

Casino Chip

& Token News



Volume 23 Number 4
\$6.95

SOMEWHERE IN TIME...



PLUS...

**Profile of a Pioneer —
James L. Young**

Tragedy at the Orbit Inn

Agua Caliente

**Hard Rock Hotel & Casino,
Punta Cana**

Phil's Forays

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Part 2

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The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) educational organization
with the mission of preserving gaming history.

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Join The Fun!

CC>CC 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 |

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- Do not publish any of my information

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

- One year \$30.00 - 3rd class or bulk mailing rate
- One year Associate Member \$5.00
- First class postage - additional \$14.00
- 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>CC to:

CC>CC Membership Officer

Steve Bedo

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Glendora, CA 91741

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or sign up or renew on line at...

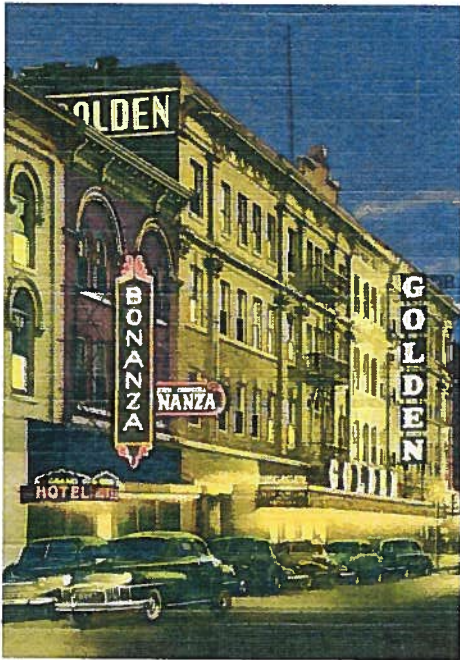
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Nevada in the 1940's**
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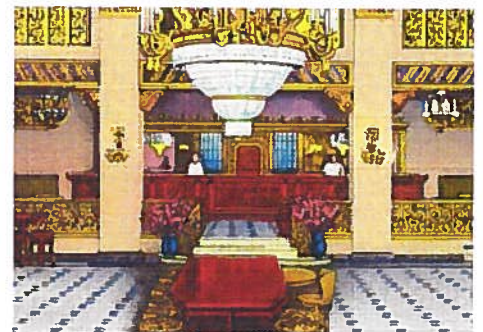
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American Numismatic Association Membership Application

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

Regular Student Junior Senior Associate

Present or former ANA number, if any _____

Mr. Mrs Ms.

Name, please print _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Date of Birth _____

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

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

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

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

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Check Money Order Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature of Cardholder (Required) _____

Dues

- Regular (age 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



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

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Need help in working up your ad?
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Fax - 562-634-8107
Email - ctcoins@aol.com

Send full payment payable to "CC>CC"
with your advertisement to:

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

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>CC. No ad will run without payment

Schedule of Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

Spring Issue
Mailing Date: March
Deadline for Ads: January 1st

Summer Issue
Mailing Date: June
Deadline for Ads: April 1st

Fall Issue
Mailing Date: September
Deadline for Ads: July 1st

Winter Issue
Mailing Date: December
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

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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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

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Charles T. Rodgers, Advertising Manager
P.O. Box 4572 - Lakewood, CA 90711
Need help call 562-408-2463 or E-Mail 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

BREAKING NEWS..... we have new Convention Chairs for the 2011 CC>CC Convention at the South Point. Dave and Debbie Harber have graciously accepted the position of Convention Co-Chairs. I thank them for volunteering and ask that you all support them in their endeavor.

Dave is setting up a special web site and possibly some other technological connections to make information more available as things progress.

Raffle time —

The club will be running a big raffle at the convention like the one we had in 2009. See related article and contact Steve Bedo for donations and tickets. Lots of really great items turned up in the packets in the drawings, don't miss out on this.

Election time —

Call for nominations for the office of President and Secretary for the 2011-2013 term. See related article. Here is your chance to do something for the club. Actions speak louder than words.

We are hoping for more incentives to fill the pre-registration envelopes. Pre-register and avoid the lines on Thursday morning. We are all looking forward to a bigger and better show. Thanks again Dave & Debbie.

On another note, in attending the G2E Gaming Expo this week here in Las Vegas I noticed several new companies exhibiting and lots of new slot machines and table games. Manufacturers from Germany and other foreign countries are getting into the market, which is a good sign economically.

Gaming company stocks are looking good on the market over the past few weeks. Air traffic into Las Vegas is up and the streets are crowded, all good signs that the economic status is improving.

Your BOD is working on some membership benefit improvements and some new ideas that will make our club even better. Watch for some announcements on the club board as soon as they are finalized and in the next issue of the magazine.

Many of you have received your new club calendars and the initial responses are great. It is a beautiful product and a great way to promote the hobby by displaying at home or at work. Thanks to Steve Bedo and Todd Barrett, among others who have helped make this project a success. Great job!

That's it for now, make your plane and hotel reservations at the South Point for the convention, the fun starts now.

Jim Steffner
CC>CC President

New Members

Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
8201	Newman	David	CA	Northridge	Robert McColum
8202	Soria	John	CA	Manteca	John Soria, Sr.
8203	Richards	Daniel R.	FL	Immokalee	Club Website
8204	Freeman	A. Scott	NH	Litchfield	Robert Eisenstadt
8205	Pyle	Joseph	AZ	Prescott	Club Website
8206	Boling	Edward	TX	McKinney	Club Website
8207	Sattane, Sr.	Mike V.	SC	Marion	Club Website
8208	Luxenberg	Edwin	IN	Logansport	Club Website
8209	Sowell	David	TX	Watauga	Club Website
8210	Rijnkels	Stefan		Netherlands	Club Website
8211	Parrish	Bryan	NC	Raleigh	Club Website
8212	Buckner	Jeff	KY	Louisville	Former Member
8213	Bitanga	Greg	MD	Silver Spring	ACC Club
8214	Anway	Kyle	MN	Bloomington	Richard Gummer
8215	Nelson	Gerald	OH	Archibold	Richard Gummer
8216	Pollack	Carl	NY	Long Beach	Richard Gummer
8217	Bischoff	Leonard	CA	Bakersfield	Allan Anderson
8218	Goff	Michael	WA	Redmond	Bill Purcell
8219	Gleixner	Bill	NV	Winnemucca	Bill Purcell
8220	Cooley	Dan	MN	Pine City	Bill Purcell
8221	DeShazo	Michael	ID	Caldwell	The Chip Board
8222	Gaffke	Jeffrey	WI	Greenfield	The Chip Board
8223	Hill	Bert E.	CA	El Sobrante	Club Website
8224	Johnson	Ronald	CA	Daly City	Former Member
8225	Spine	C. Kevin	KY	Louisville	Kevin Norris
8226	Wyrostek	Dan	PA	Pittsburgh	Reggie Gummer
8227	Rini	Tony	CA	Newbury Park	John Cushay

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

SEE YOU AT
"SPLASHBAR VII" 2011

Brian "Mr. Splashbar" Cashman
LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06



Doug Smith
Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

The information contained in this report reflects costs and expenditures for the period of 07/01/10 thru 09/30/10.

Highlights of the Second Quarter of 2010 (07/01/10-09/30/10)

- Filed Tax documents for 2007-2009 with the NY State AF Charities Bureau.
- Finalized and shipped all remaining auction lots to bidders
- Completed and filed 2009 Federal Tax return
- Completed accounting for 2010 Convention activities
- Renewed Fidelity Bond and D&O Insurances

Club Accounts

The current balances as of 09/30/10 in the CC>CC accounts are as follows:

Museum Fund Money Market	\$102,393.03
Life Membership Fund Money Market	\$61,092.16
General Fund Money Market	\$14,621.21
General Fund Business Checking	\$64,908.24
Total of all four accounts	\$243,014.64

The above totals do not reflect checks written in the amount of \$12,112 for payments that have not yet cleared and deposits in the amount of \$7,391 that were made after the 09/30/10 date.

The 18th Annual CC>CC Convention

Now that another successful convention is behind us we can take a look forward to the next one in 2011. I can't stress enough how much thanks should go out to every one of the Volunteers. From Convention Chairman to the people who spend a few hours manning the club tables, each and every one plays an important role in the convention and deserves a big THANK YOU.

With the final numbers are in we can look at some key revenue areas.

The 2010 Registration revenue was \$10,784 compared to \$15,030 in 2009. Due to the decrease in registration fees, the drop in revenue is not that surprising. Dealer Table fees for 2010 totaled \$26,815 compared with \$21,815 last year. Banquet numbers were nearly exactly what they were in 2009 and Convention Program advertising was down about \$600. Overall the 2010 revenues were very comparable to the 2009 numbers.

The 8th Annual Bruce Landau Memorial Auction

The final numbers for this year's club auction came to just under \$5,500. There were several unpaid expenses from the 2009 auction that have now been accounted for which lowered this number from my previous estimate. The BOD and Auction Chair both recognize that this is an important revenue stream for the club and are working with David Spragg on several ideas to increase this number for future years. All lots have been paid for and mailed as well as all consignors paid.

Thanks once again to David and the rest of the volunteers who helped with the auction for all the work they have put into making Bruce's dream a continuing success

The Museum Fund

The total amount currently in the Museum fund is now \$102,393. This current period shows donations in the amount of \$1,195. I once again wanted to thank Carol and the Susong family for their very generous donation in Greg's memory.

MOGH costs accounted for this period included:

MOGH Meetings	\$1,652
MOGH Workshop	\$1,408
MOGH Focus Group	\$1,523
Calendar & Program Ads.	\$475
Misc. Supplies	\$50

Online Renewals & Pre-registration

During this period we accepted online payments for Pre-registration, Banquet, Membership, Club Merchandise, Club Auction, Calendars and Advertising.

This past quarter we have had a total of \$6,196 in transactions thru Paypal after fees.

2011 Casino Collectables Calendar

As of 10/23/10, we have collected nearly \$3,188 in payments for Calendar and Date sales. There are a few lingering payments coming in, but we expect nearly \$3,500 in sales by the time the Calendars are shipped next month. The club should see additional revenue in the range of \$2,000 from this endeavor.

A tremendous thank you goes out to Todd Barrett, Neal Silverman, and Steve Bedo for their involvement in this

fantastic piece of work. Once everyone sees how these come out, many more will want one for 2012.

Period Revenue (Thru 09/30/10)

The following monies were collected during the period of 07/01/10 thru 09/30/10.

