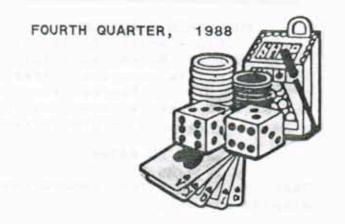
# CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB NEWSLETTER Member Club of the American Numismatic Association

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

Published by: "MR. CHIPS" Archie A. Black P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723



1988-1989 CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Archie A. Black

Treasurer: Bruce Landau

Secretary: Michael Knapp

Historian: Howard Herz

Newsletter Editor: Archie A. Black



THIS ISSUE FEATURES:

"FAITES VOTRE JEU"; By Jeffrey E. Stokes
"CURRENT AND OBSOLETE ATLANTIC CITY CHIPS"; By Jon Yasko

\*OFFICIAL A.N.A. MEETING REPORT\*
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

# CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

#### PUBLISHER & EDITOR

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# A special "Blue Chip" Commemorative Wooden Dollar was issued to mark the club's first offical meeting, held at the annual A.N.A. convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Cincinnati's nickname is known as "The Blue Chip City", so what is more appropriate than a wooden blue chip to mark the occasion?

If you would like to add one to your collection, simply send a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) to Archie A. Black along with 50 cents (postage stamps o.k.) P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723. All moneies received will be deposited in the club treasury to reimburse the club's \$55 expense to have 250 wooden dollars made.

Howard Herz, club historian, assures me that he will work on having an exclusive casino quality souvenir chip, made for our club by a major chip manufacturer, in time for our Pittsburgh A.N.A. get-together in 1989.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well, Cincinnati was certainly very good for our club! Eight new members were signed up at the convention alone and I've received several additional applications in the mail following the convention from collectors who obviously picked up a membership application while they were at the ANA convention. On August 1st, the club broke the 100 mark when Mr. Steve Cohen of New Orleans became CH-100 and the "Charter Membership" period is now closed. That is quite an achievement by anyone's standards. While I am sure that many of our dealer-members may not find that number surprising, as they probably have many times over that number on their mailing lists, I find it heart-warming and encouraging that so many gaming collectors have decided to join our club. From the applications I've been receiving, most of our new members have indicated that they do not belong to any other collector organizations. I do believe that we have wakened a sleeping giant. How many more chips and gaming tokens collectors are out there that have not heard about our club? I can't reach them all. I need your support to spread the word. Several of our dealer friends have offered to make membership applications available to their customers. DEB's has offered to enclose an application with each price list he sends out to non-members. Howard Herz had a stack of applications at his bourse table in Cincinnati, Bob Matthews has offered to put out applications at his flea market tables. Charles Rodgers sent me a dozen names of his customers that expressed interest in joining and who would like a complimentary copy of the club newsletter. To quote new member Ed Kurtz, from West Islip New York, "Just when I thought I had a unique hobby I find out you have a club and newsletter already. Please sign me up in your club." Ed, there are at least 100 others out there who would like to hear from you....and I'm positive that you will be hearing from a few of them when they get this issue of the club newsleter.

Speaking of the club newsletter; Secretary Knapp suggests that we hold a "Name-That-Newsletter-Contest" and I agree that his suggestion is a good one. Please send in your suggestions to me and I will appoint a committee to select the best three names susbmitted and then the club membership will vote on which one of the three to adopt. Also, I'm planning on presenting an award at our Pittsburgh 1989 meeing for the best article published in the club newsletter. So sharpen your pencil or dust off your typewriter and send in your original article. I do have about 3 articles in the wings already awaiting publication, so you've got plenty of time to gather your thoughts together prior to July 1989.



# MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB

The first annual meeting of the Casio Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club convened at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 23, 1988 in Cincinnati, Ohio at the American Numismatic Association convention.

President Archie Black announced that the Club now numbers approximately 90 members. The meeting was attended by about 25 people, the majority of whom were members. An officer of ANA, RuthAnn Brettell, attended to welcome the Club to the ANA and to present to the Club a copy of the ANA handbook on casino chips of Monte Carlo.

