and it was the largest casino/hotel complex in the world at that time.



In April, Harrah's Tahoe issued a \$5 chip to advertise their new Altitude Nightclub. Other than that, Reno suffered a minor chip drought through May.



In June, two different casinos started a Win Cards promotion with 1 NCV chips, the Siena and the Golden Phoenix. June also enjoyed a \$5 Reno Rodeo chip from Peppermill and \$5 and \$25 Celebrity Golf Championship chips from Caesars Tahoe. And the Bonanza Casino set a

new record for early release of a Hot August Nights chip with their first ever collector chip. This beautiful chip also commemorates their 30th anniversary.

Sometime in July the Carson Nugget put a new 50¢ chip on the blackjack tables. Bill's Casino at South Tahoe released their first ever collector chip, advertising their William's Back Door Blues Club. At the end of July, of course, it's time for the rest of the Hot August Nights chips. This year Caesars Tahoe decided not to do any HAN chips, and Reno Hilton did not do a \$25. That leaves four more \$5 chips from Atlantis, Harrah's Reno, Reno Hilton, and Peppermill.



Casino Fandango opened in Carson City just before midnight on July 31st, so we'll call their new rack the first chips for August. They have house chips in \$1, \$5, \$25 and \$100 denominations featuring their "happy fish" logo. On the 1st of August the Crystal Bay Club, on the north shore of Lake Tahoe, reopened under new ownership. This means we effectively got two new racks on one day! Crystal Bay Club house chips also come in \$1, \$5, \$25 and \$100 denominations. Both casinos opened as completely coin free, using Ticket In/Ticket Out technology exclusively.





This means neither casino has any tokens. Elsewhere in this magazine you'll read about what a fabulous casino the new Crystal Bay Club is. I'd just like to say their \$100 chip gets my vote for best Northern Nevada chip of 2003 (so far).

Well that's it for another Reno Report. All of these chips are available through my Northwest Nevada new issues service.

If you'd like to join, just send me an email at Larry@RenoCasinoChips.com. And check out my new issues service on the web at http://www.renocasinochips.com/new_issues.htm.

TOKEN COLLECTORS

Finally a single book has been published that lists all of the gaming tokens that are known to exist in the world. The book lists over 11,500 tokens and a completely new issue is published every 3 months.


Every new issue grows by 200 to 350 new entries.

This is the book that you have been waiting for. STOP TRYING TO USE NUMEROUS, SMALL, INCOMPLETE LISTS. THIS ONE BOOK HAS ALL THE KNOWN GAMING TOKENS IN THE WORLD.

The \$35 cost of the book includes
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Contact:
Earl Donley
The Token Book
P.O. Box 80572,
Las Vegas NV 89180
702-876-8939
CC>CC # R-380

Chip & Medal Design Contest

he club is now accepting entries for our Convention Medal and Chip design contest for the 2004, 12th Annual Convention. These club convention commemorative issues are very collectible and popular with the membership. All members in good standing are eligible to participate. Awards for winning entries in both categories will be presented at the convention in June 2004 at the Riviera. Compete for valuable cash prizes.

Contest rules are as follows:

1. The obverse side of the medal will be the standard club logo, of which a die has already been prepared.
2. The reverse medal design submitted is to be prepared in black and white, on plain paper in a circular area about 6" to 8" in diameter.
3. The chip design subject matter may be presented in black & white with color designations, in color, as a photograph, decal, or penciled art layout. Hand drawn or computer-generated art is acceptable. Formal art is not necessary. Your idea is important.
4. Up to three entries in each category may be submitted.
5. A panel of judges appointed by the Design Chairman will select winning designs. Winning design may be modified to meet manufacturing specifications if needed. Any changes will be reviewed with the designer.
6. All entries become the property of CC>CC and may be used for the T-shirt design if appropriate.
7. Deadline for entries is February 28, 2004 and MUST be postmarked by the date to be eligible.

Mail entries to:

Design Contest
PO Box 368
Wellington OH 44090

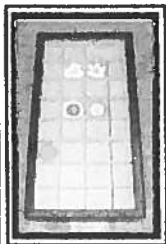
COLLECTOR CASE COMPANY

1 (800) 553-5294 (toll free)

P.O. BOX 126 JEFFERSONVILLE, KY 40337

FAX: 1 (859) 498-7261

CASINO CHIP CASES

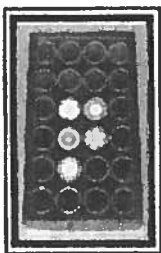


260FT32

Black chipboard Case with 32 compartment insert (1 5/8" x 1 5/8") for 39 mm Casino Chips. Size: 14 1/2" x 8" x 1". Glass tops. Colors: Red, Black, Blue, Gray or Burgundy.

Prices each: 1 to 3 \$7.49, 4 to 11 \$6.82, 12 or more \$5.89

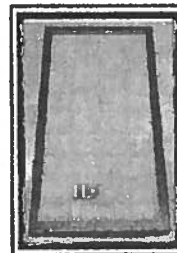
LUCITE CUP CASES



260L.C24 The black foam & velvet insert holds 24 foam filled Lucite jars (1 3/4" dia.) that fit 39 mm Casino Chips. The lids fit tight to provide extra protection for you chips. Size 14 1/2" x 8" x 1". Glass tops.

Prices each: 1 to 3 \$15.75, 4 to 11 \$14.70, 12 or more \$11.03

DICE CASES



260FT36 Holds 36 sets of 3/4" dice. 260FT50 holds 50 sets of 5/8" dice. Size 14 1/2" x 8" x 1". Glass tops. Colors: Red, Black, Blue, Gray or Burgundy.

Prices each: 1 to 3 \$7.49, 4 to 11 \$6.82, 12 or more \$5.89

SLOT CARD CASES

260FT10 Black Chipboard case with glass top. Holds 10 Slot Cards. Size 14 1/2" x 8" x 1". Colors: Red, Black, Blue, Gray or Burgundy.

Prices each: 1 to 3 \$7.49 4 to 11 \$6.82, 12 or more \$5.89

PLAYING CARD CASES

160FT12 Black Chipboard Case with glass tops. Holds 12 decks of playing cards. Size 12" x 16" x 3/4". Colors: Red, Black, Blue, Gray or Burgundy.

Prices each: 1 to 3 \$7.88, 4 to 11 \$7.35, 12 or more \$6.21

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(626) 919-0603 for information E-Mail: MUN3335@aol.com

ANTIQUE COLLECTIBLES

Liquor Advertising Chips are Treasures

by Dale Seymour and Ken Craig

Old poker chips advertising various brands of liquor are popular with antique chip collectors. Most of these early 20th century creations were made of clay or cardboard. They were most likely given to special dealers or customers. We have no evidence that they were made for sale to the general public. The 36 known liquor advertising chips (pre-1950) are shown on the two following pages. In some cases, the reverse sides are different. Most of these chips are fairly rare. If you have liquor advertising chips that are not shown here, we would like to know about them.

Since the last article we wrote for this journal, collectors have come up with 25 new ivory chip finds and two clay chip finds. These chips and their new codes are shown following the liquor advertising chips. The monogram "G" ivory chips belonged to St. Louis inventor, Heinrich Gerhardt. Best known of Gerhardt's inventions is the hydraulic pump. These chips were found in his estate in St. Louis.

Another variation of the commemorative chips made in the 1920's is the Texas Star chip. The ivory "25"

chip, coded IP-NF, measures a whopping 44 mm. Extra large ivory numeral chips bring premium prices among ivory chip collectors.

The clay chips shown with the horsehead and Indian head may have been made for a private party, as few of either have been found. Rich Hanover, whose specialty is Crest and Seal chips, owns the "BH" (Beverly Hills) and Tango ship chips with the customized reverses. Our thanks to Bruce Bouwkamp (KS), Michael Knapp (OH), Rich Hanover (NJ), and Ralph Strandwold (CA) for these recent finds.

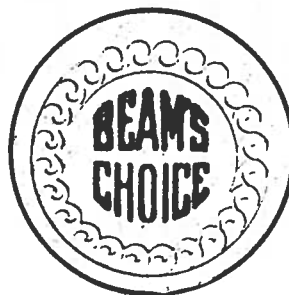
Do you have some special old inlaid or catalin chips that are marred by cigarette burns, fading, oxidation, yellowing, scratches or dirt? A recently retired jeweler has discovered that he can clean chips using his years of jewelry expertise. Clayton Robey has had so much success with restoring the original beauty of damaged inlaid chips that he is considering doing this as a business. A new chip collector, Robey says he may clean in trade for chips. If interested, contact: Clayton Robey, 310 W. Ash St., Zionsville, IN 46077.



Antique chip collectors with new finds send photocopies to:

Dale Seymour,
11170 Mora Dr.,
Los Altos, CA 94024
(seymourdg@sbcglobal.net)
or Ken Craig,
3927-H Waring Rd.,
Oceanside, CA 92056
(drkenny@cox.net).

Liquor Advertising Chips (1890 - 1950)



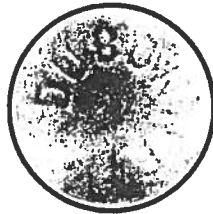
PY-BH Beam's Choice
Embossed-Stamped



PY-DK Cummins
Embossed Paste-On



PY-DP Cunningham
Embossed



PY-DU Dubonnet
Embossed



PY-EA Eagle Brewing
Engraved



PY-EN Fortuna Home
Engraved



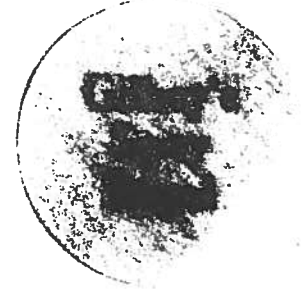
PY-EO Gilbey's Dry Gin
Stamped Wood



PY-EP Gilbey's Port
Stamped Wood



PY-ER Gilbey's Rum
Stamped Wood



PY-EQ Gilbey's Spey Royal
Stamped Wood



PY-FL G & W Special
Embossed



PY-HN Jung Beer
Stamped Paper



PY-JK J. Klein
Embossed



PY-LI Lithia Beer
Stamped Paper



PY-MN Minn. Brewing
Embossed



PY-OS Oshkosh
Stamped Paper



PY-PA Pabst
Printed Paper



PY-PW Piper Heidsieck
Engraved

Liquor Advertising Chips (1890 - 1950)