Membership Renewals	\$11,733
Auction Proceeds (supplies/postage)	\$10,224
CCTN Magazine Advertising	\$2,330
Calendar Sales	\$2,099
Promotion Sales	\$1,278
Museum Fund Donations	\$1,195
Convention Program Advertising	\$250
Banquet Registration	\$135
Interest Income	\$88
Convention Registration	\$60
Dealer Table Fees (2010)	\$15
Misc. Donations	\$13
Sales tax (Nevada Dept of Taxation)	(\$1,480)
Total Period Revenue	\$27,940

Period Expenses (Thru 09/30/10)

The following expenses were paid during the period of 07/01/10 thru 09/30/10.

Convention	\$22,369
Museum Committee Meetings	\$1,652
CCTN Magazine	\$1,643
MOGH Focus Group expenses	\$1,523
MOGH Workshop facilitation	\$1,408
Convention Medal Sets	\$1,140
Quarterly Storage	\$852
Awards	\$827
Misc. Postage (Membership/Promotions)	\$583
Membership Pins	\$565
MOGH Expenses/Merchandise	\$525
Credit Card / Paypal Fees	\$286
Insurance	\$268
Promotions	\$100
Printing	\$46
Total Period Expenses	\$33,787

Period Account Balance Reconciliation (Thru 09/30/10)

Total balance in all accounts as of 07/01/10	\$248,862
Revenue for the Period thru 09/30/10	\$27,940
Expenses for the Period thru 09/30/10	(\$33,788)
Balance of all accounts as of 09/30/10	\$243,014

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THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB INC.
Income & Expense/Equity Statement (Cash Basis)
January 1 Thru September 30, 2010

INCOME

Membership Dues (Includes 1st class postage & Life Memberships)	\$	30,086
Convention 2010:		
Table Fees	\$	26,815
Registration	\$	10,784
Banquet	\$	8,775
Auction Proceeds (Includes Catalog)	\$	5,464
Program Advertising	\$	1,654
Poker & Blackjack Tournaments	\$	-
Convention 2010 Total:	\$	53,492
Promotion Sales	\$	6,361
Museum Fund Donations	\$	4,583
Magazine Advertising	\$	3,715
Calendar Sales	\$	2,704
Misc (Donations)	\$	659
50/50 Raffle	\$	460
Interest Income	\$	324
Life Member Challenge	\$	50
Sales Tax (Paid to State of Nevada)	\$	-
Total Income :	\$	<u>102,434</u>

EXPENDITURES

Convention (Includes Convention program)	\$	36,816
Magazine	\$	23,854
Museum Committee Workshops & Meetings	\$	7,612
Promotion	\$	3,822
Storage (Occupancy)	\$	2,556
Video Production (Convention/Seminars)	\$	2,400
Postage (Other than Magazine)	\$	1,859
Museum Fund Expenses / Promotional Items	\$	1,822
Meetings	\$	1,680
Website	\$	1,248
Awards	\$	1,216
Misc Supplies (Includes Membership Pins/Cards)	\$	1,561
Bank Charges / Paypal Fees / Ebay Fees	\$	873
Printing	\$	367
Advertising	\$	315
Insurance	\$	268
Filing Fees	\$	200
Telephone	\$	100
Total Expenditures :	\$	<u>88,569</u>

Net Income - 01/01/10 to 09/30/10 \$ 13,865

Beginning Equity Balance - 01/01/10	\$	249,488
Net Income - 01/01/10 to 09/30/10	\$	13,865
Change In Inventory - 01/01/10 to 09/30/10	\$	242
Ending Equity Balance - 09/30/10	\$	<u>263,595</u>

Detail of Equity Balance - 09/30/10

General Fund - Checking	\$	64,908	
General Fund - Money Market	\$	14,621	
Museum Fund (Formally Building Fund)	\$	102,393	
Life Membership Fund	\$	<u>61,092</u>	
Total Cash Available			\$ 243,014
Inventory (October 2010 listing)			\$ 20,081
Advance (Promotions & Secy)			\$ 500
Ending Equity Balance - 09/30/10			<u>\$ 263,595</u>

Respectfully Submitted, Douglas P. Smith - Treasurer
October 22, 2010

20 Year Club Members as of 2009

Gary Acquistapace	John Cunningham	Thomas Hitselberger	James A. Sarra
Anne Adams	Donald C. Durnin	Bill Holman	George W. Steel
Gerald K. Ayers	Mark Frietag	Cameron Kessinger	Charles M. Tomarchio
John Benedict	Rusty Goe	Kevin Norris	Don Totoian
Fred Bergman	Steve Goodrich	Dwayne E. Reed	Larry Trapp
Richard M. Bilek	Mark Guttenplan	Joel J. Reznick	
James Campiglia	Richard Hanover	Charles Sandes	

15 Year Club Members as of 2009

Mike Baldwin	Mark Gereb	Moe Lago	Marty Raschkovan
Larry Betker	Robert Ginsburg	Joseph Levi	Cliff Ruff
Darrell Birl	Dave Harber	Charles Lindsey	David D. Sarles
Joseph A. Blackburn	Mitch Heller	Rosser B. Maddox	Michael Spinetti
Clinton Boyle	Edward B. Hertel	Laird Mathie	Dan Stewart
Roy Brennan	Don L. Hitchcock	Paul S Mikulin	Don Tompkins
James I. Burns	Angela M. Holmes	Carol Ann Miley	Anthony F. Tricoli
Frank Caccavone	Charles Ingersoll	Jim Mooradian	Eugene Trimble
Chris Colangelo	Jack L. Jenkins	John Montrony	George Jr. Van Trump
George T. Davis	David E. Johnston	Tyrus Mulkey	Brian Wagner
Bob DeWitt	John Johnston	John "Top" Newby, Jr.	Steve Wells
Gary Engleman	Martin Kaplan	MarJo N. Ogle	Susan S. Wells
John W. Fletcher	Jud Karten	Guy Pichette	Bruce Wendling
Jim Forsman	Furman Kendall	Steven Plunkett	
James Gaan	Gary Kobayashi	Dean Porter	

10 Year Club Members as of 2009

Gary Y. Akita	Paul L. Fels	Raulin Mendonca	Randy Roberts
Robert Allen	David Forde	Eric Mensch	Damon J. Roberts
Jon Altman	Larry Glover	Thomas W. Miller	Paul Sax
Jeffrey D. Ayers	Kyle Gorman	William I. Miller	Gerald L. Schmidt
Marty Bacon	Jerry R. Graham	Ron Moor	Dale Selby
Ed Badger	James M. Hackett	Joseph T. Munroe	Max Sell
Jim Barnes	Dwight Harouff	Marc M. Neiwirth	Craig Sheets
John Berube	Howard Heninger	Roy Nelson	Glenda Sill
Tom Brassil	Frank Hocevar Jr.	Ernie Norgard	Katie Smith
Bradley Briskey	Dale Horyna	Brian E. Okiec	Bill St. Claire
William K. Brooks	Peter M. Hudik	Rick Olsen	Kim Steve
William Callan	Bryan L. Jimison	George W. Paul Sr.	Leonidas S. Tan PhD
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Of Literary Note

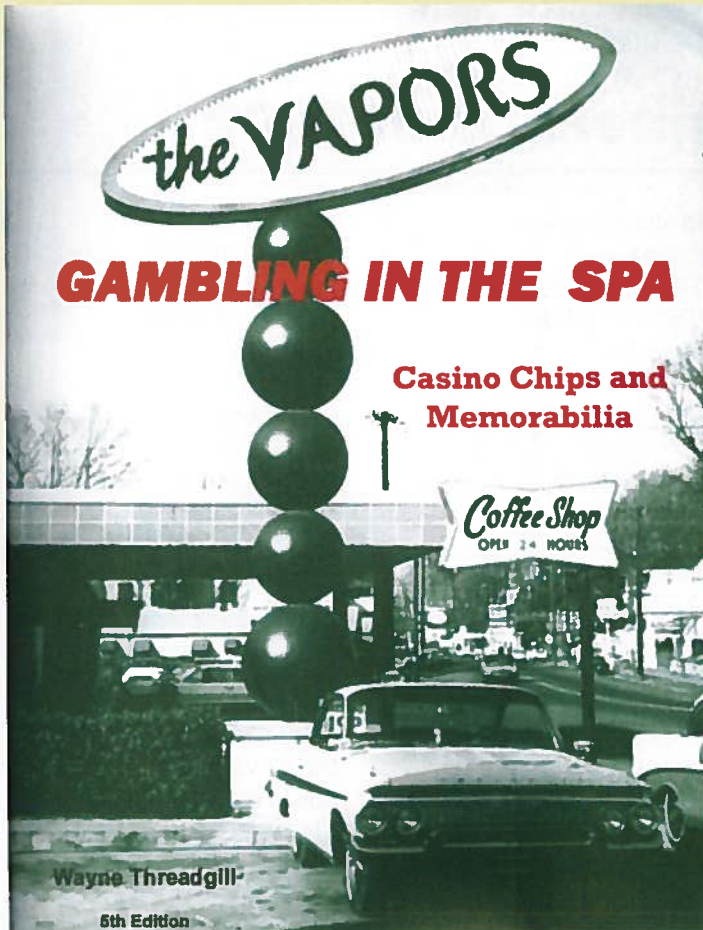
by the club Librarian, John K. Kallman

P.O. Box 122

Sartell, MN 56377

librarian@ccgtcc.com

There are collectors of all stripes within our organization. Of those whose decide to specialize in one particular area to the extent that they decide to pen a reference book on their chosen area is one of the real joys! The results of one such effort are *Gambling in the Spa* by Wayne Threadgill who recently donated a copy of his book to the club library. That this is the 5th edition of this work only reinforces that love he has for that area. If your collecting interest includes items from unlicensed (i.e. illegal) establishment, be it from Hot Springs, Arkansas which this book covers, or other area, this book should be a treat for you. Of course, the various chips that were used in these clubs are listed, but it also covers so much more, be it match books, dice, business cards, and various other items! Of course, there is an extensive history of the clubs to include photos of them. If you do not have a copy of this, or his early efforts, I do not think that you will be disappointed in adding this to your library.



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**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

Profile of a Pioneer

The James L. Young Story

Reprinted from an article that appeared in the April, 1995 issue of Chip Chat.

Reprinted with permission of Chip Chat

On July 1, 1975, the last hand of a Faro Bank game was played at the Union Plaza in Las Vegas. When the game was finished, it ended one chapter in the history of gambling that had started in the frontier days with stories of riverboat gamblers, forty-niners and railroad men who played Faro, or what they called more familiarly, Bucking The Tiger.

The man who oversaw this last hand of legalized Faro was James L. Young. Everyone who was someone in the Nevada years of 1932 to the mid 1970's knew James L. Young as a successful casino owner and an individual who had earned the respect of the community when he became the first gambler to serve on the board of directors for the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, later becoming its president in 1956 when he succeeded Senator Howard Cannon. But most of all they knew him as Jimmy.