A call was made for nominations for officers to serve until the next annual meeting in 1989. The following werre nominated and duly elected by those members present and voting:

President: Archie A. Black Treasurer: Bruce Landau Secretary: Michael Knapp

President Black then appointed Howard "Howdy" Herz as the Club's historian. Mr. Herz, proprietor of the Coin Company and curator of Harvey's gaming chips and tokens collection, accepted the appointment.

The members, after discussion led by Mr. Herz, agreed that a main goal of the Club during its first year would be to seek member input to compile a comprehensive plan for the definition of items to be included within the Club's ambit, a uniform method of grading such items, and a standardized descriptive system. Member comments and suggestions are to be invited, and a proposal drafted for publishing in the Club's newsletter prior to the 1989 annual meeting. The proposal will be debated, modified and adopted at the second annual meeting.

The 1989 annual meeting is to be held in conjunction with the ANA convention in August, 1989 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Details will be published in the club newsletter as they become available.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael

Michael Knapp, Secretary

#### 'FAITES VOTRE JEU'

#### By Jeffrey E. Stokes, CH #059

The romance and nostalgia of days gone by are probably no more "numismatically" manifest than through the casino chips, casino plaques and casino tokens that are available for collecting.

By definition, I suppose, casino chips, plaques and tokens are a part of exonumia collecting but, unlike most other examples of exonumia collectibles, these symbols of chance were a sanctioned sustitute for cold hard cash money. Some pieces, such as the tokens issued for use in the CASINO SINAIA in Romania, actually circulated for years as legal tender in the towns surrounding the casino.

Imagine, if you will, the 5,000 plaque of the SOCIETE DES BAINS DE MER that you have in your collection as the piece that Sir Winston Churchill placed on number 18 or number 22 (his favorite numbers) at the roulette table during his visit to Monte Carlo in the 1950's...or the Romanian 100 Lei token you recently acquired as the piece that an exiled Russian Grand Duke waged at the tables at the CASINO SINAIA during the Summer of 1919...or the 1,000 Shilling plaque that you own as being the very piece that Bugsy Siegel brought back to the States after visiting the tables at the opening of the CASINO BADEN near Vienna in the mid-1930's!

Casino chip, plaque and token collecting is a challenging and rewarding experience. These pieces of history very often represented fortunes won and lost..success or defeat at the hands of the Goddess of Fortune. Some are more difficult to acquire than others as many casinos regarded their chips, plaques and tokens as the property of the casino and their removal from the casino was considered a criminal offense. collection can be formed, however, because many casinos sold their obsolete chips, plaques and tokens as souvenirs and many of the lower denominations were taken by players as souvenirs as well. Many of the higher denomination chips, plaques and tokens were secreted out of the casinos by players with the intention to return to the casino at a later date (at many casinos in Europe the dates of operation were seasonal) only to find that these particular pieces had been invalidated and a new series of chips, plaques and tokens had been instituted., thereby providing their owners with an instant souvenir.... and today's collector with a treasured addition to his or her collection.

Most all casinos had and still have the policy of cancelling their obsolete chips, plaques and tokens by punching a hole in them or clipping a corner of the chips and plaques. These pieces are still collectible, especially with regard to the very high denominations, although they may not be as desirable as uncancelled pieces without holes or clippings.

Most 20th century casino chips and plaques are manufactured from plastic or acrylic. The earlier pieces were made from bone or ivory and, although these earlier pieces are very plain in their appearance, they are quite beautiful in their simplicity and very often evidence incuse gothic lettering and fancy scrolled monograms. The

chips and plaques made and used in the 20th centry are more colorful and are generally made with security devices and anti-counterfeiting devices such as transparent centers, inlaid metal, etc. Some of the most elegant and artistically attractive chips are the 100, 500, and 1,000 Gulden chips from the KASINO ZOPPOT, a famous casino located near the City of Danzig. These 100, 500 and 1,000 Gulden chips have intricately designed centers made from genuine gold leaf. In the case of the 500 Gulden chip (48 millimeters), the glittering gold leaf center depicting the coat-of-arms of Danzig and Zoppot, in contrast to the deep cobalt blue color of the chip itself with its recessed gothic script encircling the chip - is particularly striking!

