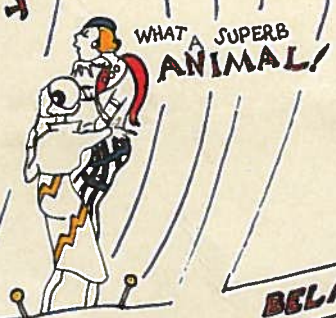
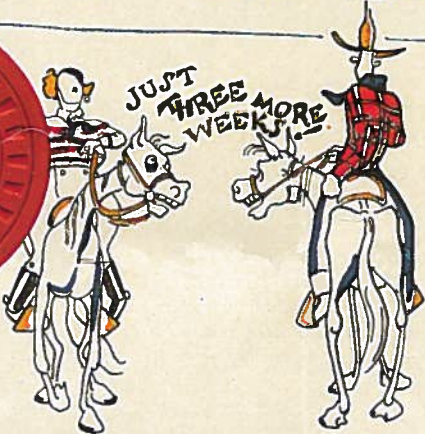
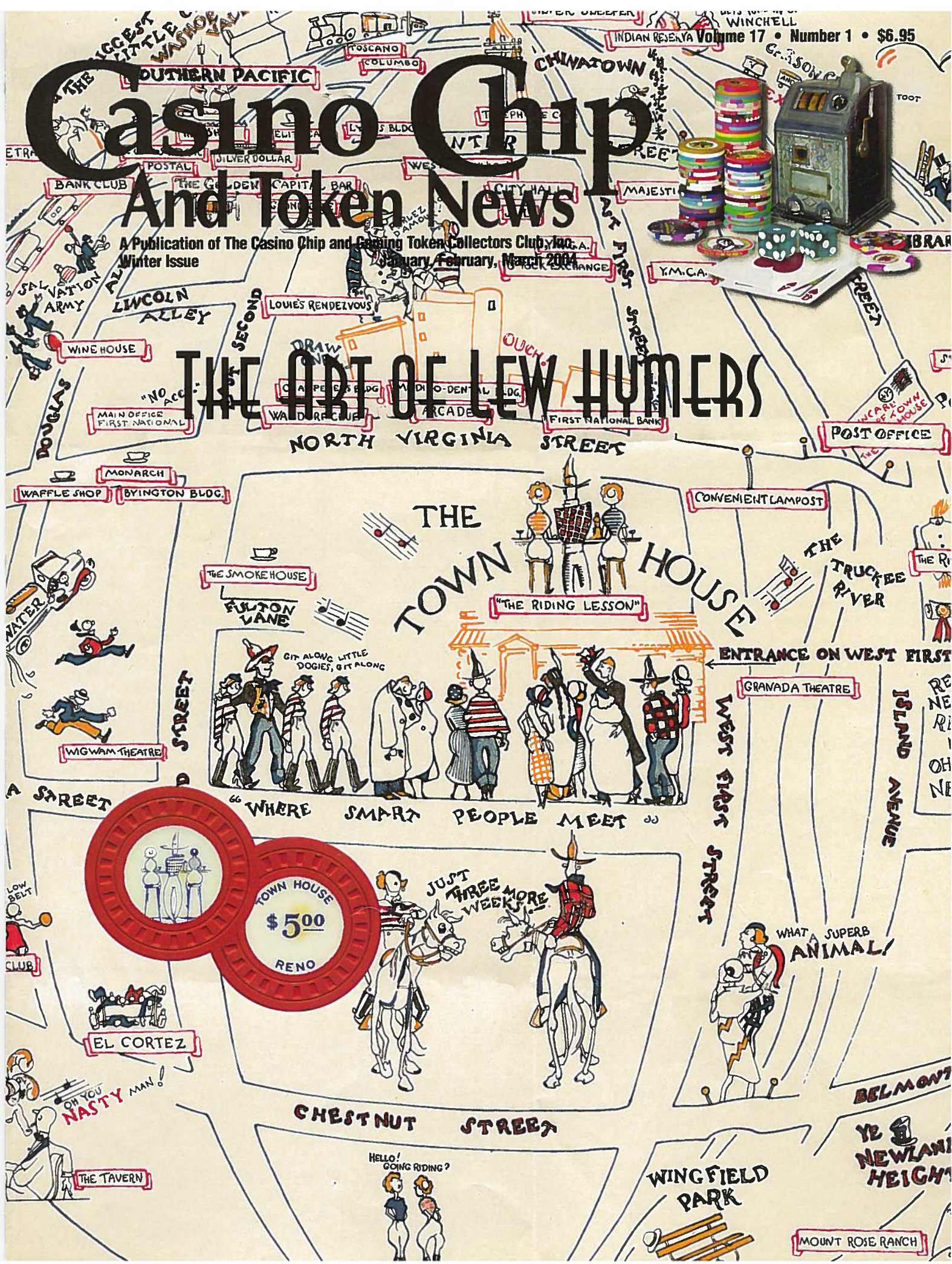


Casino Chip And Token News

A Publication of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.
Winter Issue
January, February, March 2004



THE ART OF LEW HUMERS



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CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS

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**AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
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Present or former ANA number, if any _____

Mr. Mrs Ms.

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Signature of Applicant Date

Proposer

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Check Money Order Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers Expiration Date

Signature of Cardholder (Required)

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- Senior Citizen (age 65 older) \$25* outside US \$32*
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*plus \$6 application fee, first year only

Forward completed application to:

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Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279

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

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.
- When ordering items from one of our advertiser let them know what issue of the magazine you noticed their ad in.

NEXT DEADLINE

2nd Quarter Issue 2004
is March 1st 2004

Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

1 st Quarter: Jan-Feb-Mar	Deadline for Ads: Dec 1 st
2 nd Quarter: Apr-May-Jun	Deadline for Ads: Mar 1 st
3 rd Quarter: Jul-Aug-Sep	Deadline for Ads: Jun 1 st
4 th Quarter: Oct-Nov-Dec	Deadline for Ads: Sep 1 st

MOVING?

Dont't forget to let our Membership Director know your new address. 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

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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 Collectors 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.

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1"	\$10.00	\$35.00	\$5.00
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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

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Yes, I Would Like	Ad Size	Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/>	1"	\$35.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	2"	\$80.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Card	\$70.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/4 Page	\$130.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/2 Page	\$220.00 with placement of ad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full Page	\$360.00 with placement of ad

Name _____
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 State _____ Zip _____
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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 - ccoins@aol.com

Send full payment payable to “CC>CC” with your advertisement to:

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 Advertising Manager, CC>CC
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CC>CC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

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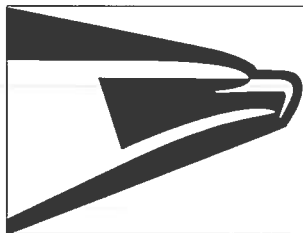
- Chips Tokens
 U.S. Foreign

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

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 * postal money order or U.S. funds



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

Sponsored by:



CASINO CHIP AND TOKEN NEWS

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

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Casino Chip And Token News

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



January · February · March 2004 Volume 17 Number 1



Cover Story The Art of Lew Hymers

Photo Courtesy
Howard W. Herz

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Letters to the Editor

The Letter to the Editor from Walter Dirzulaitis and the Wendover article in the Summer 2003 issue reminded us of our visit to the Hideaway Casino. That's our old Blazer parked at the main entrance in our photo dated June 1991. This casino closed around 1995. obviously not 1980 as stated in the Wendover article. The place was almost as dingy as the dilapidated buildings of the nearby deserted military airfield.

When we located the lone blackjack table in the dark backroom, a few players appeared to be enjoying the same. They looked (and played) like tourists, but who knows. I quickly got knocked out of the game, but Bettye was holding her own. I was standing behind her and when she found a chip in nice condition, she passed it to me over her shoulder (and the dealer did not object). Even in those days, we liked quality chips. With the chips in our pockets, we probably ended-up close to "leavin' even."

Contrary to Walter's statement, we do not believe this "was the only NV casino in it's day that cheated." There definitely were other single-table joints dealing from gaffed decks. Why do you think the dealers stood facing the table with their backs against a wall? Fortunately, such "casinos" seem to be disappearing.

Happy Collecting. Vince Mowery R0360



Dear Editor:

I would like to thank Mike Skelton and CC>CC for their generous educational support. I have the distinct privilege of teaching numismatics to freshman students at The University of Texas at Austin each fall semester. During the classes we discuss various aspects of collecting coins, paper currency, and most recently we have added exonumia, including casino chips.

Early last year I was investigating chip collecting as one of several possible new topics to introduce into the classroom when I came across something that caught my attention, namely, authenticating, grading, and encapsulating casino chips. Of course, we all know this service as "slabbing". As somebody who has been collecting coins for decades, the idea of slabbing coins is not new and has been a part of the hobby for over a quarter century. What struck my interest, however, was how the chip collecting community responded when a company began offering this service for casino chips. From this investigation I began a nice correspondence with Andy Hughes who explained to me the history of chip slabbing and the hobby's response. Our discussions eventually led to an introduction to Mike Skelton who graciously offered to travel to Austin and give a lecture to my students on the fun of chip collecting.

Mike's presentation was one of the highlights of the semester. His knowledge, enthusiasm, and sheer joy for everything surrounding chip collecting were fully evident and the students were captivated. Mike, as President of CC>CC, also talked of the mission of the organization and provided some wonderful chips for the students to keep and to hopefully begin building a collection. It was a wonderful morning and provided a lasting impression. Mike is an outstanding ambassador for the chip collecting hobby and I thank him for his donation of time and materials.

Lane J. Brunner, Ph.D.
The University of Texas at Austin

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This Newsletter is a must for all Roulette Collectors. The First Issue of this Quarterly Newsletter will be available to subscribers in February 2004. Subsequent issues will be mailed in May, August and November.

Subscription price is \$4.00 per issue or \$20.00 for six issues. To subscribe, please send a check or money order to:

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Millsboro, DE 19966.

I am sure you will enjoy this totally new and unique newsletter.

Thanks for your support, *Jerry Birl* - "Mr. Roulette"

ROULETTE INTERNATIONAL CHIP HUNTERS

From the Editor's Desk



Allan Anderson

With the new year upon us I would like to thank all of the contributors to the magazine. Without your contributions the magazine would not be what it is today. It's also not easy knowing that once you've contributed you know you'll be getting a phone call from me. Sometimes it pays to have caller ID. Sadly, this is also the last issue for the Quarterly Southern Nevada Limited Edition "Cheque List" article written by Dave and Debbie Harber. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude to them for writing this column the last 4 years. It is an enormous task to put an article like this together and we as a club owe them a debt of gratitude.

Our cover story this month, written by John Moore, could be considered a double-feature. John's article on the Town House led to another article on the artist who created the famous Town House "riding lesson" chip. A special thanks to Howard Herz for supplying the cover artwork and also all of the ad reprints used throughout the articles.

I have been getting e-mails and phone calls wondering why we dedicate so much space to Reno and Nevada in the magazine. Since most of our regular contributors live in Northern Nevada it only makes sense that that's what they write about. There is an easy solution - contribute. I would love to print articles from other parts of the country and the world but I can only print what I receive.

For this issue only we went back to mailing in envelopes. We are trying to come up with a better and more cost effective way to mail the magazine. Options are mailing in a plastic 3mil bag or going back to ink jet labels on the magazine. The magazines that were destroyed in the mail can be contributed to either the post office or the letter carrier. We found no problems at our mailing facility.

Last, I have to show off my new granddaughter Danery (also known as Dani) born November, 19 2003.



President's Letter



Mike Skelton

Welcome to the New Year! Hopefully everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We are all looking forward to the coming year of collecting and our upcoming Convention. I have spoken about change in the past and 2004 will see even more changes for our organization.

The first noticeable change was how the magazine is now being shipped to the bulk mail recipients and the addition of color pages. Please see my letter detailing these changes elsewhere in this issue.

The next change is the location of our annual Convention. For the first time, we will be holding our convention at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in June. The move from the Tropicana was necessary as the future of the Tropicana redevelopment was still up in the air when we needed to make plans for the 2004 Convention. The convention facilities at the Riviera are well laid out and are conducive to our show. I personally have attended other conventions held there and have always had a pleasant experience. The staff at the Riviera is excited about hosting our convention and we are excited about the new location.

The on-line pre-registration is now up and running, so make your plans to attend the convention June 16-19, 2004. Don't miss the Wednesday night banquet that will be held in the Top of the Riv, one on the rooms in Las Vegas that offers a wonderful view of this great city. There are several special things planned for that evening, so don't miss it! All the Convention information can be found in this issue.

Look for some exciting changes in the Bruce Landau Memorial Auction this year, which will again be chaired by Barry Weintraub. Information on the auction and the auction catalog will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Board of Directors will be meeting at the end of January to discuss many topics concerning the Club. The topics will range from the issue of mandatory Club membership for Chapter members to ways to enhance your membership in our organization. We will discuss member's suggestions on growth of the Club, the Building Fund project, the upcoming Convention and overall membership issues. Ways to increase the advertising revenue and ad placements in the Casino Chip and Token News. And a whole list of other topics. Please keep in mind that we are always open to suggestions, regardless of the topic. That does not mean that every single suggestion offered will be put to work. There are many reasons why a suggestion would or would not be acted upon and put into motion. Someone has to make that decision. And of course some people are not going to be happy with the decision, regardless of which way it goes. So be it. My responsibility and the Board's responsibility is to make decisions that are in the long-term best interest of the Club and it's entire membership. But we will never dismiss a suggestion without some discussion. Please feel free to contact any Board member with any suggestions you may have.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Riviera in June!

Special Letter from the President concerning changes to the Casino Chip and Token News

With the recent change in how the Club magazine is being mailed if you have bulk rate postage, I thought some of the members would be interested in exactly what went into this decision. And also a reminder that if you choose not to pay the \$12.00 for first class postage, that bulk rate delivery can take up to 4 weeks! Keep in mind that the Club does not make a profit on this first class postage. If you want the magazine faster, take the first class option.

A glance at the income/expense statements will tell you that the membership dues AND the advertising do NOT cover the cost of producing and mailing the magazine. This is a fact. It's reality. Membership dues, including first class postage, that were recorded through Aug 31 came to \$37,609.00 and magazine advertising came in at \$2575.00, for a total of \$40,184.00 The magazine expense through the same reporting period was \$44,452.00. This would be a loss of \$4268.00, through August 31, 2003.

Prior to the current issue, the average cost per issue, to produce and mail the magazine was over \$15,000.00. That makes the annual cost over \$60,000.00. With 2600-2800 active dues paying members, of which a certain percentage are \$5.00 associate members, you will not cover the cost of the magazine. Something had to be done. To do nothing, would have been irresponsible and in my opinion, a breach of the Board's fiduciary responsibility to this membership.

We asked Editor Allan Anderson to look into alternatives and found there were several ways to reduce the costs associated with magazine, without sacrificing the quality we all have come to expect. The Membership Officer has in the past printed out the mailing labels and sent them to the printer, to be affixed by hand to the CC>CC envelopes, then the magazines were inserted into the envelopes by hand. Antiquated, labor intensive and costly. If I remember correctly, years ago a Club Officer would stuff the envelopes, affix the mailing labels and drag them down to the post office to be mailed. Sheer numbers finally made this an impossible function to ask any volunteer to do.

Allan found that if he redesigned the cover slightly, we could have the mailing list sent on disk to the printer. They could print the name and address directly onto the magazine, eliminate the envelope (and the expense of inserting them) and mail them like most other bulk rate magazines get mailed. And by making these changes, we reduce the cost associated with the magazine by \$2400.00 per issue. Some of the savings will be put back into the magazine in the form of inside color, which until this issue had never been done before. Some will go towards further improving the magazine and the balance of the cost reduction allows us to come closer to eliminating the deficit associated with the magazine.

So far, out of approximately 1800 bulk rate mailings, we have heard of a hand full that were in some way damaged. The mailing house assures us this is a postal delivery problem. We will send anyone whose magazine is damaged a replacement, just contact Allan. Not trying to be curt about it, but you can afford to replace a few magazines for \$2400.00 in savings per issue! This is a first step in an ongoing process and may not be the final, perfect answer. We continue to examine all options. We are looking at ways to increase the advertising revenue, both from the membership and from outside advertisers, as well.

I sat and looked through almost 10 years worth of the Casino Chip & Token News yesterday and am amazed at the changes that have occurred with our “little Club newsletter” over the years. I wish every member could see “where we came from” and compare it to where we are. It would certainly give one a better appreciation for the magazine and the Club! The big deal 10 years ago was when Archie added green color to the cover! Editors Archie Black, Tom Dirnberger, Gregg Herz, John Yee and now Allan Anderson, assisted by John Moore, have done incredible things with our award-winning magazine over the years! And all of this has been accomplished for an annual membership fee of \$20.00, which has not changed since January of 1996! I would challenge anyone to name a better value for \$20.00 than a year’s worth of Casino Chip & Token News and annual membership in the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.!

Vice President’s Letter



Wayne Thompson

Hopefully everyone had a good Holiday season and is now ready to start making plans to attend the highlight of the year, our 12th Annual Convention.

By the time this issue of the magazine goes to print the Board will have met for three days to work on Club issues and set in place plans for the coming year. We have had a lot of input from our members and hopefully we can resolve the current issues in a way that will improve the Club.

Looking ahead we anticipate starting a “Corporate membership” category as a way to involve many of the entities that benefit most from our Club. This would include among others, the many casinos. As we get everything in place we are going to need a lot of assistance from our members to approach the casinos in each area of the country about supporting the Club. If you are willing to help in this endeavor please contact me so we can start putting our group together.

In addition we are looking at new ways to provide more benefits to our Club members and one idea we have in mind is a coupon book that would go out to the members every year. This will be a massive undertaking and we will need help from as many members as possible. Again if you are willing to help I ask that you contact me so we can get this project started.

I can be contacted by e-mail at vice-president@ccgtcc.com, by phone at 859-252-5626, or by mail at 191 Kentucky Avenue, Lexington, KY 40502.

I hope you will decide it is important to give back to the Club and volunteer to help us with either of these projects.

Wayne Thompson HLM-2733
Vice-President CC>CC

Secretary's Report



Belinda **Hixon**

2004, only a few months until the biggest event of the CC>CC year – Convention!

The Board is preparing for the semi-annual meeting to be held in late January. We've communicated via e-mail for the past six months and have put several issues on hold until we can discuss them face-to-face. Look for a full report in the next issue of Casino Chip & Token News.

I've received several inquiries about the Club due to articles written for various magazines outside of the hobby. Thanks to Len Cipkins for finding the outlets and the authors for taking the time to write such great articles.

That's it for now. Don't forget to look for the report on the Board meeting the next issue. In the meantime, please remember to contact any Board member if you have questions, comments or suggestions.

Happy Collecting!

Belinda

2004 Convention Auction On-Line Bidding

by Barry **Weintraub**

We are happy to announce that in 2004 we are hard at work to add a new feature to this year's auction. One that we believe will allow for a greater number of our club members to participate in the auction. We are planning to put the club auction lots up on the club website by May 1st. Current plans calls for current club members to have the ability to register to review the lots on-line, bid on desired lots with the final culmination of auction occurring Friday night at

the convention with the live auction on June 18, 2004. It is our intent that, like an ebay auction, the bidder would have the opportunity to put in a higher bid and the club will bid for them at the actual auction.

The on-line portion of the auction are currently being developed and details will be put the on the Club website as they are completed.

Additionally we are considering putting a pdf version of the catalog on the club website.

A big thanks to Greg Susong who is working on the logistics of the on-line bidding. Additionally, I would also thank Dick Covington and Jay Sands who are producing this year's auction catalog.

Treasurer's Report



Mike Quinlivan

As of December 31, 2003, the cash balance in the Club's accounts is \$156,078. During 2003, the Club treasury increased its cash position by \$2,172 (excluding Building Fund donations of \$12,471). This includes the expenditures for all four issues of the 2003 Club magazine, as well as the Winter 2002 issue. Please see the accompanying financial statements for more detail related to income, expenditures, and the breakdown of the cash accounts.

Thanks to Tyrus Mulkey and Wayne Murphy, the year-end physical inventory of the convention and promotional items was completed. Due to the results of the physical inventory, the value has increased by \$5,449, as noted in the equity section of the year-end financial statement.

Highlights for 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 alone 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.
6. Promotions Chairperson, Tyrus Mulkey, and Assistant Promotions Chairperson, Wayne Murphy secured a new home for the Club promotional items. They also organized these promotional items into racks for ease of locating and identifying.
7. 14 members became Life Members during 2003. The Club now has 74 Life Members and 4 Honorary Life Members.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Quinlivan - Treasurer
January 11, 2004

Income & Expense/Equity Statement (cash basis)

January 1 through December 31, 2003

Income

Membership Dues (includes 1st class postage)		\$53,990
Convention 2003:		
Table Fees	\$26,685	
Auction Proceeds	\$13,445	
Registration	\$12,371	
Raffle	\$641	
Convention 2003 Total		\$53,142
Promotion		\$14,564
Building Fund Donations		\$12,471
Convention 2004 - Table Fees		\$7,360
Magazine Advertising		\$4,952
Interest Income		\$2,425
Directory Sales		\$320
Magazine Sales		\$35
Total Income		<u>\$149,259</u>

Expenditures

Magazine		\$74,941
Convention Expenses (2003)		\$38,867
Printing (Other than Magazine)		\$5,359
Postage (Other than Magazine)		\$4,400
Promotional Items		\$4,089
Storage		\$1,634
Bank Charges		\$1,249
Insurance (D&O)		\$885
Miscellaneous		\$628
Supplies		\$588
Election		\$530
Website		\$526
Telephone		\$352
Membership		\$194
Filing Fees		\$165
Advertising		\$104
Publicity		\$80
Donations		\$25
Total Expenditures		<u>\$134,616</u>

Net Income - 1/1/03 to 12/31/03 \$14,643

Beginning Equity Balance - 1/1/2003	\$157,820
Net Income - 1/1/03 to 12/31/03	\$14,643
Physical Inventory Adjustment	\$5,449
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31/03	<u>\$177,912</u>

Detail of Equity Balance - 12/31/03

Certificate of Deposit	\$75,091	
Building Fund	\$31,841	
General Fund	\$27,591	
Life Membership Fund	\$21,555	
Total Cash Available		<u>\$156,078</u>
Inventory		<u>\$21,834</u>
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31/03		<u>\$177,912</u>

Respectfully submitted by Mike Quinlivan, Treasurer January 11, 2004

Membership Officers Report



Ralph Myers

Well, here it is, another new year. I hope your holiday season was everything you hoped it to be.