Born in Linton, Kansas, in 1900, Jimmy Young spent much of his childhood days playing in the house where he had been born, a railroad station house. His father was a station agent who wanted to see his son become a doctor, a dream that young Jimmy was going to try and fulfill. But World War I came along, cutting short not only the lives of countless young men, but it cut short Jimmy's high-school education when, as a seventeen-year-old, he tried to enlist in the armed services.

The Navy rejected him for being flatfooted, a condition that the Army overlooked as well as his being underage. They turned this teenager into a marching Doughboy, gave him a rifle and a gas mask, then sent him to France.

In less than a year, Jimmy Young had become the youngest survivor of his battalion at the Battle of Meuse-Argonne. At age eighteen, Jimmy came home as a veteran of trench warfare, with no desires of being a doctor; he had seen enough of wounded flesh and battered bones.

He went to work for the railroads as a telegrapher, at one time accompanying President Calvin Coolidge's private train tour through the remote regions of South Dakota.

Working for the railroad in the 1930's meant a life surrounded by men who worked hard daily, gambled nightly, and drank the rest

of the time. By 1932, Jimmy Young had become an accomplished Faro dealer and an extraordinary poker player. He had also become part of a booming tent city erected for workers who were building a dam named Boulder before it was christened Hoover.

For the first and last time in his life, Jimmy missed a workshift because of an all-night poker game. Thus, by choice and by chance, his railroad career was over, and he became a permanent gambling resident of another booming Nevada community just north of Boulder City - Las Vegas.

He went to work for various clubs and casinos, augmenting his earnings with winnings on the tables. By 1941, Jimmy had enough



money to purchase the Silver Club on 1st Street in Las Vegas, putting in roulette, twenty-one and crap table games. Liquor was conveniently provided to patrons through a swinging door adjacent to Joe Morgan's Golden Camel Bar.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942 rekindled Jimmy's patriotic fever, and he quickly made plans to re-enlist. On a handshake deal, Jimmy turned control of the Silver Club over to Joe Morgan on the condition that ownership would revert back to him after the war.

Jimmy Young went to war again, this time seeking enrollment in Officer's Candidate School. While awaiting acceptance to O.C.S., he spent time in Oregon raising chickens and

eggs for the war effort, then came a work stint in Reno where he made acquaintances that turned into life-long friendships.

By 1944, Jimmy knew Uncle Sam wasn't going to take him up on the offer of his services, so it was back to the Silver Club in Vegas. A dispute about ownership of the Silver Club gaming lease was finally resolved by Jimmy when he offered to repurchase his own place.

The mid-1940's proved to be hectic years for everyone involved with gaming in Vegas. Downtown casino ownerships were changing hands rapidly. Bugsy Siegel was breaking ground way south of town. Down the street from Jimmy's Silver Club on Fremont Street, his friend Wilbur Clark had come in from Reno and had purchased one of Jimmy's favorite haunts, the Northern Club. Wilbur immediately began to make changes, replacing the

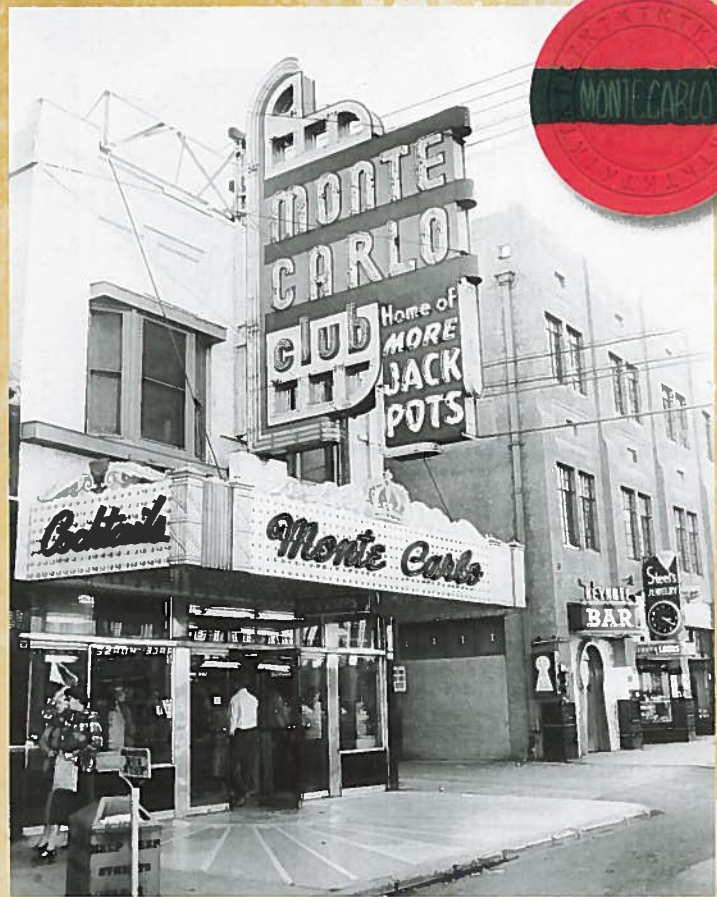
sidewalk with intricate mosaic tiles, constructing a kaleidoscopic drop ceiling that reminded many patrons of old-time shadow boxes, employing live entertainment on a daily basis. The place Wilbur was remaking became the Monte Carlo.

Jimmy Young was also part of this building and rebuilding frenzy. In 1945, he ventured southward of downtown, opening up the Bon Aire Club, on a location that would eventually become the Sands. Then in 1946, Jimmy struck northward, constructing a room addition to a North Las Vegas club called the Zanzibar, installing a twenty-one table and roulette. Later that same year, Jimmy purchased the Monte Carlo; thereby helping to finance another one of Wilbur Clark's dreams – the construction of a first-class operation on the Strip later to be called the Desert Inn.

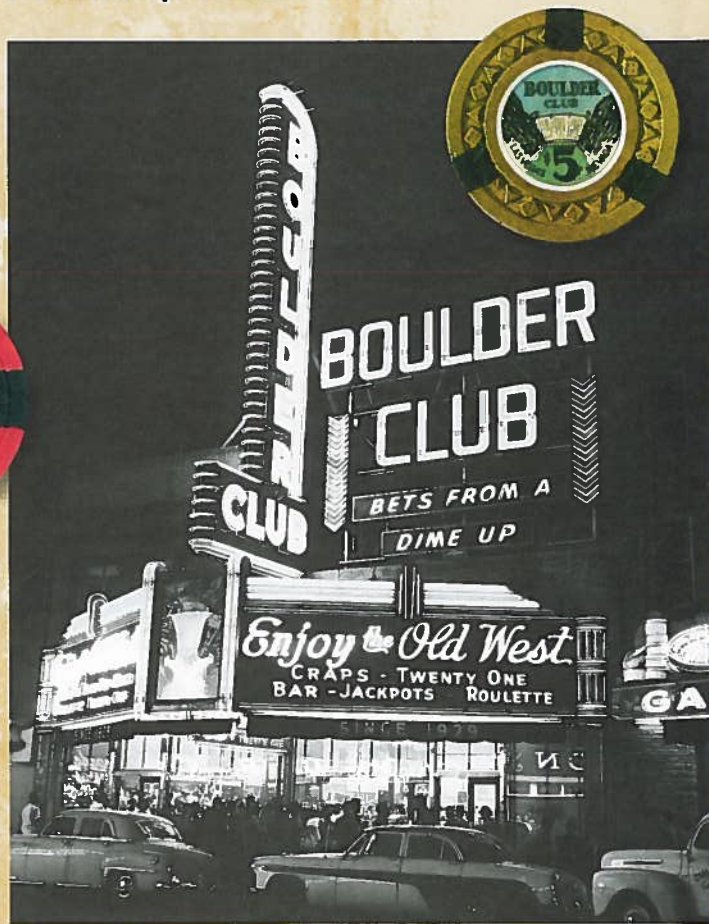
The late 1940's were years that Jimmy enhanced his reputation for treating all players and employees fairly. It wasn't uncommon for Jimmy to make unsecured loans to busted gamblers; yet it was uncommon for that day when Jimmy hired the first woman dealer in Las Vegas at the Silver Club. Also during this era, legendary gaming stories came about, such as when Nick the Greek walked into Jimmy's place, got into a Faro Bank game, and Jimmy beat the famous gambler for a cool quarter of a million. Or the time

when someone cut the telegraph wires that fed horseracing results to the downtown clubs in order to get down bets on sure winners; a scheme that Jimmy thwarted because his knowledge of Morse Code enabled him to figure something was amiss.

After Jimmy sold the Monte Carlo in 1949, he achieved a proud record as well as an envious resume for anyone connected to the gaming industry in Las Vegas. Jimmy was instrumental in training dealers for Faro Bank games at the Horseshoe and Monte Carlo; all of this while serving as a pitboss at other casinos, and even during his lengthy ownership of the Boulder Club in partnership with six other prominent Las Vegans. That ownership ended in 1960 when Benny Binion bought the building that housed the famous casino, thus bringing to end a famous downtown casino that had first opened its doors in 1931.



The Monte Carlo circa 1950. The Monte Carlo took over the space of the Northern Club. In this photo you can still see the mosaic tilework put in by Wilbur Clark when he owned the Northern Club. Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau.



*The Boulder Club in 1955.
Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau.*

The Boulder Club was the last casino James L. Young owned. Then, at age sixty, with the gambling life still running strong through his veins, he helped to set up more Faro games, and served shifts at various casinos as a pit boss. Up until his death in 1978, Jimmy Young was never far away from a green-felt table, forever known to his fellow pioneers as having earned a prominent place among the giants who made Las Vegas into the most famous gaming city in the world.

Faro Play

The game of Faro is played with a standard deck of cards which go into a “bank,” or specially designed wooden shoe from which the cards could be extracted. Players bet even money on the order in which certain cards would be dealt from the bank, or they could bet on a sequence, or “case” of cards that would appear. When run fair and square, many gamblers felt the game was a fifty-fifty proposition - one reason why it fell into disfavor with many casinos because the house had little to gain.

Jimmy Young admitted as much when he was quoted in an article in the Las Vegas Review Journal, dated July 1, 1974: “It’s the only game where the player has a dead-even chance...and consequently it’s a risky game for the house.”



*Jimmy Young dealing Faro in 1966.
Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau.*

Faro Chips

Although many Las Vegas casinos offered a Faro Bank game, it appears that only a few ever issued a chip specifically designated for the game by having the word Faro appear on the chip. Here are the names of those casinos, including the mold of their Faro chips:

Aladdin/hat & cane, California Club/diamonds and hat & cane, Fremont Hotel/H-mold, Riata/horsehead right, Stardust/small crowns and T’s mold, and the Union Plaza/hat & cane.