Of all the casinos of the world, the one most often recognized as the most notable is the Casino at Monte Carlo in Monaco. Its chips and plaques are among the most beautiful and elaborately designed examples of gaming pieces available to collectors today. Monaco's gaming industry began in 1856 in a villa on the Palace Square...a venture begun by Prince Florestan and Princess Caroline in an attempt to alleviate the poverty and general discontent which had befallen Monaco. The havoc and destruction which had resulted from the Napoleonic Wars, the disasterous winters which had devastated Monaco's agricultural base along with its economic subjugation to greater powers in the Mediterranean and its consequently being reduced to one-fifth its former size all contributed to Monaco being left in near ruin.

Prince Florestan died in mid-1856. But upon ascending the throne, the new ruler, Prince Charles, was urged by his mother, Princess Caroline, to persevere with the project begun two months earlier during his father's reign...to establish a casino in Monaco.

Casinos in the mid-19th century were few and far between. Casinos had been made the scapegoat in an effort to divert attention from the class struggle which was permeating European society at the time. The British had closed all gambling establishments in 1832 and all the casinos that had flourished in France since the time of Louis XIII were closed by edict of Louis Philippe in 1838. Austria had closed the two casinos in Teplitz and Karlsbad in 1848 and in the same year the German National Assembly ordered the closing of all German casinos.

It would be the genius of a man who, along with his brother, had earlier transformed the sleepy little village of Bad Homberg in Germany into a renowned resort and health spa and the roulette metropole of Europe....that would now catapult Monaco into a meeting place for the rich and famous of the world.

So it was then in 1863....forseeing the immense appeal that the salt air, the beaches and the ocean would hold for the elite of Europe.... and realizing that neither neighboring France nor any of the Italian States offered gambling facilities and that Monaco would have a monopoly on gambling in the entire area...that Monsieur Francois Blanc, valise in hand, journeyed from Germany to Monaco. Monsieur Blanc literally plunked more than 2 million Francs on the desk of Prince Charles and in so doing acquired the exclusive right to operate a casino in Monaco.... the SOCIETE DES BAINS DE MER!

Shortly thereafter, a casino building was constructed on the hill

beyond the City of Monaco and was named "Monte Carlo" in honor of Prince Charles of Monaco. In 1868 the railroad route from Nice to Menton was opened and with the access provided by the inauguration of a shore boulevard from Nice to Monaco, Monte Carlo soon became the established mecca of the grand society.

Kings, emperors and most of the world's elite and wealthy have experienced the splendor of Monte Carlo. In the 1870's, during the winter season, the German nobility and aristocracy frequented the Casino and during the summer season Francois Blanc would often surprise "les Dames" with a magnificant gift....a bouquet of roses held together by a gold chain set with sapphires.

The early years of elegance and extravagance were not unmarred, however, by negative publicity. Frequent suicides threatened to bring a bad reputation to the Casino and so the management engaged some of their trusted employees to stuff the pockets of suspected suicide victims with banknotes before the police could find the corpses...thereby averting any suspicion and giving the appearance that the death was the result of a lover's quarrel rather than due to losing at the tables. Ah, how simple life was back then!

There is a humorous aspect to this practice of "pocket stuffing" in that a very clever fellow had the idea to put tomatoe paste on himself and then position himself in a darkened part of the Casino gardens thus appearing as if he had taken his own life because of his losses at the tables. Along came the guards, stuffed his pockets with several thousand Francs...and a short time later, when the guards returned with the police...you guessed it...the suicide victim had vanished! Also, being extrememly sensitive to suicide which might possibly result from losses at the tables, to this day no poisonous remedies are sold at any pharmacies in Monaco.