PY-RH Rhinelander
Stamped Paper



PY-RO Rose Valley
Engraved



PY-RY Royal Pepsin
Engraved



PY-SC Schneider
Engraved Paper



PY-SE Seagram's
Embossed-Printed



PY-SI Silver Age
Engraved



PY-SL Silver Age
Printed Paper



PY-TA Taylor Red Brn
Printed Paper



PY-TD Taylor White Brn
Printed Paper



PY-TH Taylor Wine
Engraved Paper



PY-WA Walker's Am. B.
Embossed



PY-WE Walker's Am R.
Embossed



PY-WK Walker's C. C.
Embossed



PY-WN Walker's Father T
Embossed



PY-WP Walker's I. W.
Embossed



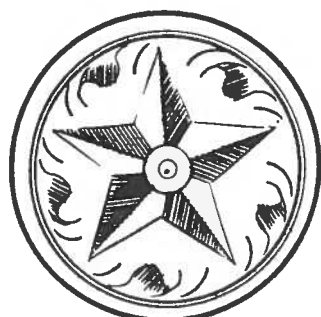
PY-WR Walker's Mt. R.
Embossed



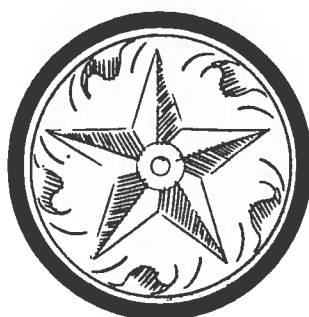
PY-XJ Johnnie Walker
Engraved Celluloid



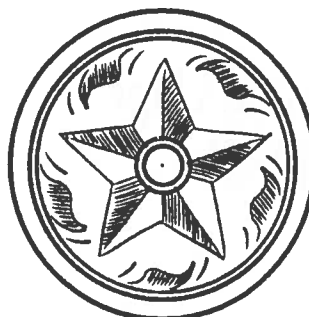
PY-XR Warrens
Engraved



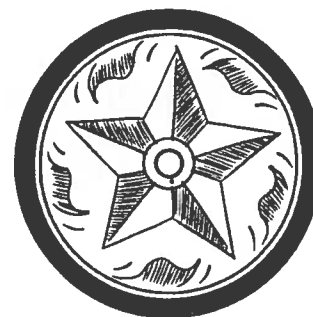
ID-PJ
Star / v:p



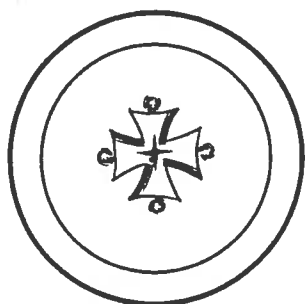
ID-PJa
Star / v:p



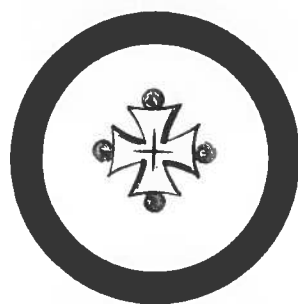
ID-PK
Star / v:p



ID-PKa
Star / v:p



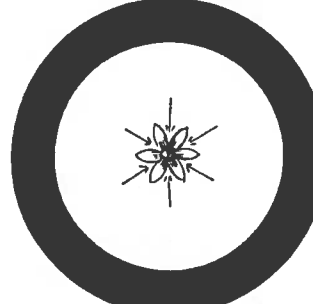
ID-SG
Cross / v:m



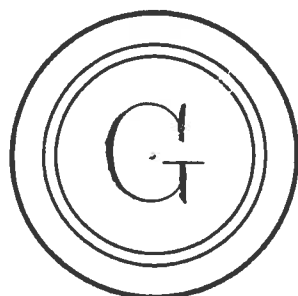
ID-SH
Cross / v:m



IE-KV
Three Leaves / v:l



IE-SG
Six Petals / v:k



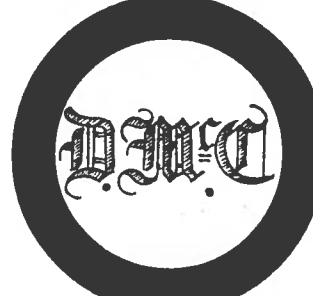
IM-EM
G / v:m



IM-EMa
G / v:m



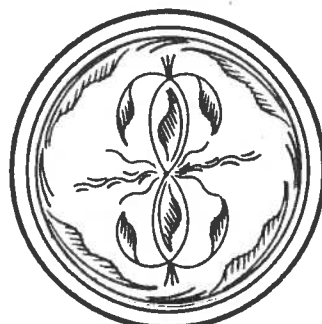
IM-EMb
G / v:m



IM-HT
D. McT. / v:m



IM-IF
P / v:m



IM-IF
reverse



IO-ME
v:m



IO-SD
3/F/2 / v:m



IP-AH
3/2/2/2 / v:m



IP-DS
3/F/3/2 / v:m



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



IP-NF
v:o



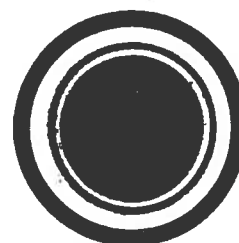
IP-NZ
v:n



IR-FS
Texas Star / v:s

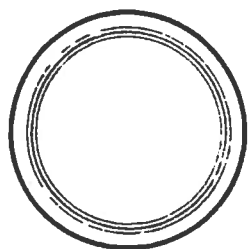


IR-FS
reverse

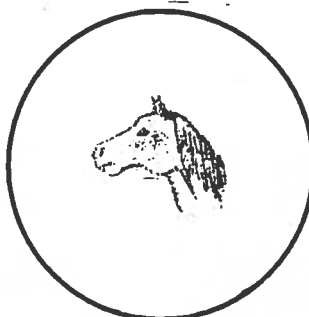


IX-LQ
2B 2W (30/27) / v:i

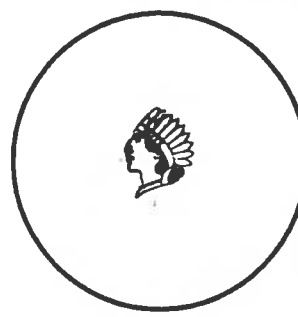
New Clay Poker Chip Finds



IX-TK
3B 3W (30/27) / v:i



PA-KU Horsehead
Stamped / v:g



PE-JM Indian Head
Stamped / v:f

Examples of custom-made Crest & Seal chips



Beverly Hills



Beverly Hills (reverse)



S.S. Tango



S.S. Tango (reverse)



RIVERBOATS

by Greg C. Susong

Hello riverboat collectors! There aren't many new riverboat chips to report this issue.

Harrah's in Council Bluffs, IA issued two \$5 chips to celebrate the 4th of July.



The Horseshoe in Tunica, MS has replaced their \$1 chips with this new issue.



The Isle of Capri, Vicksburg, MS issued this nice \$5 Chipco to celebrate their 10th Anniversary.



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.

Greg
Email: greg@chipguide.com



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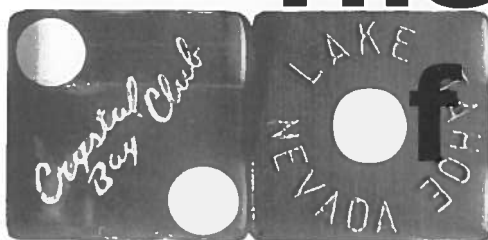
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The Popularity of Casino Dice

by Jeffrey Fairchild

How many of you chippers out there are quietly hoarding old casino dice? I know that dice are becoming more popular as a sideline with chippers but for some reason most of them do not seem to be very vocal about it nor do many of them include dice on chipping web pages. In my search for information about unknown dice, and looking for people to trade with I have run across several individuals with 200 to 300 or more pair of obsolete and/or illegal casino dice. I have also noticed a steady increase in the number of dealers at the shows who have casino dice for sale. In addition over the last 4 years the number of casino dice auctions on ebay has increased dramatically, although Yahoo has very few dice and Jackpot seems totally devoid of them.

I started chipping in the 80s but never really got into it. I tried chipping again the 90s and got hooked on casino dice instead. At that time I had 3 pairs of casino dice in with my RPG dice. My collection now consists of over 560 pairs and 60 some singles. Only about 15% of my collection consists of older obsolete Vegas or illegal dice. I do have a large number of dice from Reservation and Riverboat casinos and quite a few of these casinos have

undergone name changes or ceased to be. Most of my dice have been acquired by actually going to the casinos in Vegas and Reno as well as several riverboats and reservations. The rest have been purchased and traded for. I am slowly acquiring more obsolete and older dice but my allowance limits the growth rate of my collection. In addition to US dice I have a few from other countries including: Canada, Australia, England, Peru, and the Caribbean. About 80% of my collection is displayed on my web site as well as a traders list, and pictures of dice I am unable to identify. I am currently doing research for a book on non Nevada US casino dice and see the illegal section of such a work to be the most challenging. I am also researching cleaning, restoration, conservation, and archive safe display and storage for casino dice.

When it comes to researching casino dice there is not a lot of literature available on the subject. I am not aware of many books on Casino dice other than these three:

Spencer, Donald:
Collecting Casino Dice

Laudeman, Jeff:
The Dice Man Speaketh,
Las Vegas Edition.

Laudeman, Jeff:
Diceman's Guide to Collectable Casino Dice Reno/Tahoe Edition.

There is also the as yet unpublished, *Diceman's Guide to Collectable Casino Dice Small Town Nevada Edition* that Jeff Laudeman had almost finished when he was lost to us. Jeff Laudeman also used to put out a monthly casino dice e-zine that included casino openings and closing and a new issue service. I am unaware of any existing records from old dice manufacturers as are available for some old chips.

I am new to the CC>CC and the June 2003 convention was my first. I did see a lot of dealers with dice and picked up quite a few older additions for my collection. I had a great time and meet a lot of really friendly people. I sadly missed out on a scheduled trading session with Jeff Laudeman. I would very much like to know of current CC>CC members who are "in the know" when it comes to dice. I am sure I will have lots of questions for them about my unknown dice and illegal.

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KNAPP ON BOOKS

by Michael Knapp

This is the third book review column written for Casino Chip and Token News. I'll try to review all books as they are published, and will fill in with books published some time ago, but which are still available from their authors or in bookstores.

I have to have books in order to review them, so if you're an author, let me know by sending me an e-mail at ChipProf@aol.com to arrange for a review copy. For readers of the column, if there are books you'd like to see reviewed in this column, please also drop me a note and I'll be glad to try to accommodate your request.

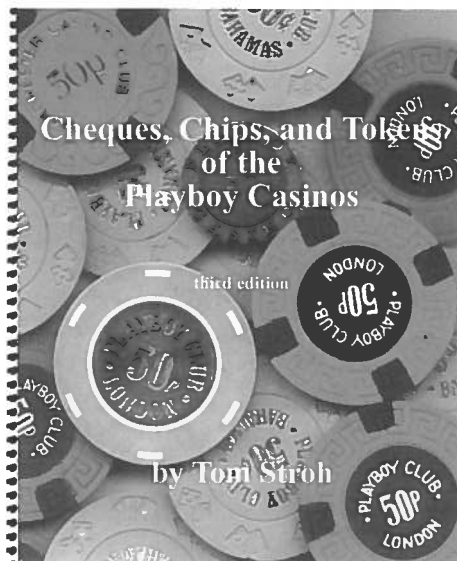
As with all reviews, this column contains my opinions.

Cheques, Chips and Tokens of the Playboy Casinos

3rd Edition. (2003),
by **Tom Stroh**

If chip collectors are obsessed and compulsive, Tom Stroh is at the top of the list! The third edition of his excellent book devoted exclusively to Playboy casino issues is now available, and it surpasses the previous two.

As chip collectors tend more and more to specialize rather than trying to collect every casino chip ever produced, Tom Stroh's research and eye for detail sets the standard for the highly specialized collection. His book contains information that will be new to any collector interested in Playboy casino issues.



Few collectors realize how many Playboy casinos were actually in operation, and how many more were planned. Tom's research, however, solves that problem for us.

No Playboy casino is in operation today, the last – the casino on the Greek island of Rhodes – closed in 2000. As Stroh reveals to us, even before the casinos closed, many were no longer owned by Playboy Enterprises, but were operating under license and only used the Playboy name.

In addition to a lengthy and detailed introduction, which Stroh has illustrated in color, and which contains much information collectors have not previously had, there's a checklist grid of Atlantic City Playboy roulette issues and colors. Each Playboy casino merits its own section, and Tom has included color illustrations of all the chips he's been able to locate in his collecting and research.

