

# Casino Chip

## & Token News



Volume 22 Number 4  
\$6.95

### AS TIME GOES BY...

### NEVADA IN THE 1930S

**PLUS...**

**Greg Susong**

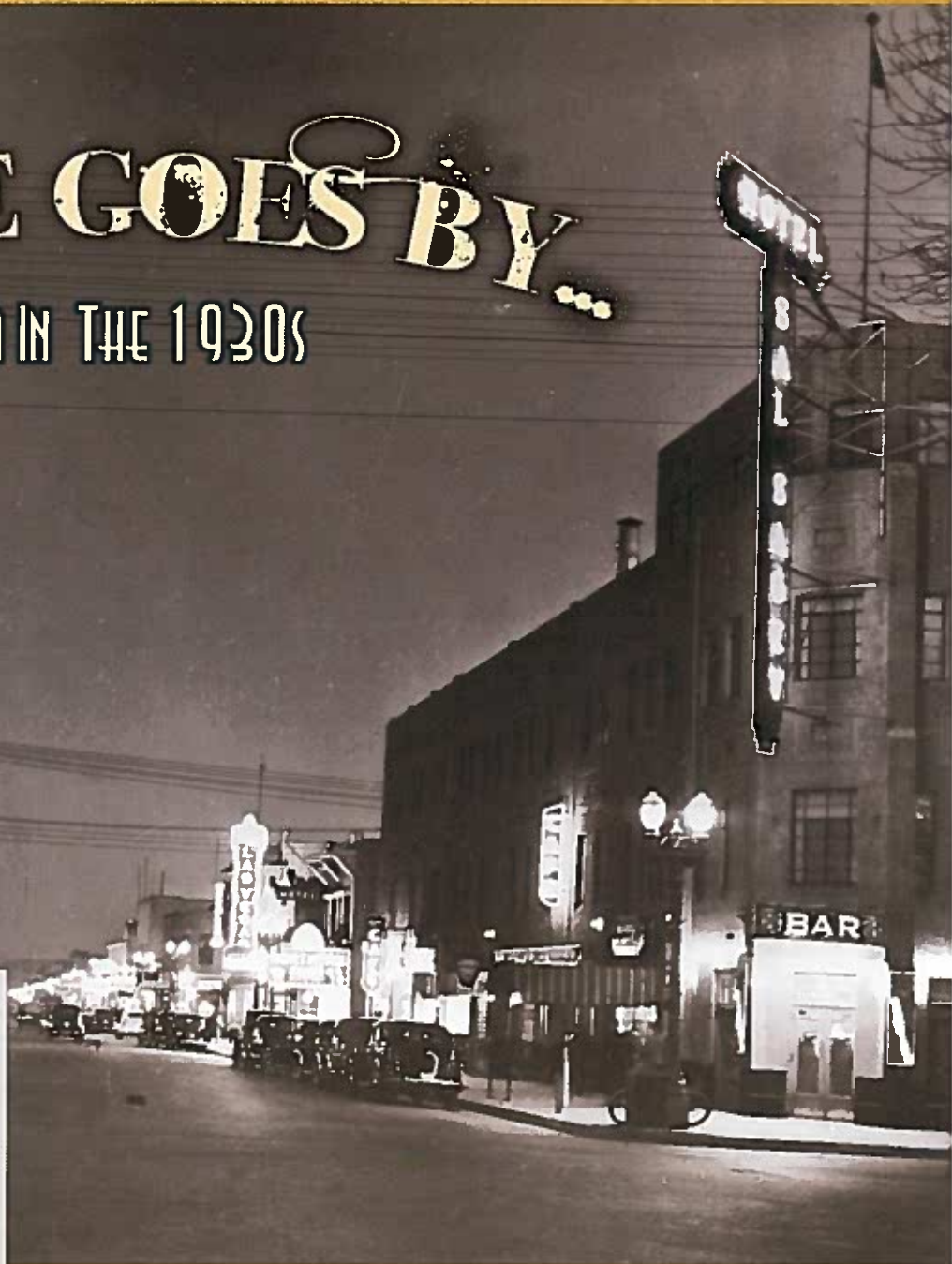
**Carl Maziarz**

**Circus Circus Las Vegas**

**Boots Place, Dogs &  
The Tin Shack**

**Phil's Forays**

**And More!**







## Casino Chip and Token News

A publication of

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

*The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.*  
is a 501(c)(3) educational organization  
with the mission of preserving gaming history.

<b>Editor</b>	Todd Barrett
<b>Assistant Editor</b>	Carl Kogut
<b>Advertising</b>	Charles T. Rodgers
<b>Printing</b>	Modern Litho Printing

<b>President</b>	Jim Steffner
<b>Vice President</b>	Jay Sands
<b>Treasurer</b>	Doug Smith
<b>Secretary</b>	Dawn Satter
<b>Membership Officer</b>	Steve Bedo

### Contributors

Steve Bedo • Jim Follis • Pam Goertler  
Phil Jensen • John Kallman • Michael Knapp  
Jim Linduff • Rick Pokracki • Jay Sands  
Dawn Satter • Doug Smith • David Spragg  
Jim Steffner • Sandi Steffner • Brian Watts

All rights reserved. No part of this magazine may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or in any information storage or retrieval system without the prior express written permission of the The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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.

# Join The Fun!

## CC&GTCC Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail or Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

My collection interests are:

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chips | <input type="checkbox"/> Tokens  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign |

I would like you to publish my . . .

- |   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E-Mail address                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do not publish any of my information |

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

- |   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One year \$30.00 - 3rd class or bulk mailing rate    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One year Associate Member \$5.00                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First class postage - additional \$14.00             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International \$55.00 - includes first class postage |

International mailings are at the first class rate.  
All other mailings are via 3rd class or bulk 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

**Steve Bedo**

1215 E. Dalton Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91741

Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

or sign up or renew on line at...

[www.CCGTCC.com](http://www.CCGTCC.com)

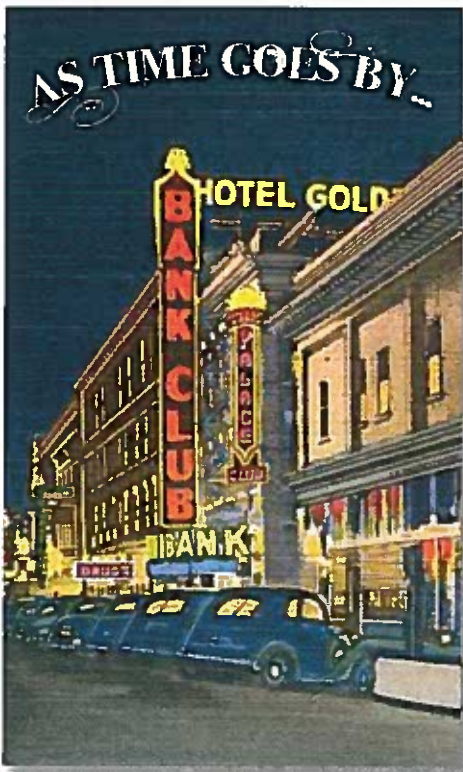
# Casino Chip

## & Token News



Volume 22 Number 4  
\$6.95

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



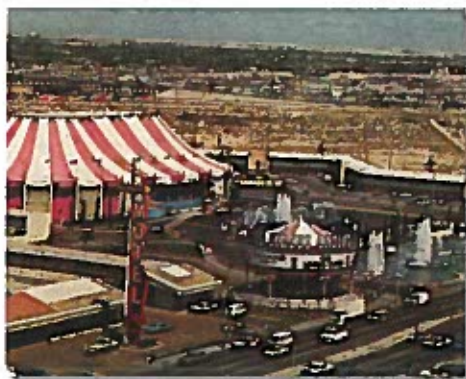
Cover Story  
**As Time Goes By**  
by Pam Goertler  
Page 40

- 6 President's Letter
- 8 Financial Report
- 9 18th Annual CC&GTCC Convention 2010
- 10 New Members

- 11 Of Literary Note
- 12 Greg Sousong
- 13 Carl Maziarz
- 14 Casinorama 2009



- 16 OTY Award Contest
- 17 Chip and Medal Design Contest
- 18 Circus Circus Las Vegas



- 36 Boots Place, Dogs & The Tin Shack



- 40 As Time Goes By
- 60 Knapp on Books
- 64 Phil's Forays



- 70 Message From Auction Chairman
- 71 Call For Hall Of Fame Recommendations
- 72 Club Merchandise
- 74 On-Line Resources
- 78 CC&GTCC Mentoring Program
- 79 Claim Form
- 79 Reward Fund
- 80 CC&GTCC Website

Cover Photos Courtesy of  
Las Vegas News Bureau



## 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 19-64) one year
- Junior (age 18 or younger) one year \$26
- Senior Citizen (age 65 older) \$41
- Life Membership (under 55) \$1,200 (over 55) \$900

\* International Memberships have an additional \$36 per year shipping and handling fees in US Funds.

Forward completed application to:  
ANA

818 Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279  
Please contact us with any questions (800) 367-972

# Visit Us Online!

[www.CCGTCC.com](http://www.CCGTCC.com)



Visit the Membership Section to find all the information you need about our members as well as all the information you need to become a member. Find information about local clubs, visit the Hall of Fame and more.

Check out the Reference Center, where you will find useful information on the hobby of casino chip and gaming token collecting. There are articles for the beginning collector and detailed reference materials for the more experienced collector.

Log on to the club message board. Ask questions, get answers and meet other people interested in the same collectibles as you!



# See You There!

[www.CCGTCC.com](http://www.CCGTCC.com)



# Advertising

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  
Email - 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

## Please Note

- Do not send in ads that are folded. 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 \$4.95 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. Try to get the changes to us well before the deadline of each issue.
- When ordering items from one of our advertisers, let them know what issue of the magazine in which you noticed their ad.
- All ad copy must be accompanied by payment made out to "The Casino Chips and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc." or CC&GTCC. No ad will run without payment

## Schedule of Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

Winter Issue January, February, March  
Mailing Date: February  
Deadline for Ads: January 1st

Spring Issue April, May, June  
Mailing Date: May  
Deadline for Ads: April 1st

Summer Issue July, August, September  
Mailing Date: August  
Deadline for Ads: July 1st

Fall Issue October, November, December  
Mailing Date: November  
Deadline for Ads: October 1st

## Moving?

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

Steve Bedo  
1215 E. Dalton Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91741

## Rates

Advertising rates for members are available by emailing the advertising manager at [advertising@ccgtcc.com](mailto:advertising@ccgtcc.com)

### *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  
January 1st for 1st qtr. issue April 1st for 2nd qtr. issue  
July 1st for 3rd qtr. issue October 1st for 4th 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 \_\_\_\_\_



**Jim Steffner**  
**President**

## President's Letter

Lots of news to report. The Board has renamed the Book of the Year Award presented at the Early Bird Banquet each year as the "Janice O'Neal Book of the Year Award" in tribute for her dedication to the club in providing historical information and research in many areas.

The Planning Committee has been reactivated under the Chairmanship of Allan Anderson. Allan and his committee will be accepting ideas and suggestions to further the growth and operation of the club and refining them for presentation to the Board of Directors.

In the issue you will find several inserts. The election nomination form allows you to nominate a member for possible election to the three offices open in 2010: Vice President, Treasurer, and Membership Officer.

Our 2010 Convention will again be at the South Point, June 23 – 26. In fact we will be at the South Point for the next four years. The Convention Pre-Registration form is also included with this magazine issue. Pre-reg fees are \$20.00 and your packet will include a chip good for \$3 in trade at any of the show dealers. Daily admission is \$10.00. Room rates for the show period will be \$70.00, a \$5 reduction from last year. Please stay at the host hotel as it helps us with future conventions. Please NOTE that there will be no on-line registration for the poker or BJ tournaments. Gaming regulations require that these tournament fees be MAILED in by check.

With the passing of Greg Susong, which stunned and saddened so many of us, I am pleased to announce the creation of the Greg Susong Memorial Award. This award was proposed by Mike Christensen and adopted by the Board. See related article for details on the nomination and voting process by members.

The "OTY" Award process is being revamped. Included in this issue is a nomination form for "OTY"s of the Year. All members are encouraged to nominate your favorite items in each group. In the next issue of the magazine a voting form will allow all members to vote for their favorites.

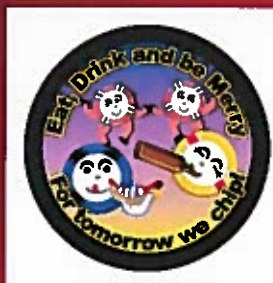
In closing I am also sorry to report the passing of members Carl Maziarz and Dennis Finn.

Jim Steffner  
CC&GTCC President





*Rest in peace, Greg.  
You will be missed, but never forgotten.  
Andy Hughes LM-2471 and your many  
friends on The Chip Board.*



THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB INC.

Income & Expense/Equity Statement (Cash Basis)

January 1 Thru September 30, 2009

INCOME

Membership Dues (Includes 1st class postage & Life Memberships)		\$	39,061
Convention 2009:			
Table Fees	\$	21,815	
Registration	\$	15,030	
Auction Proceeds (Includes Catalog)	\$	11,330	
Banquet	\$	8,776	
Program Advertising	\$	2,263	
Poker & Blackjack Tournaments	\$	70	
Convention 2009 Total:		\$	59,284
Promotion Sales	\$	8,378	
Museum Fund Donations	\$	7,800	
Magazine Advertising	\$	3,870	
Raffle Ticket Sales	\$	2,762	
Life Member Challenge	\$	2,273	
Interest Income	\$	637	
Misc (Donations)	\$	465	
Tax Collected (For Nevada Department of Taxation)	\$	-	
Total Income :		\$	<u>124,530</u>

EXPENDITURES

Convention 2009	\$	34,125	
Magazine	\$	25,586	
Museum Committee Workshops & Meetings	\$	5,222	
Museum Fund Expenses / Promotional Items	\$	5,079	
Promotion	\$	4,628	
Meetings	\$	3,946	
Storage (Occupancy)	\$	2,556	
Postage (Other than Magazine)	\$	2,348	
Video Production (Convention/Seminars)	\$	2,125	
Bank Charges / Credit Card Processing	\$	2,055	
Printing	\$	1,984	
Awards	\$	1,254	
Insurance	\$	1,253	
Misc Supplies (Includes Membership Pins)	\$	1,142	
Website	\$	245	
Filing Fees	\$	150	
Telephone	\$	35	
Total Expenditures :		\$	<u>93,732</u>

Net Income - 01/01/09 to 09/30/09 \$ 30,798

Beginning Equity Balance - 01/01/09	\$	208,041
Net Income - 01/01/09 to 09/30/09	\$	30,798
Change In Inventory - 01/01/09 to 09/30/09	\$	-
Ending Equity Balance - 09/30/09	\$	<u>238,839</u>

Detail of Equity Balance - 09/30/09

General Fund - Checking	\$	35,122	
General Fund - Money Market	\$	14,580	
Museum Fund (Formally Building Fund)	\$	107,009	
Life Membership Fund	\$	59,138	
Total Cash Available		\$	<u>215,849</u>
Inventory	\$	22,790	
Advance (Membership Officer / Promotions)	\$	200	
Ending Equity Balance - 09/30/09		\$	<u>238,839</u>

Respectfully Submitted, Douglas P. Smith - Treasurer  
October 30, 2009

\$ 0



# 18th Annual CC&GTCC Convention 2010

Ah Hoy Matey!! This year the CC&GTCC is holding it's 18th Annual Convention at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas June 23rd thru the 26th,.

## Help Wanted

If you wish to volunteer for part time positions such as registration, promotions table, auction table, membership table, or show setup and teardown, please contact Bob Bickford, Volunteer Coordinator, oldbera@wowway.com

## Pre-Registration

See Presidents Report

## Hotel Reservations

Everyone agreed the South Point is a vast improvement over our past venues. But it gets even better. Last year we secured room rates of \$75 for any night. This year the room rate is down to \$70.00 for any night of the convention. Special rates are effective from June 18, 2010 thru June 28, 2010 for those who wish to arrive early or stay over. Reservations must be made before May 28, 2010 to be included in the club room block. Make your plans now. Book your room at the South Point and make those airline reservations. We have a lot of surprises in store and you won't want to miss a minute of all the activities. All reservations made at the South Point and included in our special club room block have helped the club keep costs down past years and assist us in negotiating more favorable contracts for future conventions. Support your club and stay at the South Point.

Reserve your room directly with the South Point Hotel. Call their toll free registration number 1-866-791-7626 or 702-797-8905. Be sure to mention that you are with the *Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors - 2010*. Ask for your confirmation number. Deadline to book our special rooms is May 28, 2010, or until our block of rooms is filled.

## Chip and Medal Design Contest

See Related article

## Poker Challenge and Blackjack Tournament

Note a change this year in registration. Gaming regulations prohibit us from accepting payment through our on-line site. Registration and payment for one or both tournaments must be sent by mail with payment by check.

Watch for more updates in the next magazine and on the club web site. See you all in June!

Sandi Steffner  
Convention Co-Chair

## Update Your Club Listing On the Club Web Site

It's up to you to have the correct information on the club web site for your listing. It's FREE!

Let others know what you collect and how to reach you. Check out the web site now and then UPDATE your profile!

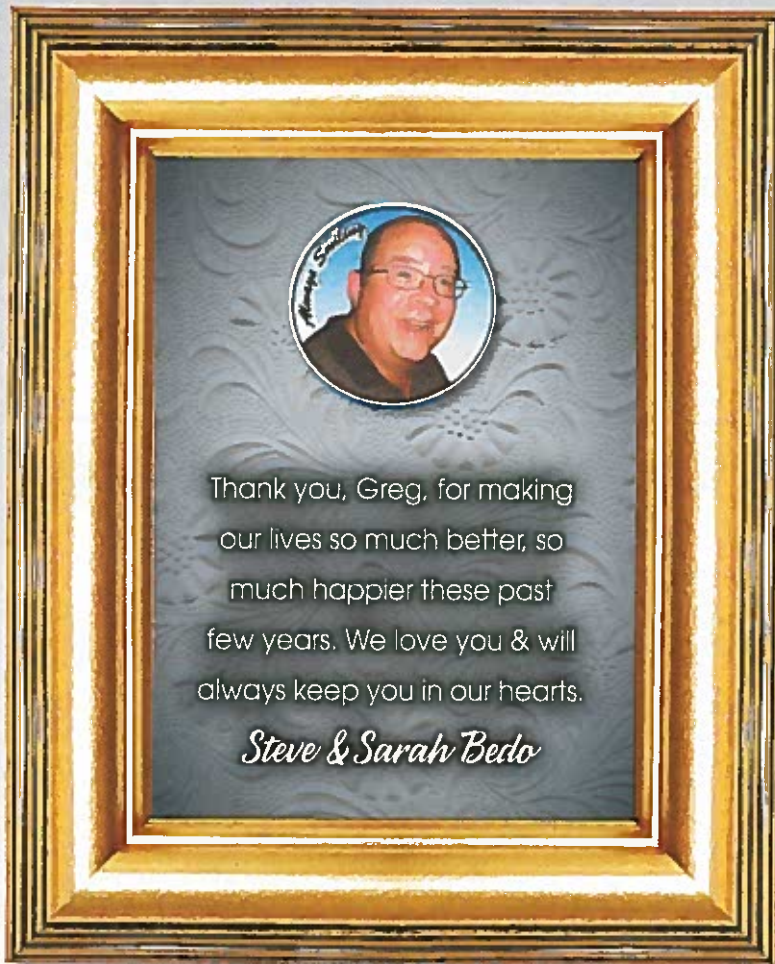
**It's YOUR Listing...**  
**Make sure it's updated!**



# New Members

Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
8072	Peront	April	NH	Enfield	Rodney Anderson
8073	Fricke, Jr.	Patrick	MI	Manchester	Rodney Anderson
8077	Desnoyers	Derek "Todd"	MS	Southhaven	Former member
8078	Hood	Thomas	TX	Quinlan	Club Website
8079	Croxford	Ronald	OR	Klamath Falls	Wendy Schultz
8083	Richards	Frank	CA	Garden Grove	James Campiglia
8085	Bloom	Joel	CA	Temecula	Club Website
8088	Votolato	Dacia	RI	Cranston	Archie Black
8089	Grinstead	Joyce	MO	Sedalia	John Kallman
8090	McKibben	Mike	IN	Kokomo	Archie Black
8091	Deal	Lance	TX	Dallas	Former Member
8092	Reil	Mark	AZ	Bullhead City	Former Member
8093	Vergatos	Jerry	CO	Aurora	Former Member
8094	Nolley	Caleb	GA	Martinez	Lyn Papke
8095	Hunt	Eric	NJ	Oakland	Club Website
8096	Green	Stephen	MI	South Lyon	Don Abdelnour
8097	Gardner	Jim	KY	Louisville	Greg Susong

*If you are a new member & you don't see your name listed, it's because you did NOT chose the "Publish" option.*





# Of Literary Note

by the club Librarian, John K. Kallman  
P.O. Box 122  
Sartell, MN 56377  
librarian@ccgtcc.com

Dennis Garnier donated a DVD copy of *Professor Black Jack & Counterfeit King* while Mike Awbrey donated a copy of the book *I Want to Quit Winners* by Harold S. Smith as well as a copy of *Postcard History Series: Las Vegas 1905 – 1965*.

Edition 6 of the Richard Edward Staeffler *California Chip & Token Guide* was also donated by Richard (Dick) Staeffler. Completely revised with files in BOTH \*.doc as well as \*.pdf file are on the disk along with a cross reference of scans by Armin numbers! Disks are available for \$10 each. Contact Richard as follows:

Dick Staeffler R-3828  
3320 McGraw Street  
San Diego, CA 92117-6053

Finally, William Holman donated 3 different issues of the *World Wide Casino Exchange Newsletter* (issues #1, 4, and 5).



**FREE CHIP LIST**

**JERRY HOOVER (R-2572)**

10655 Kinnard Avenue, #204  
Los Angeles, California  
90024-5939  
**310.441.1171**  
jerry.hoover@pepperdine.edu



# GREG SUSONG LM-2120-21

We all received a blow when we heard of the passing of our friend Greg. He was very much at the very center of our hobby as the creator of The Chip Board, which enabled most of us to develop personal relationships and conduct business on a scale that would not have been possible without his efforts. He was, in that respect, the glue that held our hobby together.

To those of us who knew Greg, however, he was so much more. Most of us will remember Greg as that rare individual who could literally light up a room and put smiles on people's faces simply by being there. He will always be celebrated as a man who was kind, caring, sincere, and beloved. I feel privileged to have known him and call him a good friend. I will always miss him dearly.

Jay Sands  
LM-4390-60



I first met Greg at the 2001 CC&GTCC convention & he greeted me like he had known me for years – with that trademark smile...a smile that always made YOU smile, as it still does to this day. The CC&GTCC conventions became the highlight of my years and Greg was the centerpiece of the most wonderful group of friends. Playing poker, telling jokes, enjoying our friends was so great, but the times that I enjoyed most were the times that we sat down together & talked or enjoyed a quiet meal with Brian Watts. As time went on, I got to see more into the life of this fantastic human being as he shared his life & his family & his stories with us. Through the years, I loved being a part of the Susong family and loved sharing my family with him. He genuinely cared about my daughter & he became a part of her life as well. At first site of that beautiful smile or at the mere mention of his name, Sarah would scream "I LOVE GREG SUSONG!!". So do I...

Steve Bedo  
LM-5259-111



Because of Greg and the message boards that he hosted, I was able to collect more than just chips or tokens. He facilitated a way for me to collect so many special friends. Greg positively affected my life and many others as well. You couldn't help but feel uplifted when you saw his smile and how he lit up a room with his joy. He will be missed for years to come.

