

# Casino Chip And Token News



Voted In The Top 5



RIVIERA

ENTRANCE



# Colorado Casino Collectibles Show

sponsored by the Colorado Casino Collectibles Club

At The . . . .



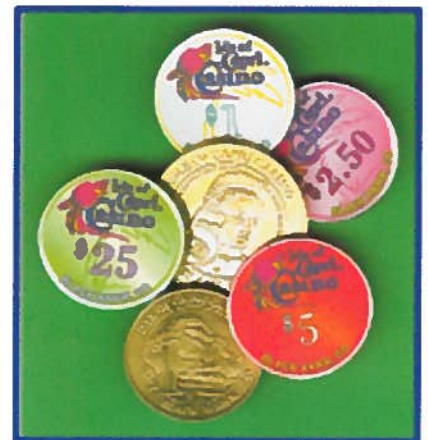
BLACK HAWK, CO

**August 27 - 28, 2005**

**Isle of Capri Casino and Hotel**

**In historic and scenic Black Hawk, Colorado**

**(just 1/2 hour West of Denver)**



## Free Admission!



-Enjoy the fall splendor of the Rocky Mountain West!



-26 casinos in Black Hawk and Central City



-Discount room rates



-Free drawings and giveaways

-Dealers save 25% with early registration - Deadline: July 25

Come see . . . .

- \* Chips
- \* Tokens
- \* Silver Strikes
- \* Commemoratives
- \* Apparel & Glassware
- \* Memorabilia of all kind
- \* And good friends . . . .

For dealer tables or show information, please contact:

Bill Richardson E-mail: [bill@roecinc.com](mailto:bill@roecinc.com) or call (303) 778-6008



## CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS

A publication of

The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

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**AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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

Regular  Student  Junior  Senior  Associate  
Present or former ANA number, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs  Ms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, please print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Country Date of Birth

ANA bylaws require the publication of each applicant's name and state.

Please check here \_\_\_ if you DO NOT want your name and address forwarded to the ANA representative in your area.

Please check here \_\_\_ if you would like your name provided to companies with offers we feel may interest you.

I herewith make application for membership in the American Numismatic association, subject to the Bylaws of said Association. I also agree to abide by the Code of Ethics adopted by the Association.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant Date

**Proposer**

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Check  Money Order  Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card all Numbers Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Cardholder (Required)

**Dues**

- Regular (age 23-64) \$36 International \$48\*
- Junior (age 22 or younger) \$20
- Senior Citizen (age 65 older) \$31 International \$43\*
- Club \$36
- Life \$1,000
- Senior Life \$750

\* US Funds

**Forward completed application to:  
ANA**

818 Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279

**SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION DATES**

*Winter Issue* January, February, March  
Mailing Date: January

*Spring Issue* April, May, June  
Mailing Date: April

*Summer Issue* July, August, September  
Mailing Date: July

*Fall Issue* 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**

Fall Issue 2005

is September 1<sup>st</sup> 2005

**Publication and Ad Deadline Dates**

Winter: Jan-Feb-Mar	Deadline for Ads: December 1 <sup>st</sup>
Spring: Apr-May-Jun	Deadline for Ads: March 1 <sup>st</sup>
Summer: Jul-Aug-Sep	Deadline for Ads: June 1 <sup>st</sup>
Fall: Oct-Nov-Dec	Deadline for Ads: September 1 <sup>st</sup>

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> class mail.

**DISPLAY AD RATES**

<b>1/8 Page</b>	(Business Card) Standard size 2" x 3.5"	\$20.00
<b>1/4 Page</b>	(Camera Ready) Width: 3.50" x Height: 4.75"	\$35.00
<b>1/2 Page</b>	(Camera Ready) Width: 7.50" x Height: 4.75"	\$60.00
<b>Full Page</b>	(Camera Ready) Width: 7.50" x Height: 9.50"	\$100.00
<b>Back Cover with Full Color</b>		\$500.00
<b>Inside Covers with Full Color</b>	Width: 7.50" x Height: 10.00"	\$325.00
<b>Inside Facing Pages</b>	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&GTCC. No ad will be run without payment.

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

**CONTRACT DISCOUNT ADVERTISING RATES**

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

Full payment must be sent in with your contract ad request

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

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 CC&GTCC# \_\_\_\_\_

Need help in working up your ad? Just give us a call at  
 562-408-2463 and ask for C.T. Rodgers  
 Fax - 562-634-8107  
 E-Mail - ctcoins@aol.com

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

Charles T. Rodgers  
 Advertising Manager, CC&GTCC  
 P. O. Box 4572 Lakewood CA 90711

# CC&GTCC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

My collection interests are:

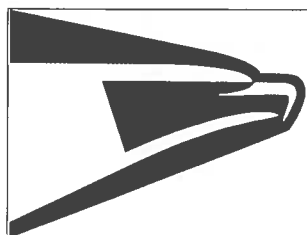
- Chips       Tokens  
 U.S.       Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

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

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

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



### First Class Mail

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

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

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

CC&GTCC 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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**PRINTING** PALMER PRINTING

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**TREASURER** MIKE QUINLIVAN  
**SECRETARY** BELINDA HIXON  
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Original articles are encouraged and are welcomed by the Editor. However, no assurance is implied that such material will be used or returned to the author. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not represent those of The Casino Chip and Token News or the Editorial staff.

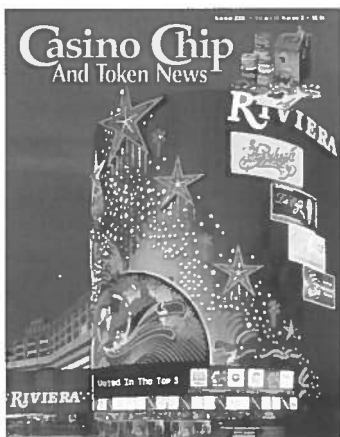


# Casino Chip And Token News

A publication of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.  
A Member of the American Numismatic Association (C-140538)



Summer 2005 Volume 18 Number 3



*Cover Story*  
**Riviera Hotel and Casino  
50th Anniversary**

*Photo Courtesy*  
Riviera Hotel and Casino

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CC&GTCC Annual Convention  
August 3rd - 6th  
Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas Nevada

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# New CC&GTCC Claims Form

Enclosed in this issue of the magazine is the new, standardized CC & GTCC Claims Form. You **MUST** use this form to file a Claim against another Club member.

Up until now, there has never been a uniform, standardized way of filing a Claim against another member for an alleged Code of Ethics violation. Claims have been filed over the years in formats ranging from hand written notes, typed 5-6 page letters to just an email saying "I want to file a claim against \_\_\_\_\_".

Most of the time the information provided to the Club is vague and/or incomplete. The Claims Director may spend more time gathering basic information that should have been provided in the first place, than on resolving the issue at hand.

This form provides all the basic information needed by the Club, in written form, first hand from the member filing the complaint.

The process will work as follows:

1. Fill out the form completely, sign and date it.
2. Forward it Vice-President Wayne Thompson.
3. V.P. Thompson will make an initial determination on the Claim.
4. If further action or investigation is warranted, V.P. Thompson will forward the form to the Claims Director to open a Claims Investigation.
5. The Claims Director will work to mutually resolve the matter between the parties or if that is not possible, make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for the appropriate action.
6. The Board will act on the recommendation and the final report of the Claims Director. The parties involved will be notified of the final decision of the Board by Vice President Thompson.

IF you find it necessary to file a Claim against a fellow Club member, please help us to resolve the matter as quickly as possible by using the Claims Form.

\*The form will be available on the Club website at [www.ccgccc.com](http://www.ccgccc.com) for you to download and print out. We are working on a program that will allow you to fill out the form online and send it electronically to Vice President Thompson. We will notify the membership once this format is available.



## Renew Your Membership Online





# From the Editor's Desk



Allan Anderson

As I start my 6th year publishing the club magazine I would like to thank every contributor who has made the magazine the success it is. At the same time I'd like to solicit articles from different areas of the country and the world. Since our readership covers most of the globe I'd like to cover as many areas as possible so we can all learn about them. If you want to submit an article about illegal clubs, casino histories or about your own collection, send it to me to share with our readership. I'm also getting requests for the magazine from other publications and casinos across the country. With the popularity of the magazine growing, now would be a good time to consider advertising.

Recently Bud Meyer had his van broken into. He lost 10 binders of chips, some security guard badges, as well as other miscellaneous items. Please keep an eye out for someone offering chips that seem suspicious. If you hear anything about this, please send an email to [editor@ccgtcc.com](mailto:editor@ccgtcc.com) or contact any board member. The binders were marked with either a Nevada town such as Reno, Tahoe, Las Vegas, or Small Towns. Additionally he had a crest and seal binder. Bud lives in the San Francisco bay area.

As another convention get closer it's time once again to meet old friends and make new ones. It's also a time to remember the club members that we lost over the past year: Bob Feeney, Audrey Zaslowsky, Michael Par, Harvey Fuller, John Mayercik, Theodore Weisenstein, Bettye Mowrey, Jim Pierre and Bob Ginsburg (Florida)S. They will be missed.

For those who plan to attend the ANA's World's Fair of Money convention in San Francisco, it's being held July 27 - 31, at the Moscone West Convention Center, 800 Howard Street, San Francisco California. Why not stop off there before going to our convention the following week.

Thanks to Jim and Sandi Steffner and all the volunteers who make the convention the success it is. A lot of work goes into putting a show like this together and if you see them make sure you give them a big thank you. I'll see you there.

**The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.**

Wants you to advertise in your quarterly magazine for FREE

This coupon is worth one FREE one-inch ad  
in *Casino Chip & Token News*

Deadline for ads are  
March 1<sup>st</sup> for 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr. issue    June 1<sup>st</sup> for 3<sup>rd</sup> qtr. issue  
Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> for 4<sup>th</sup> qtr. issue    Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> for 1<sup>st</sup> qtr. issue

Send all ads to the following:  
Charles T. Rodgers, Advertising Manager  
P.O. Box 4572 - Lakewood, CA 90711  
Need help call 562-408-2463 or E-Mail [advertising@ccgtcc.com](mailto:advertising@ccgtcc.com)

Coupon is not good as a discount on any other ad. Must be used for one-inch ad, one time only.

Expires one year from date \_\_\_\_\_



Free one inch ad in *The Casino Chip and Token News* when you renew your membership.

# President's Letter



**Mike Skelton**

By the time you read this, we will be just barely a month away from the start of the 13th Annual CC & GTCC Convention in Las Vegas! The planning by Convention Chairman Jim Steffner and the committee volunteers is in full swing now as they anticipate the arrival of Club members at the Riviera the first week of August. We hope that you are able to join in all the fun and celebrations August 3-6!

The Convention staff can still use additional volunteers! It's not too late to offer your help for a few hours in the production of YOUR convention. Please contact either Bob Bickford, Volunteer Coordinator at [oldbera@wowway.com](mailto:oldbera@wowway.com) or Convention Chairman Jim Steffner at [convention@ccgtcc.com](mailto:convention@ccgtcc.com) to offer your assistance. There will be a special surprise in store for volunteers this year!

The one area where we always need additional help is with the set up and the breakdown of the convention. This year it will especially necessary to have as much help as possible, with the convention being in August. The more folks we have assisting in this, the faster and easier it will go on everyone. If we don't have enough people volunteer to help with the set up, we will have to pull volunteers from other areas. This may mean that there will be no one available to open up the trade session room on Wednesday! And wouldn't you feel bad sitting in the cool, air conditioned trade room, having a ball, while your fellow Club members are sweltering in the August heat preparing the convention for your enjoyment? Think about it!

Once we do have everything set up, prepare yourself to enjoy the finest convention to date! We will have another excellent Keynote Speaker at this year's Banquet, longtime gaming and hotel executive Richard J. Goeglein. You will see the largest convention floor ever, Educational Seminars each day, Poker and Black Jack tournaments, Exhibits, the Bruce Landau Memorial Auction, special handouts compliments of the CC & GTCC, fund raisers for the Building Fund and much more! Be sure and stop by the Club Promotions table for all the new Club merchandise and say hello to our new Promotions Director Roy Nelson. You don't want to miss a minute of the 2005 CC & GTCC Convention!

Hope to see each and every one of you at the Riviera August 3rd - 6th to help us celebrate the Las Vegas Centennial, the Riviera's 50th Anniversary and most of all, the 13th Annual CC & GTCC Convention! Travel Safe!

And remember to have FUN!

Mike Skelton

This year the Club has lost some of our finest members. Just recently we were all saddened by the passing of Jim Pierre and Ms. Bettye Mowery within days of each other. Just before going to press, we learned of the passing of Club member Bob Ginsburg of Florida. Our collective condolences go out to the families and friends of these fine people. We will miss each of them so very much.



# Vice President's Letter



Wayne **Thompson**

As I mentioned last quarter we want to start an "Ask the Expert" program. With all the new members coming in as well as with the specialization we all need help from time to time. We have had some response but not nearly what we should have had. We all have relied on others to educate us as we grew in this hobby. Now is the time to be repaying all the help each of us has gotten over the years. No matter what your expertise, whether it is Riverboats, Indian Casinos, California, Las Vegas, Reno, Tahoe, Atlantic City, Colorado, Crest and Seals, Illegals, Silver Strikes, Slot Cards, Room Keys, Tokens, Ice Machines (in memory of Dr. Bob) or any area I haven't listed, please consider volunteering to help your fellow members. The amount of time involved will be nominal and as with everything we do in this hobby it is a way to meet new friends. Remember the mission of our organization is education, and this is just another way to address that mission. Please e-mail me at [vicepresident@ccgtcc.com](mailto:vicepresident@ccgtcc.com) and offer your expertise.

As always our Convention co-chairs Jim and Sandi along with their many volunteers have worked hard all year and we are all looking forward to undoubtedly the biggest and best Convention yet. One of the Club's favorite friends, Ms. Claudine Williams and her able (?) assistant Jim Kruse have come through with another great banquet speaker, Mr. Richard J. Goeglein. If you are not familiar with Mr. Goeglein please go to the Club website and read President Skelton's announcement. It's evening you won't want to miss!

I'm sure President Skelton will mention this also, but if any member has something they would like the Board or membership to address please contact one of the officers as far in advance of the Convention as possible so we can get it on either the Board's agenda or the Business meeting agenda.

Something the Board never forgets but can never be said too much is "Thank You" to everyone who has taken an active role in the Club's activities and projects. You are the people that make the hobby fun for all of us.

I look forward to seeing everyone in August at the Convention.

Wayne Thompson

# Treasurer's Report



**Mike Quinlivan**

As of April 30, 2005, the cash balance in the Club's accounts is \$231,320. For the first four months of 2005, the Club treasury increased its cash position by \$45,980, excluding Convention tournament registration of \$9,200 and Building Fund donations of \$1,185. This does not include the expenditure for the Spring issue of the Club magazine. Please see the accompanying financial statements for more detail related to income, expenditures, and the breakdown of the equity accounts.

## Highlights for the first 4 months of 2005:

1. 11 members became Life Members. The Club now has 109 Life Members and 5 Honorar Life Members.
2. Convention 2005 paid registration through April 30, 2005:
  - a. Pre-registration – 192 for \$1,920
  - b. Banquet – 137 for \$4,795
  - c. Poker Tournament - 94 for \$7,520
  - d. Blackjack Tournament – 21 for \$1,680
3. The balance in the Building Fund is \$59,438.
4. The audit of the 2004 Club records was performed on February 1, 2005. A hearty thanks to Mike Skelton, Dave Harber and Tyrus Mulkey for participating again and to Wayne Thompson for helping out this year.
5. The 2004 tax return was filed on February 15, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Quinlivan - Treasurer  
May 31, 2005

# Income & Expense/Equity Statement (cash basis)

January 1 through April 30, 2005

## Income

Membership Dues (includes 1st class postage)		\$20,268
Convention 2005:		
Table Fees	\$30,970	
Poker Tournament	\$7,520	
Banquet	\$4,795	
Registration	\$1,920	
Blackjack Tournament	\$1,680	
Convention 2005 Total		\$46,885
Magazine Advertising		\$3,355
Building Fund Donations		\$1,185
Interest Income		\$1,042
Promotion		\$375
Video Sales (2004 Convention)		\$100
Magazine Sales		\$84
		<hr/>
Total Income		\$73,294

## Expenditures

Magazine		\$12,340
Miscellaneous		\$1,673
Postage (Other than Magazine)		\$841
Bank Charges		\$727
Printing (Other than Magazine)		\$639
Storage		\$370
Telephone		\$205
Filing Fees		\$175
Website		\$170
Advertising		\$55
Supplies		\$40
Convention 2005 (Includes Auction Catalog Sales)		(\$306)
		<hr/>
Total Expenditures		\$16,929
		<hr/>
Net Income - 01/01/05 to 04/30/05		\$56,365

Beginning Equity Balance - 01/01/05		\$197,289
Net Income - 01/01/05 to 04/30/05		\$56,365
Ending Equity Balance - 04/30/05		<u>\$253,654</u>

## Detail of Equity Balance - 04/30/05

Certificate of Deposit	\$76,530	
General Fund	\$64,380	
Building Fund	\$59,438	
Life Membership Fund	\$30,972	
Total Cash Available		<u>\$231,320</u>
Inventory		\$21,834
Advance (Membership Officer)		\$500
Ending Equity Balance - 04/30/05		<u>\$253,654</u>

Respectfully submitted by  
Mike Quinlivan, Treasurer  
May 31, 2005

# Membership Officers Report



Ralph Myers

Well, now, we're getting real close to the convention, so this will be my last reminder. If your membership expires at the end of June, **RENEW NOW**. Don't wait to renew at the convention, or you'll be too late. Also leave yourself enough time to get your new membership card back in the mail before you leave for Las Vegas. Registration volunteers will not release anything to anyone who does not have a current membership card in their possession.

A big thank you goes out to all the members who took heed to my reminder in the last quarter Casino Chip and Token News, and renewed early.

The last quarter brought us seventy-seven new members, and three new life members. Forty-three of the new members were referred by existing members this last quarter. Forty-three five dollar scrip certificates will be mailed the second week of June. Don't forget refer a new member and get five dollars in CCGTCC scrip, good for any CCGTCC merchandise. Just for clarification, referrals from individual members will be the only ones recognized. Referrals from businesses or clubs will not.

If you're going to the convention, please stop by the Membership table and say hello. It's always fun to put names and faces together.

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

Best regards,  
Ralph

## New Members

Member	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
6933	Steward	Frank	CA	Larkspur	Logerwell, Don
6934	Wulfekotter	Dudley	OH	Cincinnati	Club Website
6934-A	Wulfekotter	Arline	OH	Cincinnati	Club Website
6935	Focazio-Follis	Casey	NV	Las Vegas	Associate to regular member
6936	Callanan	Bob	MA	Boxford	Club Website
6938	Francis	Kenneth	SC	Surfside Beach	Club Website
6939	Brown	Cynthia	VA	Manassas	Club Website
6940	Cohon	Edward A.	MI	Walled Lake	Club Website
6941	Nestle	Ken	IL	Bolingbrook	Club Website
6943	Hodges	Clement M.	TX	Cypress	Susong, Greg
6946	Manriquez	Steve	NV	Las Vegas	Club Website
6947	Sulik	Mary Anne	CT	Milford	O'Neal, J&J



Member	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
6947-A	Bratu	Alex	CT	Milford	O'Neal, J&J
6948	Disque	Glen	TX	Houston	Pugh, William
6949	Vasiliauskas	Jonathan	AZ	Yuma	Club Website
6950	Jones	Jeff V.	CA	Napa	Club Website
6951	Kiran	Jay	IL	Des Plaines	Fischer, Steve
6954	Gratton	Paul R.	Canada	Gatineau QC	Hoffman, Michael
6954-A	Gratton	Elise	Canada	Gatineau QC	Hoffman, Michael
6955	Doovas	William J.	CA	San Gbrriel	Former Member
6956	Meyer	Lawrence J.	OH	Norwalk	Palms Casino
6957	Livingston	Gary	OH	Blacklick	Club Website
6959	Cole	Scott V.	CA	Santa Fe Springs	Club Website
6960	Toplovich	Thomas M.	FL	Englewood	Shore, Josh
6961	Rohloff	Gary	WI	Mosinee	Rodgers, C. T.
6962	Leiboff	Jeff	GA	Atlanta	Club Website
6963	Wright	Jeff	CA	Sherman Oaks	Club Website
6964	Canzoneri	Jerome J.	NY	Pawling	Club Website
6965	Pino	Joseph	NV	Las Vegas	American Chip Enterprises
6966	Mooney	Michael A.	MI	East Tawas	Shore, Josh
6967	Galusha	Tyler	CA	Antelope	Campiglia/Wells Price Guide
6968	Righelato	David	UK	Middlesex	Club Website
6969	Osborn	Robert	IL	Mattoon	Club Website
6970	Mitchell	Marty	AR	Pine Bluff	Susong, Greg
6972	Bergman	Janet	IL	Harvel	Crawford, Robert
6973	Hill	William H.	TX	Killeen	Club Website
6974	Rockwell	Richard	NJ	Mahwah	Club Website
6977	Reynolds II	Warren L.	NE	Omaha	Club Website
6979	Campagna	John	DE	Wilmington	Club Website
6979-A	Campagna	Nina	DE	Wilmington	Club Website
6980	Alello	Jeffrey L.	LA	Baton Rouge	Club Website
6981	Andrews	Tim	IL	Crystal Lake	Rizzo, Pete
6982	Jones	Benjamin	NY	Lancaster	Wegner, Brian
6984	Musgrove	Carl	NC	Concord	Norris, Kevin
6985	Ralston	Craig	OR	Eugene	Rizzo, Pete
6986	Campbell	Jon	WA	Wenatchee	Club Website
6987	Kerns	Delton	CA	Fresno	
6988	McNulty	William	CA	Redlands	Englebretson, Mark
6988-A	McNulty	Jo Ann	CA	Redlands	Englebretson, Mark
6989	Ward	Michael	CO	Longmont	Nickerson, Dennis
6991	Allen	Charles E.	Canada	Courtenay, BC	Mulkey, Tyrus
6993	Oshiro	Lee Jennifer	HI	Honolulu	Pryor, Howard
6994	Brooker	Dennis	IA	Derby	Buckner, Jeff
6995	Gilbertson	Steve	WI	South Milwaukee	
6996	Kravitz, DDS	Charles S.	FL	Fort Lauderdale	
6997	Gwozdziejcz	Steve	MN	Belle Plaine	
6998	Stone	Stephen	OK	Oklahoma City	Club Website
7000	Taradash	Martin	CA	Los Angeles	Club Website
7001	Shimizu	Toyohiko	Japan	Tokyo	Club Website
7002	Fitzgibbons	Edward	MA	Fall River	Espinosa, Rolando
7003	Burger	Klaus	SC	Tega Cay	Club Website
7004	Davis	Jim	CA	El Cajon	Richter, Michael
7005	Johnston	David A.	CA	Modesto	Former Member
7006	Musumeci	Michael	NJ	Morganville	Campiglia, James
7007	Ricardi	Peter	NJ	South Plainfield	Bobby Guns
7008	Van Gijtenbeek	Gilbert	NL	Utrecht	Club Website

# Collector's Assistant Plus

The ULTIMATE casino chip collector's database program.

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## *Nevada Casino Chips*

*Limited Edition Current & Obsolete*

*Andy Hughes*

CC&GTCC Member # LM-2471-52



**Voice Mail/Fax: 702-896-1552**

**E-Mail: [AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com](mailto:AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com)**

**Web Site: [www.NevadaCasinoChips.com](http://www.NevadaCasinoChips.com)**

**Buy/Sell/Trade**

# Secretary's Report



**Belinda Hixon**

June is here and that means it will soon be time for the Annual Convention. I hope that everyone who attends will participate in as many of the events of the week as possible. Please plan on attending the Annual Business Meeting and Educational Seminars. See everyone at the Riviera!

The following members have reached the Ten Year membership mark in the past quarter. Congratulations!

## Associate Members:

R-0912-A Joan Bitterman  
R-0259-A Laural Sarra  
R-1541-A Gayle Pleau  
R-1571-A Dee Shonquist  
R-2038-A Cheryl Heller

## Regular Members:

R-1834 G. Pat Palmer  
R-1835 Roger Porter  
R-1857 Mark Olseth  
R-1840 James Reid  
R-1844 Robert Utley  
R-1845 Emile Giroux  
R-1855 Louis Schamerhorn  
R-1879 Julius Spiegel  
R-1888 Bill Siegel  
R-1889 Lee Black  
R-1894 Mark Weirbach  
R-1900 George Davis  
R-1902 Joe McMullen  
R-1903 Kenneth Down  
R-1908 Douglas Hoyt  
R-1909 Glenn Yamada  
R-1911 Mark Vencelov  
R-1919 Robert Ensley  
R-1924 Richard Bernhard  
R-1930 Stanley Wigodski  
R-1931 Francis Tenaglia  
R-1932 Thomas Hartel  
R-1947 Daniel Snyder  
R-1951 Gene Shabnow

R-1954 Paul McDonald  
R-1957 Lewis Caraway  
R-1961 Wes Clifton  
R-1963 Gainor Brooks  
R-1968 Stephen McClendon  
R-1969 Orlin "Swede" Knutson  
R-1971 James Schumacher  
R-1976 Frank Lonteen  
R-1983 Bart Hagensick  
R-1986 Richard Waszkiewicz  
R-1990 Keith Mosure  
R-1992 Robert Lowell  
R-1995 Mathie Laird  
R-2002 James Burns  
R-2004 Stanley McNeill  
R-2005 Roy Atkinson  
R-2012 George Davis  
R-2017 Jud Karten  
R-2035 Dale Walsh  
R-2038 Mitch Heller  
R-2040 Ernest Meador  
R-2041 Rosser Maddox  
R-2044 Joseph Blackburn  
R-2045 James Gaan  
R-2051 Ralph Gervasio  
R-2052 Robert Vandezande  
R-2061 Mark Gereb  
R-2063 Keny Stewart  
R-2066 Darrell Birl  
R-2074 April Scandora-Knighton  
R-2083 Janice Ono  
R-2084 Anthony Tricoli  
R-2093 Manjo Ogle

# CC&GTCC Vision & Feasibility Committee Update

by Andy Hughes

*The following is the final memo from Jim Pierre, Chairman of the Vision and Feasibility Committee, to the committee members following meetings in Las Vegas earlier this year. After returning from this trip Jim became very ill and as many of you may know, passed away in April. The memo has been edited from its original form and comments added for clarity and context. The opening line is somewhat profound. We miss Jim very much and the committee will move forward with Jim Pierre listed as Chairman Emeritus. Respectfully submitted, Mike Skelton.*

Hi Team - I have finally returned from an extended trip which included Las Vegas, Arizona and California (and recovered from a small bout of illness).

Here is an update on the Building situation. While I was in Vegas for the "Super Show" there was a coincident meeting the CC & GTCC Board, so Mike Skelton & Mike Quinlivan were also in town. Bill Judge, Tyrus Mulkey, Mike Skelton, Mike Quinlivan & I looked over the properties that Bill evaluated. There was one that was a standout.

This property is located on Convention Center Drive about a block off the strip and within walking distance of the Las Vegas Convention Center. It is almost directly across the street from where the new 500 will be going in. *(There are redevelopment projects on the drawing board for both the old Royal Hotel and the Greek Isles Hotel, which are across the street from this location.)* It is about a block south of the Riviera.

The property is a small strip mall

with spaces ranging from 990SF to 16500SF. The most appealing space was 1900SF at \$1.20/sf/yr. That figures out to \$27,360 per year. I am sorry that there was not enough time to bring everyone into the decision making progress, but the attractiveness of this site urged expedited action. The 5 committee members in attendance were unanimous in their approval of this site. *(There was a definite consensus on this location, but there was no official, binding vote taken on this space by the committee or the Board. Everyone who saw the location agreed that this was an extremely attractive location for us, with reasonable costs.)*

Mike Skelton, Tyrus Mulkey & I also met with David Schwartz of UNLV. There is no possibility that we will be able to obtain any space from them. "If we had any available space, there are lots of things we have that we would like to exhibit." (The entire campus is short on space. *David's other telling comment was, "The only thing more precious around here than money, is space."*) We agreed to work together and serve as resources for each other in the future. (In fact, I have already had an inquiry from Dave regarding the Four Queens 1995 UNLV chip.)