Our annual convention is just around the corner at a new venue for us, The Riviera Hotel Casino. It promises to be the best convention ever.

This issue of the Casino Chip and Token News has all the forms you need to preregister for the convention and related activities. Don't wait to the last minute to get registered, and get shut out. You can also preregister online at www.ccgctcc.com

This last quarter has been very busy with over 100 new members joining our ranks. This is partly due to Andy Hughes and his merry band of generous chippers who held a new member drive in December. This is the second year that Andy and his fellow chippers have held this drive with great success.

You will notice a slight change to the New Member list, brought on by a suggestion from a fellow member. We are now including the city as well as the state where a new member lives. The idea behind this change is to let you know if a new member lives near your city, and just maybe it will be someone who you can meet, and or trade chips with.

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

Best regards,
Ralph Myers
Membership Officer



Renew Your Membership Online



New Members Since Last Issue

Member	Last	First	State	City	Reference
6244	Anderson	Tim	UT	Provo	American Chip Enterprises
6245	Love	James E.	NV	Reno	club magazine
6246	Zorn	John	PA	Crescent Township	Rizzo, Pete
6247	Hall	Brian	LA	Madisonville	Will K & Wayne W
6249	Robry	Clayton	IN	Zionsville	Craig, Kenny
6250	Trostle	Larry	NV	Las Vegas	
6253	Bradshaw	Rick	IL	Peoria	
6254	Najarian	Mourado	CA	Fresno	Parigian, George
6255	Ivy	Kathy	KS	Wichita club web site	
6255-A	Krohe	Janis	KS	Wichita club web site	
6256	Miller	Brian C.	WI	Muskego	Rizzo, Pete
6257	Anderson	John	MI	Dearborn Heights	Rizzo, Pete
6260	Rubel	Bruce	FL	Miami	Buckner, Jeff
6261	Reed	Nathan	NC	Clayton	
6262	Lavorin	Jason	CA	Needles	Kelly, Claire
6263	Roberson	Hal	WA	Everett	Rizzo, Pete
6264	Biddle	Barbara	HI	Kailua Kona	Rizzo, Pete
6265	Chi	Garret	HI	Mililani	Stoops, Kitty
6266	Harris	Anna	MA	Holbrook	Cox, Barry
6267	Deis	Karen	WI	Hudson	Thompson, Wayne
6268	Martin	Robert	CA	San Carlos	Silver Strike Chapter
6269	Neal	William	IN	Indianapolis	American Chip Enterprises
6271	Davis	Jeffrey	NV	Las Vegas	club web site
6272	Marsolais	Linda	IL	Algonquin	club web site
6273	Fenkell	Louis	FL	Sunrise	Rizzo, Pete
6274	Wicks	Daniel	NC	Wake Forest	Rizzo, Pete
6276	Deragon	Allen	NY	Poughkeepsie	club web site
6277	Twyford	Mike	CA	Norco	
6277	Sommer	Robert	AK	Barrow	club web site
6278	Apelbaum	Mark	IL	Glenview	club web site
6279	Torkelson	Larry	CA	Placentia	Rizzo, Pete
6280	Hogan	Michael	NV	Las Vegas	Rizzo, Pete
6281	Hargrove	Russell	IN	Shelbyville	Rizzo, Pete
6282	Jordan	Melanie	TX	Sanger	Rizzo, Pete
6283	Landau	Jason	FL	Coral Springs	
6283-A	Landau	Stephanie	FL	Coral Springs	
6284	Landau	Michael	NY	New York	Eileen Landau
6284-A	Landau	Britt	NY	New York	
6285	Landau	Jodi	NJ	Dumont	Eileen Landau
6286	Troy	Powell	TX	Pearland	Heller, Mitch
6288	Harmon	David	OH	Kent	club web site
6289	Morelli	Michael	NH	Amherst	Rizzo, Pete
6290	Celaya	Vivian	CA	Sylmar	Rizzo, Pete
6291	Maloy	Denise	NJ	Deptford	Rizzo, Pete
6292	Boaz	Buel	CA	Bakersfield	Rizzo, Pete
6293	Flynn	Louise	AK	Eagle	Silver Strikers website
6295	Winneberger	Lisa	NJ	Galloway	club web site
6296	Hynes	Stephen	UK	Surrey	
6297	Winn	Steve	NY	Bay Shore	club web site

Member	Last	First	State	City	Reference
6299	Meyer	Richard	NC	Fayetteville	Hughes, Andy
6300	Hudson	Brent	KS	Wichita	Hudson, Keith
6301	Cameron	Bob	FL	Jacksonville	Rizzo, Pete
6302	Cohen	Robert	PA	Bensalem	American Chip Enterprises
6303	Toulson	Rodney	AR	Littl Rock	Rizzo, Pete
6305	Koehler	Donald L.	PA	Nazareth	
6306	Zeigler	Jeff	CA	Burbank	American Chip Enterprises
6308	Fredrickson	Jim	OR	Neotsu	former member
6309	Combs Jr.	Herb	NJ	Lawrenceville	club web site
6310	Hugg	Jesse	NY	Brocton	Lewin, Travis H.D.
6311	Lea	Karen	CA	Beverly Hills	Rizzo, Pete
6313	Armstrong	Stephen	KS	Topeka	club web site
6315	Peacock	Aaron	IL	Oakwood	club web site
6316	Piteo	John	FL	Boca Raton	club web site
6317	Marino	George	CA	San Diego	Campiglia, James
6318	White	Chuck	CA	Livermore	Acqistapace, Gary
6319	Schill	Brian	OH	Strongsville	Thorne, Phil
6320	Inouye	John	HI	Honolulu	Munding, J & Lamb, P
6322	Overby	Robert	MN	Rosemount	Hughes, Andy
6323	Millerd	Steve	KY	Lexington	Clewell, Ron
6324	Schwartz	Charles "Sam"	TX	Irving	chip board contributors
6325	Henselmann	Ulf	BW	Stuttgart	Rizzo, Pete
6326	Riedl	Jack	AZ	Crown King	Cotton, Mark
6327	Sipes	Kevin	NV	Las Vegas	club web site
6328	Stanford	Dave	CA	Newbury Park	Coushay, John
6330	Romano	Bill	NJ	River Vale	club web site
6331	Hayden	Frank	CO	Littleton	Rizzo, Pete
6332	Altare	Joe	FL	Trinity	Susong, Greg
6333	Bisset	Douglas	UK	Livingston	club web site
6334	Rollins	Albert C.	IL	Woodridge	Genualdi, John
6335	Jensen	Brent	UT	Salt Lake City	Spinetti, Mike
6336	Polidoro	Joseph	FL	Weston	Martello, Elaine
6337	Sutton	Mark	MD	Long Green	Hanover, Rich
6338	Woloshin	Melissa	PA	Philadelphia	Brown, Andy
6339	Lowry	Ed	GA	Atlanta	Hughes, Andy
6340	Norman	Tracy	KS	Wichita	club web site
6341	Mgerack	Thomas S.	NJ	Wayne	Trentacost, Anthony
6342	Hustead	Greg	MD	Baltimore	club web site
6343	Chipman	Mark	IN	Indianapolis	the chip board
6344	Berksoy	Volkan	NV	Las Vegas	Bracken, D.P.
6345	Dunham	Jim	WI	Madison	Mortimer, Randy
6346	Hollein	Sharon	PA	Bessemer	Bekoski, Frank
6347	Cobb	Jo Ann	UT	South Jordan	Jacob, Douglas
6348	Jines	Bob	MS	Brandon	Knight, Will
6349	Davis	Robin	GA	Decatur	Rizzo, Pete
6350	LaRocco	Michael	ID	Meridian	Everingham, Larry
6351	Currie	Dave	MI	Canton	Reinholt, Scott
6352	Ryan	Dwain	WI	Janesville	Shore, Josh
6353	Hager	James	MO	Kansas City	club web site
6353	Sanders	David	AZ	Tucson	previous member
6354	Dolezal	David S.	CO	Westminister	club web site

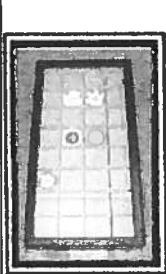
Member	Last	First	State	City	Reference
6355	Sevick	Christopher	CT	Norwich	Gagnon, Jim
6356	Duquemin	Charles	NC	Sherrills Ford	club web site
6358	Sheehan	Patrick	NJ	Islein	club web site
6359	Ramos	Ismael	PR	Lajas	club web site
6360	Agin	Gene	FL	Kissimmee	Rizzo, Pete
6361	Jahn	Richard	SC	Surfside	club web site
6362	Garner	Kevin	TX	Stockdale	Rings Steve
6363	Schlotterbeck	Mike	IN	Richmond	Shore, Josh
6364	Knott	Jeff	MI	Kalamazoo	Susong, Greg
6365	Doernemann	David	PA	Pittsburg	Clem, Norman

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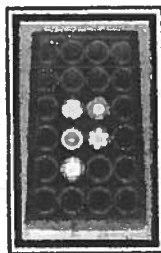
FAX: 1 (859) 498-7261



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.

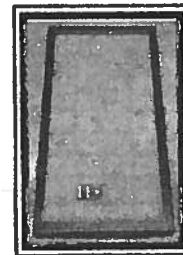
Prices each: 1 to 3 \$7.49, 4 to 11 \$6.82, 12 or more \$5.89



LUCITE CUP CASES

260LC24 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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2004 Convention Update

Riviera Hotel
Las Vegas NV

June 16th – June 19th, 2004

by Jim Steffner

June is just around the corner. The club's 12th Annual Convention is less than six months away. If you thought last year was good, just wait for 2004. Many new and exciting things are planned thanks to the many comments and suggestion that were received from past attendees through the survey form.

The convention will have something for everyone... chips, tokens, casino memorabilia, ashtrays, dice, slot cards, silver strikes, educational exhibits, seminars, trading sessions, and best of all – great people. Also in the works are some tours and special casino related presentations.

The Riviera Hotel & Casino will be our site for the 2004 convention and the staff of the hotel is anxious to assist the club in presenting a first

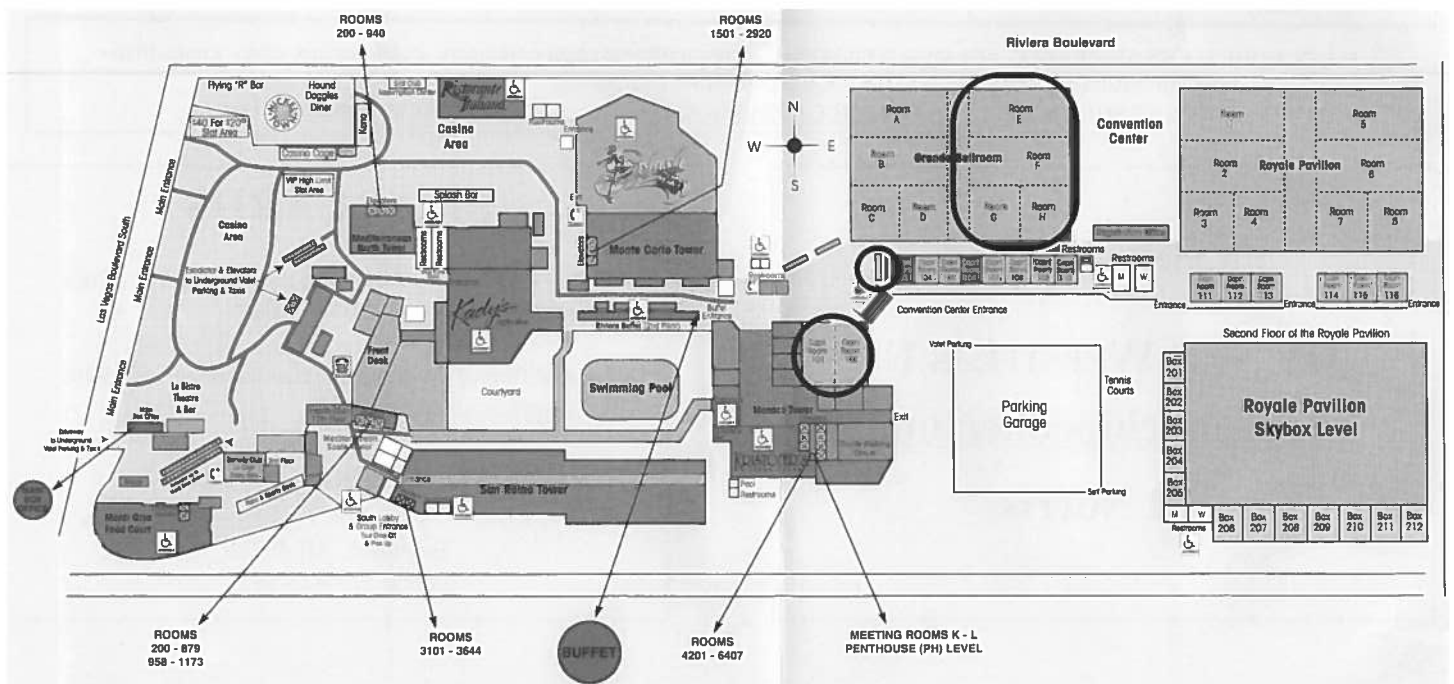
class convention. A larger show floor, beautiful banquet facilities with a spectacular view of the strip, close parking, and many other exciting events await. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Pre-Registration

Once again, pre-registration is offered to those who would like to eliminate standing in long lines when the show opens. There will be four lines this year broken up alphabetically to make the process smooth and fast. Your pre-registration envelope will contain your show badge, banquet tickets (if ordered), poker tournament table assignments (if participating), and any special coupons, announcements, give-a-ways, or freebies that we can accumulate.

Price is the same as last year, only \$10. This price saves you \$5 over the three day admission. A photo ID with address will be required to pick up your packet, and each person **MUST** pick up their own packet. No packets will be mailed to non-attendees. Children under 12 years of age will not need to pre-register but if they will be attending the show, please list their names and ages on the form as we will have special junior packets available that will contain items especially for our junior collectors. There is no charge for the junior collector packets. Pre-registration packets can be picked up **ONLY** between 9AM and 4PM on Wednesday June 16th 2003, and during regular registration hours starting on Thursday.

The contract signing table dealer will receive one pre-registration as



outlined in the contract. Table helpers must order a pre-registration packet if desired. The registration form is included in this issue of the magazine. One form covers pre-registration, banquet, poker, and blackjack tournaments. Postmark deadline for pre-registration is May 10, 2003. Don't be left out, be sure your registration is POSTMARKED by May 10th, or it will be returned.

You can register on line using your VISA or Mastercard (sorry, no AMEX or Discover). If you would like a confirmation that your registration was received, be sure to list your e-mail address.

Bruce and Mary Ann Massey are in charge of the Pre-Registration this year. Their address is on the Pre-Registration form. If you are registering by using the mail-in form, payment must be by check or money order made out to CC>CC. No credit card transactions can be used with the mail in form. If you would like a confirmation that your registration form was received, please list your e-mail address at the bottom of the form.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel room rates are \$70 per night, weekdays AND weekend nights. These rates are good for Friday, June 11 through Monday, June 21, 2004 for those who wish to arrive early or stay over a day or two. The club uses the number of booked room nights to negotiate our next years contract. Support your club and enjoy the convenience of staying in the host hotel. Members booking rooms at the host hotel provide the club with the low cost convention facilities and make our group a welcome convention in Las Vegas. If we do not generate enough hotel room nights the cost of

the show floor and meeting rooms could rise and cost the club a lot of extra dollars. Plan of staying at the host hotel and ensure a continued fun filled convention. The room elevators are only a short distance from the showroom, banquet, exhibits and meetings.

This year we will not be utilizing a mail in room reservation form. To reserve your room, please PHONE the Riviera at 1-800-634-3414. Mention you are with the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collector Club. Be sure to get your reservation confirmation. Deadline for reservations is May 15th, 2004 or until our block of rooms have been filled.

Exhibits

The exhibits will be of both competitive and non-competitive nature and there is no charge for entering an exhibit, but you must contact Joe Shaw, Exhibit Chairman to reserve a space. Showcases are provided free of charge for those who need one for their exhibit. This is a highlight of the convention and many members commented how much they enjoyed last years exhibits. We look forward to having some excellent presentations. If you have any questions regarding the exhibits, or wish to reserve a space, contact Joe Shaw, databzr@casino-chip.com

Educational Seminars

Dick Covington will try to outdo last years great educational seminars. Several good suggestions were received on the survey forms and Dick is in the process of lining up some great speakers to keep everyone well informed and entertained. Plan your schedule for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning before the show opens to participate.

Bruce Landau Memorial Auction

For the second year, Barry Weintraub will be organizing the Bruce Landau Memorial Auction. Everyone made Bruce proud last year by not only dedicating the club auction to Bruce, but by participating to make the auction the best the club has ever had. Auction lots are in and Barry is busy coordinating the auction catalog. Don't forget to place your order for a copy. They are usually a sellout by show time. The auction will be Friday evening, June 18th

Early Bird Banquet and Trade Session

The banquet is scheduled for Wednesday June 16th, 2004. This is one of the most popular events during the convention and seats fill up fast. The registration form is in this issue of the magazine. One form covers pre-registration, banquet, and poker, and blackjack tournaments. You can sign up for individual seats or full tables of 10 if you would like to be sure to be seated with friends. With the full table reservations your payment MUST accompany the form with all ten names and member numbers listed.

The cost for the event will be \$35 per person, or a full table of 10 at \$350.00. We are planning on having several serving lines, plenty of food available, fabulous desserts, and more seating than last year. The "Top of the Riv" is a large spectacular banquet facility that will provide plenty of spacious seating and a great view of the strip at night. Don't wait, send in your reservations and check today using the form in this issue of the magazine, or register on line with your VISA or MasterCard at www.ccgcc.com

Remember, all attendees must be club members, so if you are bringing a spouse or friend who is not a member be sure they join ahead of time. Associate membership is only \$5.00. There will be no chance to join on Wednesday. Banquet tickets will be included in your pre-registration envelope or can be picked up at the pre-registration desk. Please note that the Pre-Registration desk will only be open from 9AM to 4PM on Wednesday. Make plans to pick up your banquet tickets during those hours. Each person must pick up their own tickets with proper ID, as above. There will be NO tickets sold at the door. You MUST reserve your seats in advance. Don't delay, once all seats are filled, checks will be returned. Postmark deadline is May 10, 2004 or until all seats have been sold, whichever comes first.

Another interesting and entertaining speaker is planned and one that you won't want to miss. We are also planning on some additional entertainment that will enhance your dining pleasure.

When the banquet ends at about 8pm, the room will be opened to all members for the trade session until midnight. The banquet and trade session is a member's only event.

If you have any questions about the banquet please contact Wayne Thompson, wayne@casinocheques.com or 859-252-5626.

Poker Challenge and Blackjack Tournament

The poker and blackjack tournaments will again be held again at the Palms, same as last year, where it ran very smoothly. The Palms and Gene Trimble have gone out of their way to make sure we have a nice facility for

both tournaments. The action starts Wednesday, June 16th at Noon with the blackjack tournament. The start time has been moved up to allow dealers more time to participate. Dealer setup will also be moved up to start at 10AM on Wednesday so the dealers have extra time to participate in the tournaments. Another special set of tournament chips is planned. Watch for details.

Advance signups are available by using the Pre-Registration Form found in this issue of the magazine. Cost for the poker tournament is \$55 per player (regular member or associate), which includes \$25 buy-in + \$20 fee to Palms + \$10 for 1 set of the 2004 Tournament chips. Tournament will have optional 1 time \$20 rebuy at the tournament. The blackjack tournament will be \$75.00, same as last year. Players can also sign up at the convention for the poker tournament, if seats are still available. Table and seat assignments will be randomly assigned as the forms are received.

Additional sets of chips (maximum 5 per person) are available for \$15 per set, pre-paid or at the convention. Direct any questions to Bob Pardue, pardue@home.com

Chapter Meeting Rooms

Rooms are available for Chapter Meetings throughout the convention. If any of the chapters, or any member in good standing would like to make use of this space for a meeting or presentation please contact Jim Steffner to reserve a time. Call 440-647-4335 or e-mail convention@ccgtcc.com

Trading Sessions

Several trading sessions will be held throughout the convention. Each

morning starting at 8am and lasting until the show opens at 10am, trade till your hearts content. Several evening sessions are planned as well. Check the schedule at the show for exact times and locations. REMEMBER – these are trade sessions. NO OUTRIGHT SELLING. If you are caught, you will be asked to leave the room and not to participate in future trade sessions for the remainder of the convention. If these infractions continue, trade sessions may have to be reduced or eliminated. Bring a few binders, don't monopolize the whole table, and have fun. Trade rooms will only be available during posted trade session times.

Last Dance Swap Meet

On Saturday, June 19th, after the conclusion of the convention, the club will sponsor another swap session for any interested members. The session will begin at 7pm and lasts until midnight or until all traders throw in the towel, whichever comes first. Limited refreshments will be provided.

Help Wanted

Part time positions open for dedicated club members. No experience necessary. Most positions require only a few hours during the convention. No salary, but the benefits are great. Join your fellow club members in making the 2004 convention one of the best ever.

Special Events Coordinator – Las Vegas area resident who can assist with events and programs for convention attendees who are not collectors.

Program Book Chairman - This fun filled position will assemble advertising, articles, and convention facts and information, layout the program book and send off to our printer.

Previous publishing or graphics experience is helpful but not required. Lots of assistance available. Contact Jim Steffner, convention@ccgtcc.com 440-647-4335

Show set-up and teardown – Help needed on Tuesday morning before the show opens and again late Saturday afternoon after the show closes. Involves putting up signs, handling table covers, distributing showcases, etc. .

Registration – Assist the registration crew in handing out pre-registration packets, registering members at the convention, and handling daily admissions. A few hours at a time would be a big help.

Membership table - Easy work, no lifting, just promote the club to prospective members and help sign them up for membership.

Club promotion table – assist with providing club promotional items such as chips, medals, shirts, jackets, etc. to show visitors and members.