In addition to the descriptions of the casinos themselves and the color chip and token illustrations, Stroh includes both a rarity guide and a price guide for each known chip and token he lists.

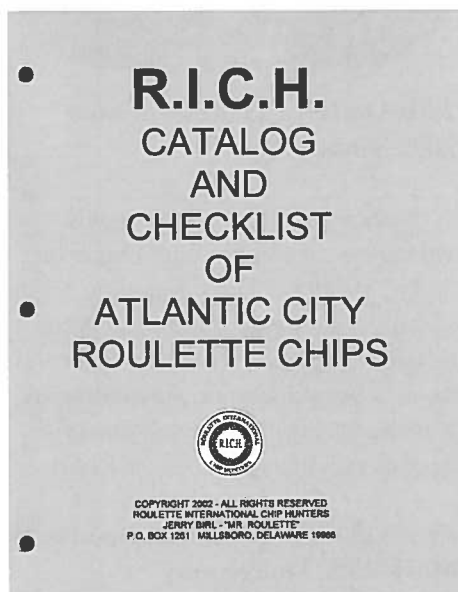
Separate sections for the London clubs (do you know how many there were?); the Manchester and Portsmouth clubs; the club in Nassau, Bahamas; of course the Atlantic City Playboy Hotel Casino; Rhodes, Greece, and even two I'd never heard of: a Playboy cruise ship and a club in Des Moines, Iowa! (Ok, that wasn't fair, was it? The Des Moines club was just that: a Playboy Club, not a casino. Stroh speculates that the chips attributed to Des Moines may also have been used in other clubs, and most likely for private games or fundraising events.

“Few collectors realize how many Playboy casinos were actually in operation”

For collectors of Playboy memorabilia or of the casino issues of Playboy, Tom Stroh's book is indispensable. It can be purchased by writing to Tom at KJ7AV@aol.com.

R.I.C.H. Catalog and Checklist of Atlantic City Roulette Chips
(2002),
by Jerry Birl

All collectors from New Jersey, and most who have attended the CC>CC conventions in Las Vegas know Jerry Birl as "Mr. Roulette." Roulette chips are Jerry's specialty, and his collection is likely the most extensive roulette chip collection known.



The Atlantic City book is the first in what may become a series of books devoted entirely to roulette chips. Jerry's 95-page looseleaf-bound book is a must-have for serious collectors of Atlantic City roulettes.

The front and back of the binder in which Birl encloses his book contain two full-page color scans of the types of roulette chips described in the book and illustrated inside in black and white. 47 roulettes appear on the front, and another 47 on the back cover. Throughout the book, Birl references the color photos on the outside covers.

Unlike most chip catalogs and price guides, Jerry intends to issue annual supplements containing updates, rather than publishing a completely new edition each year. A form for supplement subscription is included with the book.

Something many collectors have found daunting is the sheer number of roulette chips available from Atlantic City. Roulette has been a far more popular game in New Jersey at times than it has been in Nevada, for example. Birl cites Trump's Taj Mahal, which has had as many as 25 roulette tables in operation at one time. When demand slackens, tables are removed. But in order to operate so many tables, far more roulette chips are needed than one normally finds at casinos with two or four roulette tables, which is more likely what one finds in Nevada casinos.

Jerry's approach to listing roulettes is extremely user-friendly. Each type of roulette used in a particular casino is given its own page, with black and white illustrations of the chip designs, along with a color grid, so the catalog is easily used as an inventory checklist.

For each page, the manufacturer is identified, the known designs or numbers specified, and additional historical and manufacturing information given.

Rather than assigning a collector value to each chip individually, Birl has shown a range of values for each type of issue.

Even in those instances in which particular designs of a series have never been seen, but should likely exist, Birl has noted that fact in his

guide, and when (if!) the chips are found, it will be easy to update the book. Similarly, there are instances in which particular numbers in a series have not been found or are known not to exist, and Birl explains those gaps as well.

For example, in discussing the first issue Hilton (new: formerly Golden Nugget and Bally's Grand) roulette chips, he says: "Numbers 9, 11 and 13 were not used in this Series. I suspect 9 was not used to avoid confusion with 6, 13 was not used because of superstition, and I have no idea why 11 was not used."

"Roulette has been a far more popular game in New Jersey at times than it has been in Nevada"

It's this kind of detail that makes the R.I.C.H. ("Roulette International Chip Hunters") catalog valuable to the serious collector. In addition, Birl has given codes to all colors, which allows abbreviations in the type grids, and has illustrated the various types of designs used by manufacturers for Atlantic City roulettes. A copy of Jerry's Atlantic City roulette book may be obtained by writing to him at jerrybirl@mchsi.com

Next issue: the second edition of Steve Goodrich's Washington book, and the long-awaited cruise ship book!



Atlantic City REPORT

by Archie Black

My sincere apologies are extended to the Editor for not meeting the deadline in time for the previous issue of "Chip & Token News". With all of the exciting convention activities being reported in the last issue, I'm sure that no one missed my regular column. Let's see if I can play catch-up in this issue.

We'll begin with the club's 15th Anniversary chips that were issued by Trump Taj Mahal back on June 10th ... just prior to the club's annual convention. Only those who had pre-paid in advance for this chip received them. Order forms were inserted into the club magazine, and repeated calls for ordering were made on the Internet and various electronic message boards. Only 500 \$5 chips and 200 \$25 chips were manufactured. The A.C. Chapter handled the sales and distribution of this chip as a CC>CC fund-raising activity for the club's building fund by imposing a \$1 surcharge above face value for each chip sold. The Atlantic City Chapter presented a donation check in the amount of \$720.00 to the club's building fund during the 2003 Annual Convention Banquet held in Las Vegas. We wish it could have been more.

Harrah's Paulson Rack Chips!

I'm now advised that the reason for the back-up \$2.50 chip that was released, was due to inventory short-



age of the original \$2.50 chips ... and because Harrah's will be switching over "soon" to Paulson chips.

Rather than order additional Bud Jones metal center chips for the \$2.50 chip shortfall, casino management decided to put the back-up chips into play to get some use out of them before the big changeover. It remains to be seen if other denominations from the back-up set will be introduced before we see the Paulson's.



25th Anniversary Resorts NCV 2002 Series Chips

Rather than take up too much valuable space in the club magazine on NCV chips ... this complete set of 25 chips and descriptions that were distributed piece-meal, over a several months period, can be viewed on my website at; <http://www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/res-25th-set1.htm>

Live \$25 Chips Issued at Resorts to Mark 25th Anniversary

This chip was issued on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th. The distinctive attraction about this chip is the lenticular reverse ... similar to a hologram 3d effect.



Archie Black presenting a check for \$720 to Jim Kruse for the building fund



New \$25 Slot Token at Atlantic City Hilton

New slot tokens are going to be difficult to report on in the future if this issue is any indication of things to come. After putting a couple of one hundred dollar bills in the machine and hitting the payout button ... all I received was a paper voucher for \$200... which I promptly inserted in the bill changer of the machine next to me. Pressing that payout button resulted in another paper voucher being dispensed for \$200, which I promptly took to the cashier's cage for redemption. I requested tokens instead of cash and was given these beautiful gems. My point being, how would anyone know that new tokens were in use at that property if they don't come out of the machine? Thanks to Jerry Birl for telling me in advance ..., as I would have never known.

Julio Iglesias \$25 Chip at Trump Plaza

Only 240 Limited Edition chips of this popular headliner were manufactured ... but only 200 chips were distributed on the June 4th release date.



Tropicana's 7 Piece \$5 Restaurant Series Limited Edition

When I said "Limited Edition", that's exactly what this issue is... very limited! Only 500 of a \$5 LE chip is bound to create interest and sometimes controversy ... this one was no exception. I don't quite comprehend Tropicana's reasoning for limiting these issues to such small numbers ... but I shouldn't be surprised after witnessing some of their past shenanigans.

Brenda and I were in line at 11 a.m. for this 12 Noon release on Friday May 30th. Shortly after 12 Noon; only 360 chips were brought to the roulette table for distribution and it was announced that only five chips per person would be sold to any one individual. After the entire line had purchased their allotted five chips, those who were in front of the line had gotten back on the end of the line (which is standard practice in A.C.) and were prohibited from purchasing any additional chips

When Trop management was pressed as to why those in line couldn't get back on the end of the line... like every other property in town ... Trop's response was that these chips were for collectors and the pit boss was waving an internal memo in the air. When reminded that it was collectors who were in line waiting to buy these chips, the official response was "we (Trop) are not issuing chips for collectors to put on ebay for \$8 each". Of course the pit boss didn't mention that Trop is guaranteed a \$4 profit on each chip that goes out the door... never to be seen by the casino again at no risk to the casino of being a winner as a result of a wager on a table.... nor did he address the fact that 140 of the 500 chips made were held back from distribution ... pre-

sumably for employee purchases who could then put the chips on e-bay at whatever price the market will bear. It's like an in-house Tropicana employee profit-sharing program. Why else would Tropicana NOT make an announcement to the media that these chips would be on sale on such and such a date and at what time instead of keeping it a deep dark secret?

This chip release was the most frustrating and the absolute WORST administered LE chip release I have ever attended in A.C. ... and there are six more chips to go in Trop's Marketplace series



Tropicana Continues 7 Piece \$5 Restaurant Limited Edition Series

We thought the previous chip release report at Trop was bad ... but this latest one was a nightmare! The chip was supposed to be released at 12 noon. I got there at 11 a.m. Brenda could not be with me as she had a morning commitment back in Brick. The noon release was changed to 1 P.M. ... supposedly "because of the b.s. the pit boss received two weeks ago "... so said one of the pit bosses to a group of chippers. When the chips arrived for the 1 p.m. distribution... the lady pit boss with an attitude announced to the seated roulette players ... "I don't want to see any of you players buying chips for these chip collectors in line". "I could care less about these chips ... I've got a game to run."

Once again a very strict five chips per person limit was placed and rigidly

enforced by the pit crew. One chipper (Scott) was seen offering money to someone on the casino floor to purchase five chips for him ... and security was immediately called and he was asked to leave the premises.

Another chipper (Ron) had his two daughters with him ... and they were told that they had already purchased their five chips (which was untrue) and they were rebuffed.

Only 360 of the 500 chips were put on the table for public sale. 140 chips were held back ... presumably for employee purchases and perhaps for the restaurant.

I picked up Brenda who came in by bus later in the afternoon, so she got her five chips o.k. But it was not until 9 p.m. before I acquired the necessary number of chips that I needed to fill my subscribers needs. Ten hours of begging, pleading and rewarding Boardwalk rolling chair pushers and bums to purchase chips for me.

Earlier, around shift change time ... I had accompanied another friend of mine who offered to purchase five chips for me. I led him to the only roulette table where the chips were being sold from and an all new pit crew were behind the tables. The lady pit boss with an attitude was at an empty table one aisle over with her back to me talking with another pit boss on the player's side of the table. This pit boss usually works in the craps pit and who also is a club member and a well known A.C. Chapter Member. Upon seeing me, he gestured to the Trop boss lady-with-an-attitude who whirled around and looked in my directions and I could read her lips ... "Yes, that's him". Can you imagine ... a fellow chipper dropping a dime on me! I understand that this guy allegedly has com-

plained to the Trump Plaza supervisor who is in charge of the chip program at the Plaza ... that he is making too many \$25 chips and is depressing the market.

Hmmmm... I wonder what this Trop pit boss' agenda is? Everybody knows where I'm coming from ... yes I sell chips to other collectors from around the country who have requested that I provide chips to them at a markup over face value, but I rarely sell them on ebay. Seems to me that something smells at Tropicana and it ain't the bums coming in off the boardwalk to purchase chips!