In other news, Sandra Harris has resigned as Director of the Neon Museum. In a separate meeting with Mike Skelton, she offered to help us, maybe even do some consulting work, if it became very involved from her time stand point, which I understand. She also said the Convention Center Drive site was better for us than even the Museum corridor. Location, visibility and independence from any one casino or

benefactor were positive factors. *(These same comments were expressed by David Schwartz of UNLV.)* We can go to everyone with our hand out! She stressed that if we really pushed a "retail" component at the location, we could offset most, if not all of our overhead cost.

Next step: Evaluate the feasibility of operating this property, which includes investigating overhead expenses, staffing expenses, alternative funding sources, estimated sales income possibilities. *(Of course with Jim's illness and untimely passing, this was put on hold. We have some preliminary figures on the space cost, but Mike Quinlivan (who was sidelined for a while with his own illness), Bill Judge and Mike Skelton will be meeting with the building owner the last week of June, to discuss detailed costs associated with this location. The original 1900 sq ft space is still available at this time. Once we have all the numbers, a detailed and thorough cost analysis will be completed. The next step will be driven by the results of this analysis.*

Jim Pierre

*With Jim's passing, CC & GTCC President, Mike Skelton has assumed the acting Chairmanship of the Vision & Feasibility Committee. Committee member Tyrus Mulkey has stepped down from the committee due to time constraints stemming from his new business. Committee member Mike Quinlivan (who is also the CC & GTCC Treasurer) was sidelined due to illness, but we are happy to report he is feeling much better now. The current make up of the committee will remain as is for the time being. There may be an additional committee member*



added and/or some unforeseen cause for someone to step down. President Skelton will appoint any additional committee member(s) that may be required.

When there is additional information to report, that information will be published.

Please support the efforts of the Building Fund Committee at the upcoming Convention and throughout the year. We will make this dream become a reality one day!

For more information on the V & F Committee and the Building Fund click on the following link:  
[http://ccgtcc.com/building\\_fund.html](http://ccgtcc.com/building_fund.html)

### Building Fund Committee

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

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

### Vision & Feasibility Committee

The Vision & Feasibility Committee is comprised of the following club members:

- Jim Pierre (Chairman Emeritus)
- Bill Judge
- Mike Quinlivan
- Jim Kruse
- Wayne Thompson
- Eric Rosenblum
- Tyrus Mulkey
- Nate Pincus
- Chuck Tomarchio
- Travis Lewin
- Mike Skelton

Below are items that are for sale with ALL of the money going to The

### Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club Building Fund!

Please mail a check out for the correct amount to:  
 Mike Quinlivan  
 Treasurer CC&GTCC  
 P.O. Box 249  
 Atwood, CA 92811-0249

Once the check arrives Mike will let the Building Fund Committee know & the items will be mailed out.

**Nevada Casino Chips** had the chip below made up just before the 2002 CC&GTCC Convention. 100 were made with engraved numbers & they are oversized (44 MM) chips. ALL of the money raised from the sale of the chips goes to The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club Building Fund!  
 The price is \$100 each.



The NCV Palms chip below was given out one per person with a coupon at the 2002 CC&GTCC Convention. There were only 850 made & the Palms graciously donated the remainder to The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club Building Fund!  
 The price is \$10 each.



The chip below was designed by **Debby Meister** who had it made for the 2004 CC&GTCC Convention. There were only 100 made.

The price is \$20 each.



The room key below was made for Palms Poker Room Manager Gene Trimble. There were only 250 made. The price is \$10 each.



Trump Marina set of three non-gaming tokens (shown with the common back). The Trump Marina graciously donated the tokens to The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club Building Fund!  
 The price is \$10 a set.



Common back

Can an elite team of experts beat an unbeatable system?

# the TAKEDOWN

Courtesy CourtTV and MPH Entertainment

Mission: Impossible meets Ocean's Eleven in the new Court TV expert reality series *The Takedown*. Each week, reformed con artist Paul Wilson and his team tempt fate, using sleight of hand, high-tech gadgets and lots of skill to "take down" everything from foolproof casino security systems to high-minded art experts and an obnoxious hustler who is ruining a pool hall's business. The secret? Wilson and his team have been sanctioned by the establishments they are "taking down," working from the inside, testing everything and everyone including casino dealers, slot machines, surveillance cameras, forgery detectors and more. And in each case, the owner is the only one in on the scam – the on-duty staff is clueless. If Paul and his team are caught, they will be treated like any other would-be con artist busted by security. The stakes are high and the threats are real: can Paul and his team beat the system, or will they be "taken down?" Find out on *The Takedown*, premiering Tuesday, June 14 at 10:30 PM.



Paul Wilson and Roger Norman, owner of The Crystal Bay Club where some of the episodes were shot, examine one of the devices.

In each episode, Wilson - recognized as one of the world's best sleight of hand experts - recruits a team of experts, including card counters, surveillance experts, trick dealers – even distracting eye candy. He crafts a plan for the takedown and carefully briefs and rehearses his

team. Then, without a net, the game of cat-and-mouse begins.

"With hundreds of millions of dollars at stake, casinos want to make sure what's lost in Vegas stays in Vegas--and *The Takedown* gives viewers a very real inside look at how professional cheaters are secretly used to stop the real ones," said Marc Juris, General Manager of Court TV. "It's a dangerous high stakes world that we believe reinforces our new Seriously Entertaining (SM) brand promise."

The *Takedown* is produced for Court TV by MPH Entertainment. Jim Milio, Melissa Jo Peltier, Mark Hufnail, Chris Hammond and David Schnepf serve as Executive Producers. For Court TV, Ed Hersh, Executive Vice President, Current



Programming and Specials serves as Executive Producer, with Paul Bourdett as Coordinating Producer.

Court TV® is the leader in the investigation genre, providing a window on the American system of justice through distinctive programming that both informs and entertains. Court TV telecasts trials by day and high-profile original programs like Forensic Files®, Psychic Detectives™, and Masterminds™ in primetime. Court TV is 50% owned by Time Warner, and 50% owned by Liberty Media Corp. The network is seen in almost 85 million homes. (www.courtstv.com or AOL Keyword: Court TV)



Paul Wilson with some of his team, Roger Norman and Bill Wood

# got flamingo capri?



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*Flamingo Capri* memorabilia.



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

# The Harvey J. Fuller Award

In action taken by the CC&GTCC Board of Directors, the Club's annual award for "Magazine Article of the Year" will now be known as the "Harvey J. Fuller Award", in honor of Hall of Fame member Harvey Fuller, who recently passed away. Though Mr. Fuller may be gone, his legacy will live on through his many years of research and investigation of Nevada chips, casinos and the people that owned and operated these establishments.

The best way for each member to honor Mr. Fuller's memory is to share the knowledge that you may have in your area of interest, so that others may learn from it. Thanks Harvey!

# The Robert "Bob" Mera Award

The Board of Directors has voted unanimously to rename the Recruiter of the Year award, The Robert "Bob" Mera Award. This award is given each year to the Club member who recruits the largest number of new members into the CC&GTCC. It is a fitting honor for a man whose recruiting activities were instrumental in the early growth of the Club.

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

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

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

Robert "Bob" Mera passed away in 1999, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame posthumously in 2002.

# Roy Nelson - New Promotions and Property Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am proud to announce that Mr. Roy Nelson of Las Vegas, NV has been appointed the Club's new Promotions and Property Director.

Roy will be assuming the duties formerly handled by Tyrus Mulkey and there will be a transition period over the next 30-45 days. All the Club merchandise will be inventoried and along with the Club property, moved to new storage facilities, more convenient for Roy to access. During this period, Promotions related questions will be directed through the website to Club Secretary Belinda Hixon. We ask for your patience and understanding during this transition period.

We are excited that Roy has offered his time and talents to oversee this critical component of our organization. I hope that all the members will join us in welcoming Roy to his new position.

And on a related note, the Board would like to extend our sincere thanks to Tyrus Mulkey and his Assistant Promotions Director, Wayne Murphy, for their efforts on behalf of the membership while they served in these positions. I would like to add my personal "thank you" to Tyrus for allowing us to "recruit" him in the first place and for tolerating our resistance to his resignation. It's hard to find good, passionate volunteers and we hope someday, time permitting, we will be able to call upon Tyrus to serve in some capacity again.



# The Platinum Collection

by Howard W. Herz

## The Platinum Collection

In several months collectors will have a unique opportunity to bid (or watch others bid) on one of America's greatest gaming collections that combines gaming check rarities and gaming tokens. The Platinum collection has two distinct characteristics that set it apart from other collections. As a collection of gaming tokens, it is the definitive collection that has almost every known specimen issued by Nevada casinos. As a collection of gaming checks, it features some of the great rarities from Reno, Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas. As a combined collection, it has the distinction of being a collection that can not be reproduced and is the single finest collection of Nevada chips and tokens in the world. James Campiglia, a consultant to the collection, has represented many of the collection pieces as being very desirable and extremely rare. Gaming Archaeology's considers the gaming tokens to be abundant in rarities in super condition. The collection is named for the unique platinum dollar gaming token that the Franklin Mint made for William Harrah in 1965 and is considered to be the first Nevada gaming token.

## Building the Collection

The Platinum collection has a unique provenance that has given it both depth and quality. Major portions of the collection are the original pieces acquired by Harvey's Resort Hotel starting in 1965. Additional rarities from other great collections as well as single pieces that have surfaced over the last decade have been added to the collection in recent years.



Harvey's original collection contained more than 26,000 gaming checks from around the world and around 3,800 different Nevada gaming tokens. Between 1965, when the collection was started and the early 1990's, when the collection was sold, Harvey's obtained many of the rarest and highest quality gaming checks and tokens that were available when collecting gaming items was in its infancy. In several instances over the years, entire collections were purchased and combined into a master collection of checks and tokens. A number of dealers assisted in the development of the token collection including Elta Gray and Frank Mantell. Checks and tokens were constantly upgraded and duplicates were traded for additional items.

In the early 1990's, Harvey's collection was sold to new owners and the gaming checks were auctioned over a period of 4 years. Several casino check groups in the collection were purchased by a single collector who continued to acquire additional material that specialized on the strip casinos of Las Vegas.

The entire gaming token collection remained intact and the new owner continued to collect as new pieces were issued by the casinos. In every instance, the best condition was

sought. In several instances entire collections were purchased to combine missing pieces with the master collection. These included the superb collection of Dr. Ariagno and the unique dies and samples of the 1965 gaming tokens produced by Osbourne Coinage Co. In the 1990's, the unique Harrah's platinum token was finally added to the token collection making it the most complete in the world.

Today, the collection represents the definitive collection of Nevada gaming tokens and contains numerous patterns, proofs and specimen strikes along with the standard business strikes.

Luck, fate and fortune have all played a hand in the creation of the Platinum collection. Despite being sold a number of times, many of the original checks from Harvey's collection are still in the group. Having been sold to some of America's top collectors of the day such as Gene Grossblatt, Bruce Landau and Jerry Wall, these pieces have once again found their way back into the collection.

Gaming checks and tokens are the tangible artifacts of a casino's existence. With many of the rarest and most historic checks and tokens included, the Platinum collection reflects the development of the Nevada gaming industry from the crowded club rooms of the 1930's to the Mega strip resorts of Las Vegas in the 21st Century.

As gaming checks and tokens continue to gain in popularity with collectors, this pioneering collection

will always be recognized as one of the defining collections of the hobby. With 2,400 plus gaming checks and more than 3,800 gaming tokens, the collection reflects the wide variety of gaming check and token styles that Nevada casinos have used for the past 74 years of legalized gaming. The Platinum collection reflects 40 years of collecting. Collectors and gaming historians can view the collection at [www.chipsandtokens.com](http://www.chipsandtokens.com)

A few of the highlights of the collection are illustrated on the following pages.



1965 (O) Diamond Jim's 50¢  
One of two known examples of the rare issue struck only as samples in brass.  
(Token shown enlarged)



1965 (O) Sonoma Inn  
One of two known examples struck in brass. Considered one of the rarest of the 1965 token issues.



Harvey's  
1965 - (MTE) Pattern



Crystal Bay Club  
1965 - MTE



PLATINUM PROOF  
HARRAH'S BUCK SLOT MACHINE TOKEN  
PRESENTED BY THE FRANKLIN MINT  
TO WILLIAM F. HARRAH





\$100 Aladdin Hotel  
Limited Edition



\$100 Excalibur Hotel Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Monte Carlo Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Bally's Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Golden Nugget  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Ramada Express  
Laughlin, Nevada



\$25 Buffalo Bills  
Jean, Nevada



\$100 Hard Rock Cafe  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Rio Suites Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Caesars Tahoe  
State Line Lake Tahoe



\$100 MGM Sands Hotel Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada



\$100 Stardust Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

## Gaming Checks from the Platinum Collection

**1**  
\$5 Harrah's  
Reno, Nevada - Circa 1950's

One of Harrah's first inlaid gaming checks. As Harrah's developed from a "tango" or bingo parlor to a full fledged gaming house, they began to expand on Virginia Street. At first they used plain hot stamped checks, but graduated to the more expensive inlaid checks in the early 1950's.

**2**  
\$100 Colony Club  
Reno, Nevada (1946-1964)

This small casino was located on the corner of Virginia street and Commercial Row in downtown Reno. The owners would not sell to their neighbor Harolds club but leased the roof to Harolds for a sign. Every month the check for the sign rental came in from Harolds and the rest of the gaming profits were gravy.

**3**  
\$5 The Town House  
Reno, Nevada - (Circa 1950's)

Featuring "The Riding Lesson" by Lou Hymer - a local illustrator's famous characterization of the dude ranch cowboy and two divorcees getting a riding lesson in a bar. The small club operated from 1932 to 1955. Its cozy atmosphere was favored by locals.

**4**  
\$100 Bank Club Reno  
Reno, Nevada - (Circa 1940's)

Reno's most famous club of the 1930's and 1940's operated by Bill Graham and James McKay. Originally opened in the basement of the building prior to the legalization

of gaming in 1931, the Bank Club moved up to the street level in April of 1931 with a "Grand Opening" that celebrated the legalization of gaming and its acceptance by Reno's citizens.

**5**  
\$5 New China Club  
Reno, Nevada - (1952-1971)

One of Reno's clubs that catered to clientele of all races during the days when Nevada gaming was segregated. Bill Fong operated the club and featured keno as well as a full line of table games.

**6**  
50¢ Zimba's  
Reno, Nevada (1969-1972)

A small club located in Reno's Commercial Row area. One of the more colorful checks issued in Nevada in a low denomination.

**7**  
\$1000 Harold's Club  
Reno, Nevada (1935-1970)

Possibly one of Reno's most world famous casinos. A high denomination check featuring a portrait of its founder Harold Smith in his cowboy hat. The club actively promoted their business around the world with signs that noted the distance to Harolds Club. After years of family ownership, the Smith family sold the casino to Howard Hughes in 1970.

**8**  
\$100 RR (Reno Ramada)  
Reno, Nevada (1980-1989)

A small casino operation to the northeast of the downtown center. The casino survived for 9 years but could not compete against the solid downtown clubs. Their brass core checks were an innovation in gaming checks. Dealers favored the weight

but sometimes complained that the edges were too sharp.

**9**  
10¢ Palace Club  
Reno, Nevada (1934-1979)

One of Reno's oldest clubs that was operating before the legalization of gaming in 1931. The club was located near the train station and could trace its roots to the days before gaming was prohibited in 1910.

**10**  
\$2.50 Primadonna Club  
Reno, Nevada (1955-1974)

Ernie Primm's club featured larger than life dancing girl statues over its entrance on Virginia Street. This style of gaming check features a "pie" color design. Ernie Primm was an experienced gambler from the card rooms of Gardena, California who moved to Nevada.

**11**  
\$5 China Mint  
Reno, Nevada (1960-1963)

One of Reno's Asian clubs located on Lake Street between 1960 and 1963. The owners, Frank Chung, Henry Leong, Andrew Young and William Baily Sr. operated slots and table games. In 1963 they moved their license to the Happy Budda Club.

**12**  
\$20 United Club Reno  
Reno, Nevada (1962-1964)

A small club located in Douglas Alley, an area where Reno's gaming started in the late 1920's. This club was owned by Gene and Tom Wong. They featured slots, 21 and a poker game. The Club closed in October of 1964.





1



2



3



4



5



6



8



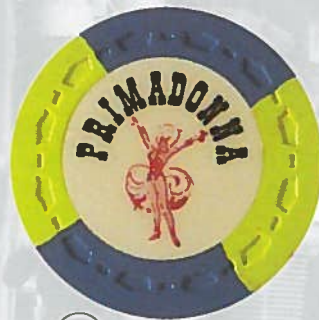
7



9



11



10



12

**13**  
25¢ Club Cal-Neva  
Reno, Nevada (1962-)

Originally located in the heart of Reno on the corner of Center and Second Streets, this club has expanded over the years to include the entire block. Besides featuring table games and slots, the club's owners have licensed sports books in many other casinos in the state.

**14**  
\$500 Circus-Circus  
Reno, Nevada (1978-)

After a successful casino venture in Las Vegas, the owners of Circus - Circus bought a department store in Reno and converted it into a casino. Nevada's gaming control board certified that only two examples were not accounted for when they destroyed these high value gaming checks.

**15**  
\$1 Christmas Tree  
Mount Rose Highway S. of Reno  
(1954-1959)

This small steakhouse featured mahogany broiled steaks and a view over Reno from the side of a mountain. Its "casino" usually had only a couple of table games. During the ownership of the restaurant by Guy and Gloria Michaels, Gloria's exotic lion pets were frequently seen.

**16**  
\$25 Golden Bank  
Reno, Nevada (1955-1962)

When the Tomerlin brothers bought the Golden Hotel they had no gaming experience. In 1955 William and James Tomerlin combined the Bank Club and the Golden Hotel casino by cutting a doorway in the wall between the two operation to create the Golden Bank. The casino operated until destroyed by a fire in 1962.

**17**  
\$5 Frontier Reno  
Reno, Nevada (1946-1956)

In the heart of downtown Reno, this casino featured the highest keno limit of \$10,000 in 1953. Only when Binion's in Las Vegas went to \$25,000 was the limit outdone. This club was absorbed into Harrah's in 1956.

**18**  
\$100 Holiday Hotel  
Reno, Nevada (1956-1962)

Originally opened in 1955 as only a hotel without gambling, the property failed. In 1956, Newt Crumley of Elko, Nevada purchased in interest in the property and put in gaming. The property became successful until the untimely death of Mr. Crumley in an airplane accident in 1962.

**19**  
\$2.50 Horseshoe Club  
Reno, Nevada (1956-1977)

This denomination was used to pay blackjack bets. The casino was in the heart of the downtown gaming block on Virginia Street and owned by a group of investors. The horseshoe sign was touted as the biggest horseshoe in the world.

**20**  
100 Mapes Hotel  
Reno, Nevada (1947-1982)

Downtown Reno's highrise hotel that featured a casino/dining room on the top floor. For years the Mapes offered Reno's top accommodations. This check features a metal wafer inlay popular in the late 1940's. The casino used two sets of gaming checks, one for the first floor casino and a second set at the Skyroom. This system allowed an accounting of the number of players who visited both casino areas.

**21**  
\$5 Primadonna Club  
Reno, Nevada (1955-1974)

The Primadonna girl sits on a slot machine and offers a drink and a keno ticket. One of the downtown core casinos on Virginia Street. This gaming check is one of the older checks from the casino.

**22**  
(no value) Nevada Club  
Reno, Nevada (1946-1988)

These chips were made for the exclusive use of Reno millionaire Lavere Redfield by the club owner Lincoln Fitzgerald. Their value could be determined at the time of play. Redfield and Fitzgerald had been friends from the days of the depression in Detroit where both men started their fortunes.

**23**  
\$500 MGM Grand Hotel  
Reno, Nevada (1978-1986)

The first destination resort hotel to be built in Reno. The MGM offered guests a complete resort destination facility. The MGM was predicted to be the start of a massive casino expansion in Reno, but over the years, casino growth has declined in Reno.

**24**  
\$100 Riverside Hotel  
Reno, Nevada (1954-1959)

The "hot stamp" check was used at one of Reno's oldest hotels. Originally dating from the 1880's, the hotel was rebuilt by George Wingfield in the 1920's with additions in the 1950's. The hotel still stands today and is used as an art complex. In its hayday, the Riverside featured top name entertainment and a full line of table games.





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RENO, 48

**25**  
\$100 Cal-Neva Biltmore  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1952-1956)

This hotel catered to players from San Francisco who visited Lake Tahoe's north shore in the summers. Originally operating on a seasonal basis, the Biltmore featured hotel rooms and a separate casino. In 1956 the hotel was purchased by Lincoln Fitzgerald and renamed the Nevada Lodge.

**26**  
\$25 Cal-Neva (Lodge)  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1937)

These checks were featured at the famous Lake Tahoe lodge after a disastrous fire in May of 1937 resulted in a rebuilding of the property for an opening on July 4th!! Owners, Graham and McKay, exercised their considerable power in Reno to have the Lodge completed on time. The construction is still considered as some of the most beautiful at the Lake with the California/Nevada state line running through the Indian Room and the swimming pool.

**27**  
\$500 Kings Castle  
Incline Village, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1968-1974)

A high value check from this Lake Tahoe casino that ran afoul of gaming regulations and was closed by authorities. Financed by the teamsters Union, the casino operated for several years until authorities questioned their accounting.

**28**  
\$25 Crystal Bay Club  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(circa 1950's)

This early check may be the only

surviving example of the denomination. This club featured seasonal gaming in the 1950's and 1960's. Recently remodeled by new owners, the club now offers year round hospitality. The original casino housed a bowling alley with a spectacular open ceiling that now serves as the restaurant.

**29**  
\$25 New Cal-Vada Lodge  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1956-1958)

Operating for a brief time in the 1950's, the casino was purchased by the Nevada Lodge after an arson attempt failed to ignite the building. The closed casino was used for storage until it was sold and remodeled as a brewery.

**30**  
\$1 Cal-Neva Lodge  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1955-1958)

One of the various ownerships of the lodge issued this check in the late 1950's. Seasonally operating, the casino was open from Late May through Labor Day.

**31**  
\$5 Joby's Monte Carlo  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1955-1956)

Operated by Joby Lewis for two seasons, the casino was bought by the Nevada Lodge and annexed as a bingo room. Mr. Lewis moved to Hawthorne, Nevada and opened a casino also named the Monte Carlo.

**32**  
roulette Cal-Neva (Lodge)  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1937)

One of the beautiful pine cone motif roulette chips used on the casinos roulette tables. These chips were

issued following the May 1937 fire that destroyed the original casino.

**33**  
\$5 Sierra Tahoe  
Incline Village, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1965-1966)

This operation lasted for a single year on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. Today the building, on the shore of Lake Tahoe, operates as a restaurant only.

**34**  
\$100 CLN (Cal-Neva Lodge)  
(1948-1955)

One of the most intriguing lettering styles on a Nevada gaming check. One of the mysteries of this check is why the full name of the casino was not used. It is possible that this high denomination was used for special play or for a special game.

**35**  
\$20 Nevada Club Nevada Lodge  
Reno & Crystal Bay Nevada  
(1958-1988)

A denomination that was popular in the 1950's that corresponded to U.S. currency values. In the 1960, almost every casino used the \$25 denomination that encouraged gamblers to play an extra \$5. Lincoln Fitzgerald operated both the Nevada Lodge and the Nevada Club in Reno.

**36**  
\$100 Ta-Neva-Ho  
Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1937-1940's)

This small gaming casino eventually developed into the Crystal Bay Club. With seasonal gaming and several changes in ownership over the years the club had erratic operations until Johnny Rayburn took control and developed the property into the Crystal Bay club.





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**37**  
\$5 Dopey Norman  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(circa 1953)

Raymond N Reinberg operated a card game in Vallejo before moving to Lake Tahoe and operating a small club squeezed between the California state line and George Cannon's Gateway Club. Raymond's nickname "Dopey" was given by George Cannon and other friends for his more than frequent drinking.

**38**  
\$5 Barney's Casino  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1967-1983)

Started by Barney O'Malia in 1967, this small club had been the Circus Room. When Harrah's expanded Bill's Casino, they purchased Barney's and incorporated it into the expansion. Barney O'Malia's gaming career included gambling in Hawthorne and Fallon, Nevada.

**39**  
\$5 Nugget  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1965-1968)

This small casino was owned by a group of partners. Several years after the principal partner, Dick Chartrand, was killed by a car bomb, the casino was sold.

**40**  
\$100 State Line Country Club  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1953-1956)

Originally built in 1931, the club had a casino and show room. After a number of ownerships and casino operators, the club was purchased by Bill Harrah and operated for a year as Harrah's Stateline Country Club before it was torn down in 1959 for the building of Harrah's Tahoe.

**41**  
\$5 South Shore Riverboat  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1970)

A one season operation casino that lasted for two months in the summer of 1970 The single 21 table and six slot machines filled the club.

**42**  
\$2.50 Harvey's  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1963-)

Starting in 1945 as Harvey's Wagon Wheel Saloon & Gambling Hall, Harvey and Llewellyn Gross built a small restaurant into Lake Tahoe's first high rise hotel. By staying open during the hardest winters and working 20 hour shifts, they managed to survive the seasonal tourist fluctuations of the Lake.

**43**  
\$100 John's Tahoe Nugget  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1981-1991)

John Fultz purchased the South Tahoe Nugget from the estate of Richard Chartrand and operated the club for 10 years. After ten years of operation the casino was again sold.

**44**  
\$25 Harrah's Club  
Reno and Lake Tahoe  
(1956)

Bill Harrah purchased George Cannon's Gateway Club on the west side of highway 50 in 1955. At the time Harrah's Club had a logo featuring a sultan with his harem. This logo was a part of Harrah's famous campaign slogan "I hit the jackpot at Harrah's". A local rumor has it that someone once commented that the chip was Bill Harrah and his wives - a quip that resulted in the demise of the logo.

**45**  
\$2.50 Sahara Tahoe  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1965-1983)

The Del Webb corporation leased land from Park Cattle Co. and built a hotel casino at Lake Tahoe. Taking the name of their flagship property, the Sahara in Las Vegas, they created the Sahara Tahoe. This \$2.50 black-jack check featured their Lake Tahoe logo.

**46**  
\$20 Sahara Tahoe  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1965-1983)

In 1965, the Bud Jones company developed a metal center plastic gaming check. This example from the Sahara Tahoe is one of the earliest checks of this type. The \$20 denomination was frequently used for baccarat tables.

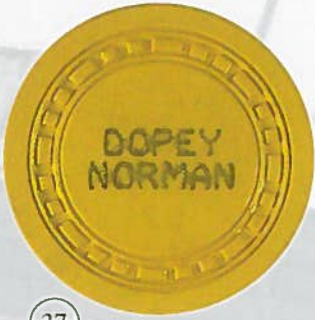
**47**  
Tahoe Village  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1949-1951)

This metal wafer roulette chip is one of a series featuring the recreational assets of Lake Tahoe. The Tahoe Village featured a full line of gaming. Located about one mile north of the stateline, the property overlooked a meadow that went down to the lake.

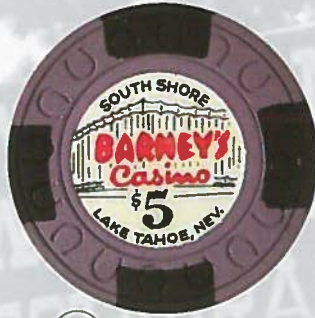
**48**  
\$100 Sky Harbor  
Stateline, Lake Tahoe Nevada  
(1949-1951)

Located about a mile north of the stateline, Sky Harbour was south Lake Tahoe's only airport. A small casino was located near the highway 50 end of the runway. Operating seasonally, the club featured full gaming and a showroom.





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**49**  
\$100 Golden Nugget  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1970's)

From the casino that was the focus of downtown Las Vegas for decades. The golden Nugget was first opened in 1946. Its colorful entrance symbolized the bright lights of Glitter Gulch, the tacky name for Fremont St.

**50**  
\$5 Boulder Club  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1931-1960)

The Boulder Club was considered as a working man's joint. Its gaming checks featured the image of Boulder Dam, the club's namesake. The pattern of arrows and dice around the center inlay is the manufacturer's "mold" pattern. This "arrow-die" mold is one of the most popular with collectors and this issue of the "Boulder Club" is one of the top 10 checks from Las Vegas.