Because a Faro layout usually accommodated six to eight players, each of the chips listed for the above-mentioned casinos would have been ordered in six to eight different colors. Also, it is more than likely that each of these same Vegas casinos would have had only one Faro table in operation, which would mean a minimum of two hundred chips in each color or possibly as many as five hundred of each color in order to maintain regular play.



JLY Chip

The initials on this white, large crown \$25.00 chip stands for James L. Young. The *Chip Rack* and other Nevada chip lists that I have seen have attributed this check to the Monte Carlo in Las Vegas; and even Marian Young, widow of Jimmy Young, recalls these chips being used at the Monte Carlo. However, the official registration cards of TR King, manufacturer of this chip, show that this chip and a \$5.00 lavender large crown were ordered for James L. Young’s Silver Club in 1945.

I feel that any discrepancy in attribution may have come about for two reasons. First, there is no listing of a James L. Young owning the Silver Club in Harvey J. Fuller’s Index of Nevada Gaming

Establishments. Second, although the JLY chips were officially ordered for the Silver Club, the possibility exists that James L. Young might have moved these chips from the Silver Club and put them into play at the Monte Carlo when he owned the club.



Marian Young

What started out as an interview with Marian Young, the widow of James L. Young, soon became more of a conversation between two old friends, one of whom wanted to learn as much as possible about her husband's life, the other more than willing to share photos and mementoes of his accomplishments. In the four hours that we chatted, Marian told me so much about her husband and so little about herself, but I'm sure if you were to mention the name John Starbuck to Marian, it would guarantee you an instant smile from her, and evoke laughter from Marian because she can't help but remember the only player she hated to deal cards to when she worked as a blackjack dealer at the Bon Aire.

John Starbuck was scarcely slim, a man who dressed for dessert because Marian could always tell what he had for dinner by looking at his slovenly knotted tie. He was a Harvard graduate in chemistry, which made him elite, who purportedly held seven different college degrees, which made him eccentric. He was a blackjack player who especially loved to play against Marian because he favored women dealers, figuring women wouldn't cheat him when they dealt cards.

Marian didn't hate John Starbuck, she just hated dealing to him because she always lost, sometimes thousands of dollars, and, it wasn't until much later that Marian learned that John was one of the earliest known card-counters who had a field day against those 1940 casinos because they all had single-deck games and they nearly always dealt to the bottom of the deck.

What did John Starbuck in, Marian recalled, was another John... John Barleycorn. When he was sober, John Starbuck made hundreds of dollars daily. When he was besotted, John lost

thousands a day.

Of course there were other stories Marian told me, some for the record, such as her being the first woman to be hired prior to Las Vegas revoking a city ordinance that had banned women from being blackjack dealers in the 1950's. And there were other stories, some off the record, such as...well, some stories will always remain secret if friendship means anything. And I am as grateful for my friendship with Marian Young as the thanks I wish to extend to her for providing me with all the valuable information and insights of her husband's life.



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The Bon Aire Club located at 3415 S. 5th Street (Las Vegas Blvd.) from 1945 to 1946. Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.

Chips of the Boulder Club



Possibly one of the oldest Boulder Club chips, this \$5.00 large crown chip, according to TR King records, was ordered in 1943. Those same records show that a gray \$25.00 chip was also ordered by the Boulder Club.



Although I consider the 25¢ Boulder Club chip to be somewhat rare, I also consider it to be an oddity. As far as is known, it is the only Boulder Club chip manufactured in the radial diamond.

Any guess on my part would be a hazardous one concerning the date of issue on this chip, but if I were forced to do so, I would have to say early 1950's.



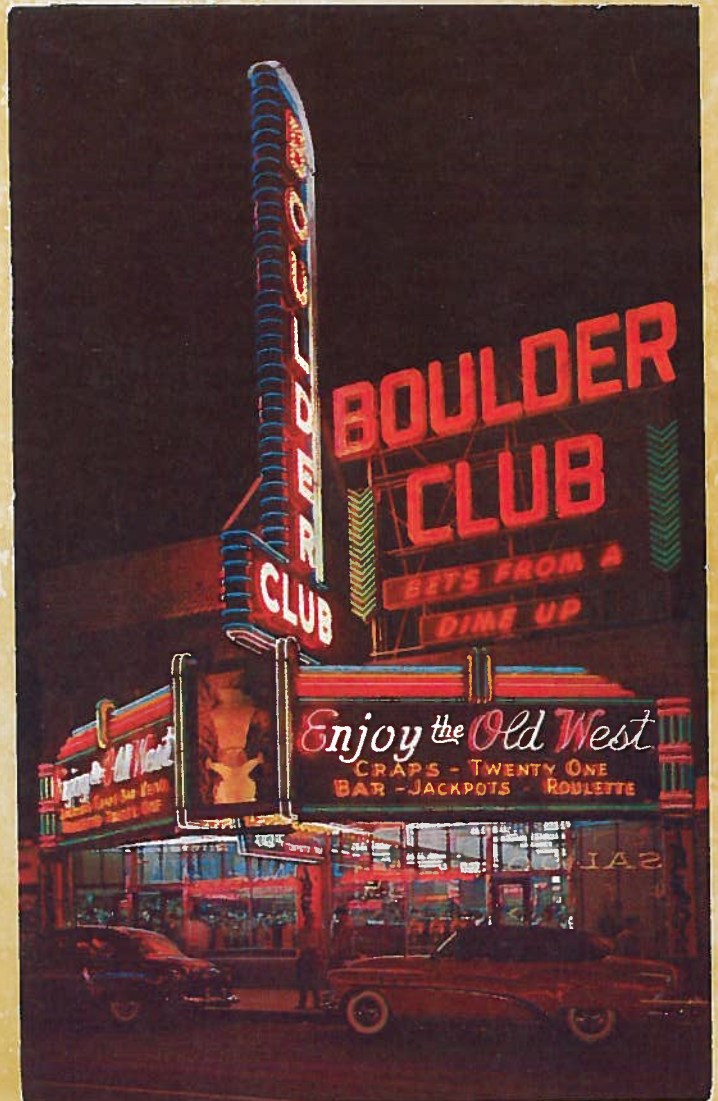
This beauty was the last issue of the Boulder Club when the casino ended operations in 1960. It is one of the few Boulder Club chips to have an inlay, and the words imprinted on the scalloped inlay states the theme of one of downtown Las Vegas' most famous casinos: Enjoy the Old West.



Thus far, only two colors have surfaced of the Boulder Club Pan chip, a blue and a brown. The rarer of the two colors seems to be the brown. However, because several dealers are selling both colors within a price range of \$5.00 to \$10.00, I wouldn't consider either one to be super-rare.

Again, like roulette and Faro chips, it's my feeling that the Boulder Club Pan chips would have been manufactured in at least four additional colors, possibly as many as six other colors.

(Club member Jim Sarra recently discovered a black Boulder Club Pan chip displayed above)



HELLDORADO 2010

THE HELLDORADO PARADE AND THE CC>CC

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010

By Sheldon Smith



L-R Tony Tricoli, Jim Steffner, Ralph Meyers and Sheldon Smith

It all started with Pam Goertler on a cold, dark day early in 2010 when she posted a query regarding the Helldorado Parade. Essentially, Pam asked, "Well, are we going to enter the parade?" I thought, "Holy Moly! Another thing for the Publicity Director to do!" And then I thought, "Yowee! I can be in a parade!" The parade started in 1934 to try and attract folks to Las Vegas as Hoover Dam was being completed. It was suspended in 1997 and resurrected in 2005; now it's 2010 and they have brought back the rodeo as well.

Pam said we had to mail an application to the City of Las Vegas. Yikes! Pam found the application, which we had to mail in ASAP. I thought, "What if they don't accept it or tell me we are not in? What do I do then?" Ha! Ha! Everybody who makes the deadline gets in, but I didn't know that at the time!

First we needed a vehicle—I certainly wasn't going to walk the parade route! Lo and behold, like a genie from old, up stepped Ralph (Hotrod) Myers, ring in the ear, just like a genie, and said he would do it! Now, we had the application in and a chauffeur to drive the route.

We needed more than just a car because we wanted to give the crowd something to remember us by. Jim Steffner and I thought if we were going to throw something at the crowd, perhaps it should be a wooden nickel. I checked and the parade folks said, "Sure, throw pieces of wood out at them; they'll love it."

At first, Ralph was going to drive a two-door car but then... you can't throw things from the back seat of a two door! Instead, Ralph said, "Hey, I have a bright red Ford truck and you could sit

in the back or walk along it." Jim said, "I can have signs made that look just like the Helldorado Nickel." And thus was born the Helldorado CC>CC Wooden Nickel or whatever you want to call it. But wait, we only had Ralph and Jim and me—not enough people to share this awesome responsibility. Then along came Tony Tricoli who said, "Hey, I'm recovering from my surgery; I can walk the route with you!"



Club member Ralph "Hotrod" Myers provide the club "float"

Now we had a force for the good of the club. The wheelman, Ralph; the designer, President Jim; the walker, Tony; and, of course, you'll never guess who did the whole parade from the back

of the truck in a chair...Me!

There were 127 entries in this year's Helldorado and we were Number 97. I got there early and searched for a bright red Ford truck. I found Jim, Ralph and Tony and then we waited and waited and waited. Takes a long time to get to Number 97! By then, it was dark (as you can see in the pictures) and the parade moved very, very slowly! I won't mention what politician's vehicle was in front of us the whole way, going extra-slowly, but it was a real bother to Ralph, whose truck died twice on the route—good thing Ralph knew what to do about that!



Jim Steffner



Along the way came some very nice surprises: Pam and her husband, George, caught up with us and jumped on board—yeah! Scott Snider and his friend, Sandra Zakai, were there, which was a great surprise as they waved enthusiastically and Sandra walked alongside! Check out all the pictures! Our timing worked great—when we passed the reviewing stand, they made a nice announcement of who we were and what we do! Yeah!



Christine Smith

Our Helldorado Nickels invited folks to the upcoming convention and we gave out a lot of them. Ralph's truck had great signage promoting the Club, so all in all we feel the effort

was worthwhile and will be repeated. We hope to make another Helldorado Nickel, perhaps this time with a small discount off of the convention's admission. Then we could actually count our nickels as they come in!

Thanks to Pam for planting the seed! Thanks, of course, to Ralph for his truck and his patience! Thanks to Jim for designing and producing both the Helldorado Wooden Nickel and the signs for Ralph's truck. And thanks to Tony Tricoli for walking the entire route!