For the above four volunteer areas, please contact Bob Bickford, Volunteer Coordinator, 440-243-0478, oldbera@wowway.com

An Apology

We regret that due to some unforeseen circumstances, the winners in the Chip and Token Design contests were not acknowledged in the last issue of the magazine.

The winning design for the CC>CC 2003 club convention chip was entered by Kevin Norris

The winning design for the CC>CC 2003 club convention medal was entered by Mike McCarty

The winning design for the CC>CC 2003 club convention T-Shirt was entered by Tom Stroh

Congratulations to the winners and our apology for neglecting to list their names. Many good entries were received and the committee had a difficult time deciding on the winning entries. Don't forget to enter the contest for the 2004 convention.

got flamingo capri?



Looking for any and all

Flamingo Capri memorabilia.



Mike Quinlivan
Mike@mqprod.com
LM-3194-54

The ebay experience

by Joe Shaw

I have used ebay both for selling and for buying since late 1997. ebay auctions works on the simple assumption that all sellers and buyers are honest. In all my years of using ebay, I've found this to be mostly true.

I have had a few transactions where I came out on the short end. I've had a handful of auctions where the buyer never sent the money. Since I did not receive the funds, I never sent the chip. So it wasn't that bad.

Worse scenario was when I was the buyer. Now I'm out the money and in return, I have nothing to show for it. I recall being the high bidder on a Hard Rock chip. I sent the funds via Paypal and even included extra for insurance. After a few emails, the seller even admitted sending the chip, but it was not sent insured. Unfortunately, that was the last that I heard from the seller. Ironically, in looking back, all of the auctions where I sent funds but got nothing back involved Hard Rock chips, room keys etc. So much for "dishonest" ebay auctions.

However, being "honest" does not mean that all auctions are going to be problem free also. What I would like to do is to share in 2 ebay auctions that I was the high bidder on.

I've always loved Christy and Jones mold chips. However, recently, I decided to be more specific and restrict the Christys that I collect to only black colored ones.

Imagine my surprise and excitement when I saw one on ebay that I did not have. Better still was the fact that it was not listed in TCR or Campiglia's book. It was for a Bonanza Hotel, \$1 Card Room chip. I recall asking the seller about the color of the chip. Yes, black was the color. Then imagine the surprised look on my face when I got the chip and it was NOT black. It was dark green. It was still an excellent chip, just was not quite what I was looking for.



My other collecting interests are with MGM chips. I was the buyer of what I thought was an unlisted MGM \$25 chip. The scan of the chip shown in the auction is the MGM chip on the left. Again, imagine my surprise when the chip that I received was the one on the right.



I then sent the following email to the seller.

"I received the chip today, so everything arrived OK. The only problem is that the chip that I got in the mail (which by the way is great), is not the same as what was shown in the scan of your auction. The scan of the chip shown in your auction was a green colored chip with what looks like 3 BEIGE colored insert marks. The chip that I received was a green colored chip, but with 3 PINK & 3 YELLOW insert marks.

Did you by chance send the wrong chip by accident? LMK and thanks"

Here is the response from the seller. I do believe that he was "honest" in this reply.

"I must admit that is odd. The chip seems the same except for the change in color.

Two possible explanations:

1. I sent you a scan of the chip inside a case. It has apparently been inside that case since 1988. Your

Nevada Casino Chips

Limited Edition Current & Obsolete

Andy Hughes

CC>CC Member # LM-2471-52



Voice Mail/Fax: 702-896-1552

E-Mail: AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com

Web Site: www.NevadaCasinoChips.com

Buy/Sell/Trade

scan is more clear, because you took it out. Perhaps the cover changed the colors or even the fresh air changed the colors.

2. The chip is two-sided. I cannot remember what was on the other side, but perhaps you scanned the reverse side.

It has to be the same chip because it looks the same except for the colors and I scanned it myself on my computer here. I could not have scanned another chip because I have never

seen another chip like this one.

Any ideas? I suppose it is remotely possible that somebody in the Las Vegas Post Office intercepted the chip and switched chips. This could be the reason why it took so long to get to you. I packaged it very securely. Are there any signs that anybody had opened the envelope before it got to you?"

In the long run, it worked out OK since I needed the chip anyway. I never did respond back to the seller about his possible explanations as to

what had happened. How could I? The only thought that came to my mind was "I have no response to that !".

Maybe that's why I love ebay. It involves 2 of my favorite things in life. Chips and gambling. I never know whether I'm going to get the chip that I bid on, or whether the chip that I bid on is the one that I'm getting.

Got to go, time to snipe on some last second bids



BUY/SELL
Obsolete Nevada Chips
California Chips
Slot Cards/Matchbooks

Barry Weintraub R-2730
c/o The AGENCY
4370 Tujunga Ave #212
Studio City, CA 91604
818 780-6794
barrychip@aol.com



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Email: Rob@BGSCASINOCHIPS.com
eb y Name: Bobbyguns

Chip Club Member # R-5180

The Town House

by John Moore

The Town House operated in Reno at 39 West First St., from 1932 through 1955. Shortly after its opening it soon became one of the most upscale clubs in town. Although the cuisine was French, the club's decor was rustic with a western flavor highlighted with interior walls of pine logs and murals of horses and western scenes. The club slogan at the time was: "You may have your country home, but make this your Town House."

Perhaps the Town House benefited more than any other establishment in Reno at that time by recently passed legislation in Carson City. In 1931 the Nevada legislature approved legalized gambling and also shortened the residency requirement for divorce from six months to six weeks. These strong measures were taken as a means to help Nevada's devastated economy. The days of the Comstock, the Tonopah and Goldfield bonanzas were over. The depression had wiped out any chance of making a profit by running cattle or sheep. Nevada had little else to offer. The state had nothing to lose, it was already known nationwide as unruly, corrupt and

"wide open" due to legalized prize-fighting, prostitution, widespread illegal gambling and a lingering "old west" mentality. For example, it is said the old mining town of Pioche, in Southern Nevada buried 35 men who died a violent end before a burial took place which resulted from natural causes.

The legalization of gambling was surely a boon to many businessmen throughout the state. In Reno, dozens of small fly by night operators

opened seedy, poorly lit and illy heated saloons, which typically got by with a couple of slot machines and at most one or two table games. No carpet joints were these. The sawdust covered floors were not to make for smoother dancing, but to absorb the spit, phlegm and terbacky juice. And no, these places did not provide fancy, custom designed gaming chips, and most probably got by with pocket change, and the silver dollar was the ideal medium for a big bettor. (As a kid too young to legally gamble, I

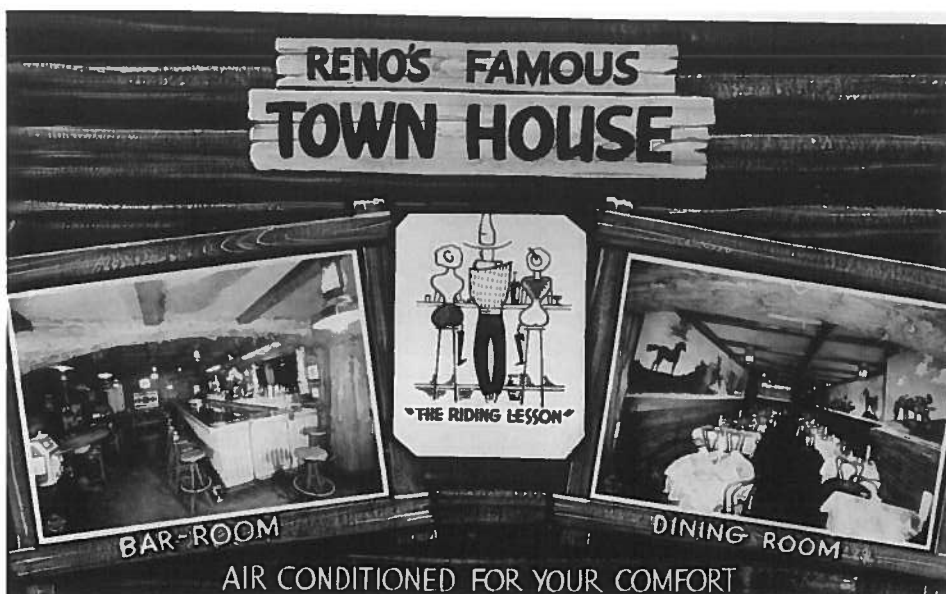
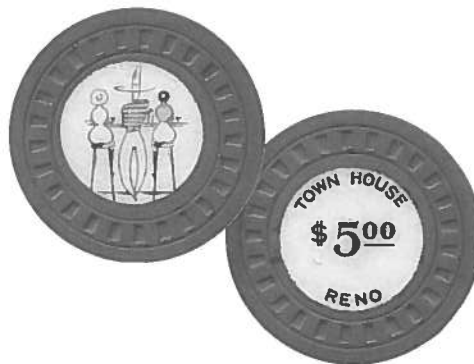
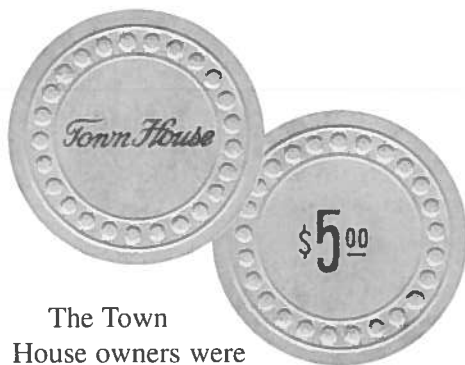


Photo courtesy Nevada Historical Society

played poker, blackjack and craps in the 1960's in Lovelock's Pershing Hotel and don't recall ever seeing a chip in use. Davins had a poker game in the back, but no chips. Felix of course was big time and had chips, but he, with more to loose, also checked ID's.)

The liberalized divorce laws soon created a major industry in Nevada's otherwise crippled economy, particularly Reno. The six week residency requirement was of no benefit to the majority of Americans at that time. In spite of the depression, there was still a large monied class that could afford to send a spouse to Reno to quickly dissolve the marriage. Some of the costs were: travel, legal fees, proper attire, hotel or dude ranch accommodations, meals and entertainment.



The Town House owners were amongst the first to recognize that a "carpet joint" would surely prosper by catering to these rich and lonely women waiting out their six week obligation to gain their freedom. Surely many of these ladies were anxious to experiment with their newly found freedom even before the decree had been granted. If one could attract these well-to-do women with the luxury they were accustomed, the local cowboys, bankers, lawyers and businessmen would surely follow. Early on, the Town House unofficially let it be known that it was to be called the "Dude Ranch Town House."

**"ONE SOUND STATE"
WELCOMES YOU**
"The Biggest-Little City" Invites You



AND . . .

CHARLIE RENNIE

**Offers for the discriminating
pleasure seekers,**

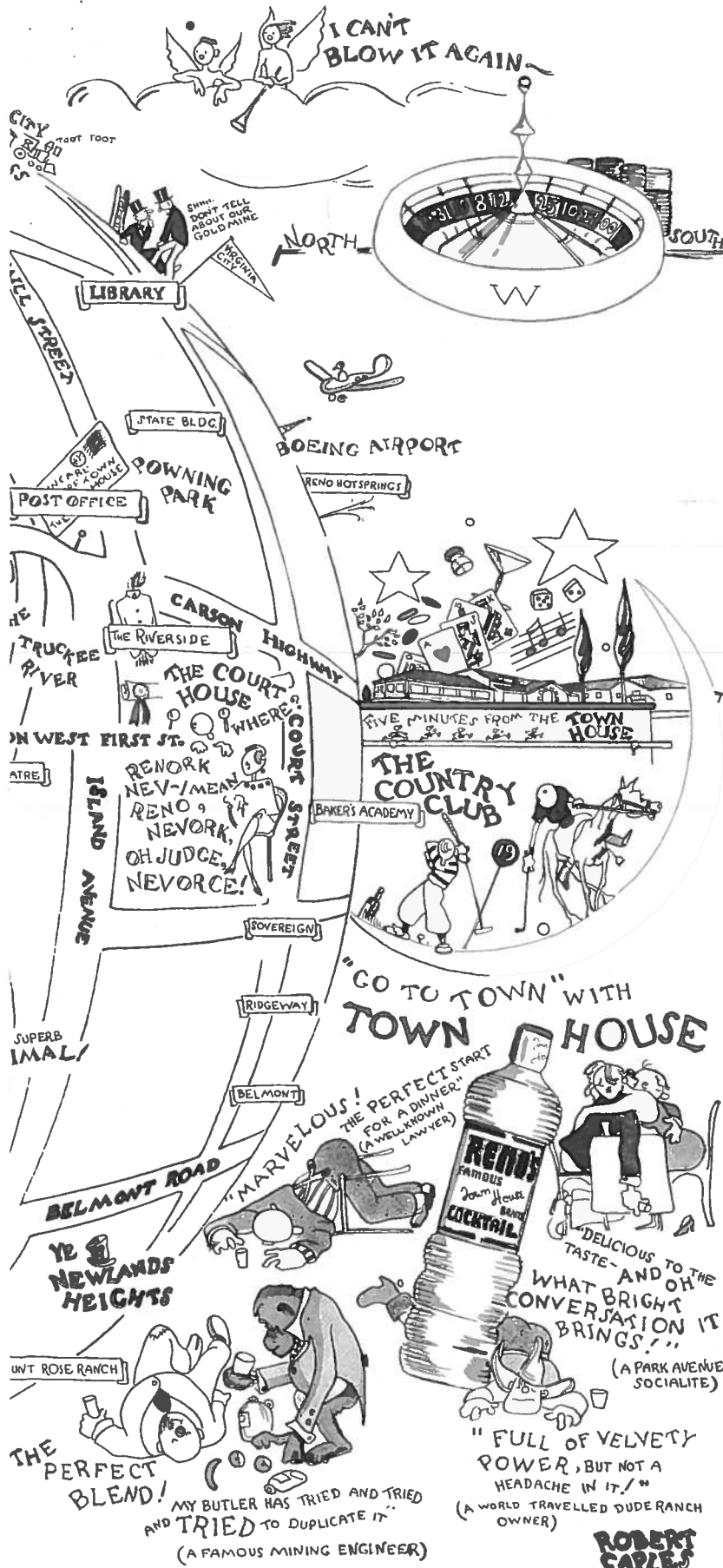


In a flash of brilliance, the Town House hired a local commercial artist, Lew Hymers to design a logo for the club. The logo became the theme of the establishment, and the theme became the very essence of the club's being. The logo was a simple single line drawing of two women seated at

a bar, on stools, between them is standing a lanky, bow legged cowboy. The drawing was entitled "the riding lesson." This simple drawing embodied humor, sex, recognition of the divorce industry's impact on Reno, and of course an inference of drinking, dining and gambling, all

RENO





mainstays of the Town House' offerings. The logo was soon on virtually every piece of printed material pertaining to the club: matchbooks, postcards, stationery, business cards, etc. A large hand painted version of the "cartoon" was prominently displayed in the club. Racks of new H. C. Edwards (hub mold) chips were ordered with the drawing occupying one side of the chip. (More on the chip and Lew Hymers in the following article.)

Charles Rennie, the original builder, owner and operator of the Town House had the foresight to recognize the clientele would flock towards opulence and luxury. He took over the Deauville which was immediately next door and occupied the basement under his own establishment. The Deauville ownership was the first casino operation in Nevada to finance itself by a public stock offering. The Deauville's décor equaled any of the illegal gaming spas of the East coast, New Orleans and perhaps Europe. It had spiral staircases, crystal chandeliers, thick carpets, elegant draperies and huge flower arrangements adjacent to the ten gaming tables. Too much vision, too soon, probably doomed this pleasure palace to an early closure, which was also abetted by a rare summer rainstorm which flooded the premises. Opened on July 31, 1931, it was closed before the New Year.

courtesy Howard W. Herz, Gaming Archaeology



Deauville's

Photo courtesy Nevada Historical Society

Charles Rennie, after gobbling up the Deauville in 1933, also became a victim of his own vision of the future. With the Town House prospering in the early thirties, he opened yet another elegant and luxurious casino, the Country Club, in 1935. The Country Club burned the following year and dragged the Town House into bankruptcy and closure.

The chain of ownership of the club is lengthy, with many partners joining in for a year or two and then selling out and moving on. By 1941 the club was owned by George "Frenchy" Perry and Jack "Jelly" Blackman. Blackman shot a man to death on October 31, 1944, in the Bank Club. James Lanigan and Blackman had "words", resulting in an altercation in which Blackman suffered a broken nose and was knocked to the floor. While in a prone position he pulled his gun and fired six shots, three of which resulted in Lanigan's body heat dropping

to room temperature. Justice was served, Nevada style, with Blackman being found innocent of murder by way of self defense. I guess you had to be there.

The Town House' most profitable years were the post war era. At various times ownership grew to as many as seven partners. In 1945, Lou Vallin became sole owner and ran the club for three years. With the creation of the Nevada Tax Board (predecessor to the Gaming Commission) some housecleaning of the gambling industry was in order and in January, 1948, one of their first acts was to



revoke Vallin's license. You can bet it wasn't because he had been accused of singing too loud in church.

With the ascension of Bill Harrah and Harold Smith Sr., as well as others who had a new vision of what Reno and gambling could become,

TOWN HOUSE

SPECIAL FOR THURSDAY, NOV. 22

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Serving from 3:00 P. M. to 3:00 A. M.
FOR YOUR DANCING and ENTERTAINMENT PLEASURE

JACK WEDELL

AND HIS BAND

They're Mighty Fine Music-Folks

You enjoyed their Fine Music before at the TOWNHOUSE
Come and Welcome Them Back

For Your Intermissions

JOE MAZZEO

At the Hammond Electric Organ

As Always

OUR DINING ROOM FEATURES THE
FINEST IN FOOD!

Under the Personal Supervision of
PAUL AND VIRGINIA

Special Serving from 3:00 P. M.
For Reservations Call 8936

LOU VALLIN, Owner and Manager



DINE and DANCE

at Reno's Famous

TOWN HOUSE

39 West First Street

Opposite Granada Theatre



Luncheons — Entertainment

the Town House and other smaller clubs could not compete with these marketing geniuses, and these clubs began a slow decline.

In 1953, Carl Amante took a 31% stake. A year later he was the sole proprietor. In August 1955, the landlord served Amante with an eviction notice effective January 1, 1956. On September 2, 1955 the Town House was destroyed by fire.

The two insurers denied payment of the claim, citing arson as the cause of the fire. The federal court agreed with the insurers, accused Amante of arson, and no payment was made. The local court system however, failed to find Amante guilty of arson.

One wonders if Amante was represented in court by the original "Dream Team."

The Town House and Deauville site was soon occupied by a J.C Penny's store and now is home to an antique mall.

The Town House used three chip issues in its 22 year existence. The first issue is widely believed to have been the yellow, dot mold, hot stamped five dollar chip. Within very few years the initial issue chip was supplanted with the classic "Riding Lesson", Lew Hymers designed chip, hub mold, \$5 orange and \$25 black, each with a white



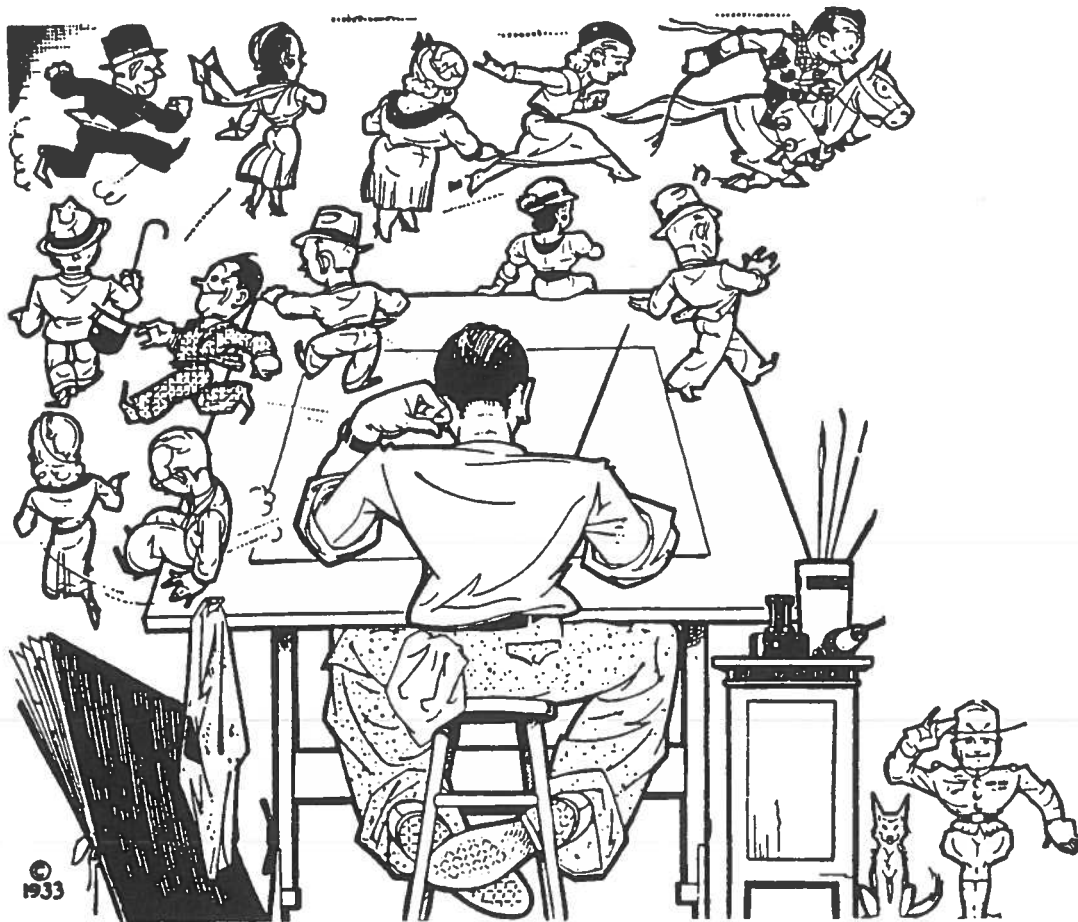
inlay. In 1951, Roy Nelson obtained the gaming license for the club and brought in to play the hot stamped, RN, T mold chip issue.