Brian Watts  
LM-5491-97





## CARL MAZIARZ R-7613

Today, while writing this, I'm truly mourning the loss of Chicago land chipper Carl Maziarz R-7613

Carl passed quietly on October 3, 2009 after a courageous battle with colon cancer with his sister Barbara and her husband Ralph at his side.

Carl, always known for being upbeat and for his sense of humor, didn't want a wake but instead wanted a party for his friends to celebrate his life, and on October 18th we did just that.

Carl had decided on a mandatory dress code for the event. It was to dress very very casual, with a no tie rule, as ties would be cut off, as Carl's good humored attorney Paul Smolinski found out. Besides a memorial table featuring many of Carl's varied interests one of Carl's favorite Hawaiian shirts and one of his plaid flannel shirts were hanging from two artificial trees at the restaurant to represent what were his summer and winter wardrobes.

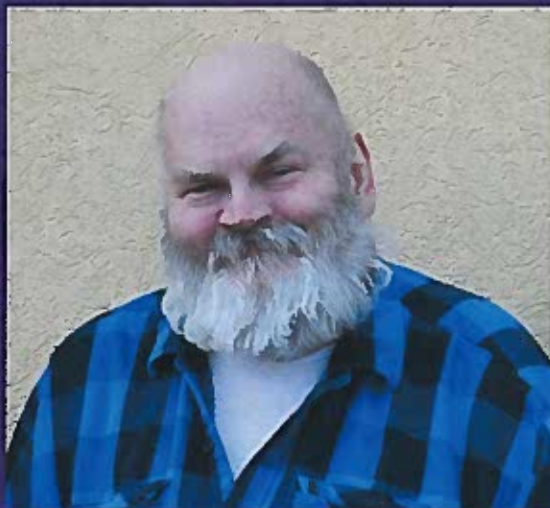
Even Carl's grade school friends were present to make us all laugh with stories of fun, and some minor childhood mischief. Even as a child Carl always loved science and the experiments that came with them. One of his friends, Danny Grabski, described cautiously coming down the stairs to Carl's basement, with anticipation of what lurked in the dark. The sudden burst of flame confirmed his suspicions that Carl found out that aerosol cans had flammable gases inside, and he was lighting it with a lighter.

Carl also had a great sense of humor. He convinced his younger sister Denise when she was about 5 that Bucky Beaver lived behind the couch. Although he teased her, he also was her protector as they grew up. He enjoyed quizzing his older brother, Albin, about sports trivia and would throw in trick questions like who was the greatest pitcher who never received the Cy Young Award? Answer: Cy Young.

Ted Stalnos, Carl's friend from second grade told a humorous story about Carl going to a local casino where he would sit at a \$5 blackjack table and if he had 18 he

would ask for a hit and if he got a 3 he would laugh at the other stunned players and say "See". Then if that group of players were superstitious and moved to another table he'd wait a few minutes and try to join them again.

Carl loved working at Midway Airport as the lead analyst in check relay for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Co-workers and employees talked highly of Carl and remembered him wearing a beard and a Santa hat for the holidays, putting out treats for co-workers, and decorating his office for Christmas. Tom Vaughan, his supervisor and friend who flew in for the party from Atlanta, Georgia praised Carl's job skills and told his work friends, including some who had worked with Carl for as long as 25 years, that Carl always had their backs and had always been working behind the scenes to help them in their careers.



Carl had no children, but, his friends children spoke highly of him as funny, always showing them a trick or brain teaser and often engaging in all-night games of Risk when he came to visit.

Carl had a high IQ and was self taught in piano and guitar. His other interests were rooting for the Chicago White Sox, reading books about science, movies, and music trivia, cooking and collecting spices and cooking gear, catch and release fly fishing, and being a highly skilled marksman at a shooting range.

Carl's other collections included music and, movie albums and cds, and a massive beer can collection. But, his sister, Barbara said those interests were eclipsed by his enthusiasm for casino chip collecting and the camaraderie of being in his local Chicagoland chipper group & meeting other members of the CC&GTCC nationwide over the internet.

After hearing all of these attributes to Carl, I wish I would have met him sooner and known him better. He is and will be missed.

Sincerely, (Riverboat Rick) Pokracki LM-3113-84

You can visit his guest book at [www.suntimes.com](http://www.suntimes.com)



# Casinorama

2009



Saturday October 17, Jim Munding hosted the 19th annual Casinorama casino collectibles show in San Marino, CA. For the second year in a row the show was held at the San Marino Masonic Center.

“CASINORAMA.....started out in 1990s in Bellflower, California....It was called the Bellflower Show and was a year or two before the National Club began the shows in Las Vegas.” Jim noted. “We moved to a bigger spot in Arcadia, California and changed the name to CASINORAMA.”

Jim went on to add, “The show this year had 17 dealers and about 125 attendees....not a record crowd, but everyone stayed busy and happy until closing time at 3 pm. The 2010 show is set for Saturday, October 16, 2010 at the San Marino Masonic Hall.”

Everyone who entered this years Casinorama show received a \$1.00 off coupon, good for entry to the Super Show in Las Vegas on February 5th - 6th, 2010 at Arizona Charlies on Decatur Blvd.



Jim Munding at his table with loads of slot cards and Room Keys.





Plenty of dealers, lots of unique merchandise and a great mix of collectors made for a nice day at Casinorama.



Doug Saito "telling it like it is" at his table.

More fun than a three ring circus.....

# CASINORAMA

The world's premier casino collectibles/coin show

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010**

9 am until 3 pm \$5.00 admission, kids free

**\*BUY-SELL-TRADE\***

CASINO CHIPS-COINS-TOKENS  
 PAPER CURRENCY-ANCIENT COINS-  
 ROOM KEYS-DICE-POST CARDS-CHINA  
 SLOT CARDS-ADVERTISING-SUPPLIES  
 SILVER STRIKES-MATCH COVERS  
 MUCH, MUCH MORE, COME AND SEE

**\*\*\*\* FREE APPRAISALS\*\*\*\***

FREE PARKING, FOOD AVAILABLE

## SAN MARINO MASONIC CENTER

3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino, California  
 Foothill Freeway (210) south on Rosemead Blvd. to Huntington Drive then west, or  
 north on Rosemead Blvd. from the San Bernardino Fwy (10) west on Huntington Drive  
 The Masonic Center is just east of San Gabriel Blvd. on the south side of the street

Contact Jim Munding, P.O. Box 4087, West Covina, CA 91791  
 (626) 919-0603 or (626) 893-7926 email mun3335@aol.com

Make your plans for next years Casinoramal



# The 2009 OTY Awards Contest Opens Shortly!

That's right! It's time to Nominate!

Inside this issue of the award winning Casino Chip and Token News you will find an Official Nomination Form for the 2009 OTY Awards. Every Club member is encouraged to take a little time and reflect back on the fabulous array of chips, tokens strikes and cards issues by casinos worldwide during the calendar year of 2009. If any of them stand out in your mind, or take center-place in your collection, then perhaps you might want to recognize them by nominating them for an OTY Award.

Only as a CC&GTCC member are you entitled to participate in the Club's annual Chip of the Year (COTY), Token of the Year (TOTY), Silver Strike of the Year (SSOTY) and Slot Card/Room Key of the Year (CKOTY) competitions, aka: The OTY's!

The 2009 Awards will be marking the Club's 20th year of COTY and TOTY competitions, our 10th year of the SSOTY competition and our 8th year for CKOTY honors. I am both honored and pleased to be serving as the COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and CKOTY Awards Competitions Chairman, along with my son, Casey, the Assistant OTY Chairman.

The rules for this year's competitions are pretty much the same as last year, and for our newer members (a very big Welcome to our newcomers) and as a refresher for our seasoned participants, I will go over the requirements once again.

Between January 1, 2010 and February 01, 2010 the Assistant OTY Chairman will be accepting nominations from any and all Club members in good standing. As a reminder to all Regular members, please be sure to make a copy (or copies) of the nomination form for the Associate Member(s) tied to your membership number, so that they too can participate.

Completed original nomination forms were designed to be folded, taped (stapling is acceptable, but the Post Office prefers tape), affixed with 1st Class postage (.39 cents) and then mailed. Providing that the insert is printed correctly the mailing address will be pre-printed on the reverse of the form. However, completed forms (original forms or copies) may be sent in an envelope to the address that appears on the back of an original form. That address is also re-printed below for your convenience. As we did last year we will accept nominations via email to [oty@ccgtcc.com](mailto:oty@ccgtcc.com).

However, if you take advantage of this method, you must format your submission into the same headings as the Nomination Form AND you must include all of your nominations at one time. Please do not make piece-meal submissions. If you do, then the most current submission form will replace, in total, any previously submitted form. Emailed submissions must be sent prior to midnight (PST) February 01, 2010.

Judging will be open to any and all CC&GTCC, Inc. members in good standing. The March-April-May issue of the Club's Award winning magazine will include a full-color presentation of all the Nominees, along with a mail-in ballot. These ballots must be returned via the postal system and must be postmarked on or before a date to-be-determined and announced later. However, voting may also be conducted via email, the details of which will be announced later.

The fine print:.. All nominees must have been issued, for use, for the first time, during the calendar year of 2009. Various members of the CC&GTCC may be called upon to verify this criteria for chips and tokens. The Officers of the Silver Striker's Club shall be called upon to verify this criteria for Silver Strikes. The Officers of the Slot Card and Room Key Club shall be called upon to verify this criteria for slot cards/room keys.

**Chip of the Year eligibility criteria:** A chip must be issued by a casino. It must also serve a gaming purpose.

**Token of the Year eligibility criteria:** A token is one that is intended to be inserted into a slot machine for play. Excluded are coins (money), currency and tickets. The emphasis is on slot machine play.

**Silver Strike of the Year eligibility criteria:** Simply stated, an eligible Silver Strike is a bi-metal coin made in follow-on to the Silver Strike Program of IGT. This includes \$200 strikes.

**Slot Card/Room Key of the Year eligibility criteria:**

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

Room Keys must be issued by an affiliated hotel/casino establishment. The key (looking like a plastic credit card) must be used to open a guestroom.



Casey and I look forward to receiving your nominations shortly. We may be contacted via email: [oty@ccgtcc.com](mailto:oty@ccgtcc.com). Lastly, for those who are Internet connected, be sure to visit the Un-Official OTY Viewing Sites, where you can view many of the potential 2009 OTY candidates. There are four locations to visit:

<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2009?dir=COTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2009?dir=TOTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2009?dir=SSOTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2009?dir=CKOTY>

Jim Follis  
OTY Awards Competition Chairman

## Chip & Medal Design Contest

The club is now accepting entries for our Convention Medal and Chip design contest for the 2010, 18th Annual Convention. These club convention commemorative issues are very collectible and popular with the membership. All members in good standing are eligible to participate.

Awards for winning entries in all categories will be presented at the convention in June 2010 at the South Point. This year's convention theme is "Pirates".

Contest rules are as follows:

1. The obverse side of the medal will be the standard club logo, of which a die has already been prepared.
2. The reverse medal design submitted is to be prepared in black and white, on plain paper in a circular area about 6" to 8" in diameter. The main theme picture should be as large as possible in the space.
3. The chip design subject matter may be presented in black & white with color designations, in color, as a photograph, decal, or penciled art layout. Hand drawn or computer-generated art is acceptable. Formal art is not necessary. Your idea is just as important.
4. Up to three entries in each category may be submitted.
5. A panel of judges appointed by the Design Chairman will select winning designs. Winning design may be modified to meet manufacturing specifications if needed. Any changes will be reviewed with the designer.
6. All entries become the property of CC&GTCC and may be used for the T-shirt design if appropriate.
7. Deadline for entries is March 31, 2010, and MUST be postmarked by the date to be eligible.

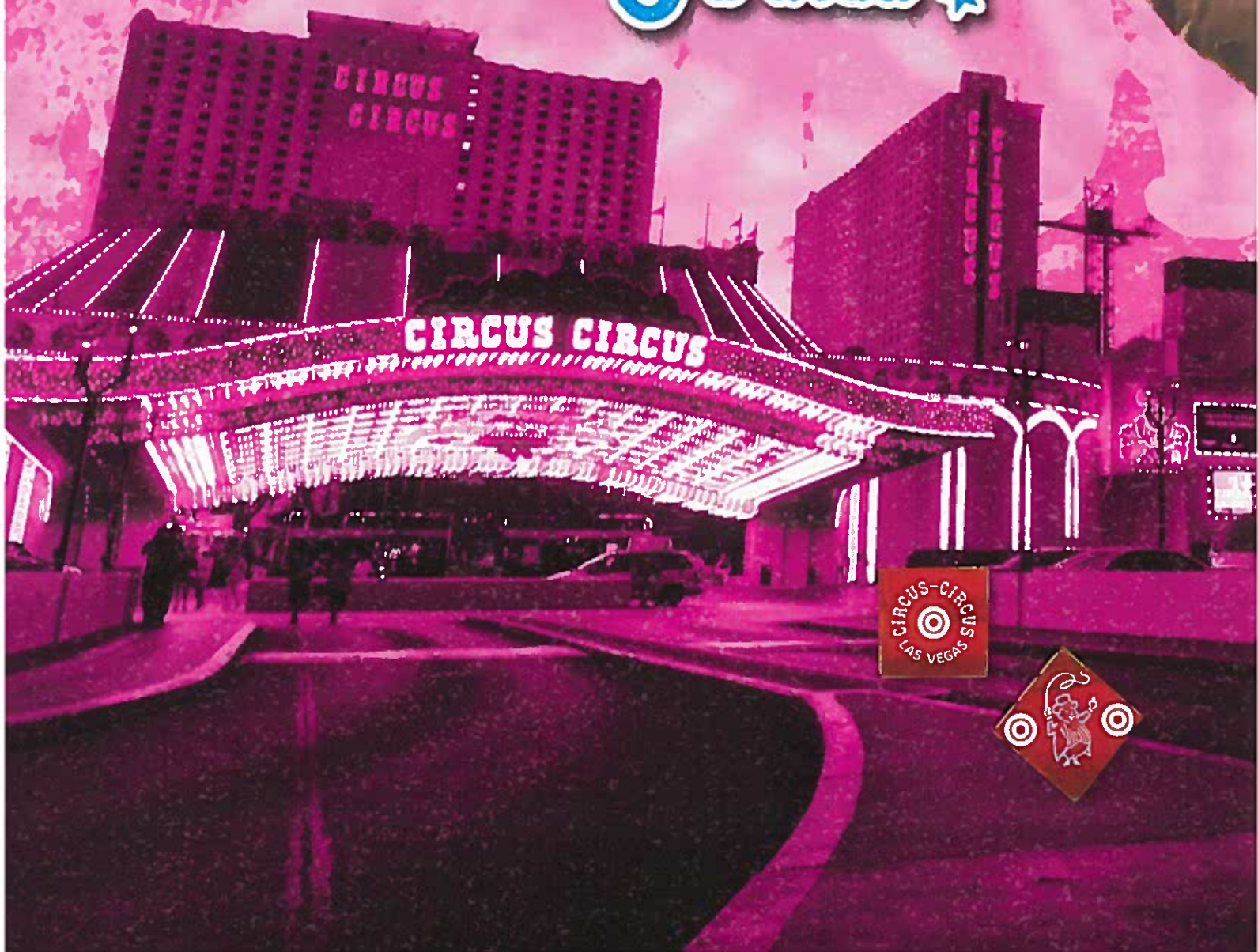
Mail entries to:

Sandi Steffner  
Design Contest  
9321 Mt Bret Av #103  
Las Vegas NV 89129

**SEE YOU AT**  
**"SPLASHBAR IV" 2010**  
**Brian "Mr. Splashbar" Cashman**  
**LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06**



# THE GREATEST SHOW ON THE STRIP!







CIRCUS CIRCUS  
HOTEL • CASINO



FREE  
GAMING LESSONS



Circus Circus, Las Vegas





Jay Sarno (center) Ringmaster of Circus Circus Las Vegas in 1968.  
 Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections

At 6 pm on Friday October 18th, 1968, legendary Vegas Casino visionary and larger than life figure Jay Sarno cut a 90-foot-long, canary yellow ribbon that extended from the roof of the brand new Circus Circus Casino to the ground in front of the main entrance.

The ribbon was cut with giant shears wielded by Sarno, his co-entrepreneurs Jud D. McIntosh and Stanley Malin. U.S. Senators Alan Bible and Howard Cannon, and Las Vegas Mayor Oran K. Gragson were also present and all were dressed in their ringmaster top hat and tails outfits. After

several hours of ceremonial hoopla, including a wedding held 400 feet above the roof of the casino on a hovering helicopter platform, Circus Circus opened to the public at 10 pm.





Construction photos from 1968. Photos courtesy of UNLV Special Collections

## BUILDING A DREAM

Sarno had hit it big with the creation of Caesars Palace in 1966. Sarno's partner Stanley Mallin recalled in a 1999 interview reprinted by K.J. Evans of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, "We hit lightning in a bottle with Caesars. It took right off. It was the nicest thing in Las Vegas and maybe in the country."

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reports Caesars Palace was built for \$24 million in 1966 and sold in 1969 for \$60 million. But before making a tidy profit from Caesars, Sarno was already planning his next big idea... Circus Circus.





You'll Enjoy Westward Ho's Outstanding Location Adjoining Stardust Hotel & Circus Circus in Las Vegas



You see famous Westward Ho, combining over 1,000 rooms, including the Satellite wing and Executive Suites visible to rear. Hundreds of large family units, 11 swimming pools.

EXECUTIVE SUITES feature 120 gorgeous 2-bedroom, 2-bath apartment suites with refrigerator, living room, patio. Ideal for families, two couples or large groups. *Real Economy, too!*

Front Door Parking  
... No Tipping!

REGISTER FOR ALL ROOMS IN MAIN LOBBY AT FRONT STREET ENTRANCE OF WESTWARD HO

Come One, Come All for the FUN!!



BEYOND BELIEF... AND CHILDREN ARE WELCOME, TOO!



WORLD'S MOST EXCITING CASINO! Right Next Door to Westward Ho!



Astonishing! Amazing! Beyond Imagination! The \$15,000,000 Circus Circus, world's largest Gaming & Entertainment Center, with 700 musical slots, 14 bars and restaurants, family-priced buffet meals, 25¢ food specials (like 1939), "Big Top" trapeze acts in death defying stunts, shows, clowns, games and prizes galore! Breathtaking excitement 24 hours, spectacular games of chance. Food, entertainment and fun for your entire family. Water fountains 306 feet long (world's largest), and casino larger than a football field. You MUST SEE Circus Circus!!

FUN!



Falder Copyright 3/69  
Westward Ho/Las Vegas

CHILDREN WELCOME!

...All Next Door to WESTWARD HO !!

Circus Circus Has No Rooms. You Stay at Westward Ho.

TURN PAGE FOR ROOM RATES AND FREE PACKAGE OF FUN AND GOODIES

A brochure put out by Westward Ho sometime before 1970. This brochure shows Circus Circus without any hotel rooms. Also visible is the main entrance onto the second floor, guests wishing to go to the casino level would have to go down to the first floor. The carousel is on the left side of the property (as you look at the entrance), which later moved to the right side once Slots-A-Fun was built in its place. In 1976 the carousel was removed to make way for the Lucky The Clown marquee that exists today.





PART OF HUGE CASINO AND 700 MUSICAL-JACKPOT SLOTS AT



RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO WESTWARD HO MOTEL.

*Excitement and  
Action Beyond Belief!*

**WESTWARD HO** has the **LOCATION!**

*Beyond Compare...Finest Neighbors on Earth!*

Use direct side entry to Stardust Casino and 5 famous restaurants, featuring spectacular Lido Show. Or walk 200 feet in the other direction to Circus Circus Casino.

**LOOK WHERE A SHORT STROLL TAKES YOU ...**

In a 500 yard circle from Westward Ho you find over 50 places to eat, 26 shows, dancing and entertainment centers, 9 major hotels, 13 casinos, over 10,000 gaming devices, 24-hour action at Riviera, Thunderbird, Sahara, International, Landmark, Desert Inn, Frontier, Silver Slipper, Stardust and Circus Circus.

*Comfort, Convenience, Location, Value & True Economy! Welcome!*



**FREE LAS VEGAS .. FREE FUN PACKAGE!**

**HOW CAN WE DO THIS?**

These free offers are given to create a flow of traffic for participating hotels & casinos, and to build goodwill with you. Keep all you win!

*A Genuine Bonus Offer*

Register for Room and Receive Free Coupons Redeemable in Famous Casinos

Free Cash or Chips! Free Drinks! Special Meals! Free Gifts! Souvenirs! Photos! Champagne Party! Discounts!

A full day of fun to acquaint you with over 10 clubs and casinos as "guest of the house" on Strip & Downtown, too!

**KEEP ALL YOU WIN!**

**Bring This Folder to Front Desk When You Check In.**  
*Drive In Today—Or Make Reservations for a Future Stay.*

**New!!**

From Any Phone In  
Call., Ariz., Utah, Ore., Idaho

**Dial Free (800)648-6898**

**ROOM RATES: HERE IS WHAT YOU PAY ...**

Westward Ho — Finest Value in

**LAS VEGAS**

1,000 Rooms, Located next to Stardust Hotel & Circus Circus Casino. Save This Coupon. Good Anytime.

BankAmericard, Master Charge

**COMPARE! YOU'LL SAVE ...**

**\$7** <sup>4th</sup> YEAR

*Midweek Special! Lowest Winter Rates ...*

Compare Value—204 Special New Rooms, double bed, free TV  
**YOU PAY ONLY \$7 Single, \$8.80 for 2 people**

Compare Value—2 Double Beds starting at \$10.90 for two.  
*Over 800 Other Rooms & Suites, Starting at \$2.00 Additional, to Fit Every Requirement, Taste, and Budget. Stop in Today! On Fri., Sat., Holidays & SUMMER SEASON, Add \$2.00.*

**FOR EXTRA SPACE & REAL ECONOMY, ASK ABOUT OUR 2-BEDROOM APARTMENT UNITS. (240 Rooms)**

24-hour Denny's Restaurant, Nickel Nik's Slot Arcade & Coffee Bar, free TV, 100% air conditioned, hundreds of large family units, FREE bonus package of "Casino Goodies" for adults, front door parking, No Tipping, 11 Swimming Pools, BankAmericard, Master Charge.

*Drive in today, or make reservations by mail or phone. Use Order Blank on back of this folder for future reservations.*

**WESTWARD HO**

2900 Las Vegas Blvd. So., Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Phone (702) 735-6195 or DIAL FREE (800) 648-6898

**SAVE THIS NO-RISK COUPON**

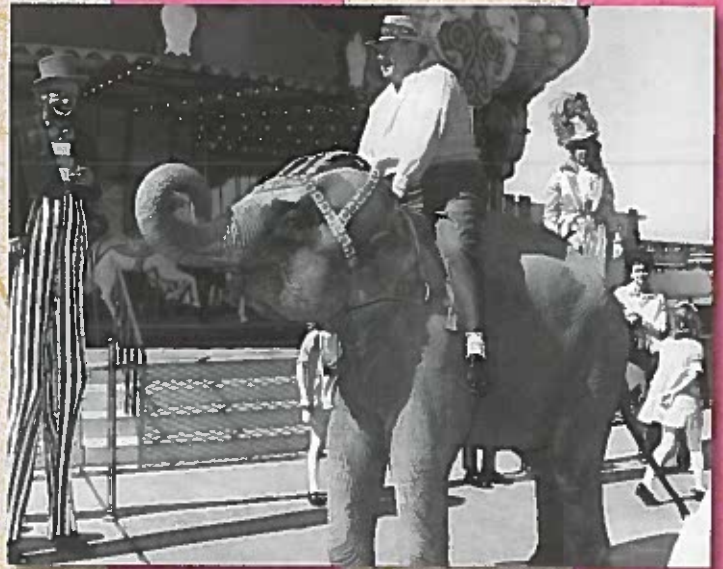
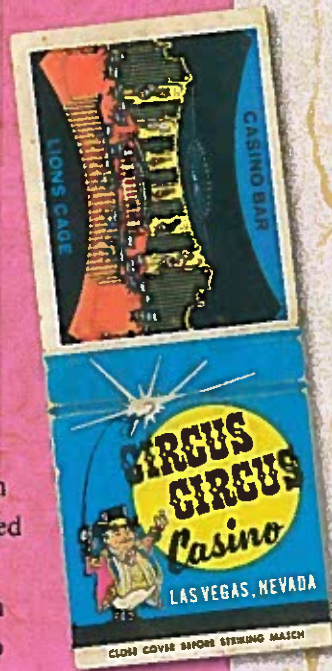
The back side of the same brochure. Brochure courtesy of Pam Goertler.