And...have no fear if you should loose your shirt to the Casino. In a tradition begun by Monsieur Blanc's wife, Marie, anyone who loses by wagering with 10,000 Franc plaques in the Cercle Prive' is guaranteed a four-star meal in the Hotel de Paris and is given a first-class train ticket home. To prevent the homeward bound "guest" from gambling away the money for the train ticket, his or her name is promptly added to the Casino's list of "persona non grata".

The opulence and splendor and formality in attendance at Monte Carlo in its early years has, and sadly I might add, disappeared altogether. Elegance and the "grande monde" reigned at Monte Carlo until World War I when Europe's exorbitant wealth, which had plastered the tables for decades, was nearly wiped out. Following the Great War, Monte Carlo became the playground of a new kind of player. Overnight industrialists, financiers, tycoons and espionage agents footed the paths of the Casino gardens and appeared at the tables of the International Sporting Club. The 20th century was at hand and a way of life became history.

The first games offered at the Casino were roulette which was played on a double table with the kettle in the middle....and Trente et Quarante which had a minimum of 2 Francs. Today two roulette tables, nine French half-roulette tables, two American roulette tables, three Trente-et-Quarante, five Bacarrat and eight Black Jack tables are

available for wager. In addition, Craps, Punte y Banco, Banque a tout ca and slot machines are also available. Tradition, however, still dictates a minimum wager of 5 Francs at the tables.

The very first gaming pieces used in the Casino were actually 2 Franc tokens made of silver and a comprehensive listing of all the chips, plaques and tokens of Monte Carlo was prepared by Thomas C. Day and appeared in the June 1986 and July 1986 issues of, "THE NUMISMATIST."

The dating of chips, plaques and tokens of most of the world's casinos is difficult and very often impossible. The same holds true concerning mintage figures although the serial numbers on many chips and plaques are an indication of the quantities of specific pieces of a particular series of chips placed into circulation by the casino. In some cases, however, these serialed numbered pieces are of no value in determining the number of chips or plaques issued because they were numbered consecutively beginning with the opening of the casino and the issuance of the very first chips and plaques. The collector is better served in relying on artisite design (Art Deco, etc.) in attempting to date gaming pieces. Usually the collector must assemble a relatively large number of gaming pieces from a particular casino in order that he be afforded the luxury of attempting to date his or her chips, plaques and tokens.

Acquiring casino chips, plaques and tokens from the four corners of the globe offers the collector an engaging, challenging and historically rewarding pastime. Whatever your inclinations toward games of chance...have fun collecting and enjoy yourself while learning a bit more about the world and this very fascinating aspect of exonumia.

Author's Note: Collectors of foreign casino chips, plaques and tokens are invited to write to Jeffrey E. Stokes, P.O. Box 102, Plantsville, CT 06479 and share their "finds" and offer their duplicates for trade. All inquiries are most welcome. In addition, the author is presently preparing a tentative listing of all the known casinos that have operated in CUBA and a corresponding chip, plaque and token listing. Any assistance in this endeavor will be sincerely appreciated.



The Casino of Monte Carlo in the 1890s.

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#### 25 CENT ATLANTIS TOKEN ISSUED By Archie A. Black

During the 4th of July week, the Atlantis Hotel & Casino issued a 25 cent token that may revolutionize the coin packages that all A. C. casinos offer their bus patrons in the future. Breaking with Atlantic City tradition, instead of issuing rolls of quarters to their bus patrons, many of whom simply brought them back home or spent them in a competitors casino or at a merchant's boardwalk souvenir or food stand, the Atlantis Casino appealed to the Casino Control Commission for permission to issue this 25 cent token.