Two weeks earlier I was advised by the casino shift supervisor following the Corky's release that the five chip limit would be strictly enforced ... but chip collectors who wanted more than five chips would have to get somebody else to purchase them. Now, people such as Scott are faced with Trop security asking them to leave the premises for doing exactly what was suggested two weeks earlier.

If it were not for the fact that collectors would still purchase Tropicana chips on ebay and Jackpot auctions at tremendous unwarranted markups ... I would boycott any chip issued by Tropicana. But I realize that would serve no purpose other than to raise the prices on Tropicana chips in the secondary market far above what they are actually worth.

Tropicana will be issuing the 3rd chip in this series while I'm attending the club's annual convention ... ironically at Tropicana in LAS VEGAS.



Showboat Issues \$5 LE Chip to Commemorate New Hotel Tower Grand Opening

What a difference from one end of the Boardwalk to the other. While Tropicana rations out chips like they were gold to chip collectors at the west end of the wooden way ... Showboat at the east end takes a more sensible and reasonable approach by making enough chips to go around and by being "chipper friendly" with those who are purchasing their product.

However, no advance notice was given for this chip release either! I was originally tipped-off a few days earlier that this chip would be available at Noon on Saturday May 31st. Well, Brenda and I were doing our usual Flea Market/Yard Sale ritual on Saturday mornings in the Atlantic City area ... and this Saturday happened to be the annual city-wide yard sale day in Egg Harbor City ... about a half hour's drive west of A.C. out Route 30. We got up early for the drive out and planned to leave Egg Harbor by 10:30 in order to be on line at Showboat by 11 a.m.

Upon arriving at Showboat at close to 11, and inquiring as which table the chips would be released at, we were told that the chips have been on the table for over two hours. (Nobody told me the time had been changed to 9 a.m.) When I asked the supervisor if there were any limits placed on how many chips I could purchase... his jokingly reply was that, "You can have all you want." Imagine the roulette dealers' surprise when I laid down my bankroll with the surprised supervisor looking on and kiddingly said; "I'll take all the new Tower chips you've got".... True to his word, he allowed me to purchase enough chips for all my new issue subscribers... over two hours

after virtually everybody else had gotten theirs.... as I only bumped into one chipper after myself ... and he had to get a fill delivered to the table after I had left.



Trump Plaza Belated 4th of July Chip

"Better late than never"... so goes the old axiom. 1000 \$5 4th of July chips were delivered and were released on Monday, July 14th, the day after the A.C. Chapter Meeting and ten days after the National summer holiday. Joe G. is always a pleasant host to the chippers in attendance at Plaza's chip releases. Tropicana might want to consider sending their "pit-bossette-with-an-attitude" on a field trip to the Plaza sometime and witness how a REAL chipper-friendly chip release ought to be conducted. It would serve as a valuable customer relations learning experience for her ... and her bosses.



Just Another Friday Afternoon at the Trop

As luck would have it ... Trop issued their 3rd chip in the series while Brenda and I were attending the Annual CC>CC Convention in Las Vegas. As I had given prior advance notice to all my on-line subscribers that I would not be able to

pick up an adequate supply of this chip and urged all subscribers to do the best they could ... that they were on their own.



I understand from first-hand reports I've heard about the latest Trop release that the "lady pit boss with an attitude" is still her grouchy self. My good friend Gwen was talking with other chippers in line waiting for the release and instead went to play the slots before the chips came out to the table. When the chips hit the roulette table, she got in line... where she was promptly rebuffed by the "pit boss with an attitude" and was accused of already gotten her five chips ... which was untrue ... and Gwen told her so in no uncertain terms. Gwen then went over to get my "brother from a different mother", Bob Black, who was playing 3 card poker for over an hour before the chip release which is Bob's custom. Gwen and Bob approached the table and the "attitude lady" let Gwen have it again with a burst of "you already got your chips" ... but Gwen was not intending to get in line ... Bob was. When Bob got to the head of the line to make his five chip purchase ... he too was rebuffed by "the lady with attitude" accusing him of already getting his five chip limit. Bob told her to check with the boss in the 3-card poker pit ... as he had not gotten ANY of the new chips, since he was playing 3-card poker for over an hour at the other pit. Some angry words were exchanged with Gwen telling the "lady with an attitude" that she will never play at Tropicana again.

This property is completely out of control!! One has to wonder why they even have a chip program. They certainly aren't very friendly to chippers about it ... and they don't tell any of their players about their chips.

I should be getting used to this bi-weekly day-long fiasco on Fridays by now ... and I guess I've finally made the new way-of-life Tropicana adjustment. The Atlantic City rolling chair operators and boardwalk bums have only recently come to appreciate me as their best customer, philanthropist, and generous benefactor to many!

Here is the latest in Trop's \$5 independent restaurant-chain LE series of 500 each that was issued at 1 p.m. on Friday, July 11th, Boardwalk Favorites .. and on Friday July 25th; Firewaters. Still a strict limit of 5 chips per person is being imposed by Tropicana, with no re-buys permitted.



I must admit that Trop's release of the Firewater's chip was more cordial and civil to chip collectors than past releases. Perhaps the fact that I didn't see the usual "Pit Bossette with an attitude" on duty in the roulette pit this past weekend had something to do with it. At any rate; the rolling chair pushers and beach bums were happy to see me again.

TropicanaSome Good News ... A New Image ??

Friday, August 8th was the day of the 6th chip release in this nutty series. ... Hooters! I don't know if it was because the "pit bossette with a 'tude" was not on duty at the time the chips were released, or what the reasoning was, but chippers who were on line for this 1 p.m. release received a treat for a change instead of a treatment.

First treat was; a more reasonable amount of chips were made available (10 chips per person) and secondly; there was no attempt to thwart people from getting back in line again. In fact, the first ten people or so were allowed to purchase an additional stack on their second pass through. As a result I did not require the services of the rolling chair army... since I had lots of help from friends in line.

The seventh (and final?) chip in this series was issued on Friday, August, 22nd and it was back to work as usual, bonding once more with my new-found friends on the Boardwalk, hustling the bums and Rolling Chair pushers to pick up chips for me at \$1 each. I guess the pit-bossettes were on vacation two weeks ago, as they were back in their usual 5 chips per person limit form ... ("you already got your five chips sir!").

Brenda could not be with me on this trip as our daughter Nancy is on her honeymoon in Mexico and someone had to watch the grandchildren, while Pop-Pop went to Atlantic City to pick up the new chips at Tropicana. The only good thing I can say about the experiences at Trop is that after about six hours work on the Boardwalk, I managed to get enough chips for everyone ...



Trump Marina Issues a 2nd Anniversary Chip Series for Hooters

At high-noon on Saturday, July 19th, Trump Marina marked the 2nd Anniversary of their popular and highly successful Hooters restaurant located on the second floor of their property. Three denominations make up the complete set. The \$25 and \$100 denominations were sold out quickly, with quite a few hundred unsold \$10 chips left remaining on the table. Only 100 of the \$100 chips were manufactured and 250 of the \$25's.



Borgata Now Open

With much fanfare and uncertainty about the official opening date ... Borgata finally opened it's doors to the public at 12:01 a.m. on July 3rd, 2003. I must say; I am impressed! I think this property compares favorably to most Las Vegas mega-casinos. The tremendous amount of extensive landscaping that Boyd Gaming did on this property, would appear (to those who didn't know any better) that the acres of Colorado Blue Spruce trees have been there for 30 years. It's hard to believe that this was once the Atlantic City dump! To think that Donald Trump proposed building a golf course on this site ... would have been a waste of A.C.'s limited resources. As it stands now, Borgata is a beautiful tax ratable for the city with plenty of room for more casinos in the Marina District.

According to an article in the Press of Atlantic City, Borgata CEO Robert Boughner announced that, "there will be NO play-money event for the public. Instead, Borgata will have an invitation-only casino night with real money to test its gaming operation".

It was also announced that Borgata would be completely "tokenless" ... which is a bit misleading. True; all the slot machines dispense paper cash-out vouchers instead of coin or tokens. But there are tokens stored in the slot machine hoppers in the event of a computer malfunction that would not print out a ticket.

Yes, there ARE tokens at Borgata in spite of what the newspapers said regarding A.C.'s "First Tokenless Casino". Problem is that they are in the machine and as long as the paper voucher system is working properly, they are going to stay in the machine. Tokens are used as a back-up in the

event of a computer glitch or malfunction of the printer that prints out the tickets. In the event the machine can't print a ticket ... tokens are dispensed. . The cage will absolutely not sell \$1, \$2, \$5 tokens to the public ... but tokens in denominations of \$10 and up are available for sale at the cage. To get the lower denomination tokens, you must find someone who has a machine malfunction and discreetly offer to purchase them directly from the player.... or intercept a player carrying a bucket of tokens on the way to the redemption cage.



Above is the \$1 token. They all look pretty much the same except for the denomination.

BTW: Borgata offers the only \$1000 slot token ever issued at an Atlantic City casino. This machine offers a \$1 million jackpot!

"Chipworthy" Borgata Non-Redeemable Chip

This neat center inlay chip was used as a practice chip for Borgata's dealers who came from other properties to get accustomed to the new feel from Paulson's standard chips they may have been used to handling ... vs. the new Bud Jones speed chips in use at Borgata.



Unfortunately, no Grand Opening chips were produced for this magnificent facility.

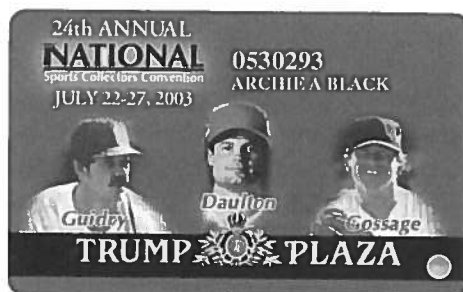
New Roulette at Borgata

Borgata offers ten roulette tables ... with seven different colors at each table, making a complete set of 70 roulette chips a real possibility and a challenge.



Recently Released . . . and Unannounced

Trump Plaza had a brand new slot card issued and a 1000 \$5 LE chip manufactured to mark the 24th Annual National Sports Collectors Convention in town during the week of July 22-27th. This National show has not been in A.C. in 15 years. From all the glowing reports I've heard, this National Sports Collectors convention will be returning to Atlantic City Convention Center again in 2004.



The \$5 chip above was issued to mark the National Sports Collector Convention. While not as attractive as the above "Limited Edition" slot card, 500 chips were made available for purchase to the public at noon on Friday, July 25th. 400 of these chips were reserved for the sports collector show promoter. The slot cards were limited to one per person per day; 500 cards issued per day.

\$100 Kentucky Derby Chip at Trump Plaza

"Better late than never ..." is Joe G's motto at The Plaza. And who can disagree with that sentiment? We all know that the chippers will

line up for a new chip no matter when it is released! Only 100 of these puppies were produced!



Bob Eubanks at Trump Marina



This chip was issued on Sunday, June 22nd, the day after Brenda and I left for the Las Vegas CC>CC Convention. Fortunately I could depend on Tommy and Barbara plus a few chipper friends on line, to pick up these chips for me while I was away.

Trump Marina's \$5 and \$5 Cinco de Mayo Issue

Got back from Las Vegas in time for the release of the long awaited Cinco de Mayo chip ... just in time for Cinco de Julio! <vbg> An unusual Saturday release on the 5th of July at Noon. Most chips are issued in A.C. during the week, not on weekends. I was quite surprised that not more chip collectors turned out for this weekend release.