Not one to leave a buck on the table, Sarno had decided that his clients at Circus Circus were not only men at the 21 or craps tables; he set out to create an experience for the whole family. But Circus Circus was not set up for family fun as you might think, not in a Disney sort of a way. Sarno catered to the families, including children as his future generation of gamblers.

Harold Hyman of the Las Vegas Sun reported in 1968 that Circus Circus was built at a cost of 15 million dollars, and was at the time, the world's largest combined casino and amusement center. Located across the Strip from the Riviera Hotel, Circus Circus was built like a giant circus big-top 90 feet tall. It was also fronted by an acre of water fountains that shot colored plumes of water four stories high. Architects Rissman and Rissman Associates designed the giant pink and white oval shaped circus tent. Construction of the football field sized casino and big top was handled by R.C. Johnson Construction of Las Vegas. The roof followed the

curves of draped canvas, and pennants ringed its crown. The tent-like canopy had to be poured in a continual fashion so that no one section would harden before any other. The result was a roof that produced the image of a taut canvas. When first opened, Circus Circus had no hotel rooms. The casino was



Jay Sarno on top of Tayna the Elephant.  
Courtesy of UNLV Special Collections

furnished with 19 blackjack tables, eight craps tables, two roulette tables and 686 slot machines.

Never one to think small, Sarno installed a circus arena, a carnival midway, a casino, restaurants, and shops all under his big top roof. A baby elephant roamed the premises pulling the handles of slot machines, aerialists whirled through the air, their nets hovering just above the gaming tables. On the second floor midway, customers threw baseballs at targets and were rewarded for a bull's-eye by a topless woman springing out of a bed to dance for

them. You could then get to the casino floor from the midway via a fireman's pole or a slide. As noted on <http://www.answers.com> "Stunned by the excess of the display, rivals on the Las Vegas Strip declared Circus Circus a combination of Sodom and Disneyland."



The high wire act above the casino floor. Courtesy of UNLV Special Collections



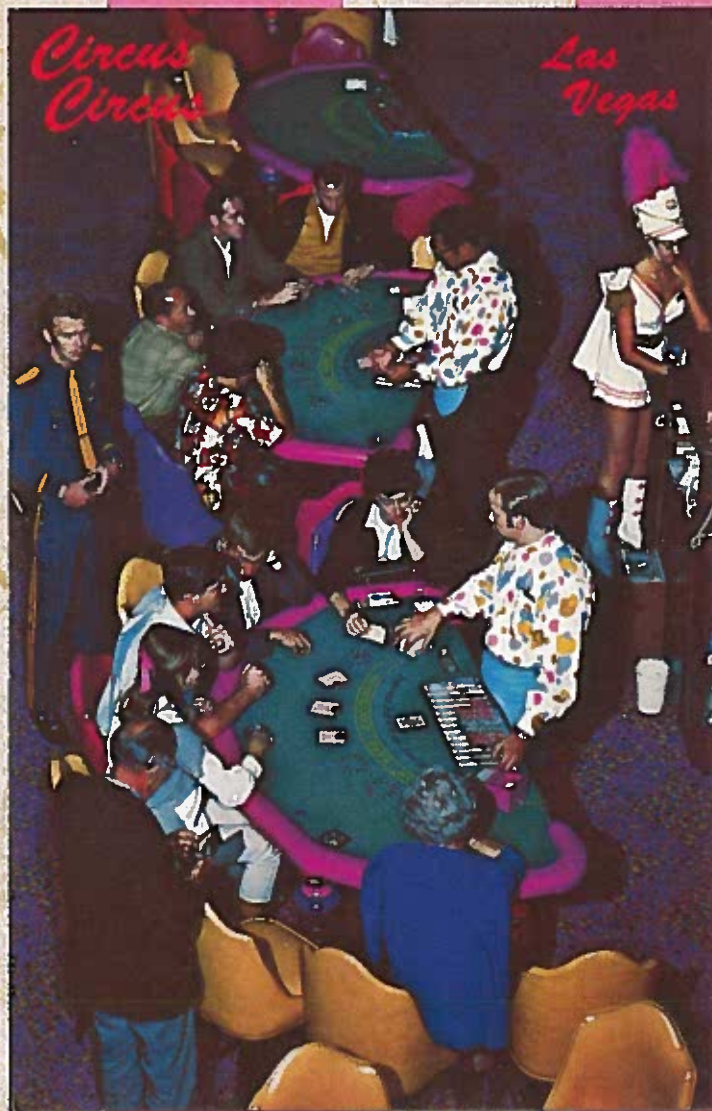
Don Williams, one of Sarno's assistants remembered a vision Sarno had of a flying elephant. He detailed his memory to A. D. Hopkins in the book "The Players: The Men Who Made Las Vegas" "...we had some steel boots made to fit a particular elephant. The boots were pink and we painted the elephant to match. The boots were cabled to this monorail that ran around the big top, and this pink elephant would fly through the air against the dark background, and it was something to see!

"But it wasn't successful. The elephant loved flying when we tried it experimentally in a barn, but it didn't take to the heights in the actual casino. Also, the elephant wasn't housebroken. We had a big diaper made for it, but we finally decided it wasn't a big enough draw to be worth the trouble. We probably wasted \$50,000 or \$60,000 on that project, but it was fun to try."

Sarno was so convinced that the public would flock to his newest creation that he actually charged to simply enter the casino. From 2:00pm to 7:00pm the cost was \$.50 and from 7:00pm to 2:00am the cost was \$1.00.

But none of it worked well enough to turn a profit. Mallin thought the mistake was opening without hotel rooms to provide a captive audience. The

theory was that the place would be interesting enough to draw visitors from other casinos. It did, but most came to gawk and not gamble. The clowns, games, animals, and thus the children they attracted, clashed with the ambiance of a posh gambling hall. Trapeze artists whizzing overhead were a constant



distraction to gamblers and dealers alike. The coveted High Rollers that Sarno hoped to attract avoided the place like the plague.

## TROUBLE WITH THE RINGMASTER

Sarno and his partners realized quickly that they needed a hotel tower and started plans to build one. They retained Architects Rissman and Rissman to design a 15 story, 400 room tower directly behind the casino. This tower opened in 1972, but Circus Circus was still bleeding money. The casino still had not turned a profit and Sarno was in trouble. Sarno had connections with representatives of the Teamsters Central States Pension Fund, from whom he had borrowed money to build Caesars Palace and Circus Circus. These ties brought unwanted attention from the Feds and the IRS.





By 1973 Sarno was in debt to the Teamsters and the IRS. Sarno and one of his associates, Leo Crutchfield, started offering money to the IRS agents to get out of debt. The plan backfired and soon Sarno and his partner Stanley Mallin found themselves indicted for conspiring to

agent. ... The same thing that happened in Watergate must end right here and now.”



Postcard of the Redemption Center on the 2nd floor. After receiving "Prize Units" from the midway games, one would redeem these units for fabulous prizes.

Goodman's tactics inside and outside the courtroom worked and the jury was unable to reach a verdict in the case. The judge declared a mistrial and then granted Goodman's motion for the case to be dismissed. Sarno was off the hook, but the damage was done, as he said before the trial had started, "This indictment is a ninety-nine percent conviction. I haven't even gone to trial, but I've lost all my friends. I don't have any

bribe an Internal Revenue Service agent. Crutchfield was cooperating with the government and testifying against Sarno and Mallin in court. Sarno hired current Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman as his attorney, and the case went to trial in February 1975. John L. Smith covered the trial for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and writes about it in his 2003 book "Of Rats and Men".

Goodman portrayed Sarno as an innocent business man who was a victim of entrapment by greedy government agents. Sarno took the stand in his own defense pleading to the jury, "We were stupid, we were idiotic, and we were wrong, but we were scared. We saw how they could be. We were frightened of the IRS. I was paying him not to frame me and put me in the can."

While Sarno was pleading his case to the jury, Goodman was working a PR campaign to the press. "I am incensed and enraged by the Gestapo-type tactics that were used against these men," Goodman said. "It is not the role of government to embark on a horrendous scheme to put these men in a situation where they are forced to bribe a federal

access to money anymore; my funding has dried up. I'm through unless I win."

Sarno had escaped any prison time, but was still in trouble with Circus Circus. Malin recalls to K.J. Evan of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, "About that time there was a gasoline crunch, and you could shoot a cannon down the Strip and not hit anybody. We didn't weather that. We lost \$5 (million) or \$6 million, so we leased it to Bill Bennett and Bill Pennington." Bennett was a casino-hotel executive with Del Webb Corp., and Pennington was his partner in a slot machine business. By May 1974 Sarno was relieved of his day to day duties at his beloved Circus Circus.

## A NEW VISION

After Bennett and Pennington took over, they soon realized the biggest problem with the casino could be turned into their biggest asset. While Sarno tried to bring in families as well as high rollers, Bennett and Pennington focused on getting middle class America as their clients.





their slot machines were better chosen, better maintained, better located, more popular and more profitable.

Another area of concern for the new partners was the midway games. Many of the concession stands and non-casino gaming areas were leased out to independent owners. "We had a few problems with concessions fleecing the customers, or at least conducting their operations in a way that made people angry," said Bennett in a 1975 interview re-printed by A.D. Hopkins of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Bennett and Pennington closed down the questionable operations and converted most to a midway department answerable to the hotel.

To further develop the midway area Bennett and Pennington removed the topless dancers and put in video games and additional children's games. All of these games were moved to the second floor. Adult gaming activities were, therefore, separated from children's activities in compliance with state gaming regulations.

Back when Sarno ran Circus Circus one of the midway gift shops was leased out to a known mob associate Tony Spilotro. Spilotro used the name Anthony Stuart on the lease and Sarno claimed to have no knowledge of Spilotro's involvement with the mob. When he did find out about Spilotro's true identity, he ordered him to close down the gift shop and leave Circus Circus.

## EXPANSION

By late 1974 Circus Circus was turning a profit, and plans to build a second hotel tower were in the works. This 29-story tower held 395 rooms and was completed in 1975.

Circus Circus provided low-cost rooms and food to attract vacationers looking for a bargain. \$28 rooms and inexpensive all-you-can-eat buffet meals brought hordes of people. Circus Circus casino was one of the busiest and most profitable gaming arenas on the Strip. Bennett and Pennington had turned Circus Circus into a new generation of casino. They had developed a family destination that just so happened to contain a casino.

Toward the end of the decade a 400-slot RV park was opened behind the casino. At only \$10 a night the RV park

They worked the family theme to their advantage. They found that many people driving into Las Vegas at the time did not have hotel reservations. So they advertised on radio stations that reached the highways surrounding Las Vegas.

Mel Larson, whom Bennett hired to market the casino, told A. D. Hopkins of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, "We advertised on rock stations, country stations, gospel stations ... everybody else was after the upper income people, but we just wanted a lot of folks."

The partners also realized that the slot machines in the casino were being neglected. Bennett saw that the casino managers usually came from the live gaming side and for the most part ignored the slot areas.

Bennett created a slot department with a head answering directly to the resort president. Soon





was yet another way that Bennett and Pennington reached the vacationing family with value and convenience.

In 1979 Circus Circus bought Slots-A-Fun casino located just to the south. Sarno built the smaller casino in 1973, and had to move the carousel out front to accommodate it. The small six year old casino was remodeled, but kept as a separate entity from Circus Circus.

In 1980 Circus Circus added the Circus Manor to its ever-growing list of hotel rooms. This grouping of five, three-story buildings had 810 hotel rooms and included a small casino, which has since been closed. The Manor rooms were located at the back edge of the property and attached to the RV park directly to the north. To keep the outcropping of hotels linked into the main casino, Circus Circus constructed an elevated monorail type car system. This reported \$5 million dollar project was named The Circus Sky Shuttle, and was completed in 1981. The Circus

Sky Shuttle carried casino goers from the main casino area to the various hotel out buildings in air conditioned comfort. The Circus Sky Shuttle is no longer in operation.

In 1982 the company spent \$7 million to remodel some of the older portions of the Circus Circus property. The casino, restaurant, and parking facilities were enlarged and a new front entrance marquee was built. But the demand for rooms still far out weighed the supply at the property. Bennett and Pennington knew they needed more capital to build another larger hotel tower. The lease that Bennett and Pennington agreed to from Sarno and Mallin back in 1974 came with an option to buy. In 1983 this option was exercised and Circus Circus went public.



Part of the 1982 remodel was this Rudy Crisanto designed porte cochere. Photo courtesy of MGM MIRAGE



The Circus Sky Shuttle taking patrons from the Circus Skyrise to the main casino. Courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.

The influx of cash from the public offering started plans for building the biggest hotel tower on the property. The 29-story tower named Circus Skyrise, contained 1,188 hotel rooms. The Circus Skyrise was located across Circus Circus Drive and was to contain its own casino, pool and connection to the shopping Promenade. Once completed in 1986, Circus Skyrise and the West Casino complex gave Circus Circus the largest gaming capacity in the industry.

Even with a room count of 2,793 rooms by 1986, Circus Circus was still not done expanding. Once The Adventuredome theme park was opened in 1993, Circus Circus opened the last of their hotel towers to help support the theme park. Located in the center of the property, The West Tower, a 35-story tower with 999 guest rooms, was opened in 1997. Featuring a luxurious new hotel lobby, shopping Promenade and dining facilities, The West Tower Promenade also serves as gateway to The Adventuredome.



# ADVENTUREDOME

complex just to the north. The 5 acre amusement park is fully enclosed by 8,615 panes of pink glass, with each pane weighing over 300 pounds. At a reported cost of \$90 million the amusement park initially failed to become the draw the executives envisioned. Circus Circus officials admitted that it was 'underattracted' and needed to be expanded.

According to The Adventuredome website <http://www.adventuredome.com> the park currently offers 25 rides and attractions including the Canyon Blaster roller coaster, the world's only indoor double-loop, double-corkscrew roller coaster

that speeds through The Adventuredome at 55 mph. Chaos, a thrill ride that whirls its riders in three ranges of motion. The speed and intensity of motion provides a totally unpredictable ride every time. There is also the Rim Runner boat climbing wall, 18-hole miniature golf course, an arcade and clown shows.

The park is open daily year-round and maintains a constant temperature of 72 degrees. In 2001 The Adventuredome welcomed its 20 millionth visitor, and was ranked 15th in visitor volume among North American theme parks by Amusement Business magazine.

## CURRENT STATUS

Circus Circus has transformed itself through an amazing amount of expanding, remodeling, reinventing, and general reworking. Although it opened in 1968 with no hotel rooms, it has grown into the mega-resort form that it is today. In 1999 Circus Circus Enterprises changed its



One of the biggest gambles taken by Circus Circus on their Las Vegas gaming complex was the decision to build America's largest indoor theme park. Opened on August 23, 1993, the Adventuredome (initially named Grand Slam Canyon) was built directly behind The West Tower and main casino, with Circus Manor







name to Mandalay Resort Group after it's Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino opened that same year. It stayed that way until April 26, 2005 when it was acquired by MGM Mirage for a reported \$7.9 billion.

According to the Circus Circus website, in it's current status Circus Circus stands on 68.30 acres and has 3,773 rooms. 3,638 are standard rooms and 135 are suites. There is over 101,286 square feet of gaming space located in three full-size casinos. Guests can try their luck on 2,255 slot machines, including video poker, keno and 21. Gaming tables include 53 Blackjack tables, four Craps tables, seven Roulette tables, one Big Six game, four Pai Gow Poker tables, one Caribbean Stud Poker table, two Let It Ride games, one Casino War game and 10 Poker tables in their poker room. There is a 160-seat Keno lounge on the main level of the Casino Tower as well as a full Race and Sports Book with a seating area featuring individual television sets to monitor sporting events.



## THE FINAL CURTAIN

While Circus Circus enjoys it's current successful business model, it's visionary and founder Jay Sarno met an untimely end in 1984 in a Caesars Palace hotel suite at the age of 63. His contributions to Las Vegas and casino gaming in general did not go unnoticed. In 1989 he was inducted into the Gaming Hall of Fame.

While he never built another resort after Circus Circus, that never stopped Jay from dreaming. His last vision was one so grand that he called it "The Grandissimo". It was to be a hotel of 6,000 rooms, cascading waterfalls, people movers directing traffic into the casino, similar to most casinos on the strip today. But Sarno could not raise the money for the project. His usual financing options such as the Teamsters pension funds were no longer available.

After Sarno retired from Circus Circus, he took to mentoring would-be hotel owners on how to create and

manage the mega-resorts that currently dot the strip. One of his students was Steve Wynn, who would later become the owner of the Golden Nugget and then the creator/owner of the Mirage, Treasure Island, and Bellagio and Wynn Las Vegas.

Bill Bennett's future with Circus Circus came to an end in the mid '90s. The troublesome opening of The Adventuredome in 1993, along with high construction costs and an opening filled with glitches at The Luxor just a few months later, cast a harsh light on Bennett. The growth of Circus Circus Enterprises slowed in 1994 at a time when other gaming companies were soaring. At one point the stock price had dropped from \$49 3/4 to 22 3/8. Bennett blamed the decline on the pre-opening costs for the Luxor and for the The Adventuredome, and predicted a quick turnaround. But stockholders were not satisfied and forced his resignation as Chairman in July 1994.

There was a dispute with Bennett and the Circus Circus board in 1995. Bennett (who was still a member of the Board of Directors) had attempted to purchase the site of the Hacienda Hotel. But Circus Circus was also a potential buyer. He was charged with violating his responsibilities as a Circus Circus board member. It led to a lawsuit, and in a 1995 settlement, Bennett relinquished all claims to the property and resigned from the board itself. The property became the site of Circus Circus' most luxurious property, Mandalay Bay.

As for Bill Pennington, Circus Circus decided to use it's winning Las Vegas casino model in Reno. They opened a Circus Circus Hotel Casino in Reno in 1978 and placed Pennington as the on-site manager. Pennington was then involved in a serious boating accident at Lake Tahoe in the mid-1980s. After his recovery he scaled back his day-to-day operations in the casino and eventually retired in 1988. He sold his remaining stake in the company in the mid-1990s.

The astounding success of Circus Circus was the result of a visionary casino developer in Jay Sarno. His concepts were the seed of an idea that was to become one of the most profitable casinos in the world. Pennington and Bennett's ability to refine Sarno's vision of a family-oriented market not previously attracted to Las Vegas allowed the vision to become a reality. They developed a system of accountability for resort management and casino floor design that is still being used in many casinos today.





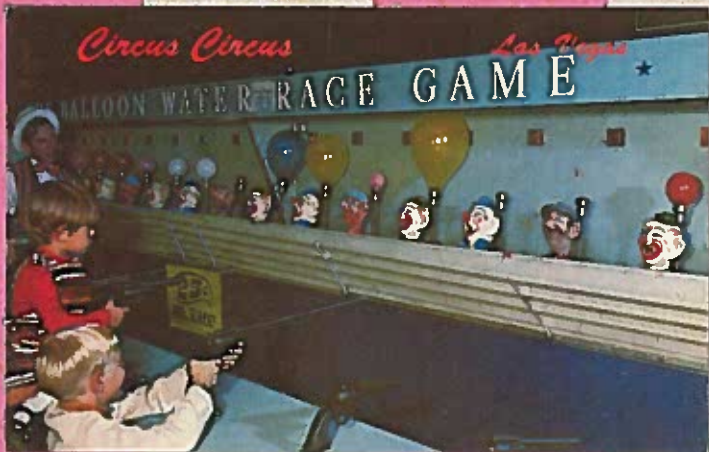
Circus  
Circus

Las Vegas



Circus  
Circus

Las Vegas



Circus  
Circus

Las  
Vegas

Postcards of some of the midway games offered at Circus Circus. Some as simple as "Bottles and Balls" which consisted of five beer cans stacked on a small stool; for which if all were knocked down you would receive one prize unit; to the multi player pinball style "Kentucky Derby" and "Greyhound"



A postcard of a very creepy game or souvenir maker named "Monkey Bizniz". Featuring a stuffed monkey staring out at the patron.



A series of Prize Unit chips from the midway games, including a very rare 100 Prize Unit chip that recently sold at auction. This one was cut on three sides for some reason.



# LEGEND

## 1ST FLOOR PLAN

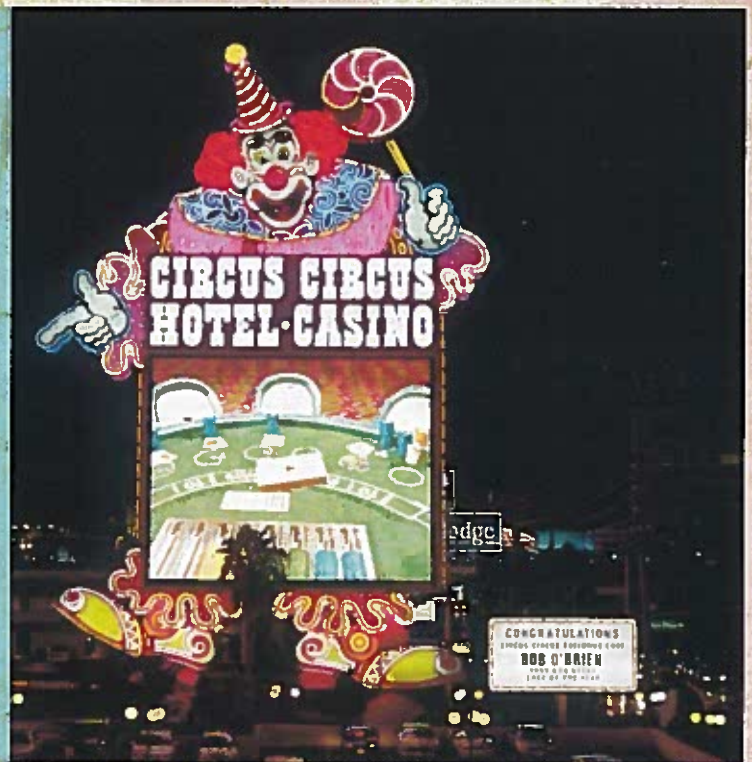
- 1 HIPPODROME BAR
- 2 PORTER
- 3 BALLS AND DOLLS
- 4 SKEE BALL
- 5 SLOT CAROUSEL
- 6 RING MASTERS CLUB
- 7 HORSE RACE DERBY
- 8 ZAMBORA THE GORILLA GIRL
- 9 BASKETBALL TOSS
- 10 RACOONS
- 11 FIBEROPTIC SHOOTING GALLERY
- 12 JUICEROO
- 13 COIN COUNT
- 14 ENTRANCE
- 15 SUPER RAFFLE
- 16 ARCADE GAMES
- 17 SPEEDWAY SCOOTER CARS
- 18 DING-A-LING-A-RING BAR
- 19 GREYHOUND RACE
- 20 CASINO CASHIERS CAGE
- 21 WATER BALLOON RACE
- 22 MEN'S LOUNGE
- 23 WOMEN'S LOUNGE
- 24 NUTTERY
- 25 NORTH ENTRANCE
- 26 SNACK TRAIN
- 27 POKER PARLOR
- 28 KENO
- 29 DARK ROOM
- 30 CASINO

## 2ND FLOOR PLAN

- 31 METROPOLE BUFFET
- 32 CAFE METROPOLE
- 33 EXECUTIVE OFFICES
- 34 REDEMPTION CENTER AND GIFT SHOP
- 35 HORSE-A-ROUND BAR
- 36 PORTRAIT ARTIST
- 37 COMPUTER HOROSCOPE
- 38 MAGIC MANSION
- 39 LOUNGE BOX
- 40 PHOTO BUTTON
- 41 WATER BALLOON RACE
- 42 DART TOSS
- 43 ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA
- 44 MISS BOBBY'S DRESS SHOP
- 45 PEEP SHOW
- 46 SHOOTING GALLERY
- 47 NUTTERY
- 48 LOUNGE BOX
- 49 WEENER WAGON
- 50 PIN BALL ARCADE
- 51 PIN BALLS
- 52 POSTER HOUSE
- 53 PAGLIACCI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT
- 54 LOUNGE BOX
- 55 HANDWRITING ANALYST
- 56 BAND STAND
- 57 SUPER DUCK
- 58 PREFERRED EQUITIES HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 59 FASCINATION
- 60 GREYHOUND RACE
- 61 BUNNY BANK
- 62 ENTERTAINMENT PLATFORM

An early layout of the Circus Circus Casino. This floor plan shows how the midway games were on both the first and second floors at first. Notable areas include #1, The Hippodrome Bar, #8, Zambora The Gorilla Girl, who was featured along with Jay Sarno in the 1971 James Bond Film "Diamonds are Forever". The Peep Show at #45, something that Bennett and Pennington removed once they took over. The #35 Horse-A-Round Bar, the #18 Ding-A-Ling-A-Ring Bar. Courtesy of Pam Goertler.