Chip scans courtesy Larry Hollibaugh
Advertising from the Nevada State Journal, Reno, Nevada, 1931, 1941, 1945.
Courtesy Howard W. Herz, Gaming Archaeology

Ashtrays from the Mark Englebretson collection

THE LIFE OF Lew Hymers

by John Moore



Self portrait at drawing table from *Stock Cuts*, 1947

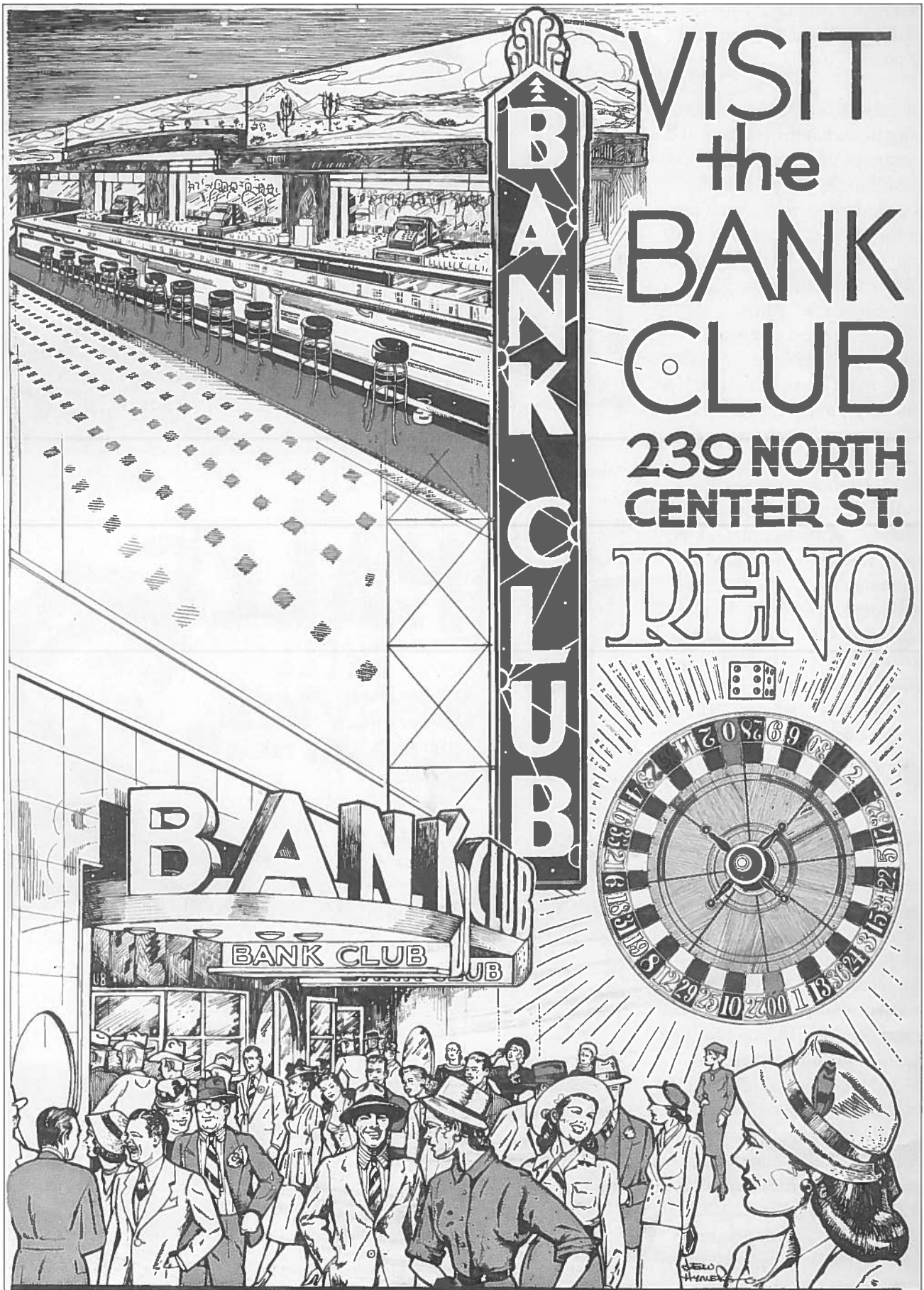
The life and times of Lew Hymers are as unique and diverse as the legacy of artwork he left behind. Born in Reno in May, 1892, Lew was, even at this early date, a third generation Renoite. His grandfather settled in Reno shortly after the town site had been laid out, in 1868.

At the turn of the century, Lew was an eight year old in one of the last frontier towns of the Wild West.

The Truckee River ran untamed two blocks south of his home, and the railroad was a few blocks to the north. The small town had already achieved notoriety for its around the clock drinking, whoring and lawlessness. Although the boom times resulting from the nearby Comstock Lode were over, the renewed prosperity to be generated from the Tonopah, Goldfield and other bonanzas were just around the corner. Ranching and

sheepherding provided a constant flow of newly arrived cow pokes and ranch hands ready to hoo-rah the town.

The larger than life images of cowboys, miners, gamblers, ne'er-do-wells, as well as merchants and common townspeople were fodder for his active young mind and all were to serve him well in his years to come as a caricaturist, cartoonist, master of

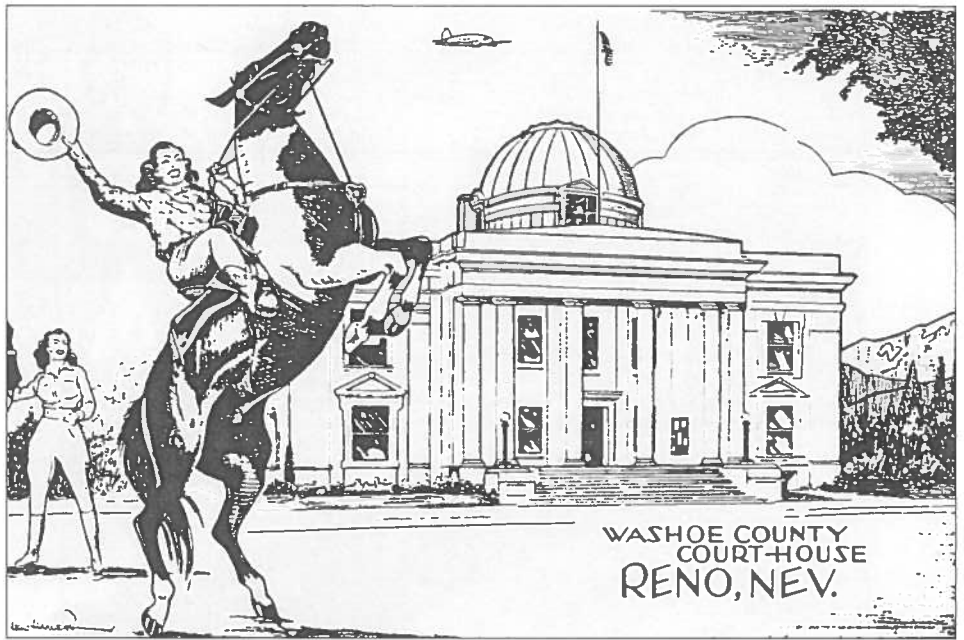


pen and ink drawing and, with all these skills combined, a superb commercial artist.

Lew was an indifferent student, preferring to sketch his teachers and fellow students than to pursue a serious education. Apparently family friends and teachers recognized his passion for pen and ink and, in 1912, at the age of twenty; he departed Reno to join the staff of the San Francisco Chronicle. At the Chronicle, he worked alongside Robert Ripley who would go on to syndicate “Ripley’s Believe it or Not” and John Terry, the eventual creator of the “Terrytoons” cartoon series.

In 1913, Hymers departed San Francisco for Europe to pursue formal art schooling. With the outbreak of World War I in 1914, he fled to a nearly deserted Paris. As the Germans approached Paris, Hymers joined thousands of other American refugees, all desperate to avoid the oncoming Huns. Lew left Paris for Havre in a railroad cattle car. His ten day passage back to the states was in an overcrowded, filthy and poorly-manned French steamer.

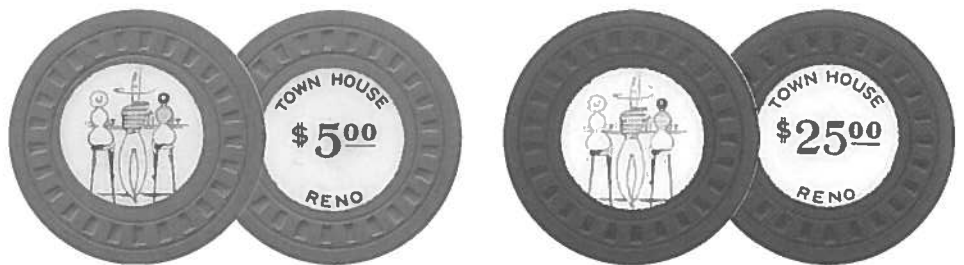
Reno, as it would several more times in his career, drew Hymers back to its more familiar and laid back environment. For the next several years Lew free lanced, producing art work for a variety of clients. In 1917, he joined the Evening Gazette as staff artist. His position was flexible: he did cartoons, illustrations and caricatures of local personages as needed, and commenced in the subtle ways of a gifted artist, to include opinion and criticism of many aspects of the City of Reno’s “status quo.” He particularly used his skill as caricaturist in illustrating the members of Nevada’s legislature and their many lobbyists. Hymers’s sharpest darts



Washoe County Court House

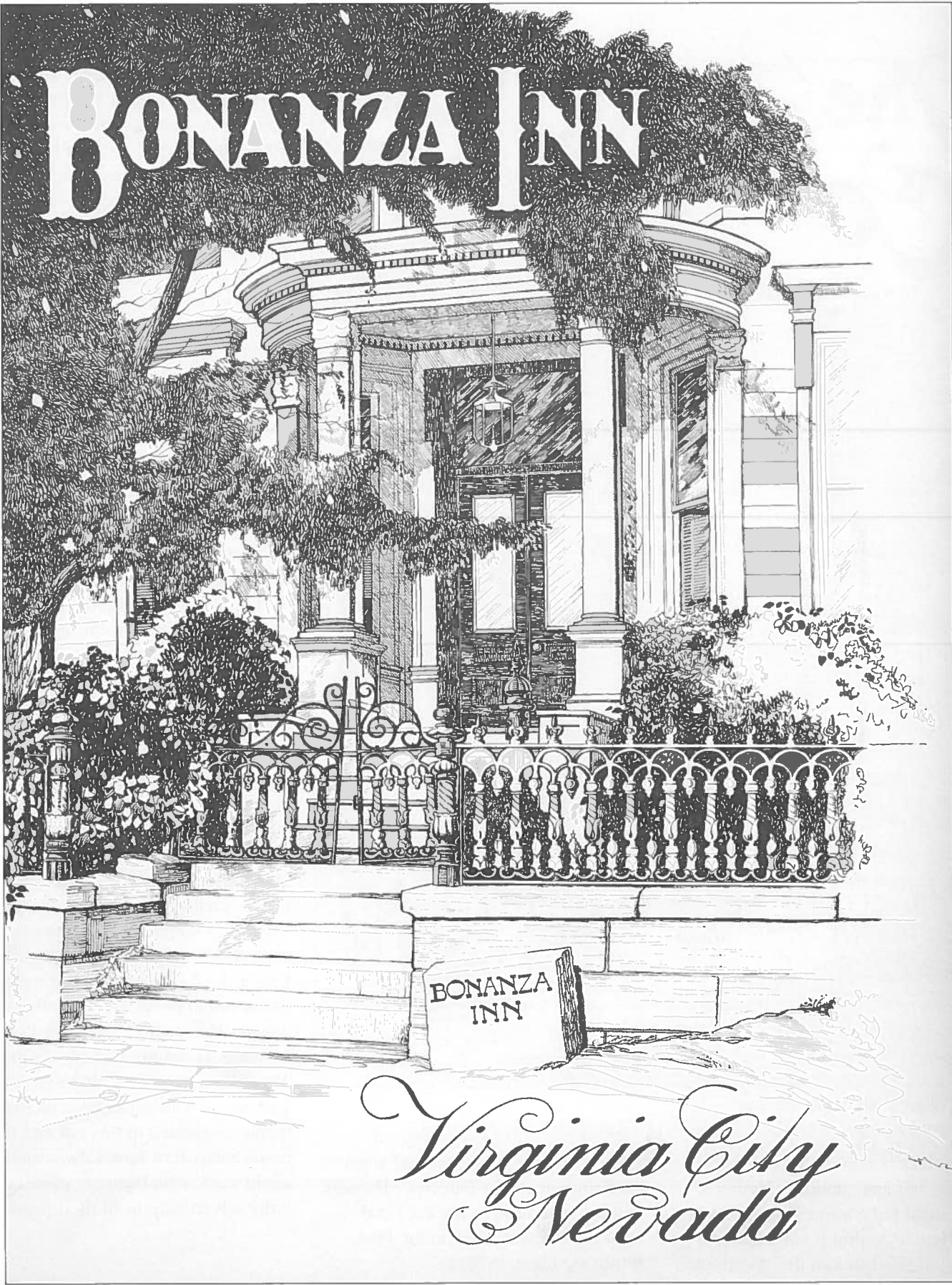


Hall's Shell Service

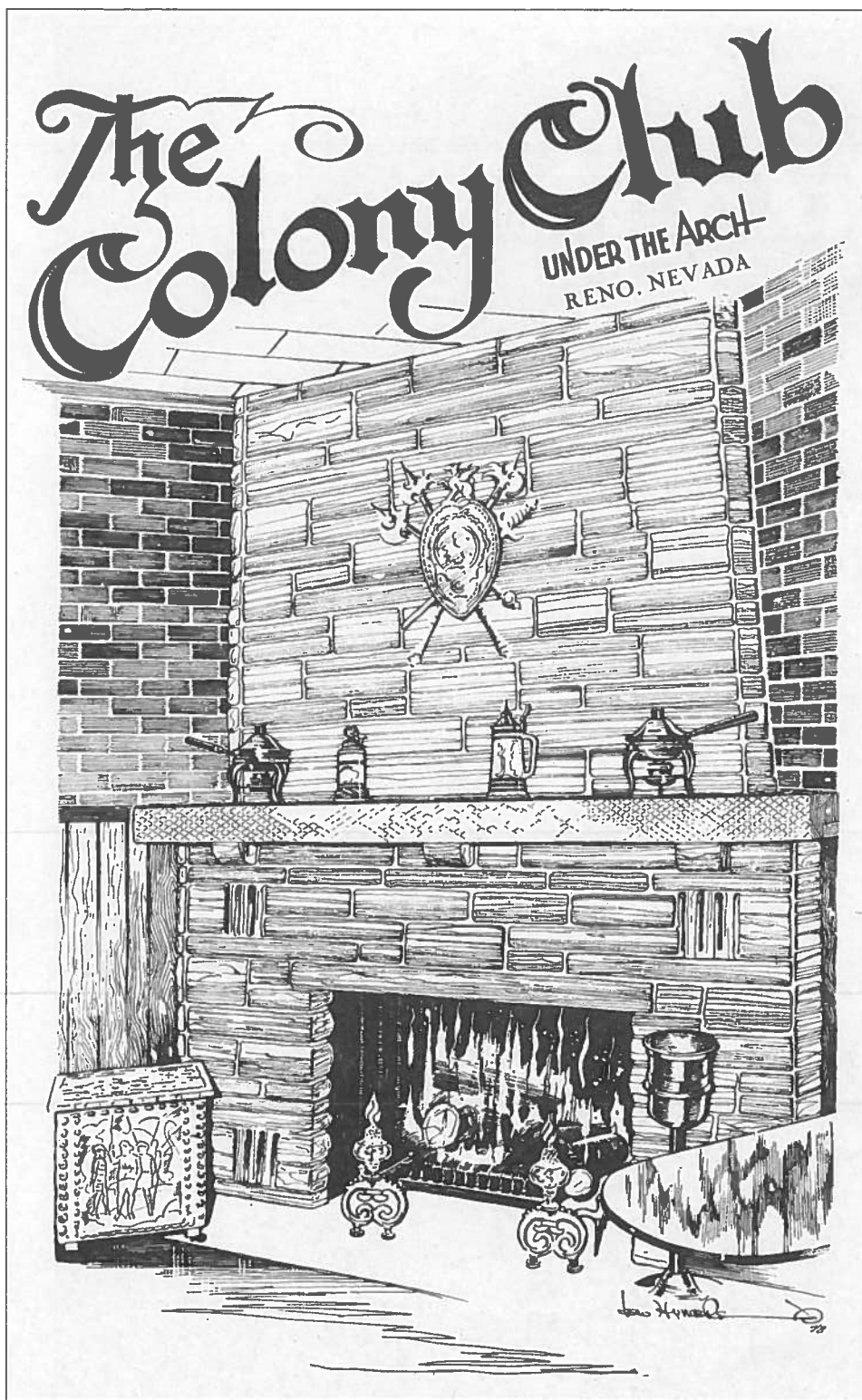


\$5.00 and \$25.00 chips for The Town House in Reno, Nevada

BONANZA INN



*Virginia City
Nevada*



The Colony Club, Reno, Nevada

(pen pricks?) were delivered with finesse, wit and subtlety. Hymer's work must have immediately drawn attention, as within less than a year he was invited to join the Washington

Post, where he prospered and was soon appointed Art Director. Hymers and his wife tired of the East and after a three year hitch at the Post, returned, again, to Reno.

The Hymers were soon on the move again, however. Lew was intrigued by a new process called "animated film", in which the cartoons actually came to life with movement and expression. The year 1920 found the Hymers in Los Angeles, with Lew working for a young fellow named Walt Disney. The arrangement did not last too long as Lew found his new boss to be somewhat of a tyrant, who insisted on taking all creative credit while failing to share in the financial rewards. Hymers spent the next twelve years in Southern California, perfecting his craft through freelancing and direct employment with many national firms.

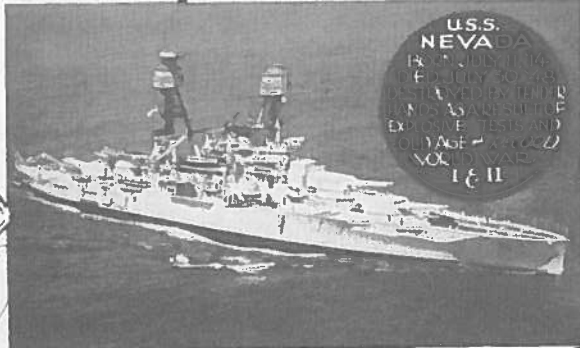
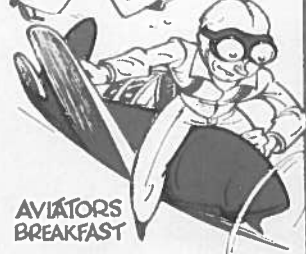
The economic downturn of the depression devastated the advertising business and 1932 saw the Hymers returning once again to the Reno area. Lew established a studio and along with a prodigious inventory of his previous works and his ongoing production of drawings, was able to provide clients, locally and nationwide, with "off the shelf" sketches of a vast assortment of subjects: animals, insects, people in all aspects of human endeavor. His catalogues allowed advertisers to choose just the "right" presentation to adorn match-book covers, newspaper advertisements, menus and yellow page ads, etc., all of which appeared to have been drawn specifically for that particular need. The cost in 1933: one dollar per drawing, or ten dollars per dozen. His studio also created specific works as required by his clients. The "Riding Lesson" chip and related Townhouse Casino items with that theme originated in this era and is representative of how Lew's studio could work with business owners to tailor advertising to fit their needs.

Hawthorne's *own* 2nd Annual NAVY DAY Celebration ★ OCTOBER 23-24 1948



N.A.D.
OPEN
HOUSE

WORLD'S
LARGEST
NAVY
AMM.
DEPOT



FUN
THRILLS
SPILLS
WILD HORSE
RACES



SOUVENIR PROGRAM



RENO RODEO

& LIVESTOCK SHOW

25c

The West's
Greatest Show
in the Biggest
Little City !!

JULY 5th 1948

SOUVENIR PROGRAM ★



The BANK CLUB RENO

NEVADA

Stamp

NAME.....

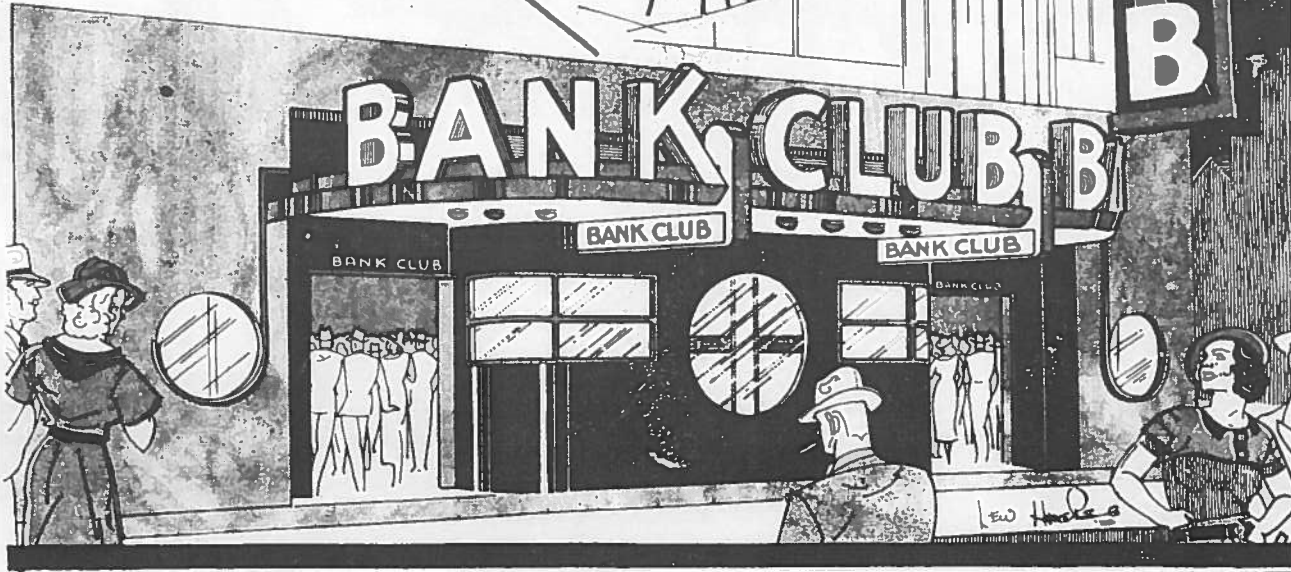
ADDRESS.....