The \$25 Cinco de Mayo chip is an LTD issue of 250... and were restricted to two chips per person ... but chippers were allowed to get back in line if they wanted to purchase additional chips.

What a difference from Tropicana's dumb policy ... and no chips are held back at Trump Marina! Thanks Todd Moyer.



Trump Marina . . . A Pair of 10's

Timing wasn't so great ... the day of my daughter Nancy's wedding ... but I did the best I could under the circumstances. "When the chips are down, Mr. Chips will be there to pick 'em up" ... is not an empty slogan. There I was in line at Noon with the rest of the chippers... and the photographer was to be waiting for me at 3 p.m. ... a two hour drive away in New Brunswick, NJ for a photo shoot of the bridal party! United We Stand indeed! To make chip matters considerably more difficult, Brenda could not be with me at Trump Marina for this chip pickup and a two-chips per person limit was imposed on a very long line of chip buyers who showed up for this extremely limited issue of only 250 total chips. I have not seen a chip line this long in a very, very, long time. (Even a Tropicana pit boss was also seen in line.)





The following Saturday, the 16th, a second follow-up \$10 chip release of only 250 issued ... proclaims; "Party/The American Way" on this blue chip. Fortunately, with the help of some good chipper friends and my wife Brenda, I was able to pick up more of these chips than I was able to pick up of the previous issue... but still not enough chips for all of my subscribers. 250 chips total just does not go very far with so many people in line scrambling and wheeling and dealing for this very low number of chips.

"Beach Bar" \$5 Chip Issued at Trump Plaza

If you haven't walked the Atlantic City Boardwalk this summer season,

you've probably missed one of the more notable seasonal improvements that a few of the casinos along the wooden way have put out on the beach. Tiki bars on teakwood floors with palm trees and white tent cabanas are at the Hilton, Caesars, and Trump Plaza. beaches this summer. Coupled with live island music, and dramatic lighting one would think that they were on a Caribbean Island rather than in Atlantic City. Come to think of it, Atlantic City is an Island ... so why not?

Below is a \$5 chip that Trump Plaza has issued in late August to commemorate their Island Beach Bar addition to Atlantic City's famous playground.



New Shell Roulette Chip at Harrah's



This is the new shell design currently in use at Harrah's high-roller pit. It is on a single zero table ... which is usually a \$25 minimum table.

Well, there you have it friends... my Atlantic City report for this issue. Will try to be on time for the next issue.

Upcoming Chip Shows

Palms Chip Show

November 7th & 8th, 2003

Palms Hotel & Casino - Las Vegas, Nevada

Contact Bill Judge for more information: wjudge7@earthlink.net
or Rick Olsen: vintagedice@hotmail.com

Casino Collectibles Super San Remo Show

January 29th & 30th, 2004

San Remo Hotel & Casino - Las Vegas, Nevada

Contact Jim Munding for more information: mun3335@aol.com

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club 12th Annual International Convention

June 16th - 19th, 2004

Riviera Hotel & Casino - Las Vegas, Nevada

Contact Jim Steffner for more information: casinogjim@prodigy.net

Roulette Exhibit wins First Prize at ANA Convention

by Jerry Birl

I was pleasantly surprised on Sunday August 3, 2003 when I went to Baltimore, Maryland to take down the Roulette Chip Exhibit I had put on display the previous Wednesday at the 112th Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association. My Exhibit - Collecting United States Casino Roulette Chips - "A Different Spin": on Casino Chip Collecting - had been chosen by the Judges as the Best Exhibit in the Class 23 category - CASINO CHIPS AND GAMING TOKENS. Needless to say I was very, very happy to win the First Place Ribbon and Medal. The Exhibit was comprised of seven showcases of roulette chips (60 different chips) and other roulette related items from Casinos all over the United States. Shown are the Medals that I was awarded along with 3 pictures of my Exhibit.



I joined the ANA in May of 2003, (you have to be a member of the ANA in order to set up an Exhibit up at the Convention) and I submitted Exhibit Application by the deadline date of June 2, 2003. There were four other Exhibits in the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Category.

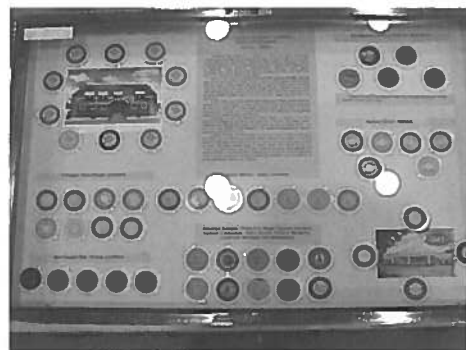
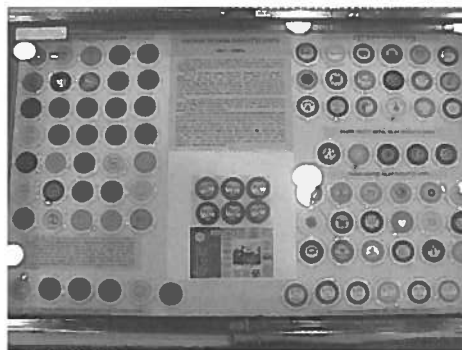
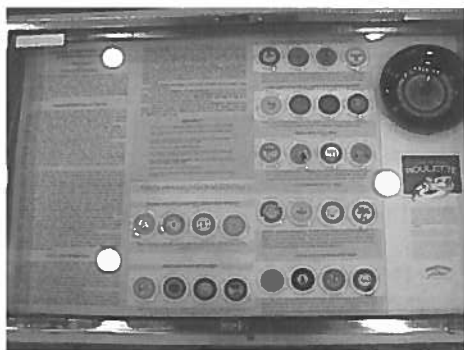
Putting the Exhibit together was quite a bit of work, but it was really fun to me. The way I look at it, it was a big step forward for all Roulette Chip Collectors to have our section of the Hobby recognized in this fashion by the ANA. I also hope that a few

people that viewed my Exhibit and the other Casino related Exhibits may have been inspired to start a chip collection of their own.

I am already planning to put another Casino Chip and Token related Exhibit in next year's ANA Convention, which will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I hope I can repeat my First Place finish.

If anyone else is interested in joining the ANA and possibly setting up an Exhibit, you can write to them at:

ANA
818 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279
or
contact them on the internet
<http://www.moey.org/index.shtml>.



Three of the seven show cases of roulette chips

CHIPS OFF THE OLD BLOCK

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E-mail: Pachipper@aol.com

Web site: <http://cotob.net>

Selected Quarterly Specials: *MANY PRICES JUST REDUCED*****

Red Dragon Casino \$1-\$5000 (7 Denoms)	\$59	Jim Kelley's Nugget LE Set: \$1, \$5, \$25	\$39
Red Dragon Casino - Set of 7 Roulettes	\$29	Horseshoe -1995 WSOP NCV's 1-5000	\$89
Red Dragon \$1-25000 + 7 Roul. (15 total)	\$99	Frontier Hotel 50c H&C(CJ) "PAN"	\$39
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 S-Mold (Sinatra Era)	\$48	Eddie's Fab 50's - 3 Diff "A" roulettes	\$29
Stardust (Tahoe) \$5 Arodie N0346	\$99	Foxy's Firehouse - 4 Colors H&C NCV's	\$45
Incline Village \$100 H&C(CJ) Drilled	\$99	Golden Nugt Rare NCV's 6 Diff : 1-1000	\$199
Giudici's (Sparks) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$49	Fiesta -Royal Flush Series of 24 \$5 Chips	\$195
Sierra Tahoe Dealer's School \$1, \$25, ND	\$32	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	\$149
Hard Rock "Rock 'N' Rods - Set of 4 \$5	\$48	Texas (LV) 4 Colors: 8-Suit NCV's	\$32
Town Tavern \$5 Purple Sm Crown 4-Yel	\$39	Bally's Grand (AC) Hall of Fame Set of 5	\$55
Silver Nugget \$25 Mike Tyson (25 Made)	\$129	Mint (LV) 25c Purple 2-Yellow pic-Hotel	\$39
Stork Club (LV) - Choice \$5, 25 or \$100	\$299	Ore House (Reno) - Plain Mold \$1,2,5,10	\$49
Trop (AC) Poker Club: Maroon NCV	\$19	Gold Strike (Jean) NCV's: 5,25,100,500	\$38
Hard Rock "Who" at the Joint \$5 & \$25	\$55	Pink Pussycat (Reno) \$1, \$2, \$5 w/ "\$"	\$49
Harrah's (Reno) \$25 N8537 "Q" Value	\$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	\$119	Curzon House (London) 10 Pd Plaque	\$39
Harvey's H-Mold 3-Skull/Wheel R'lettes	\$89	Curzon House (London) 50 Pd Plaque	\$69
Ponderosa \$1 Navy LgKey 3-Pink	\$38	Curzon House (London) 100 Pd Plaque	\$79
Opera House 9/11 Charity Set 3 NCV's	\$100	Bellagio: Ocean's 11 Undrilled Set of 5	\$89
Harrah's \$2.50's Dry Heat #1, #2, #3, #4	\$28	Harrah's Reno \$5 V2714 "Happy B-Day"	\$85
Sahara (LV) \$20 Baccarat Plaque (60's)	\$44	Christmas \$1 N7349 GREAT INLAY !!	\$549
Jailhouse - Set of 4: 50c, \$5, 2 Diff \$25's	\$45	Trop (LV) - Brooks Robinson - SIGNED	\$29
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 Black Rectangle	\$99	Stockmen's (Elko) \$25 Pink; Metal Inlay	\$59
Reno Hilton \$5 Rainbow's N4603, N5168	\$44	Comstock (Reno) \$25 N2736 Obsolete	\$39
International Dealer's School (LV) 1,5,25	\$28	Sands 3 Chip Tourney Set \$5, \$25, \$100	\$79
Mandalay Bay \$1 & \$5 Yr of the Horse	\$35	Trop (LV) 5 Match Play Gray/Pink Pie	\$48
Harvey's Obsolete Brass - \$1, \$2.50, \$5	\$29	Harrah's Reno \$5 Octagon "Satisfaction"	\$35
Harvey's Obsolete \$25 Orange Brass	\$49	Ponderosa Reno N.D. Red Plain V5305	\$99
Hacienda 50c Trade Check Yellow V4396	\$16	Opera House 71 Yrs \$1,5,25,100 (19 Sets)	\$249
Hacienda 50c Trade Check Gray Unlisted	\$39	Town House \$5 V9907 Brn SmKey None	\$70
North Shore Club Zigzag "NSC 2" Navy	\$49	North Shore Club 50's "A" SmKey 3 Diff	\$69
Harrah's Tahoe Obs. NCV's 1,5,25,100	\$39	Claim Stake (Sparks) \$1, \$5, \$25 - All 3	\$48
Sowdowner/Virginian 1 ERROR NCV	\$59	The Gambler (Reno) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$49
G. Autry's Htl Continental Red Roul Rm	\$22	Saddle West: 1st Issue H&C: 25c, \$1, \$5	\$49
Foxwoods \$10 - Frank Sinatra	\$38	Red Dragon Casino - Matched Pair Dice	\$45
Debbie Reynolds \$5 N2406	\$50	Red Dragon Casino - New Deck of Cards	\$25
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
Sands (LV) \$1 N2128 70's Lg Pinwheel	\$35	Trump Marina \$25 Hooters (Hologram)	\$48
The Nugget \$25 Home of More Jackpots	\$549	Circus Circus - Emmett Kelly Set of 6	\$59
Mr. C's (Reno) \$5 H&C 4-Brn 4-Purple	\$89	Monte Carlo (Reno) \$1, 2.50, 5, 25 O/S	\$49
Eddie's Fabulous 50's: 5, 25, 100 NCV's	\$89	Trump Castle - Royal Flush - Set of 20	\$199
Tahoe Nugget \$1 Red H&C(CJ)	\$59	Treas Is: #10 Roul; 5 Diff; Never Opened	\$29
Eldorado RARE \$5 NCV - "Fly Away"	\$125	Nugget (Reno) Green H&C(CJ) 3-Red	\$49
The Nugget \$.25 Oran. Sm Key pic of Ngt	\$59	Nugget \$1 Maroon SmKey pic of Nugget	\$59

P&H: Up to \$100 = \$3

\$100 to \$299 = \$4

\$300 or more = No Charge

The Making Of The 2003 PLAYBOY 50th Anniversary Chips

by Gene Trimble

The 2002 Playboy chips were quite a challenge to The Palms Team from inception to production. Although we learned from 2002, we found 2003 to have even more challenges.