Designed by Dan Edwards in 1976, the 123' tall "Lucky The Clown" marquee was built in place of the carousel that Jay Sarno had installed in 1968. YESCO constructed the sign that is one of the most recognizable landmarks on the Las Vegas strip. When originally installed the center portion of the sign was simply a manual message board. Special offers and features were spelled out by plastic letters put in place manually. In 1983 the backlit plastic letter message board was replaced with a state of the art electronic LED board as shown on the right. The 84 ton marquee commands attention and reinforces the casinos theme.







Courtesy of MGM MIRAGE



Circus Circus also produces interesting and desirable Limited Edition chips such as the 6 piece stacker set at the top of the page, the \$25.00 1999 New Year's chip above, and the 2001, \$5.00 4th of July chip on the right.

Thanks to Pam Goertler for the use of the matchbooks, brochures, swizzle sticks and soap images.

Thanks to James Campiglia for the scans of the Circus Circus 1st Issue chips on page 20.

Thanks to Terry Shaffer for scans of his Prize Unit chips.

Thanks to David Spragg and Ricky Pushkin for the use of the Limited Edition chips.

Thanks to Phil Jensen for the use of his postcards.





# SITE MAP



- 1) Original "Big Top" casino structure (1968)
- 2) 15-story Casino Tower (1972)
- 3) 29-story Skyrise Tower (1975)
- 4) Adventuredome (1993)
- 5) Circus Circus Manor Rooms (1980)
- 6) 399 space RV Park
- 7) 35-story West Tower (1997)
- 8) AJ Hackett Bungee Jumping
- 9) Defunct Circus Sky Shuttle tracks

- 10) Travelodge Las Vegas
- 11) Lucky The Clown Marquee
- 12) Slots-A-Fun Casino
- 13) Sky Las Vegas Condos
- 14) Hilton Grand Vacations Suites
- 15) Fontainebleau Las Vegas (project)

Map courtesy of Google



[www.all-chips.com](http://www.all-chips.com)

**LAS VEGAS**

Specializing in rare old obsolete  
Atlantic City and Las Vegas Chips

FREE SHIPPING "over \$25."

**ATLANTIC CITY**

The Largest Atlantic City  
Casino Chip selection  
in the world!

All The Las Vegas  
New Release chips

Cruise, Foreign, Ships, Japan

Very User Friendly Web Site

Now large selection of US  
and non US and cruise chips

CC&GTCC & ACCCCC  
want to join? email me @  
[all-chips@comcast.net](mailto:all-chips@comcast.net)

I would love to sponsor you

Free Add chips with orders !!!  
Fastest Service

Ricky Pushkin  
[ricky@all-chips.com](mailto:ricky@all-chips.com)  
CC & GTCC LM-6038-134

ACCCCC R-583

P.O. Box 51  
Stevenson, MD 21153

[www.all-chips.com](http://www.all-chips.com)

All the new and old limited  
edition chips from every Casino

Playing Cards  
Dice  
New & Used

[www.all-chips.com](http://www.all-chips.com)

• SPECIAL •

**10% OFF**

for orders over \$100

Go to [www.all-chips.com](http://www.all-chips.com) and place your order.

Then e-mail me at [ricky@all-chips.com](mailto:ricky@all-chips.com) and mention that you have a coupon,  
I will refund 10% back to your PayPal account or your credit card

Expires 3/31/2010



# Boots Place,

# Dogs

# &

# The Tin Shack



By Jim Linduff

A recent match book purchase initiated research resulting in learning about dog fighting in Northern Kentucky, a series of murders that took place associated with prostitution and drugs and more information about the Tin Shack in Newport, a joint that may have used a much sought after Northern Kentucky illegal chip.

The common thread in our story is John (Boots) Taulbee, a person often described in print as a “prominent member of the Newport underworld” who was born in about 1891 and quickly became associated with gambling, prostitution and drugs in the Newport “bottoms” area, near the Ohio river bank, a run-down series of streets lined with bust out bars, whore houses and illegal

drug sellers.

In June, 1927 Boots faced murder charges stemming from a fight at the “home” of Mary Jane Rohan, 432 W. 4th Street, who was a madam and dope dealer. Several young men from Cincinnati attempted to visit Rowan’s whore house at about 3 am and were denied entrance by Taulbee

who pistol whipped and shot one of the men, Victor Neff. Neff died an hour later from injuries to the head and a gun shot wound to the leg. Taulbee denied the shooting saying that the intruders had the gun which was discharged during the fight.

Boots was acquitted by a jury in Campbell County after convincing them that the intruding youths broke



Newport “bottoms”. W. 3rd. Street



windows and tried to kick down the door and that Taulbee acted in self defense even though previously denying having a gun. After deliberating 45 minutes, the jury agreed with their fellow Campbell County resident Boots and he was free even though his criminal record included several arrests for fighting and a jail term for stealing cars.

Later that year, Sue Taulbee, who ran a whiskey still in her house and restaurant at 343 Isabella Street was fined a whopping \$9.50 for operating the still. While not confirmed, it is likely that Boots was involved with this family enterprise: it fit in his area of interest and he subsequently ran the location as Boot's Place.



Troops destroy stills, 1920s

Mary Jane Rohan next appears in court in 1928 when a Cincinnati man died of strychnine poisoning from home brew made by Rohan (and perhaps her companion Boots) at a joint run by Rohan near Isabella Street. After a five year "effort" on the part of the Newport police Rohan was jailed in connection with a drug bust and in 1934 entered prison for 5 years.

Feeling the pressure prior to her conviction on drug charges, Rohan and her companion Boots purchased property in Cold Spring, Kentucky, then a rural area south of Newport. In early 1931 they began operating dog fights on weekends. Dogs fought to the death and Boots was the alleged owner of the toughest bull who won several fights for a purse. Spectators bet on the outcome and several fights were held each day. Dog fighting had been reported in Northern Kentucky as early as the late 1800s, but Boots and Rohan revived the "sport" in conjunction with fights taking place in Hamilton, Ohio.

Despite pressure from the public, Campbell County officials could never find sufficient evidence to convict anyone because their raid plans were tipped off. During this period Boots operated the Taulbee Restaurant at 343 Isabella

Street, renaming it Boot's Place and advertising the joint to be where "All Good Dogmen Meet" and as the "Terrier



Inn". The pit bull is in the terrier family and the notations on the matches were thinly disguised advertisement for his dog fighting enterprise.

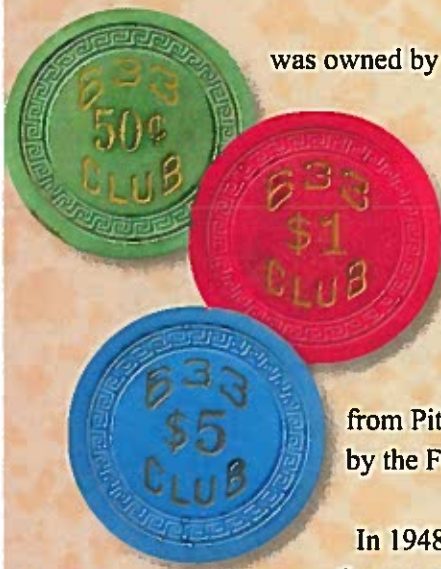


When Mary Jane Rohan went to jail in 1934, the dog fights had run their course and Boots turned to other interests including the robbery of Nash Tailoring Company in Covington, Kentucky. The case was continued several times and subsequently dropped by the Covington police when a bartender at a local saloon testified that Boots had been a customer at the bar during the time of the robbery.

Boots continued to manage west end joints during the early 1940s including a bar at 316 W. 4th Street, long a bust out gambling location and whore house. The place







was owned by the notorious Farley Brothers, Rip and Taylor, bootleggers out of Clay County who also owned other Newport sewers and in 1946 attempted to rob the Flamingo Club only to be shot (Rip died in the shooting) by a hit man from Pittsburgh who was brought in by the Flamingo owners.

In 1948, Boots became listed as the owner of the Tin Shack at 309

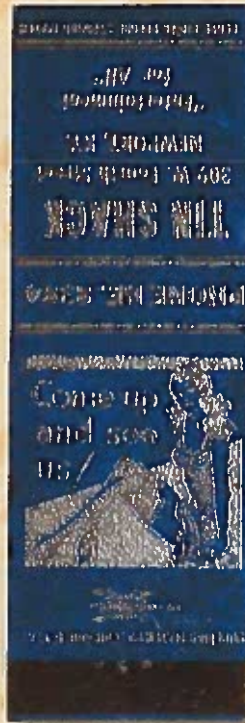
W. 4th Street, across the street from the 316 Bar. He ran the joint until the early 1950s when the area was razed by the Newport Housing Authority where low income row houses were constructed.

The Tin Shack remains somewhat of a mystery, but gambling did take place there and a red lazy diamond mold chip has been offered as being from the location. The lazy diamond mold was distributed by White's Card Room Equipment Co., Cincinnati, OH during the time frame of the operation of the Tin Shack and the hot stamp inlay of "309" is consistent with the joint's address.



Given the connection with the address and the fact that the lazy diamond mold showed up in other Northern Kentucky locations including the Woodland Inn, The Sandwich Shop and the Press Club, the Tin Shack chip is as well attributed as many in our hobby. It is somewhat unusual to find chips from the west end bottoms of Newport where most bars were cash operations, but the Merchants Club several blocks east of the Tin Shack had verified chips so it's possible that the Tin Cup did also.

While the design of the chip and the 309 address would point to a "soft" attribution, there are a couple of other considerations that



further muddy the water.

As pictured to the left, the matches from the Tin Cup circa 1948-1949, advertise "Entertainment for All" and "Come Up and See Us". "Entertainment for All" was a common advertising gimmick to indicate the black patrons were allowed. Further "Come up and see us" suggests patrons from the bottoms were being targeted, since only the bottoms streets were below 4th Street.

Even the name Tin Shack implies the joint was modest at best. Two "survivors" of the period both remember the club from the outside,

at least. Their rather fuzzy recollections sixty years later, indicate the Tin Shack was a true knife and gun club...if you tried to enter without either, they gave you one!

In all the research about Northern Kentucky chips, it is generally agreed that clubs from the bottoms area rarely if ever used chips in their gambling operations. The major clubs from this area included the Alibi Club, The Copa Club, The Golden Lounge and the Sportsman's Club and ran cash-only operations in their gambling rooms. Chips and club specific dice have never been found.



Alibi Club





Also, the buildings in the area were for the most part, wooden structures, cheaply constructed and often originally built for single family occupancy. For instance, the aforementioned Mary Jane Rohan's house at 432 West 4th Street was sold for \$268 when she was sent to prison. Therefore, any gambling/whore houses in that area wouldn't likely buy chips...cash was the only name of the game.

Given all of this, I continue to consider the 309 chip to be a UFC.



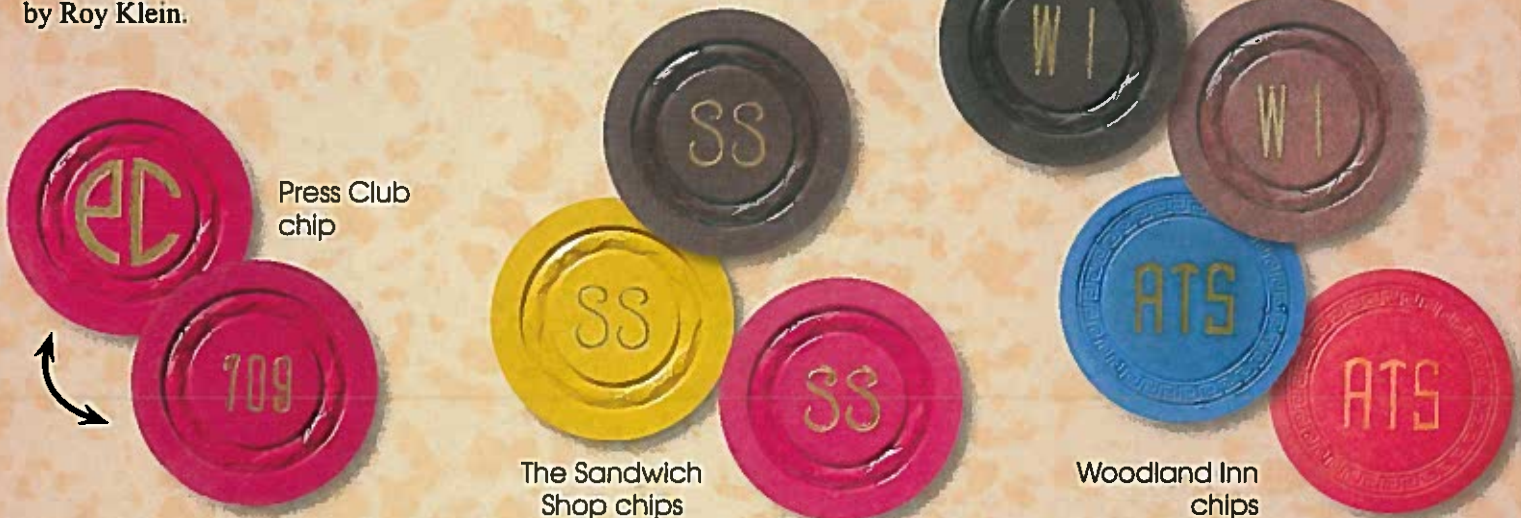
Copa Club, white building in center of photo

Boots Taulbee died in May, 1955 at age 64. While not as well known as several of the other local characters that preceded the control of Northern Kentucky vice by the Cleveland Syndicate, Boots certainly did his part in keeping sin alive, be it booze, dope or whores; stirring in dog fighting and murder for a complete underworld mix. Suffice it to say, he was not missed by most public officials (those not on the take), but he made for lively reporting by the newspapers and along with guys like Buck Brady, Peter Schmidt, Jimmy Brink and the Farley Brothers defined the early gambling scene.

Thanks to Roy Klein and Larry Trapp for their assistance in providing material for this article. All chip images provided by Roy Klein.



Merchants Club chips



Press Club chip

The Sandwich Shop chips

Woodland Inn chips







# THE DECADE WAS THE 1930S...

In 1930 families gathered around the radio, to laugh while comedian Eddie Cantor baited orchestra leader David Rubinoff. Listeners sang along to George Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm", they swayed and hummed as they listened to "Body and Soul" and "Georgia on my Mind".

The family could go to the movie theater to see the 1930 Academy Award winning motion picture "All Quiet on the Western Front", or perhaps "The Big Trail" which was John Wayne's first leading role.

The stock market, which had started its descent on "Black Thursday", October 24, 1929, kept falling through 1930 and 1931. It finally bottomed out at 41.22 on July 8, 1932, after a high of 381.17 on September 3, 1929...a drop of 89%. The stock market crash triggered the Great Depression; a time when banks failed, businesses failed and people lost their savings, their jobs and their homes.

In 1930 the average income was \$1,970 and a new house cost an average of \$7,145; those figures would drop after a few more years of the depression. A 1930 Buick would set the buyer back \$1,195, a dime would buy a gallon of gas, and a postage stamp was 2 cents. Astronomers discovered Pluto, the 9th planet; Vannevar Bush, an electrical engineer and physicist, invented the "differential analyzer"—the first analog computer.

According to the Las Vegas Review-Journal, on December 6, 1930, federal agents made a raid and arrested nine bartenders from such spots as the Jazz, LaSalle, Green Lantern, Blue Goose, Honolulu Inn, Mineral, Brown Derby and Triangle Clubs. Federal prohibition was in effect until December 5, 1933.

Work began on the Boulder Dam project on September 17, 1930. Prior to that, thousands of desperate families had flocked to Las Vegas, from all over the country, in hopes of being hired as a dam worker. After the hiring was done, hundreds of the still-unemployed stayed in Vegas. Many of them slept on the lawns of the courthouse, across from the federal employment office. Every morning there would be a line of men, a block and a half long, hoping to be hired. About a hundred men a day would quit their dam jobs, because they couldn't stand the heat which went over 120 degrees some days, a few would be fired for not producing a full-day's work for their \$4 a day pay. The call would go

down to the one-room office in Las Vegas "We need 10 muckers and 15 drillers..." The hiring would be done and the workers would pile onto trucks for the bumpy 25-mile ride to Black Canyon.

## 1931



In 1931 Al Capone was sentenced to 11 years in prison for income tax evasion. Francis Scott Key's The Star Spangled Banner officially became the National Anthem.

Federal spending was \$3.58 billion; unemployment was 16.3%. The Empire State Building was completed. The Saint



Louis Cardinals won the World Series and Montreal defeated Chicago to claim the Stanley Cup. The first traffic light was installed on Fremont Street, in Las Vegas.



Nevada was the place to go if you wanted a divorce. In the 1920s, divorce was barely tolerated, causing society matrons to look down their patrician noses at anyone who would indulge in such scandalous behavior! In Nevada, however, divorce was accepted and residency requirements had been dropped from six months to three months. Then, in 1931, the residency requirements were dropped to a mere six weeks and Nevada could market itself as the place to come and have fun in the sun, while you waited out your six weeks. Many stars and socialites who sought a divorce headed for Reno, which became known as the divorce-capitol of the world.



## THE NORTHERN CLUB AND MAYME STOCKER-LAS VEGAS

In 1911 Oscar Stocker arrived in Las Vegas, with his wife Mayme and their three sons. With no streets or sidewalks and no flowers, grass or trees, Las Vegas seemed to be on the doorstep of hell. Still, tired of moving every few years because of Oscar's job with the railroad, the Stockers vowed to stay in Las Vegas as long as possible. Like other members of the community, they hiked to the "Old Ranch" on hot summer days, to picnic and spend a few hours relaxing in the shade of the big trees that surrounded the ranch house. They listened to Ben Emrick and his band performing on Saturday nights, they cooled off at Ladd's Swimming Pool on East Fremont Street and they went to the Princess Theater to watch movies.

The 18th amendment went into law in 1920, forbidding the manufacture, sale or transport of intoxicating liquors. The law was widely disregarded by the thousands of speakeasies that operated throughout the country. The Stockers opened the Northern Club on Mayme's birthday, September 5, 1920; to those in the know, the name indicated that they offered more than just soft drinks. Since the railroad frowned on their employees being involved in anything like drinking or gambling, Mayme was the owner of the club. The Stockers served only mixed drinks insuring that, in the event of a federal raid, they couldn't be accused of selling liquor... at least not without the proof from a costly analysis. While wide-open gambling wasn't legalized until 1931, there were five games that were legal before that: stud, draw, and lowball poker, as well as "500" and bridge. During the 1920's, The Northern offered those games under the guidance of Mayme's son Harold, who had learned to deal the games when he was 17; he'd spent the summer working

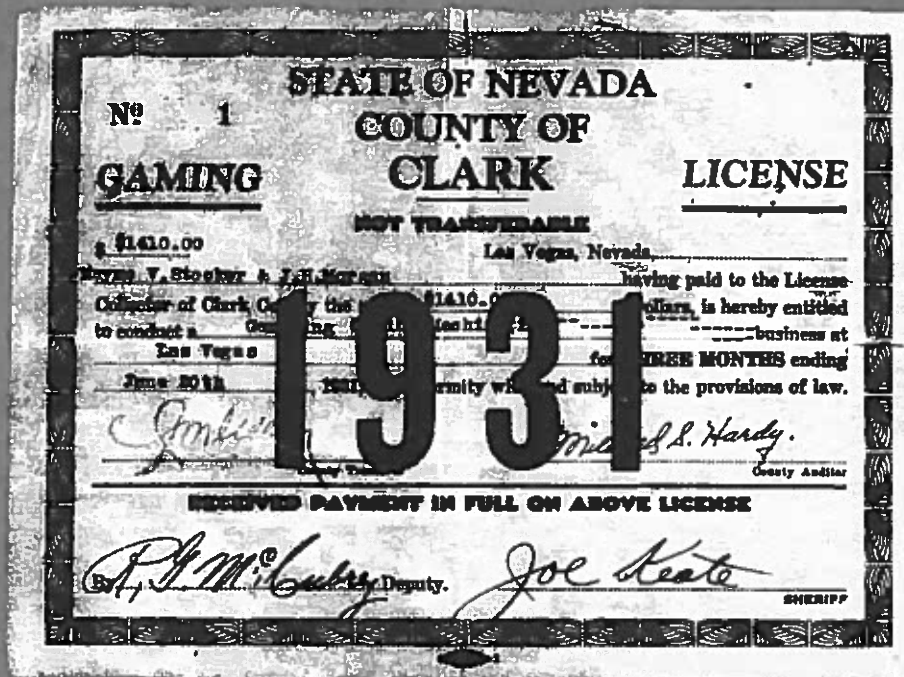
at a casino in Tijuana, where there were no age restrictions.

Mayme's son Lester was a professional gambler who was trying to get wide-open gambling legalized in Nevada. According to his brother Harold, Lester had tried but failed to get it passed in 1925, 1927 and 1929. In 1930 Lester called a meeting with some club owners, businessmen and politicians. The meeting was held at a table in the back of the Northern Club. Reportedly an un-named person said "If I had some money to spread around, I could probably get it done." The Stockers and their partners contributed much of the \$10,000 that was requested. Harold didn't know (or

care) where the money went from there, but Phil Tobin introduced the gambling bill, and it was passed. In a 1970 interview Tobin said that all he made from the deal was three bottles of scotch...he was "just plumb sick and tired of seeing gamblin' going on all over the state, payoffs being made all over the place". On March

19, 1931, wide-open gambling was legalized. It only seems appropriate that the first gambling license issued in Clark County went to Mayme Stocker and the Northern Club, which was located at 15 Fremont Street. According to Fuller's Index, the Club was licensed for 21, craps, roulette, poker and pan.

Harold and his brothers ran the club, while Mayme ran the hotel that was above the club. In 1943 the Stockers leased out the casino, which was renamed the Turf Club and Bar, but Clarence Stocker continued to operate the hotel. Mayme Stocker passed away in 1972, at the age of 97.



The first gaming license issued by Clark County for Mayme Stocker and the Northern Club. Notice the \$1,410.00 fee per quarter!