**51**  
\$25 El Cortez Hotel  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1947-1963)

This gaming check is a classic example of the artwork of the 1950's. For years the hotel was operated by Jackie Gaughan, the dean of Las Vegas gamblers. Customers could find Jackie picking up papers from the carpet or just looking around at the action.

**52**  
\$1 Fremont Hotel  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1956-1985)

This classic "arrow-dice" mold gaming check is one of the more colorful issued by the hotel. Its attractive colors and early issue make it one of the more desirable checks for collectors.

**53**  
\$5 Lucky Casino  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1963-1967)

At the present time, this is the only known example of this check that is undrilled. It is one of the super checks from downtown Las Vegas. Like other casinos in the area, this operation was bought by the Golden Nugget and its building incorporated into the Nugget block.

**54**  
\$25 Binion's Horseshoe Club  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1951-1958)

Benny Binion was a true gambler. His Horseshoe Club remained one of the purest gambling houses in Las Vegas. Your first bet was your limit. This club held a number of firsts including a single million dollar roll of the dice on the craps table to the World renowned World Series of Poker. This check is one of 7 in collections.

**55**  
\$5 Cotton Club  
Las Vegas, Nevada (Westside)  
(1947-1948)

The Cotton Club was located on the West side of Las Vegas. In the segregation days of Las Vegas even the most famous entertainers like Sammy Davis Jr. had to stay in this section of town.

**56**  
\$1 The Mint  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1957-1966)

This casino was opened by Sam Boyd and a group of investors. The casino was slowly expanded as other adjacent properties became available. In 1966 the Del Webb corporation purchased the property and built a

hotel. The crown mold on this check is from the T.R. King Co. of Los Angeles.

**57**  
\$25 Pioneer Club  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1948-1956)

The pioneer was located in the heart of Glitter Gulch. It's famous sign featuring the cowboy Vegas Vic dominated Fremont street and for years was the symbol of Las Vegas. The casino is now a gift shop, but Vegas Vic continues to wave.

**58**  
\$25 The Westerner  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1954-1960)

Located at 22 Fremont street, the Westerner was once operated by Benny Binion when he first arrived on the Las Vegas scene. The casino featured a western atmosphere in the heart of Glitter Gulch.

**59**  
\$5 Las Vegas Club  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1951-1961)

The famous Las Vegas gaming check featured the one armed bandit slot machines that the Las Vegas club was famous for. These slot machines were housed in hand carved wooden statues of outlaws made by Frank Polk.

**60**  
\$1 Silver Palace  
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1963-1964)

This gaming check features a likeness of the U.S. peace dollar that circulated up to the silver crisis days of 1964 when rising silver prices drove the last of the silver dollars off of the gaming tables of Nevada.





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**61**  
\$100 Dunes Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1983-1988)

With one of the largest neon signs on the strip, the casino specialized in junket flights from the east coast. With an adjoining golf course, the hotel was a choice property and when Steve Wynn saw the chance, he bought the hotel, imploded it and built the Mirage in its place. This check features the top section of the famous Dunes sign.

**62**  
\$1 Milton Prell's Aladdin  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1966-1968)

Milton Prell's dream to build a resort hotel came true with the Aladdin in 1966. After two years of operations, the hotel fell on hard times and was taken over by the Parvin-Dorman group. This original issue gaming check was used in the card room of the hotel. At the present time, it is one of three known examples.

**63**  
\$500 Milton Prell's Aladdin  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1966-1968)

This high value check is not only colorful but highly collectible because of its "pie" color combinations and its denomination. An original issue of the Aladdin in 1966.

**64**  
\$25 Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1950-1967)

Wilbur Clark's dream hotel was the Desert Inn. Although financial problems required that Clark take on additional financial partners, the Desert Inn was always considered to be the Clark's. Over the years

Wilbur Clark became one of the most outstanding hosts of Las Vegas. His golf Tournament of Champions became famous throughout the country.

**65**  
\$100 Hotel Bonanza  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1967-1973)

The Bonanza was built on the corner of Flamingo and Las Vegas Boulevard when the strip was still developing southward. It operated for a few years until an enterprising man named Kirk Kerkorian purchased the casino and built the MGM Grand on the property. The Bonanza had a western theme but was never a great success.

**66**  
\$1000 Desert Inn  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1988-2003)

After the days of Wilbur Clark, Howard Hughes and others, the DI and its golf course maintained a solid position on the strip. But all good things in Las Vegas have to make way for better things and today the once proud property of the DI houses the newest (for the moment) creation of the city in the form of the Wynn Hotel.

**67**  
\$5 Ceasars Palace  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1966-1969)

The original issue of Caesars Palace featured Caesar on a couch. A modern tribute to the opulence of Rome and the Caesars all on the northwest corner of Flamingo and Las Vegas Boulevard south. Caesars quickly became the home of the high rollers in Las Vegas and still holds its own on the strip where a world of gilded glitz and glitter abound.

**68**  
\$5 Dunes Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1956)

The original Dunes gaming checks featured a giant Arabian palace guard complete with symitar and turban. As one of the rarest and most sought after gaming checks of the classic period of the mid-1950's, this check is a true treasure.

**69**  
roulette Dunes Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1956)

The roulette wheels of the Dunes featured their classic Arabian palace guard logo. One of the most popular roulette chip series for collectors, this yellow issue is one of 4 or 5 know to have survived over the years.

**70**  
\$5 Hotel Dunes Card Room  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1970's)

This special use check has a non-negotiable value of \$5 for use in the card room.

**71**  
\$5 Dunes Hotel Country Club  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1956-1980)

This check shows a portrait of the hotel as it appeared in its later years. This extremely hard to find check is popular with collectors.

**72**  
\$25,000 Dunes Baccarat  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1989-1993)

This extremely high value check was strictly for high rollers in the Dunes' baccarat game.





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\$25 The Flamingo  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada (1946)

Benjamin Siegel ordered these gaming checks from the B.C. Wills Co. of Detroit in late 1946 for his dream casino. A flat check with a metal wafer inlay was used on the craps tables.

74

50¢ Flamingo Capri  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1973-1979)

This small neighbor of the well known Flamingo began as a motel and a coffee shop. The coffee shop became a small casino with slots and then gaming tables.

75

\$25 El Rancho Vegas  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1949-1960)

Most of the old timers in Las Vegas will tell you that Bugsy Siegel did not start the strip - and they will point to the El Rancho Vegas as evidence. Built in 1944, the El Rancho was located on the corner of what is now Sahara and Las Vegas Boulevard. On June 17, 1960 the casino burned in a spectacular fire. The gaming check is one of those recovered from the fire.

76

\$100 The Flamingo  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada (1946)

When the Flamingo opened, they used the B.C. Wills "Grecian design" checks on the blackjack tables as opposed to the smooth craps checks. Both issues had the metal wafer inlay. This classic original issue of the Flamingo was one of 19 found in a small hoard in the 1990's. The demand for this check far outstrips the quantity available.

77

25 The Flamingo Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1947-48)

One of the hardest to find checks of the Flamingo with only 2 known examples as of this date. A beautiful and classic check, this issue appeared after Siegel was gunned down.

78

Flamingo  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(early 1950's)

This smooth "crest & seal" roulette has the Flamingo's famous "bubble tower" that was put up in the early 1950's.

79

\$100 Flamingo  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1971-1990)

This issue of the Flamingo was made after the property was purchased by the Hilton Hotels. The gaming check is an example of a "house" mold. In the 1970's, a number of manufacturers offered customers the advantage of having a house mold rather than the manufacturers mold design. This additional security devise is now used by most of the larger casino in the world. This Flamingo issue, although later in the history of the casino still merits considerable attention from collectors.

80

\$25 The Flamingo Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1967-1973)

This Flamingo issue was made on the "H" mold by the H.C. Edwards company of New York. A very rare and sought after issue by the hotel in the 1970's.

81

5 Hotel Last Frontier  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1942-1951)

A smooth style craps check of the "crest & seal" type made by B.C. Wills for the hotel during the war. The Hotel Last Frontier featured a number of original buildings brought in from ghost towns in Nevada and California.

82

\$25 New Frontier  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1956)

In the 1950's, the Frontier Hotel caught the fever of the modern times and remodeled. After a year and a half of operation the hotel folded - apparently caught between its historically oriented western past and the modern era of formica and modern styling. The property morphed into the Silver Slipper Gambling Hall.

83

\$500 Frontier Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1967-1988)

Shortly after its opening by a group of investors, Howard Hughes swooped in and purchased the property. Located just a short distance from his recluse quarters at the Desert Inn.

84

\$5 New Frontier  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1956)

One of the very few gaming checks made for a Nevada casino with the "hourglass" mold of Rigdon & Co. This check and an earlier issue on the "rectangle" mold of the Langworthy company apparently were used in the short 18 months of operation of the casino.





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**85**  
\$25 El Rancho Vegas  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1944-1947)

Wilbur Clark operated the El Rancho Vegas in the mid-1940's. As the first casino/hotel on what was to become the famous strip, the El Rancho became famous as a Las Vegas landmark.

**86**  
\$500 Jockey Club Baccarat  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(Gaming Never Opened-1980's)

Sometimes opening a casino can be a catch-22 situation. Licensing is a major consideration and more than once a group has been denied a license at the last minute. Ordering the gaming checks takes time for production. In the case of the Jockey Club, the checks were ordered, but the license did not come through.

**87**  
\$5 Hacienda  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1956-1972)

From the first ownership of the casino, this check is one of the more popular checks with collectors with possibly only two known examples.

**88**  
\$25 Landmark Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
(1969-1978)

The Landmark was located near the Las Vegas convention center, rather than on the traditional strip. It was built in 1967, but the original builder/owner went into bankruptcy. Howard Hughes purchased the property in 1969, completed construction and had a grand opening on July 1, 1969. Bob Maheu, who managed the Hughes properties, recalled the opening as "frantic" as the eccentric

Hughes refused to make final arrangements for the opening until the last moment.

**89**  
\$10,000 Little Caesars  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1970-1994)

Despite its small size, Little Caesars had one of the largest trades in sports betting in Las Vegas. High value sports bets were encouraged, thus the large denominations, especially for a small casino.

**90**  
\$100 MGM-Sands  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1988-1989)

When Kirk Kerkorian sold his original MGM Grand property he purchased the Sands, Desert Inn, Marina and the Tropicana Country Club to park his money for the building of the new MGM Grand. His brief ownership resulted in an issue of gaming checks for his ownership under the name of the MGM and each of these casinos.

**91**  
\$5 MGM Grand  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1976)

This bicentennial check is one of a dozen or so issued throughout the state. A number of casinos issued checks in 1976 that were termed "patriotic" with red, white and blue colors, but not with any direct statement of 1976 or "Bicentennial".

**92**  
\$1,000 MGM-Desert Inn  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1988-1991)

One of Kirk Kerkorian's purchases following the sale of the original MGM.

**93**  
\$5 Riviera Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955)

This is one of the earliest issues of the hotel. The "balloons" or colored circles were used on the stationary for the grand opening press kit. This hotel is one of the last remaining of the group of hotels that were built in the 1950's as the Las Vegas strip expanded to the south.

**94**  
\$25 Royal Nevada Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1957)

When Sid Wyman and Charles "Kewpie" Rich had built the the Sands into a successful casino, they wanted their own resort hotel. After two years of financial problems with their new venture, they sold to the Stardust. The Royal Nevada Hotel was blended into the Stardust property.

**95**  
\$25 Sahara Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1952-1961)

The property was built by the Del Webb corporation (who would eventually own the hotel). The second issue of gaming checks featured the hotel portico. This gaming check is presently the only known example of the denomination.

**96**  
\$5 Sahara Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1952)

The first issue of the Sahara featuring the pyramid and Sphinx logo. This crest & seal is certainly in the top 10 issues of Las Vegas. We believe that the smooth surface check was used on the craps table.





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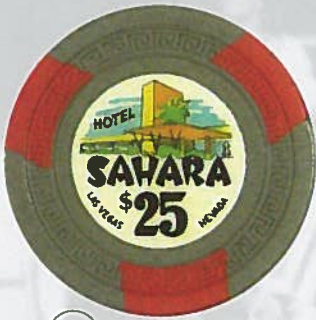
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**97**  
\$5 The Sands  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1952-1967)

The Sands hotel second issue gaming check. This example is drilled (cancelled) in two places. Despite the cancellation, it is one of the rarest strip hotel gaming checks. The Sands featured the motto "A place in the sun." This incredibly rare check now has its own place in the sun.

**98**  
\$100 The Sands  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1952-1967)

This is considered to be the 4th gaming check issue of the casino. The large sunburst and the stylized logo make it both a rarity and classic strip check. The Sands made history with entertainers like Frank Sinatra and the "rat pack".

**99**  
\$25 The Sands  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1952-1967)

One of the more colorful issues of the Sands hotel from its early years. "A place in the sun" logo dates the piece to the early 1950's.

**100**  
\$100 Silver Slipper  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1951-1956)

Certainly one of the top 10 best gaming checks from the Las Vegas strip casinos. The early zig-zag mold is combined with a high value to give this check spectacular popularity. Presently unique.

**101**  
\$25 Silver Slipper  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1956-1968)

This classic gaming check has a secret. Hidden in the scroll work below the denomination is the name of one of the owners of the casino - "Shelby Williams". This intricate design work was recently discovered by collectors when the original art work for the check was examined.

**102**  
\$25 Stardust  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1955-1958)

The first issue of the casino in 1955. The logo for the casino bares a striking resemblance to one that was in use in Covington Kentucky in the 1940's by one of the casino's owners - Moe Dalitz. This interesting piece is popular with collectors. The casino is one of the few surviving 1950's strip hotels.

**103**  
\$25 Thunder Bird Hotel  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1949-1964)

Certainly an early issue of this casino as the thunderbird appears on the grand opening key chains. The "arrow-die" mold makes this a very collectible check and its rarity is the reason that it is missing in most collections.

**104**  
\$5 Thunderbird Hotel  
(1949-1964)

The colorful thunderbird is taken directly from the large sign that stood at the edge of Las Vegas Blvd. The logo is one of the more colorful in Las Vegas.

**105**  
\$25 Hotel Thunderbird  
Las Vegas strip, Nevada  
(1949-1964)

Listed as the 6th issue of the hotel, this denomination is very hard to find in any condition. Considered to be in the extremely rare category, this check is missing in almost every collection.

**106**  
50 Cents Tropicana  
(1968-1972)

One of the most colorful checks issued in a "pie" configuration of colors. This casino is still the home of one of the longest running floor shows - the Folies Bergere.

**107**  
\$500 The Sands  
(1960's)

In an attempt to cater to the customers who preferred the elegance of Monte Carlo, several Las Vegas casinos tried Baccarat in the 1960's. Using French style "plaques", the casinos ran the game in the subdued atmosphere that would be found in French casinos. The games failed to attract sufficient players and the casinos discarded the French style plaques and jetons. This great example from the Sands has two "lunettes" and a serial number.





97



98



99



100



101



102



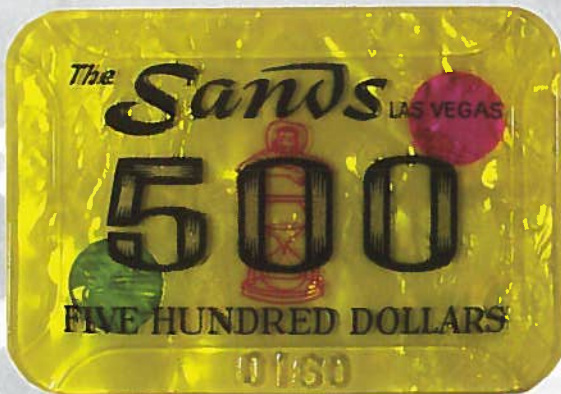
104



103



105



107



106



# Grand Sierra

## Resort & Convention Center Reno



by Allan Anderson

On May 11, 2005, Caesars Entertainment Inc. announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to sell its Reno Hilton casino resort to Grand Sierra Resort Corp., a Nevada-based hotel and resort developer, for approximately \$150 million. The transaction is expected to close by the end of the fourth quarter of 2005 and is subject to customary regulatory approvals and closing conditions outlined in the purchase agreement.

With nearly 2,000 rooms, ten restaurants, 200,000 square feet of convention space, a world-class dinner theater and 107,000 square feet of gaming space with more than 1,300 slot machines, the Reno Hilton is one of the premier casino resorts in Northern Nevada. Grand Sierra Resort Corp. plans to reconstruct the property to create an entertainment destination, which will include one of

the world's largest indoor water parks. Upon approval of the Nevada Gaming Control Board and the Nevada Gaming Commission, Larry Woolf, former chief executive officer and chairman of MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, will lease the property's gaming operations from Grand Sierra Resort Corp.

"We have some very exciting plans for the Reno Hilton, which I believe is one of the most exceptional properties in Nevada," said Thomas J. Schrade, president of Grand Sierra Resort Corp. "We will disclose further details of those plans as we move forward. Right now, we simply want to say that we are looking forward to working very closely with the people and public officials of Reno to develop an extraordinary resort that will create significant economic benefits for the community."

Under the terms of the agreement, Grand Sierra Resort Corp. will purchase certain assets of the Reno Hilton and will assume certain related current liabilities. In addition, a subsidiary of the Navegante Group will purchase certain of the gaming assets of the Reno Hilton from Caesars Entertainment and will assume certain gaming-related current liabilities. Pending regulatory approval, the Navegante Group will operate the casino at the Reno Hilton pursuant to a casino lease agreement with Grand Sierra.

Grand Sierra Resort Corp., a Nevada based company, was formed by a group of developers and investors who collectively have more than one hundred years of experience in real estate development, hospitality, and gaming. Grand Sierra Resort identified the Reno Hilton as having



the capacity, both in land and structure, to support one of the world's largest indoor water park and entertainment destinations. Grand Sierra plans on redeveloping the property by creating a synergistically themed resort, blending hotel, condominiums, indoor water park, retail stores, restaurants, theme parks and midways elements into an unparalleled guest experience.

The Grand Sierra Resort's condominium-hotel rooms offer spectacular views of the Reno Valley, only minutes away from championship golf courses, hiking and biking, along with world-class fishing and boating on Lake Tahoe, and some of America's finest ski resorts.

The Grand Sierra Resort is offering condominium-hotel rooms on the top floors of the Sierra Tower for purchase. Each unit is entitled to full hotel privileges, including daily housekeeping service, valet and preferred parking, gym access and concierge services. Private elevators provide owners and guests with security, safety and peace of mind. Owners have the opportunity to participate in the Grand Sierra Resort rental program. This option allows owners to rent their suites to conventioners, long-term guests, and visitors seeking an elite hotel experience and share in the revenue generated from these rental sales.

Developers say it will take seven years to turn the Reno Hilton into one of the west's premiere resorts. Phase One will start sometime in September. It will include a 150-thousand square foot indoor water park, along with remodeling the top six floors of the hotel into high rise condos. You may also see some changes to the exterior of the Hilton. Phase two of the project won't start until the fall of 2007. That's when developers will build the resort.



This architect's rendering shows what a second tower with 1,000 new condo-hotel rooms at the Reno Hilton would look like as part of the Grand Sierra Resort project.

It should take three years. During that time, a second tower will be added. It will have a 1000 to 1200 new condos, anchored by a 250-thousand square foot water park. The third phase of the project will be the development of commercial and retail

stores along the lake and Truckee River. Developers say the Hilton will stay open during the construction.

Architectural renderings and photos courtesy Grand Sierra Resort.



This 90,000-square-foot indoor water park, the Kalahari, is in Wisconsin Dells, Wisc., and was engineered by the same people fast-tracking plans for the largest indoor water park in the U.S. at the Reno Hilton.



# Sorting Out Harrah's

by Howard W. Herz



A recent discovery in the Nevada Club warehouse by Ron Gillio has produced a clarification of some of Harrah's early gaming check issues. A group of intertwined key chains that was apparently used by the cashier's cage at the Nevada Club to help cashiers sort out the chips of neighboring Harrah's Club also clarifies some of Harrah's issues. Combined with photographs from the files of Central Credit for chip identification, Harrah's multiple issues can be sorted into three of Harrah's separate operations. During this period of time, Central Credit lists 4 separate locations for Harrah's chips - Harrah's (Reno) - Harrah's Restaurant (Reno) - Harrah's Tahoe - Harrah's Stateline (west side of highway 50). Chips for Harrah's Restaurant had a Hat & Cane mold while the other three locations all used B.C. Will's small Grecian key checks.



Harrah's Reno



Harrah's Stateline



Harrah's Tahoe



# Building Fund Raffle

Date: August 5, 2005

Time: 12 Noon during the convention

## Raising money for a good cause

I am looking to collect 2005 roulette chips during the year by soliciting fellow collectors. Prior to and during next year's convention, we will sell raffles. We will draw three winners 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All monies collected will go to the building.

Anyone interested, please send the roulettes to:

**Neal Silverman**  
c/o Chip-Tech Ltd,  
175 Central Avenue  
Farmingdale NY 11735

Or drop them off at the building fund table during the convention

The prizes will be broken down as follows

- 1st Prize - 50% of the chips collected
- 2nd Prize - 30% of the chips collected
- 3rd Prize - 20% of the chips collected



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## ***NOT GOING TO THE CONVENTION, Buy your Raffle tickets by Mail***

With this form I agree to Pay:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to buy 1 single raffle ticket at \$5.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to buy 3 raffle tickets for \$10.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to buy 10 raffle tickets for \$25.00

Drawing will be held on the Friday of the convention at 12 Noon. You need not be present to win, the chips will be shipped to the winner.

All Raffle proceed will support the CC&GTCC Building Fund

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to CC&CTCC  
Building Fund and mail to:

Neal Silverman  
c/o Chip-Tech Ltd  
175 Central Avenue,  
Farmingdale NY 11735

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions email me: Neal@rouletteharvester.com



# The First Years

by Stephen Fischer

September 13, 1945

Folsom's Guest Cottages on US Highway 91, six miles south of Las Vegas, had been closed since 1941. Harold Folsom had died and his widow, Maggie, just couldn't run the place. On September 13, Maggie received a long distance phone call from an attorney named Greg Bautser, who lived in Los Angeles. Mr. Bautser told Maggie that he had a client who wanted to buy the Folsom Cottages including the dilapidated buildings and 30 acres of property. Bautser's client would pay all the back taxes due on the property and would put \$500 in Maggie's pocket.

That afternoon, Mr. Bautser flew to Las Vegas with his client and the \$500, met with the Folsom widow and, over lemonade, a deal was signed. The client was Morris Sedway, who was employed by Ben Siegel.

Little Moey, as he was called, held onto the Folsom property for less than two months. Following the ownership trail on this piece of property - Moe sold the land and cottages to his attorney, Greg Bautser.

Greg was representing his client, Billy Wilkerson in the transaction. Wilkerson owned two successful Hollywood nightclubs, Ciro's and the Trocadero, and was sole owner of the Hollywood Reporter, the movie industry newspaper.

Now, again following the ownership of the property, Billy Wilkerson held the Folsom Cottage property for less than a day.

November 24, 1945

George Raft's home on Coldwater Canyon Drive in Beverly Hills. There was a dinner at George's house. After dinner, Benny Siegel asked Raft to leave, his house was being used to lay out the building of the Flamingo Club in Las Vegas. The Flamingo Club was going to be funded and owned by a new California Corporation to be known as the Nevada Projects Corporation. The company that would build the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas.

Benny Siegel had already met with his general contractor, Del Webb, and his architect and builder, George Russell and Dick Stadleman.

The working number that Benny had in his head was going to be one million dollars for the project. One million dollars would be needed to build Ben Siegel's Flamingo Club. (The earliest references to the Flamingo Hotel, in the newspaper articles of 1944 and 1945, referred to it as the Club - It became the Flamingo Hotel for licensing purposes in late 1945.)

The meeting was the normalization of the Nevada Projects Corporation. It was funded and the Flamingo Hotel was about to come off the drawing board.



Ben Siegel and George Raft

A list of the shareholders in the Nevada Projects Corporation - and their holdings:

Ben Siegel  
195 shares

Charlie Ross, Phoenix banker  
100 shares

Allen Block  
10 shares

Billy Wilkerson, Ben's working partner  
125 shares

"Solly" Solloway, Married to Ben's sister  
20 shares

Hy Abrams  
22.5 shares

Joe Ross, Ben's Beverly Hills attorney  
45 shares

Sam and Harry Rothberg, brothers and owners of American Distillers, one of the largest liquor distributors in the country  
244 combined shares

Allen Smiley, a friend of Ben's (Smiley was sitting on the couch next to Ben when he was killed)  
15 shares

Louis Pokross, fronting for 15 people in the New York mobs  
unknown number of shares

Morris Rosen – also from New York and fronting for Frank Costello in most of his business deals in the 1940's  
100 shares

Meyer Lansky  
100 shares

The same day the ground was broken for the Flamingo, Ben Siegel's wife, Esta, established residency at a guest ranch just outside Reno, Nevada. She had to be a Nevada resident for six weeks before she could file for uncontested divorce. (As an aside, in 1931 the Nevada legislature passed a series of measures that helped insulate the state from effects of the Depression, (these included

legal gambling, instant weddings and quick divorces, and legal prostitution). It was an amicable settlement. The two daughters would stay with Esta and Ben would pay for their schooling and expenses until they were married, \$350 per week plus school tuition. Esta would get the house that Ben purchased at 200 Delfern Drive in Hollywood, their New York apartment, Ben's Cadillac and would also receive \$600 per week for the rest of her life.

This was 1945, postwar 1945, and building materials were very hard come by. Apparently, however, this was not the case for the Nevada Projects Corporation. With the help of his partner, Billy Wilkerson, Siegel obtained lumber and pipe right from the movie studios. Wilkerson applied pressure to his friends in the studios, and before long, trucks from Culver City and Hollywood were crossing the desert loaded with lumber and pipe heading for the Flamingo Hotel's building site. Ben imported expensive marble and decorative woods for the Flamingo's lobby through the Mexican black market. (Conveniently, he was involved in the drug trade in Mexico and his Mexican partners paved the way for him).

Siegel had truck loads of celebrity and political friends. One of his best friends was Pat McCarran, (US Senator from the great State of Nevada). McCarran reprioritized the building needs list for projects going on in southern Nevada so that Ben and the Nevada Projects Corporation could receive the copper, fixtures and tiling they needed to get the Flamingo up and running by Christmas 1946.

There were protest meetings held in Las Vegas and Boulder City by the VFW and the Elks. (Their members were finding that they couldn't get any of the fixtures and building materials needed for their projects.) All the

building material seemed to be going to that "Gangster 'Bugsy' Siegel's joint, the Flamingo!"

While the Flamingo Hotel was being built, Ben and his girlfriend, Virginia Hill, were living down the road at the Last Frontier. They had rented Suite 401 on a yearly basis. Each morning Ben would drive down to the Flamingo worksite and sign for the morning deliveries. He wanted to be totally involved in the Flamingo construction, but he didn't know about business, especially, the construction business. During the day many of those deliveries would disappear out the back gate. The next day the same items would be resold to Ben and the Flamingo. One truckload of lumber looks pretty much the same as every other truckload of lumber, right? Ben's lack of business acumen mixed with his volatile personality ultimately contributed to the fact that Flamingo Hotel really wasn't going to be ready by Christmas, 1946 ...

Regarding his quick-trigger temperament, most people gave Siegel a very wide berth. (Apparently his craziness was based on real-life insanity.) He was a powder keg and, once he exploded, there wasn't much that could be done to calm him down. Abe Schiller was the central figure in a public episode of Siegel's volatile personality. (I've read in a number of places that Schiller was entertainment director at the Flamingo Hotel, but no one probably mentioned that to Chuck Gaskill, the general manager and entertainment director for the 65-day life of the Flamingo. Nor did anyone tell Jake Katleman, Bernie Van Der Steen or the Hall brothers, Joe and Vic, the owners of the El Rancho Vegas, who at the time were giving Abe Schiller a paycheck every week to be the promotional director over there! There are many different versions of the incident described below, but I believe this is the way it happened.

On March 1, 1947 the Flamingo Hotel reopened as the Fabulous Flamingo. The grand re-opening was held on a Saturday morning.

There was no fanfare, but the hotel's front doors were opened by the Andrews Sisters, Patty, Laverne and Maxine. All three gals mingled with the guests, as did Joan Crawford and the Ritz Brothers.

There was free food and free drinks plus hot dogs and hamburgers out by the pool. People were encouraged to "bring the kiddies." One of the families showing up at the grand re-opening was the Schillers, Abe, Doris and their three kids. Although Abe worked over at the El Rancho, he wanted to see what was so fabulous about the Fabulous Flamingo. He and the Missus and kids got their swimsuits and drove in from Henderson to try out the Fabulous Flamingo pool, and the free grub.