The 50th Anniversary of Playboy Magazine is the biggest promotion the Palms Casino Resort has ever undertaken. Trent Parks, National Account Executive for the Palms and the N9NE Group was the lead person. He 1st mentioned the promotion in late Dec 2002. WOW, 8 to 9 months! This will be a breeze, or so I thought.

As it turned out, most of the luxury time went into getting a contract signed and getting artwork in a form we could use on chips. We wanted to do actual covers of Playboy. If you are a Playboy fan, you know some covers will not be acceptable for chip artwork. We had roughly 50 Playboy covers in thumbnail format sent in on a CD. They still had the text that appears on all Playboy covers. Playboy would have final say on covers we choose. They would then remove the text and send us scans in a high resolution suitable to transfer to the chips. Needless to say they turned down the cover we most coveted. I will let you guess which one that was.

The 1st of June arrived and still no artwork! I was getting worried. 14 weeks to release day and Bourgogne et Grasset would be closed for Holiday 4 of the last 8 weeks.

We picked one cover we were sure would get Playboy and gaming approval and had the 1st artwork in our hands on June 10.

Ok, but not exactly what we had in mind.

OK lets add the cover dates on the version we choose and see what the 50th Anniversary logo will look like. Logo looks great but Palms name is wrong.



It took 3 weeks to get text less versions and approvals from Playboy. 1st complete artwork.

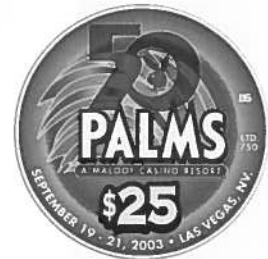
We need to dress up the Hugh Hefner chips.

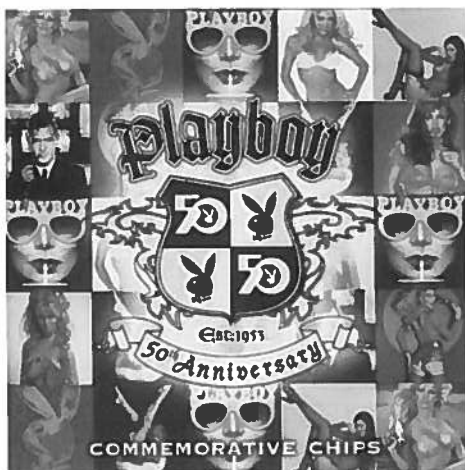


After consulting with the powers that be, we decided the June 79 and February 78 covers on the \$25 chips would not fly.

OOPS, read my email again, I said October 01 not March 01. This one would NEVER fly.

Still not right.





CD Case for chips

July 19 the final artwork went to NV Gaming – 8 weeks to release and Bourgogne et Grasset would be closed for the middle 4 weeks. Gaming was aware of our short time line and gave verbal approval on July 20. Paul-Son rep gave us a guaranteed delivery date of Sept 16, two days before the release. One week of this would be tied up in shipping and customs. As of this writing, September 7, I am on pins and needles!



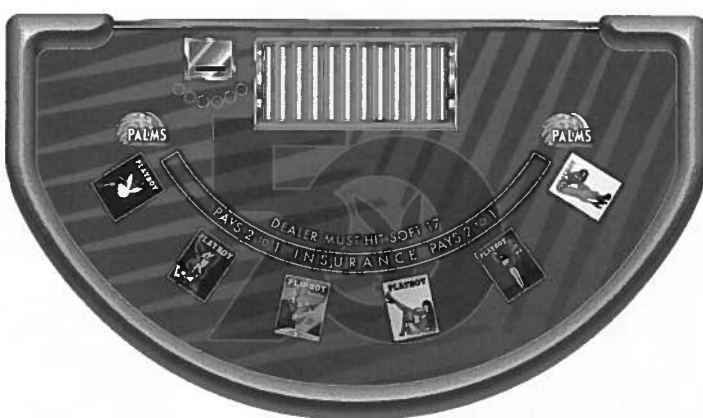
Special case for \$50 chip



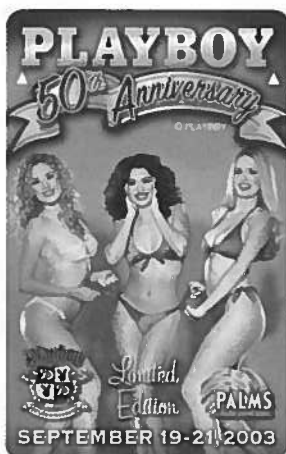
Final chip designs



One of the designs for the blackjack table



Final design



Playboy 50th Anniversary room keys

Playboy 50th Anniversary slot cards

SEMINOLE HARD ROCK CASINO

Raising the Stakes

The Seminole Tribe steps "into the new millennium"
with its \$100-million gaming facility

by Jeff Testerman

It suddenly looked a lot like Las Vegas on Tuesday as patrons poured into the fluorescent interior of the \$100-million Seminole Hard Rock Casino and began sliding dollar bills into flickering video slot machines.

Dealers crisply shuffled cards for the first poker players. Waitresses in hot pants and halter tops took drink orders. Dozens of globed surveillance cameras peered down from the lavender and gold-lit ceilings. A cigarette girl, mindful that antismoking laws don't apply to sovereign Indian nations, hawked smokes at \$4 a pack.

At Big Joe's Sports Bar, named after a 14-foot gator that lived and died on the Tampa reservation, fans sat at a granite-top bar with inlaid gambling machines and watched sporting events on 13 large-screen TVs. At Floyd's night club, customers found themselves surrounded by mosaic tile, stained glass and \$15 entrees at tables that could be moved after dark for a dance band called Southtown Fever.

"I think when the tribe decided to build a first-class facility, they stepped into the new millennium," said James Allen, CEO of Seminole gambling operations. "They've gone from what is basically a Butler build-

ing to this, a casino that is a world-class entertainment facility."

The 45,000-square-foot first phase of the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino opened Tuesday afternoon to showcase 810 video gambling machines, 28 poker tables and a bingo hall with a capacity for 800. A 1,600-space parking garage is complete, and construction continues on the 12-story, 250-room hotel that will open next year with several restaurants, a pool and a spa.

In a few days, the pre-fab building that has housed the old Seminole Bingo Casino will be demolished to make way for the next phase of the Hard Rock Casino. At the same time, a history of questionable casino operations in Tampa will give way to a commitment to professional management, tribal officials say.

When the tribe opened its Tampa casino in 1982, it ceded control to non-tribal members, a management company called Pan American & Associates. The company was paid \$26-million to operate the Seminole gambling halls in Tampa and Immokalee in 1996-97.

In Tampa, eight people, including three casino employees, were convicted of fixing bingo games under Pan American's watch.

In Immokalee, the National Indian Gaming Commission found in 2000 that Pan American had been operating with an illegal contract and fined the tribe \$3-million.

The contract had never been submitted for federal approval, apparently because of fears about a background check involving Pan American boss Jim Clare. Clare was arrested in 1962, when he was a substitute letter carrier in Houston, and charged with stealing \$90 from an envelope addressed to a society for crippled children.

"We messed up things for a while," Seminole general counsel Jim Shore said Tuesday. "But I think now we are going to a new professionalism."

Allen brings to the tribe 23 years of experience, including executive stints with the Trump Organization, Hilton Hotels and Park Place Entertainment. He also served on a New Jersey task force on gambling regulation.

Edward J. Jenkins, who now oversees compliance and regulations at Seminole casinos, is a 30-year FBI agent who rose to head the bureau's Las Vegas office. He later worked as head of corporate security for Caesars casinos in Las Vegas, Atlantic City and Lake Tahoe.

In Pan American's day, police complained about the absence of cameras in the casino counting rooms, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement warned that tribal casinos were susceptible to skimming.

Things have changed. The Tampa casino now uses 380 surveillance cameras, a security staff of 71, currency counting machines and a sophisticated "mantrap," which denies entrance into the cash counting room unless gaming commission procedures are followed.

Allen estimates the opening of Phase I of the Hard Rock Casino in Tampa will increase Tampa revenues for the tribe by 20 percent and accommodate as many as 10,000 patrons a day. Completion of phase II, essentially doubling the size of the casino by next spring, should increase profits by 50 percent, he said.

The tribal treasury will also grow in the spring of 2004, after it opens the \$200-million Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Fla.

The tribe brings in more than \$300-million in profits with its casinos already, enabling each of the 2,900 tribal members to receive a \$36,000 dividend annually.

Where will additional gambling profits go?

"Housing is still a big problem for us," Shore said. "We're running out of room in Hollywood, and a lot of places in Big Cypress and Immokalee are rundown. We also need to better our educational facilities. After that, we might look at increasing dividends."

Not everyone welcomes the Seminole expansion in Tampa.

"It stands to reason that Orient Road, which is two lanes and already over-impacted, is just going to get worse," said Richard Dakin, head of several neighborhood groups concerned about noise and traffic near the Florida State Fairgrounds. "It's mind-boggling to think what it's going to be like."

Allen said the tribe intends to alleviate traffic problems at the casino entrance by constructing a series of turn and acceleration lanes on Orient Road at a cost of nearly \$3-million. He also said the tribe will begin construction in the fall on a wall to shield Orient Road homes from the casino.

Several hundred tribal members traveled to Tampa to enjoy a buffet lunch and take part in the casino

grand opening festivities Tuesday. Among them was Howard Tommie, the former Seminole chairman who pioneered Native American Gaming in the United States.

It was Tommie who came up with the idea of setting up a high-stakes bingo hall on the Hollywood reservation in 1979, a brainstorm that vaulted the Seminoles to new prosperity and was copied by tribes across the country.

Today, according to the National Indian Gaming Commission, 200 tribes operate casinos that bring in more than \$12.7-billion a year.

"In those days, we did not have the liquid assets we needed to buy food and other items we needed," Tommie said Tuesday, leaning on a cane. "The reason we did this, the reason we're here now, was to meet the needs of the people on the reservation."

The article is reprinted by permission of the *St. Petersburg Times*, June 18th, 2003.

The editor wishes to thank Calvin Polansky for sending the article.

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Chip FAQ

by Will Knight



This issue brings you the second installment in the series of Frequently Asked Questions about casino chip collecting. This issue brings you questions from the "Obtaining Chips" section of the FAQ. The entire FAQ can be found online at <http://www32.brinkster.com/chipjunkie/beginners.htm>.