## THE LAS VEGAS CLUB-LAS VEGAS

In 1929 John Kell Houssels moved from California to



Osborne, and Chet Carpenter. Nick hired Bill Graham to work at the Tonopah Club-Bill's first involvement with Nevada gambling. Bill would soon team up with James McKay and the pair would be two of the most influential men in Reno's early gambling history. The Tonopah Club was first licensed on March 23, 1931; it closed in 1974.

## CAL-NEVA LODGE-CRYSTAL BAY



The original Cal-Neva Lodge, at Crystal Bay on the north shore of Lake Tahoe, was constructed in 1926 by San Francisco businessman Robert Sherman. The Lodge, built to

resemble a log cabin, was used as a guest house for Sherman's friends and real estate clients. It quickly became popular among celebrities who wanted to escape, for a time, from public view. Continuing the connection between the Cal-Neva and the rich-and-famous, in 1928 the Cal-Neva came into the hands of Norman Biltz, known as the "Duke of Nevada". In 1930 Biltz married Esther Auchincloss Nash, who was a granddaughter of the founder of Standard Oil and an aunt of Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis.

On March 23, 1931 the Cal-Neva received one of the first gaming licenses to be issued in Nevada.

On May 17, 1937 the Cal-Neva Lodge burned to the

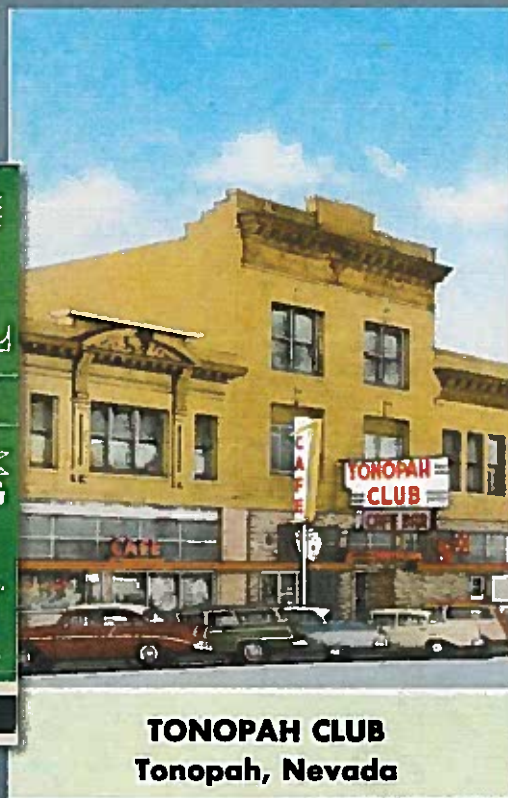


Las Vegas. He paid \$6,000 for one-third interest in the Smoke Shop, at 21-23 Fremont Street and renamed it the Las Vegas Club. When gambling was legalized in 1931 he and his partners J.F. Hordon and A.F. Gillmore were among the first to receive a license for their club. They remodeled their business to accommodate slots, blackjack, craps, roulette and keno, in addition to poker.

In 1949 The Las Vegas Club moved across the street to occupy a portion of the Overland Hotel building. They still occupy that location, though it's undergone many renovations and expansions.

## TONOPAH CLUB- TONOPAH

Nick Ableman opened the Tonopah Club in 1913, along with James McKay, Charles Brown, G.T.



**TONOPAH CLUB  
Tonopah, Nevada**

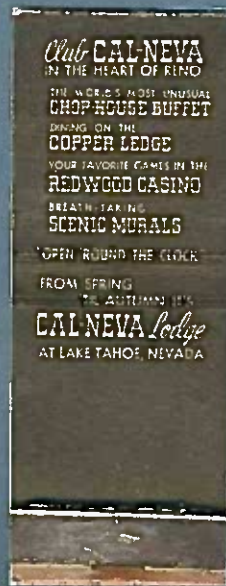




A beautiful Interior shot of the Cal-Neva Lodge from 1947



ground. Cal-Neva was only open from spring until autumn (have you seen the snow they get up there?), so something had to be done quickly to save the season. Biltz employed 500 men to work around the clock, and the new lodge was built in 30 days, in time to accommodate the summer visitors. The new building included the Indian Room and Circle Bar, as well as a large new casino area. A gold and silver line was added, indicating where the Cal-Neva is divided by the California-Nevada state line.



The Cal-Neva underwent many changes, as it operated under several owners over the years. From 1960-1963 Frank Sinatra owned the Cal-Neva. Two of the changes that Sinatra made were the addition

of a helicopter pad on the roof and the building of the Celebrity Showroom.

Several years ago my husband and I were at the Cal-Neva and requested a tour of the tunnels. The club wasn't terribly busy and a security guard took us on the tour. He explained that a series of tunnels had been built during prohibition, when the original lodge was constructed. Boatloads of booze could be brought over the lake and stored in the tunnels, to be brought out as needed for the guests of the lodge. During later years the tunnels were often used by celebrities to bypass the public while going to and from the showroom. We were shown one cabin on the premises that was reserved for

Frank Sinatra's use, or the use of his personal guests. We were shown another cabin, next door, that was reserved for Marilyn Monroe. Both of those cabins contained direct access to the tunnel system, insuring complete privacy as the occupants went to and from the showroom or to and



ABOVE: George Goertler (Right), four guide, and a Marilyn Monroe cardboard cut out at the entrance of one of the tunnels beneath The Cal-Neva Lodge.



LEFT: Tunnels have since been closed off.





Exit of one of the Cal-Neva tunnels in the Marilyn Monroe suite. The trap door is now sealed and carpet is laid over it.

from each others cabins. The guard told us that the wicker furniture in Marilyn's cabin was the same that was there when she used it, but the round bed that she used had been removed a few years earlier. Most of the tunnels had been closed off over the years, but it was still pretty cool to see what was left. The tour ended in the Celebrity Room, where Sinatra's piano still occupied the stage. We were allowed to go on the stage and play the piano, unfortunately I can't play the piano...sigh...

During the Sinatra era the Cal-Neva enjoyed a popularity that it had never known before, and would never know again. Some of the stars that performed in the Celebrity Room were Dean Martin, Trini Lopez, Vic Damone, Juliet Prowse, the McGuire Sisters and, of course, Marilyn Monroe and Frank Sinatra. Peter Lawford was a buddy of Sinatra's and visited the Cal-Neva, as did Lawford's brother-in-law the soon-to-be President John F. Kennedy. It was reported that Kennedy was granted the use of Sinatra's cabin, while Marilyn was in residence at her cabin.

Another visitor to the Cal-Neva was Sam "Momo" Giancana, of Chicago. His visits coincided with appearances by the McGuire Sisters, including his girlfriend Phyllis McGuire. Unfortunately for Sinatra, Giancana was one of the initial eleven names in Nevada's "black

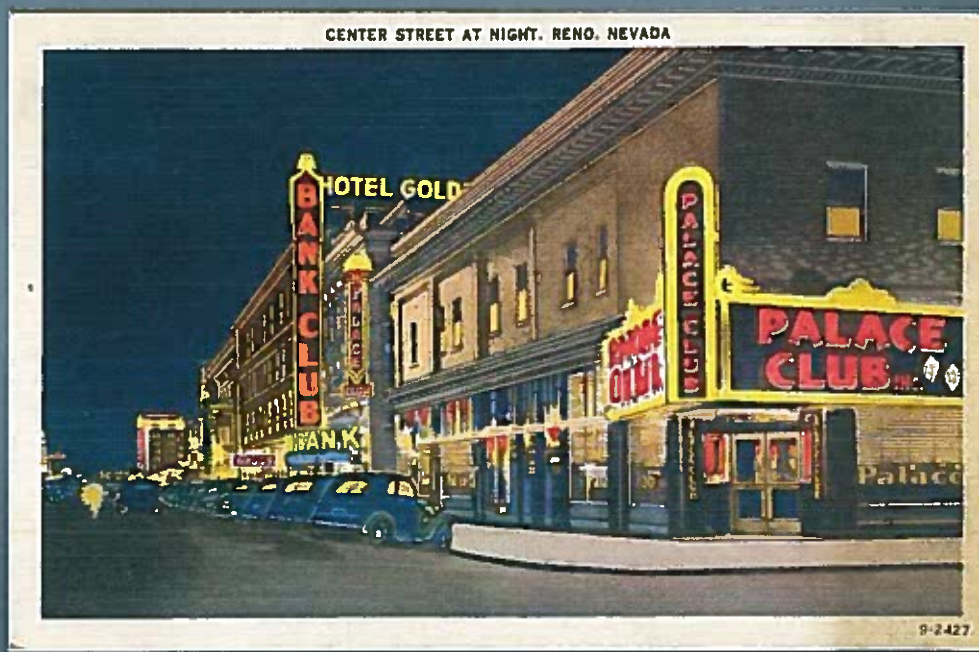
book"...the list of names of persons who are barred from casinos. Admitting a black-listed person to a casino was asking for trouble with the Gaming Control Board and, in spite of Sinatra's arguments, Giancana's visits to the Cal-Neva cost Sinatra his gaming license and he was forced to sell the club.

From 1985 until 2005, after a period of neglect, the Cal-Neva was owned by Charles Bluth. Bluth restored the Indian Room, the casino and the main entrance to their original 1937 designs which include open-beamed ceilings and a slate floor in the entry-way. By the time all of the renovations were complete, the Cal Neva Lodge had become the Cal Neva Resort and Spa, with 200 lake-view rooms, cabins and chalets; a full service wedding and honeymoon facility; a florist, photography studio, video arcade, pizzeria, and a complete European Health Spa.

In 2005 the property was sold again, to the Nameal LLC. In December of 2008 Nameal defaulted on a 26.8 million dollar loan (for three adjoining parcels-the largest of which holds the Cal-Neva), and Canyon Partners, a Los Angeles based investment group, took possession of the Resort. In April 2009 two auctions were held, one in Nevada and one in California; with an opening bid of \$15 million for the Nevada portion, the Resort failed to sell.

## BANK CLUB-RENO

The Bank Palace Club originally opened around 1890, at 239 North Center Street, and closed in 1910, when gambling was outlawed. In the 1920s the Club reopened







with a casino operating illegally in the basement. On March 30, 1931, the second gambling license to be issued in Reno went to the Bank Club with James McKay, Bill Graham and Ray Kindle named as the licensees. The



main floor was enlarged to house a casino that was nearly 5,000 square feet—the largest in the state. A new façade was added to the

building, and an electric keno board, with 1000 light bulbs, was installed. In addition to keno, the new club offered two roulette tables, two craps tables,

two blackjack games, three faro games, hazard, pan, stud poker and a slot machine. On April 25, 1931, the newly renovated Bank Club held their Grand Opening.

Jack Sullivan and Tex Hall came to Reno, from Ely, in the 1920's. Both of them went to work for Graham and McKay; Sullivan became manager of the Bank Club. Tex Hall worked at the Bank Club until he was sent to jail in



1935, convicted of conspiracy to harbor one of America's most wanted criminals...George "Baby Face" Nelson.

During the late 1930s and 1940s the Bank Club was the most popular casino in Reno; even the owners and bosses of other clubs gathered there to have an after-work drink and catch up on the events of the day. Bill Harrah often visited the Bank Club during the wee hours of the morning. One day a bartender from the Bank Club stole a \$1 slot machine out of Harrah's Blackout Bar. Jack Sullivan thought that he and Harrah should handle the

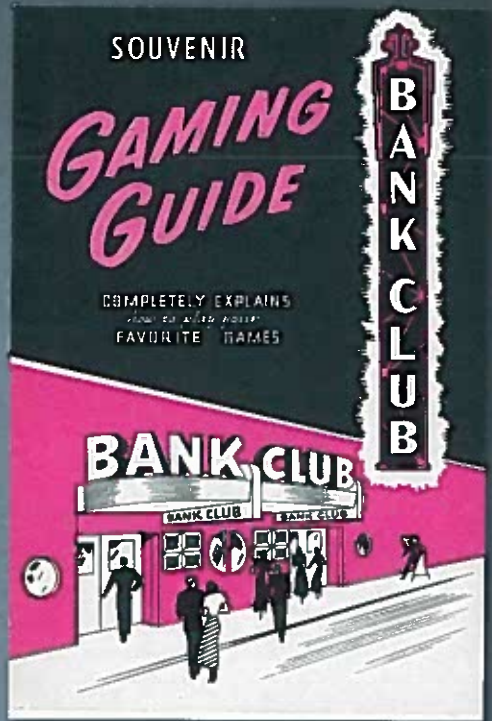
problem. Harrah didn't agree, he reported the theft to the police and testified against the bartender who was sent to jail. Harrah was never again welcomed in the Bank Club.

In 1950 Jack Sullivan sold his share of the Bank Club back to Graham and McKay. Then, in 1952 Graham became the sole lessee. He

negotiated a 20-year lease with Frank Hofues, owner of the Golden Hotel, and the casino became known as the Golden Bank. In 1954 Hofues sold the Golden Hotel to James and William Tommerlin. Soon the Tommerlins and their partners bought out the years that remained on the casinos lease. Effective on December 1, 1955, the Tommerlins were licensed by the state for nearly 300 slot machines and a dozen table games. That was the end of Bill Graham's career as a Reno casino owner. On April 3, 1962, the Golden Hotel and the Golden Bank Casino were destroyed by fire.

## BOULDER CLUB-LAS VEGAS

The Boulder Club was opened in 1929 by P.J. Goumond, Clyde Hatch, J.V. Murphy and Walter Watson. It was advertised as a club for gentlemen, where cigars, cigarettes and soft drinks were available. On April 1, 1931 the

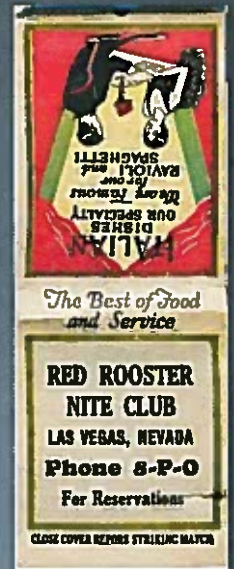
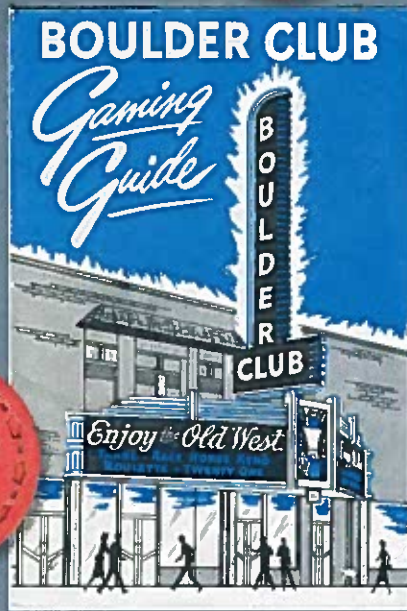




offerings were expanded to include slots, 21, craps, big 6, faro, keno and poker. The Boulder Club closed in 1960, and the Fremont Street property was taken over by the Horseshoe Club.

## RED ROOSTER-LAS VEGAS

Alice Wilson Morris opened the Red Rooster, on the L.A. Highway (later the address would be known as 3201 Las Vegas Boulevard South), in 1931. The single story building had a stage for a singer and orchestra, a dance floor and a restaurant. It also served liquor... during prohibition. In February 1931

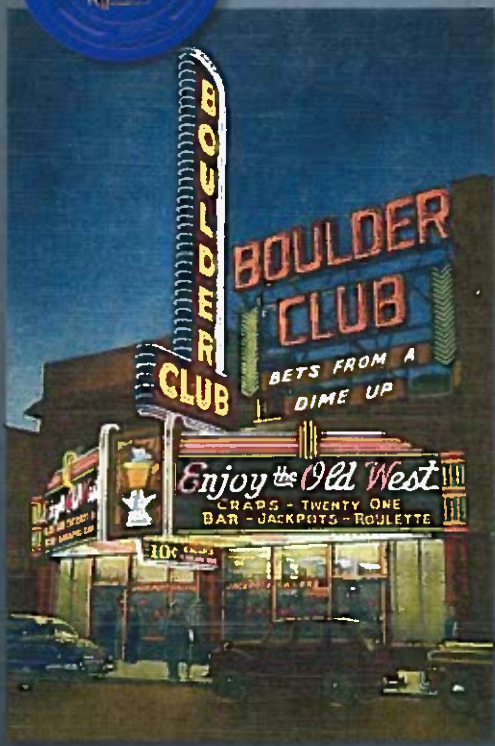


A Red Rooster Promo shot from 1946. Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections

a federal marshal ordered the Red Rooster to stop selling alcohol, or they would risk being shut down by federal agents. The management of the club complied with the order...for awhile.

On April 1, 1931, the Red Rooster received a license to operate one blackjack table and three slot machines. Then, in July, the club was raided by federal agents who found that liquor was again being sold. Morris was charged with illegal liquor sales and the Red Rooster earned the dubious honor of being the first casino to lose its gambling license.

In 1933, after prohibition was repealed, the county granted the Red Rooster a license to serve beer. In July of 1933 the Club burned to the ground. Like a phoenix, it





quickly rose from the ashes and reopened on December 30, 1933; the club soon regained its former popularity.



In 1947 actress Grace Hayes bought the club and renamed it the Grace Hayes Lodge. A motel, also known as an "auto court", named the Sans Souci had been added to the property. Hayes changed the club's name back to the Red Rooster and sold the club in 1950, only to buy it back a year later. In 1953 she sold the club again.

The club was sold several more times and operated under various names including Hi-Ho and the Patio Club. From 1955 until 1962 it operated as the Sans Souci Hotel. In 1963 the Castaways was built on the site; in 1987 it closed. The Mirage, which opened in 1989, is the current occupant of the property.

## BRUNSWICK CLUB-RENO

Licensed for poker and pan only, on April 1, 1931, The Brunswick was a small club that was located in the Golden Hotel. The Brunswick closed in 1946 when the Golden Hotel was sold.

## LAWTON'S HOT SPRINGS-RENO

In the 1880s Sumner Laughton opened a resort about five miles west of Reno. He intended to call the resort "Laughton's Hot Springs", but the first signs were spelled wrong and he didn't have them changed...thus "Lawton's Hot Springs".

The Mark Yori family bought the resort in the 1920s and it became known for its large swimming pool and tree-filled



park areas, as well as the 130 degree mineral baths that it was famous for. Max Baer, later the world heavyweight boxing champion, used it as a training camp in the early 1930s. The resort often closed during the winter months, and the operations of casinos, bars, clubs and restaurants were sporadic as various people leased and operated the property.

Early in the 1930s Felix Turillas and John Etchebarren leased the resort from Yori, and on April 7, 1931 they were licensed for one craps game, one roulette wheel and seven slot machines.

Gene Rovetti operated club Lawton in 1936 and 1937. In 1938 there were eight greyhound dog races each night, with a ten-cent admission charge. In 1939 John Hieckoek opened a bar, club and dining room.

The property continued to operate under various owners and lessees, under several different names (including Holiday Lodge) until 1982.



## NORTHERN CLUB-RENO

The Northern Club, on the ground floor of the Commercial Hotel at 207 North Center Street, was one of the earliest casinos in Reno to be granted a license. The casino, owned by Felix Turillas Sr. and John Etchebarren,







opened in the Spring of 1931 with craps, hazard, faro, 21, a big-six wheel, pan, stud poker and three slot machines. In May of 1936 a \$4,000 limit keno game was added. The Northern operated until December of 1940, when it was sold and renamed the Barn.



## WALDORF CLUB-RENO

In April of 1931 the Waldorf Club, located at 142 North Virginia Street, received their first gambling license... for five slot machines. Over the next few months Robert Preston and Charles Brenda, owners of the club, added



various table games. In addition to the casino, the Waldorf had a smoke shop, a barber shop, a sandwich bar and offered Coca-Cola soft drinks.

In December 1932 Robert Preston died, leaving his share of the club to his widow Mildred. Thus Mildred Preston became the first female casino owner in Northern Nevada. Mildred, with Charles Brenda, operated the Waldorf until they sold it in 1938.



Throughout the next forty years the Waldorf was sold several times. It offered different games under different owners, and at times operated without gambling. In 1979 the property was sold to the Club Cal-Neva, which closed the Waldorf on July 28, 1979.

## WINE HOUSE-RENO



The Wine House was originally opened in 1874 by Eli Frankovich. From the early 1900s through the 1920s the club offered a bar, a restaurant and all kinds of gaming including, at one time, cock-fighting.

The Wine House was located at 16-18 East Commercial Row, with entrances on both Commercial Row and Douglas Alley. It was licensed on April 6, 1931 for pan, craps, 21, roulette, faro and big-six. In August a racehorse pool was added; in October space was leased out for a faro game; racehorse keno was added in 1936. They also offered wire services from every major-league baseball park in the country.





As the years passed, the Wine House became more popular for food then for gambling, and the gambling became

almost non-existent. In 1961 the property was sold to Harold's Club; the building was razed in the 1970s.

## TONY CORNERO AND THE MEADOWS-LAS VEGAS

Tony Cornero (born Anthony Stralla) was an entrepreneur. During the 1920's Tony ran a small fleet of boats...ostensibly shrimp boats. The shrimp, however, were only on the boats to hide the real cargo, which was booze. After all, during prohibition booze was much more



profitable than shrimp, and Tony was in it for the money. The "shrimp" boats waited off the coast of California, where they were met by smaller speedboats. Under the cover of darkness, Cornero would oversee the transfer of the cases of liquor into the smaller boats, which would then speed to a deserted beach where the booze could be unloaded before dawn. Cornero became a millionaire...then

he got caught and was convicted. Cornero escaped before being incarcerated, but he later turned himself in. He served two years.

Soon after his release from jail Tony and his brothers Frank and Louis moved to Las Vegas. They purchased land near the intersection of Fremont Street and Charleston Boulevard and, early in 1931, built a casino with a small hotel. The hotel had electric lights and it had 30 rooms, each with a private bath. The casino opened on May 3, 1931, it was carpeted and was considered luxurious, at the time. It offered slots, 21, craps and roulette to its patrons. According to one old-timer, the casino was in the south wing of the building and there were about four parapets around the walls. Seated behind the parapets were guys with 30-30 rifles, ready to take care of anyone who came in with the intention to rob the place. He also says that The Meadows used silver dollars, instead of chips, because a bag of silver dollars weighs a lot, so if anyone tried to "heist them" they wouldn't be able to run fast and they wouldn't get away with much Two months after The



Meadows opened, the Corneros sold the hotel part of the operation to Alex Richmond. Then, on Labor Day in 1931, the hotel burned to the ground. The Corneros continued to run the casino until early in 1932, when Tony returned to California to operate the SS Rex; a gambling ship that was anchored beyond the three-mile limit, but was only a 10-minute water-taxi ride from Santa Monica. According to Fuller's Index, The Meadows closed after a fire on February 2, 1943.

## THE ARIZONA CLUB-LAS VEGAS

When Las Vegas was formed the railroad decreed that Block 16, and the lesser known block 17, were the only



areas in town where liquor could be sold. Block 16 was bordered by 1st Street, 2nd Street, Stewart and Ogden.

#### A DIORAMA OF FAMOUS BLOCK 16.

In 1905 when Las Vegas, Nevada was founded, this Block was reserved for Hotels, Bars and Restaurants. The early Day Trains stayed long enough in Las Vegas for the Passengers to walk there for a hot Meal or quick Drink. In later years it became quite Notorious, Catering to Men only until 1940. No more Glamor or Excitement, today only Memories.