Ben had heard that Abe Schiller was encouraging his comedians, (especially Joe E. Lewis), to joke about "that gangster up the road, Buggy Siegel."

Normally Ben Siegel didn't carry a piece. He had three regular bodyguards who watched his every step, but Ben knew that his days were numbered and that there was a contract out on him. So besides his three regular guns, he hired one of the top button men in the country to become his fourth bodyguard, a monster named "Hooky" Rothman.

To be on the safe side, Ben was also packing a piece. He and his entourage were walking by the pool when he saw Abe Schiller in a swimsuit. He exploded. He hated Schiller and anyone else who criticized his Flamingo, so he took out his gun and pistol-whipped Abe Schiller to the ground. Then in front of Abe's wife

and kids plus 200 or so Flamingo guests, Ben made Schiller crawl around the entire Flamingo pool. Ben was walking alongside him, kicking him and shooting over his head into the pool.

Hooky Rothman pulled out his piece and made damn sure no one stood up, or did anything else. The guests and the Schiller family watched in horror as Abe, bleeding from his pistol-whipping, continued to crawl around the pool. Only then did Ben let another of his bodyguards, "Fat Irish" Green, take him inside. But that all happened on March 1, 1947.

Let's go back to December 26, 1946 at the first grand opening...

Ben Siegel had three Las Vegas managers: Moey Sedway, Davie Berman and Solly Solloway. Again, Solloway was family, he had married Ben's sister.

The properties that Ben controlled were the Northern Club, he had actually purchased controlling interest for \$50,000 in 1944, and the Frontier Turf Club. Ben had just sold his interest in the El Cortez, and his partner, Meyer Lansky did the same. The horse book at the Golden Nugget was run by Ben's bodyguard, Fat Irish Green, (the same guy who helped Schiller at the pool). Hymie Segal, another bodyguard and no relation to Ben, was running the horse book at the Las Vegas Club.

Ben also had a piece of the El Rancho Vegas. His racing wire, the Trans America Service, operating out of Los Angeles, was in place in every single horse parlor in Las Vegas. (The competitive racing wire, the Continental Wire Service based in Chicago, was managed by a man named James Regan.) For a number of years there was open warfare between the two services. Even

though 1946 wasn't a great year for Ben Siegel, James Regan was cut in half with shotgun blasts in Chicago during the grand opening week of the Flamingo.

Ben's chief lieutenants were Little Moey Sedway, who controlled many of Ben's Las Vegas ventures plus his warehouse business in Los Angeles, and Gus Greenbaum, who was living in Phoenix and running the gambling business for Ben in Arizona.

In 1944 Ben bought a warehouse in Cerritos, California, along with his friend Alan Smiley. They called it the California Metals Company, and were buying millions of dollars worth of stolen iron and other metals at very reasonable prices, and then reselling them to the government. Moey Sedway was in charge of California Metals.

Sedway was beginning to make some decent money, but, apparently, he was getting too full of himself for Ben Siegel's liking. Ben had Moey physically thrown out the front door of the Flamingo Hotel and told him that he would be killed if he ever entered the Flamingo again.

Very surprising because, for years, Moey Sedway was Ben Siegel's "Go-To" guy. If something needed doing, it was Moey who made sure it was done. If someone needed something from Ben, they had to clear it through Moey first. In a fit of rage and frustration, mostly aimed at the construction delays, Ben threw his number one ally out. But Moey Sedway did what many mobsters from around the country did, they reinvented themselves in Las Vegas and became respectable citizens. Then Moey went one step too far for Ben. He was asked to run for the Nevada State Assembly. Whether it was jealousy or not, Moey was definitely persona non-grata in Ben Siegel's world.



Moe Sedway was liked by almost everyone in the community. He got things done, to be sure, and he did them with style. He was on the board of aldermen of Clark County, being paid \$1 a year for his services. He was head of the United Jewish Appeal in Las Vegas and he was on the board of directors of the Clark County Library.

Ben Siegel was another story. The merchants downtown, and the small casino owners were aware that he was going to be taking over Las Vegas. He had already gotten points in every casino which had a horse book, and the writing was on the wall. Ben represented organized crime, and organized crime was something that Las Vegas didn't want. When the Flamingo Hotel was ready for its opening, a whisper campaign was conducted all over Las Vegas. Dealers, deskmen, bellhops, valets, waitresses and other hotel personnel were told to speak to guests and gamblers about staying away from "that gangster-ridden Flamingo..."

Local Las Vegas also began shying away from the Flamingo that opening week. In Hollywood, one by one, stars like Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn, who had told Ben that they'd love to come up to the Flamingo for the grand opening, came up with an excuse. Clark Gable developed a head cold. Marlene Dietrich sprained her ankle, Gary Cooper said his mother was sick and he had to fly to Texas to see her. It seems everyone was pulling out of a commitment they'd made to show up at the grand opening.

The MGM movie stars were told by William Randolph Hearst, known to close friends as "W.R.," that if they valued their careers, they'd stay out of the Flamingo. MGM stars were banned from the hotel for months. One of the reasons that Hearst hated

# AN EVENING IN LAS VEGAS

Fly out on a TWA chartered plane, leaving at 5:30 p.m. each day and returning at 1 a.m. Attend one of the Three-Day Gala Openings of the *Most Luxurious Night Club in the World* . . . Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 26, 27 and 28

The *Flamingo* has been constructed at a cost of better than \$5,000,000. It is owned and operated by the Nevada Projects Corporation. It will stand out as one of the world's greatest resorts for the comfort and enjoyment of all pleasure-loving people.

The greatest entertainers of the world will be brought to the *Flamingo* for your entertainment. The opening show will consist of Jimmie Durante and his company, Xavier Cugat and his band, Rosemarie and Tommy Wonder.

Fly up any day and come back the same night. For information or reservations, call Miss Stringfellow at Hillside 7717. The hotel portion of the *Flamingo* will not be open until March 1.

Ben Siegel was Marian Davies. Hearst had information that Ben and Marian apparently had 30 or 40 one-night stands. This was just after Marian and "Daddy," as she privately called W.R., had stopped seeing one another. Ben, among his other enterprises, also owned the Screen Extras Guild. He could and *did* hold up studios for extortion money or he would and *did* pull the "extras" off the shoot at a moment's notice. Hearst had a lot of friends in the movie business who hated Ben Siegel.

But the actors were not part of this group. Ben socialized with everyone in Hollywood. It was the studio heads who hated him, especially Hearst. W.R. let it be known that no motion picture star, especially those with MGM, was to show his or her face at the Flamingo, or else. Billy Wilkerson, Ben Siegel's original partner in the project, was still involved with the Flamingo. Wilkerson tried to promote the Flamingo among his movie-star patrons at Ciro's and the Trocadero, but with little success.

George Raft did recruit a number of his friends to the grand opening at the Flamingo Hotel, an event starring Rose Marie and Jimmy Durante.

Numerous articles have been written about the disastrous opening night at the Flamingo. Though Ben had hired twelve uniform guards to watch the patrons, many of the dealers were helping themselves to money. Luck was running against the house and two rival casino owners, Tutor Scherer and Beldon Katleman, both won nearly \$100,000. The decks and the dice were running cold. George Raft was the only well-known loser that first night, it's said he dropped \$75,000 at baccarat. But even with that net gain, the house was down nearly \$200,000 on its first night ...

The Flamingo Showroom was barely half filled. The great Durante played to fewer than 80 people on opening night. Ben had leased three TWA Constellation jets to fly the rich and famous guests from the Los Angeles area to Las Vegas, but the weather kept all of the planes grounded. The following night, December 27, was much worse. Rose Marie played to fewer than 20 people and Jimmy Durante said it was the smallest crowd he'd ever seen, even back to his saloon days. New Year's Eve was a little better, Lucille Ball and Desi Arnez were guests of the hotel, as was Georgie Jessel and Leo Carillo, better known as Pancho, the Cisco Kid's sidekick.

One of the problems was that the Flamingo Hotel wasn't really a hotel. It was a casino with a showroom and a coffee shop. It only had 90 rooms and they were constantly being worked on. Each of the rooms, per Ben Siegel's instructions, had its own private sewer system and furnishings were running at nearly \$11,000 per unit. Without hotel rooms to keep the guests on your property, they're going

to play for a while and then head back up to the El Rancho or the Frontier where they had paid \$5 for their room for the night, it was a long drive back to the Flamingo. "So how about if we play right here at the Last Frontier after dinner, Mildred?"

The Flamingo Hotel lost in the neighborhood of \$700,000 during the 65 days it remained opened. By the first of February, Ben had closed some areas of the casino, the Flamingo Showroom and the outside bar. The casino still had a blackjack table, one craps table and the slots on the east side of the casino. Those gamblers and vacationers who wanted to see the Flamingo and try their luck there were soon chased out by either the constant noise of hotel construction or the occasional very scary glimpse of Ben Siegel and his muscle, the four bodyguards scowling at everything walking through the casino. Dealers would cower hoping that Ben wouldn't stop at their table.

Enough was enough! On February 6, 1947, Ben Siegel told his two publicists, Paul Price in Los Angeles, and Hank Greenspun in Las Vegas, to prepare press releases that the Flamingo Hotel was temporarily closing but would reopen as the Fabulous Flamingo within the month, billed as the World's Most Glamorous Hotel!

The Fabulous Flamingo did open within the month, on Saturday, March 1, 1947. The Andrew Sisters and the Ritz Brothers, two of the hottest acts in the country, were booked to open. And, as they say, the rest is history. In retrospect, I think many Las Vegas historians would agree that were it not for "Bugsy" Siegel, there possibly might not have been a Las Vegas.

Regarding the murder itself: Ben was 41 years-old the evening he was shot. He had gone out to dinner with his friend and partner, Allen Smiley.

(Smiley was Russian, something that's not often reported). They went to Jack's on the Beach in Santa Monica then came back to Virginia Hill's mansion at 810 North Linden Drive in Beverly Hills. Ben was on the couch reading the newspaper when someone fired a 30-caliber army carbine rifle nine times through an outside window. Four bullets hit Ben. (Apparently the first shot hit him in his eye, it was found on the fireplace hearth across the room.) Of the four hits, two were head shots and two were body shots. According to the police report of the shooting, the distance from the window to where Ben was sitting was "between 4 and 4.5 feet."

There are many theories on who killed Ben Siegel. It's generally agreed that his death sentence was voted on during the Mafia meeting on December 26, 1946 held on the penthouse roof of the Hotel Nacional de Cuba. Do you remember the scene in the second Godfather movie where Hyman Roth is showing off his birthday cake to everyone while Michael Corleone and the rest of his group are soaking up the Havana sun?

To this point we've covered the Flamingo from its beginning to the evening of June 20, 1947. On this day Ben Siegel was gunned down at about 10:40 p.m. Two hours later, at about midnight, Little Moey Sedway and



Morris Rosen walked into the executive offices of the Fabulous Flamingo as the new bosses. The very next day there was a meeting of the stockholders at the Flamingo. Attending the new Flamingo owner's meeting were: Joey Ross, Beverly Hills (an attorney representing Ben Siegel's interests), Meyer Lansky, New York and Havana (de-facto chairman of the group), Morris Rosen, New York and Las Vegas (representing the mob and the Fabulous Flamingo), Gus Greenbaum, Phoenix and Las Vegas (Ben Siegel's #1 man in Phoenix and #2 man in Las Vegas), Moey Sedway, Las Vegas, Joe Epstein, Chicago (a mob lawyer)

If you take a look at the cities that these men traveled from, and then realize that this meeting took place less than 24 hours after Ben's death, there has always been speculation that this group was already in Las Vegas when Ben was shot.

After the discussion about the future of the Flamingo without Ben, Lansky and the Flamingo board of directors took a break. They went downstairs to the Flamingo Sunrise Chuckwagon, (all you can eat for only 99¢ per person), then they began interviewing two potential groups to manage the Fabulous Flamingo.

Charlie Resnick, Sanford Adler and Israel "Icepick Willie" Alderman were invited in to discuss the Flamingo. Their resumes: Charlie Resnick, a 33% owner of the El Rancho Vegas in 1947. Sanford Adler. Back in June 1947, when this meeting took place, Sandy Adler was one of the owners of El Rancho Vegas. In later years Adler became famous as the casino boss at Caesar's who pulled a gun on Frank Sinatra during a fistfight they were having at the \$100 minimum craps table. Sandy was a tough no-nonsense guy. How many people do you imagine would

get into a fight in Las Vegas with Sinatra and then pull a gun on him? Sandy Adler, like other casino owners, didn't back down easily. Israel "Icepick Willie" Alderman. Willie hailed from the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. It was said if you got Icepick Willie drunk enough, he loved to share his story about the "even dozen" guys who got in his way and never lived to tell about it. His nickname came from the signature method of ending discussions known as the quick icepick lunge. It seems if you quickly jam an icepick into someone's ear, death is instantaneous and quiet. It looks like the person has just fallen asleep. After he left the Twin Cities there were very few of these unsolved murders with that particular signature around any more. But some did show up in Las Vegas in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Charlie, Sandy and Icepick made their presentation, thanked Meyer for his time, and left. The next group making their bid for the Flamingo management included Davie Berman, a friend and assistant to Gus Greenbaum, Al Abrams, who ran one of the big legal brothels just outside Las Vegas, and Sam Diamond, a Bigtime bookmaker.

The decision that Meyer Lansky and the other Flamingo owners arrived at was they wanted Sanford Adler to be their new front man, their man in the counting room. The "skim" was the main reason for the mob's intense interest in the new ownership.

Sandy Adler bought the Fabulous Flamingo along with his partner, Charlie Resnick. Icepick Willie only had a small piece of the ownership. Sandy and Charlie were both current owners of the El Rancho at this time, and they were looking to expand because the El Rancho was beginning

to "slide" a little. Remember, this was 1947, the year before Beldon Katleman came into the El Rancho Vegas scene.

A final price of \$3,900,000 was agreed to. Sandy Adler and Charlie Resnick only had to put down \$550,000 to secure the purchase.

Sandy and Mrs. Adler moved into the "owner's suite" at the Flamingo on June 21, 1947. (The owner's suite was formerly Ben's.) It was the steel-lined penthouse on the third floor of the Oregon Building, the one always pictured behind the Flamingo swimming pool. The building came with escape tunnels, buried floor safes and all-bulletproof windows.

Sandy, Charlie and Icepick, and Mrs. Sandy, Mrs. Charlie and Mrs. Icepick, were enjoying the perks of being casino owners. In 1947 Las Vegas was a still a pretty small town. And being a casino owner, or being the wife of a casino owner, was pretty big juice. You got to socialize with the upper crust of Las Vegas society. It meant when BMI, Basic Magnesium, Incorporated, was having one of their formal balls and dances at the country club, you got invited. Or when the Cashmans or the Squires were having couples over for dinner, you got an invitation. Can you imagine how Mrs. Icepick Alderman felt when she got an invitation from Mrs. Tom Hull to attend afternoon tea at the Last Frontier to meet the guest of honor, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt? This was real heady stuff.

As far as Sandy Adler himself goes, it sure was fun owning a hotel like the Flamingo. More benefits than you could possibly imagine, most can't even be discussed here. All in all, it was a happy time for all the owners and their wives. Only the real owners of the hotel, Meyer Lansky and Company, weren't at all happy. In the



short time period since Ben Siegel was killed, the Flamingo still wasn't making money. Meyer's daily question was: "Who ever heard of a casino not making money?"

Sanford, Charlie and Icepick knew the Flamingo wasn't making money in the nine months since they took over. So, one day in April 1948, Sandy Alder got a call from Jake Lansky, Meyer's brother.

**Sandy Adler:** "Hello?"

**Jake Lamsky:** "Sandy? This is Jake. Meyer sends his regards and says he wants for you to sell your interest in the Flamingo back to him. OK, Sandy?"

**Sandy Adler:** "What? No way am I gonna' sell out of the Flamingo. You tell Meyer that our luck's been running a little cold, but it's about to turn around."

**Jake Lamsky:** "Oh! and Sandy? I was also told to tell you that you and your partners are going to have your throats cut and buried out in the desert if you don't sell out right now. And Sandy? Give my best to the wife and kids."

Again, Sanford and the boys were very happy owning the Flamingo. They all agreed: "No way are we gonna' let them kick us out. No way!" Sanford and Charlie Resnick, and their junior partner Icepick, decided to talk to the "law." Actually, it was the Nevada State Taxing Authority who controlled casino licenses in the 1950s. They told the tax boys that they were being "elbowed out" by the mob.

All three of them flew to Carson City to meet with the Nevada taxing guys. The tax guys kind of agreed with them, they shouldn't be kicked out of the Flamingo if they didn't want to go. So it very quickly became public knowledge that the "supposed" ownership of the Fabulous Flamingo and the "real" ownership of the

Fabulous Flamingo probably weren't one in the same. That was something that the Nevada Tax Commission found very interesting. Even you and I know that when you take the mob's money and get into bed with them, you're not supposed to go crying to the law about it. Unless you're ready to go into hiding, that is.

But Sandy Adler made a mistake. After his trip to Carson City, he went back to the Flamingo. When he was walking past the reception desk in the lobby, he ran into Morris Rosen and a couple of his gorillas. Moe Rosen snarled at Adler and said: "We talk – Now!" Sandy Adler was quoted as telling Moe Rosen to "Go f\_\_\_ yourself". To the horror of guests in the Flamingo lobby, Sandy Adler was restrained by two mobsters while two others beat him unconscious.

Adler woke in up 10 hours later in the hospital and came to his senses. He realized what he'd just done. He was released from the hospital and Sandy and Mrs. Adler immediately drove to Beverly Hills. There Sandy stopped at the Beverly Hills Police Department and explained the entire situation to his friend Clint Anderson,

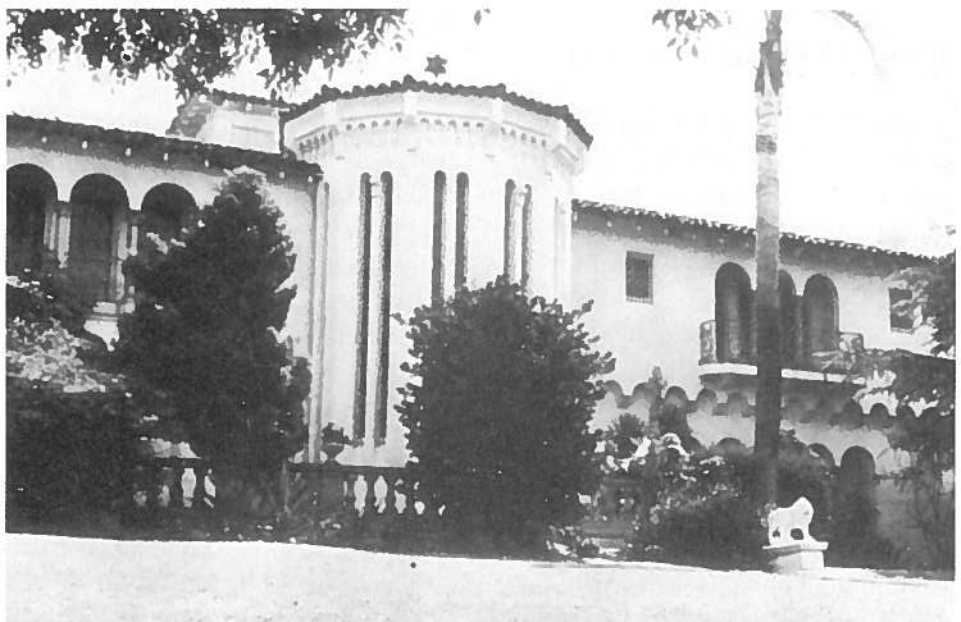
Chief of Police. Chief Anderson told him it probably wouldn't be safe for him to move to Beverly Hills. So the Adlers moved to Reno and, with the help of their attorney on the very day they arrived in town, they sold 100% of their stock in the Flamingo Hotel.

The very next day, Gus Greenbaum was named president of the Flamingo.

The day that Sandy Adler was selected, he hired Abe Schiller from the El Rancho Vegas to start work as the Flamingo's new publicity and advertising director. That same day, Hank Greenspun, Ben Siegel's long-time publicist, resigned his position as the Flamingo's publicity and advertising director.

Greenspun went to work for a small Las Vegas weekly newspaper, then joined Wilbur Clark for several years while the Desert Inn was in its planning stages. He eventually ended up at the Las Vegas Sun, working his way up to publisher.

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# 2005 Convention Update

Riviera Hotel

Las Vegas NV

August 3rd – August 6th, 2005

by Jim Steffner

78...77...76 and on it goes, each day brings us closer to Las Vegas and the clubs 13th Annual Convention. Thirteen years...ahhh, it seems like only yesterday at the old Aladdin.

There is a lot planned for this years big event...chips, tokens, silver strikes, ashtrays, matchbooks, slot cards, room keys, and casino memorabilia, plus exhibits, seminars, trade sessions, and best of all the chance to meet some really great people.

The Riviera Hotel will be our host for 2005 and is anxious to provide another first class venue. Meet your friends in the Royal Pavilion Room 5-8, which is the newer convention facility. The large show floor, close parking and easy access, spacious meeting rooms, and many exciting events await. We look forward to seeing everyone in just a few short weeks.

## Registration

Riviera Capri Room 111

If you took advantage of the pre-registration option – lucky you! You are in for some special treats this year. The pre-registration packet is bulging with some exciting items

There will be four lines separated alphabetically to make the registration process smooth and fast. Your pre-registration envelope will contain your show badge, banquet tickets (if ordered), along with your poker and blackjack confirmations (if you will be participating), a special door prize drawing ticket, and a few nice sur-



prise items. Pre-Registration packets can be picked up at the registration desk ONLY between 9AM and 4PM on Wednesday August 3rd, 2005 and during regular registration desk hours on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.

A photo ID with address will be required to pick up your packet and each person must pick up their own. No packets will be mailed to non-attendees. There is no admission charge for children under 12.

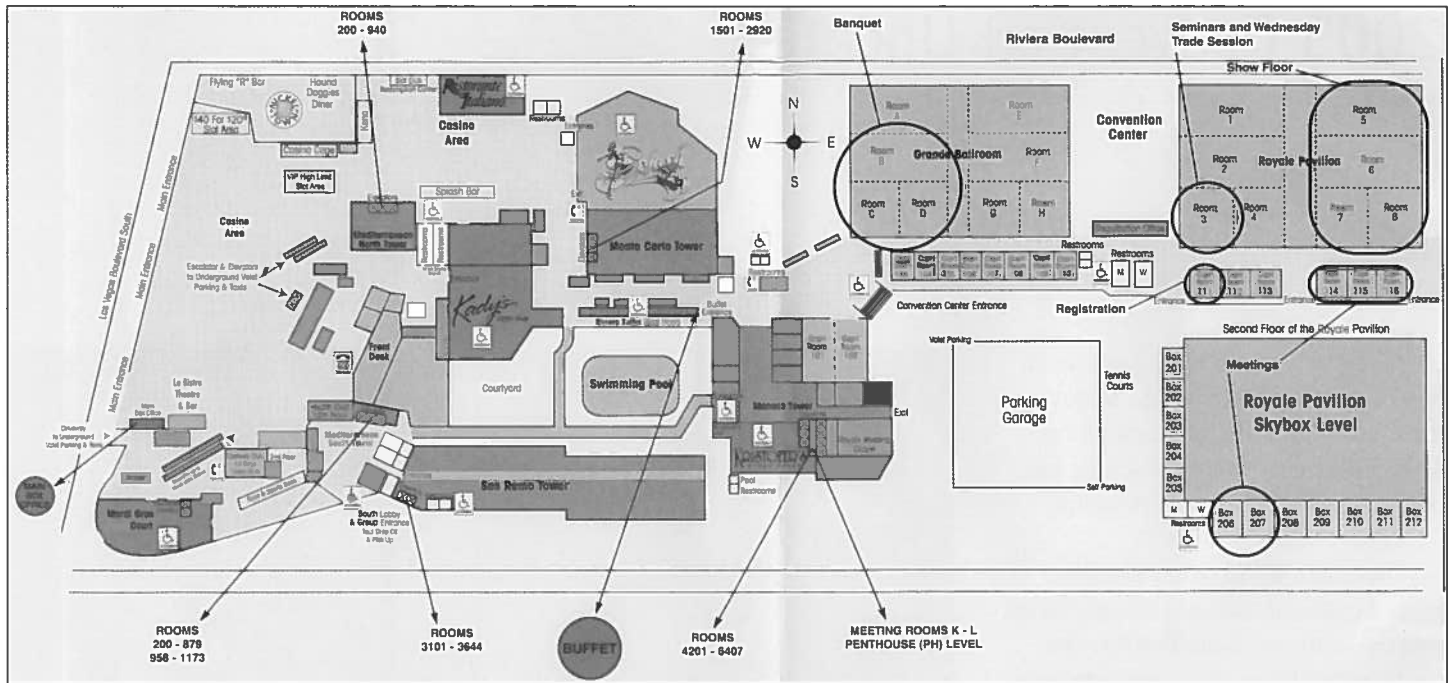
A pre-registrant prize drawing will be held at Noon on Thursday August 4th near the club promotion table. Match your lucky number that is in your pre-registration packet and if you have a winner, pick up your prize. You do not have to be present at the drawing to win but all prizes must be claimed by Noon on Saturday, August 6th, 2005.

## Hotel Reservations

Deadline July 15th, or until our room block is filled

Hotel room rates for the 2005 convention will be \$68.00 for Sunday thru Thursday, and \$75.00 for Friday & Saturday. Reservations must be made before July 15, 2005 to be included in the club room block. All reservations made at the Riviera and included in our special club room block with everyone's help will keep costs down in future years and assist us in negotiating more favorable contracts for future conventions. Support your club and stay at the Riviera.

Our special rates are effective from July 29th thru August 9th, 2005 for those who wish to arrive early or stay over. 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. The room elevators are only a short distance from the show-room, banquet, exhibits, and meetings.

Reserve your room directly with the Riviera Hotel. Call their toll free registration number 800-634-6753 or 702-794-9412. Be sure to mention that you are with the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club. Be sure to get your confirmation number. Deadline to book our special rooms is July 15th, 2005 or until our block of rooms is filled.

### Exhibits

Riviera Royale Room 5-8

Be sure to check out the exhibits that some of our members have put together for the show. These represent a particular area of collecting interest and are always quite interesting and informative. Be sure to cast a vote for your favorite.

### Educational Seminars

Riviera Royale Room 3 on Thursday & Friday. Saturday TBA

Dick Covington has lined up some great speakers to keep everyone well informed and educated. Plan your schedule for Thursday to hear another chapter of the great Doug Saito stories, Friday when Steve Fisher will enlighten all of us about the history of the Riviera and Las Vegas casino and talk about his recently released book, and Saturday at Noon with a speaker to be announced.

### Bruce Landau Memorial Auction

Riviera Royale Room 3

Once again Barry Weintraub will be organizing the Bruce Landau Memorial Auction. With record-breaking bids last year, he has assembled some excellent lots for this year's auction that may include some lower and medium priced lots plus items other than chips. Be sure to order your auction catalog as they usually sell out by show time. Check related article for ordering information. The auction will be Friday evening August 5th starting at 6:30 PM.

### Early Bird Banquet and Trade Session

Riviera Grande B-D

The banquet is scheduled for Wednesday evening, August 3rd. No tickets will be available at the door. This year we are proud to present Mr. Richard J. Goeglein. Mr. Goeglein was President and CEO of Harrah's Hotel from 1980 – 1984. He then became President and COO of Holiday Corporation, then parent of Harrah's and Holiday Inn, from 1984 to 1987. He was Co-Founder and President of GWC Gaming from 1992 – 1997 and concurrently Founder and President of Gaming Associates Inc. from 1992 to 1998 when that firm contracted to manage and close the Dunes Hotel and Casino, prior to its sale to Mirage Resorts.

Between 1997 and 2001, Mr. Goeglein was President of Aladdin Gaming LLC and Aladdin Gaming Holdings LLC. We look forward to a wonderful evening with Mr. Goeglein.

All banquet attendees must be club members. If you reserved a seat for a

spouse or friend, make sure to sign them up for club membership BEFORE convention week. There will be no opportunity to join the club at the show before Thursday morning after the exhibit hall opens. Banquet tickets will be in your pre-register envelope and can be picked up at the registration desk between 9AM and 4PM ONLY on Wednesday.