VISIT THE BANK CLUB

239 N. CENTER ST.

BANK CLUB

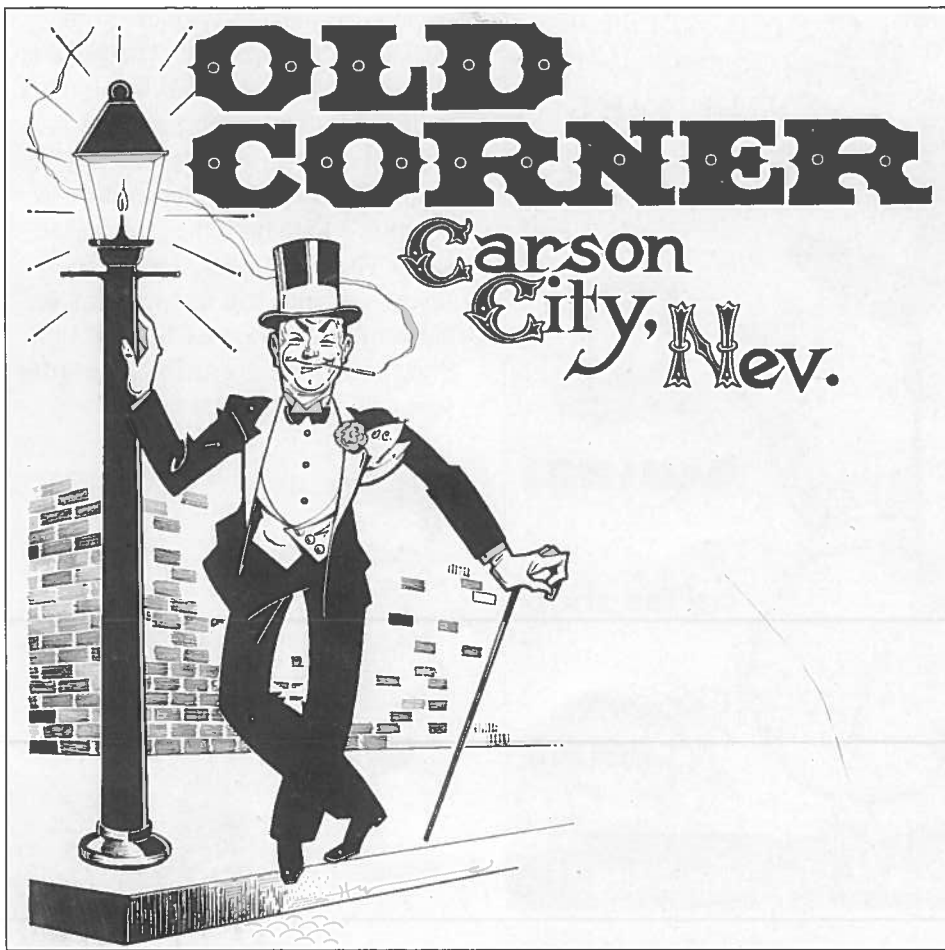


**"We'll See You
at the
PALACE
CLUB
during
the
RENO
RODEO**

THE WAGON WHEEL

FLAMING FOREST!

136 E. COMMERCIAL ROW ★ RENO, NEV.



In 1938, Hymers again began an affiliation with the Evening Gazette. Each Saturday for the following six years his Seen About Town feature was a mainstay in the publication. Each week eight citizens were caricatured. The cartoon included name, occupation and generally some typical comment or humorous statement that rounded out that person's role in the community. Hymers did not limit his subjects to politicians and the socially prominent: milk man, gas station attendant, housewife or barber shared equal space with cattle baron, judge or mayor. These works, taken in their totality, captured the spirit and essence of the people of Reno and all of Northern Nevada in their era, far better than today's newspapers with their digital photography and computerized presses are capable of doing.

Lew Hymers' advertising work dominated the Reno and Northern Nevada market for two decades. Many of his ads worked so well they





became permanent symbols of the businesses represented. The Nevada Club became personified by Hymers simple drawing of the State of Nevada outline, wearing cowboy hat, boots and chaps, that it was used as the club's logo until the club's closure. The Sportsman, a Reno sporting goods store still incorporates the caricatures of owners Chet and Link Piazza in their advertising, over fifty years since it was first used.



The post World War Two era brought many changes to Reno and to the newspaper and advertising business. The "Biggest Little City" was rapidly becoming a Big City. For Lew Hymers the small town charm was rapidly eroding. He no longer could stroll Virginia Street and greet each passerby by name. Pen and ink artwork in newspapers was replaced with photography. Advertising had become "slick" and scientific, the use of cartoonlike "cuts" was seen as dated and old fashioned. In 1948 Hymers moved his studio from downtown to his home "out in the country" on Plumb Lane, and eventually retired to the sunny climes of Southern California. Lew Hymers died February 4, 1953, at his home in Tujunga, California.

CIGARS Miss Saylor's **BAR CANDIES**

BERING LA DILIGENCIA PRIMO & NATIVIDAD



Ben Rotholz Cigar Co.

WHOLESALE ONLY

Cigars * Tobacco * Candies

Telephone 2-6392

120 Roff Way Reno, Nev.



Chip scans courtesy Larry Hollibaugh
Advertising Courtesy Howard W. Herz,
Gaming Archaeology

www.Dice702.com

**All Hard Rock Chips are in Uncirculated Condition..
You will not find lower prices or a better selection anywhere!!!**

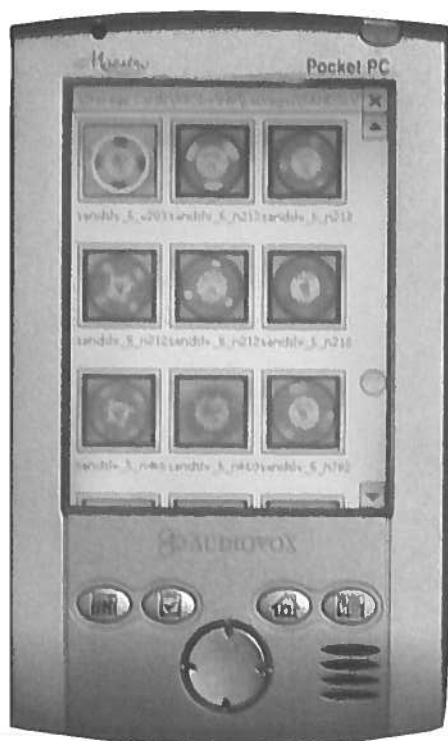
1995 \$5 Christmas	\$35.00	2001 NCV CC>CC	\$200.00
1996 \$5 First Anniversary	\$30.00	2001 \$5 4th of July	\$8.99
1996 \$5 Halloween	\$20.00	2001 \$5 Eminem	\$15.00
1996 \$5 Sheryl Crow	\$75.00	2001 \$5 Depeche Mode	\$8.99
1996 \$5 Christmas	\$20.00	2001 \$25 Depeche Mode	\$45.00
1996 \$5 Hootie	\$20.00	2001 \$5 Halloween	\$15.00
1997 \$5 Valentine's Day	\$25.00	2001 \$5 Christmas	\$8.99
1997 \$5 ZZ Top	\$45.00	2001 \$5 Rock N Horses	\$8.99
1997 \$5 Con Air	\$30.00	2001 \$5 Jane's Addiction	\$12.00
1997 \$5 Halloween	\$25.00	2001 \$25 Jane's Addiction	\$70.00
1997 \$5 Christmas Set	\$49.00	2002 \$5 Aero Smith	\$11.99
1997 \$5 4th of July	\$19.00	2002 \$25 Aero Smith	\$37.50
1997 \$5 Neville Brothers	\$35.00	2002 \$5 Valentine's Day	\$8.99
1997 \$5 King of the Beach	\$19.00	2002 \$5 No Doubt	\$15.00
1997 \$5 Fairway to Heaven	\$42.00	2002 \$5 Cinco De Mayo	\$9.99
1998 \$5 Valentine's Day	\$14.00	2002 \$25 Cinco De Mayo	\$150.00
1998 \$5 John Mellencamp	\$25.00	2002 \$5 Sammy Hagar	\$15.00
1998 \$5 King of the Beach	\$14.00	2002 \$25 Sammy Hagar	\$2200.00
1998 \$5 Hoops in Vegas	\$14.00	2002 NCV CC>CC Pink Taco	\$125.00
1998 \$5 Fairway to Heaven	\$14.00	2002 \$5 Moby	\$8.99
1998 \$5 Marilyn Manson	\$25.00	2002 \$5 Barris Set (Signed)	\$75.00
1998 \$5 4th of July	\$15.00	2002 Pindex Set	\$80.00
1998 \$5 Halloween	\$15.00	2002 Pindex Early Bird	\$125.00
1998 \$5 Christmas	\$15.00	2002 \$5 The Who	\$11.99
1999 \$5 Millennium	\$14.00	2002 \$25 The Who	\$35.00
1999 \$5 Christmas	\$13.00	2002 \$100 The Who	\$325.00
1999 \$5 Black Crowes	\$9.00	2002 \$5 Halloween	\$8.99
1999 \$5 Halloween	\$13.00	2002 \$5 Kid Rock	\$8.99
1999 \$5 Fairway to Heaven	\$17.00	2002 \$25 Kid Rock	\$45.00
2000 \$5 Cinco de Mayo	\$16.00	2002 \$5 Rodeo Set	\$40.00
2000 \$25 Cinco de Mayo	\$2200.00	2002 \$5 Christmas	\$8.99
2000 \$5 The Cure	\$12.50	2003 \$5 Melissa Etheridge	\$11.99
2000 \$25 The Cure	\$550.00	2003 \$25 Melissa Etheridge	\$55.00
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2000 \$5 Rocky Horror	\$15.00	2003 \$25 Ozzy Osbourne	\$35.00
2000 \$25 Rocky Horror	\$230.00	2003 \$25 Sharon Osbourne	\$35.00
2000 \$5 Fairway to Heaven	\$11.00	2003 \$100 Ozzy Osbourne	\$140.00
2000 \$5 Rock N Rods Set	\$60.00	2003 NCV Mondo Tiki	\$30.00
2000 \$5 Christmas	\$10.00	2003 \$5 Lisa Marie Pressley	\$13.50
2000 \$5 Van Morrison	\$12.00	2003 \$10 Online Bonus	\$16.99
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2000 \$100 Van Morrison	\$320.00	2003 \$5 Duran Duran	\$7.99
2000 \$5 Halloween	\$15.00	2003 \$100 Ringo Starr	\$150.00
2001 \$5 April Fools	\$25.00	2003 Pindex Set	\$80.00
2001 \$5 Cinco de Mayo	\$10.00	2003 \$5 AVP Volleyball	\$8.99
2001 \$25 Cinco de Mayo	\$150.00	2003 \$5 Halloween Set	\$35.00
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2001 \$25 Playboy	\$265.00	2004 \$5 Metallica Set	\$25.00

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Getting Your Chips Organized in the 21st Century

by Bryan Jimison



Have you ever left the Convention or a Chip Show with a lot of traders you did not intend to pick up? Unless you have a photographic memory, I'll bet you have. Either that, or like I did, you have discovered that carrying around an inventory of your collection is a necessity. There are a lot of different ways this can be done.

I know a couple of people who just take their copy of their favorite chip guide, and mark in it which chips they have. This is handy, but books get out of date with the very next chip release. The next thing you know, you're covering the margins and the book covers with hand written notes. Then there is the maintenance of updating the next edition of the book. All in all, most people tend to turn to technology.

Many people use a computer spreadsheet with information such as casino or issuer, mold, inserts, color, and so on. I started out this way. I found that I also wanted to keep track of where I got a particular chip and when. I also started keeping a unique serial number of my own design so that I can track particular chips like the Luxor \$1 chips with different ultra-violent markings. This worked pretty well for the first hundred chips, however, this got to be a little cumbersome as my collection grew.

A different approach is to have pictures of all of your chips. Over the last few years, the cost of computer printers with built-in scanners has fallen into the \$150 range. Many people who store their chips in binders just copy each sheet of the binder on one of these printers and then create a binder with all of their chip photographs. I always liked this idea. Sometimes it's just easier to look at a page of chips than to look through rows and rows of data comparing color, mold, inserts, descriptions, etc... I considered this, but there are a couple of drawbacks. First, to keep any sort of order to your collection, you need to start this from scratch every once in awhile. Also, I still wanted to be able to quickly search my collection for particular chips. That's when I knew I needed

to move to a computerized database so I could get the best of both worlds.

There are various programs on the market for keeping track of collectibles, including some that are written specifically for chip collectors. I decided, however, that I wanted to write my own software to do this. I already had Microsoft Access, so I bought a book and started learning. The only drawback to this is that filling in each little piece of information about a chip is very tedious. I find that I'm very bad at filling in all of the fields.

The database works really well when I'm looking at chips on www.jackpotauctions.com or E-bay, but I still ended up printing out a sheet of data to carry around with me at the convention. I also tried printing out pages of my chip scans on my color printer. While this worked initially, the more chips I added to my collection, the more disorganized everything got. I knew the direction I had to go—I had to get some sort of Palm Pilot or PocketPC handheld computer. I wanted to be able to visually look at my collection and quickly find out whether I had a chip or not.

I did a little research and found a wonderful free program for PocketPC

based computers to display digital pictures. If you have a PocketPC, check out www.pdamill.com and look at their "Viewer" program. What is nice about this software is that it displays a thumbnail sized picture of every scan in a folder. You don't need to create those thumbnails on your own, it does this for you. You can then click on one and it will display it using the whole screen. When you close the picture, it goes back to the thumbnail list. Most of the time, I can tell from the thumbnail if I have a chip or not.

In looking around at various types of PocketPC's on the market, I knew I would need one with a lot of memory, or that allows for expansion. I purchased an Audiovox Maestro which is essentially a rebranded Toshiba model. It allows both Compact Flash and Secure Digital media memory cards as expansions. At the time, Compact Flash was what my camera used, so I already had a device for moving pictures and scans easily to Compact Flash cards. Best of all, the Audiovox was cheaper than most. Accessories are tougher to find for this unit, but that was not much of a consideration for me. I don't plan on doing a lot of other things with it. As for the screen, while clear, it is not going to show you very subtle color variations like you might get on your home computer. However, it is more than good enough for 99.9% of your collection.

The secret to making this all work is in the preparation and organization of the scans of your chips. The first thing to think about is that the average handheld display is about 240 dots wide. With a standard chip coming in at just under 2 inches, that means that a good resolution for the scan is somewhere around 100 or 120dpi (dots per inch). I use 120dpi

but I recommend that you play around with this setting on your scanner and scanning software to see how they turn out and pick the best setting for you.

The next thing to worry about is the size of the scan files you create. I save my scans in JPEG (*.jpg) format. Since my main computer's hard drive is very large, I like keeping a very high quality scan on it. However, even with a 64MB expansion card, my pocketPC is somewhat limited. The great thing about the JPEG format is that there is usually a "quality" setting that you can adjust in your software program. This setting controls the quality of the picture stored. On a computer, quality is directly equivalent to file size. I've found that I can reduce the quality to about 50-60%, still have a decent scan, and get the file size down to 9k to 15k per chip. So, if I average about 12k per chip scan, I store about 5400 chip scans on a 64MB expansion card. If you want to store scans of both sides of the chip, then you'll get half of that.



I found with some experimentation that once I got more than about 100 scans in a directory, things started to run a lot slower on the handheld. So I picked a grouping strategy. I grouped my Nevada chips by city with a folder for each. I then grouped scans by casino within the city folder. This has worked pretty well for Nevada, but is somewhat less useful for the other states. Since most of my collection is from Nevada, I went with that. Depending on the nature of your collection, you may come up with a different strategy.

One important thing to remember when creating scans of all of your chips is to give them file names that will help you find and group them into folders. I have found it handy to name them with an abbreviation of the casino, the denomination, a number that allows me to find the chip in my database, and which side of the chip, obverse or reverse, that the scan shows. A sample file name I have is `sandslv_5_c0002_obv.jpg`. This means that this picture is the obverse side of a Sands \$5 chip from Las Vegas. If I want to know the history of the chip shown in the scan, I have my unique number C0002 to tell me what record to look up in my database. The great thing about naming my scans this way is that when I have a folder of them on my computer or Pocket PC, the scans will be sorted by casino and denomination.

It is a lot of work to get all of your chips scanned and organized. Now that I have that, it has been worth all of the effort. In fact, I rarely go to my database to look up chips any more. It is so convenient to look at the scans now that I have them sorted and organized.

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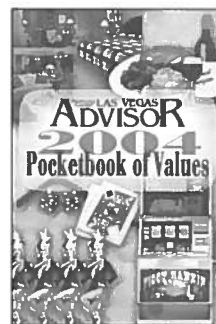
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Distributor Samples, Casino Samples & Game Advertisements

Gaming Checks for Gaming Suppliers.

by Howard W. Herz



Several specific types of gaming checks developed as a result of the business relationships that existed within the early gaming industry in the United States. Over the past century several hundred businesses supplied equipment to professional gamblers and to a lesser extent to private individuals.



Despite the representations of many of these suppliers, only a very few were the actual manufacturers of the products they sold. Frequently gaming or "club equipment" companies offered products under their label but not of their manufacture. During most of the 20th century the number of actual manufacturers of gaming checks was very small.

Between 1900 and 1945 most of the custom gaming checks were produced by the United States Playing Card Co. Following the purchase of the U.S.P.C. production facilities by the Burt Co. of Portland, Maine around the mid-1940's the vast majority of the gaming checks in the

United States were produced in Burt's facility

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Special colors furnished on large orders without additional charge—no charge for special monogram on orders for more than 1,000. Speed Checks, per hundred (any three initials or money value) \$7.00. Speed Checks per 1,000 \$65.00.

Genuine Speed Checks Can Be Obtained Only From
RYAN & CO.

sive mold design along with the range of colors that they could offer. These samples were primarily produced for internal use in the gaming industry and were rarely seen by the public. Today these samples represent a distinctly separate and highly collectible group of gaming checks and chips.



Distributors would offer their "exclusive" mold along with a stated number of colors that in reality reflected the colors available from a single manufacturer.

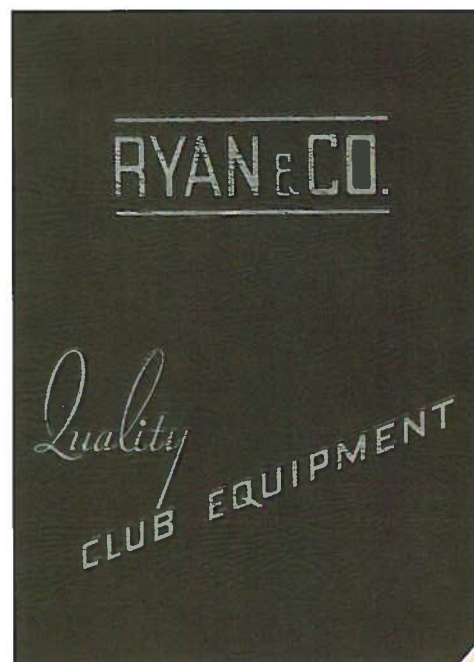
The Burt company made gaming checks for most of the distributors and offered them the exclusive use of molds that they could claim to be their own "registered" and "patented" design.



Manufacturer's Samples

As a result of this arrangement, each distributor usually had advertising samples produced that allowed them to show customers their exclu-

This system provided for both uniformity and security in the industry.





Distributors, including those that manufactured, produced samples of their checks for customers and advertising purposes. These highly collectible chips would feature at least the companies's initials, but most likely their full name, address and logo.



By offering the distributors customized advertising pieces, the manufacturers were able to structure a system that put them one step removed from the ultimate customer and gave the distributors greater independence for competition.

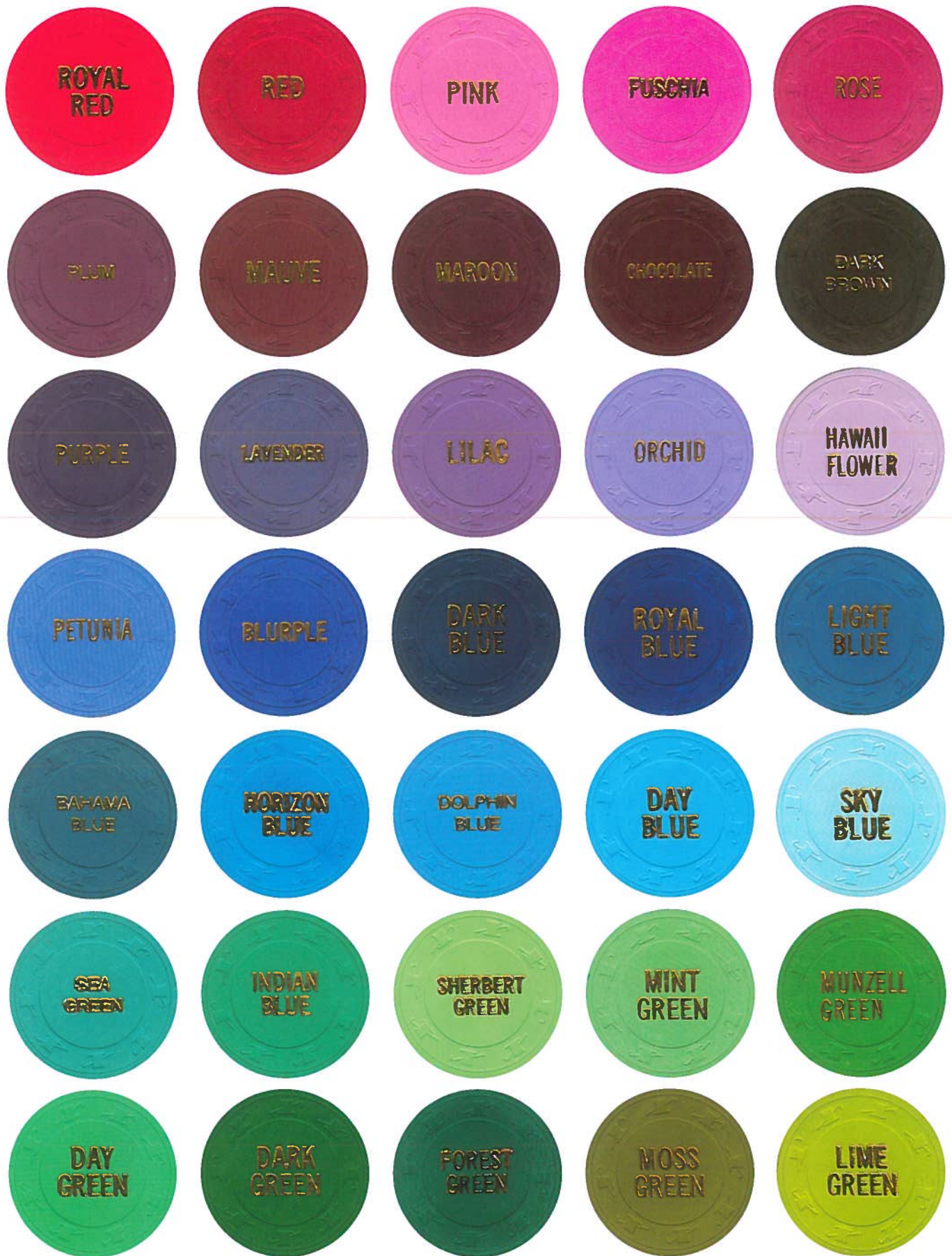




Color Samples

Most distributors had samples of their mold designs produced in the range of colors that they offered for sale. In the early 1930's ten to twelve colors were common. By the 1980's advances in technology had produced an almost unlimited range of colors. Despite manufacturers best efforts, however, batch coloration can vary slightly due to different material suppliers or slight variances in the mixing procedure. This sample set of the Paul-son company features 65 different colors.