That's the story of the CC>CC and the Helldorado Parade.



Tony Tricoli



Ralph "Hotrod" Meyers

Tragedy at the Orbit Inn

A BOMB BLAST AT THE ORBIT INN IN 1967
TAKES THE LIFE OF SIX PEOPLE.



Photo by Ken Jones

THE FOLLOWING STORY APPEARED IN
THE LAS VEGAS SUN IN JANUARY OF
1967. IT LAYS OUT THE GRUESOME
DETAILS OF A STORY THAT SEEMS
TO BE MOSTLY FORGOTTEN.

FBI combs blast ruins

Suicide suspected in LV dynamite deaths

Jerry Demarest

Sunday, Jan. 8, 1967 | 12:05 a.m.

An FBI squad joined local police last night probing the dynamite gutted ruins of the Orbit Inn Motel, seeking evidence and a motive to yesterday's blast which killed six persons and injured eight.

The dead, police said, were: R. J. Parish, 28, and his wife Christine, 22, of 5434 Sierra Vista, Hollywood, Calif.; George Brooks, 68, and his new bride Arnell, 57, of King's Ransom, Sedona, Ariz.; and John Auwaerter, 60, and his wife, Lillian, 58, of 7424 El Centro Way, Buena Park, Calif.



Investigators can be seen combing through the debris of the Orbit Inn hotel on January 7, 1967. Photo by Ken Jones.

Injured in the explosion and admitted to the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital were: Jim Mahan, 24, of Allegan, Mich. Cuts and bruises, good condition; his wife, Bobbie, 22, cuts and bruises, good; Steve March, 70, of San Pedro, Calif., cuts and bruise, fair; Lewis Palmer, 60, Preston Idaho amputation of left leg, plus cuts fair; and his wife Laura 65 in fair condition with cuts and bruises.

Treated and released were Charles Pearce, 73, of Bishop, Calif., and his wife Essie, 74.

"It definitely was a bomb, no question about it said Dist. Atty. George Franklin, commenting upon the savage explosion which ripped though the \$250,000 downtown motel about 1:30 a.m. yesterday. It was an amateur job though," he said. "A professional doesn't use too much of what he needs." Police and a Nellis

Air Force Base demolition expert feel that at least 30 sticks of dynamite were used and the device was triggered in the second story room occupied by Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Paris.

Local and Federal agents alike are searching for a motive and consider revenge or a suspicious husband. "It definitely has to be a suicide or homicide," Franklin said. "If we find anyone registered with the wrong wife or husband we'll have our first clue."

Although classified by authorities as an amateur job, the blast did a job on the motel — collapsing floors to the ground and bringing out part of the roof. Across the motel courtyard windows were knocked out and walls fractured by the blast.

Electric service was disrupted in nearby buildings, including the El Cortez Hotel and casino where an employee said, "the blast felt like it moved the building three inches."

Surviving motel occupants wondered about in shock, rapidly slicing their feet to ribbons on slivers of glass and the debris which littered the area.

Deputy coroner Harvey Schnitzer reported the blast force was fantastic — scattering victims in an unbelievable manner. All of the victims were decapitated and one skull was found lying in an adjoining alley — it had been blown through the roof and over the wall. The leg of a woman was found embedded in a wall.

One of the sights greeting arriving police officers and ambulances was found on a brown paper bag — a woman's mud-spattered hand with wedding and engagement rings still on a finger.

While A A A and Mercy Ambulance firms pressed all available units into action, making possible shuttle runs to the hospital, six black plastic pouches remained on scene for a while.

Late yesterday, Berkeley Bunker of Bunker Brothers Mortuary, commented upon the size of the bags now resting on the mortuary's garage floor, as well as a blanket and mattress cover parcel beside them. "The reason for the odd sizes," Bunker said, "is due to the fact the bodies are all dismembered and decapitated. The two small parcels contain hands, feet and tissue. We have orders to leave the bodies right where they are until the FBI or pathologist arrives."

Schnitzer said an FBI identification team was requested to assist in victim identification and was expected late last night. In the meantime, police impounded all vehicles registered to motel occupants.

Police Lt. E. C. Carlisle reported a .25-caliber pistol was found outside the demolished building and it might have been used to detonate the explosive charge. Ammunition for the pistol was found in a nearby car registered to Paris.



Las Vegas police officers look at destruction of the Orbit Inn hotel from the pool deck. Photo by Ken Jones.



A view of the destruction from the parking lot. Photo by Ken Jones.

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This oversized postcard of the Orbit Inn shows an interesting view of their Coffee Shop, Dining Room and guest rooms with "Free TV". Also a nice view of the pool that shows right where the explosion would occur in 1967. This may be before gaming was offered at the Orbit Inn as there is no mention of gaming on the front or back of the postcard. Image provided by Martin Kenney.



A large hole can be seen in this aerial photo of the Orbit Inn hotel on Sunday, Jan. 8, 1967. Photo by Ken Jones.



A view of the Orbit Inn from the mid 1980's with a matchbook and \$100 chip to match. Matchbooks provided by Martin Kenney.



A view of the Orbit Inn location in June of 2010



A close up view of the hotel rooms that were effect by the bomb blast in 1967. Photos on this page provided by Marc Shapiro.

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 4 chip commemorative sets)



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 Prior Year Pins Available 1997-2009 – \$3.00 each
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CC>CC Member Pin – \$5.00

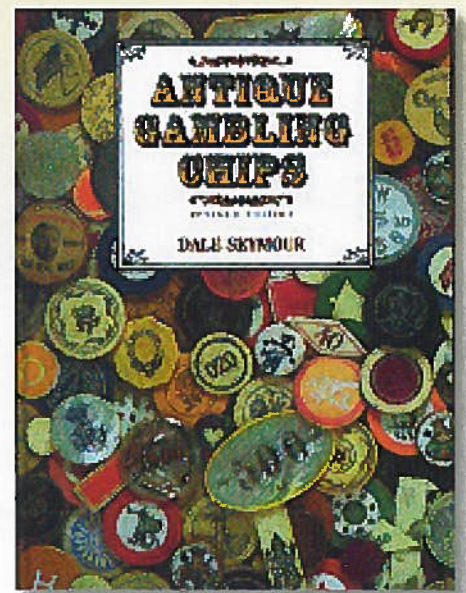


CC>CC Playing Cards – \$1.00/deck

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For more club apparel check out the 'On-line Club Shop' on the website www.ccgcc.com.

SOMEWHERE IN TIME...

NEVADA IN THE 1940'S PART TWO

By Pam Goertler, #R-3432

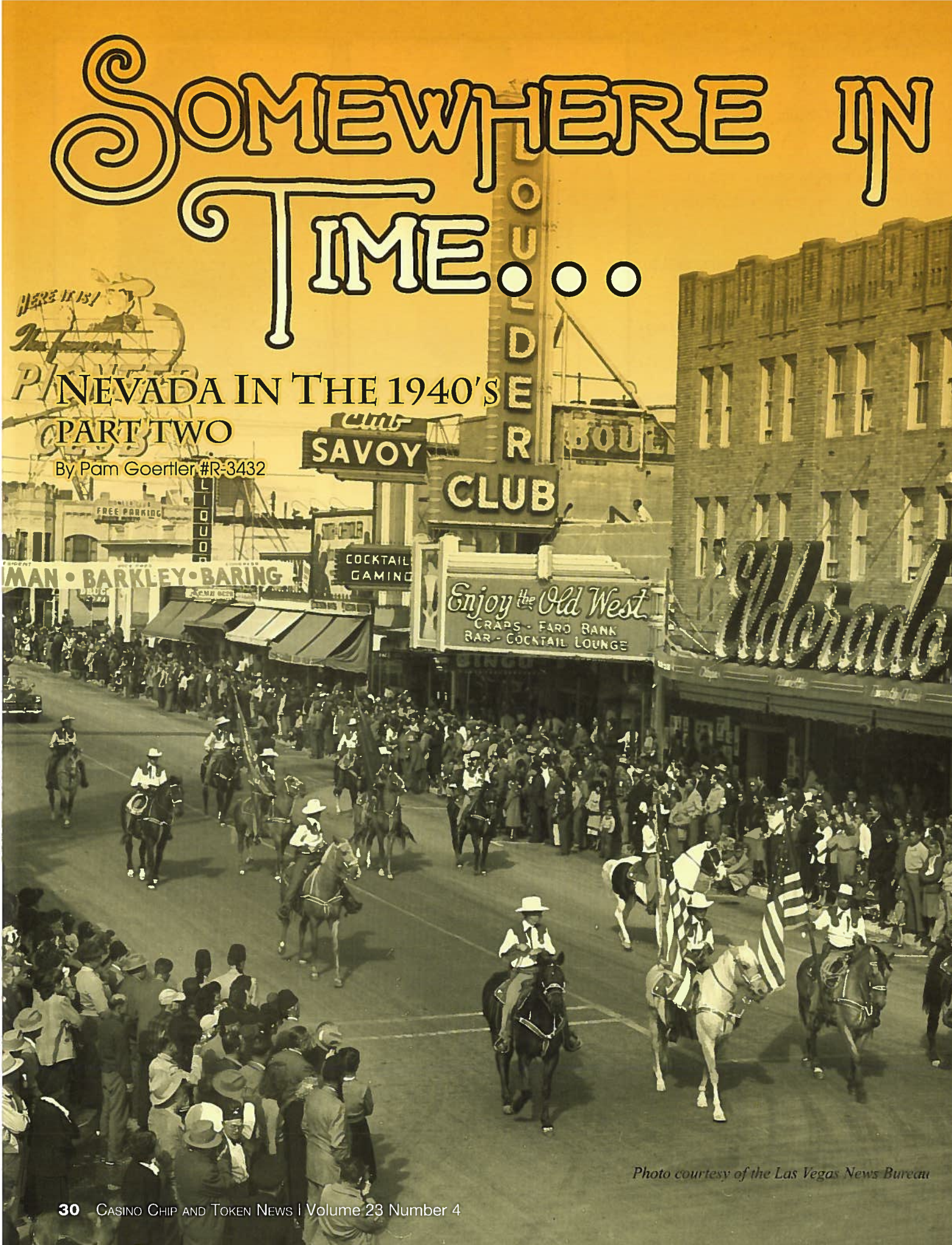


Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau

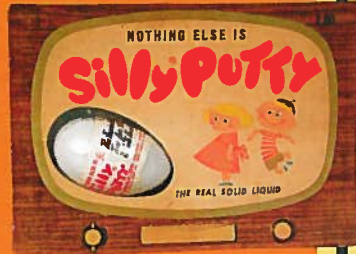
1943

General Electric engineer James Wright was trying to invent a synthetic replacement for rubber. The combination of boric acid and silicone oil formed a bouncy, stretchy substance that was useless as a substitute for rubber...but

people loved to play with it, and Silly Putty was born. The world's largest "office building", The Pentagon, was completed. Police officers forced the Star Bar, in West Las Vegas, to close. As reported by the Review Journal, the bar had been "playing to a mixed trade, with Negroes and whites encouraged to congregate in the establishment promiscuously". In

1943 the average worker earned \$2,000 per year. A gallon of gas was .15, a bottle of Coke was a nickel, and a new car was around \$900. December 27, 1943; Dr. Roy W. Martin, the first permanent physician in Las Vegas, passed away.