When the banquet ends about 8PM, the tables will be open for a gigantic trade session. Bring what you can carry, allow space for others and remember NO direct selling of items. Trade session is open for members only. Have fun!

### **Poker Challenge and Blackjack Tournament** Palms Hotel & Casino

The poker and blackjack tournaments will again be held at the Palms, same as last year. The Palms and Gene Trimble have gone out of their way to provide a nice facility for both tournaments. The action starts on Wednesday with the Blackjack Tournament at Noon. The Poker Challenge will be Thursday evening with an earlier start time of 7:00 PM. Check related article for all the details. Players can also sign up at the

convention for the Poker Challenge if seats are still available, but they usually sell out well before.

A special set of tournament chips will be available and one set is included with each players seat. These chips are used for both the blackjack and the poker tournaments and will be available to players and for purchase starting on Friday morning when the show opens. Additional sets can be purchased from the Promotion table at the show or by mail. For any questions, please contact Bob Pardue, pardue@home.com

### **Trade Sessions** Riviera Capri Rooms 114-116

Several trade sessions are planned during the show. No matter what you collect, chances are there will be someone trading. Check the show schedule for times. Bring some binders but leave space for others. Please, no outright sales of merchandise.

### **Last Dance Swap Meet** Riviera Capri Rooms 114-116

On Saturday, August 6th, the Last Dance Trade Session will be held. The event will begin at 7PM and last

until the last two traders call it quits. This is not a "dance" with a band or music but just the last opportunity for members to get together after the convention closes to find that elusive chip, token, or slotcard. See you all in August and have fun collecting!

### **Help Wanted**

Part time positions are open for members who wish to volunteer a few hours during the show. It is because of these volunteers that the show goes on. Without their donation of a few hours we could not provide all the fun and excitement that you all enjoy.

If you wish to volunteer for several positions such as registration, promotions table, auction table, or membership table, or setup and teardown, please contact Bob Bickford, Volunteer Coordinator, oldbera@wowway.com or call Bob at 440-243-0478.

If you have some experience in video or television production and would like to help with coordination of the video production DVD that will again be produced, please contact Jim Steffner,

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# Biography – Richard J. Goeglein

Richard Goeglein's entire career of over thirty years has been as a senior executive in consumer services, and the hotel, restaurant, and casino industries.

- Co-Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive of Premier Gaming Management, Inc. from January 1994.
- Founder and President of Gaming Associates, Inc. from October 1992
- Co-Founder and President of GWC Gaming, Inc. from March 1992
- Principal of Market Value Partners and President, Chief Executive Officer of Dakin, Inc. 1990-1992.
- Principal of Harlan and Dalton 1988-1990.
- President, Chief Operating Officer of Holiday Corporation 1984-1987.
- Executive Vice President of Holiday Corporation and President, Chief Executive Officer of Harrah's Hotels and Casinos 1980-1984.
- Executive Vice President of Holiday Inns, Inc. 1978-1980.
- Vice President of W.R. Grace and Co. and Executive Vice President, Chief Operations Officer of its Consumer Services Group 1974-1978.
- Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hungry Tiger, Inc. 1972-1974.
- President and Chief Executive Officer of Uniworld Foods, Inc. 1969-1972.
- Serves or has served as a member of the Board of Directors of AST Research, Inc.; Platinum Software, Inc.; Hornblower Dining Yachts, Inc.; Boomtown, Inc.; Holiday Corporation, Inc.; Holiday Inns, Inc.; Tennessee Restaurant Company, Trader Vic's Restaurants, Inc.; Residence Inns, Inc.; University of Nevada-Reno, Christian Brothers College, California Association of Student Councils, and the Sammy Davis Jr. National Liver Institute. Member of Chaine des Rotisseur and a past trustee and life member of the Culinary Institute of America.
- Member, Gaming Oversight Committee, Marriott Lodging International.
- B.S., University of Wyoming 1957, M.B.A., Stanford University 1960.

As an Executive Vice President of Holiday Inns, Inc. he was a part of the team, which acquired Harrah's, a then northern Nevada gaming company. Richard became President, Chief Executive at the end of February 1980. During his tenure as CEO of Harrah's followed by President, Chief Operating Officer of Holiday Corporation, Harrah's became the largest and one of the most profitable gaming companies in the world.

At the end of 1987, Richard left Holiday Corporation to pursue opportunities in remedial and "turnaround" management as well as developmental activities in the hotel and casino industry.

Gaming Associates, Inc. and GWC Gaming, Inc. were formed in 1992 to take advantage of the proliferation of gaming into new venues. GWC entered into a consultant relationship with the Southern Ute Indians followed by a contract for management of their Sky Ute Lodge and Casino. Gaming Associates entered into a contract to manage, prepare for closure, and close the Dunes Hotel and Casino. Gaming Associates served as a consultant to Marriott Lodging International on casino development, operations, and internal controls.

In early 1993, Goeglein joined with Terry MacRae, founder/owner of Hornblower Dining Yachts, Inc., forming Madison Landing Associates, a joint venture company focused on the pursuit of gaming opportunities on the Ohio River in Indiana. Hornblower operates some 26 vessels providing high-end dining and entertainment services while cruising the various harbors of California.

In mid-year 1996 Goeglein joined the Sommer Trust with the purpose of fleshing out the Aladdin Gaming Resort/Casino and Shopping complex concept. January 1997 Goeglein became President & Chief Executive Officer of Aladdin Gaming Holdings where he remained through September 2001. Was instrumental in putting together the capital structure of the company and lead the team to ultimately raise approximately \$600 million, closing on the transaction in February 1998. The Aladdin Resort & Casino complex consists of 3.3 million square feet of facility and was built at a cost of just over \$1 billion. Additionally, Goeglein created the operating company, which opened with approximately 3,000 full-time equivalent team members. Goeglein was also a member of Aladdin Gaming Holdings, LLC and Aladdin Gaming, LLC Board of Directors. The company is privately owned.



# Convention Schedule

## Wednesday – August 3rd, 2005

9:00 AM **Registration opens**  
Capri Room 111  
Dealers and Members

9:00 AM **General trade session**  
Capri Room 115 & 116  
9am to 4pm – Trade session – No sales

10:00 AM **Dealer setup begins**  
Royal Rooms 5 to 8  
Dealer credentials required for entry

12 Noon **Blackjack tournament**  
Palms Hotel & Casino

4:00 PM **General trade session closes**  
Pre-registration & Banquet ticket pickup closes

5:30 PM **Early Bird Banquet**  
Ticketed event – Advance purchase only  
Grande B-D

8:00 PM **Member trade session opens**  
Grande B-D

11:00 PM **Dealer setup closes**

## Thursday – August 4th, 2005

7:00 AM **Dealer setup continues**  
Royal 5-8  
Dealer credentials required for entry

8:30 AM **Educational Forum**  
**Doug Saito, Chip Stories IV**  
Royale Room 3

9:00 AM **Registration Opens**  
Capri 111

10:00 AM **Opening Ceremonies**  
**2005 Show begins**  
Royale Ballroom 5,6,7, & 8

12 Noon

**Pre-registrant drawing**  
**Club promotions table**

1:00 PM

**Pre-registrant drawing, prize pickup**  
Capri Room 114  
to 3 pm

4:00 PM

**Silver Strike Forum**  
Royale Room 3  
to 5:30 pm

5:30 PM

**Show floor entrance closed – Exit only**

6:00 PM

**Show in recess until 10:00 am Friday**

7:00 PM

**7th Annual Poker Challenge**  
Palms Casino

8:00 PM

**General trade session**  
Capri Room 115 & 116

**Silver Strike Meeting**  
Royale Room 3

**Show floor secured**

## Friday – August 5th, 2005

8:00 AM

**Dealers with credentials may enter showroom**

8:30 AM

**Educational seminar – Steve Fischer**  
Royale Room 3

9:00 AM

**Registration opens**  
Capri 111

10:00 AM

**Show floor opens to members**

11:00 AM

**Cashout ticket collectors meeting**  
Skybox 207 & 208

11:00 AM

**Pre-registrant drawing, prize pickup**  
Capri Room 114  
to 12 noon

1:00 PM

**Annual CC&GTCC business meeting**  
Royale Room 3

2:00 PM	<b>Pre-registrant drawing, prize pickup</b> Capri Room 114 to 3 PM	9:00 AM	<b>Registration opens</b> Capri Room 111
4:30 PM	<b>Show floor entrance closed – Exit only</b>	10:00 AM	<b>Show floor opens to members</b>
5:00 PM	<b>Show in recess until 10:00am Saturday</b>	12 Noon	<b>Educational seminar - TBA</b> Capri Room 115 & 116
6:00 PM	<b>General trade session</b> Capri Room 115 & 116	2:00 PM	<b>Florida Casino Chip &amp; Gaming Token Collectors Club meeting</b> Skybox 207 & 208
6:30 PM	<b>“Bruce Landau Memorial Auction” begins</b> Royal Room 3	3:30 PM	<b>Show entrance closed – Exit only</b>
	<b>Show floor secured</b>	4:00 PM	<b>2005 Show closes</b> <b>See you next year</b>
<b>Saturday – August 6th, 2005</b>		6:00 PM	<b>All dealers must vacate show floor</b>
		7:00 PM	<b>“Last Dance” trade session</b> Capri Room 114 to 116
8:00 AM	<b>Dealers with credentials may enter showroom</b>		

**Times & locations are subject to change. Check schedule at convention.**

## 2005 Convention Auction

*by* Barry **Weintraub**

Okay fellow chip collectors, it's time to start thinking about the 2005 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction that will take place 7 PM Friday night August 5, 2005 at the 13th annual CCGT&CC at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in fabulous Las Vegas. You can bid by mail, fax or on-line.

Once again the auction catalogs will be available prior to the actual event. 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 \$15. If

you are interested in purchasing a black & white catalog, mail a \$15 check made out to CCGT&CC and mail it to:

Mike Quinlivan,  
PO Box 429,  
Atwood, CA 92811.

The cost of the black & white catalog has gone up from \$10 to \$15 to cover the actual cost of printing the catalog.

Plus a color pdf version of the catalog will be available online on the

club website at  
<http://www.ccgccc.com>.

The printed and on-line catalogs will be ready around the end of June.

Additionally, as with last years auction, we will be taking bids on-line. This proved to be very popular and successful in expanding the number of club members who participated in the auction.

If you have any questions about the auction, I can be reached at [auction@ccgccc.com](mailto:auction@ccgccc.com)

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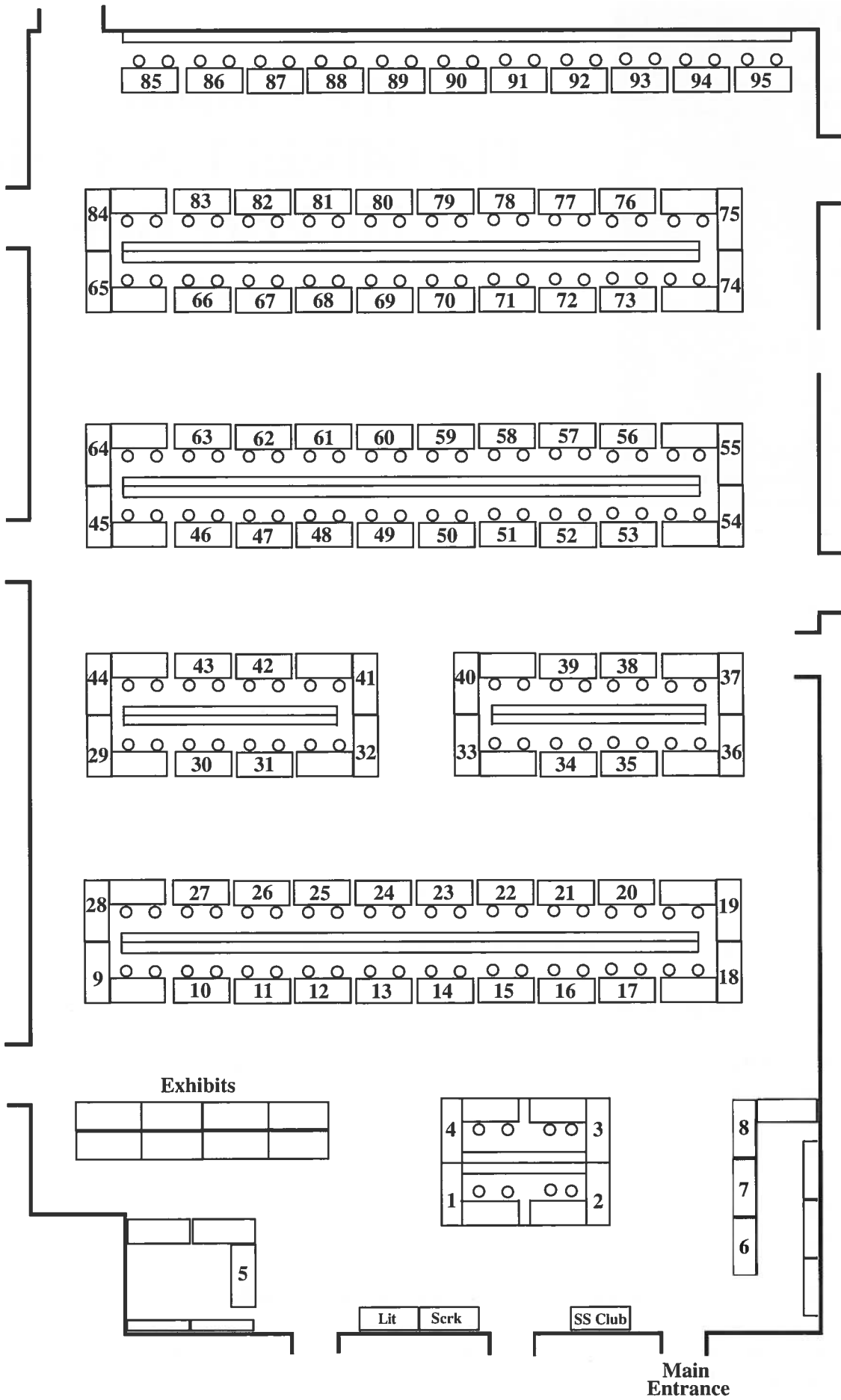
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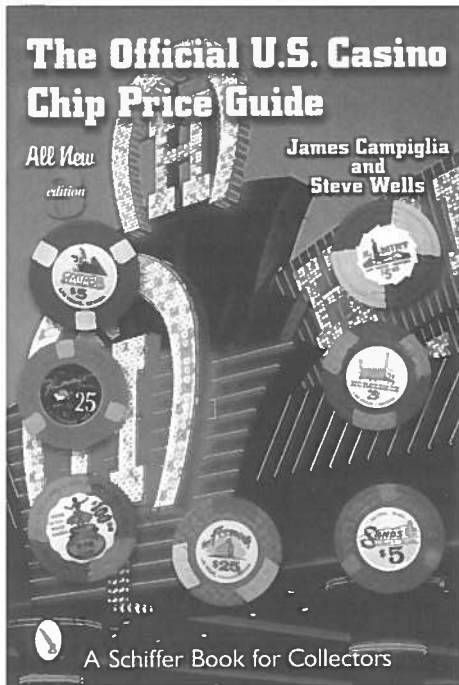
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1	CC & GTCC Promotions	50	Frank Lonteen
2	CC & GTCC Promotions	51	Coast to Coast Casino News Magazine
3	CC&GTCC Membership	52	Coast to Coast News Magazine
4	Building Committee	53	Coast to Coast News Magazine
5	Bruce Landua Memorial Auction	54	Georgia Feeney Mrs. \$2.50
6	C.T. Coins	55	New York Chips & Decanters
7	C.T. Coins	56	New York Chips & Decanters
8	C.T. Coins	57	Vintage Dice
9	B & V Collectibles	58	Vintage Dice
10	Joe Dolce	59	Dick Brach
11	Henry G. Garrett	60	The Bruce Landau Family
12	Larry & Fran Betker	61	Russ Diaz & Andrew Miller Casino Collectibles
13	Stan & Betty Wilker	62	Doug Deems
14	R.I.C.H.-Roulette International Chip Hunters	63	Steve Goodrich / John Johannes
15	Dale Seymour - Past Pleasures	64	Walter Dirzulaitis
16	Ralph Strandwold - Ivory & Clay Collector	65	Travis Lewin - Syracuse NY, Allan Myers - Louisville KY, Ernie Wheelden - Reseda CA
17	Ron Minsberg		
18	Spinetti's	66	Travis Lewin - Syracuse NY, Allan Myers - Louisville KY, Ernie Wheelden - Reseda CA
19	Spinetti's		
20	Howard's Cruise & Foreign Chips / Ed Hoffman Silver Strikes	67	Cal Neva Chips
21	Jim Munding / Casinorama	68	Skip's Chips & Strikes
22	Dino's Chips	69	Armin Pfaender
23	Diamond Jim's	70	Oldmanchipper
24	Diamond Jim's	71	Peter Van der Kar - Lloyd Malani Silver Strikes
25	Janice & Jerry O'Neal	72	Nevada Collectibles Dave Gehl and Rich Klabacha
26	Casino Fun Distributing Services	73	www.RareChips.com
27	Lucky To Boat	74	Mark & Myrna Lighterman, Florida Chip Experts
28	Joseph Benon	75	Frog Pond Collectibles / Cunningham Exonumia
29	David D. Sarles	76	Frog Pond Collectibles / Cunningham Exonumia
30	David D. Sarles	77	Jim Bothwell - Mark Englebretson
31	Cochips.com / S&P Collectibles	78	Chip N Sales
32	CRK Enterprises / Cameron Kessinger	79	Gaming Archaeology - Jack Haddock
33	Scott Hartman, "The Chip Man"	80	Bill's Nevada Goodies
34	Paul A. Sax - Bill O'Day	81	Wes Rasmussen
35	American Chip Enterprises, Inc	82	Dennis Finn Silver Strikes
36	James Campiglia	83	Bill's Silver Strikes & Catalog's
37	Barry Weintraub	84	Bob's Gaming Trinkets
38	Averill, Perlowski, Thompson	85	Tiny Treasures, LLC.
39	Lynn Brooks	86	Tiny Treasures, LLC.
40	Nevada Gold Treasures, Inc. Steven Cutler	87	Book Signing "Yesterday's Las Vegas" by Author - Steve Fischer
41	Meyer & Chamberlain	88	Bill Judge
42	Gary Shepherd	89	Kevin Sipes
43	Gary Shepherd	90	Casinobilia
44	Walt Gonski	91	Vegas Chipman
45	Chip Chat	92	Elaine Daniels
46	Chip Chat	93	Jackpot Auctions
47	T.D.S. Antique Gambling Chips	94	Jackpot Auctions
48	Steve Piccolo & Jim Sarra	95	Back Alley Chip Co.
49	Steve Piccolo & Jim Sarra		







# The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of **The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide** is out!

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This **NEW 2005 book** is completely revised and updated, this 3rd edition is the best resource for collectors of American casino chips. Since the publication of the last edition, this hobby has exploded, with thousands of new members and dramatic price changes. This comprehensive, **full color guide** will provide you with the best information available. Here are just some of the most notable features as noted on the back cover:

- All locations with legitimate gaming commissions are listed, including Nevada, Colorado towns, Deadwood, SD., Atlantic City, and the 6 Riverboat States!
- Over 2150 rare casino chips, worth over \$2,000,000 are pictured in full color
- All prices and rarity have been completely revised and updated.
- Now showing grades for chips as per the CC&GTCC grading standards
- Nostalgic photos and postcard shots of many casinos throughout the U.S. with emphasis on Nevada showing many clubs that are now history
- Comprehensive index to help in finding casinos quickly and easily

**HARD ROCK Las Vegas section with limited editions now in this issue!**

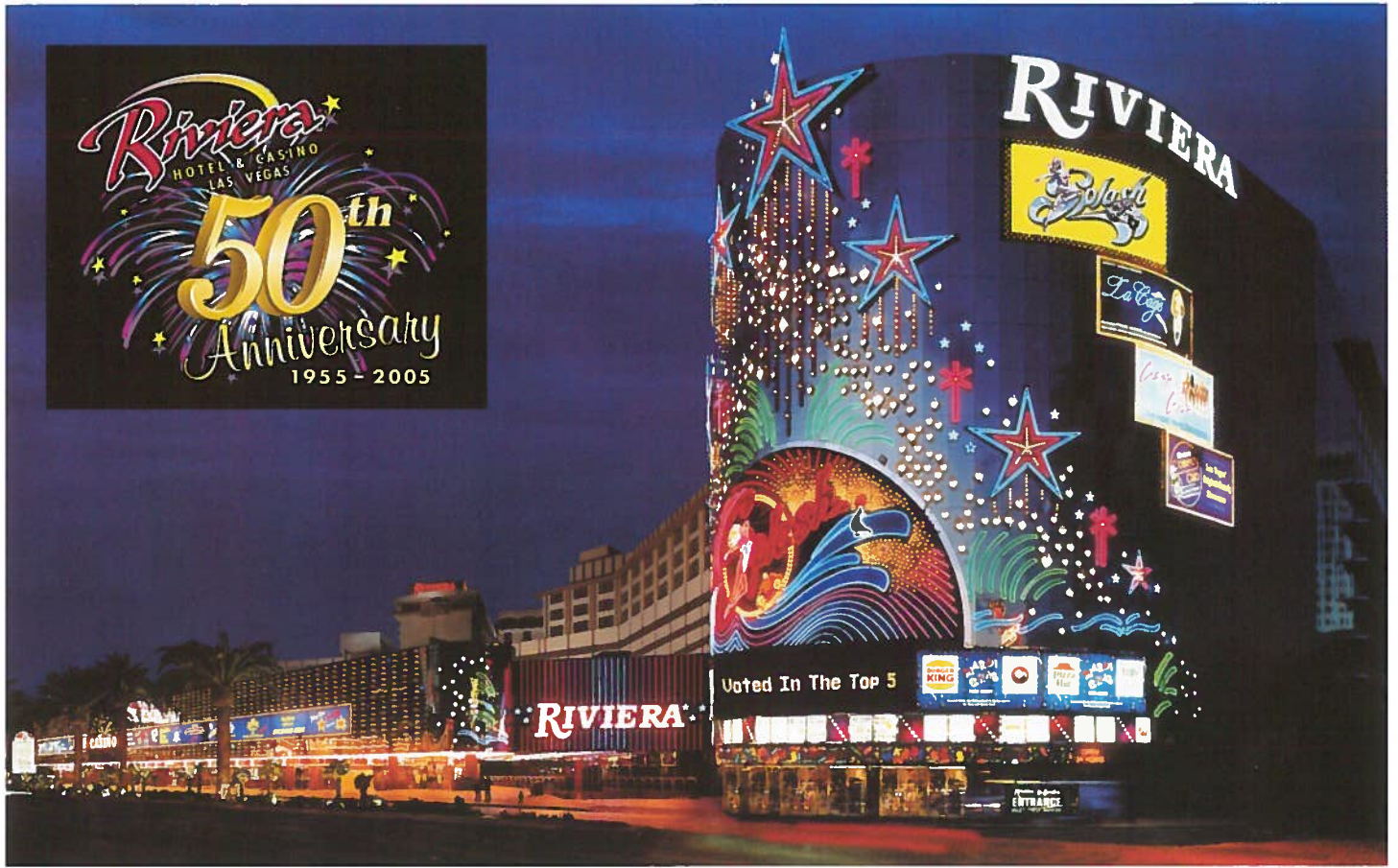
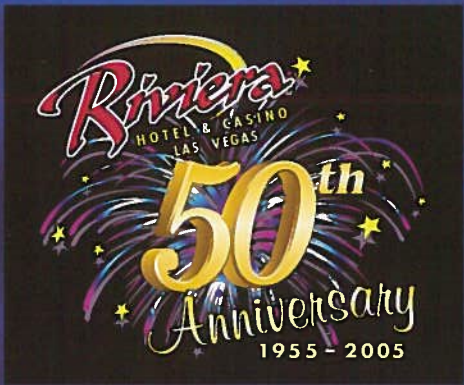
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*See us at the National Convention at the Riviera Hotel & Casino in August to purchase your signed copy directly from the authors!*



by Allan Anderson

This year the Riviera Hotel and Casino celebrates its 50th anniversary. The Riviera opened on April 20th, 1955 and was built at a cost of \$8,500,000 by the Taylor Construction Company. The hotel had 9 floors, 350 rooms and suites on 25 landscaped acres. The Chairman of the Board was M. M. Mason and the President was David Gensburg. The opening day act was Liberace with George Liberace and his Orchestra featuring Joy Roberts, Sally Blythe, Mark Alden, Buck Young, Dickie Lerner, Emmaline Henry and the Riviera Girls.

Following is a timeline of the Riviera from opening day to 2005.

**April 20, 1955**

Riviera opens. Liberace is the opening act. Joan Crawford is hostess. The Treniers open the lounge.

**May 1, 1955**

Riviera's first acting assigned, hosting a live telecast of Liberace directly on stage on the Colgate Comedy Hour TV show.

**May 12-16, 1955**

Helldorado parade - Riviera won the Grand Sweepstakes award with her entry "Red Shoes". The base of the float was designed like the sole of a shoe and perched high on the top was Sharon Christian, queen of the ballet.

**September 28, 1955**

Gus Greenbaum, Willie Alderman, Dave Berman, Sid Wyman, Elias Atoll and Joe Rosenbergang previous investors of the Flamingo, along with two unidentified men, were granted a lease on the Riviera.

**1956**

Orson Welles makes his stage appearance at the Riviera.

**May 16, 1958**

Riviera gave Liberace special birthday present, a new red Mercedes Benz.

**August 4, 1958**

Riviera had one of the busiest nights since she opened when hundreds upon hundreds of anxious fans tried to get in to see Red Skelton, both for the first and second shows. Many stood and waited, even after the show had started, hoping the Maitre d' would find some available space. Countless had to be turned away.







Las Vegas' first high rise, 1955

**December 2, 1958**

Riviera big-wig, Gus Greenbaum, and his wife were killed in their home in Arizona.

**December 5, 1958,**

All gaming at the Riviera was closed from 9:00am to 6:00pm as simultaneous services were held in Vegas and in Phoenix for Mr. & Mrs. Greenbaum.



**1960**

Riviera changed the Clover Room's name to the Versailles Theatre, showcasing the Andrew Sisters; Louis Armstrong; Tony Bennett; George Bums; Red Buttons; Sid Caesar; Cathcart Orchestra; Carol Charming; Cyd Charisse; Vie Damone; Dennis Day; Destry Rides Again starring Gene Barry/Monique Van Vooren/Warde Donovan; Dorothy Dorben Dancers; Jack Elliott; Totie Fields; Eddie Fisher; Joel Grey; Buddy Hackett; Johnnie Haymer; Sammy Lewis Presents In

An Intimate Revue starring Patrice Munsel; Sammy Lewis Presents Ted Lewis/Sophie Tucker/Paul White/Elroy Peace/Ted Shapiro/Lee Berger/June Taylor Dancers/Ray Sinatra Orchestra; Dean Martin; Tony Martin; Mills Brothers; Jaye P. Morgan; Patti Page; Paul Reed; Rowan & Martin; Riviera Dancers & Models; Connie Russell; Sarah Vaughan; Earl Wild; and World of Suzie Wong.

**August 1961**

Kaye Stevens recorded her album Ruckus at the Riviera, now a cult classic.

**November 25, 1963**

The Riviera, as well as other resorts in Vegas dimmed their lights and stopped all gambling from 7:00am to 12:00am to honor the funeral of John F. Kennedy.

**May of 1967**

Ann-Margret and Roger Smith married at the resort. Hotel PR Director Tony Zoppi and Hotel Manager Dick

Chappell served as witnesses for the ceremony before District Judge John Mowbray. Margret had just signed a contract to headline at the resort for \$40,000 a week.

**1967**

The Riviera added a 200-room wing, an elevator penthouse, a 9,000-square-foot lobby, and 10,000 square feet of office and meeting space.

**October, 1968**

Completion of the 220 room south wing, it now held 770 rooms, suites and convention facilities. The \$5 million addition soared 12 stories into the horizon. Offices representing four major airlines occupied the ground level of the new building as well as the shops and the



Montmartre convention center. The property was flanked by walls of glass, accented by tasteful landscaping. Its massive stone entrance is manned by a staff of doormen garbed in uniforms patterned after those worn by the French Foreign Legion. Dick Chappell was the Manager with assistants Pat Egan, Bill Barry and Eimo Ellsworth.