The token has no cash value, but can be used as a 25 cent wager in any of Atlantis' 945 quarter slot machines, all of which have been modified to accept the new token. All payouts are in real quarters and on some machines, wagers can be made with combinations of quarters and tokens. Additionally, during the month of August, Atlantis has had coupons printed in the Newark Star Ledger and the Asbury Park Press offerring a \$5 roll of these tokens to their drive-in customers as well. A roll of tokens may also be redeemed for a "Hot Ticket" which can be exchanged for a show ticket or a \$5 meal credit. "Hot Tickets" may also be accumulated and redeemed towards the cost of overnight lodging as well. You can bet that the other 11 Atlantic City casinos are watching the results of this experiment very carefully. bus rider from northern New Jersey to Atlantis has a choice of \$40 in tokens or \$40 in "Hot Tickets" or half and half. riders coming from within an hour and a half drive are rewarded with a \$30 package for a \$12.50 round trip fare from Monmouth-Ocean County area. This attractive bonus may result in the beginning of a new round of "Bus Wars" as other casinos increase their ante to attract Atlantis customers who have since flocked to the former ailing casino.

#### One For The Road

Myron Cohen tells the story of a couple who went to Las Vegas on their second honeymoon. Every night, the husband went directly to the Blackjack table after dinner and his wife was left alone in their room until three o'clock in the morning.

One night he was doing exceptionally well when a bellhop ran up to him and whispered, "Mr. Bindle, your wife is upstairs making love to your best friend."

Furious, Bindle shouted to the dealer, "Hurry up and deal! This is positively my last hand!"

#### Handicap 21

Peter Lind Hayes sat at a table in a Las Vegas club where everyone was bemoaning his luck. Each man at the table topped the hard luck story of those who had wailed out their woes before him. One grim-faced man remained silent.

"I take it that you had a good night, Joe," Peter observed.

The fellow sighed. "I'll tell you how unlucky I was. I was playing Blackjack and my cards ran so bad that they let me play '22' instead of '21' to keep me in the game."

77777777777

WANT TO TRADE CASINO CHIPS????
I have many from Nevada, AC and foreign. Send me your list and I'll send you mine. Bruce Landau 44 West Gate Rd. Suffern, NY 10901

MONACO/MONTE CARLO CHIPS WANTED: Collector wishes to purchase for collection, "Societe Des Bains De Mer" chips as listed by Day in ANA Numismatist reprint. Please describe in full or give Day catalogue number. "MR. CHIPS" P.O. Box 63 Brick NJ 08723

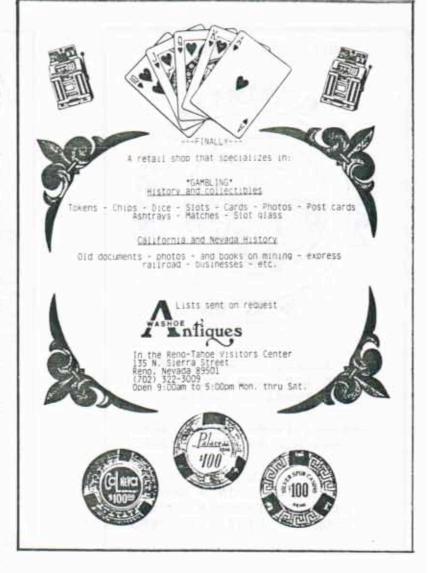
WANTED!! CASINO RELATED POST CARDS AND PHOTOS. Also looking for any photos, drawings, etc. of old gaming machines....especially claw and "steam-shovel" games. Al W. Moe 3410 Ridgecrest Drive Reno, Nevada 89512

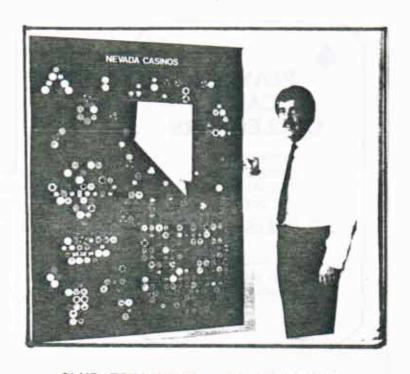
OVER 100 FOREIGN CHIPS TO TRADE for tokens of Austria - Hungary & possessions. (Beer, Restaurant, Consum Verein, Merchant, Casino, etc. - all metals). Jeff Stokes, POB 102, Plantsville, CT 06479.