Dr. Martin had retired but in 1942, at the beginning of World War II, he came out of retirement because of the shortage of doctors. He was practicing at Basic Hospital in Henderson when he died, after having two heart attacks in close succession.



BLACKOUT BAR-RENO

Located at 230 1/2 North Virginia Street, with another entrance at 231 Lincoln Alley, the Blackout was licensed from 1943-1946 for slots, craps, and blackjack.

Phil Jacobs owned a clothing store at 230 North Virginia Street, in Reno. When Phil passed away, his son Murray converted the store into a liquor store. There was space in the back that Murray leased to Bill Harrah, who already leased the Reno Club next door. Harrah put in the Blackout Bar, so named because of the periodic blackouts during World War II. In addition to the entrances from North Virginia Street and Lincoln Alley, there was a side entrance from Harrah's Heart Tango Club.

In his first real foray into gambling, other than bingo, Harrah put slot machines, one blackjack table and a one-man craps table into the Blackout (he had leased out the slot machines in his Heart Tango Club).

Harrah also had entertainment at the Blackout; Jack McCarg, known as Jackson. Harrah credits Jackson with attracting thousands of customers to the Blackout.

In 1944 a dollar slot machine was stolen from the Blackout Bar. The thief was an off-duty bartender from the Bank Club. Jack Sullivan, manager of the Bank Club, suggested to Harrah that they could handle it between them. Harrah didn't agree, and he testified against the bartender who was sent to jail. Formerly a regular at the Bank Club, Harrah was no longer welcome there. Frank Shealey, a co-owner of the Silver Dollar Club on Center Street, was arrested for accepting the stolen machine. According to police Chief Harry Fletcher, the Silver Dollar was a hangout for hoodlums and ex-cons. The Silver Dollar's gaming license was revoked and, in December, Shealey was found guilty of accepting stolen property; he was sentenced to jail.

When Harrah's lease expired, the property went back to Murray Jacobs who eventually leased, then sold, the property to the Nevada Club.



GOLDEN CLUB-AUSTIN

According to Harvey Fuller, the Golden Club in Austin was licensed in 1943 for slots and blackjack. According to James Campiglia the live gaming continued until November of 1990, and the slot machines were in play until 1991.

Like many towns in Nevada, Austin started as a mining town when silver ore was discovered there. As the story goes, in 1862 a pony express horse kicked up an ore-bearing rock; by 1863 the area population was over 10,000 people. Again, as happened with so many other Nevada towns, when the mines were played out, most of the population moved on and by 2004 the population was just 340.

The Golden Club was a tiny place, in the tiny town of Austin, and it was owned by a tiny lady named Clara Williams. Most just called her Mom, earning the Golden Club the nickname of “Mom’s”. If you have an arodie chip that says “Mom’s”, it probably came from this club. Clara was the chief cook and bottle washer in the joint; if you wanted to play blackjack she would come out of the kitchen and sell you the chips to play with. She would deal blackjack for as long as you wanted to play, when you were ready to cash out you didn’t go to a cashier window...just let Clara know you were ready and Mom’s bankroll came out of her apron pocket. Clara would have been around 90-something when the table game closed for the last time.



1944

November 1944: Liberace made his Las Vegas Debut at the Last Frontier Hotel. 155,000 Allied troops landed on the beach at Normandy. The Huntridge Theater opened as the first non-segregated theater in Las Vegas. Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected to a fourth term as President of the United States. Benjamin Green wanted to help the soldiers in World War II prevent sunburn. He invented sunscreen, then went on to create the Coppertone Company.



NEVEDA BILTMORE- LAS VEGAS

Located at 614 North Main, the Nevada Biltmore was licensed in January of 1944 for slots, blackjack, craps, and roulette.

Using the investigative skills learned during 30-plus years with the LAPD, Harvey J. Fuller devoted hundreds of hours to researching Nevada casino history, including opening dates, closing dates, licensing dates, and the names and games listed on the licenses. He reports January 7, 1944 as the opening date for the Nevada Biltmore Hotel, in Las Vegas.

Bob Stoldal has lived in Las Vegas since 1957. His first media job was with the Las Vegas Review-Journal; he was a reporter, news anchor, and news director for one of the local television stations. He is a member of the Nevada Broadcasting Hall of Fame, and was a historian for the Las Vegas Centennial Celebration in 2005. He says the Nevada Biltmore Hotel-Casino opened in 1942.

They can’t both be right...can they?? Bob Stoldal’s credentials sound really good, and the article that he wrote about the Nevada Biltmore sounded like he’d done his research and knew his facts. There’s a couple of Frasher real-photo postcards of the Nevada Biltmore; according to the Pomona Public Library website, the photos were taken in 1943. Nevertheless, I trust Harvey Fuller’s information; if he says they were licensed on January 7, 1944, I believe him. I also acknowledge the possibility that there was an earlier license, perhaps misfiled or somehow overlooked. Normally, when faced with this type of conundrum, I would simply leave the casino in question out of the article that I’m writing. This is supposed to be fun...not frustrating! In this case, though, I thought the story was more important than the dates...so here’s the story.

Bob Brooks built the Nevada Biltmore Hotel on the northeast corner of Main and Bonanza. The tropical South Seas themed resort featured a hotel plus cottages, a swimming pool, restaurants and a casino. Tropical drinks could be sipped at the bar, while Hawaiian music played; on display was a surfboard that had belonged to the legendary surfer Duke Kahanamoku. There was a showroom that featured well-known entertainers including the Mills Brothers and popular fan-dancer Sally Rand.

The customers came to the Nevada Biltmore for the next few years, but as newer and larger places were built, the crowds became smaller. The hotel was sold a couple of times.

In June of 1948 a group of four well-respected men, calling themselves the Nevada Biltmore Corporation, bought the Biltmore. One of the men was famed attorney Lou Wiener Jr.; the late Benjamin Siegel had been one of his clients. The men decided that they would target a customer base of locals, rather than compete for the tourist trade with the growing group of casinos on Highway 91. That didn’t work out so well, so they started discussing other ideas.

Someone came up with the idea that perhaps they could turn the Nevada Biltmore into a resort for blacks. Las Vegas was a segregated town, and had earned the nickname "Mississippi of the West". During the 1940's the black community had grown from 178 to 2,888 people. Blacks had been recruited to work for Basic Magnesium, work at defense plants, to be soldiers stationed at the air



Photo by O'Han

field or guarding Boulder Dam. This segment of the community was not being served, other than a few rooming houses and a few small clubs on the Westside. The Biltmore was only two blocks from the railroad depot, so was in a prime location to serve black tourists who might come to town, as well as the locals.

The partners drew up new articles of incorporation, operating as the Texas-Nevada Corporation. Two days later, Texas oilman Homer Snowden introduced himself to the town of Las Vegas, stating that he was the president of the Texas-Nevada Corporation and that he and his partners had purchased the Nevada Biltmore.

Snowden announced that Stanley Hunter, who had already applied for liquor and gambling licenses for the Biltmore, would run the hotel-casino. Hunter was a native Nevadan, who had once owned the Yucca Club on the outskirts of Las Vegas. Due to financial problems, Hunter had sold the club. He was later arrested for breaking into the home of his estranged wife and threatening her, and their son, with a gun. The next day the police escorted Hunter to a bus that was headed for Washington State, where he had lived with friends.

On May 1, 1949, Hunter began managing the Biltmore. He operated it under the existing licenses, while waiting for state and local approval of his own license applications. On June 9 the Nevada Tax Commission voted to delay approval of Hunter's applications "pending investigation".

On June 10 Hunter announced, in an article on the front page of the Review-Journal, that the Nevada Biltmore "is open to Negro local and tourist trade now". He stated that the hotel would cater exclusively to blacks and was hiring "a complete staff of Negro attendants in the hotel".

The white community was shocked. Mayor Ernie Cragin called an immediate meeting of the city commission, in his office, to review the license requests. The mayor and the commission unanimously voted to revoke the original licenses that the Biltmore was using. A motion was made, and seconded, to deny Hunter's

liquor and gaming license applications...the vote to deny the licenses was unanimous.

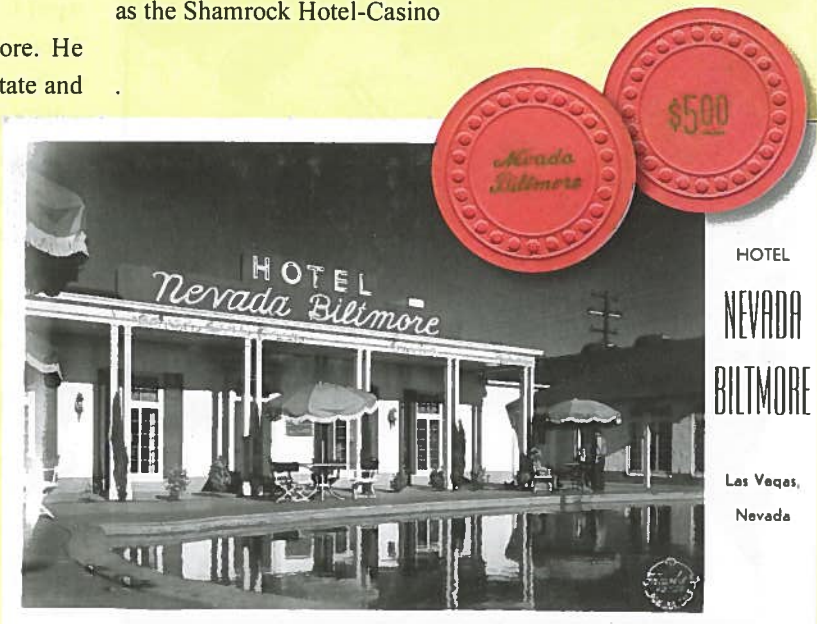
Hunter protested that the mayor and commissioners were practicing discrimination. Westside residents and the NAACP argued that having the Biltmore as a "Colored Resort" would have raised the standards of the black community, and would have given blacks opportunities

that had been denied to them in the gambling industry. One of the commissioners claimed that many substantial citizens had protested the extension of gambling and liquor licensing and that if the town were wide-open, those citizens might band together to get all gambling closed down.