In 1905 The Arizona Club, an elite saloon and gambling hall, was built at 219 North 1st Street, by Jim McIntosh, and became known as "The Queen of Block 16". The Club's front door had beveled leaded glass and the fifty-by-seventy-five-foot bar was made of mahogany. Until gambling was outlawed in 1910, The Arizona Club offered nickel slot machines, faro, roulette and blackjack; drinks were fifteen cents each, or two for a quarter. There were other less elegant clubs on the block that offered liquor and gambling; The Gem, Red Onion, Turf and the Favorite. It's been reported that a few of the clubs added "ladies" to the amenities that they offered--the Star Saloon, Double O and the Arcade. When McIntosh sold the Arizona Club, a second story was added with rooms and "ladies". On July 7, 1931, the Arizona Club was licensed for slots and blackjack. The Club closed in 1942 and William Moore bought the beveled barroom entrance and the mahogany bar for use in the Last Frontier Casino.



## RAILROAD PASS-HENDERSON

Las Vegas was the closest town to the Boulder Dam site, but it was a 25-mile trip on an unpaved road, not really a reasonable option for most workers. In addition, Las Vegas

had a bad reputation because "everyone knew" that women, liquor and gambling were all readily available, in spite of being illegal. The Bureau of Reclamation was in charge of getting the dam built, and they decided on the location of Boulder City as the best area to build a town for the dam workers. They built dormitories for single men, family cottages and government buildings. They enclosed the town with a fence and stationed guards at the gate.

Sims Ely was the city manager, and it was reported that he governed with an iron fist. Everyone in the town had a job; if they lost their job, they had to move. People who lived there were issued passes, and they couldn't just come and go through that gate...they had to present their



passes. Prostitution, gambling and alcohol were strictly forbidden, even after prohibition was repealed, and the vehicles coming through the gate were searched by federal rangers. The land just outside of the gate was littered with the glass of bottles that broke when they were tossed out the windows of cars approaching the gate.

Sims couldn't control what happened outside of the gate. While there were dozens of tent bars and roadhouses between Boulder City and Las Vegas, the closest was only a quarter-mile beyond the gate; Railroad Pass. Opened on August 1, 1931, and the recipient of one of the earliest gaming licenses in Clark County, the Railroad Pass started as just one big room. There was a bar against the back wall, and dancing was in the front, with a three-piece orchestra. There was a pool table in front of the RR Pass, and when a customer got too drunk, they'd be stretched out on the pool table until they could navigate again.

RR Pass could be a rowdy place, filled with construction workers that were ready to let off steam. One time there



was a high scalers ball, and several fights broke out, nothing too serious, just their way of having fun...one of the attendees quipped that it should have been called the "High Scalers Brawl". Since many of the dam workers were single men, the RR Pass was an ideal place for single women to earn some money. The working-girls were discreet and didn't mingle with the women or families from Boulder City, there were a few cabins out in back where they entertained their male guests. Gambling was also available, but during the early 1930s it seemed secondary in importance behind the alcohol and the prostitutes.



Still open, the RR Pass Casino advertises that they hold the oldest active license in Southern Nevada.




## RIVERSIDE-RENO

In 1925 George Wingfield bought the property at 17 South Virginia Street. He built the Riverside Hotel, and in 1931 he received a gambling license. In 1933 he leased out a portion of the hotel to a group that included Nick Abelman. The group called their area the Riverside Buffet and they offered roulette, 21 and hazard in addition to dining and a bar



# THE RIVERSIDE BUFFET

**RENO'S SMARTEST COCKTAIL LOUNGE**



**George Hart at the Piano**

Dining Room in Connection Under Jean Sigg's Management

**RIVERSIDE HOTEL BLDG.**

**9 S. Virginia Reno 21251**

In 1949 the Abelman group left the Riverside, and Wingfield leased the gaming concessions to Mert Wertheimer. Wertheimer held his grand opening on May 7, 1949, with one 21



game, one craps table, one roulette wheel and ten slot machines. Over the years Wertheimer brought in big-name entertainment, including Frank Sinatra in 1951.

In 1955 George Wingfield sold the Riverside to a group that included Mert Wertheimer and his brother Lou, who had been added to the license, as a partner, in 1951. In 1958 The Wertheimer group sold the Riverside, but retained a ten-year lease on the casino, bars, restaurants and entertainment facilities. Five months later Lou Wertheimer



died; Mert died two months after that, and the lease was taken over by Virgil Smith. The Riverside was sold several times over the next few years.

The Riverside closed on December 20, 1962, telling the 325 employees that the corporation ran out of money and wouldn't be issuing their final paychecks. The Riverside



# 1932



remained closed for seven months while it was reorganized, and it reopened on July 25, 1963. The corporation continued to struggle throughout the 1960s; interests in the property were bought and sold, policies changed and management changed. In 1967 gaming agents confiscated crooked dice and put an end to the gambling and showroom. In 1968 the Riverside was sold, and it closed again, only to reopen in May of 1969, without gambling. In November of 1969 the IRS forced the closure of the Riverside, due to unpaid taxes. Taxes were paid and the Riverside was

sold yet again.

In 1971 Jessie Beck bought the Riverside, which reopened on April 1 with 100 slots, nine table games and keno. She operated it until 1978 when she sold it to Harrah's. Harrah's bought the Riverside so they could trade it to Pick Hobson in exchange for his Overland Hotel-Casino property at the corner of Center Street and Commercial Row. Harrah's would use the Overland site for an expansion.

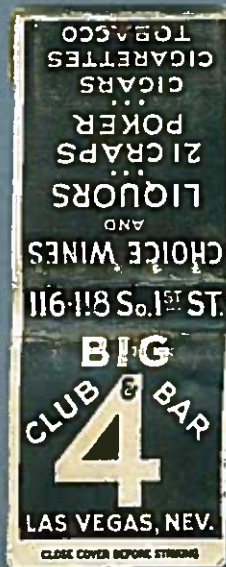
In 1986 Hobson filed for bankruptcy, and closed the casino in December. In November of 1987 Hobson closed the restaurant and hotel and turned the property over to the bank. Nearly three hundred creditors were unable to collect on well over \$1 million that was owed to them.

In 1997 the City of Reno took possession of the Riverside. Portions of the hotel were demolished, but the original structure, built in 1927, was to be renovated and turned into lofts, restaurants and shops.

## BIG 4 CLUB-LAS VEGAS

The Big 4 Club opened in 1931 at 112-114 South First Street. Licensed for slots, 21 and craps the Big 4 closed in the 1940s. Four

different dice styles and six different colors of chips (all are non-denominated) have been found from the Big 4, as well as matchbooks.



In 1932 The Reconstruction Finance Corporation was set up by the US Government, to lend money during the depression, in order to assist in the nation's economic recovery.



Charles Lindbergh's baby son was kidnapped and killed.

Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across

the Atlantic Ocean. Manhattan's

Radio City Music

Hall opened. The NY

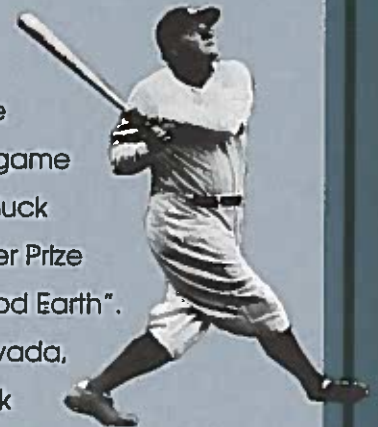
Yankees defeated the

Chicago Cubs in a 4-game

World Series. Pearl S. Buck

was awarded a Pulitzer Prize

for her novel "The Good Earth".



In Nevada,

Patrick

McCarren was elected

to the U.S. Senate. On

October 29, 1932 every

bank in Nevada, except

three, closed their doors

due to the economics of the Depression.

A Boulder Dam worker reminisces about the Las Vegas of the early 1930s: Probably every second or third building on Fremont Street from the Union Pacific depot down to Fourth Street was a saloon or gambling hall, or both. This was during Prohibition. They never closed them—they operated day and night. There were open saloons within a block of the police station—made no difference. It was a federal offense, not a state offense. Gambling? There was card games, slot machines, the works. Not sophisticated or fancy.



## J. H. MORGAN AND THE SILVER CLUB-LAS VEGAS

Clark County Gaming License #1 shows that J. H. Morgan was a partner in the Northern Club. Harold Stocker had met Morgan at the Mexican border town of Calexico, in the 1920s. When the border was closed in 1926, Morgan and his girlfriend came to Las Vegas. According to Stocker, Morgan was active with the Stockers for six to seven years, and then he opened a little place around the corner, on North 1st Street.

It would seem that Morgan's affiliation with The Northern Club ended less than a year after gambling was legalized. According to the minutes of the January 6, 1932 meeting of the Clark County License Board, an application was made and approved for the operation of one twenty-one game at Morgan's Club, located at 108 North 1st Street. Morgan's Club is not listed in Fuller's Index or The Gaming Table. Perhaps Morgan's Club was just a temporary name? Both of the reference books indicate that the Silver Club opened at 108 North 1st Street in 1932, owned by Joe Morgan, and Fuller's Index shows that the licensed games were slots, 21, craps and roulette. Though it changed owners from time to time, The Silver Club operated under the same name until 1956.



## SHIP AND BOTTLE CLUB-RENO

The Ship and Bottle Club was located at 222 North Center Street. It was licensed on March 31, 1932, and was operated by Nick Abelman, Steve Pavlovich and Bert Riddick. The front of the building replicated the prow of a ship. The interior of the club was decorated with antiques, including a clock that had previously been used in the captain's quarters on an old sailing ship.

The elegant club offered slots, blackjack and roulette, and featured top-quality entertainment. Many of the patrons were wealthy divorcees and celebrities including Barbara Hutton, actress Mary Pickford and boxing champ Max Baer.



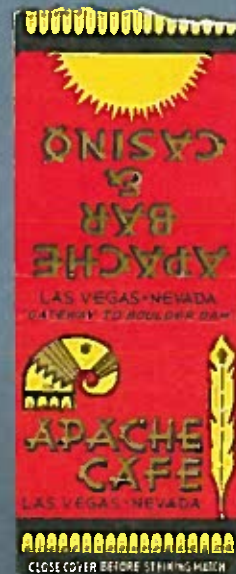
The Ship and Bottle was sold several times over the years but continued to operate until late 1940. In February of 1941 the property reopened as the 222 Club.

## HOTEL APACHE AND APACHE CASINO-LAS VEGAS

In May of 1931 P.O. Silvagni, who had emigrated from Italy in 1904, bought a lot on the corner of Second and Fremont Streets in Las Vegas, next to the Boulder Club. Construction began immediately on a three-story brick building, which would open less than a year later as the Hotel Apache. The hotel was decorated with thick carpeting, oil paintings and chandeliers; hand carved divans and arm chairs were scattered throughout the hotel. The Apache was home to the first elevator in Las Vegas. In the basement was a banquet hall that could hold over 300 people, where many luncheons, dinners and dances were held. The main Hotel entrance was on Second Street, approximately where Binion's newsstand is currently located. The main entrance to the Casino was on Fremont Street.



Silvagni leased the Apache Casino to Charles E. Mason and Jack Doyle. Though the Apache Casino wouldn't open until March 19, 1932, the minutes of the Clark County License Board meeting from





January 6 show that a license for one roulette wheel was approved. Licenses for more games would be granted at later meetings. The Apache Casino closed in 1941. See the Spring 2002 issue of CCTN for an in-depth article about the Apache (available on line at <http://cctn.ccgtec.com>)



NIGHT SCENE, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



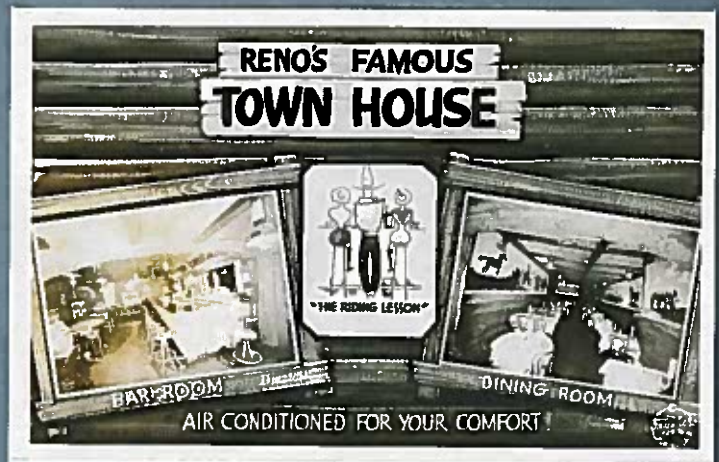
"ROULETTE"  
Apache Casino  
Las Vegas, Nevada

years, and at times suffered from financial problems. In July of 1953, with an investment of \$14,000 Carl Amante was licensed by the state for 31% of the Town House. In 1954 Amante became the sole owner of the Town House, though the owner of the land was Mark Yori. Yori planned to have the Town House razed for the construction of a J.C. Penney store and eviction papers were served to Amante in August 1955, to become effective on January 1, 1956. On September 2, 1955 the Town House was destroyed by fire. Two insurance companies refused to pay claims, saying that the fire was the result of arson. On December 21, 1955 the court accused Amante of deliberately burning the property and ruled that the insurance companies did not have to pay the claims.

The  
**TOWN HOUSE**  
"Where Smart People Meet"

**THE RIDING LESSON**  
BY R.C.C.

Dine and Dance  
**LUNCHEONS**  
For Reservations Call  
**Reno 8936**  
OR  
**Reno 8482**  
Owned and Operated By  
**FAY BAKER and TOM BROWN**  
39 W. FIRST ST.



## TOWN HOUSE-RENO

Charles Rennie built the Town House at 39 West First Street; it was first licensed on October 5, 1932. The casino, bar and restaurant were on the main floor, with dancing and small parties in the spacious basement. The décor resembled that of a western dude-ranch, including their famous "The Riding Lesson" logo which featured a cowboy flanked by two young women seated on barstools...all viewed from the rear.



The Town House was sold several times through the

## WHITE SPOT CAFE-LAS VEGAS

The White Spot Café, at 109 Fremont Street, was opened by J.M Pappas in 1932 to serve meals. In October of 1949 they added 50 new slot machines and began calling themselves the White Spot Café & Arcade.

WE NEVER CLOSE  
PHONE 666

**WHITE SPOT**

Moderate Prices

**CAFE**

The famous eating place in Southern Nevada  
Short orders at all hours Cook as you see  
Overland Stage Depot  
WE SPECIALIZE IN STEAKS AND DINNERS



# 1933



The hard hat was invented for the Boulder Dam workers.

Federal prohibition was repealed.

Adolph Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany and the reign of Nazi terror began.

President Roosevelt launched the New Deal program.

Unemployment rose to 25.2%.

"Esquire" debuted

as the first magazine for men.

"Stormy

Weather" and "It's Only a Paper Moon" were two of the popular songs.

Fred and Ginger danced across the silver-screen in

"Flying Down to Rio".



According to the Golden Anniversary edition of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, on March 1, 1933 the Las Vegas board of city commissioners voted keno parlors out. The Boulder Club was refused a keno license; keno licenses of the Rainbow Club and the Las Vegas Club were rescinded.

## JOE DINI'S LUCKY CLUB-VERINGTON

Joe Dini had a soft drink parlor in the old mining town of Bodie, California. In June of 1932 two-and-a-half year old Billy Godward, later known as "Bodie Bill", was attending a friend's fourth birthday party. Billy discovered that, instead of cake and ice cream, Jell-O was to be served. He stomped off in a fit of pique, with his pacifier in his mouth. Somehow he got hold of some matches and managed to start a fire. Most of the buildings in Bodie were constructed from wood, and Billy's fire destroyed most of

THE MOST FAMOUS  
EATING PLACE  
IN NEVADA  
O U R  
STEAKS - CHOPS  
BROILED  
DINNERS  
OUR SPECIALTY  
Come As You Are  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

THE MOST FAMOUS  
EATING PLACE  
IN NEVADA  
O U R  
STEAKS - CHOPS  
BROILED  
DINNERS  
OUR SPECIALTY  
Come As You Are  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**WHITE SPOT  
CAFE**  
109 Fremont St.  
PHONE 565  
Air Conditioned  
Coolest Place in Town  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING

**WHITE SPOT  
CAFE**  
109 Fremont St.  
PHONE 565  
Air Conditioned  
Coolest Place in Town  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING



the town. Many people, including Joe Dini, left Bodie after the fire.



Lucky Club first building on right

Joe Dini went to Yerington, Nevada and in 1933 he opened the Wooden Shoe Club in the middle of downtown. Soon after opening, the name of the club was changed to Joe Dini's Lucky Club, which was licensed for gambling in December of 1933.

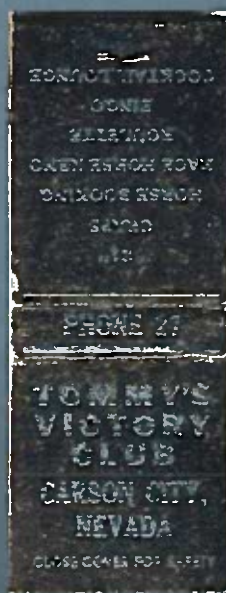
In 1938 Joe bought the Bank Bar building that was at 45 N. Main St., and moved his Lucky Club to the new location.

Joe Jr. had gone away to college but he returned home in 1952 to help the family, because his father was ill. In 1960 he bought the Lucky Club business from his father, and then in 1965 he purchased the property from his parents. Eventually Joe Jr. bought the buildings on either side of the Lucky Club, which allowed the club to expand.

The Club is still operating, and is still in the Dini family. If you go to the Lucky Club, be sure to ask about the floor. You see, in 1911 a new floor was put into the building. No big deal...right? BUT...one of the people who helped to lay the new floor was future heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey. The same floor is still there, under the carpeting.

## TOMMY'S VICTORY CLUB- CARSON CITY

Tommy's Victory Club was open from 1933 until 1937 at 406 North Carson Street, owned by Tommy Pardini. In 1937 the Club moved to 302 North Carson Street, where it operated until 1954. Over the years, Tommy's Victory Club offered slots, blackjack, craps, roulette and keno to their patrons.



## STAG INN-RENO

The Stag Inn was located at 265 North Virginia Street and was first licensed on December 30, 1933. Over the next twenty-seven years various people were licensed for slots, blackjack, roulette, faro, poker and craps.

In 1960 the Club closed and Lincoln Fitzgerald bought the property for the construction of Fitzgerald's.





# 1934

The Dionne quintuplets were born, the first quint to survive beyond infancy. Clyde



Barrow and Bonnie Parker's crime spree ended when they were ambushed and killed in Louisiana. Near Chicago, John



Dillinger was killed in a shoot-out with the FBI. Detroit has a good year/bad year in sports; they made it to the World Series, but they were defeated by the

St. Louis Cardinals; they made it to the Stanley Cup finals, but were defeated by Chicago.

The Loch Ness Monster was sighted for the first time;

Donald Duck made his

debut. The federal penitentiary at Alcatraz opened. Sophia Loren was born.



Five-year old Shirley Temple appeared

in Stand up and Cheer, later

in the year she sang On the Good Ship Lollipop in the film

"Bright Eyes".



## PALACE CLUB-RENO

In 1924 John Petricciani purchased the property at 46 East Commercial Row. He leased out the property for the next 10 years; from 1931 through 1933 he leased the second floor to Bill Graham and Jim McKay for their Bank Palace Club.

In 1934 Petricciani himself received a license for one roulette game and one 21 game. In 1935 the license was



expanded to one 21 game, one stud poker game, two faro, two roulette and two craps games, in addition to six slot machines.

In April of 1936 the Palace Club began advertising "Reno's newest sensation" racehorse keno; post time twelve noon. Racehorse keno proved to be so popular that, only a week after introducing the game, the Palace changed the first "post time" to 10:00 am, with new "races" beginning every twenty minutes until 2:00 am, 4:00 am on Saturdays. By the first of June, the game was offered 24-hours a day, and the game limit had been extended to \$500.



In July of 1943 the Palace Club announced that they had female dealers, for the first time. That November the Palace Club posted an ad in the help-wanted section of the paper, offering young women from 21 to 25 years old the opportunity to learn to deal, and make up to \$90 a week.

John's son Sil (Silvio) had always worked with him at the Palace Club. In June of 1943 Sil entered military service, and John began leasing out the Palace



Club again. Various people held the lease until 1964 when John Petricciani's four children applied for, and received, the gaming license at the Palace. Led by Sil, the club was cleaned up, a new restaurant offering good food for reasonable prices was added, and an eye-catching new sign was added to the outside of the building.



On September 28, 1979 Sil Petricciani announced to his 281 employees that the Palace Club had been sold to Harrah's Club. Soon after that, the Palace Club was closed and demolished.

## EL CORTEZ HOTEL-RENO

On October 9, 1934, W.H. Rutledge was granted a gaming license for the El Cortez Hotel, which had been open since 1931. In 1941 the El Cortez was renovated and expanded, nearly doubling the room count and adding the Trocadero, a nightclub and cocktail lounge. Adjacent to the cocktail lounge was a casino with two roulette tables, one craps table and seventeen slot machines; blackjack was added later. Table games ended in 1948.



HOTEL EL CORTEZ, RENO, NEVADA

44-1077

## SAL SAGEV-LAS VEGAS

It is believed that the gambling stopped at the Sal Sagev Casino on October 27, 1934, and that the roulette wheel, manufactured by Albert Pick, was packed up and put into storage on that very day, not to be seen again until sometime in 1956. But that's the middle of the story, perhaps I should go back to the beginning...

In 1906 the Hotel Nevada opened at the corner of Fremont and Main Streets, downtown Las Vegas. In 1931



FREMONT STREET LOOKING EAST, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

44-1088

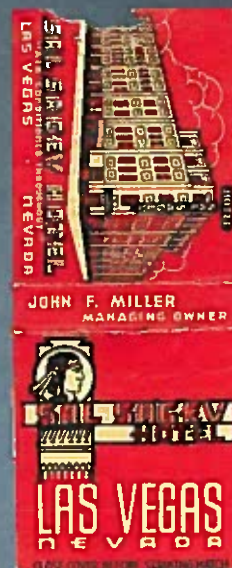
the hotel was expanded and the name was changed to Sal Sagev, which is Las Vegas spelled backwards. There are hundreds of postcards that picture the Sal Sagev hotel, there are ashtrays, china and matchbooks...but there were more questions than answers about the early days of the Sal Sagev. Was there gambling at the Sal Sagev? Did they have a license? What about chips? In the 1990s Gene Trimble did some research and found some answers.

It isn't known if, or when, the Sal Sagev was licensed; there was a fire in 1960 at the White Horse Hotel in Carson City, that destroyed many of the early licensing records. There was evidence to indicate that Abe Miller offered roulette and blackjack games in the early 1930s. In October of 1934 Abe said that he was finished with gambling, and wrapped the roulette wheel plus five colors of SSC roulette chips in newspaper and a tarp, then stored the bundle in the basement of the Sal Sagev. Poker games were witnessed at the Sal Sagev in the 1940s and early 1950s, reportedly with SSC chips similar to the roulette chips that were still stored in the basement; perhaps the chips that had been used for blackjack in the 1930s.

In 1955 Abe Miller made a deal with four men from San Francisco, to open a casino in the Sal Sagev; Picardo, Durante, Ghelfi and Massaro. In 1956 Miller told one of the men that he had something for him "a souvenir of the early days of the Sal Sagev", and he gave the man the roulette wheel and chips, still wrapped in the newspapers and tarp. The man took the roulette wheel home, and it became a coffee table that was shown to Gene, along with 686 chips: 5 brown, 200 white, 162 yellow, 162 blue and 157 green. The chips are small key and were distributed by B.C. Wills. The chips are hot stamped in gold, with SS over an oblong C.

On October 7, 1955 the four men from San Francisco opened the Golden Gate Casino, though some of the early items use the name Golden Gate Club. The décor had a San Francisco theme with the Golden Gate Bridge used often on ashtrays, chips and dice. In 1991 the Golden Gate served their first shrimp cocktail, beginning a Las Vegas tradition that continues today.