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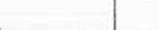
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CERCLE DE MONACO

#### "CURRENT AND OBSOLETE ATLANTIC CITY CASINO CHIPS"

#### By Jon Yasko #CH-022

Thanks to the state of New Jersey legalizing casino gambling, east coast chip and token collectors can now first-hand pick and choose chips and tokens from various Atlantic City casinos. Since 1981, surprisingly, many casinos have come and gone and likewise many chips and tokens have drifted into obsolescence. This article will attempt to show and describe all the known casino chip types or varieties which have been used in the casinos of Atlantic City since the fall of 1981. The New Jersey state gaming commission requires the Atlantic City casino denominated gaming chips to be uniformily color coded from casino to casino, i.e.

\$ 1.00	chips	are	predominantly	WHITE
\$ 2.50	"			PINK
\$ 5.00	n	11	W	RED
\$ 25.00			11	GREEN
\$ 100.0	0 "	**		BLACK
\$ 500.0	0 "	-10	**	PURPLE

Obviously, each casino has its own logo imprinted on colored or metallic inserts. But, within these general color guidelines many and varied differences exist.

Using the \$1.00 denomination chip as an exemplarly example throughout this article the current and obsolete Atlantic City casino chips will be shown and described.

All of the following examples were obtained personally and through a friend and an ex-blackjack dealer in Atlantic City.

The following casino chip descriptions will attempt to follow the cronological order of their appearance in Atlantic City, to wit:

## 1. RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

Type 1-casino name and logo surrounded by "hat and cane" motif with three (3) wide pink inserts (obsolete)

Type 2-casino name and logo surrounded by incuse lettering of "Resorts International" with three (3) wide pink inserts (obsolete)

N.B. These chips are identical to Type 3 chips below except for wide pink inserts.





Type 3-casino name and logo surrounded with four (4) narrow blue inserts (current)



BOARDWALK REGENCY-(defunct)

Type 1-casino name and logo surrounded with three(3) wide green inserts (obsolete)



Type 2-same as above, except four (4) narrow pink inserts (obsolete)



3. BRIGHTON HOTEL & CASINO (defunct)

casino name surrounded with four (4) purple inserts (obsolete)



4. SANDS HOTEL & CASINO (former site of Brighton H & C )

rainbow center with four (4) gray inserts (current)



#### 5. PARK PLACED HOTEL & CASINO

Type 1-same as above, but with four (4) brown inserts (obsolete)



Type 2-casino logo surrounded with four (4) gold inserts (current)



Note-my Atlantic City source informed me that the type 1 chip had a lifespan of approximately six (6) weeks of casino use, accordingly quite scarce

#### 6. HARRAH'S MARINA HOTEL & CASINO

First of metallic center inserts with casino name surrounded with white plastic disk and black lettering (current)



7. PLAYBOY HOTEL & CASINO (defunct)

Metallic center insert with casino name surrounded with white plastic disk and blue "bunnies" (obsolete)



8. ATLANTIS HOTEL & CASINO (former site of Playboy H & C )

casino name and logo surrounded with four (4) green inserts (current)

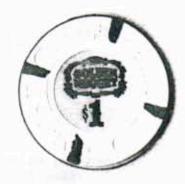


## 9. GOLDEN NUGGET (defunct)

Type 1-casino name surrounding \$1 with four (4) orange inserts (obsolete).