If you have a question that you would like to submit to the FAQ, please email me at chipjunkie@yahoo.com and I'll do my best to answer it and add it to the FAQ.

Are there really that many chips to collect?

Yes. In fact, there are thousands of chips to collect. Before I started collecting chips, I thought there were a couple dozen casinos in Las Vegas, a handful in Atlantic City, and another handful scattered across the nation on Indian reservations. Also, it never occurred to me that a casino would produce more than one type of chip for each denomination - so that would put me under the impression that there were maybe a couple hundred chips to collect, right? I've never been more naive in my life.

There are hundreds of casinos across the nation, and any given casino may produce dozens of different chips. Many change "house" chips

regularly and many more produce Limited Edition chips for all kinds of special events ranging from holidays to concerts - one even produced a chip to celebrate April 15th - Tax Day!

What this means is that there are thousands of chips out there to collect. I know a few chippers whose collections run in the 4000 - 5000 chip range, and have heard of others that have over 10,000 chips. Imagine trying to display all of those in your house!

How can I get chips at a casino? (Contributions by Ralph Myers)

Depending on the state, you may be able to purchase chips directly at the Cashier's Window (commonly called "the cage"). In Nevada, there's no state law prohibiting it, so each casino can decide their own policy - so if you're in Vegas, you should definitely approach the cage first. In my experience, most cashiers are more than happy to help you find a chip you need. In fact, a cashier at the Four Queens actually asked for my list (she saw me consulting it) and told me to return in one hour. When I did, she had gone through every drawer and found a dozen LE chips from my list! Talk about customer service!

If you are lucky enough to be in a casino that will allow you to purchase

chips at the cage and if you can afford to, purchase a "rack" of the chips you're hunting (a rack usually consists of 100 chips). Then you can take your rack to a casino restaurant or bar and sit and sort through the chips at your leisure selecting the primo chips. Then, when you're done, return the remainder and cash them in to get the balance of your money back.

In some states, on the other hand, state law prohibits the sale of chips at the Cashier's Window so you will definitely have to purchase them at a gaming table. If you're not sure of the state law, always ask at the Window - all they can do is direct you to a table. There are a couple of reasons for casinos not selling chips from the Window, not the least of which is that if you're buying chips at a table, you generally feel obligated to sit down and at least play a little at that table (thus giving the casino a shot at your money). Also, casinos like to keep the transactions one-way at the cashier's window for security reasons.

If you're required to buy your chips at a table, look for a table with chips of the denomination you're interested in - you don't want to sit down at a \$10 Blackjack table if you're hunting \$1 chips.

Craps is perhaps the easiest game at which to get \$1 chips. They carry

the \$1 chips for all of the lower-limit long-shot bets, and all you need to do is place your \$20 on the table and say "10-white, please" and you'll get 10 \$1 chips and 2 \$5's. It's that easy. If the \$1 chips are not white, make sure you adjust the color you request accordingly. Once you have your chips, if you don't intend to gamble, it's easy to blend in with the crowd around a craps table and then just walk away when they're busy paying out all the bets. Depending on how busy the table is or how tight they are with their chips, you may want to head in the direction of the nearest restroom in case you're stopped. You can always say you need to use the restroom and will be right back, otherwise, you may be asked to color-up (more on that below).

If you prefer a card game such as Blackjack, look for a table that is approaching the end of the shoe. If you buy-in right before the end of the shoe, the re-shuffling of the shoe gives you the perfect opportunity to get up and leave the table without having played more than a hand or two.

If the casino is not crowded, I'll also seek an empty table with a dealer waiting for someone to play. I'll then simply explain that I collect casino chips and would they mind selling me the chips I want. I've always gotten good results like this because they're not busy and it breaks the monotony for them.

One final word of advice... if you do buy-in at a card-game table, be careful that you select the chips you want (and place them in your pocket) before you stand-up to leave the table - especially if the table is busy - because the dealer will likely ask you to "color-up" if you have very many chips at all. To "color-up" means to trade your \$1 chips for \$5 chips or

your \$5's for \$25's, etc. They do this to keep from running out of their lower denomination chips. Believe the voice of experience - you don't want to be asked to color-up at a busy table if you haven't selected the primo chips out of your stacks beforehand. The other players will not appreciate the delay of watching you sort through your chips picking out specific chips, and you'll likely be the subject of several rude comments.

Why can't I keep Roulette chips? (Contributions by Pam G., Richard Fellman, and Marc Heiman)

Roulette chips can only be purchased at a roulette table, and it is against casino rules to remove roulette chips from the table. This is because a roulette chip is not a cheque - it does not have a denomination printed on it. Therefore, unless you specifically buy-in at a higher amount, your chips at a roulette table have the value that is determined by the amount of the minimum bet of the table. Furthermore, this minimum bet is subject to change from night to night, or even shift to shift. That is to say that during off-peak hours, a roulette table may allow minimum bets of \$1, but later that same day, during peak hours, the minimum bet may be raised to \$5.

Now, assume you were at a casino in the morning playing at a \$1 roulette table and were allowed to leave with your chips. You could then return that evening with those same chips when the roulette table is at a \$5 minimum and the chips that you bought for \$1 apiece are now valued at \$5 each. It's easy to see why the casino doesn't allow this to happen.

That being said, it's not impossible to "harvest" or "liberate" roulettes from a roulette table if you've got the

nerve for it. I just don't recommend it unless you're willing to face the consequences if you get caught.

I don't live near a casino - how do I get chips to collect?

(Answers contributed by Paul Sax)

The easiest way to obtain chips is directly from a casino. However, if you don't live within day-trip distance of a casino, and don't have the budget to travel to one for a weekend, the easiest way to collect chips is a Regional trade meet or via the Internet.

On the Internet, you will find trades being offered daily on *The Chip Board* where dozens, if not hundreds, of chippers read the daily posts. Don't be afraid to post that you're a new chipper and are looking to purchase or trade chips. You may be lucky enough to find that there's a veteran chipper or two on the board who is generous enough to send you a chip or two in the mail to help you get started.

You should also use your favorite search engine to search for "casino chips" and see how many chippers' home pages you get! Many, many chippers post their trade lists and want lists online with hopes of people just like you contacting them wanting to make a trade.

There are also many commercial sites that will sell you casino chips and the supplies you'll need for your new hobby. These sites are the easiest places to find most any casino chip you're seeking, but they generally charge a premium price to cover their expenses and still make a profit. However, sometimes a commercial site is the only place you may be able to find that elusive chip you've been hunting, and the price may be fair to save you the hours you would otherwise spend searching.

Also, there are literally thousands of casino chip auctions on eBay, *Jackpot Auctions*, and *BentMonkey Auctions* - three of the Internet's online auction houses. Casino chips even have their own category on eBay - "Collectibles/Coin-Op, Bank, and Casino/Casino/Chips", and *Jackpot Auctions* is devoted entirely to casino collectibles! On these sites you can find chips of all kinds and all price levels - chips that sell for face, and chips that sell for thousands. As a general rule, you will pay a little over face plus a shipping and handling fee for the chips you purchase here. This is usually \$2 to \$3 for a \$1 chip plus \$1.50 to \$3 shipping and handling - for a total of \$3.50 to \$6 for a \$1 chip so be careful that you don't get caught up in a bidding war and that you understand how much the S&H charge is before you place your bid. Your better deals on eBay are going to be in chip "lots" - auctions for groups of chips where you can sometimes win the auction for the face value or a little over face value of the chips (say \$10 to \$15 for a 10 chip lot) and only pay one S&H fee as opposed to ten.

Finally, another good resource is the *Chips@FaceValue List*. This is an email-based list of chippers who have pledged to sell any common chip from their collection at face value plus a maximum of \$1.00 for postage. This is a great alternative to paying several dollars over face to a dealer or at an auction site. Consider checking the list and seeking out the members to see what they have for trade/sale. You may find much better deals here than elsewhere. You can read more about the *Chips@FaceValue List* at <http://www32.brinkster.com/chipjunkie/chipsatface.htm>.

Are there trade meets where I can get chips?

Yes. Often that's why local chapters were formed - to give members a chance to meet more frequently than the annual CC>CC Convention in Vegas. Visit www.ccgccc.com for a list of local chapters and their contacts. Once you've identified your nearest chapter, call or email their contact to find out the details on their next regional meeting.

Also, if you frequent www.thechipboard.com, you will regularly see notices for meetings - usually as much as a month or two in advance. Additionally, there you will sometimes see impromptu posts by a member that is visiting a town and asking if anyone would like to meet while they're there. You'll soon find that your fellow chippers are a very friendly group with a family atmosphere and that spontaneous meetings like this are not uncommon.

Regional/chapter trade meets are gatherings of chippers for the purpose of trading casino chips and other collectibles. The best part about these meetings is the opportunity to meet and make friends with people who share your hobby. In addition to all the great people, you'll get to see a wide variety of chips most of which are for trade or sale. It's been my experience that most chippers are willing to sell their chips, so having a large selection of traders is not a prerequisite for you to attend. The only drawback about these meetings is that they generally don't occur very frequently (maybe once every few months).

Does the CC>CC have a convention where I can get chips?

Yes. The premier event of each

year is the CC>CC's annual convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Hundreds of chippers and vendors gather here to trade and sell chips as well as to discuss topics of interest and just catch-up with old friends. It's an event that every chipper should try to attend at least once. Find out more about this year's convention at the www.ccgccc.com.

Can I be notified when casinos issue new chips?

Absolutely! There are several New Issue Services that revolve around the hobby. Each NIS monitors specific casinos and notifies its members when new chips become available. You can become a member of a service simply by contacting the person running it and subscribing to it (generally via email).

When an NIS learns that a new chip is available, they travel to the casino, often on the day of the release, and purchase a number of the chips. They then notify their members that they have them available for purchase, and all interested members respond requesting the number of chips they need. Each NIS charges a surcharge on top of the face value of the chip for their service and expenses. Expect to pay \$2.50 or more for \$1 chips and \$7 or more for \$5 chips.

New Issue Services provide a valuable service for those people who don't have convenient access to their favorite casinos. They are definitely the best way to make sure that you get the chips you want before they're sold-out. However, if there's generally no danger of a chip selling-out (such as with a new \$1 house chip), you can generally find a better deal if you can be patient and trade for your chips. That being said, if you have a hard time finding a particular chip, or

if the chip is a Limited Edition chip, a NIS may be your best bet.

For instance, my favorite Las Vegas NIS is Chuck Smorse. I enjoy collecting Four Queens chips, and he always makes sure I get the latest chips (he works there). Plus Chuck's prices are among the lowest to be found. You can write Chuck at 4616 Mark Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89108 or you can email him at theothergeneral@cox.net. Additionally, you can find an exhaustive list of many other new issue services at www.chequers.com.

I regularly see chips for sale in Uncirculated condition from casinos that closed 20-30 years ago. Are they legitimate? If so, how is this possible?

Sometimes collectors come across an ex-casino owner or employee, or a relative of such a person that perhaps is deceased, and they discover that the person has a forgotten hoard of obsolete chips from Way Back When. Often, when the person finds out what they're worth, they're glad to sell them to the collector, who may in turn offer them to the collecting community.

In the words of past-president Archie Black... "Other than the occasional "find" of a forgotten hoard of obsolete chips from a former casino owner ... or from a relative or partner of a living or deceased casino owner ... the obvious reason (to me) is that there are those so-called "greedy" dealers (and old-time collectors) who put aside chips as they are issued in their inventory and stock books (sometimes for decades) so that new chippers (like yourself) and experienced chippers (who are working their way back to the earlier issues) are able to obtain nice, new condition older chips."



by Allan Anderson

Casino Fandango opened in Carson City, Nevada, on July 30th, 2 days before a new ordinance went into effect requiring 100 hotel rooms for any business with more than 15 slot machines.