Casino Order Samples

A second type of gaming check sample was developed for the internal record keeping of the industry.



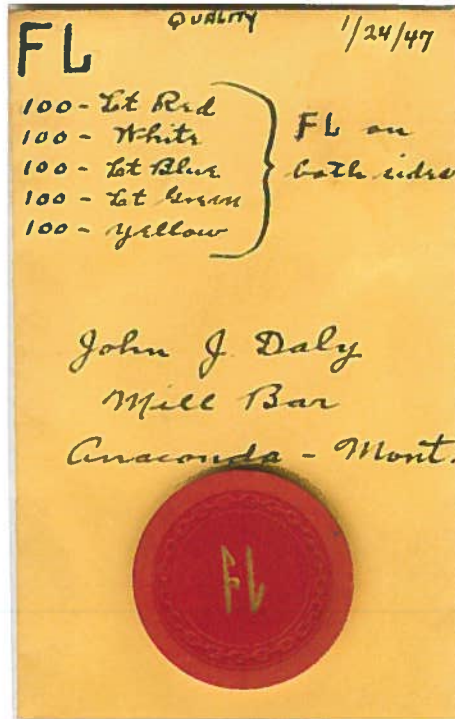
Inlaid checks had to be produced by the manufacturer, but color chip blanks were made available to the distributors who would create their own hot stamped checks to meet customer orders. Thus, the records of production of hot stamped checks were kept by each individual distributor while the manufacturer kept records of the inlaid checks from a number of distributors.

Throughout the industry, distributors tended to keep their records of hot stamped checks in a somewhat similar fashion. In most instances they would create a file card bearing the customer's name and address and order along with a sample of the hot stamp they had used. This system provided the distributor with a fairly fool-proof method of avoiding duplication of hot stamps and initial combinations over the years.

Chas. A. Meraux, Arabi, La.		RIVERVIEW CLUB	ROSEVIEW CLUB
Jan. 25, 1935.		Apr. 10, 1935	
Red 200		20 Each - Red	
Lav. 200		Lavender	
pink 200		Pink	
Green 200		Green	
Blue 200	" RIVERVIEW CLUB"	Blue	
yellow 200	Special Die	Yellow	
white 200		White	
Replacement for N. O. 1967			
NO			

H.C. Mason & Co. customer card

Most of the distributors kept record cards in place of actual samples of the chips to reduce the bulk of their filing. In a few instances where the distributor was also the manufacturer, they would keep a sample of the chips to insure that re-orders were accurately filled.



Hunt & Co. record envelope & example.

Because the manufacturer's were the only ones who could make inlaid checks, they had to supply their distributors with some type of record of their inlaid check orders. To satisfy this need, the manufacturers would send out a small number of notched

checks along with the order information. These notched casino samples constitute a special type of gaming check. They are original sample checks in the actual color manufactured for the customer.



To: Carl P. Stahl & Co. - "Extras" re your Order #101381 10/13/81
 (1 each color & denomination) CASINOS NACIONALES



Sample of a manufacturer's card with order information and notched samples

The Burt Co. would often send out notched checks taped to an order card providing the distributor with all of the information that he needed for a reorder. A similar card was kept on file at the Burt Co. to guarantee uniformity.



Patterns

In a number of special instances manufacturers have made color combinations for a specific casino. These “patterns” constitute a special type of sample in that they are specific, rather than generic but they are not an example of the final order.

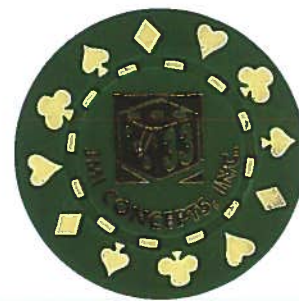


Harvey's Bicentennial Trial

Frequently patterns may have an unfinished edge or other irregularity not found on a standard issue. These samples are used for tests of surveillance equipment and as proposed colors and insert / inlay combinations for casino management approval. Patterns have become more common as state regulators have required more rigorous approval procedures.

Game Advertisements

With the rapid expansion of gaming around the world, the number of gaming industry expositions have grown. One of the results of these expositions has been the production of gaming checks for specific games that are being introduced to the industry. These advertising gaming checks feature the specific game logo and contact information and are used in the demonstration of the game.



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The Haunted Chip Collection

by Debby Meister

I've always collected something... so why not chips? I first discovered casino chips while collecting Halloween art and antiques. While searching around eBay for a new Halloween collectible, I opened an auction for a casino chip... there was no looking back. I searched to see what other types of Halloween chips were available and found there were quite a few to be had, and have one I must.

What first attracted me to the chips? I had collected stamps and coins as a kid. It seemed to me that chips combined the best of both of those worlds. It was substantial like a coin but was also colorful like stamps... and I love COLOR !

So I tried to win one of the auctions. I wasn't having much luck. I couldn't understand why these little round plastic-like things cost so much. But, I had to have one, so I took the plunge and finally bid enough to get one. I started only collecting the ones I thought were really interesting. Then when I thought there were probably only a couple I didn't have, I thought "what the heck I'll try to get the last few. From there it became a "search and destroy" mission to get one of each. I guess I'm a completist at heart.

I searched the web and started buying one of each design I found. I also "haunted" eBay. Over the next few months I was able to get quite a

few chips. I also discovered that there weren't only \$5 chips but some \$25 chips as well. The commitment suddenly became more expensive!

Each time I thought I had one of each, a new (to me) chip would suddenly show up on the scene, but eventually I had one of each. Of course during my search I started to notice other types of chips that were "must haves"... Masks, Jesters, Dragons... and my list of collecting interests expanded. And for those of you who know me, my list is still growing.

By the way, I still look for Halloween collectibles, but it's mostly relegated to when the ChipBoard slows down.



Hard Rock Hotel, Las Vegas, NV



Four Queens, Las Vegas, NV



Harrah's, Las Vegas, NV



Rio, Las Vegas, NV



Aladdin, Las Vegas, NV



Aladdin, Las Vegas, NV

Fiesta, North Las Vegas, NV



Gold Strike, Boulder City, NV

Las Vegas Club, Las Vegas, NV



Opera House, North Las Vegas, NV



O'Sheas, Las Vegas, NV



Mahoney's Silver Nugget, North Las Vegas, NV



Mahoney's Silver Nugget error chip. 777 on both sides



Riviera, Las Vegas, NV



Riviera, Las Vegas, NV



Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV



Showboat, Las Vegas, NV



Boomtown, Las Vegas, NV



Arizona Charlie's, Las Vegas, NV



Nevada Palace, Las Vegas, NV



Jerry's Nugget, N. Las Vegas, NV



Stateline Saloon, Amargosa Valley, NV



Claridge, Atlantic City, NJ

Tropicana, Atlantic City, NJ



Trump Plaza, Atlantic City, NJ



Bronco Billy's, Cripple Creek, CO





Pahrump Nugget, Pahrump, NV



San Felipe, Hollywood, NM



Gilpin Hotel, Black Hawk, CO



Sam's Town, Tunica, MS



Sam's Town, Tunica, MS



Common back

Wing of bat, eye of newt, drink it down, ain't I cute. Fantasy set of 4



Debby Meister custom chip



Resorts, Atlantic City, NJ



Jack-O-Lantern Lodge, Eagle River, WI. Illegal (c. 1935)



www.oldvegaschips.com, Las Vegas, NV. Promo chip



Eurocoin, London, UK



Chipco, Joe Lawyer custom poker set



Chipco, Fantasy & Medieval set



Hard Rock Cafe, Orlando, FL

The Strike Zone

by Jack Haddock

IGT replaces over 100 Silver Strike Machines

Some fifty-three Nevada casinos that offer the Silver Strike slot machine, as well as those that don't, will be contacted by IGT marketing in March 2004 and can make arrangements to obtain the NEW 25 cent (\$10 strike) and \$1 (\$40 strike) "Silver Strike Machines." The installations will begin in May, and of course, the machine will still offer the encapsulated silver souvenir coin.

The existing machine has a dispensing hopper, which is patented by Anchor Games and is not owned by IGT; hence, it is not used in the new machine. Instead, a dispensing method from the top of the machine will be used.

IGT has pledged that they will be aggressively selling the "new" game to casinos throughout the state, which will bring many new silver strikes into the hobby.

Sierra Sid's hires a talented artist to design their Silver Strikes

Most of the designs used on silver strikes are found in a catalog made available by IGT. The minting companies are able to produce great dies from pictures or other hard copy sources.

One casino, which has had an artist design and create unique silver strikes for many years, is Sierra Sid's in Sparks. The artist, David McCamant of Sparks, was the creator of the cartoon character of "Jake."

"Jake" was used on several strikes participating in various activities from around the local area. McCamant drew the artwork that depicted various sites around northern Nevada. He researched each site to be as accurate as possible. The artwork on the "Comstock Lode" strike indicates the two happy miners on a location in the foothills of Virginia City which history records the actual site.



Another new strike from Sid's depicts a famous Indian basket maker, Datsolalee. The baskets shown are her actual design.



The detailed art used in the one pound silver rounds sold by the casino were all McCamant's creation. "E. T." adventures, the Jackalope, and "Jake" are all characters utilized for the delight of the collector and tourist. His artwork has been used on \$10 strikes, the \$200 strike as well as the ten silver one-pounders issued since 1998.



Sierra Sid's has certainly gone the extra mile to bring the public and collectors a very special, unique and historical souvenir.

Military honored with Silver Strikes from The Palms

The Palms in Las Vegas issued five \$10 strikes and a beautiful \$200 strike to honor the various branches of the military. The Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, and Marines have their logos depicted on individual strikes, while the \$200 mentions all of the Armed Forces. The \$200 is limited to two hundred fifty and is obtained by trading twenty-\$10 strikes at the casino cage. This series was put together with the suggestions of a silver strike collector and is a fine addition to the patriotic series.

"Chase" strikes create interest for collectors – profits for casinos

A popular method for casinos to increase the playing time on the silver strike machine is to include a "chase" strike. This strike is generally found in a colored capsule instead of clear and is limited in the number produced. The mintage is found on the strike: i.e., "777", "444", "500", "250", and so on. The casino only



Palms Casino military set
\$200 & 5 - \$10 strikes

puts one or two per fill of fifty strikes in the machine at one time.

A collection of chase strikes would include these casinos:

- Reno Airport
- Las Vegas Club
- Union Plaza
- El Cortez
- Four Queens
- Palms
- Slots-a-Fun
- O'Sheas
- Caesars Tahoe
- Sierra Sid's

“Silver Strikes delivered – casino closes!”

The Sundowner in Reno took delivery of six new silver strikes in October and closed in November. During the few weeks that the six new designs were available, frantic play on the one machine was constant. The production of each strike was only one hundred, which certainly created a true collector piece. One of the designs, a horse head, came into play about a week later than the others, and was taken away by several

slot players that came to the Sundowner on a bus tour. This last strike is harder to obtain than the others for that reason. Auction sites indicate that the set of six brings between \$1,300 and \$1,500.

There were a couple of fills that only had the new strikes, but then the casino caught on to what they had and mixed in the old ones. Slowly the mix got to be many older and only a few new. It is a nice looking set and it's always sad to say “good-bye” to a casino.





Atlantic City

R E P O R T

by Archie **Black**

Here's hoping that Santa was good to all the boys and girls in this wonderful hobby and that you all got what you wished for.

This past quarter saw quite a few new chip releases around the months of October and November, and only one new token release. We'll begin with the token as we don't see too many new ones since several properties in town are switching over to paper TITO (ticket in-ticket out) receipts instead of paying out in the hard stuff.

Harrah's issued this \$1 token ... who knows when ... that looks very similar to their first issued token, with the exception that this newcomer has the date 2002 on it.



A \$5 Harrah's Atlantic City token which was previously unknown before the popular October Palms show opened in Las Vegas has recently surfaced. Jerry Birl was looking through some tokens at Janice and Jerry O'Neal's table and discovered this \$5 Harrah's A.C. token.



Speaking of tokens; the \$1, \$2, \$5 tokens at Borgata continue to be difficult to obtain. A relatively few have escaped the property but only as a result of some abnormal computer failure when a payout ticket does not get printed, the machine will pay out in tokens.

Equally as scarce as the Borgata tokens are the Borgata Tournament chips which are illustrated below. If you thought "harvesting" roulette chips is a challenge ... try "harvesting" a few of these puppies!



Bolstered with his successful harvesting technique at Borgata, the harvester who shall remain anonymous, tried his luck at a Sands tournament and loaned me this chip to post.



Sands has recently changed two of their roulette tables to auto-sorts and they now have two new roulette chip designs currently in play (Spade and Star designs).



At Trump Plaza; we have seen the release of the Humphrey Bogart and James Dean chips ... but we're still awaiting the Marilyn Monroe chip in the 3-piece series to make her appearance ... although somehow a few Marilyn's have mysteriously shown up on e-bay prior to the official release date. Oops, December 12th has just been announced as the release date for Marilyn.





At Trump Marina's big-sister property on the Boardwalk, Trump Taj Mahal issued a belated LE Bowzer (of Sha Na Na fame) nickel chip in mid-October, five months after the May 23rd date on the chip.



Below is the \$10 Hall & Oates chip issued on October 26th for their recent headliner appearance at Trump Marina. This issue was limited to just 500 chips.



Trump Plaza also issued this \$25 Halloween chip that was supposed to be a lenticular design, but plans were scrapped I'm told when the production cost was revealed.



Keeping with Trump's Taj Mahal, an interesting aside ... Taj has ground up many of their remaining \$5 L.E.'s that have been languishing in their vault for years. Something like 133 racks of Limited Edition chips have been destroyed to make additional storage space in the vault.



Two No Cash Value chips were issued at Trump Marina for Charity events. The first one on August 31st featured Sugar Ray. These chips were sold at the Marina for \$5 each. A few weeks later, another No Cash Value chip, this one being sold for \$10 at the VHI "Save the Music Auction", in which many memorabilia items from autographed posters to signed guitars went on the auction block.

Here are the breakdowns as reported by Mike Custodio on the A.C. Chapter website;

The three Trump properties seem to be the only casinos in town that continue to be willing to issue ANY Limited Edition chips.

Trump Marina has adopted a \$10 chip policy for all of their future Limited Edition chip releases. A \$10 chip produced for the rock group "Heart" 2003 tour was issued early in the month. 1,000 chips were made. Another 1,000 \$10 chip issue for Lisa Marie Presley followed shortly after.

- \$5.00 Donald & Marla Trump 683
- \$5.00 Poker & Simulcasting 2,703
- \$5.00 5th Anniversary 902
- \$5.00 Pai Gow Poker 5,010
- \$5.00 Greek Flag 3,173
- \$5.00 Year Of The Pig 3,253
- \$5.00 Donald J. Trump 3,101
- \$5.00 U.S. Poker Championship 4,910
- \$5.00 Hard Rock Cafe 2,016
- \$5.00 Miss America 1997 940
- \$5.00 Millenium/DJT Chip 2,544
- \$5.00 Year of The Dragon 2,088



While these numbers may sound impressive on first glance... most of the chips were issued in 5,000 and 10,000 quantities ... so there are still plenty around in collector's and dealer's inventory.



Lastly, but not least ... a private chip issue was produced to celebrate Wolf Lichten's 60th Birthday. Those of you who have been around for ten or more years may remember the Taj Mahal "Wolf chip" that was produced for Wolf's 50th Birthday when he was at Trump Taj Mahal. Wolf, ten years later, is now the Senior V.P. of International Marketing at Tropicana in Atlantic City.



The above is the recently adopted official slogan of Atlantic City ... which replaces the worn and outdated "America's Favorite Playground" phrase that has become no longer accurate over the past 30-40 years or so with the improved economical air travel system and air-conditioned auto travel we've become accustomed to.

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Or check our web site at www.lotterycollectors.com

A Commemorative Chip featuring a Casino Host

by Gary **Wetmore**
Executive Table Games Host
Ramada Express, Laughlin, Nevada



Over the years, our casino has created many different commemorative chips such as “Back to the 40’s” depicting WWII memorabilia, and also our annual Harley “River Run” chips. But to the best of my knowledge, in my 28-years being in the gaming industry, to have a Casino Host appear on a \$5 chip has got to be a first. So naturally I had to share this with my fellow “Chippers”.

I’m an Executive Table Games Host at the Ramada Express Hotel & Casino in Laughlin, NV. As hosts, we are always racking our brains to think up new promotions to bring in our high roller customers. My partner, Senior Executive Table Games Host Dolly Baltins came up with the idea

of placing her picture on a \$5 chip. The idea was a hit with the General Manager Susan Murphy, and we threw a party called “Dolly’s Pit Party”. We invited our best players to have dinner in our gourmet Steakhouse, and we handed each player \$100 worth of Dolly’s Commemorative chips. There were only 1000 of these chips printed.

Needless to say, it was a rousing success! Many of these chips were kept by our players as collectors items. There is approximately 240 of these available for people to purchase.

If you’re wondering why all the fuss about Dolly, well, you would just have to know her to understand. She

is lovely, vivacious, and has a terrific sense of humor, and if I had to give you someone to compare her with, she would be a cross between “Dolly” Parton and Mae West. She has a unique style that “keeps them coming back for more”. She is, in my opinion, one of the many reasons why Nevada just “does it the best” when it comes to casino gambling.

By the way, if you’re planning a trip to Laughlin, our Table Games and Cage personnel are very helpful to chip collectors. We have approximately 50 different types of \$5 chips for purchase.

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 - Ken Hallenbeck - kenhallenbeck@adelphia.net

Deep South Chapter - John Mayercik - jmayercik@aol.com or debi Stultz - dstultz214@aol.com
<http://www.deepsouthchips.com>

Florida Chapter - Mark Lighterman - mlighter@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

LAST CHANCE – 2003’s Most Popular Specials

OCEAN’S 11 “BELLAGIO” CHIPS – Used in the remake of the original “Rat Pack” classic. Only a few undrilled sets of five denominations remain. They are priced at \$99.



RED DRAGON CASINO CHIPS – The Desert Inn was converted to the Red Dragon for the filming of the Jackie Chan movie, “Rush Hour 2.” The set of 7 denoms \$1 through \$5000 is \$79.



The set of seven roulette chips is priced at \$29. If you’d like all 14 chips...\$1, \$5, \$25, \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$5000, and the seven different colors of roulettes, \$99 will do it !!



EL RANCHO HOTEL (WELLS, NV.) – The \$1 chip (N3212) is priced at \$39, the \$5 chip (N3213) at \$59, and the very scarce \$10 chip (V6620) and \$249. If you’d like them all, the set of three is \$349.



WEST WORLD – This small casino operated on the grounds of Old Vegas, a western theme amusement park in Henderson. The 50c chip (N3044) is \$18, the \$1 chip (N2983) is \$24, the \$5 chip (N2293) is \$28, and the previously unknown \$25 chip is \$38. The complete set of four chips is \$99.



To place your order, please send your check or money order to: **Terry Lazarus; Chips Off the Old Block; PO Box 57; Dallastown, PA.; 17313.** You can also e-mail your order to: pachipper@aol.com or call toll-free: 1-888-CHIPS-97. Please add \$3 for P&H on all orders.

Quarterly Southern Nevada Limited Edition "Cheque" List



by Dave and Debbie Harber

With the holidays behind us it is hard to believe another year is over. It is with great relief to say that the new releases from southern Nevada have slowed down making it easier on everyone's pocket as compared to previous years. So without further adieu, let's get started reviewing what was released in September, October and November.

September

The month of September started off with the Excalibur's release of their September chip the Water Dragon. One thousand of these chips were made. Next it was clear down to the other end of the strip for the Stardust's release of the fourth in the series of 45th anniversary chips. There were 2,000 \$5 chips and 500 \$25 chips issued.



Within the next few days quite a few chips were issued. The Riviera released a 500 mintage \$5 chip to commemorate the opening of their Colorado casino entitled 'Where Vegas Meets the Rockies'. The Hard Rock issued their annual Pindex chips during the convention. These chips were made available with a paid admittance to the convention floor. A different color chip was given for each day of the 2 day event, brown for one day and pink for the other.



Once the Pindex convention was over it was time for the AVP volleyball tournament at the Hard Rock. Two more chips were issued. One of the \$5 chips has just a female volleyball player depicted. It has a mintage of 2,500. The other chip had the female on one side and a male player on the other. It's mintage is 1,500.



Three chips were then released for Luxor's 10th anniversary. They made 2,500 five dollar chips, 1,000 twenty fives and 500 hundreds.



Their Luxor's sister property, Mandalay Bay, also issued chips during this time to recognize one of their attractions, The Shark Reef. The mintage on these chips has not been confirmed.



The Four Queens was next. They issued a \$1 chip for their Poker Classic. Three thousand chips were made. The other chip to be released from the Four Queens was the last car chip the Mazda RX 8. Nine hundred and fifty of these chips were made.