**1969**

Bob Hope joined headliner Totie Fields on New Year's Eve and surprised audiences with a 15 minute ad lib performance.

**1969**

Dean Martin became a 10 owner with approximately 8,000 shares and Dino's Den was named after him.

**1969**

Riviera showcased Dean Martin Presents Englebert Humperdinck marking Humperdinck's debut in Las Vegas.



## September 20, 1970

Riviera hosted the Friars' Club 550 a plate roast of comedian Joe E. Lewis, bringing together some of the greatest stars in show business for a total of 1,300 honoring him. The host was Dean Martin, the co-host was Frank Sinatra but he failed to appear, and the emcee was George Jessel. Those appearing at this roast were Marty Allen, Jack Benny, George Burns, Vikki Carr, Jimmy Durante, Buddy Hackett, Jack E. Leonard, Tony Martin, "Swifty" Morgan (Damon Runyon's famous Lemon Drop Kid), Jan Murray, Harry Richman, Toots Shor, Phil Silvers, Ed Sullivan, Louis Armstrong, Pearl Baily, Telly Savalas, and John Conte. Other attendees included Nevada Governor Paul Laxalt, Sands Hotel's Jack Entratter, Nate Jacobson, and Caesars/Circus Circus creator, Jay Sarno. The guest list amounted to 1,000 people. SUN columnist Ralph Pearl suggested the tribute and Zoppi helped organize the event.

## 1970

During a strike occurring at various resorts. Bob Hope was in the



Bob Hope and Jack E. Leonard



Liberace cutting the ribbon, 1955

audience at the Roger Miller & Jack E. Leonard shows at the Riviera. During one of these shows Hope hopped on stage and joined the headliner. He stated "I am available as bellhop, cocktail waiter, short order chef or casino dealer. In my tax bracket, I'll do anything to make an extra buck."

## 1972

Four championship tennis courts were added near the pool. They were the site of the Dewar's Celebrity-Pro Tennis Tournament, which drew top professional athletes from around the world.

## February/March 1973

Meshulam Riklis, the majority stockholder of American International Travel Services of Boston (AITS) bought the Riviera for \$56 million.

## June 15-17, 1973

Riviera hosted the Celeb Invitational Tennis Tournament with Gary Crosby, Edgar Bergen, Johnny Carson, Paul Anka, and Dinah Shore.

## 1975

Riviera added its 17-story Monte

Carlo tower at a cost of \$20 million. It consisted of 300 rooms, 60 suites, and an elaborate penthouse, giving the resort a total of 1,000 guest rooms.

## 1977

The Riviera's San Remo tower added 200 rooms to the south side of the resort, as well as the elegant Ristorante Italiano, a 100-seat gourmet Italian restaurant.

## 1981

Paul Anka made his Riviera debut. During one of Paul Anka's performances, more than a dozen ringsiders climbed onstage for the finale. Anka decided to create an impromptu chorus line with the zealous fans.



## 1983

Meshulam Riklis made the Forbes 400 with his 60 of Rapid American Corporation worth \$133 million. Riklis was an exchange student (Turkey, through Israel), who became a securities analyst. He took over



Dean Martin, 1970

undervalued companies to finance others; "calls leverage the effective non-use of cash."

**June 21, 1985**

Riviera took a bold step toward providing a new type of showroom entertainment, unveiling "Splash", starring Frank Gorshin in the Versailles Theater, an all-new production so unique that it captivated audiences and garnered an unprecedented number of awards for best production show in Las Vegas. The "aquacade of music and dance" took place in and around a 20,000-gallon aquarium while featuring numerous performers and speciality acts.



**September 18, 1985**

Riviera introduced Norbert Aleman's "An Evening at La Cage," in the Mardi Gras Showroom, a Parisian-style revue of female impersonator's and cabaret dancers. The star of the show was a 20-year-old Frank Marino.



**May 4, 1986**

The Riviera introduced the comedy Club that opened as An Evening At The Improv.

**September 21, 1987**

The Riviera set a precedent on the Las Vegas Strip when the Cray Girls - Fantasie de Paris opened on this night.

**1988**

The Riviera added the 24-story Monaco Tower costing \$28 million and nearly doubling the resorts size to 2,100 rooms.

**1990**

The Riviera expanded its casino to 70,000 square feet for a total of nearly 125,000 square feet out to the sidewalk, making it one of the largest casinos in the world offering reel slots and video games, table games, poker, keno, bingo, and a complete race and sports book.

**1990**

Frank Sinatra performed twice at the resort in 1990, including New Year's Eve when he played to more than 2,000 people in the Superstar Theatre. Room 2902 of the hotel's Monte Carlo Tower was redesigned to Sinatra's specifications so he could enjoy his stay.

**June 17, 1995**

Jeff Kutash's Splash II opened at the resort including Wally Eastwood, and The Dragon Masters. This version of Splash cost \$5 million (\$1 million in showroom renovations alone). This particular version offered raincoats to peo-

ple in certain select seats. A totally new production, for which the showroom had been revamped to look and feel like an actual submarine (much of it actually salvaged from scuttled subs at a shipyard), there were just a few reminders of the original Splash, such as a huge water tank on stage which held 20,000 gallons of water.

**1995**

Riviera celebrated the 10th anniversary of An Evening At La Cage.

**1996**

Crazy Girls came under fire by city officials for their slightly risqué billboards. The case was tried in the media and ended on a note of "Crazy Girls beat City Hall." But in case the Butts case was a lost cause, then Plan B included the famous life-cast bronze statue in front of the resort.

**June 1996**

It was formally announced that the Riviera was listed on the American Stock Exchange (RIV). Net income was increased by 30, to \$2.47 million. Earnings per share improved from 40 to 49 cents compared to the first three months of 1995.



Frank Sinatra, 1991





**1997**

Portions of the movies Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery, Sexual Roulette, Girls' Night Out, and Vegas Vacation were filmed at the resort. The Riviera then starred as the Tangiers Hotel in the movie Casino.

**May 10, 1997**

Riviera revealed the largest lifecast bronze statue in the world of Crazy Girls to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the show. The sculpture is six feet high, 11 feet long, and weighs 1,540 pounds. This sculpture was created by Michael Conine.

**December, 1997**

Nickel Town opens.



Louis Armstrong and Marlene Dietrich

**1998**

Portions of the movie *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* were filmed at the Riviera.

**1998**

Crazy Girls bronze statue won the best for public art and the best photo opportunity in the RJ Best and Worst Contest.

**1998**

The Riviera had guest shot on the Chicago Hope TV show. On hand for filming was Mark Harmon, Adam Arkin, Rocky Carroll, and Hector Alizondo.

**May 15 1998**

Frank Sinatra died. Riviera was the site of Sinatra's last permanent engagement in Vegas. The resort decided to honor the Chairman of the Board. The Riviera dedicated the suite Sinatra used when he performed at the resort. The dedication of the suite included an engraved plaque on the door and a 16x20 inch framed photograph of Sinatra inside the two-bedroom penthouse. It is Room 2902 in the Monte Carlo Tower.

**1998**

Riviera was the first Strip resort to have a fast-food restaurant on its premises with the opening of Burger King.

**1999**

Riviera presented a rare opportunity to win special hand-painted \$10 tokens created and issued by Osborn Coinage, minted exclusively for the resort at their Millennium Countdown machines. These machines were located adjacent to the Splash Showroom. Every time a person won a payout of 60 coins or higher with maximum coins played, they got to choose one of the four specially designed collector's items. "No Nevada casino has ever issued a hand-painted token. This series is truly unique and once they



Liberace and Elvis Presley, 1956

are all gone, that's it. They are only available at the Riviera's Millennium Countdown machines." - Art Olita, Osborn Coinage coin expert

**November 1999**

Producer/director and former child star Peter Billingsley (*The Christmas Story*) brought his "The X Show" to the Riviera. The X Show was primarily a "man's point of view" program giving people a chance to sound off about anything.

**1999**

Riviera completed their "Skyboxes". The boxes are 12 rooms located above the Royale Pavilion.







**Billiard Congress of America**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 600

**Association of Professional Piercers**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 750

**Valley National Eight Ball**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 750



**Toy Train Operating Society**  
\$5 Year: August 2005 Mintage: 1,750

**Toy Train Operating Society**  
\$5 Year: August 2005 Mintage: 1,750

**American Poolplayer Association NTC**  
\$5 Year: August 2005 Mintage: 850



**National Dart Association**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 500

**Riviera Fabulous at 50**  
\$100 Year: 2005 Mintage: 500

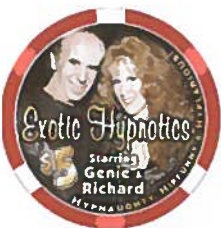
**Riviera Celebrates Its 50th**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 750



**Riviera Full Speed head at 50**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 500

**American Poolplayer Association NSC**  
\$5 Year: 2005 Mintage: 500

**Christmas**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 600



**Single Action Shooting Society**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500

**Halloween**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500

**Exotic Hypnotics!**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500



**American Poolplayer Association NTC**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 850

**Medalist Dart**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500

**12th Annual CC&GTCC Convention**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 1,000





**Valley National Eight Ball Association**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 750



**Billiard Congress of America**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 600



**American Poolplayers Association NSC**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500



**A Goomba's Guide to Love**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 1,000



**Leap Year 2004**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 500



**Wedding 2004**  
\$5 Year: 2004 Mintage: 750



**Frantic Santa Christmas 2003**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**Single Action Shooting Society**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**Thanksgiving 2003**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**Frank Marino**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**Halloween 2003**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**The Fight is on for 2004**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**Where Vegas Meets the Rockies**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500



**American Poolplayer Association NTC**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 750



**Medalist Dart**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 600



**Valley National Eight Ball Association**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 800



**A Goomba's Guide to Life**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 1,000



**National Dart Association Team Dart**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 350





American Poolplayers Association NSC  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500

Easter 2003  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 750

Valley International Foolsball Association  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 350



St. Patrick's Day 2003  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 500

Divorce 2003  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 1,000

World Archery Festival and Vegas Shoot  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 750



Wedding 2003  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 1,000

Halloween 2002  
\$100 Year: 2002 Mintage: 31

Halloween 2002  
\$25 Year: 2002 Mintage: 75



Halloween 2002  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500

American Poolplayers Association NTC  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500

Once a Collector/Always a Collector  
\$25 Year: 2002 Mintage: 100



Once a Collector/Always a Collector  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500

10th Annual CC&GTCC Convention  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,000

Medalist Dart  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,300



Valley National Eight Ball Association  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,000

Billiards Congress of America  
\$25 Year: 2002 Mintage: 100

Billiards Congress of America  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500





American Poolplayers Association NSC  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500



National Dart Association  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500



Divorce 2002  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,000



Valley International Foosball Association  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500



Christopher Titus  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 500



World Archery Festival and Vegas Shoot  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,000



Wedding 2002  
\$5 Year: 2002 Mintage: 1,000



New Year's 2001 - 2002  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 500



Frankie Valli  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 700



The Colors of Christmas  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 700



Rodeo Days Cow Chip  
\$25 Year: 2001 Mintage: 120



Rodeo Days Cow Chip  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 800



Rodeo Days Cow Chip  
\$1 Year: 2001 Mintage: 1,200



Blood, Sweat & Tears  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 700



Tony Orlando  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 873



American Poolplayers Association NTC  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 600



4th of July 2001  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 800



Valley National Eight Ball Association  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 800





**Billiards Congress of America**  
\$25 Year: 2001 Mintage: 225



**Billiards Congress of America**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 1,025



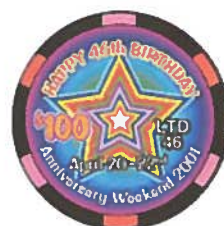
**Run for the Roses**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 800



**National Dart Association**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 850



**Village People**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 777



**Riviera's 46th Anniversary**  
\$100 Year: 2001 Mintage: 46



**Riviera's 46th Anniversary**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 746



**April Fool's**  
\$2.50 Year: 2001 Mintage: 929



**St. Patrick's Day 2001**  
\$25 Year: 2001 Mintage: 117



**St. Patrick's Day 2001**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 777



**Race Weekend 2001**  
\$25 Year: 2001 Mintage: 140



**Race Weekend 2001**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 800



**Super Party Weekend**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 600



**Chinese New Year 2001**  
\$25 Year: 2001 Mintage: 78



**Chinese New Year 2001**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 789



**Mary Wilson**  
\$5 Year: 2001 Mintage: 500



**New Year's 2000 - 2001**  
\$25 Year: 2000 Mintage: 70



**New Year's 2000 - 2001**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 700





**Tex-Mas Dance**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 600



**Nevada Day 2000 1 of 5**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Nevada Day 2000 2 of 5**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Nevada Day 2000 3 of 5**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Nevada Day 2000 4 of 5**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Nevada Day 2000 5 of 5**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**North American Open Darts Tournament**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 750



**Halloween 2000**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Bingo Fever**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 720



**American Poolplayers Association**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 750



**4th of July 2000**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 704



**Valley National Eight Ball Association**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 750



**Billiards Congress of America**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 750



**April Fool's 2000**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 779



**Bobby Vinton**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Valentine's Day 2000**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Chinese New Year, Year of the Dragon**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 789



**Playoffs 2000 1 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500





**Playoffs 2000 2 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500

**Playoffs 2000 3 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500

**Playoffs 2000 4 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 2000 Mintage: 500



**Frankie Avalon**  
\$25 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**The Tokens**  
\$10 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**The Shangri-Las**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**New Year's 1999 - 2000**  
\$100 Year: 1999 Mintage: 350

**New Year's 1999 - 2000**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 4,500

**Spirit of the Season**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**National Finals Rodeo 41st Anniversary**  
\$25 Year: 1999 Mintage: 200

**National Finals Rodeo 41st Anniversary**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**Thanksgiving 1999**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**Millenium Series, 2000**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**Millenium Series, 1990's**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**Millenium Series, 1980's**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Millenium Series, 1970's**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**Millenium Series, 1960's**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000

**Millenium Series, 1950's**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000





**Splash**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 5,000



**La Cage**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 5,000



**The Comedy Club**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 5,000



**Nikki Tyler**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,500\*

\* Pulled from the casino cage. Approximately 200 in circulation



**Heather Hunter**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,500\*

\* Pulled from the casino cage. Approximately 200 in circulation



**Jenna Jameson**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,500\*

\* Pulled from the casino cage. Approximately 200 in circulation



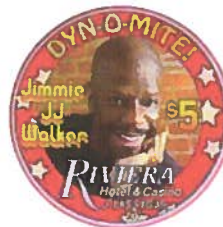
**Crazy Girls**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 5,000



**Halloween 1999**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**Football Kickoff**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Jimmie "JJ" Walker**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Jackie Martling**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**10th Annual North American Open Dart**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Rich Little**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**DL Hughley**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**4th of July 1999**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Bobby Vee**  
\$5 Year: 199 Mintage: 1,000



**Beach Bash Blackjack**  
\$25 Year: 1999 Mintage: 5,000



**Tommy Davidson**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000





**Run for the Roses**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**David Brenner**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Bobby Vinton**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**St. Patrick's Day 1999**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Riviera Racing Team**  
\$5 Year: 2003 Mintage: 1,000



**Louie Anderson**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 1,000



**Game of the Century 1 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**Game of the Century 2 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**Game of the Century 3 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**Game of the Century 4 of 4**  
\$5 Year: 1999 Mintage: 500



**New Year's 1998 - 1999**  
\$5 Year: 1998 Mintage: 500



**National Finals Rodeo 40th Anniversary**  
\$5 Year: 1998 Mintage: 1,000

### Samples of Silver Strkes



### Samples of Hologram Tokens



**The Oscars**



**Christmas**



**From the Zodiac series**



These boxes are available for special concerts and various other convention bookings. The boxes come with a private bartender, servers, and network feeds on two televisions. Ranging from 600 square feet to 1,024 square feet, skyboxes can be combined to accommodate larger gatherings. These Skyboxes have been rented for seminars, sales meeting and birthday parties.

### January 28, 2000

A Las Vegas magazine announced the results of a poll of tourists for the Best Showgirls in Las Vegas and Crazy Girls won. Crazy Girls was presented with a Tourist Top Choice Winner Certificate, edging out Bally's Jubilee, and Stardust's Enter the Night.



### February 4, 2000

Riviera Black Hawk opens in Colorado to bustling business.

### March 2000

Portions of the Movie *3000 Miles to Graceland* were filmed at the Riviera. This movie starred Kevin Costner, Kurt Russell, Christian Slater, David Arquette and his wife Courtney Cox Arquette. When word got out who was at the resort fans waited hours for the arrivals of the stars. For those that stayed up at 3 and 6:00am, they could have played black jack with Kevin Costner or roulette with David Arquette between takes, both in their Elvis attire. In a closing ceremony on the final morning, Lichtenstein presented a "purple heart" engraved with "for beyond the call of duty, from 3MFG" to David Arquette, and three crew members for having sustained shrapnel wounds



during a scene filmed two nights prior. The company has now moved to Vancouver to complete the picture.

### April 11, 2000

Prince Albert and his entourage went to the Riviera to see Crazy Girls. Prince Albert was so taken with them he treated them to a night of dancing on the town where the girls enjoyed an evening of riding in a limousine and champagne into the wee hours.

### May of 2000

Frank Marino, star of La Cage signed a 10 year, \$10 million contract to continue his run in La Cage, which will allow him to keep his title as "Queen of Las Vegas" for at least another decade. Marino claims even as a small child growing up in New York, he had always known he'd become a star. What he didn't realize is he'd have to be dressed up as comedienne Joan Rivers, draped in Bob Mackie gowns to do so.

### June 17, 2000

Lon Bronson All-Star R&B Rock & Soul Revue celebrated its 10th Anniversary at the Riviera with a special party beginning at midnight in the resorts Le Bistro Lounge. The celebration included free T-shirts for everyone in the audience, and a birthday cake.

### Week of June 12, 2000

Riviera announced that the Bela Tabak's Riders of the Thunderdome would attempt the incredible five motorcycles racing at 40-plus miles-per-hour within a 14'13" diameter cage of metal mesh during the 7:30pm performance of Splash. It was accomplished on July 2,2000, before a packed house.

### November 9, 2001

The first fully interactive multi-kiosk workgroup on the Strip was unveiled at the Riviera Convention



Jack Benny and George Burns, 1967

Center. TouchNSurf, had been selected as the provider for this 5 kiosk workgroup termed "Internet Corner & More", which provided the hardware and their propriety software which consisted of a user-friendly interface enabling users to check/receive web based or pop email, surf the web, send video email, print web and email content to laser printers, and many other accessible features.

### January 2002

The Riviera opened its new computer center containing 12 stations, located in the rear Grande Ballroom lobby where, for a fee, people can get their e-mail, access their sites, etc. .

### February 9, 2002

Actor Joe Pesci stopped by the resort to celebrate his 59th birthday and visited Crazy Girls for the third



Barbara Streisand, 1963

time. Pesci had a full-blown birthday celebration with Crazy Girl Heidi Deering whose birthday was the same date.

**July 1, 2002**

Donald Trump purchased a 9.8 percent stake in the Riviera's parent company in a deal he says was solely done for "investment purposes" and he purchased the stocks with personal resources.



The New York-New Jersey real estate developer and casino boss bought 350,000 shares of Riviera Holdings stock \$6.50 per share, or \$2.275 million, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**October 15, 2002**

The latest incarnation of Splash was unveiled including all-new, high energy dance numbers - a series of scenes from Kander and Ebb's Cabaret, and a sexy salsa dance routine to the theme of Dirty Dancing. Lead male singer Smokey, Jr., "Since I've had the time of my life with Chad Davis and Laura Rodriguez setting the stage with an adagio of the more serene moments of the 1987 film. As a Latin beat kicks in, the stage comes alive with spirited, sultry



50th Anniversary Tokens



Hand Painted Tokens

dance bringing the Swayze/Grey moves to life."

**2003**

In memory of comedy legend Bob Hope, Riviera was the first resort on the Strip to change their reader board to say: BOB HOPE; THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES; 1903-2003 WE'LL MISS YOU!

**January, 2005**

Nickel Town becomes Penny Town

**February, 2005**

Walk of Stars ceremonies honoring Liberace and Frank Marino.

**April 20, 2005**

Riviera celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

The Hotel/Casino offers more than 100,000 square feet of casino space, with players enjoying a wide variety of gaming. Included are all forms of reel slots and video games, table games, a VIP slot area, keno and a complete sports book. For recreation there is a 5-lap swimming pool with pool deck lounge and courtyard,



two lighted tennis courts, men's and Women's health spas and exercise rooms. A video Arcade, featuring high-tech video games, pinball machines, skee ball, an electronic shooting gallery, a 3-D hologram game and much, much more.

Restaurants include Ristorante Italiano, Kristofer's Steakhouse, Kady's Coffee Shop, JAX - French cuisine, World's Fare Buffet, Mardi Gras Food Court and Hound Doggies.

I would like to thank the following people for making this article possible. John Neeland, Publicity Manager, Barbra Wolf, Director of Casino Marketing and Pamela Perkins of the Riviera Hotel & Casino. Andy Hughes, Gary Acquistapace, Don Lueders, Mike Pasternack for help with chips and tokens.



Common Back



# CASINO COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE

Sat. & Sun.  
November 12&13, 2005



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# CHIPPERS CRUISE.COM

## Chippers Cruise 2006

by Dave Harber

On Wednesday, January 4th 2006 the second Chippers Cruise will be departing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on Carnival Cruise Line's beautiful ship "Legend". If you are a chip collector, whether just starting out or a seasoned pro, then you will want to be on board so mark your calendar now and get your deposit in to reserve your spot.

Think of it... you will have eight days and eight nights in the best available balcony, oceanview stateroom or inside stateroom. That's right lean against your balcony rail or gaze out the large picture window as we cruise to the beautiful Central American ports of Belize, Costa Rica and Panama.

Never been on a cruise before? then you are in for the time of your life and a vacation like no other. You can do everything or lie back and do absolutely nothing, it's your vacation. There are so many positive and wonderful things about taking a cruise. The only negative that comes to mind is that it ends way too soon.

Last year we combined a three night and four night cruise. We gave chippers the option of going for the three nights or extending their vacation for the whole seven nights. Everyone who just went on the three days thought it was just too short. Everyone who extended their cruise were very happy that they did. Learning from last year, we just had

to offer a longer vacation.

The best thing about eight nights... three different ports and you never have to pack or unpack. When you are cruising the destinations come to you!

Why Ft. Lauderdale when a cruise out of Los Angeles would have been so much easier and more convenient for us? We felt it was important to host an "east coast" event. With the National CC&GTCC show in Las Vegas each year along as well as just about every other "major" chip show we figured it was high time that something was done closer to all the collectors living east of the Mississippi. Hey east coasters, we had you in mind when we booked this cruise... don't let us down.

So you're asking... OK what's going to happen on board that will make this a "chipping event"?

The simple answer... not much, except for all the chippers that are attending.

Initially we had a grand vision of taking a fun, but educational approach. We were going to have industry speakers, panel discussions, a whole chip-workshop at sea.

Then we started talking to fellow chippers and we found that this was not really what they wanted. Sure the idea of the "workshop approach" was



Carnival Legend

OK, but what would be even better would be a "trade session free for all". Quite frankly the idea of vacationing and hanging out with like minded collectors was the trip they'd like to attend more so than listening to someone lecture about the details of chip manufacturing processes.

So we're giving them and you what was asked for...

Here's what's planned as far as organized events that we can do as a group. There will be eight networking dinners. We will have a block of tables. Other passengers are assigned a table for the duration of the cruise, but you'll be free to sit with whomever you like within our table block. There will be daily scheduled trading sessions. We'll have a large room to mingle in, enjoy refreshments in and plenty of tables & booths to sit and show your traders off. Lastly, there will be an hour long open bar party one evening.

So not only will there be lots of free time to enjoy the ship, the port(s)

and your fellow cruising-chippers but there will also be lots & lots of time to spend with your spouse and family.

After all why go on a cruise if you don't have time to enjoy the ship-board activities and tropical environment with your loved ones. Traveling without a family? You will be amazed at all the things there are to do for singles and how many other singles will also be traveling on board. Who knows the Legend may just be your very own "Love Boat"!

We're providing the trip but you spend your eight nights doing what you like, as you see fit.

- Relax by the pool in a hot tub with your spouse or new found friend...
- With round robin meal seating you will meet lots of fellow chippers and break bread with the experts...
- Enjoy the glitter and excitement of a Broadway style show after dinner
- Explore three beautiful Central American ports... dance at a local nightclub or sample the conch fritters.
- Shop duty free in stores.
- Try your hand at the slot machines or the BlackJack tables onboard the ship's casino (bet they'll have a close eye on their roulette chips though!).
- Enjoy 24 hour room service, or the 24 hour pizzeria or deli. You'll NEVER be hungry on a cruise.
- Pamper yourself with a full body massage.

The whole family is invited. We'll have our child there and we urge you to bring yours too. Families are a major market for Carnival with a

minimum passenger age of 4 months. The kids will be kept busy and entertained with the ship's fully staffed "Camp Carnival". Camp Carnival's team of incredible counselors offer free supervised play for the kids from 9 AM till 10 PM and paid babysitting till 3 AM if needed.

From several recent cruises we took I can tell you that our seven year old daughter just couldn't WAIT to get to Camp Carnival each morning. She had a total blast and we got lots of much needed alone time for ourselves. Camp Carnival was for both her and us one of the highlights of our cruise.

Don't think there are just activities for the younger kids though. There are plenty of things to do for pre-teens and teens alike including a separate teen disco, arcade and a large swimming pool.

Again though, this is not just a cruise for families and couples. Don't miss out because you think there is no room for a single person. All are welcome and all will have the time of their lives.

First let's get something straight right up front... we're not going to make a penny on this event!

The hobby has been very good to us over the years and we'd like to give something back to it. That is why we have designed the pricing structure at a break even price. We are not hosting this cruise to gain financially. In fact we will be pleased if we don't lose too much on it.

The truth is that we won't even be using our merchant account to charge your credit card. We will pass your card number directly to Carnival Cruise Lines and they will be charging both your deposit now and balance towards the end of middle of

October. This should make you feel secure knowing that even if we fall off the face of the earth, your cruise is still in place directly with the cruise line. And remember, Carnival will issue you a full and complete refund should you need to cancel your trip anytime up through October 19th.

We have arranged to offer you an all inclusive price. Your cruise, taxes, port charges and destination fees are all included in one flat fee. You will only have to settle up with your bar bill, any shore excursions or personal services such as a massage or hair-styling. Although not included in our price, we'll have you prepay the tips so your room steward, your waiter, your bus boy and your Matire'd are all taken care of before you even ever set a foot on the boat.

Do you realize that when you see a price of the cruise advertised in a newspaper or online it is only a base rate? Once you add the government fees, the port charges, the customs fee, the immigration fee and the International departure tax your base price will likely increase by as much as 80%. Often those advertised rates are for the bottom of the boat "coffin rooms" without a window. Know that our block of rooms have been upgraded to a higher floor with a balcony or huge window in every cabin (unless of course you opt for a windowless inside stateroom).

Your price will be all inclusive and get this... right now it's \$50.00-\$108.00 less then if you called Carnival right now and tried to book a comparable cabin for the same time. We have a group discounted rate that we are passing right on to you. Not to mention if you were to book it yourself you wouldn't have access to our round robin dinner seating, our reserved meeting rooms, the open bar party or the "goodie bag" that we will have for each passenger in our group.



Speaking of the “goodie bag”... thanks to the incredible generosity of fellow collectors and dealers, last year we were able to give out a Palms fanny pack jam packed with chips, coupons and gaming memorabilia that had a substantial value. In fact the Chip Rack value alone for just the chips was close to \$200.00! Just one more reason you’ll want to be on this cruise.

OK, how much you ask...

Eight nights of luxurious accommodations are yours for only \$999.00 per person (double occupancy required) for a balcony cabin and only \$849.00 for an oceanview room. For less than \$107.00 a day you can enjoy an ocean view stateroom, all the food you can eat, all the onboard entertainment & activities, you’ll be waited on hand & foot by an incredible staff and you’ll get to travel to the beautiful ports of Belize City Belize, Puerto Limon Costa Rica and Colon Panama. Not to mention the chance to enjoy our hobby with so many other like-minded chippers. Lifetime memories have never been so affordable.