## TO BE CONTINUED...







# Knapp on Books

I try to review all books as they are published, and will fill in with books published some time ago, but which are still available from their authors or in bookstores.

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

As with all reviews, this column contains my opinions. I should also say that I am an author of *The Gaming Table* and an author of previous editions of *The Chip Rack*.

## **THE CHIP RACK, 11th Edition**

by Jay Sands, Len Cipkins and David Spragg (2009)

The *Chip Rack*, first published by KMW Publishing Co. (Michael Knapp, Allan Myers and Ernie Wheelden) in 1993, was a skinny 70-page book, but quickly became the hobby's standard price guide and catalog of Nevada casino chips. It introduced a unique catalog numbering system by which all Nevada chips were given a distinct catalog number, and pricing was updated annually. Throughout the ten editions of TCR that KMW published, the burden of creating a new book every year became too great, and the

publishing schedule went to every other year.

The 10th edition of TCR was published in 2004, and the hobby was clamoring for a new edition. Enter Jay Sands, Len Cipkins and David Spragg, who purchased TCR and published the 11th edition in June of this year.

Those of you who are familiar with TCR will be perfectly comfortable with the new edition. The layout and contents are the same as previous editions. By reducing the size of the font slightly, and by using a slightly thinner paper (and by a difference in listing roulette chips, about which more later), the authors managed to make a book that's essentially the same size, just a little thinner, making it a bit easier to carry.



There are other innovations as well. The TCR numbering system has been maintained by the new authors, but there are a few changes. Some TCR numbers are expanded to add a descriptive letter after a decimal following the old TCR

number. For example, the \$1 Big Al's Speakeasy chip was issued in both long and short cane versions. TCR10 gave each chip a separate number. TCR11, however, assigns a single number with a descriptive to distinguish the long cane (N2822.L) from the short cane (N2822.S) version.

The Introduction indicates that old, removed numbers (for example, the old short cane Big Al's number – E3122) will not be reused, so that confusion should be minimized. In addition, the authors have offered to supply a list of reference numbers changed from TCR10 to TCR11. Personally, I'd rather see that list in the book itself.

Roulette chip listings have been telescoped, so that each chip is no longer given its own TCR number and separate line in the book. Now all colors of a roulette issue appear on the same line in the book, under a single TCR number. That not only saves space, it simplifies cataloging and referencing.

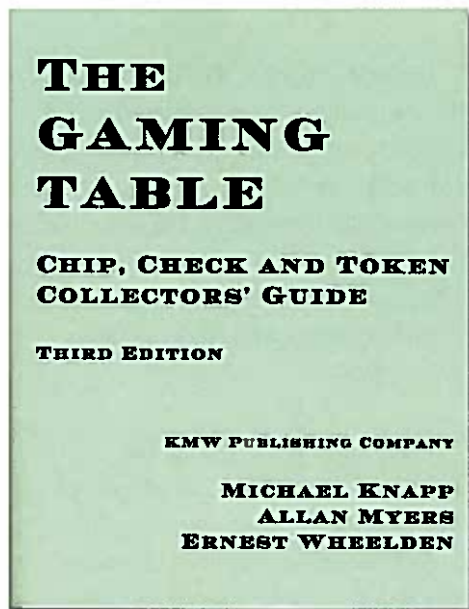
Non-casino chips have been removed from the main section of TCR and given their own section as Appendix A. Chips issued by gaming schools, churches, restaurants and individuals now appear in their own section of TCR.

The new authors have announced their intention to publish TCR annually, and eventually to publish an on line Internet subscription version as well.

The *Chip Rack* remains the most complete Nevada chip catalog and price guide available to collectors, and an indispensable reference work for every collector of Nevada casino chips. It can be ordered online at <http://www.thechiprack.com>.



**THE GAMING TABLE, 3rd Edition**  
by Michael Knapp, Allan Myers and Ernie  
Wheelden (2009)



The Gaming Table, along with The Chip Rack, was the other book written and published by KMW Publishing Co. Unlike TCR, TGT is a book about casinos, not directly about chips. The goal of TGT is to list every casino which has ever existed throughout the world, along with addresses, dates of operation, mold designs of the chips they used, names of the owners, and other relevant information, such as succession from one casino to another in the same location.

One of the main uses of TGT is to identify collectors' chips which do not bear the full names and locations of casinos in which they may have been used.

Originally published in 1991, TGT has grown to 550 pages and over 30,000 individual listings (compared to 7,000 in the first edition). In fact, the vast number of casinos listed in the third edition necessitated the removal of the popular geographical index and photographic section, both of which appeared in the second edition.

Even though TGT is not a book of chips, its main use is to identify chips that collectors might otherwise ignore

as simply unknowable. In fact, chips containing only numbers or initials, as most collectors know, can be valuable additions to one's collection, especially if their origin and provenance is known.

Many chips from the vast number of illegal clubs throughout the United States in the late 19th and through the mid-20th Centuries, for example, bore only the initials of the clubs or their owners or operators. In other cases, numbers – usually street address numbers – served to identify the source of illegal club chips.

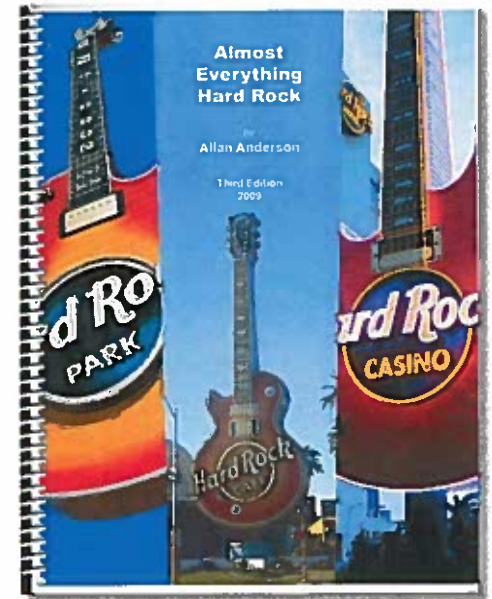
TGT lists all known initials, numbers, and even pictures appearing on chips, and the authors have been able to identify a significant number of them from various sources. Where the chips have been tied to specific casinos, clubs or saloons, cross-index entries also appear under those names. Each casino entry also lists the known chip abbreviations associated with that casino.

Although many chips available to collectors are still unidentified (yes, they're still listed in TGT), there are a surprising number of chips the authors have been able to tie to specific clubs and casinos. A collector with a separate box of unknown chips, will likely be able to identify quite a few of them by using The Gaming Table. It's a book all collectors should have in their libraries.

An extensive bibliography is also included so collectors will know, along with the acknowledgements, where the information in the book has come from, and so individual research can be conducted if more information is desired.

The third edition was published just before this year's convention in Las Vegas, and was first made available at South Point. Since then, The Gaming Table has been sold to SSS Publishing, a partnership consisting of Jay Sands, David Sarles and David Spragg, and the book is now available from them. E-mail david.spragg@zen.co.uk for details.

**ALMOST EVERYTHING HARD ROCK, 3rd Edition** by Allan Anderson (2009)



Allan Anderson's fantastic book on the Hard Rock hotels, casinos and cafes was first published in 2007, and he's now updated and republished it twice. This third edition, released at this year's CC&GTCC convention in Las Vegas, is even better than its predecessors.

If you're a Hard Rock fan, you have to have this book! Allan's put together an amazing and very complete history of the Hard Rock empire, from its inception in 1971 as a single burger joint with rock music in London, to its current scattered and now-ubiquitous presence throughout the world. Chips, of course, are prominently featured, as are other Hard Rock collectibles, including a few pins.

Anderson takes us through the entire soap opera of Hard Rock ownership and the various control groups.

The centerpiece of the book is, of course, the Las Vegas hotel, with color illustrations of its chips, updated through mid-2009, some room keys, slot cards, door hangers, and the like. Dates of issue and numbers produced are listed for each chip pictured. Silver strikes and regular token issues are also shown in color, as are the Hard Rock Café chip issues produced



before the hotel opened, the playing cards, and even a couple of issues that managed not to be approved by Gaming Control.

The Seminole hotel casinos in Tampa and Hollywood, Florida receive similar extensive treatment. The other three Seminole casinos in Florida (Brighton, Coconut Creek and Immokalee) are also featured.

Biloxi, London (now closed) and Manchester, England (also closed now) are also featured.

The next section of this 95-page book covers the cafes - 127 of them in 49 countries! - some of which are now closed, some of which were not actually associated with any of the owners of the Hard Rock brand. It's a confusing but interesting history!

There's a complete listing of the cafes, color photos of many of them, and color illustrations of chips from those cafes that have issued them.

There are Hard Rock Hotels (without casinos) in Bali, Orlando, Pattaya (Thailand), Chicago, New York City, San Diego, Macau, and, opening within the next couple of years, Singapore, Abu Dhabi and Penang (Malaysia), all of which are discussed here.

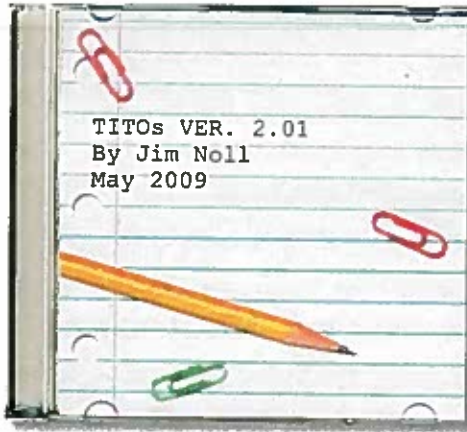
There are also two Hard Rock Bars currently operating in Malta, the third in Bristol, England having opened in 2004 and closed in 2006.

Finally, there's a section on the ill-fated Hard Rock Park - an amusement park in Myrtle Beach, SC, open only during 2008.

The growth of the Hard Rock concept, which also inspired the Planet Hollywood and Rainforest Café chains (some have suggested that they are little more than rip-offs of the Hard Rock idea) is an interesting and intricate story, and Allan has told it well.

Contact Allan for a copy of the book at:  
adesign@sbcglobal.net

### **TITOs Ver. 2.01** by Jim Knoll (2009)



Here's a different kind of "book" for collectors: it's an "unbook" consisting of files on a CD! Complete in two different formats - PDF (Portable Document Format, which can be read by all computers) and Microsoft Word format, Jim Noll's TITO work will appeal to all collectors of Ticket-In-Ticket-Out vouchers.

First appearing in their current format in 2000 and 2001, TITOs have replaced coin and token-operated slot machines in most casinos. The introduction makes clear that only true TITOs are covered here. "The catalog does not include material on other forms of payout tickets that are not machine readable back into the slot machines." That definition eliminates, for example, simple receipt-type printouts such as those used here in Montana, which cannot be fed back into machines for further play.

TITOs became popular with casinos because they save labor (no more coin fills needed, and change personnel kept to a minimum) as well as saving the cost of minting slot tokens for use in machines. Some non-collector players also appreciate the lack of heavy tokens and coins and the need to stand in lines at slot payout booths

to receive slot winnings. TITOs can be fed into machines on the floor which dispense bills and coins in the amounts shown on the TITO receipts.

Color pictures of TITO fronts are shown, along with an indication of what back type appears on each front. The backs are not illustrated here. Not being a TITO collector, I'm not able to say whether that's a disadvantage, but I suspect it's not. The mere indication of different types of backs is likely sufficient.

More than 2000 TITOs are illustrated in the files, which would take more than 300 pages to print. An Introduction, Table of Contents, and Index complement the TITOs themselves.

The tickets illustrated are dated and assigned a rarity symbol for comparison. Obsolete TITOs, just like obsolete chips and tokens, should have more value than those currently in use.

Individual pages can be printed out, but the entire book is viewable on any computer.

For a copy of Jim's TITO CD, e-mail him at [jenca@pacbell.net](mailto:jenca@pacbell.net)

## **Las Vegas Casino Chip Challenge**

Friday April 30th thru  
Sunday May 2nd 2010

[www.casinochipchallenge.com](http://www.casinochipchallenge.com)

**Erik Dauplase R-8053**



# Buying and Selling Caribbean Chips

**Ralph P. Pollack**

## Dartmouth Chip Exchange

P.O. Box 79216  
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Please fax photocopies  
for a quote

**Fax: 508-993-9115**

**We have SLOT TOKENS, but you knew that.  
We also have the following**

*Gaming Tokens  
Nevada Chips  
Wet Chips  
No Cash Value Chips  
Trinkets "Casino Promotional Material"  
General Gaming Exonumia*

### **Frog Pond Collectibles**

**Joel Reznick**

**13927 Wood Duck Circle  
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202**

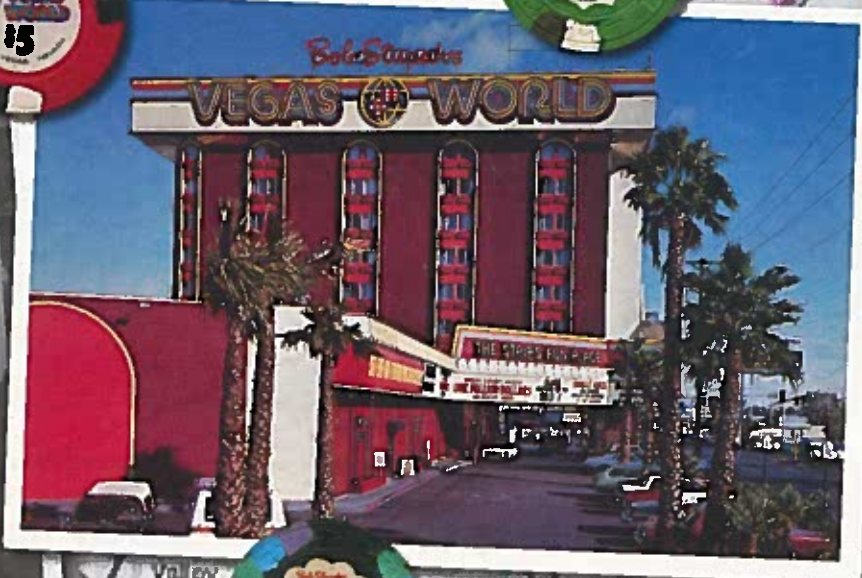
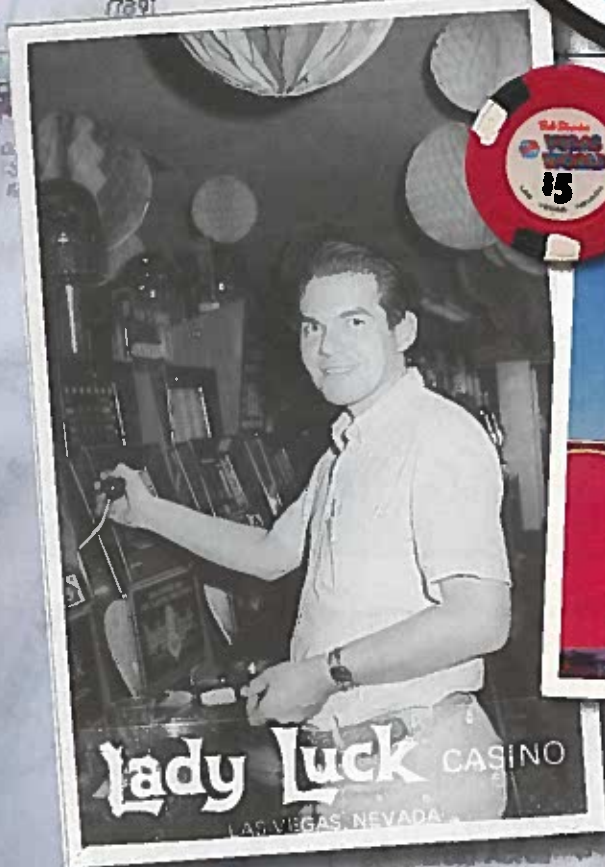
**(941) 758-8886**

**e-mail: theribet@verizon.net**





# Phil's Forays



Over the last few issues we have been re-running Phil's original articles from the late 90s. But for this issue Phil has written a brand new article about the legendary Bob Stupak.

## Bob Stupak Memories by Phil Jensen

The recent passing of casino owner and Las Vegas huckster Bob Stupak brought back memories of 1970s Las Vegas and some good times I had. Although Bob was primarily known

for his Vegas World Casino and Stratosphere Tower. My memories of him goes back to the days of The Million Dollar Museum. Actually the full name was Bob Stupak's Million Dollar Historic Gambling Museum and Casino. Even Bob said the name was ten feet longer than the casino. I remember his logo too: a nearly naked lady straddling a giant "M" and throwing money into the air. I loved it.

The casino itself was in an old converted automobile dealership

located at the intersection of Las Vegas Boulevard and Main Street where the Stratosphere sits today. When I first heard about the place I thought it was a great concept: a museum with slots. When it opened on March 31, 1974 I was there with bells on, but was disappointed that there was an admission fee - \$2.95 I think. In return, you received ten, dollars sized washers with a yellow sticker with the name

**MILLION DOLLAR \$1**  
FREE PLAY  
NOT NEGOTIABLE





eight o'clock I saw a huge, black oily cloudy of smoke high in the sky. The Million Dollar Museum was burning! By the time I got there, hundreds of people were in the streets watching the show. Bob was running back and forth throwing panels of dollar bills up on the hood of a car. Tears were running down his face as he sobbed "I just got open!" I'll never forget the scene.

Bob filed an insurance claim for \$300,000 but rumors persisted that he had torched the place and the insurance company refused to pay. Bob went to court and eventually prevailed, but his reputation was tarnished for many years to come.

of the joint. These were to be played in a machine which offered a \$250,000 jackpot, by far the largest in the state at the time. You could also play Ike dollars once you ran out of washers.



The front (top) and back (above) of a Fun Pack coupon booklet from Bob Stupak's Million Dollar Gambling Museum and Casino.

After the fire Bob was involved in other gambling ventures, one was the old Sinabar Casino in downtown Las Vegas. I seem to remember he opened on New Years eve, 1974. As soon as I got off work I went in to buy a \$5.00 chip for my collection. Bob

I often wondered why not just bring your own washers? Anyway, one look at this six (or maybe it was eight) reel monster and you knew your chances of hitting anything was zip. I pocketed most of them, glad to have something for my collection. Anyway, if you did manage to overcome the tremendous odds; this mechanical wonder would spit out twenty-five ten thousand dollar chips from its hopper (more about that later). Unfortunately, gaming control pulled the thing after nine days citing lack of security. Another machine would shower \$1,000 in crumpled dollar bills from a plastic drum on the lucky player. Another unlikely possibility. Most of the other fifteen machines were not very appealing as far as winning was concerned.

was sitting at the lone 21 table watching a guy who was playing some pretty big money as I recall. I told him I wanted to buy a \$5.00 chip, they were brown with yellow and orange inserts. Anyway, Bob reached into the rack and tossed me one - no charge! I was pretty impressed. He later added a couple more 21 games and a 25¢ crap game.



Bob's motto for the Sinabar was "The Little Casino with the Big B.R." I assumed he meant Bank Roll and wondered why he didn't spell it out. I found out later that his bankroll was actually very modest. He could always claim that B.R. stood for bathroom!



It wasn't much later that Bob changed the name of the joint to "The Vault". Up went the Dollar Bill wallpaper from the Million Dollar Museum. He also had a couple of slot machines that took dollar size washers labeled \$5.00. I



A couple of walls were "papered" with dollar bills adding to the allure of the joint. A friend of mine had quite an extensive chip collection mounted on another. Most of the other stuff I can't recall but there wasn't anything that was actually old that I remember. I do remember being somewhat disappointed.

On May 21st I was working the day shift at the Union Plaza Hotel downtown. When I walked outside around



hated paying \$5.00 for one. It was the Million Dollar theme all over again. He would later change the name again to "Jennie V's" after the daughter of one of his pit bosses.



Bob also brought a small ice cream shop a couple of blocks from his old Million Dollar Museum. He aptly named it The Million Dollar Dairy Freeze, complete with his naked lady logo. Inside he had a few strange looking slot machines that I figured must have come from Australia where he previously lived. If you hit the jackpot you got to keep the machine! I never could win one. About this time I approached Bob about getting one of his ten thousand dollar chips. They had escaped the flames along with some other stuff. He told me to make a couple of displays of casino memorabilia and some newspaper articles about the museum fire and he'd give me a couple of them. I gladly did this and was thrilled to get the now obsolete black hot stamp \$10,000 chips.



Bob went on to build his Vegas World Casino and later the Stratosphere Tower. The last time I saw him he was pitching pennies up against a wall with some buddies, probably for big stakes. Yeah, ol' Bob was a fun guy when Vegas was a fun town. I miss them both.

Disclaimer: The events in this story took some thirty-five years ago. Although I've reported them to the best of my ability, some details may have faded. Nevertheless the story, in general, is accurate to the best of my memory. Phil.



The display Phil made for Bob Stupak to hang in the Million Dollar Dairy Freeze.



Bob Stupak, one of the masters of promotion featured on one of his famous "Slot Bucks"







36



Two interior shots of Stupak's Vegas World casino featuring the world's biggest "Big 6" wheel (left) and a dizzying array of lights (above).



Thanks to Martin Kenney for some of the additional Stupak related images



# Museum of Gaming History

A Project of The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.



*Dedicated to the preservation and education of Gaming History*

## **Visit The Museum of Gaming History LogoWear Shop!**



From casual polos to fashionable long sleeve button down shirts, all items are offered in approved colors and styles, as well as decorated with the Museum's logo. The Museum of Gaming History invites you to browse the store and we hope you enjoy your shopping experience. All proceeds from the sale of these garments goes to the Museum of Gaming History.

Visit the Museum of Gaming History at [www.themogh.org](http://www.themogh.org).  
The on-line museum has many great features including "This Week in Gaming History"  
Literally 1000's of photos and scans are being loaded.

## **Annual "We Love Our Customers" Sale!**

### **February & March 2010**

**20% off all Dansco Binders & Pages**  
**10% off all other supplies and a few other goodies**

**Write – Phone – E-Mail**  
**for a Free 2010 Supply Catalog**



**Tom - Barbara & C.T. Rodgers**  
**Ready to serve you**

**C.T. Coins**  
**P.O. Box 4572**  
**Lakewood, CA 90711**

**Phone 562-408-2463**  
**E-Mail: [ctcoins@aol.com](mailto:ctcoins@aol.com)**  
***A name to remember***  
***when you need supplies!***





**Selling off my collection  
Of Chips-Tokens and Silver Strikes  
Over 20,000 Chips for sale**

I have one of the  
largest collection  
from these states  
**Colorado  
Mississippi  
Atlantic City**

**Gary Rohloff**  
garyro@mtc.net  
**715-693-5734**  
**www.rollyschips.com**

---

**Also lots of Chips from these states**

---

Wisconsin  
Minnesota  
North Dakota  
South Dakota  
Iowa  
Illinois  
Michigan  
Indiana

Missouri  
Dead Wood, S.D.  
Nevada -  
over 8,000 chips  
New Mexico  
Arizona  
Kansas  
California

Arkansas  
Louisiana  
Montana  
Caribbean  
Canada  
Cruise Ships  
Many Misc.

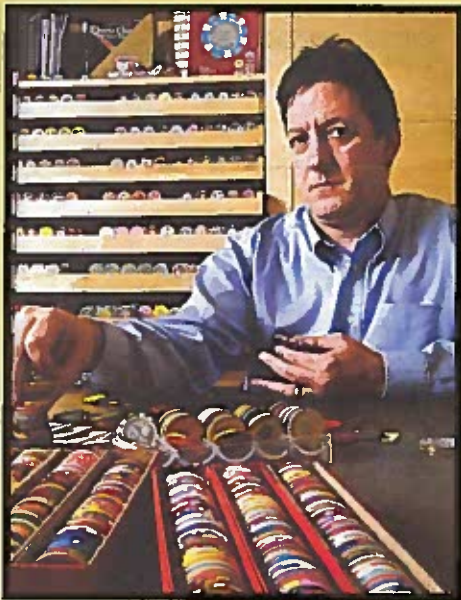
---

**My website is: [www.rollyschips.com](http://www.rollyschips.com)**

Note: Not everything on yet, will take some time to get everything on.  
Please keep checking back. I'm entering things as fast as I can.