Type 2-casino name above \$1 with four (4) orange inserts (obsolete)



## 10. HARRAH'S TRUMP PLAZA (defunct)

Metallic center insert with casino name surrounded with white plastic disk with red lettering (obsolete)



#### 11. DEL WEBB'S CLARIDGE HOTEL & CASINO

Type 1-metallic center insert "Hi-Ho Casino" surrounded with white plastic disk and green script lettering (obsolete)



Type 2-metallic center insert "Claridge A.C." surrounded with white plastic disk and green block lettering (current)



## 12. TROPICANA HOTEL & CASINO

Type 1-casino name on blue and white disk surrounded with four (4) purple inserts (obsolete)



Type 2-casino name on red diamond surrounded with four (4) purple inserts (current)



# 13. HILTON HOTEL & CASINO (defunct)

casino name under rainbow center surrounded with two(2) red and two (2) blue inserts (obsolete)



Note-these chips were used approximately two months

# 14. TRUMP'S Castle (former Hilton H & C site)

casino name and logo surrounded with two (2) brown and two (2) red inserts (current)



## 15. SHOWBOAT HOTEL & CASINO

casino name and logo surrounded with two (2) orange and two (2) red inserts (current)



# TOKEN AND CHIP AUCTION

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3. \$1.00 A.C.	Atlantis	White Rim w/green inserts	Current	(MB	\$2,50
4. \$1.00 A.C.	Castle White	Rim w/red & grey inserts	Current	(MB	\$2.50
5. \$1.00 A.C.	Ballys White	Rim w/Dk Brn Inserts Ob	oselete	(MB	\$4)
6. \$1.00 A.C.		Rim w/blue Inserts	Current	(MB	\$2.50
7. \$1.00 A.C.	Showboat White	Rim w/red & peach inserts	Current	(MB	\$2.50
8. \$1.00 A.C.	Caesars White	Rim w/3 diamonds green in	serts	(MB	\$4)
		Rim w/lt brn inserts		(MB	\$2)
10.\$1.00 A.C.	Tropicana White	Rim w/lvdr inserts	Current	(MB	\$2)
11.\$1.00 A.C.	Golden Nugget Wh	nite Rim w/org inserts	Obsolete	(MB	\$3.50
12.\$1.00 A.C.	Harrahs Marina V	White Rim w/black inserts N	Metal CI	(MB	\$4)
		lk Pink Rim w/tan insert	Obsolete		\$4.50
		m w/green & yellow inserts	Obsolete	(MB	\$5.00
		Plaza Pink w/metal center	Obsolete		\$5.50
		alk Green w/black inserts	Obsolete	(MB	\$30)
		Plaza Fun Nite Pink		(MB	\$2)
18.\$5.00 A.C.	Harrah's Trump	Plaza Fun Nite Red	Obsolete	(MB	\$3.50
		Fun Nite Red/Scroll mold		(MB	\$3.50
		a Fun Nite Green Scroll	Obsolete	The second second	\$8.00
	Brighton Fun Ni			17	\$3.50
22 \$25 00 A C	Brighton Fun N	ite Green w/H&C			\$8.00
LL. GLO. OO A.O	. Di agircon i dii iti	was an arrangement of the second			The state of the s

RON COAR P.O. BOX 4051 TRENTON, NJ 08610

## REPORT FROM OUR TREASURER

Period ending 9-15-88

#### RECEIPTS.....DUES PAYMENTS/NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENTS:

1988 Dues Payments	\$590.00	
Pre-paid dues for 1989	\$ 15.00	
Auction Commission Income	\$ 21.60	
Advertising Income	\$296.00	
	\$922.60	Total Income

## DISBURSEMENTS ..... EXPENSES SINCE CLUB ORGANIZED:

Blank Check Order	\$ 7.81	Shadow Lawn S & L	
Membership Cards	\$ 19.61	A.D.I. Impressions	
American Numismatic Association	\$ 36.00	Annual Dues	
Commemorative Wooden Dollars	\$ 55.00	Elbee Company	
Newsletter Mailings	\$149.41	Postage	
Miscellaneous Mailings	\$ 17.17	Postage	
	\$285.00	Total Expenses	

CURRENT CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1988

\$637.60

Bruce Landau, Treasurer



#### A BRIEF HISTORY OF GAMING IN NEVADA

#### By Michael Knapp CH-007

During the early years, gambling in Nevada, as in many other areas in the West, was completely unregulated and unrestrained. The California gold rush period, from 1848 to the mid-1859's, saw gaming flourish in Nevada as well as in California. Nevada's gambling increased even more with the discovery and boom of the Comstock Lode in 1859.