Next we go down to Laughlin. The Colorado Belle issued their annual Blues & Brews chip. This time in conjunction with Miss Hawaiian Tropic. One thousand of these chips were produced.



Lastly, the Palms released 19 chips this month. Sixteen of the chips were for the 50th Anniversary of Playboy. There were five different \$5 dollar chips, 5 different \$25 chips and five different \$100 chips. All three sets were in a CD jewel case. All of the

sets have different artwork relating to Playboy, it's founder and past covers of the magazine. There was also 1 oversized \$50 chip enclosed in a plastic case. The mintages on these chips are as follows: 3,050 five dollar sets, 750 twenty five dollar sets, 950 fifty dollar chips and 350 hundred dollar sets made.

The other 3 chips from the Palms were for the Kid Rock concert being held there. There were 3000 five dollar chips, 700 twenty fives and 500 hundreds made for the event.





That wraps up the September limited editions from southern Nevada. Now on to the Halloween chips and a few others that came out in October.

October

The Fiesta in Henderson released a chip for the opening of Garduno's Restaurant. Mintage on this chip is 1,000. The Excalibur was next with the release of their October chip. This 1,000 mintage chip depicts the Air Dragon. Then it was off to Harrah's for the first of the Halloween chips to come out. They issued 3 different \$5 chips each with a mintage of 500.



A few days later, Caesars Palace issued commemorative chips for the Gloria Estefan concert. There were 3 five dollar chips each with a mintage of 2,500 and 2 twenty five dollar chips each with mintages of 1,000.



The Four Queens began their 4 chips series of "Man's Vices" by issuing 3 of the 4 this month. The first one was wine. In the next few weeks they issued one for cards and one for horses. Each one of the chips in this series has a mintage of 500.



Two chips were made this year for Octoberfest. One at the Rio and one at Harrah's, each with identical artwork. These chips have a mintage of 500 each. The Rio then issued their 3 piece Halloween set. The artwork and mintage on these 3 \$5 chips is identical to the ones issued at Harrah's with the only major difference being manufacturer.



There were a couple more events commemorated this month. The first was Bike Fest 2003. The El Cortez had a \$10 chip made for this gathering. There were 500 of these chips made.



The next event to be recognized on a chip was the Radio Music Awards. The Aladdin issued 1,000 of these chips for the show. Within 3 days we were back to the Aladdin for the release of their 600 mintage Halloween chip.



the roulette wheel. This chip has a mintage of 666. Lastly, the Pahrump Nugget released a Halloween chip and the 3rd in their series of seasons, "The Arrival of Autumn". Both of these chips have mintages of 500.



The Tropicana commemorated their free show by depicting the group Air Play that performs in the casino daily. 500 of these chips were made.



To finish off the month 8 more Halloween chips were released and one other non Halloween chip for good measure. The Hard Rock had a two piece set with a mintage of 2000 each. The Rio and Harra's each issued another Halloween chip different from the previous 3 piece set. They depicted what appears to be a witch's fish net stocking leg on a broomstick. The mintage on each of these chips is 500. The Tropicana and the Riviera followed suit by releasing 500 mintage Halloween chips as well. The Four Queens also issued a Halloween chip with artwork similar to previous years. The only difference is located somewhere on



That's all for October. Let's move on to November.

November

The Excalibur, kicked off the month with their November chip. It is a 1,000 mintage five dollar chip depicting the "Drake Dragon". The Riviera was next with their issue of 500 La Cage/Frank Marino chips. The Four Queens finished off the "Man's Vices" set with women. This chip also has a mintage of 500.



The Southern Nevada Chapter of CC & GTCC sponsored their very first chip show at the Palms. In commemoration of the event a \$2.50 and \$5.00 chip entitled "Preserving Gaming History" were made. There were 1,200 two fifties and 1,000 fives produced. A few days later more chips were releases from the Palms. These chips were made for the 2nd anniversary celebration. There were 1,500 fives, 500 twenty fives and 100 hundreds made for the occasion.



The next chip was issued for the opening of a new extreme ride in the valley. The Stratosphere opened "X Scream the Ride" another thriller attraction at the top of the building. This \$5 chip is entitled "Grand Launch X Scream the Ride" and has a mintage of 1,000.



The new casino Casuarina located on the old Maxim property issued their first limited edition. It is a 2,000 mintage chip of David Brenner, who is performing on the property.



With holiday chips usually abundant the Riviera was the only one to release a Thanksgiving chip this year. It's mintage is 500.



With election year right around the corner, the Riviera also released a 500 mintage chip "The Fight is On for 2004". It has the Republican party mascot pictured on one side and the Democratic Donkey on the other, each donned in typical boxing attire.



Last to come out this month was the start of rodeo chips. Towards the end of November, early December we start to see cowboys arrive in droves. As such, it is fitting for the Gold Coast who has sponsored parts of this event every year, to release chips depicting rodeo stars. This year was no different. There were 4 chips to each set of fives, twenty fives and hundreds. All denominations had the same artwork. Mintages are not confirmed.



That's it for this quarter! December should prove to be a busier chip month with rodeo, Christmas and New Year chips a sure bet. As always happy chippin'

At this time we would like to thank Andy Hughes 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.

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Great Lakes #26

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Chip & Medal Design Contest

The 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 photo graph, 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 March 31, 2004 and MUST be postmarked by the date to be eligible.

Mail entries to:

Design Contest
PO Box 368
Wellington OH 44090

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.

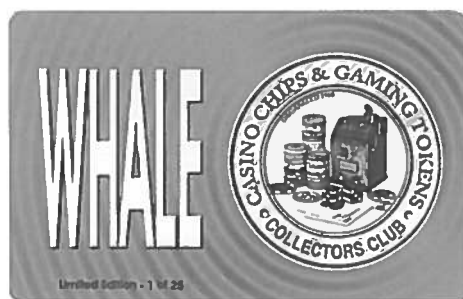
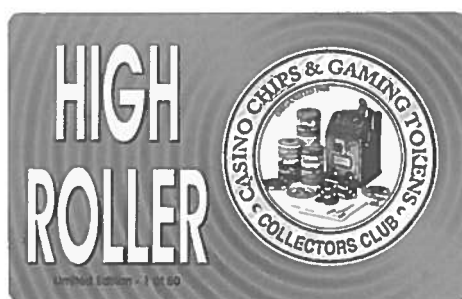
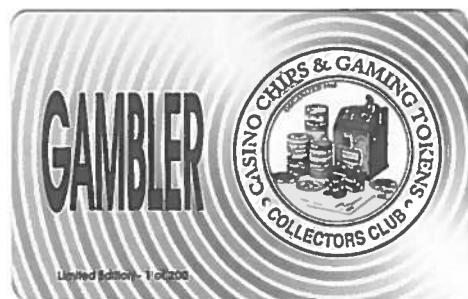
When this project is completed we will have a place we can be proud of, a place that belongs to the membership, and probably most important, a

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.

The cards pictured below were produced to commemorate and benefit the Building Fund as well. A \$100 donation will receive a yellow "Gambler" card; a \$250 donation will receive a red "High Roller" card; and a \$500 donation will receive a blue "Whale" card. There are only a few of these cards left, so don't miss your opportunity to have one. To make a donation, send a check to Mike Quinlivan at:

Mike Quinlivan, Treasurer
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 or card 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

Casino Chip & Token News
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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

- 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
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- Volume 16 Issue 4

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2001 Official T-Shirt
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2000 Official T-Shirt
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 M, L, XL - \$10.00



1999 Official T-Shirt
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 M, L, XL - \$10.00



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1997 Official T-Shirt
 Limited Sizes - \$10.00



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2001 Convention Pin
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2002 Convention Pin
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New and Old Style
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1999 Convention Pin
\$3.00



2000 Convention Pin
\$3.00

1997 Convention Pin
\$3.00



1998 Convention Pin
\$3.00



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CC>CC Wooden Issues

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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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Mail orders to:
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All prices subject to change without notice.*

The New Look of the CC>CC Web Site

The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

[Home](#) | [Membership](#) | [Reference](#) | [Organization](#) | [Reports](#) | [Message Board](#)

[Welcome](#) | [News](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Building Fund](#)

Message from the President

My name is Mike Skelton, and as the president of the CC>CC, I'd like to welcome you to our web site. Our club is dedicated to the hobby of collecting casino chips and other gaming tokens. If you're new to this hobby, don't miss our reference section where you can find everything you need to get started. Please, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. If you're already a member, welcome back! It's good to see you!



News and Events

Convention 2004 Info



January 2004

- [Building Fund Update](#)
- [Online Pre-Registration](#)
- [Financial Reports](#)

The CC>CC has a new look for its web site. Will Knight designed the layout and artwork for the site and developed most of the pages. Greg Susong approved everything Will did, and he also altered the Message Board and the Membership Application and Renewal screens to match the look of the new site. Jim Follis provided the input and pics for the OTY Awards page, and Mike Skelton provided the President's message. Both of them also donated their invaluable opinions on the look and feel of the new site.

One of the main focuses when redesigning the site was on improving site navigation. The site was designed so no page is more than two clicks from the Home page. Also, the pages were grouped functionally under a main menu bar, and then each functional group is broken down on a sub menu bar under the main menu bar. These improvements lead to a very fast and intuitive experience for any visitor to the website.

Several new pages were added to the site as well. We now have a News and Events page where impor-

tant announcements are posted. We also have an "Of The Year" Awards page that showcases all of the past OTY winners along with pictures of each. Finally, the Chip FAQ was added in the Reference section to answer most beginner-level questions.

Last but not least, the layout of most of the pages was improved for style, readability and better organization. For instance, the Hall of Fame page now has a main index with thumbnail images of each of the HoF members that serve as links to their biographies.



RIVERBOATS

by Greg C. Susong

Hello riverboat collectors! There have been a few great looking chips since I last wrote.

Caesars in Harrison County, Indiana issued this \$5 chip in honor of their new Chariot Run Golf Course.



Then, in November, they issued this 3 chip set to commemorate their 5th Anniversary.



The Beau Rivage in Biloxi, Mississippi issued this nice \$25 to commemorate Cher's Farewell Tour.



Horizon Casinos purchased Harrah's in Vicksburg, Mississippi and put out this new rack of chips.



The Copa Casino issued this Chipco to commemorate their 10th anniversary in Gulfport, MS and their 1st anniversary in their new location.



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.

2004 Convention Auction Catalog

by Barry **Weintraub**

Start your engines, Ladies and Gentlemen; it's time to start thinking about the 2004 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction that will take place 7 PM Friday night June 18, 2004 at the 12th annual CCGT&CC at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in fabulous Las Vegas.

Once again the auction catalogs will be available prior to the actual event and can be ordered from our esteemed Treasurer, Mike Quinlivan. The black and white version features scans of all the lots and is invaluable in reviewing the lots in the auction and is available for \$10. If you want to place an order for a catalog, send a check, with your club membership number to:

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

If you have any questions about the auction, I can be reached at auction@ccgtcc.com

2004 Exhibits Invitation

by Joe **Shaw**

The club is now accepting entries for Exhibits for display at the upcoming 12th Annual GG>CC Convention. This year's convention is being held for the very first time at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The convention dates are June 16th through June 19th 2004, and this year's convention will also feature a much larger floor space. All Exhibitors will receive an Appreciation scrip that can be used for purchases at any dealer's table on the bourse floor or at the club's promotions table. Visitors to the convention will select The People's Choice Award for the First, Second and Third Place winners for exhibits.

To receive your Exhibitors Application form, please contact

Joe Shaw
10301 East Estates Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014

Or if you wish to have the form (done in Microsoft Word format) sent to you electronically, send an email to

databzr@casino-chip.com

The Exhibitor's Application must be filled out and returned before April 20th.

You be the Judge!

by Jim Follis

Welcome to 2004! With the celebrations behind us and the football season finished, it is now time to move on to something really import. Yes, that's right, its OTY time!!! As a CC>CC member we are all entitled to participate in the Club's annual Chip of the Year (COTY), Token of the Year (TOTY), Silver Strike of the Year (SSOTY) and Slot Card/Room Key of the Year (CKOTY) competitions. More simply referred to as the OTYs.

The 2003 Awards will be marking the Club's 14th year of COTY and TOTY competitions and our 4th year of the SSOTY competition and our second year for CKOTY honors. I am both honored and pleased to be serving as the COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and CKOTY Awards Competitions Chairman.

The rules for this year's competitions are pretty much the same as last year, but for our newer members (a hearty Welcome to our newcomers) and as a refresher for our seasoned participants, I will go over the requirements once again. In general, we will proceed as described, below.

In this issue of the CCTN you will find an Official Nomination form to be used for making nominations to any and all of the four OTY categories. Between now and March 20, 2004 I will be accepting nominations from any and all Club members in good standing. *As a reminder to all Regular members, please be sure to make a copy (or copies) of the nomination form for the Associate Member(s) tied to your membership number, so that they too may participate.*

Every member should keep in mind that *you must nominate*, at least one item, in at least one category, *in order to qualify yourself as a judge* in the final voting process. Simply stated:

You must nominate to participate!

Completed original nomination forms were designed to be folded, taped (stapling is acceptable, but the Post Office prefers tape), affixed with 1st Class postage (.37 cents) and then mailed. Providing that the insert was printed correctly this year, the mailing address will be pre-printed on the reverse of the form. However, completed forms (original forms or copies) may be sent in an envelope to the address that appears of the back of an original form. Which is also reprinted below for your convenience. As a slight change from years past, I will accept nominations via email (oty@ccgtcc.com). However, if you take advantage of this method, you must format your submission into the same headings as the Nomination Form *and* you must include all of your nominations at one time. Do not make piecemeal submissions. If you do, then the most current submission form will replace, in total, any previously submitted form. Emailed submissions must be sent prior to midnight (PST) March 22, 2004.

As the nomination forms begin arriving I will be very busy tabulating all the selections, in each of the four categories. The top ten nomination-getters, in each category, will then be designated as the Ten Finalist in their category. I will then acquire a com-

plete set of the Ten Finalists and use them to produce a full-color Judge's Pamphlet. A Judge's Pamphlet will then be sent to each and every member who submitted a legitimate nomination form and will be used to view and judge all the Ten Finalists.

Note: Associate members making legitimate nominations will receive their own Judge's Pamphlet and will not have to share with their Regular member affiliate. Judge's Pamphlets, just like last year, will depict the front and back (obverse and reverse) of all Ten Finalists in each category in their actual size. A separate Balloting (Voting) form is included so that the pamphlet may be kept as a souvenir of your participation in the Club's highly prestigious COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and CKOTY Awards Competitions for 2003.

Judging will take place from about May 1st to about May 17th. All ballots must be returned via the postal system and must be postmarked on or before May 17th, which is a Saturday. (This date may change.) Attention International members, I am inclined to make allowances for voting if these deadlines prove to be a hardship.

By the end of May, I will likely know the top three place finishers in each category and will be going about the task of preparing the various award plaques, which like last year will be awarded through three places, Gold, Silver and Bronze, for a total of 12 awards. I will also be taking care of the Club's acquisition of the four First-place finishers to add to the Club's Permanent Display.

For our newer members (and also as a reminder) the Permanent Display is the Club's own collection of all past winners of the Chip of the Year, Token of the Year and Silver Strike of the Year Awards Competitions. That collection will once again be on-display at the Convention as a non-competitive Exhibit right along side a complete set of all 40 Finalists, ten each from all four categories, from the 2003 competitions.

Well, that about covers it, except for the fine print below. I encourage each and every member to participate in this event, as I see these competitions as an opportunity for the Club's members to tell the casinos and their suppliers that we appreciate their efforts to produce a quality product.

The fine print

All nominees must have been issued, for use, for the first time, during the calendar year of 2003. Various members of the CC>CC may be called upon to verify this criteria for chips and tokens. The officers of the Silver Striker's Chapter of the CC>CC shall be called upon to verify this criteria for Silver Strikes. The officers of the Slot Card and Room Key Chapter of the CC>CC shall be called upon to

verify this criteria for slot cards/room keys.

Chip of the Year eligibility criteria

A chip must be issued by a casino. It must also serve a gaming purpose.

Token of the Year eligibility criteria

A token is one that is intended to be inserted into a slot machine for play. Excluded are coins (money), currency and tickets. The emphasis is on slot machine play.

Silver Strike of the Year eligibility criteria

The criteria is more fully described by the Silver Striker's Chapter of the CC>CC, however, most simply stated, an eligible Silver Strike is one made by IGT under their trademarked Silver Strike program.

Slot Card/Room Key of the Year eligibility criteria

Slot Cards must be issued by a casino and are intended to track player action at a slot machine.

Room Keys must be issued by an affiliated hotel/casino establishment.

The key (looking like a plastic credit card) must be used to open a guestroom, but not as a burglar tool!

I imagine that there are other pertinent details, but I will discuss those in the next issuance of the CCTN, if need be. I trust that everyone had an excellent New Year's celebration and I look forward to receiving your nominations shortly. I may be contacted at (520) 529-3245 or via email: oty@ccgtcc.com.

Lastly, for those who are Internet connected, be sure to visit the Un-Official OTY Viewing Sites, where you can view many of the potential OTY candidates. There are four locations to visit:

<http://www.gamingore.com/gallery2003?dir=COTY>

<http://www.gamingore.com/gallery2003?dir=TOTY>

<http://www.gamingore.com/gallery2003?dir=SSOTY>

<http://www.gamingore.com/gallery2003?dir=CKOTY>

Jim Follis
OTY Awards Competition Chairman

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KNAPP ON BOOKS

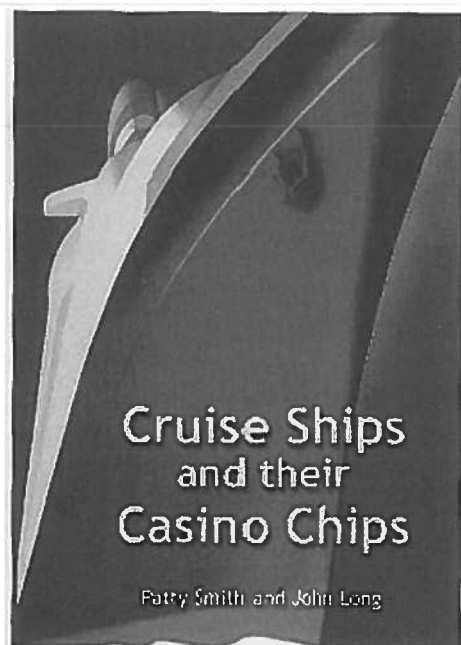
by Michael Knapp

This is the fourth 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.

Cruise Ships and their Casino Chips
(2003)
by **Patty Smith and John Long**



Until Patty Smith and John Long released the cruise ship book they'd been working on for some time, there hadn't been a book devoted to the cataloging and pricing of "wet chips" that so many collectors have as part of their collections. That changed this past year when *Cruise Ships and their Casino Chips* was released just before the convention.

Spiral-bound and with a clear acetate cover, the Smith/Long book is a valuable addition to the literature of chip collecting. Rather than written descriptions, the book contains very clear, high-resolution scans of the chips cataloged.

Each chip is assigned a catalog number, which aids collectors in referring to chips, as well as a guide to value. Obsolete chips (as well as ships and cruise lines) are specifically noted. Often, varieties are listed, as are dates of operation.

The 56-page guide is organized by category: current cruise lines, former cruise lines, management companies, poker tournament chips, fantasies, samples, etc. An alphabetical index is also included, and I found it an absolute necessity because when I tried looking up some of my own chips, I found it a bit difficult to flip among the sections to find the particular chip.

Something I found a bit disconcerting was the inclusion of the same chip with different catalog numbers in cases where the chip was used on more than one ship owned by the same cruise line. To my thinking, a

catalog number, once assigned to a chip, should be discreet and not repeated. Nor should the same chip be assigned a different catalog number merely because it was used in more than one place.

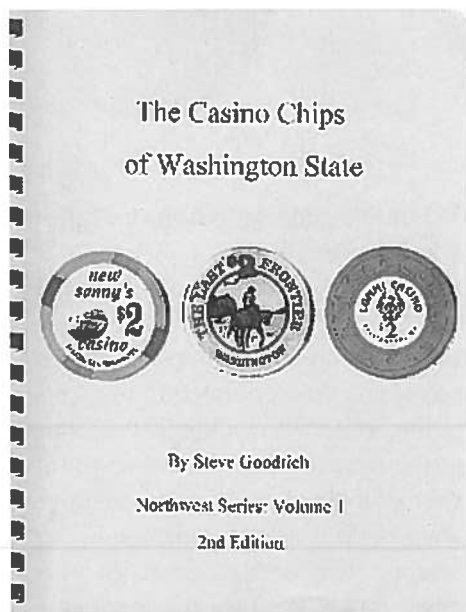
"Each chip is assigned a catalog number, which aids collectors in referring to chips, as well as a guide to value"

I must also say that one of the decisions the authors made reduces, for me, the value of this book. Chips which appear illustrated elsewhere (for example, on Greg Susong's online Chipguide) have been omitted from the book. That means that the book is not an exhaustive list of cruise ship chips, and the collector must resort to several different sources to identify and value the chips in his collection.

For what it covers, however, the Smith/Long book is an excellent resource, and the clear, colorful chip illustrations will be appreciated by all "wet chip" collectors. Copies may be ordered from John at jhlmkl@earthlink.net or from Patty: allen.n.smith@gte.net.

The Casino Chips of Washington State

(Northwest Series: Volume 1, 2nd Edition; 2003),
by Steve Goodrich



Steve Goodrich has long been known as “Mr. PNW” (Pacific Northwest), and the two books he’s published so far on the chips of Washington and Montana are the standard price guides and catalogs for those areas. This is the second edition of his Washington State book, the first having been published in 2001.

This is not a place for pretty pictures, but it is the place for the most detailed descriptions of Washington chips available to the collector. Unlike the first edition, Steve has added very helpful catalog numbers to his descriptions, allowing collectors to refer to chips by number rather than lengthy descriptions.

Goodrich’s introduction briefly discusses the history of gaming in Washington. From territorial times through the 1950’s, gambling in the State was most often illegal. There was, however, little if any enforcement, and card clubs which grew

from early saloons were widely tolerated.

In the 1960’s, many of the State’s poker rooms were slowly shut down by local pressure, until finally in 1969 the State’s Attorney General announced that Washington would strictly enforce its ban on gaming. Before the process of shutting every card room was complete, the legislature legalized card rooms in 1973, taxed them, and regulated them on a statewide basis.