Meanwhile, during June and July of 1949, the Nevada Biltmore was serving a black clientele...the first first-class resort-hotel to do so. Unfortunately, the resorts finances were still unstable, and they were unable to meet all financial obligations.

Bandleader and radio personality Horace Heidt was the actual owner of the property. Snowden went to California to see Heidt, in order to negotiate a new payment plan. On July 3 Snowden called to tell the staff that a deal had been worked out to avoid foreclosure. What he didn't say was that the deal required him to make a large payment...which he didn't have the funds for. By the middle of July Snowden closed the resort and went back to Dallas. Hunter relocated to Reno.

Once again the Nevada Biltmore was sold; it reopened in 1951 as the Shamrock Hotel-Casino



HOTEL
NEVADA
BILTMORE
Las Vegas,
Nevada

BONANZA CLUB-RENO



The Bonanza Club on the far left of this early Reno postcard.

Wilbur Clark opened the Bonanza Club at 207 North Center St., the former location of The Barn, in April 1944. The Nevada State Museum, in Carson City, has (or had) an eight-foot tall nude plaster-of-Paris woman on display...she was originally used to support the ceiling in the beautifully decorated Bonanza Club.



In March of 1945 the Bonanza's popular dining room was closed and a cocktail lounge took its place for the next seven months. In October the dining room reopened, featuring Jack McCarg at the piano. Known as "Jackson", McCarg was very popular with the customers.

From 1947-1950 the Bonanza was owned by Andre Simetys

and Ad Tolen. Their reign ended in a flurry of lawsuits, as various wholesale establishments, food and beverage suppliers, the former owners of the club and even the state of Nevada tried to get the money that was due to them.

In March of 1951 a gaming license was issued to William Sullivan and Dan Kilbride, as the S&K Corporation, for 40 slots, and one table each for craps, blackjack and roulette at the Bonanza. Jack Sparkman was listed as another partner, as was casino manager N.B. Ellis.

In August 1951 the Bonanza was renamed the Frisco Club.

RENO CASINO-RENO

THE CLUB WITH A PLEDGE

RENO CASINO **RENO CASINO**

A FAIR & SQUARE DEAL TO ALL

BIG SIX	ROULETTE
POKER	DICE
FARO	21

RACE HORSE KENO

THE FINEST IN MIXED DRINKS

OUR PLEDGE:
"A FAIR & SQUARE DEAL TO ALL"
 RENO 2-3595

14 E. COMMERCIAL ROW

BETWEEN VIRGINIA & CENTER

The Reno Casino opened at 14-16 East Commercial Row on April 1, 1944. The casino had 21 slot machines, 3 blackjack tables, 2 craps tables, roulette, chuck-a-luck, and racehorse keno.

Opening during World War II, it was difficult for the new casino to find experienced dealers so they ran ads offering up to \$90 a week for ladies from 21-31 years old, as well as disabled veterans who were willing to learn to deal. Other ads informed potential customers that the club was next door to the well-known Wine House, was near the Reno Arch, and that the \$100 limit on the craps tables could be raised (with management approval).

In 1947 the property was sold and was renamed the Rolo Casino.

WAGON WHEEL-STATELINE

The Wagon Wheel Saloon & Gambling Hall, also known as Harvey's, opened on the West side of Highway 50 at Stateline on June 1, 1944. The club was licensed for slots and blackjack.

In 1937 Harvey Gross, a successful butcher from Sacramento, moved to Stateline on the shores of beautiful Lake Tahoe. He and his wife Llewellyn found the living conditions to be rustic with no phones, water or electricity in the area. The summers were beautiful, but as soon as a significant amount of snow fell, the area roads closed. After a few years of operating a market in the summer, and delivering meat, Harvey and Llewellyn decided to give the casino business a try.

On June 1, 1944, the Wagon Wheel Saloon & Gambling Hall opened on a 7-acre parcel of land. The one-room log cabin had a six-stool lunch counter, a gas pump, a few slot machines, and two blackjack tables. Harvey and Llewellyn worked together to build their business; cooking, dealing cards, pumping gas, and whatever else needed to be done.

By the 1950's snow-moving equipment was at hand to keep the roads, now paved, open year-round. The Lake Tahoe area boomed as a celebrity playground and a tourist destination. Harvey's had grown and they advertised "more slot machines under one roof than any other casino in the world". Harvey's ran shuttles from the area hotels, and gave the passengers a free game of keno and a meal. Business was good.

In the early 1960's Harvey's built their first high-rise hotel tower with 197 rooms. The name was changed to Harvey's Resort Hotel & Casino. It was well-known that Harvey's offered \$2.99 steaks and cheap drinks, using them to draw customers from nearby Harrah's. The strategy worked and Harvey's continued to grow



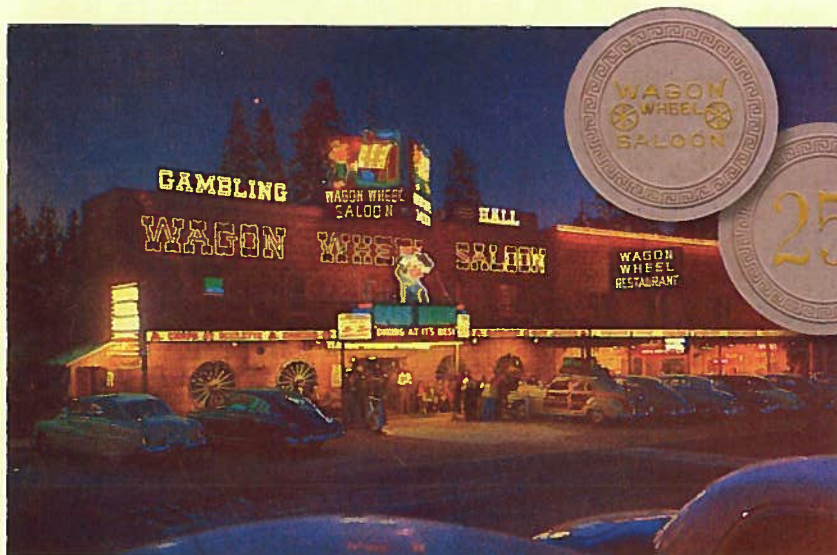
over the years.

On August 27, 1980, everything changed for Harvey's. John Birges, a retired landscaper from Fresno, had lost an estimated \$1 million to

the casinos at Lake Tahoe. In debt and desperate, he concocted a scheme to come up with some cash; he stole explosives from a construction site and built a 1,000 pound bomb. In the early morning hours of August 26, the bomb and a 3-page extortion letter were left on the second floor of Harvey's, in a corridor near the casino's business offices.

Just before 6 a.m. the bomb was discovered. The hotel's emergency evacuation plans were put into practice and all guests and employees were evacuated within 50 minutes. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies worked together to cordon off a large area, in Nevada and California, surrounding Harvey's.

According to the extortion letter \$3 million, in the form of used \$100 bills, had to be paid within 24 hours; further instructions would be received as to the method of delivery. Around 11:00 p.m., seventeen hours after the bomb was discovered, Harvey's was instructed that a helicopter with the money was to follow highway 50 west for 15 miles; a strobe light would indicate where the helicopter should land. Three canvas bags from Harvey's Inn were loaded up with bundles of paper, cut to the size of money, with a few \$100 bills at the top of each bundle. The pilot, FBI



special agent Joe E. Cook, followed highway 50 as directed, but was unable to find the strobe light. After circling for an hour, he returned to the airport and waited by the phone, hoping that the extortionists would call again. They didn't.

At 6:43 a.m. on August 27, in order to buy the time needed to plan another chance for the pay-off, one of the extortionists called the Douglas County Sheriff's office, in Stateline. He told the deputy on duty to flip switch #5 on the bomb and await further instructions. It was discussed among the bomb experts, but they decided not to flip the switch because they didn't know what would happen if they did. It wouldn't have mattered because the switch was a dummy.

Earlier that day, Harvey Gross looked at his hotel through the window of a suite at the Sahara-Tahoe, while FBI agents explained how they would try to disarm the bomb. They told Harvey that the risk of failure was high, as they would use a special explosive device to slice through the bomb in less than a millisecond... hoping to cut the wires that connected the bomb's triggers to the explosives. Harvey responded that he wasn't concerned for the building, but he hated the thought of the employees that would be out of work if the bomb exploded.

At 3:43 p.m. the special explosive device was detonated, and a fraction of a second later there was a deafening blast as 1,000 pounds of TNT exploded. A five-story hole was blasted through the hotel while glass and debris were scattered throughout the area, on both sides of the state line. At the time, it was the largest domestic bombing in U.S. history. At approximately 4 p.m. the extortionists heard on their car radio that the bomb had been detonated, during an attempt to disarm it.

In August of 1982, after an extensive investigation, the FBI arrested John Birges, Sr., his sons John Jr. and Jim, his girlfriend Ella Joan Williams, and former employees Willis Brown and Terry Lee Hall. All were convicted on a variety of charges connected with the bombing. John Birges Sr., the mastermind and the person who built the bomb, was sentenced to at least 20 years in state prison after his federal term was served. He would have become eligible for parole in 2011, but he died of liver cancer on August 27, 1996...exactly 16 years after the bombing.

Harvey's was rebuilt and continues to operate, though it is now owned by Harrah's. Harvey Gross passed away in 1983, at the age of 78.