Nevada held its first territorial elections in 1861. For the first time in its history, gambling of all kinds was banned completely. The territorial legislature, figuring that the civilized part of the country looked with displeasure on gaming, sought a type of "respectability" which their constituents clearly did not want. As prohibition did the liquor, the gambling ban of 1861 merely drove wagering underground, but it flourished nevertheless.

In 1864, President Lincoln, needing another vote to assure passage of the 13th Amendment outlawing slavery, proposed Nevada for statehood. Nevada became a state just in time to ratify the 13th Amendment. The next year, Nevada's new state legislature repealed the 1861 total ban on gambling, substituting a misdemeanor penalty instead. While gaming was not exactly legal, the 1865 law imposing a modest fine for gaming was not a severe impediment.

Five years later, in 1870, the Nevada legislature decided that since it couldn't kill gaming, it might as well raise some revenue from it. Gambling was legalized, subject to the requirements that gaming establishments be licensed by the counties in which they were located, and that they not be located in the front rooms or ground floors of buildings. Initially it was felt that the license fees were high enough to discourage gaming, and that requiring back room and basement activity would reduce the profitability of gaming for operators. Neither proved to be a deterrent.

The local control aspect of the licensing statute, however, resulted in significant government corruption. Finally, in 1909, all gambling was, for the second time in Nevada's history, banned completely. The puritanical attitudes which led to the passage of the prohibition amendment in 1917 had prevailed a bit sooner in Nevada. Gaming went underground again, and because of its illegality, began to receive substantial attention from organized crime outside the state. The pioneer spirit of individualism did not die easily in Nevada.

As the 1920's came to a close, it was evident that the gaming ban had not accomplished its purpose. In 1931, State Assemblyman Phil Tobin introduced the bill which legalized gaming again in Nevada, this time subject to state licensing and control. It is this statute, with subsequent modifications, under which the Nevada gaming industry has operated ever since.

# 'INTERNATIONAL NEWS'

By Jeffrey E. Stokes CH-059

The Nicaraguan government is now constructing a world-class luxury resort at MONTELIMAR on the Pacific coast and to be included in the 80 acre complex designed by Italian architect Mario Salinas are white-washed bungalows, swimming pools (one with a disco in the middle), tennis courts, physical fitness center, child care facilities, nightclub, convention center, restaurants, amphi-theater and a new international airport. The resort will also be the site of a new gambling casino...an exact replica of the summer house of former dictator Anastasio Somoza.

Originally developed by a German businessman, Montelimar was expropriated by the Somoza family during World War II and used as a private playground until their exile in 1979. The 500 guest resort will cost an estimated \$18 million and is scheduled to open in late 1988. It is expected that Montelimar will generate a \$2.5 million annual profit from international conventions and well-heeled American and European tourists. Government spokesmen boast that there is nothing to match its size and splendor in all of Central America except perhaps La Romana in the Dominican Republic.....and THAT has no casino! SAY WHAT??

Editor's Note: Club members are cordially invited to send any information about any of the world's casinos to: Jeffrey Stokes P.O. Box 102, Plantsville, CT 06479. Jeff has graciously offered to submit an "International News" column regularly for publication in the club newsletter. That's exactly the kind of support we need Jeff. Thank you for your input!

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#### NEXT ISSUE:

"MICHIGAN INDIAN CASINO CHIPS"

By Janice O'Neil

#### SCHEDULE OF FUTURE ISSUES:

1st Quarter: Jan, Feb, Mar Mailing Date: Jan 15th

2nd Quarter: Apr, May, Jun Mailing Date: Apr 15th

3rd Quarter: Jul, Aug, Sep Mailing Date: Jul 15th

4th Quarter: Oct, Nov, Dec Mailing Date: Oct 15th

NOTE: Advertising deadline is the last day of the month prior to mailing date.

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