Bringing your kids? The rate for a 3rd or 4th person sharing a room with you is \$510.00 for a balcony cabin and only \$479.00 for an oceanview one.

But you need to act quick. At this time we only have a block of fifteen rooms for the adventure. Several cabins are already spoken for and we won’t be adding any more.

Our cruise agent tells us that those who sign up first with paid deposits will have FIRST DIBS for possible UPGRADES and SURPRISE BONUSES. More the reason to get yourself signed up soon. Remember once our block of cabins are sold our group is final. That’ll be it...

We need to have our group completely finalized by October 19th so we will be accepting no new guests after that point. Wait till October 20th and as they say... “you’ve missed the boat”. However, understand that you can cancel your reservation at any time up to October 19th and still receive a 100% refund.

At this time we are asking you for a \$300.00 deposit for each person in your stateroom for the eight night cruise. The balance will be charged directly by Carnival Cruise Lines towards the middle of October. This deposit will secure you and your guest’s spot on the second chippers cruise. Just think... click this link and you can reserve your cabin and you can start looking forward to January’s Western Carribean chipping adventure. This is bound to be one of the chipping highlights of 2006... do you really want to take a chance and miss it?

Once you pay your deposit we will email you a document covering the other details of the cruise like the optional but strongly encouraged TravelGuard Trip Cancellation Insurance, what documentation you will need to travel and other pertinent details and information about January’s big event.

In case you are wondering who the travel agency is behind our cruise we are more than happy to share our secret. This cruise was booked through Captain Lou Edwards of the Little Shop of Cruises. We can’t speak highly enough for what he has done for us getting this cruise off the ground. So thanks Captain Lou!

**The Tentative Schedule...**

*Wednesday, January 4, 2006*  
Embark at noon in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
*Thursday, January 5, 2006*  
Fun Day At Sea



Oceanview balcony cabin



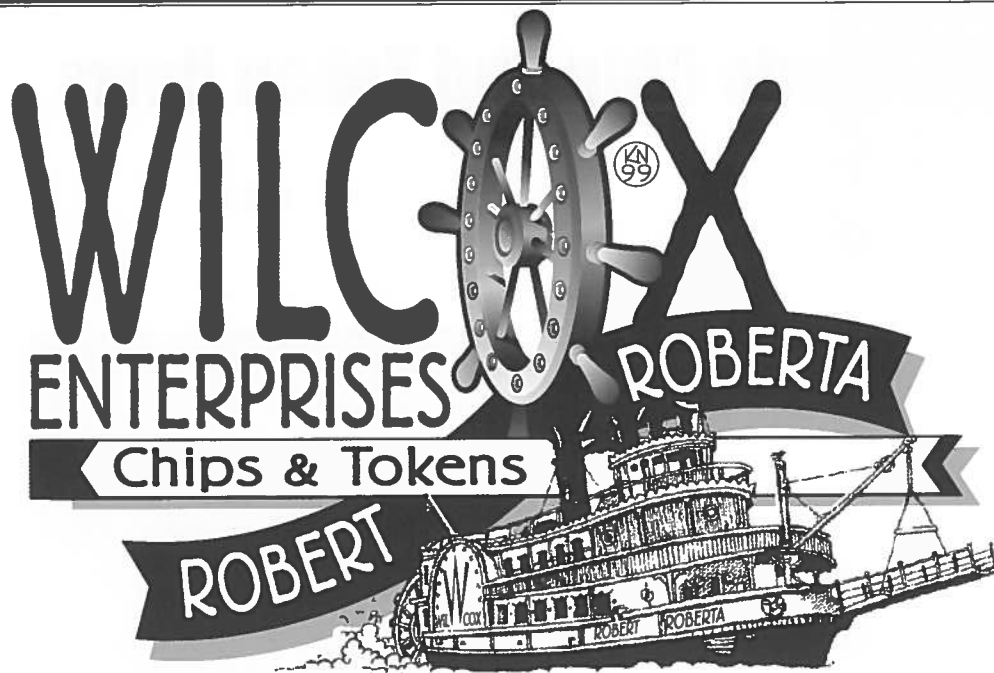
Oceanview cabin



Interior cabin

*Friday, January 6, 2006*  
Belize City, Belize (7am to 4pm)  
*Saturday, January 7, 2006*  
Fun Day At Sea  
*Sunday, January 8, 2006*  
Puerta Limon, Costa Rica (12 to 7pm)  
*Monday, January 9, 2006*  
Colon, Panama (7am to 4pm)  
*Tuesday, January 10, 2006*  
Fun Day At Sea  
*Wednesday, January 11, 2006*  
Fun Day At Sea  
*Thursday, January 12, 2006*  
Disembark at 10 AM in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

We truly hope that you will join us!



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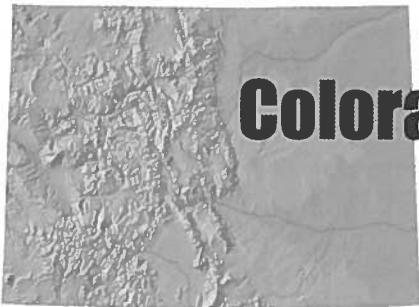
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Robert Wilcox Cook

CC&GTCC # R-0577

Roberta Cook



# Colorado Chip and Token News

by Allen Banick

It has been a very long time since I've had the chance to update our club with Colorado happenings! Let's get caught up...

## Colorado Chipping In the News



Back in October 2004 the new road to Central City finally opened up. For those of you familiar with the route from Denver to Black Hawk and Central City, this new road is one exit west of the US 6 interchange on I-70. The road is 4 lanes wide for its entire length with banked turns and a couple of wide switchbacks. While the official speed limit on most of this road is 45, I've managed to do a good portion of it at much higher speeds. With a little creative driving and good weather one can make it from I-70 to Central City in about 10 minutes. Surprisingly though, once the road reaches Central City it splits into 2 one way roads with the inbound side traversing the back side of the casinos. Many drivers pass right behind the old town casinos and are routed by Fortune Valley and eventually into Black Hawk.

The new road has had positive

impact on the City with the opening of Scarlet's in the building formerly occupied by Bullwhackers and the reopening of The Teller House. Additionally Doc Holidays moved from their former corner location to the much larger building that once housed Glory Hole and Harrah's.



Scarlet's

## New Chips and Tokens

### Mardi Gras, Black Hawk

In June 2004, The Mardi Gras issued a new \$1 chip. The chip is available on the tables and from the cage.



### Bronco Billy's, Cripple Creek

July of 2004 brought a \$1 birthday token from Bronco Billy's. This is the 5th in the annual series of birthday tokens and a new one has since been minted for 2005.



### Wild Horse, Cripple Creek

The Wild Horse opened in June 2004 in the building once occupied by the Jubilee and issued a beautiful set of coin center chips as well as a \$1 token.





**Buffalo Billy's – Cripple Creek**

Over the past year Buffalo Billy's has continued the long standing chip issue tradition of its sister casino Bronco Billy's. Because Buffalo Billy's now has all of the live games, the chips are now minted for Buffalo's instead of Bronco's. The chips include a \$5 Colorado Chip Show commemorative, a \$5 Colorado Chip Club Clyde Massaro, the first Colorado Chip Club President, the annual \$5 POW/MIA chip, the annual \$5 Donkey Derby chip, \$5 Golf Charity Chip, \$5 Christmas 2004 New Years 2005 Chip and a first ever \$1 Buffalo Billy's rack chip.



**Fortune Valley Casino, Central City**

Fortune Valley in Cripple Creek issued a very hard to get Independence Day 2004 \$1 chip as well as a \$1 and \$5 New Years 2005 chip. The \$1 chips have proved to be tough finds because the casino "gives" them away to the first 1000 player club members on the commemorated holiday.



**Gold Diggers, Cripple Creek**

Gold Diggers replaced their \$1 tokens with this all new beauty at the request of gaming. It seems that the older tokens would work in both Gold Diggers as well as Gold Rush and that creates some licensing problems.



Wild Horse Casino, Cripple Creek



### Scarlet's – Central City

Scarlet's casino opened in the building formerly occupied by Bullwhackers Central City. The interior of the building was completely remodeled and is a very comfortable place to play. While most of the casino uses ticket-in ticket-out machines, the casino minted \$1 and \$5 tokens to use in the limited number of token machines.



### Teller House – Central City

After a 5 year closure, the grand lady of Central City the Teller House reopened with all new machines and the same glorious bar. This casino is as historic as they come and its reopening signals the rebirth of Central City. Nice to have you back Teller House! The casino minted a fresh new set of \$1 and \$5 tokens. If they remind you of Scarlet's, it is

because the two casinos are owned by the same company.



### Gold Creek, Cripple Creek

Gold Creek minted a 5 piece NCV set of beautiful Chipco chip that they use for their poker tournaments. These are tough to get and only a few complete sets have made it out of the cage.

The casino also minted 300 \$1 1st birthday chip and sold them in the gift shop for \$10 each. Even with the \$10 price, these \$1 LE chips disappeared very quickly.



### Canyon Casino – Black Hawk

Live games are back at the Canyon and with them a new set of \$5 and \$25 chips. The tables have very limited hours and the casino is very reluctant to sell chips from the cage. If you make the trek yourself to pick up a set of these take my "learned the hard way advice" and call first to insure the tables are open.



### Gilpin – Black Hawk

Poker is back at the Gilpin! With the opening of their all new, and very nice poker room came a set of .50, \$1, \$5 and \$100 chips. Rumor is that a \$25 is on its way. The casino also has a full set of Chipco tournament chips and an oversized Chipco \$100 NCV. Sorry, picture of these are not available yet!





### Uncle Sam's – Cripple Creek

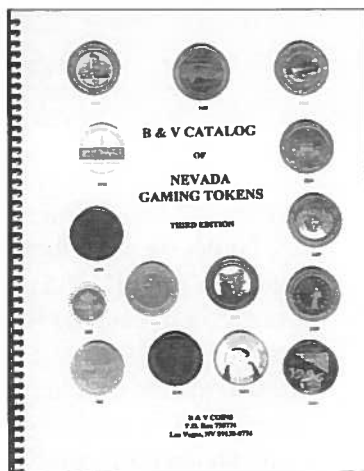
The poker craze has also hit Cripple Creek and Uncle Sam's didn't want to miss out on the action. An all new Uncle Sam's \$1 and \$5 chips are now being used on the casino's all new poker tables.



### Casino Openings and Closings

The short lived Winner's Haven casino in Black Hawk closed its doors at the end of June 2004.

Look for at least one more new casino in Central City where work is underway to connect the former Golden Rose and Tollgate casinos to create an all new large scale casino.



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# The Great Stardust Skim

by Stephen Fischer

This is such a wonderful American success story. In 1976 the president of the Stardust Hotel was 34-year old Allan Glick. Seemingly out of nowhere, this nice clean-cut young man and head of the ARGENT Corporation secured a Teamsters loan for about \$146 million that enabled him to take over the Stardust Hotel and Casino. The ARGENT name was an abbreviation of Allan R. Glick Enterprises.

The timing on this loan was very important. By 1976, many of the Las Vegas casino “cash cows” the Mob throughout the country depended on were beginning to dry up.

Between the Federal Government and the state of Nevada, it was becoming more and more difficult for a mobster to make a decent living. The Chicago Outfit still had control over the Stardust, Marina, Fremont and Hacienda, but it became necessary to increase the size of the skim to make up for other lost business.

Let’s take a moment to discuss the meaning of the word “skim”. It isn’t stealing in the usual sense. It isn’t taking money that belongs to someone else. Skimming is hiding money from Uncle Sam. Every time a dollar would come into the casino, it had to be reported to the government. So at the end of the year, when the Stardust would do its 1040-EZ or whichever form they used, they would have to pay income tax on every penny the casino took in.



Stardust 1975

How much more profitable would it be if the US Government and Nevada State Revenue people just didn’t know how much money the Stardust and the other hotels had actually made? (“Wow! What a good idea! That way, we could get to keep a lot more money, right boss?”)

In the old days in Las Vegas this was pretty easy to do. A casino owner could wander into the “soft count room” where the bills were counted, take a few handfuls of the big ones, put them in his pocket and then go have a cup of coffee and a Danish.. Who was going to stop him? He owned the place. This was his money. He wasn’t stealing. He just wanted to take a few thousand bucks as “walking around money.” What Uncle Sam doesn’t know ain’t gonna’ hurt him,

Then the hotel owner could find a nice corner on a hot-looking craps table, call Tony D., the pit boss there at craps pit 3, have Tony D. bring him a marker for “10 large,” and get \$10,000 in chips. He’d play a few minutes, lose a couple of thousand, scoop up the remaining 8 G’s in chips, take them over to the cashier and cash out.

When his signed marker arrived in the accounting department, his girlfriend, Lola, would take the \$10,000 marker and put it in her pocket. (“Honest, she’s not my girlfriend, sweetheart, I hardly know the woman”). And that was that. No marker means no money owed the casino, right? It’s his money anyway, right? Who is he stealing from – himself?

Believe it or not, this very simple method of taking a few million dollars out of the Las Vegas hotels would work, year after year after year. Then the Nevada Tax and the Gaming Commission boys set down some rules. Damn spoilsports

Rule Number 1 – An owner is never allowed in a counting room.  
Rule Number 2 – An owner is never allowed to play at his own hotel.  
Rule Number 3 – All money that comes into a casino. I reiterate, 100% of the money, has to be reported as income.

The US Government trained its eyes on the casino business through the Organized Crime Commission, the Kefauver Committee and, later, the Church Committee. Despite all the Fed's money spent on all the investigations of the Las Vegas hotels and their owners, the only thing they could get the owners on was good old tax evasion. Skimming money means taking money from the pot before Uncle Sam has a chance to count it and tell you how much tax you owe on it. If the money can't be accounted for, it can't be taxed, plain and simple.

The Chicago Outfit was faced with a cash flow problem. The answer presented itself in the Stardust, and Allan Glick. Nice, clean-cut Allan Glick and his partner, Gene Frisch, were both young men who were making a pretty fair living owning the Hacienda. Everything was above board and going along well until a company called RECRION, that then owned the Stardust, got into trouble.

Without going into the personalities of RECRION, the company was being forced to sell the Stardust. There was some silliness about money from the Stardust Hotel finding its way on a weekly basis to Joey Aiuppa of the Chicago Outfit, Moshe Rockman of the Mayfield Road Gang



Allan Glick

in Cleveland, and to Frank Balistieri of the Milwaukee Mafia. Both Cleveland and Milwaukee in the mid-1970s were subsidiaries of the Chicago Outfit, which was run by Joey Aiuppa.

Right up until June 19, 1975 Sam "Momo" Giancana had run Chicago. However, Momo wasn't the best of bosses of the Chicago Outfit. He was very high visibility, with his flamboyant personality, and his highly publicized affair with Phyllis McGuire.

Then there was his friendship with Frank Sinatra, and with Judy Campbell, and with the Rat Pack ... he was just too visible for the old school dons. On top of everything else, their money stream, Las Vegas, became delivering less and less money. Enough was enough.

In the basement of his Oak Park, Illinois mansion, Momo made himself a before bedtime snack of Italian sausage and peppers ... and he died. After his snack, at the top of the stairs, a gunman was waiting for him,

and shot him six times in the mouth, Joey Aiuppa became capo of the Chicago Outfit.

No such things as a "honeymoon period" for Joey Aiuppa either. The Feds and the Nevada State Gaming Commission, who were both developing real power in Nevada, were beginning to make daily visits and phone calls to Aiuppa. It seems all they wanted to talk about was the Stardust. The question of real ownership of the Stardust, which had been hidden for many years, was beginning to bubble to the surface.

At the same time, Allan Glick, who had just turned 32, was beginning to make quite a few bucks at the Hacienda. He decided he wanted to make even more money if he could only figure out a way to do it. Talk about a fortuitous set of circumstances. Here were the owners of the Stardust being told to get out or lose their license, and here was Allan Glick, a nice, clean cut young man, who wanted desperately to get into the big time.

So Allan let it be known all over Las Vegas that he wanted to buy the Stardust. His big problem was that he didn't have the money to buy it. But he let it be known, "If anyone wants to lend me the \$100 million dollars to buy it, I wouldn't say no."

So one day, Alan got a phone call at his Hacienda office from Del Coleman, the largest stockholder in the RECRION Corporation. Coleman, besides his RECRION affiliation, was also the unofficial representative of the Teamsters Union and the Chicago Outfit in Las Vegas. That meant watched over their business affairs. Del Coleman said, "Allan, we got somebody you should meet," and Allan was introduced to the boss of the Milwaukee Mob, Frank Balistieri.

Balistieri said he could help Glick get a loan. A friend of his was an official at the Teamsters Central States Pension Fund. Sam Giancana had called Balistieri and told him to help Glick get the money he needed to buy the Stardust.

Then Glick starting getting calls from some of the other Mob families, all wanting to be helpful to Glick in getting the Stardust loan. One call came from Kansas City. Glick was told the caller knew another Central States Teamsters official who could help arrange the loan. Then more calls came into Allan Glick's office from very well-connected and very friendly men from Cleveland and Chicago. And believe it or not, just like in the movies, the money started coming in.

Before long, our hero, Allan Glick, had enough money to buy the RECRION Corporation along with all of its assets including the giant Stardust Hotel. And all for next to no money out of his own pocket! Nearly \$140 million dollars was raised to install this nice young man as owner of the Stardust. What a wonderful country we live in!

Glick's predecessor at the Stardust was a man named Al Sachs. During the changeover, Sachs went to Paris to renew the contract on the amazingly successful Lido de Paris show. He got the new contract signed, but returned to find his office furniture in the hall. The transition was now complete. (This is a bit of an oversimplification on how Allan Glick, at the ripe old age of 34, actually got control of the ARGENT Corporation and the Stardust Hotel. But actually, that's pretty damn close to exactly how it did happen).

With Chicago's assistance, Glick became the new president of the ARGENT Corporation and owner of

the four hotels. He packed his bags and moved from the Hacienda to the Presidents Suite at the Stardust. On his first day at his new job, Glick hired bookmaker-dealmaker-odds-maker Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal to be his assistant at a salary of "250 large," Two Hundred & Fifty Thou A Year!

That same day, Lefty replaced Bobby Strella, who was a pretty good casino boss at the Stardust, with a fella' whose previous job experience was owner-operator of the gift shop at Circus Circus, which he purchased for peanuts. The gift shop at Circus Circus was given as a favor to one of Momo Giancana's friends from Chicago at a "friends and family" price of \$70,000. It was worth over \$2 Million. It was purchased by Momo's friend Tony.

When Tony was at Circus Circus, he was Tony Stewart, but when he moved to the Stardust he went back to Tony Spilotro. Spilotro was a hit man, a street-enforcer and Mob killer who worked for the Chicago Outfit.

He had been sent to Las Vegas a few years earlier by Sam Giancana to learn the city and to watch out for Chicago's interests there. The movie *Casino* starring Joe Pesci as the Tony Spilotro character and Robert De Niro as Lefty Rosenthal was one of the better Las Vegas mob movies.

OK, RECRION was out as owners of the Stardust. They were bought out, not kicked out, and they were pretty happy with their \$30 million or so of profit. Sure, a few of them had to go to prison, but overall, it was a pretty good ownership transition.

But then there was a problem with Rosenthal's position as Stardust general manager.

Lefty had a "past." He was a



Frank Rosenthal

known associate of the Mob and had a conviction on his police record for fixing a basketball game some years earlier. Rosenthal's conviction, however, was conveniently removed from the record before he arrived in Las Vegas. But the guys who made up the Nevada Gaming Commission knew gambling and gamblers, and Lefty Rosenthal had a widely known reputation.

On the second day of Rosenthal's new job at the Stardust, the gaming authorities called Allan Glick and advised him that Lefty was never going to be given the "key employee" designation – ever. By the mid-1970s the Nevada Gaming Commission, commonly referred to as the NGC, said that every employee who worked in a key position within a casino that had a gambling license was going to be called a key employee. As a key employee, they, too, had to have a gambling license.

Allan Glick had to tell this news to Rosenthal. Glick was perfectly aware that Lefty was fully running the Stardust, even though he'd only been on the job for two days. Glick ran



around until he found Lefty and told him the news. What's in a title, right? Lefty gave up his position as general manager/casino manager and became the Stardust Hotel's poker room coordinator. As a lowly poker room coordinator, chances are he wouldn't have to get that stupid key employee designation from the Gaming Commission.

He was still making his \$250,000 and he still absolutely oversaw every single detail at the Stardust. Just to make it look even more presentable to the gaming guys, Rosenthal took over one of the poker tables as his permanent office. No one else sat there. It was in the back of the poker room with a phone on the table, and he worked there right in the open. The Nevada Gaming Commission then told him that he couldn't be the poker room coordinator, either. It seems the NGC had just made Las Vegas poker room coordinators key employees as well.

Not to be outdone, Lefty became the assistant entertainment director of the hotel for a while, and when those bureaucrats at the NGC said "no" to that, he became the assistant marketing manager. When that was stopped, he began broadcasting a nightly show from the Stardust interviewing celebrities on Las Vegas television channel. This ploy of musical jobs really did work for quite a few years.

Lefty Rosenthal was running the Stardust Hotel, Tony Spilotro was taking care of the casino and any other problems that might arise, and Allan Glick was off playing golf down at La Costa on the California coast. Everyone seemed to be in place. Rosenthal had understood from day one what was expected of him. Chicago was deadly serious about making the Stardust and their other Las Vegas properties more profitable.

There are two murders that take

place during this story and the first one happens right about here. There was a friend of ours from the Chicago Outfit named Marty Buccieri, who worked as a Casino Boss at Caesars Palace. Marty had been instrumental at the beginning of Allan Glick's money search by introducing Allan to some of his friends in Chicago.

Just a quick aside here. 25 years ago casino bosses on the Las Vegas Strip all dressed in the same uniform. It didn't matter if they worked at Caesars or the Hacienda, casino bosses always wore black silk suits, white on white shirts with either solid white or solid black silk ties, high polished black shoes and big gold cufflinks. Just one of those Las Vegas "things" — it's the way things were done.

Anyway, one day Buccieri showed up at the Stardust looking for Allan Glick. Marty was told that Allan probably was down in the coffee shop, or maybe still in San Diego, or "you might want to try the health club". Buccieri found Glick in the steam room and told him that he owes him money — a finder's fee. He said something like: "I put you together with my boss, and look at you now. You own this joint. It was me who got you the \$100 million and I want my piece. And I want it by next week, capice?"

Glick found Lefty Rosenthal, which wasn't all that hard to do. Lefty had taken over Glick's office in the executive suite. Glick told him about the meeting he just had in the Stardust health club with Marty and all the noise Buccieri was making. A week later, Buccieri was found sitting in the front seat of his car in the Caesars Palace parking lot.

He had just left work, and someone was waiting in the back seat of his car, and popped him twice in the head with a 22-caliber pistol. A small



Tony Spilotro

time Las Vegas hood named Horton was arrested for the murder, he said that he shot Buccieri because he "wised off at me" however, word on the street has always been that it was because of the pressure he was trying to put on ARGENT through Alan Glick for a finder's fee.

Now, with Stardust completely in control of the ARGENT Corporation, it was time to institute The Great Stardust Skim. Here's how it worked. There was so much money coming into the "hard count" room every night, where the nickels, dimes and quarters were counted, that it was practically impossible to tally them even with the fastest change-counting machines in the world. The coins might not be totally counted, but they certainly could be weighed.

The casinos purchased supersensitive scales that could weigh these coins very accurately. A thousand dollars in nickels, 20,000 nickels, could be weighed and the scale would register plus or minus two nickels. If the scales, however, were adjusted just a

little, let's say 10% light, the number of unaccounted-for nickels, dimes and quarters, to say nothing of the \$1 tokens in the same size and weight as silver dollars, would add up pretty quickly.

Money from the slot machines were emptied into bags, placed in steel cages and rolled into the hard count room. You've probably seen those cages rolling around the casino attended by armed guards. They look like they are carrying a ton of money, which is pretty close. As money from the slots rolled into the count room, the ultra-sensitive scales were put to work. After the weigh-in, a small portion of the coins were recycled back onto the casino floor as rolls of coins that players could buy. The rest of the coins were put loose into bags for armored transport to the bank.

It's here where the scheme begins.

ARGENT owned four hotels: the Stardust, the Marina, the Fremont and the Hacienda. Each day the coins from the Fremont would be put into coin bags and taken by armored car to the Stardust. Coin bags from the Hacienda would also arrive at the Stardust by armored car. The bags would be opened and poured through chutes directly into hoppers located atop big scales. ARGENT hired a scale mechanic who would recalibrate these scales perfectly so when four thousand quarters (\$1,000) were placed in the hopper, it only registered as nine hundred dollars. It was simple enough, \$1,000 input and \$900 output. "All right, if it's working so well on the quarters, lets recalibrate those machines over there that weigh the dollar tokens".

The \$900 in silver coins and dollar tokens was handled exactly by the book. Each roll was inspected and initialed by a Stardust employee as to accuracy. The tokens were recirculat-

ed onto the floor for resale and replay or were placed in the Stardust's bank account. But what do you do with the dollar coins and tokens? A few silver dollars can be passed at the grocery store to pay your bill, but not in great quantity. But try to spend one-dollar tokens from the Stardust that have the Stardust logo on them. There's not a lot of place anywhere except the Stardust that will take them from you. So what the heck are you going to do with all those tokens?

Back in 1975, in every casino in Las Vegas with the exception of the Stardust, if you wanted change from the "change girls," they would sell it to you. Then they'd take your \$20 dollar bill, along with all the other bills, to the cashier's cage "employees only" window. They'd hand over the bills and get more rolls of coins in return. This was the standard way of dispensing coins in a casino.

The Stardust, however, told their change girls that instead of going to the cashier's cage, they were to go to a few locked coin cabinets placed against the walls around the casino. With a key to the cabinet, they'd take the bills and dollar tokens, put them in the drop box inside the cabinet, take the correct number of rolls, and get back to work. The change girls knew damn well that the "honor system" required them to take the correct number of rolls each time. They also knew the cameras were watching them. To try to swipe a roll of coins was absurd, and they all knew it.

What they didn't know was this cabinet situation was the backbone of a multimillion dollar skim, the largest casino skim ever uncovered in Las Vegas. And it only involved slot machines. Dozens of times a day, each change girl would open one of the coin cabinets with her key, deposit her money into the slot and take the right amount of wrapped coins.

What they were taking was the 10% residue from the hard count room. Those coins that were not weighed by the ultra-sensitive scales, the one-dollar coins, were being turned back into foldable cash through this elegant little system of washing tons and tons of quarters and dollars. And there were literally tons of them. It was not unusual for one of these illegal coin boxes on the floor to have \$10,000 in bills in it each evening when it was emptied.

Additionally, an "extra" change booth was set up on the Stardust floor. For quite a few years it was never noticed by the State, like a toll booth set up on a stretch of two-lane road in the dead of night. It looked and operated just like all the other change booths, get in line and change your bills into coins, get on line and change your coins into bills. Except this change booth wasn't registered with any governmental authority. One hundred percent of the money that came in went directly to the coffers of Momo Giancana and the Chicago Outfit.

These coin cabinets around the casino and the extra change booth worked for nearly five years. It finally came out in the 1979 and 1980 trials that the quarter and dollar skim was so successful at the ARGENT properties that the Chicago Mob was receiving \$15 million per year for each of five years. That's \$75 million in skim money shipped to the Mob without any tax being paid on it!

As an aside to this story, there was a very sharp slot department manager working at the Fremont Hotel downtown. His name was Jay VanDermark. He was extremely valuable because he allegedly set up the entire skim operation there. All the little things necessary to take \$300,000 per week out of the ARGENT properties were allegedly designed and implemented by VanDermark.

One of the first things Lefty Rosenthal did after he was brought in was to move VanDermark from the Fremont to the flagship of ARGENT Corporation, the giant Stardust. VanDermark came in, managed the entire slot department, and watched

over the day-to-day operation of the skim.

As a special "thank you," Jay was given an all-expense paid trip to Mazatlan in Mexico. His head was bashed in while he was sunbathing on

the beach in Mazatlan, and all the loose ends were now tied up.

It's so nice when a plan works.