The next major event for Washington was the opening in 1991 of the Lummi tribal casino, which included Las Vegas style blackjack and roulette (and later, slot machines as well). Reexamination of the State’s policy on gambling followed, and in 1997 the first non-tribal full casino (there still aren’t dice games in Washington) opened. Since then, casino-style clubs have proliferated, but the unintended effect has been to squeeze out many of the smaller poker rooms that had operated before (and even after, clandestinely) the 1969 gaming ban.

The varied and colorful history of gaming in Washington is similar to that in Montana and other western states, whose history is firmly planted in saloon/gambling hall roots.

Although the pages aren’t numbered, the book contains about 120 pages (I cheated: I counted them!) which, aside from the introduction

and index, are detailed listings of Washington’s chips, with catalog numbers and valuations.

“This is not a place for pretty pictures, but it is the place for the most detailed descriptions of Washington chips available to the collector”

The book is organized alphabetically, regardless of geographical location, which is contained in each listing with the address of each club. Usually, dates of operation are also provided, although sometimes the dates are approximate. The index is indispensable, because many Washington chips contain only initials or symbols, making identification challenging. The index simplifies that task.

Goodrich’s book may be ordered from the author by e-mail at SteveMrPNW@turbonet.com

Next time: three books to review! Jim Munding’s *The Book of Casino Room Keys*, Earl Donley’s *A List of the World’s Gaming Tokens*, and the second edition of Al Moe’s *Nevada’s Golden Age of Gambling*.

Chip FAQ



by Will Knight

I hope you've enjoyed the first two installments of the Chip FAQ as much as I enjoyed writing them. This quarter's installment was very fun to put together and is from the "Trading Chips" section of FAQ. You can view the entire Chip FAQ online in the Hobby Resources section at <http://www.2chippers.com>.

If you have a question that you would like to submit to the FAQ, please email me at will@2chippers.com, and I'll do my best to answer it and add it to the FAQ.

What's a Trader and how do I get one?

(Question contributed by Terry Shaffer)

A Trader is simply a chip of yours that you're willing to trade to someone else for another chip. Traders are the basic commodity of the chipping universe. Money allows you to purchase chips but only traders allow you to trade.

In my humble opinion, trading is superior to purchasing for a couple of significant reasons. First, if you are able to purchase your traders at face value at a casino, you're saving serious money when trading versus purchasing. Most people sell \$1 chips for

\$2 - \$3, but they'll trade you that same chip at face value for one of your own. So if you purchased your trader for \$1, you save \$1 - \$2 per chip!

You can obtain traders from several sources, but the cheapest (and most fun) is to obtain them at a casino. You get to purchase them at face value (saves money), and you get to revel in the atmosphere of the casino.

Note that members of the Chips@FaceValue list are an exceptional group of chippers who've pledged to sell chips at face value with no markup - just a small charge (no more than \$1) for postage. In general, purchasing from members of this list can be equated to trading in terms of saving money. See <http://www32.brinkster.com/chipjunkie/chipsatface.htm> for more information on the Chips@Face list.

If you can't purchase your traders at a casino, start at the Chips@FaceValue list telling the members you'd like to purchase some chips. Then move onto your other online resources such as eBay and Jackpot Auctions looking for deals on chip lots. Of course, you'll also pick up the occasional trader here and there as you acquire duplicates in your collection.

What are good guidelines to follow when trading?

(Question and Answer contributed by Jim Gagnon)

First and foremost, in all your correspondence, trade-related or not, be polite. Your fellow chippers are some of the most wonderful people you'll ever encounter, and the last thing you want to do is offend someone by sending them a short, terse, impolite email/post. Let's face it - email is tremendously notorious for being mis-interpreted since it cannot convey tone. So be very polite, friendly, and yes, if necessary, use a smiley emotion :)

Now, when initiating a trade, always specify the chip(s) you're interested in trading for by casino name, city, and chip denomination. You may need to specify mold, inserts, etc. as well if the person you're dealing with has many traders (some people have hundreds!). The last thing you want to receive is a chip that's different from the one for which you thought you were trading. Also, if condition is of importance to you (some people like to collect only Uncirculated chips), inquire as to the condition of the chip. Once you receive it, it will be too late to complain if you didn't ask about it up front.

Likewise, be completely honest about the condition of your own chips. Do not represent a chip as New if it has any signs of wear. Do not send your trade partner a scan of a chip "just like" the one you plan on sending him. ALL used chips are different and no two are alike once they've been on the tables. Your trading partner will be planning on receiving the chip he saw in the scan - not a different one. If you don't have a scan of the chip you plan to trade him, at least let him know that the scan you're sending him is not a scan of the actual chip he will receive. This will save much headache when he receives it.

Once the trade/sale is agreed-upon, write down the specifics in your records. Not keeping records was my biggest mistake as a new chipper. If I'd kept a record up front, I'd have only had one list to consult (instead of dozens of emails) to make sure I didn't forget something.

Once I've recorded the transactions in my records, I package up the traders I have to send (or the check I have to mail). When packaging chips, be sure to use some sort of protective packaging. Postal machines are notorious for mangling packages, and the last thing you want is an unhappy trade partner who received a damaged chip because you failed to package it properly.

Bubble-mailers are highly recommended. You will receive most of your chips in them, and they're easy to recycle with a little tape and some new labels. You can also buy them new for as little as \$.20 apiece at www.2chippers.com. Some people send the chips in flips or paper or plastic packages as well, but I find

bubble-wrap to be the most cost effective. I can buy a HUGE roll of the stuff at Wal-Mart for like \$3.00, and I can literally wrap hundreds of chips in it.

Once your chips (or payment) are packaged, send them out immediately. Even the best of us forget to drop a package in the mail, so it helps to go ahead and send it out while it's fresh on your mind. After-all, you want to receive your chips ASAP, so provide the same courtesy as you would like to receive.

Next, when you receive your package, inspect the chips to make sure that you received exactly what you thought you were trading for. Once you're satisfied, take the time to send your trade partner a courteous email/note thanking them for the trade and expressing your satisfaction. I promise you'll make a long-term friend.

In the rare event that you didn't receive what you expected, contact your trade partner and politely explain to him your discrepancy. Especially if he is a member of the CC>CC, he should cheerfully offer to make things right either by sending you a different chip or by refunding your money/chips altogether. That's one of the benefits of trading with a member of the CC>CC - we're bound by a code of ethics to ensure satisfaction with each and every trade - you should strive to do the same.

Finally - sit back and enjoy the newest addition to your growing collection, because you don't have much time before the next one arrives!!!

At what value are chips commonly traded?

Chips that are current or common are usually traded at face value. In other words, a \$1 chip that is still available at the casino of issue is usually tradable for another \$1 chip that is also still available at a casino. However, once a casino stops issuing a chip, that chip becomes "obsolete" and it starts to increase in value as its availability decreases. However, a good rule of thumb for a beginning chipper is that chips generally trade at face value.

Most people like to trade at face value. However, there will be the occasion where you may want to trade chips of one denomination for another. For example, someone may offer to trade you several \$1 current chips for one of your \$5 current chips. A good rule of thumb here is that 3-4 \$1 chips is generally a good trade for a \$5 chip. The reason that you generally don't get a strictly equal dollar-value trade (say five \$1's for one \$5), is that there is a certain expense involved with obtaining each chip regardless of its denomination and it is usually figured into the trade. So if you average a cost of \$0.25 for obtaining each chip, the inequality of a trade of five \$1's ($\$1.25 \times 5 = \6.25) for one \$5 ($\$5.25 \times 1 = \5.25) becomes evident.

When trading for obsolete chips, rare chips, and even some Limited Edition chips, the face-value rule-of-thumb doesn't usually apply. Here your best bet is to utilize a good chip-value reference guide such as *The Chip Rack* or *The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide*. These books will give you a good idea of your chip's value as well as the value of the chip for which you're considering trading.

What is a Round Robin?

A Round Robin is a very popular chip trading format or system. Generally one person sponsors a Round Robin by posting a message on www.thechipboard.com advertising it. This message defines the types of chips to be traded (\$1's, \$5's, LE's, etc.), the number of chips included (generally 40-100), and the number of participants allowed (generally 10 - 20). As participants respond, the sponsor adds them to his list until it is full. Once the list is full, he emails the complete list to the participants and sends out the designated number of chips to the first person on the list.

The first recipient is then free to take any number of chips from those he receives, but he must replace them with an equal number from his own collection. When he is done he notifies the people on the list (usually via The Chip Board) and ships it to the next recipient. This pattern continues until the last person on the list makes his selection and then returns the set of chips to the original sponsor.

Hopefully, the sponsor will have a completely new set of chips when it returns to him, and each of the participants has had an equally good chance to add a large number of new chips to their respective collection.

Although this is a much slower trading system than a Shotgun, it provides you with more control over the chips for which you're trading. You actually get to examine each chip offered and select only those you like. You can trade for all of them or even none of them if none of them meet your needs.

What is a Shotgun?

A Shotgun is another popular chip trading format or system. Generally one person sponsors a Shotgun by posting a message on www.thechipboard.com advertising it. This message defines the types of chips to be traded (\$1's, \$5's, LE's, etc.), the number of chips to be sent to each participant (generally 2 - 5), and the number of participants allowed (generally 10 - 20). Once the list is full, he emails the complete list to the participants and each participant then sends out the designated number of chips to everyone on the list. In return, each participant will receive the designated number of chips from everyone else on the list.

This is a much faster trading system than a Round Robin. However, it is a little more random in that you don't get to select which chips you're trading for. Plus, unlike a Round Robin, you're committed to trading the full number of chips.

How can I advertise/publish my Traders list and Wants list?

(Question contributed by Terry Shaffer)

The easiest way to advertise your Traders list and Wants list is to make a post on www.thechipboard.com. If you have scans of the chips, include them. If not, include the details of each chip and each chip's condition. On one hand, this is a great way to generate interest as you're virtually guaranteed to have hundreds of people view your traders/wants. On the other hand, this process is only good for a day or two as the messages age quickly and must be repeated frequently for any sustained interest.

A more permanent alternative is to create a web site where you can publish pictures of your traders and want list. Once you have a homepage, you can generate the same interest in a post to The Chip Board by simply posting a "FOR TRADE" message and including the link to your web site.

How can I find other Trade Lists?

(Question contributed by Terry Shaffer)

Easy. Use your favorite Internet search engine (I use Yahoo) and search on keywords such as "Casino Chips", Chippers, Cheques, etc. along with the phrase "Trade" You'll find dozens of links to other chipper's web sites.

You can also use the Hobby Resources page at www.2chippers.com for a list of chippers' web sites. Most chippers' pages, in turn, have a links page where you can network from site to site looking for traders.

How can I find other chippers in my area?

There are a couple of resources to use to find other chippers near you. First, I would find out if there is a local chapter in your area. You may find that information on the CC>CC's Local Chapters page. If you find one, contact the chapter - they should be most helpful.

The other resource I suggest is The Chip Board. Post a message stating that you're a new member or prospective member and are looking to find other chippers in your area. Depending on what area you're in, you may get many or few responses.

How can I keep my (multiple, simultaneous) trades organized?

(Questions contributed by Rick Miner, answers contributed by Terry Shaffer and John Zoesch)

As a chipper, you may find yourself inundated with multiple trades to many different trade partners all occurring simultaneously, and without a good organizational system, this could spell disaster. For example, it's not uncommon for me to receive 4-5 emails from a trade partner while we finalize the details of the trade. Now, if I engage in just a couple of trades each day, that's 46 to 70 emails each week. That's a lot of paper trail to have to hunt through to make sure each person is sent the right chips and that I receive what I'm supposed to receive. As you can imagine, a good record keeping system is almost imperative.

I keep a trade record log with the following information for each trade...

1. Trade Partner's Name, email, and address
2. Chips for which I'm trading (including Casino, Denom, and condition)
3. Chips I'm trading
4. Date Items were Sent
5. Date Items were Received
6. Date of Follow-up Email

Once I've recorded items 1 - 3, I have all the details I need in one place for reference when I need to check on the transaction. Also, the log serves as a "to-do" list for me in completing each transaction.

When packaging my chips for mailing, I also find it helpful to include a copy of the final email that contains the details of the agreed-

upon trade. This is helpful to me as a final re-assurance that the order is correct, and it's helpful to the recipient as a reminder of the trade when he receives the chips.

Once I've mailed my chips at the post office, I enter the date in my record log. Likewise, when I receive my partner's chips in the mail, I also enter the date. The dates are good for future reference to let you know what your average turn-around time is (in case you need to improve it) and what the average turn-around time is for each trader so you know what to expect from them. And finally, once I've emailed my trade partner to make sure they received my chips and to let them know I received theirs, I enter the date I sent the email to let myself know that I completed the transaction.

This record also provides good reference data. After the first trade with any particular partner, you won't have to ask for their mailing address again. Also, you can include notes about each trade such as whether or not you were satisfied with the trade and the reasons. It might keep you from trading with a particular person in the future if you look back at your notes and read that the last trade involved misrepresented chips and several weeks delay in the receiving them!

One more nice feature about this system is flexible enough to be kept in a notebook or in a spreadsheet or database on a computer.

How do International chips trade with Domestic chips?

(Question contributed by Keith Murrey)

Trading domestic chips for international chips at face value is a personal decision. Some people will trade \$1 domestic chips for 1 unit chips from other countries (1 pound, 1 lira, etc.) - their viewpoint is that any chip is worth a dollar and they don't mind if the exchange rate is not exactly even. Others, however, like to trade according to exchange rates - especially for rare or old chips, or when they're trading in large numbers (where the difference in exchange rates would leave one of the traders at a great disadvantage if they traded at face).

The bottom line is that it's a personal decision for you - trade for what you're comfortable with. If, like some, you feel any chip is worth a buck, don't fret over a \$.25 or \$.75 difference in exchange rates.

I'm always up for a trade, so next time you need a chip fix, don't hesitate to contact me at www.2chippers.com. I collect any \$1 chips and any Four Queens chips. Also, in addition to hundreds of chips, slot cards, dice, matches, and many other casino collectables, you will find a full line of supplies at mine and Wayne Murphy's new web site <http://www.2chippers.com>.

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Silver Strikes to the Max!

by Rick Pokracki
aka Rverboat Rick

Everyone has a little silver strike story, however, this one always stands out in my mind. It was the summer of 1999, and I was lucky before I ever arrived in Las Vegas, because my beautiful bride had surprised me with Father's day plane tickets to the CC>CC convention. As luck would have it, a Sunday flight home was arranged, so I had a day after the convention to do some chip runs and see newly opened resorts.

Upon hearing the Maxim was going to close, I wanted to make sure that I stopped by and got a few chips, however, by the time I had gotten there, only the bottom of the chip rack remained, so I grabbed only a few chips, the best the cashier could find. The cashier was courteous and ready for my collector needs, which always helps, but also tells me so many others had come before me. So when I walked past the silver strike machine, one could only imagine the doubts of its contents, because I had heard from other strikers, that the machine was not in play. But for some reason, I could not escape its gravitational pull! So I sat down and in went my friend Andrew Jackson, and very quickly, he came out with nothing. I recall thinking my money would have lasted longer if I took the \$20 bill and set it on fire! Another double saw Buck this time and I got to play a little, which is always fun,

but not before 2 strikes came out on the carpet.

I figured I broke even – kinda sorta – as I tried to talk myself into chasing another 20 in the machine. After a few close calls, 1 more strike lined up to drop and the hopper was empty. So as casino employees promptly came to fill the hopper, I eagerly awaited my prizes to fall out and noticed a few red flags. First, the hopper fill was a partial one, not a full hopper fill, and secondly, all the casino personal appeared to stand behind me and watch the machine, like strikers gazing upon the 3 sevens on the max coin line! I became more driven to stay, when behind me, I over heard an employee say that these strikes were the last of them. Another red flag aroused when a well dressed man in a suit and tie, and with a key in hand, turned the key in the side of the machine or something, and stood back with his hand on the machine with special interest – like a proud father touching his sons shoulder after a good deed.

For after that, I used the remaining credits to fuel my play; the strikes seem to come out so fast I could not count them. As if the machine was in tournament mode. When it was all over with, the strikes filled the tray and the hopper was empty again, this time for good.

I gathered my strikes and thanked my audience. As I was leaving I could see the seemingly proud father with suit, tie and key in hand, promptly shut down the machine – for good. I was happy with my gifts, and all the employees seemed happy too, probably happy to be rid of the tokens, the machine and the happy collector.

However, my happiness was dubious. For as I approached the exit door for the last time, I noticed a sound not often heard in a casino – the sound of silence. I looked back at the expired machine and the empty casino, with mixed feelings. Perhaps I felt sadness for the casino, employees and such, but also a feeling of pride, having participated in casino history. Or, more specifically, the closing of a casino. It reminded me of how I read about casino closings in Doug's Chip Chat, or his fact filled, humorous; auction catalogs, and wish I had been there. This time I was there, and got some silver strikes to the Max!

Casino Dice Storage and Conservation

by Jeffrey Fairchild

How do you store and display your casino dice? When I started collecting casino dice in the mid 90s, I had them dumped together in a box. While this was ok for the short term and a few dice I wanted to keep them from rattling together and getting damaged. This became a real issue when I acquired my first nitrate dice that were starting to crystallize and they got chipped up rather badly. As my collection grew the problems increased prompting me to look for a better solution. Dice will not fit into plastic sheets in a notebook like chips and there was nothing on the market at that time to conveniently store them. I found that storage trays with the dice pushed down into styrofoam worked well but have since discovered that this is not a good thing for long term storage.

Contrary to popular belief, plastic is not forever. The polymers that make up a plastic will begin to unravel with time, a process that is accelerated by heat, ultraviolet light, and sometimes moisture. In the case of casino dice all 3 of these are damaging.

Older dice will be made from cellulose nitrate plastic. With age they will become brittle and start to crys-

tallize. This is often seen as a crazing or chipping at the corners that can progress to the entire die. Heat and UV light are the main culprits in accelerating the degradation of nitrate dice. The acidic byproducts of deteriorating nitrate plastic will also cause deterioration of nearby nitrate and other dice.

Newer dice (mid 50s on) will be cellulose acetate. While this is a much more stable and less flammable plastic than cellulose nitrate it too will degrade with time. Acetate degradation is also accelerated by heat and UV light. Deteriorating acetate dice will darken in color and warp appearing to “implode”. They will have a characteristic vinegar smell as the acetic acid separates from the polymer base. The degradation byproducts, as with nitrate dice, are damaging to other dice and plastic items.

A museum curator would have dice stored on ceramic or glass shelves as degradation byproducts are damaging to other plastics, wood, and metal. They would also be in a climate-controlled case with UV filtering glass. This is not practical for most collectors. A more practical archive safe choice is storage trays

made of acid free mat board with cotton padding. Polyurethane and Styrofoam should be avoided for long term storage (ok for 4 years or less), as the degradation byproducts of these foams will corrode the dice. Polyethylene foam or “ethafoam” is advertised to be archive safe (20 years) but long term studies are not yet available. Dice should be stored out of direct sunlight or other bright lights and heat. Dice stored in display frames should have museum quality UV filtering glass. It is a bit more expensive than regular glass but can be easily obtained from most framing shops. Long term storage and display containers should have air vents and be in a cool dry place out of direct sunlight. Avoid drastic changes in temperature and humidity. Other plastic collectibles, such as swizzle sticks, will also degrade with exposure to heat and UV light so the same storage precautions will apply.

There are some conservation steps that can increase the life span of dice that have started to deteriorate. Deteriorating dice should be isolated from stable dice to prevent degradation byproducts from “infecting” them. The dice should be cleaned with a damp swab and then dried with a clean swab to remove acidic

byproducts. Care should be taken not to use a lot of water, as crystallized nitrate plastic is partially soluble in water. Once cleaned nitrate dice should be given a "clear coat". This will seal them somewhat slowing degradation and reduce the fragility. Many collectors do not want to "alter" their dice in this way but unsealed crystallizing nitrate dice are very fragile and will eventually end up as little piles of dust. Lacquer or clear nail polish makes a good clear coat. Remember to coat the inside of and drill holes. Currently there is not much that can be done to stabilize acetate dice once they catch the dreaded "vinegar syndrome" other than clean and isolate them so as not to "infect other dice. The storage media around deteriorating dice should be monitored closely for signs of acid byproducts. Mat board or padding that starts to yellow should be replaced and the dice from the yellowing area cleaned before placed in new storage media. A silicate or zeolite resin desiccant packet placed in with the dice can help absorb degradation byproducts but should not come in contact with the dice. Ventilation will help keep off gassing byproducts from concentrating in the storage container.

Additional damaging items to dice are adhesive tape, stickers, and glue. These should be cleaned off, as over time they will eat into the dice. Adhesive tape and stickers can be cleaned off of acetate dice with lighter fluid or WD40. I have also found this safe for nitrate dice that are not badly crystallized. Care should be taken with older dice that the cleaning medium does not dissolve the logo, Alcohol is really bad for this and lighter fluid can dissolve some older logo paint. Glue can be carefully scraped off with a razor blade or removed with fine sandpaper. Dice that are glued together can often be separated after soaking overnight in cool water (this should be avoided for nitrate dice that are crystallized). Soiled dice can be cleaned with a damp cloth or swab. Mild soap can be used on acetate dice and nitrate that is not badly crystallized.

Rubbing with a crayon can restore faded logos but this works well only for white or yellow. Gold and silver crayon do not look quite right. If you know the original colors, logos can be restored with water based acrylic craft paint (easy water clean-up if you make a mistake). This paint comes in

many colors including metallics that simulate foil quite well. Acrylic is a fairly stable polymer but has not been tested on the dice long term. I have test dice on the shelf for 2 years now; we will see how they are doing at 5 and 10 years.

It is a good idea to make a record of your dice before attempting any heavy cleaning or restoration by scanning or photographing them. This way if something goes wrong you will still have a preserved what they looked like and if all goes well you will have a "before and after" picture. I am slowly scanning all the dice in my collection for a digital catalog. Also if you have not started cataloging your dice in a database of some kind, do it now before it gets out of hand. I started cataloging with about 150 pairs and by the time I got caught up had over 400 pairs.

Here's hoping your dice and other prize casino items stand the test of time. I hope to see a lot of dice at the 2004 convention, both on dealer tables and in trading.

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