Designed to open in phases, the tropical themed casino opened with the newest slot machines, featuring ticket-in, ticket-out technology and table games. An authentic 24 hour New York style deli and grill also opened.

The second phase, which should open by the end of the year, will include up to 600 slot machines, a full 24-hour themed coffee shop and a buffet.

A third phase, opening date not yet determined, will include additional slot machines and table games, expansion of the buffet and a new steak house.

Architect Peter Wilday stated that, "Casino Fandango will feature an exotic, but casual, tropical theme. It

will be a fun place that we have designed for the locals."

Long time casino veteran, Larry Woolf, will manage the casino. Mr. Woolf is best known as Chairman, President and CEO of the 5,000 room MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, President of Caesars Tahoe and as a top executive for eleven years at Harrah's Reno. "It's good to be coming home and I am happy to be part of the Carson City community. Our objective is to make sure this is a lot of fun for everyone,"

Colorado News

by Allen Banick

It's been 6 months since my last article, and we've got some catching up to do! Colorado chipping has never been more exciting! We've got new casinos, political madness, new chips and tokens and an election coming up that may open Colorado to several new casinos. Let's get right into it.....

Colorado Chipping In the News

Colorado chipping has made the headlines in our newspapers and television. Several officials of the Colorado Division of Gaming have been under investigation by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation because they bought, sold and collected chips and tokens. The gaming officers indicted in the "collect gate" incident are long time club members who never hid their collecting activities from the public or their superiors. These fellow club members have lost their jobs and have been subject to biased reports by our local press.

Gaming has also been the subject of several TV commercials in Colorado. We will be voting in November on a ballot initiative that will allow "video lottery" terminals in the states horse and dog racing tracks. The aforementioned ads hark on the fact that "video lottery" machines are really just slots machines and they hint that slot machines are bad and should not be allowed in Colorado. Who is paying

for these television ads? Well, the casinos of Black Hawk, Central City and Cripple Creek of course!

It appears that the long planned road from I-70 to Central City is about to be built. This road will take gamblers from the Hidden Valley exit on I-70 straight into Central City. The 4 lane road will save motorists about 12 miles and they will avoid the winding 2 lane road that currently leads from I-70 into Black Hawk. Central City planners hope that users of the new road will choose to stop in Central City instead of driving the addition 2 miles into Black Hawk.

New Chips and Tokens

Mardi Gras, Black Hawk



The long awaited Mardi Gras \$100 is finally here. This black chip has art befitting of its' denomination. 1000 of these were minted, and while I don't think they will sell out anytime soon, they do see wear from "color ups".

Double Eagle, Cripple Creek

A brand new 150,000 mintage \$1 token as well as a 5,000 mintage BEAUTIFUL new \$1 chip from the

Double Eagle are now available. The chip and token are the best we've seen in many years. The designs bring back memories of the early and ever more popular Colorado chips and tokens. The old tokens have been recalled and destroyed.



Mountain High, Black Hawk

The Mountain High casino opened where the Hyatt once stood. The Hyatt had been plagued by marketing and "underplay" issues since its' opening. The primary owners bought out the Hyatt contract and are now running the casino on their own. A \$1, \$2.50, \$5 and \$25 HC chip is now being used along with \$1, \$2 and \$5 tokens. The old Black Hawk Hyatt chips and tokens have been destroyed.



Winner's Haven - Black Hawk



Winner's Haven finally opened in the building formerly occupied by Otto's casino. 10,000 tokens were minted to feed the machines at the Haven.

Buffalo Billy's - Cripple Creek



In July Buffalo Billy's issued the 2003 version of the ever popular Cripple Creek Donkey Derby Day chip. 500 of this year's "ass" were made and as always they prove to very popular with chip collectors from all around the world.



Following the tradition set at sister casino Bronco Billy's, Buffalo Billy's issued the 11th annual 2003 Race For The Cure chips. Only 150 of these were made and most were given to golf tournament participants. This is an interesting chip as it was issued from Buffalo Billy's for the Bronco Billy's golf tournament.



500 Marine Corps 16th Annual POW/MIA Recognition Ride chips were released by Buffalo Billy's in Cripple Creek. Keeping with a long running chip tradition and the Billy's casinos, this chip features the POW-MIA logo.

Hyatt - Black Hawk



A never before seen \$25 chip has surfaced from the now closed Hyatt. This \$25 features a dark green chip with light blue inserts. Only 7 are currently known to be in circulation. This chip was part of the "back up" rack of \$25's at the now closed Hyatt. It is unusual in that this is the only "back up" rack ever known to exist in a Colorado casino.

Gilpin - Black Hawk

The Gilpin has a set of \$1/\$5/\$25 chips that commemorate the recently completed addition to the casino. Apparently they had planned on awarding a \$1/\$5/\$25 set to high value players but at the last minute they decided not to include the \$25 chip in the giveaway. Players who passed \$1,000 through their slots on specific days were given the \$1 and \$5 chip, the \$25 and the display frame are still sitting somewhere in the cage. I've heard from several sources that the casino felt that

including the \$25 in the award would cost them as most slot players would simply return the \$25 chip. Exact counts of this issue are still being debated, but reliable sources tell me that 1,200 \$1 chips were minted with lesser mintages for the \$5 and \$25 chips. The casino is not currently selling these chips as they are holding them for their player club promotions. This is an interesting tactic from a casino that hasn't had a table game that uses chips for several years.



Sky Ute – Ignacio

Two new sets of \$1/\$5/\$25 chips have been issued by the Sky Ute casino in Ignacio. Each set has a mintage of 350 and at least for the time being, you can only buy 3 sets from the cage. The first set celebrates the casino's 10th Anniversary while the second set commemorates the first annual Rally Of The Rockies bike rally.



Casino Openings and Closings

Harvey's casino in Central City has been purchased by another company. The casino will be renamed in late November and all chips and tokens will be replaced. Rumored names for the casino include "Fortune Valley". Harvey's cage personnel tell us that they casino will be issuing a closing set of chips sometime before the November rename.

Double Eagle will be opening a new casino adjacent to their current Cripple Creek property. The new casino will include poker, so we should see a full rack of chips and tokens. A grand opening set is also on the drawing boards. One rumored name for this property is Gold Creek. The latest Double Eagle chips and tokens are among the best we've seen in Colorado and we can hope that the new chips follow the design lead of the new Double Eagle chips.

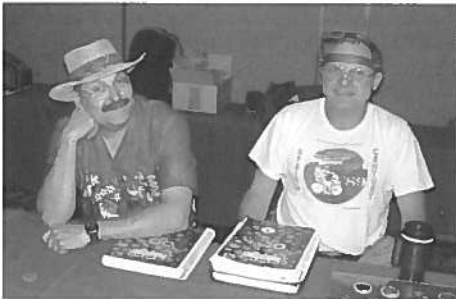
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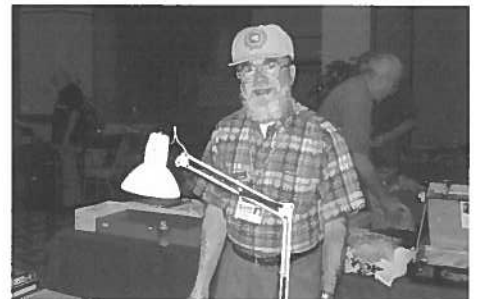
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Richard Fellman and Steve McLendon



John Chamberlain



Dwight "Skip" Harouff



Steve Blust



Kent Hedberg

Las Vegas Monorail

courtesy Las Vegas Monorail Company

The current monorail project grew from an earlier transit venture between the MGM Grand and Bally's Hotel in 1993. That year the casinos announced a joint operation, under the name MGM Grand/Bally's, LLC, to construct a one-mile long monorail system that connected the two properties. At that time it was proposed that the project be expanded one day. The forward vision included a transportation project that eventually linked numerous hotels with the convention center.

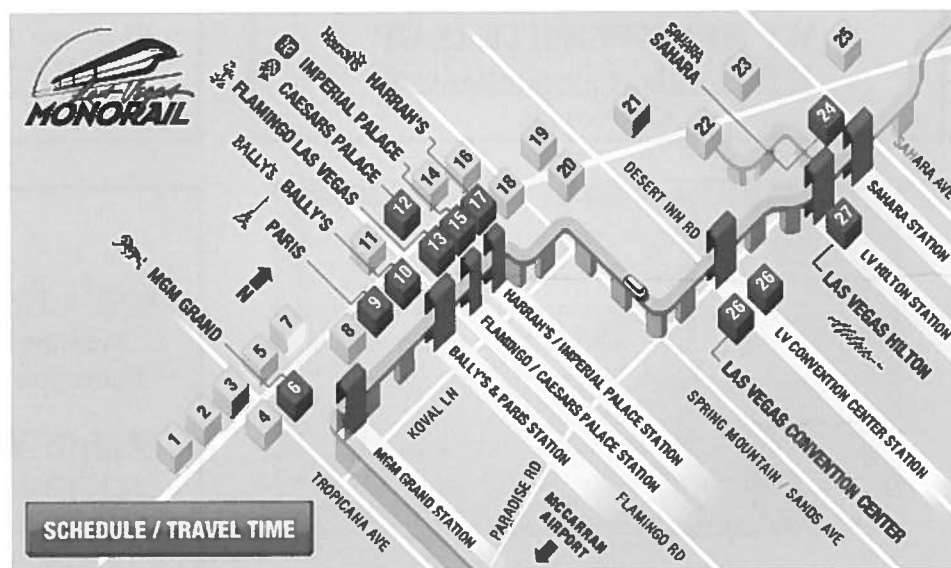
In January 1997, state legislation was passed allowing Clark County to grant a monorail franchise for the private sector to own, operate and charge a fare for a public monorail system. The Monorail LLC requested proposals for expanding their existing system, eventually granting the project to the Las Vegas Monorail Team, assembled and coordinated by Nevada-based Liaise Corporation and made up of Bombardier Transportation and the Granite Construction Company, Gensler & Associates, Carter-Burgess, and Salomon Smith Barney.

The Las Vegas Monorail Company, which owns the new monorail, was created in May 2000, as a non-profit corporation. It acquired the original monorail system along with MGM's-Bally's Monorail, LLC. Transit System Management was created by MGM/Mirage and Park Place Entertainment and is responsible for overseeing and managing the design and day-to-day operations of the monorail.

MGM/Mirage and Park Place Entertainment were the two original corporations that contributed seed capital and resources to explore the feasibility of a large-scale monorail project, and to begin its initial development.

The rail line will consist of nine trains each made up of four cars, for a total of 36 new Bombardier M-VI cars. Each is fully air-conditioned and utilizes a suspension and guidance subsystem to provide stable lateral support. The monorail will employ an automatic train control (ATC) system that allows for driverless operation.

- The monorail will operate for more than 12 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- The system meets every applicable code and safety standard for mass transit use.
- Cars will seat approximately 70 passengers with comfortable space for an additional 144 standees. That number could be increased to 220 for larger events.
- Trains will arrive and depart from stations every two minutes.



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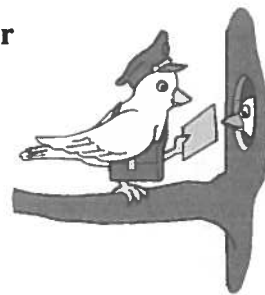
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