*Thank You, Gary*





## Message from the Auction Chairman David Spragg

The 2010 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will once again be held during the convention, at the South Point Hotel & Casino, on Friday 25th June 2010.

As last year, there are

no constraints on either the number of consignors or the number of lots they can consign, subject to the terms listed below. I will be contacting all consignors from last year directly in due course but there is no need to wait for me to do so if you are ready to consign now.

This year's auction was our most successful for some time so I plan to maintain the same format and conditions for next year. The auction will again comprise approx 200 lots (including donated lots), of which a small number of the donated lots (probably 20) will be sold by silent auction during the first two days of the convention. There will be no lots auctioned during the banquet.

Again, I want to be selective in the material for the auction next year, and be confident we will be offering 200 lots of the highest quality. Consequently there will again be a minimum bid of \$50 on any item, and reserves may be set for lots valued at \$500 and up. All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged and will be available to view in full on the club website or via email.

You may consign lots (subject to the standard 10% sellers commission, which will be waived in the event of a consignor buying back a lot - 10% buyers premium is still payable) and/or you can donate lots where the club retains the proceeds. This year several club members graciously donated some valuable lots which helped make the auction a great success and I would hope to see the same response again.

There will be no printed consignment form. Instead, I invite would be consignors to contact me (preferably by email) to determine suitability of lots. Smaller items are preferable but I am happy to consider anything gaming related which has a reasonable chance of selling. Please do

not send anything without contacting me first.

I will be at the Las Vegas Superbowl Chip show in early February, and can collect auction lots from vendors there. Those consignors attending the show that do not have email, please have any lots ready for me.

I plan to have the auction catalog available approx 6 weeks in advance (i.e. early May). It will also be made available on-line for anyone wishing to view, download or print as soon as it is completed. Consequently, the latest date that anyone can contact me to consign lots will be February 20th, 2010.

Please use [auction@ccgtcc.com](mailto:auction@ccgtcc.com) to contact me. If you need to contact me by mail, please write to:

**David Spragg**  
840 S Rancho Dr #4314  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

or, if you have no other means of contact, leave me a message via Gene Trimble (702) 683-6729 and I will contact you.

**\$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25**



I Am The  
**\$25¢**  
Collector



Collecting \$25 and 25¢ chips  
from all of Nevada

*I Will Buy Your Rare &  
Not So Rare \$25 & 25¢ Chips*

I'm looking to add to the best collection of  
\$25 and 25¢ chips.

☼ **Nate Pincus** ☼

P.O. Box 693, Havertown, PA 19083  
610-507-1115 [nate@chipcollector.com](mailto:nate@chipcollector.com)

**\$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25**



## Call for Hall of Fame Recommendations for 2010

Membership in the Hall of Fame is the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club's highest honor. Each year, several members are considered for inclusion into the Hall of Fame. Members are selected based on their contributions to the hobby as a whole, their contributions to the Club, their impact on the Club and the hobby, and their exemplary integrity and adherence to the principles upon which the Club was founded. There have been one, two or three new members selected each year since the inauguration of the Hall of Fame in 1998. The names of the nineteen members of the Hall of Fame appear below.

The selection of honorees each year is made by the Hall of Fame Committee, which consists of all living members of the HoF. *The input of the membership in the selection process is indispensable. The members of the HoF cannot know every member of the Club, nor have knowledge of the contributions to the Club and the hobby that may have been made by each member.*

Enclosed with this issue of Casino Chip and Token News is a recommendation form which we urge members to complete and mail to us so that we may consider the contributions of those people the members believe deserve the Club's highest recognition. Please provide as much information as possible in support of your recommendation so that the Committee can give it full consideration. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2010, and the final selections, if any, will be announced at the Club's annual convention in Las Vegas.

There is a slight change of procedure this year. In the past, any member recommended for consideration for the HoF was reconsidered each year if not inducted. Beginning this year, only members recommended in the current year will be considered by the Committee. It's therefore important to recommend a member even if you have done so in the past.

*Please take the time to recommend those you feel should receive the Hall of Fame honor.*

The current members of the Hall of Fame, in alphabetical order, are:

Allan Anderson	Janice O'Neal (deceased)
Archie A. Black	Charles T. Rodgers
Harvey Fuller (deceased)	Eric S. Rosenblum
Howard Herz	Douglas Saito
Phil Jensen	Dale Seymour
Michael Knapp (Chairman)	Mike Skelton
Jim Kruse	Jim Steffner
Bruce Landau (deceased)	Greg Susong (deceased)
Mark Lighterman	Gene Trimble
Robert Mera (deceased)	Ernie Wheelden
Allan Myers	

For biographies of the HoF members, please visit the Club website at [http://www.ccgcc.com/hall\\_of\\_fame.html](http://www.ccgcc.com/hall_of_fame.html)



# Club Merchandise

**2009 Convention Chip** – \$5.00 each  
 Set of 11 Convention chips (including 2009) – \$35.00  
 Years Available –  
 95, 96, 99, 01, 02, 03, 04, 06, 07, 08, 09



**2009 Poker/Blackjack Tournament Sets** – \$15.00  
 (2 or more sets \$12.00 each)  
 Years Available –  
 2001, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09  
 (08 & 09 sets are 4 chip commemorative sets)



**2009 Convention Pin** – \$5.00  
 Prior Year Pins Available 1997-2008  
 \$3.00 each  
 Set of all 12 pins (including 2009)  
 \$25.00

**2009 Convention Medal Set** – \$38.00  
 2008 Convention Medal Set  
 \$30.00  
 1993 - 2008 Bronze Only  
 \$5.00 ea

**CC&GTCC Member Pin** – \$5.00

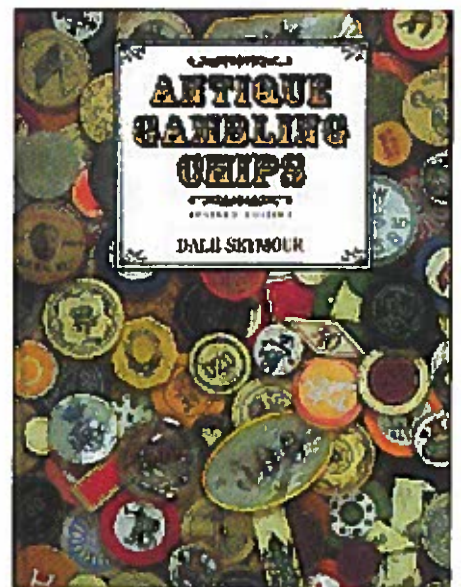


**CC&GTCC Totes** – \$5.00

**Dale Seymour's 'Antique Gambling Chips'**  
 Hardback – \$15.00



**Casino Chip & Token News Back Issues** – \$3.00 ea.  
 1993-2008 (not all available-email request before ordering)





**2009 Convention T-Shirt – \$15.00**  
Sizes Large – XXL.

**CC&GTCC T-Shirt – \$15.00**  
Sizes Medium – XXL

**CC&GTCC Polo Shirt – \$25.00**  
Colors-Red, Navy, Black, Cream,  
Steel, Grey  
Sizes Small-XXL  
(not all colors in all sizes)

**CC&GTCC Caps – \$10.00**  
One Size Fits All

**2009 Convention DVD – \$30.00**  
2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 Convention  
DVD \$5.00 each  
All 6 for \$50.00



2009 Convention T-Shirt



CC&GTCC T-Shirt



CC&GTCC Cap



CC&GTCC Polo Shirt

Make Checks Payable to :  
CC&GTCC

Mail Orders To:  
**Roy Nelson**  
P.O. Box 777602  
Henderson, NV 89077-7602

A downloadable order form is available at... [www.ccgccc.com](http://www.ccgccc.com)  
Email order questions to: [promotions@ccgtcc.com](mailto:promotions@ccgtcc.com)

Shipping and handling charges within the continental U.S.

Order amount:

up to \$5.00 add \$2.50

up to \$10.00 add \$3.50

up to \$25.00 add \$6.95

up to \$50.00 add \$8.95

up to \$100.00 add \$10.95

NOTE: Some items, because of shape and/or weight will be mailed pre-paid priority and shipping cost may increase.  
International orders - contact for shipping charges

Nevada residents subject to 8.1% sales tax All prices subject to change without notice





# On-Line Resources

The Caribbean Chip Guide hosted by Charles Kaplan & Terry Shaffer has over 4,200 different casino chips and over 800 roulettes listed. But casino chips and roulettes are just a portion of this very in-depth web site. There are almost 7,000 items from over 140 different contributors. The web site has only been accessible since late 2007, but Charles and Terry along with the many contributors have created a very comprehensive reference to anyone collecting Caribbean gaming memorabilia.

Charles explains the beginnings of the Caribbean Chip guide on the web site under the History Link...

“On October 9, 2007 I was meeting my father, Lenny, at JFK airport in New York City. He was on his way from Israel to see his brother, and my uncle, Hesh, in Northern California. I was joining him for a few days of family visiting, which rarely occurs. Prior to the flight I bought a book on PHP and MySQL programming.

I started my career as a computer programmer and did that for 5 years until I tried something else. I loved programming, but I found something else that I wanted to do even more. So I haven't programmed for 25 years. And I certainly never programmed a web site. On those flights I designed a web site for the Caribbean ChipGuide. I designed the databases and the screens and the flow of the web site.

the base system. Most of the month of development was building the databases. I started by importing data from my collection. I then had to scan, align, crop and resize all the Caribbean items in my collection and add that to the data base. Then I wrote some update programs to facilitate getting data into the data base more easily. Finally I contracted with a web site provider to host the web site and

provide the www. CaribbeanChipGuide.com domain name. The web site was FTP'ed (uploaded) to my ISP and on December 11, 2007 the web site went live.”

Currently the web site can be accessed from Greg Susong's ChipBoard (from the Other Chip Guides links on the left side), or by it's own web site address of www.caribbeanchipguide.com. The web site is similar in look, feel and operation as Greg's ChipBoard, but has some very nice features for Caribbean chip collectors.

At the home page a nice map of the Caribbean works as a hot link



The Caribbean Chip Guide home page.

Many changes were to come later as I learned. Web programming is fun because you can see immediate results and make updates interactively.

It took only a few days to write



for the different casino areas. A very nice feature for those familiar with the area. If you are not familiar with the Caribbean you can navigate to the specific casino areas by the links just below the map.

Clicking through from the map or hot link of your choice will bring up a listing of casinos from that area. This is where the Caribbean Chip Guide excels. In most cases there is a photo of the casino with vital open and close dates and well as other miscellaneous information. There is a "Update" link that opens a e-mail to Charles if you have information to add to the web site regarding that specific casino.

Below the casino information is the various chips that have been released from that casino. Each chip is assigned a unique code for the Caribbean Guide, this is a CCG number. There is also a Catalog number for most chips. These catalog numbers come from different sources such as Archie Black's Puerto Rico Guide or Ralph

The Tropicana Havana casino main web page

The Tropicana Havana casino chip series web page

Pollack's Guide to Dutch Caribbean Chips. Charles lists this number as a cross reference for collectors who are already familiar with those cataloging systems.

The denomination, color, mold and other pertinent information are listed as well. There is a "Value" button that can be pressed to bring you to new web page dedicated to that specific chip where you can input your value recommendations which get forwarded

onto Charles. From there the web site will be updated accordingly. Each chip also has an "Updates" button for any new information that the collector would like to forward onto Charles.

Another very nice feature of the Caribbean Guide is the

"Series" link. Chips for each casino are sorted by denomination, which causes chips of a same series to be separated by other chips from different series. But the "Series" link that is shown just after the CCG number on the right, links you to a new web page that shows the entire series together. A nice way to see what chips you may be missing from a particular series.

As well as the casino chip listings, the Caribbean Guide also displays dice, matchbooks, postcards, slot cards, ashtrays, napkins or coasters and lots of other casino related memorabilia. There are many other features to the web site that collectors can discover by poking around. For instance: local news and weather for every island; links to Caribbean resources like news, radio, tv and airlines; a casino and item search capability and much more. When put all together the Caribbean Guide is one of the most complete web sites dedicated to one specific collecting area.





# Quality Collectors

P.O. Box 622 Hardy, AR 72542

*Specializing in Mississippi and the Riverboat Chips*



E-Mail:

[QualityCollectors@yahoo.com](mailto:QualityCollectors@yahoo.com)

Visit our web site

[www.QualityCollectors.com](http://www.QualityCollectors.com)

R-7555

## Top Quality

Ivory Gaming Chips

Faro and Other  
Vintage Gaming Collectibles

Stan & Betty Wilker

R-0868



P.O. Box 2081 – Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274



*CASINOS of*

ARUBA ~ BONAIRE  
~ CURACAO ~  
ST. MAARTEN ~ SURINAME

*The Dutch Caribbean*



By Ralph P. Pollack

**This 128 page book contains:**

1. The "CJ JK Connection
2. Identifying Casino Chips
3. The Burt Company Records
4. Gaming Tokens of the Dutch Caribbean
5. Over 1,000 photographs of chips and tokens of the Dutch Caribbean
6. History and Dates of the Casinos of the Dutch Caribbean

**BUY THE BOOK BEFORE YOU BUY THE CHIPS**  
\$38.95 which includes USPS Priority Mail

Send check or money order to:

**D C E**

**P.O. Box 79216, Dartmouth, MA 02747**

**TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS**  
**TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS**  
**TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS**  
**TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS TOKENS**

# TOKENS

**BUY - SELL - TRADE**

**Large Inventory of Casino  
Tokens from all over**

**e-mail:**

**mmason@zianet.com**

**Web Page:**

**www.zianet.com/mmason/index.htm**

## Direct Order Center

Las Vegas and Gaming Collectibles and Merchandise.  
Playing Cards, CasinoGaming and Poker Supplies, Postcards,  
Casino Collectible Display Frames and much more.

Visit our website and place your order online 24/7:

**www.LasVegasGiftStoreOnLine.com**

OR

**www.VegasEast.com**



Direct Order Center P.O. Box 1063 Lake Zurich, IL 60047  
Phone or Fax: 847-540-7790 E-Mail: sales@directordercenter.com  
CC&GTCC LM 172

**www.DirectOrderCenter.com**



Own a piece of gambling history  
before they all disappear



# CC&GTCC Mentoring Program

## **Introduction**

The program is offered free of charge and available to everyone. The Mentoring Program is specifically designed for new casino chip collectors offering a wealth of information and experience of our seasoned casino chip and memorabilia collectors.

Seasoned collectors have gone through many a trial and tribulation, learning as they go and learning from their mistakes over the years. Knowledge increases little by little over time as we absorb what we can from our interactions with other collectors and individual experiences. If one is going to learn from mistakes, isn't it always best to learn from someone else's mistakes?

Collecting has many forks in its windy road, and is filled with many potential unwise choices, but our experienced collectors will help guide the beginner down the path.

Quite often a new collector just happens to stumble onto a casino chip online message board or web site. They most likely have just a few chips, no price guides and no real idea of the best way to proceed with their new hobby. They often times have no idea how vast chip collecting is. That's where we come in!

- Find out which price guides are available.
- Find out which price guides should and shouldn't be used.
- Be able to ask questions about casino chips and casino related collectibles and find the answers.
- Find resources online and offline through our resource pages..
- Find out the best ways to increase your collection.
- Discover the many different collecting areas of casino memorabilia.
- Learn from the pros, what's valuable and what's not!

## **The Program**

Simply go to [www.ccgccc.com](http://www.ccgccc.com), click on the "EDUCATION" button to the top of the page. From there click on the "CC&GTCC Mentoring Program" link and a questionnaire/application will download to your computer, print out and complete the questionnaire/application and mail it to the address provided. The questions are designed to best identify your interests and to match you with a suitable mentor for your particular collecting interests.

**Initial Stage:** lasts for a period of 30 days. During this time, both parties will be encouraged to communicate back and forth through e-mails, and/or telephone. The mentee (new collector) will be open to ask any and all questions he may be interested in, and the mentor (experienced collector) will address the questions, giving advice and direction.

At the conclusion of the initial 30-day initial stage, the program chairman will contact both parties to see if both wish to continue. If both parties are pleased with how things are going, they may choose to continue for an additional 11 months. This short initial period is particularly good for beginners who just need a little help and direction while getting started.

Either the mentee or the mentor can conclude the relationship at anytime. This may need to be done because of unforeseen real life issues that may arise.

The program will continue for a maximum period of one year from the beginning of the initial active date, with a review after six months.

Mentoring Program Director, Terry Shaffer R-5645  
[terryshaffer@hotmail.com](mailto:terryshaffer@hotmail.com)



# CC&GTCC Claims Form

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 Jay Sands.
3. V.P. Sands will make an initial determination on the Claim.
4. If further action or investigation is warranted, V.P. Sands 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 V.P. Sands.

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 V.P. Sands. We will notify the membership once this format is available.

## Reward Fund

Several years ago, the Club had a standing offer to help deter theft of member's collections. Somewhere along the way it was either dropped, forgotten or just faded into obscurity. The Board has voted to reintroduce the reward offer. We would like to thank Jim Reilly for his research and assistance with this project. The terms of the offer are similar to those used by the ANA. Please contact any member of the BOD for further information.

The Club offers a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons charged with the theft of any part of a club member's collection.

The Club will pay a reward as follows:

- If the retail value of the stolen property is less than \$5,000, the reward is \$250
- If \$5000 to \$20,000, the reward is \$500
- If greater than \$20,000, the reward is \$1000.

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



# The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

[Conditions](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Chip FAQ](#) | [Chipology 101](#) | [Fakes](#) | [Library](#) | [Cleaning](#) | [Brass Core](#)

## Reference Center

Welcome to the CC&GTCC Reference Center! Here you will find useful information on the hobby of casino chip and gaming token collecting.

### **Casino Chip & Token News - A publication of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club**

This official club quarterly is a must-read for every casino collectible enthusiast.

#### **For The Beginner**

- [CCGTCC Mentoring Program](#) - Help others or find help for yourself!
- [2005 Buyer's Guide to Casino Collectibles](#) - Be an informed collector!
- **Ask The Expert!** - a list of CC&GTCC members who have volunteered to answer your questions.
- [Chip Conditions](#) - an official list of CC&GTCC sanctioned terminology used to describe chip condition.
- [Glossary](#) - an extensive list of the terminology used in our hobby - a "Chiptionary", if you will.
- [Chip FAQ](#) - a huge list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding our hobby.
- [Chipology 101](#) - a great intro-to-chipping seminar presented at the national convention.
- [Cleaning Chips](#) - a good primer on cleaning casino chips.
- [Mold Designs](#) - Robert Eisenstadt's mold design project.

#### **Detailed Reference**

- [Fakes/Fantasy/Counterfeits](#) - a large list of fake, fantasy, and counterfeit chips - includes pictures.
- [Brass Core](#) - a thorough presentation of the brass core controversy.
- [Fraternal Order of Eagles](#) - Aeries listed numerically
- [Cancelled Chips](#) - Nevada Casino Chips Known To Exist Cancelled

#### **Books, Magazine Articles, etc.**

- [Club Library](#) - a list of club reference material that you can check-out and use.
- [Gaming In Atlantic City](#) - by Steve Piccolo
- [Playboy Cheques, Chips & Tokens](#) - by Tom Stroh
- [Knapp on Books](#) - A series of book reviews by Michael Knapp
- [The Flamingo Capri Revisited](#) - by Mike Quinlivan
- [Casino Chip and Token News](#) - Back issues

The Education section of the CC&GTCC web site offers valuable information on chip collecting, whether you're new to the hobby or have been collecting for years.

In this section you will find reference material about fakes and counterfeits, cancelled chips, brass core chips and much more. *Ask The Expert* gives you access to over 50 collectors who can answer any question about collecting. Each collector is an expert in a particular field. Whether it's casino chips, tokens, silver strikes, ashtrays, dice or collecting by state, country or casino, you can find help here.

Check out the club library for books or search for articles on the *Casino Chip and Token News* web site. Other publications and articles are also free to download.

<http://www.ccgtec.com>



# WANTED

For Cash: Your loose chips, individual chips, or complete collections!

TOLL FREE (800) LUCK - 707

LOOKING FOR  
**OBSOLETE  
NEVADA  
CHIPS**

**SCOTT HARTMAN — “THE CHIP MAN”**

P.O. Box 387, Agoura Hills, California 91376-0387

Tel: (818) 706-1197 / Fax: (818) 706-1986

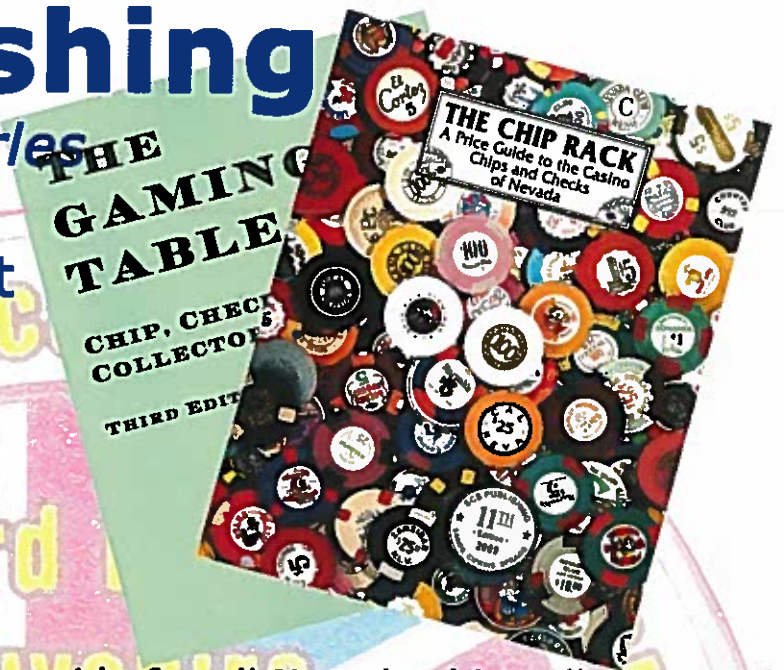
Web: <http://www.chipman.com> E-Mail: [scott@chipman.com](mailto:scott@chipman.com)



# SSS Publishing

(Jay Sands, David Sarles  
& David Spragg)

proudly announce that  
they are now the new  
publishers of BOTH  
The Chip Rack  
and  
The Gaming Table



The Chip Rack is the #1 reference guide for all Nevada chip collectors, with its unique copyrighted numbering system identifying over 25,000 chips! The Gaming Table is the ONLY worldwide guide to gaming establishments! Order both books now from [www.thechiprack.com](http://www.thechiprack.com) or come and meet the publishers at the 7th Las Vegas Superbowl Chip show, 5th-6th Feb 2010.

## Marlow Casino Chips

announces the consignment sale of one of the world's leading collections of Plaques & Jetons. The sale is scheduled to start in April 2010, and catalogs should be available at the Las Vegas Superbowl show in February. Email me to join my mailing list for this sale!



David Spragg LM-6180-166  
38 Oak Tree Road, Marlow  
Bucks, SL7 3EE, United Kingdom

or 840 S Rancho Dr #4314, Las Vegas, NV 89106

[www.marlowcasinochips.com](http://www.marlowcasinochips.com)

Email: [david.spragg@marlowcasinochips.com](mailto:david.spragg@marlowcasinochips.com)