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# Atlantic City R E P O R T

by Archie Black

## “A.C. ... ALWAYS TURNED ON!”

Editor Allan Anderson promised not to bug me again until September if I would put together another installment of my Atlantic City Report for this pre-convention Summer issue of Chip & Token News. How could I refuse that offer of taking the summer off in exchange for a brief update on A.C. activities?

Picking up where we left off in the previous Spring issue of the ANA award-winning “Chip & Token News” with the announcement of Hilton changing over their entire rack..., well the event took place on May 5th after a few date changes!

Not the most attractive rack chips ever issued, but better than some I’ve recently observed from some other gaming jurisdictions. Why were the chips changed some chippers might ask? Answer; Because the property was purchased by Colony Capital ... (owners of Resorts).



Just prior to the old Hilton rack being withdrawn, a variation of the soon to-be-retired obsolete nickel chip was discovered in play on the tables. This new naked-eye discovery is of a much darker red color than the issue that preceded it and they were found to be in brand new condition! Both variations were on the tables at the time prior to the new rack being changed over ... but are all now gone. \*The black and white image you are viewing in this magazine article probably does not show the dramatic differences that the color image does.



A week after the new Hilton rack was changed, all of the Hilton roulette chips were also changed over to a new style “segmented” type roulette chip, making the previous roulette issues obsolete. This image of a current chip from table #7 was provided to me by an anonymous harvester for use in this report.



Yo... Philly!  
A repeat obverse design of a popular local disc jockey “The Geator” ... Jerry Blavatt chip that was issued last year ... with a change on the reverse side commemorating a 2005 Philadelphia block party ... complete with hourly drawings, Ben Franklin and Mummer’s String Bands promenading on the property, provided chippers with a fun-filled day at Trump Marina on May 1st.



Who could be against Mother’s Day? Well, in these politically correct days of equal rights ... look for a companion Father’s Day chip in June to follow at Trump Plaza. Hint; The colorful CHIPCO design will be of a Father fishing a trout stream with his Son assisting, netting the catch.





Speaking of Trump Plaza ... for the third consecutive year, this Trump property continued their annual \$100 chip tribute to the Kentucky Derby with this very attractive design in the 2005 version of "Run For The Roses" series.



A 3-chip series of Harley Davidson chips is scheduled to be released on June 12th at Trump Marina. (Thank the chip gods for Trump properties. They are the only casinos in town that have an active LE chip release program for collectors.)



Coming up during the 4th of July weekend will be the release of the long awaited Miss Deckadence chip. Vanilla Ice will be hosting the pageant ... and will be performing on "The Deck" that night. The original announced design is illustrated below ... the actual chip design to be issued may have been revised with a 2005 date.



This Grand Opening chip will be released in late June from Trump Marina's brand new casino called "SKINZ". This will be Atlantic City's first "open-air casino" according to Todd Moyer. It will feature 31 slot machines and 6 table games. Regular Trump Marina chips will be used on the tables ... similar to Bally's chips being used at Wild Wild West Casino. Trump Marina with its Hooters venue and now Skinz is quickly becoming the Hard Rock East for the young adult crowd in A.C.



To be announced at a later date is a Trump Marina 20th Anniversary chip in 3-D ... and a Hooters 3rd Anniversary chip set.

Also opening on this busy July 4th weekend will be the Grand Opening of Showboat's House Of Blues casino. It will be the largest House Of Blues venue in the entire country. A set of Grand Opening chip releases are scheduled to coincide with the official opening date. Lynyrd Skynyrd will be the first act to perform at HOB.

Lastly, I purchased this 23-year old large bronze Playboy medal at a token & medal dealer's booth while attending the Annual Garden State Numismatic Association Convention in May. As you can see, it's dated 1982 ... and has the Playboy logo on the obverse. It's some sort of tribute to the upcoming Olympic games that were held in 1984. If anyone has any additional information about this Playboy Atlantic City casino medal, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Enjoy the convention ... it's going to be another barn-burner!!

Archie  
"Mr Chips"

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# RIVERBOATS

by Greg C. Susong

Hello riverboat collectors! I've got a few new things to report this issue.

The Belle of Sioux City which is owned by Argosy Casinos has changed their chips to show the Argosy name. I think this new rack was put out in April.



Caesars in Harrison County, Indiana released a great looking Chipco to celebrate the 2005 Kentucky Derby Festival.



The Isle of Capri has a new .25 chip. They look pretty new, so I think they were released sometime in April or late March.



Resorts has completed their takeover of the Harrah's in E. Chicago, IN and in Tunica, MS. They sure didn't waste any money on chip design. These have to be the ugliest chips I've seen in a long time. This is the rack from E. Chicago.



Here is the new set from Tunica.



Sometime in early May, the Hollywood Casino in Tunica, MS introduced a new \$2 chip for use in the poker room.



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.

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# Charitable Casino Chips of North Dakota

## Part II Tip of the Iceberg

by John K. Kallman

### Review

For those of you who came in late, shame on you! Last month's article was a (very) quick overview of Charitable Casinos Chips of North Dakota and ended with a quiz of what the following three chips were:



Actually, this was somewhat of trick questions as the first two chips are in fact from the same charitable organization – the Northern Prairie Performing Arts (doing business as the Fargo Moorhead Theatre). The first one, with the spot light, is a one of two types of normal play chips currently in use on the blackjack tables. The second, blue chip, is also from

this same organization, but is an example of a paddlewheel chip (much more of this later). The third and final chip, with the two hands, is from the Red River Human Services Foundation.

This is to demonstrate some of both the fun and frustration of finding and figuring out these chips. While the attorney's office of the State of North Dakota has a listing of organizations permitted to conduct charitable activities (<http://www.state.nd.us/sec/forms/pdf/charorg.pdf>), it is only of limited use, especially when it comes to harvesting chips as many of the address listed are often the organizations headquarters, and then often only a post office box, and *NOT* necessarily where the activities take place. As an example of this, on my most recent trip, I was given the address for the American Gold Gymnastics organization in Fargo. With map in hand, and some friendly assistance, I found the place in question. True enough, it was exactly what it stated, a Gymnasium! Not to be perturbed, I parked the car, walked in and asked where I might be able to acquire some chips from the puzzled staff who quickly directed me to, yep, you guessed it, two bars, each located on opposite ends of town. Such is the fun in finding these chips.

The exception to this above rule is fraternal organizations, such as Veterans of Foreign Wars, American

Legions, Eagles Clubs and the like. Here, usually the address listed is the place where gaming actually takes place. Having said that, just being on the list does not mean that one will find chips as sometimes one only finds a pull tab operation, or a bingo game.

### Misidentification

Back to the first two chips in the above quiz. Perhaps no greater amount of misidentification known to chippers has ever surfaced concerning any chip from North Dakota then the chips from the this organization. This is perhaps because of the scope of their charitable operations. Their official name is the Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre. Quoting from one of their brochures:

"The activities of FMCT (Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre) are supported in part with the proceeds from charitable gaming. . . . FMCT gaming sites include the Doublewood Inn, the Old Broadway, the Windbreak, all located in Fargo. Borrowed Bucks and Parrot's Cay in Grand Forks, Happy Trails in Argusville, Wild Knights in Casselton, and Harwood Hideout in Harwood."

And just so you are a little bit more confused a little bit more, there is also a Borrowed Bucks located in Fargo, but that is for different charita-



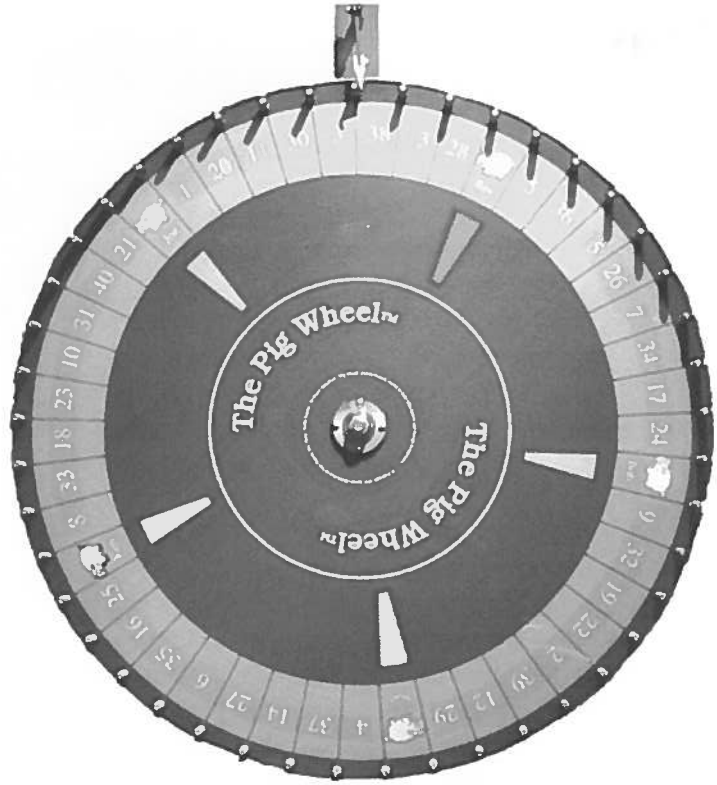
ble organizations, and yes they have charitable casino chips. . . .

### The Paddlewheel

This is also known as a Pig Wheel (as in the barn yard variety and not the person standing in line in front of you who buys the last of a newly released limited edition chip buying 300 of a 500 issue when you only wanted one for yourself, but that is another story, best told elsewhere).

Realizing that my prose might not be quite as good as an actual photo and knowing that most casinos do not look to kindly on anyone wielding a camera inside of their establishments, I eventually found what I was looking for of all places, of course, the internet, from one of the “officially licenses” establishments authorized to provide gaming equipment to charitable organizations in North Dakota.

And just in case you are wondering, yes, you can bet on your favorite “pig” to be the winner!



The Paddle – Pig Wheel

### Restating some wrong observations

As you may recall, in my last installment I made the observation that it seemed that *ALL* the chips were Bud Jones suite pip molds. I must now amend this to read *MOST*.

While a few other molds exist, including Hat and Cane, Elephant, and others, the current rate of return for chips found to date are mostly but not exclusively of the Bud Jones mold, with suite pips being the pre-dominate design.



The Paddle – Pig Wheel Table Layout.

# Atlantic City Casino Collectibles Club Honors Dick Brach

by Jerry Birl

Dick Brach former President of the Atlantic City Chapter of the CC&GTCC and its successor the Atlantic City Casino Collectibles Club, was honored by the new Board of Directors and the entire membership of the Club at the May 15, 2005 meeting held in the Sands Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Dick was presented with a custom made plaque in recognition of over 11 years of service and leadership as the Club President. Jerry Birl, incoming Club President, presented the plaque to Dick on behalf of all the Club members. The plaque, which was designed by Chris Colangelo of Tiny Treasures, contained seventeen \$5.00 chips from the seventeen different Casinos that were open in Atlantic City during the period from 1994 – 2005.

Dick was very appreciative of the plaque and said “This plaque will hang in a very special place in my new home in Atlantic City. Thank you all very much, this is really special.” The seventeen chips in the plaque had been donated by seventeen of Dick’s friends and fellow Club members. Dick also received a

letter from the new BOD that listed the collectors who donated chips for the plaque, and the chips that were included in the plaque.

New Club President Jerry Birl announced that future Club meetings will be held at the Trump Marina Casino. The dates for the remaining meetings for 2005 will be July 10th, September 11th and November 20th. All meetings will start at 11:00 a.m.

President Birl outlined a series of projects and programs that the new BOD will be working on in the coming months. Items to be addressed include: completion of new Club Constitution, By-laws and Code of Ethics, efforts to increase membership, having several Atlantic City Casinos produce live gaming chips commemorating the 11th anniversary of the Club, lining up guest speakers for future meetings, and adding new activities to the Club meetings.

The future of the Club looks very bright and more

Club members will be called on to help with future Club projects and programs.

If you want to join the A. C. Casino Collectibles Club, or if you have any questions about the Club, please visit our website <http://ccgtcc.com/chapters/ac/> or write to:  
Jerry Birl  
P.O. Box 1261 Millsboro, DE 19966.



Charlene and Dick Brach

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South Tahoe Ng't: 7 Colors Plain R'lettes	\$159	Frontier Hotel 50c H&C(CJ) "PAN"	\$39
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 S-Mold (Sinatra Era)	\$48	Eddie's Fab 50's - 4 Diff Color Roulettes	\$29
Stardust (Tahoe) \$5 Arodie N0346	\$99	Foxy's Firehouse - 4 Colors H&C NCV's	\$59
Incline Village \$100 H&C(CJ) Drilled	\$69	Golden Nugt Rare NCV's 6 Diff : 1-1000	\$199
Giudici's (Sparks) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$49	Fiesta -Royal Flush Series of 24 \$5 Chips	\$195
Sierra Tahoe Dealer's School \$25	\$22	Cactus Pete's 25c Brown H&C HS Gold	\$79
Silver Nugget NCV's: 1,5,25,100,500	\$39	Sahara Reno: Purple Lg Key Roulette 4	\$16
Hard Rock "Rock 'N' Rods - Set of 4 \$5	\$48	Texas (LV) 4 Colors: 8-Suit NCV's	\$32
Town Tavern \$5 Purple Sm Crown 4-Yel	\$39	Bally's Grand (AC) Hall of Fame Set of 5	\$55
Silver Nugget \$25 Mike Tyson (25 Made)	\$149	Mint (LV) 25c Purple 2-Yellow pic-Hotel	\$39
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Trop (AC) Poker Club: Maroon NCV\$19		Gold Strike (Jean) NCV's: 5,25,100,500	\$38
Hard Rock "Who" at the Joint \$5 & \$25	\$59	Pink Pussycat (Reno) \$1, \$2, \$5 w/ "\$"	\$39
Harrah's (Reno) \$25 N8537 "Q" Value	\$69	Pink Pussycat 1,2,5 Error Set - No "\$"	\$49
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Sahara (LV) \$20 Baccarat Plaque (60's)	\$39	Christmas \$1 N7349 GREAT INLAY!!	\$499
Jailhouse - Set of 4: 50c, \$5, 2 Diff \$25's	\$45	Trop (LV) - Brooks Robinson - SIGNED	\$29
Cal-Neva Lodge \$1 Black Rectangle	\$59	Stockmen's (Elko) \$25 Pink; Metal Inlay	\$59
Reno Hilton \$5 Rainbow's N4603, N5168	\$44	Comstock (Reno) \$25 N2736 Obsolete	\$39
Hard Rock Set 7 Obs Multi-Color Rlettes	\$89	Sands 3 Chip Tourney Set \$5, \$25, \$100	\$79
Cal-Nev-Ari \$1&\$5 Bi-Plane Coin Inlasy	\$39	Trop (LV) 5 Match Play Gray/Pink Pie	\$48
Harvey's Obsolete Brass - \$1, \$2.50, \$5	\$29	Harrah's Reno \$5 Octagon "Satisfaction"	\$35
Harvey's Obsolete \$25 Orange Brass	\$49	Ponderosa Reno N.D. Red Plain V5305	\$89
Hacienda 50c Trade Check Yellow V4396	\$19	Opera House 71 Yrs \$1,5,25,100 (19 Sets)	\$249
Hacienda 50c Trade Check Gray/Green	\$29	Town House \$5 V9907 Brn SmKey None	\$69
North Shore Club Zigzag "NSC 2" Navy	\$49	North Shore Club 50's "A" SmKey 3 Diff	\$69
Harrah's Tahoe Obs. NCV's 1,5,25,100	\$39	Claim Stake (Sparks) \$1, \$5, \$25 - All 3	\$48
Sowndowner/Virginian 1 ERROR NCV	\$59	The Gambler (Reno) \$5, \$25, \$100	\$49
G. Autry's Htl Continental Red Roul Rm	\$22	Saddle West: 1st Issue H&C: 25c, \$1, \$5	\$49
Foxwoods \$10 - Frank Sinatra	\$38	Harrah's Tahoe \$5 - "Sailboat" 1990	\$29
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Ed's Tahoe Ng't NCV's:5,25,100,500,1000	\$49	Meeks Bay (Tahoe) \$1, 2.50, 5, 25, 100	\$49
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Eddie's Fabulous 50's: 5, 25, 100 NCV's	\$89	Trump Castle - Royal Flush - Set of 20	\$179
Tahoe Nugget \$1 Red H&C(CJ)	\$59	Treas Is: #10 Roul; 5 Diff; Never Opened	\$29
Wendover Nugget Roulettes - 7 Diff "C"	\$22	Nugget (Reno) Green H&C(CJ) 3-Red	\$49
The Nugget \$.25 Oran. Sm Key pic of Ng't	\$59	Nugget \$1 Maroon SmKey pic of Nugget	\$59

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# AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

## Money Museum

by Allan Anderson

Photographs courtesy Douglas Mudd, Curator of Exhibitions, ANA

Through the discovery of money, America's largest museum dedicated to numismatics brings culture to life. The museum explores art, history, science and much more to promote the diverse nature of money and related items. Annually, the museum welcomes over 30,000 visitors.

### The Collection

The museum collection consists of over 400,000 objects encompassing the history of numismatics from the earliest invention of money to modern day. The objects include paper money, coins, tokens, medals, exonumia, and traditional money from all over the world. Some of the highlights from the collection include individual rarities such as the 1804 dollar, the 1913 'V' Nickel, the 1866 no motto series, and the Aubrey E. and Adeline I. Bebee collection of United States paper money.

### The Exhibits

The museum includes current and permanent exhibits in three main galleries, where visitors can find spectacular rarities and learn about the history of our nation and the world as seen through money.

The multimedia Bass Gallery houses the Harry W. Bass Collection, a spectacular and comprehensive

collection of American gold coins, experimental pattern coins and paper money.

The Main gallery features a new exhibit every year designed to appeal to a wide variety of interests, including history, art, archaeology, banking and economics, and coin collecting.

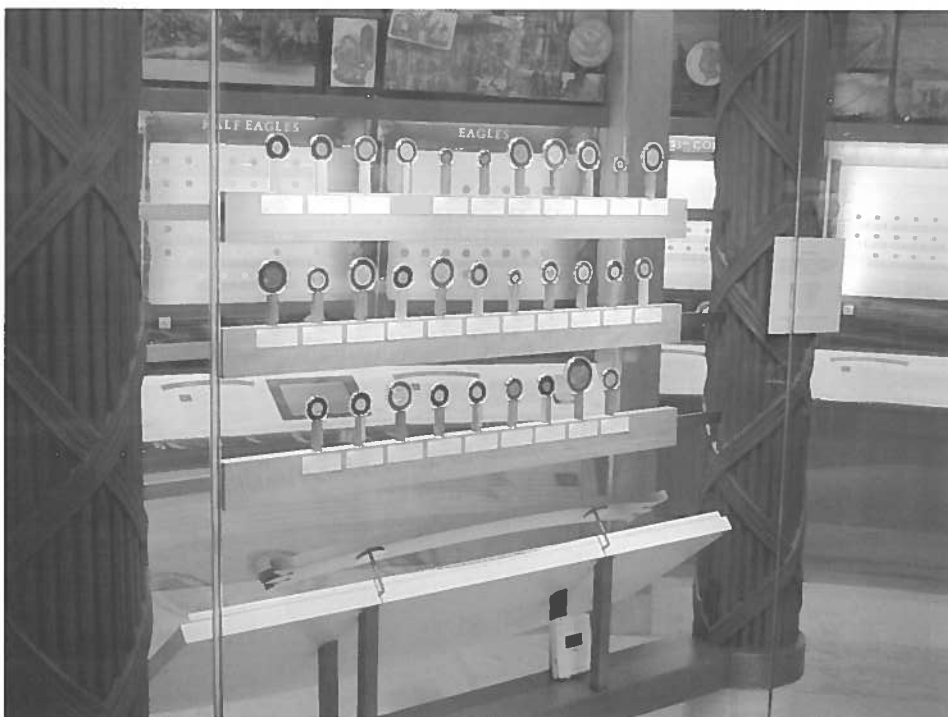
The Lower Gallery also features a new exhibit every year, timed to coincide with National Coin Week, which illuminates aspects of numismatics and collecting designed to appeal to collectors and the general public.

The museum also offers the ability to loan traveling exhibits to banks, libraries, museums and ANA member clubs.

The Money Museum Virtual Exhibits are currently under construction. Please visit <http://www.money.org> to discover and explore the world of money through virtual tours and exhibits.

### Hours

The Money Museum is located at 818 North Cascade Avenue in



The Bass Collection

Colorado Springs, Colorado and is open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturday; and 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 4:00 p.m., Sunday. Admission is FREE.

**Services**

The Museum staff can provide assistance to collectors and the general public in identification, numismatic research and photographic services.

For more information please contact the Museum staff at [museum@money.org](mailto:museum@money.org) or call 1-800-367-9723.

Please note that the ANA does not authenticate or grade coins or paper money.



Lower gallery



Colonial display



Minting gallery



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# Obituaries



**Bettye Mowery**

Our organization suffered the loss of two very fine members. We are better people for having the good fortune of knowing Bettye Mowery and Jim Pierre, but our hearts ache at their absence.

On behalf of the Board and the membership, I would like to extend our collective condolences to Vince Mowery and his family, as well as to Pauline Pierre and her family on their loss.

I have known Ms Bettye since 1993, when I met her and Vince at the very first Club Convention. One of the first chips I bought at the show that year was from B & V Coins! Of course, that was Bettye and Vince. Over the years, you rarely heard one of their names mentioned, without the other being attached to it. It was always Vince & Bettye or Bettye & Vince. Didn't need the last name, everyone knew who you were talking about.

Vince was listed as the Club's Property Manager in the early years, as he and Ms. Bettye stored all the Club's stuff at their house in Las Vegas. As the convention grew, so did



**Jim Pierre**

the amount of stuff at their house. Neither of them complained and I still fondly recall them hauling all those sign uprights and clamps to the old Aladdin. When I became Convention Chairman in 1995, Vince & Bettye were also our Convention Publicity team. They would squeeze every ad possible out of our meager \$500 ad budget. But the most amazing thing were their trips around Southern Nevada to the casinos, antique stores and out to the visitor centers to distribute convention flyers! They would put these things everywhere! Later and again together, they served as Election Co-Chairs for the Club. All one had to do was ask and they were ready to say yes.

Ms Bettye always had a smile, a hug and a kiss on the cheek for both Ann and myself. We have always adored the Mowerys and Ms Bettye will always have a special place in our hearts.

Jim Pierre loved to trade chips, especially chips from the Northwest. He was a class act and a gentleman. Jim was the Club's Claims Director when the current Board was elected. We had breakfast the first time I actu-

ally met him and he offered his resignation, so I might appoint my own person to the position. I offered him the job on the spot and he graciously accepted it. He served the membership well as Claims Director during his time in the position.

When we formed the Vision & Feasibility Committee to study all the necessary aspects on a Club building, I offered Jim the Chairmanship. He again eagerly accepted the task. He loved the thought of us one day having our own "place". We met in Las Vegas in early February to explore some possibilities with other organizations and the possibility of commercial lease space. The Committee heard from Jim several weeks after returning from this meeting, that he had become ill. Understandably he stepped down from the Committee and his Chairmanship.

Jim firmly believed in the work that the committee was doing. I spoke to him just before he left the hospital and of course the question was, "How's the building study coming along? I really want this to happen someday." I decided then to name Jim Chairman Emeritus of the Vision & Feasibility Committee, so his name will be forever linked to the work of this group going forward. We'll make you proud my friend!

Mike Skelton

## Robert E. Ginsburg

Robert E. Ginsburg (FL) passed away in mid May 2005. The date of his death could not be confirmed as it was both a shock and surprise when the news of his passing was released to the chipping community a few weeks after his passing. Even his closest chipping friends did not know about it until well after his death.

Bob was an avid chip collector had been collecting casino chips for many years in his numerous trips to various casinos in the states, as well as on his visits to many islands in the Caribbean. Rather than bringing back a postcard or worthless souvenir from his trips, he decided to pick up a casino chip as a memento of his visit. While on vacation in Lake Tahoe and Reno, he learned of the existence of the Casino Chip and Gaming token Collectors Club, and quickly found that many other individuals had been collecting casino chips for many years. His 'original' idea was not new, nor was he as crazy as he initially thought. He quickly joined the CC&GTCC and became member R-1229. His collection continued to grow throughout the years, with an attempt to specialize in chips from casinos in the Caribbean and Florida.

Bob co-authored two books on Florida chips, checks and tokens and would at a drop of a hat, travel the state to get new chips from any new Florida gaming establishment. Either on land or spending 5 hours out at sea on one of the many day cruises. Weather was never a problem for him as his love of collecting, gaming and his strong sea legs would allow him to go out in any sea conditions. His tales of adventure on the BBS became legend as he told of his adventures out on the high seas with his often green,(in color) fellow Florida chipper.

Bob was active in the electronic chipping community beginning with the early days of Prodigy and moving onto the Greg's board where his humor, wit and bantering really shined. No subject was out of bounds for Bob and he even began his own casino collecting specialty niche of casino Ice machines, provided of course they had the casino logo on the machine. He never did get one of those machines out of the casino or off one of the boats. Bob Ginsburg (FL) as his handle would soon become on Greg's board, to help him keep his identity as the chipping community soon learned there were two Bob Ginsburg's (with the other Bob living in Connecticut). This gave those who read Greg's board many hours of laughter as to if there was really two different Bob's before the two finally met and were photographed at one of the CC&GTCC conventions in Vegas.

Bob was also a founding member and first treasurer for the Floridian Chapter. A position he held for many years. When Bob was not involved with chips he resided in Pembroke Pines, Florida with his wife, Sandra, of 30+ years. Bob had a PHD in clinical physiology and practiced in Broward County. Bob always longed for the day when he could retire from his practice and move to Costa Rica with his wife. Bob had two daughters with one living in North Florida and the other living in Los Angeles who provided him with a granddaughter who was the his prize of both his and Sandra's life. He was often torn in later years as to whether to move to Costa Rica, his dream or out to CA to be close to his grandchild. He would often spend a week in California with his granddaughter before joining all his friends at the annual chip convention in Vegas. Bob became quiet and withdrawn from the chipping community in the last few years to care for Sandra as she battled her own illness. Bob took up orchid growing as a hobby knowing this would keep him close to home but his love of chip collecting never waned.

Bob will be missed in the chipping community but mostly by his fellow Florida chippers.

Mark Lighterman

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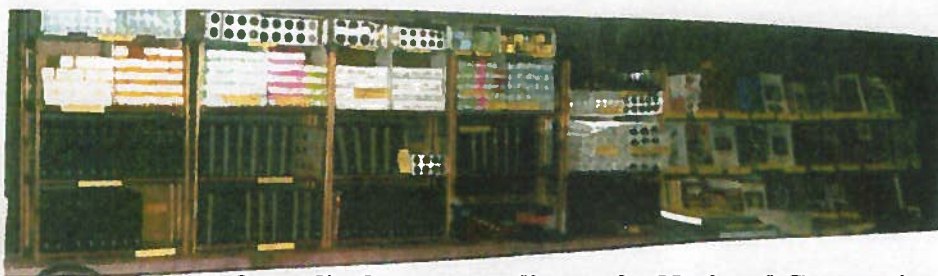
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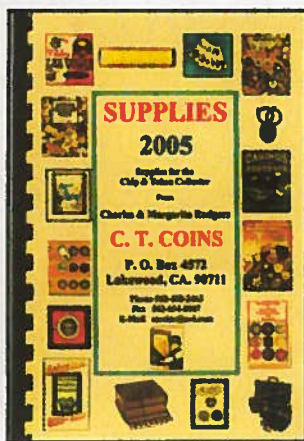
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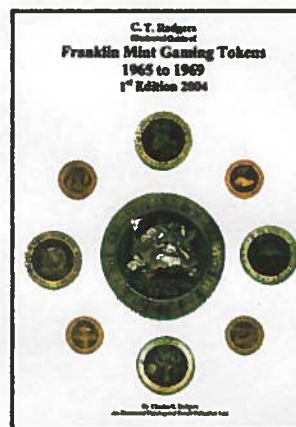
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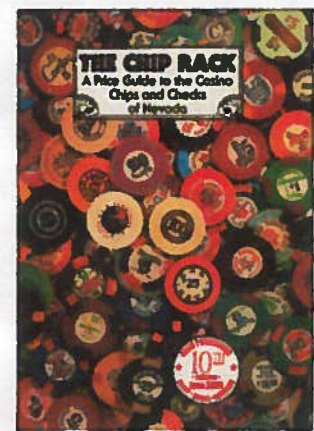
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