AT BEAUTIFUL LAKE TAHOE
ON HIWAY 50 AT STATE LINE, NEVADA

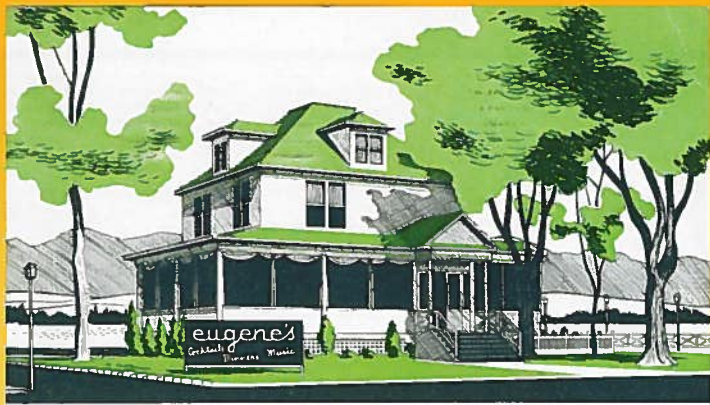
*How to Gamble...
and
How NOT to Gamble*

**WAGON WHEEL
SALOON
and
GAMBLING HALL**

POPULAR PRICES **Sage Room** DINING DANCING ENTERTAINMENT

TURN THESE PAGES FOR FUN AND EXCITEMENT

EUGENE'S-RENO

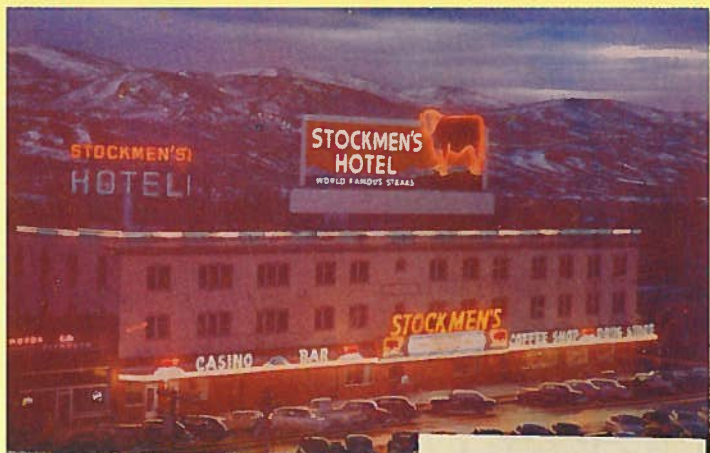


Haute Cuisine—Service—Atmosphere—EUGENE'S RESTAURANT—RENO

Eugene's opened at 2955 South Virginia Street as a fine dining establishment. From June 26, 1944 until 1953, it was licensed for slots, blackjack and roulette to provide entertainment for their customers.

In 1995 the property was sold to the Peppermill Casino and, after the building was razed, it became part of their parking lot.

STOCKMEN'S-ELKO



Located at 322 Commercial, Stockmen's opened on July 24, 1944, licensed for slots, blackjack, craps, and roulette.

In 1904 Charles Mayer built the Mayer Hotel, which he turned over to his son in 1909. As was the custom of the times, the main floor housed several small businesses, with hotel rooms on the second floor. In 1944 Mayer sold the hotel to Red Ellis and A.C. Bigham, who changed the name to Stockmen's.

In 1946 Stockmen's opened the



Round Up Room, to provide entertainment for their customers. Hi Davis, Burl Ives, Tennessee Ernie Ford, and Margaret Whiting were some of the performers who appeared there over the years.

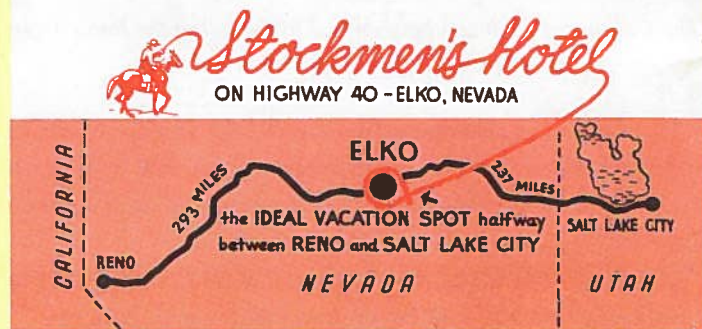
Local onlookers watched and wept as the hotel burned to the ground in 1957, triggered by a gas leak in a kitchen stove. Rebuilt on the same property, it used the address 340 Commercial when it reopened. In 1968 the hotel and casino underwent a \$1 million expansion.

Though it has had several changes in ownership, Stockmen's Hotel and Casino remains open.



a **WARM WELCOME** awaits you
at this **FRIENDLY HOTEL** !

At Stockmen's Hotel, you'll always find our *private brand* of old-fashioned hospitality, open-handed friendship, and that rarity in modern times—tip-sporting frontier freedom! The latch-string is always out for you . . . stranger . . . and, here in the Heart of the Cattle Country, we say: "WELCOME" to all who travel along Highway 40—Nevada's *Mainline*!



LA FIESTA-RENO

In October 1944, La Fiesta opened at 222 North Center Street, licensed for slots, 21 and craps.

The club, which was open 24 hours a day, featured a Latin-American theme, with Mexican dancers and musicians providing the floor show.

La Fiesta was owned by Al Hoffman and Frank Mercer, and was managed by Mack McPherson. In 1947 it was sold to William Barrett who renamed it the 222 Club

Continuous
ENTERTAINMENT
 ★ FLOOR SHOW ★
 ★ DANCING ★
 ★ GAMING ★



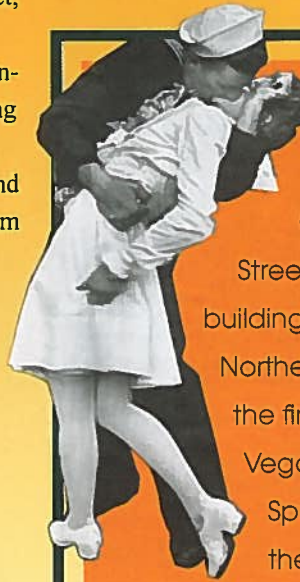
Finest in Mixed Drinks
 Never a Dull Moment



OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY

LA FIESTA CLUB
 222 N. CENTER
 OPPOSITE THE GOLDEN HOTEL RENO 3327

1945



World War II ended. Wilbur Clark opened the Monte Carlo Club at 15 East Fremont Street, downtown Las Vegas. The building had been the site of the Northern Club, which received the first gambling license in Las Vegas in 1931. Percy Spencer invented the microwave oven. Anchors Aweigh, starring Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly, was released. Cowboy actor Hoot Gibson opened the D4C (divorcee) Ranch near Las Vegas; a place



where pending divorcees could establish their six-week residency.



CALIFORNIA CLUB-RENO



The California Club can be seen just to the left of the Reno Arch in this 1940's Reno postcard.

The California Bar opened at 268 North Virginia Street in November 1944, licensed for blackjack, craps and roulette. In 1945 owner Monte Haight changed the name to the California Club, and the license included four slot machines.

In October 1946 the name was changed to the Colony Club, and a gaming license was issued to the new owner James Powers.

CLOVER CLUB-RENO



Center Street and Hotel Golden. Reno, Nevada

The Clover Club can be seen on the right side of this Reno postcard.

The Clover Club, 202 North Center Street, opened in January 1945. In February it was licensed for blackjack and craps.

The club, at the former location of the Silver Dollar Club, was destroyed by fire in April 1953. It was rebuilt and operated from January 1954 until April 1957

CASA VEGAS-LAS VEGAS

**Every Night is
New Year's Eve**

AT THE GAYEST SPOT
ON GAY WHITE HI-WAY 91

★
**ULTRA - MODERN
CASINO**
Open at 9 P. M.

★
**UNEXCELLED
CUISINE**
Dinners From 6 P. M.

★
**ENTERTAINMENT
SPARKLING WITH STARS**

★

Under the Personalized Management of
DUKE WILEY and KEN BENTLEY

★

OPEN ALL NIGHT
Telephone 1144-R

CASA VEGAS

ROUNDERS THURSDAY JAMBOREE TUESDAY

Casa Vegas opened on January 12, 1945, at 3131 Highway 91. The club was licensed for slots, blackjack, craps, and roulette.

According to an article in the Las Vegas Review Journal, the building that had been located at 17 Fremont Street, in downtown Las Vegas, was moved to a piece of property a mile south of town on the L.A. Highway. Occupied downtown by the Bank Club, the relocated building was remodeled and reopened in its new location as the Casa Vegas with M.J. Furlong as the manager.

An ad in a 1945 Las Vegas Business Directory indicates that dinner was available, beginning at 6:00 p.m., and the "ultra modern" casino opened at 9:00 p.m. and stayed open all night.

Duke Wiley was listed as a casino manager; he bought the club in April of 1946, with partner Eddie Alia. Just six months later they sold it to Bob Myers. Casa Vegas closed in 1950

DUTCH GARDEN-RENO



The Dutch Garden opened at 565 West Moana Lane as a fine dining restaurant that featured steak and chicken dinners. Opened by Fred Stengler in May 1945, it was originally known as Stengler's Dutch Garden. The restaurant featured musical entertainment for their customers, and was licensed for 21 and craps.

Early in 1946 Stengler sold the Dutch Garden, which was renamed the Great Dane and operated as a smorgasbord. Apparently the Great Dane was a failure as the owners, in July, sued Stengler for \$23,660 claiming that he had overstated the earnings of the Dutch Garden. The case was settled without going to court.

The restaurant reopened in September of 1946, with a new owner. But that only lasted until June 1947 when it closed again, suffering from more financial problems. Fred Stengler took back the property and reopened the club on August 29, 1947, himself taking the roles of manager and host.

In June 1948 a dealer at the Dutch Garden, Cliff Sikes, was found guilty of card-cheating and was sentenced to a \$1,000 fine and six months in jail. The property was never again licensed for gambling

BLUE BIRD CLUB-RENO

In 1941 Peter Monticelli opened a bar, the Blue Bird Club, at 132 East Second Street. I'm not sure when that bar closed, but when Monticelli opened another club, in 1945, he named it the New Bluebird Club. The New Bluebird Club was located at 10 West Commercial Row, and it was licensed on July 18, 1945, for poker, slot machines, blackjack and craps.

The New Blue Bird Club wasn't the luckiest club in town... at least not for the owner. On at least one occasion Monticelli's



application for a gambling license was denied, though it was approved at other times. Early in 1949 the health department closed the New Blue Bird. A few days later, the check that Monticelli wrote for his gaming license bounced...which sent Monticelli to jail. In April of 1949 the club was damaged by a fire, which was believed to have been caused by arson. The club remained closed.

CLUB SAVOY-LAS VEGAS

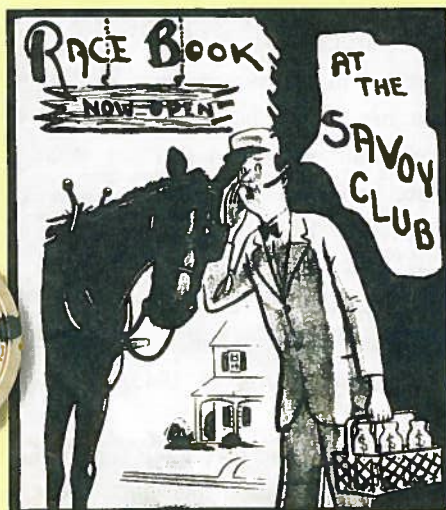


The Savoy Club can be seen on the center of this photograph of a 1948 Helldorado Parade. Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

Club Savoy opened on November 15, 1945, at 116 Fremont Street, licensed for slots, blackjack, craps, and roulette.

Marion Hicks, John Grayson, George Sadlo, and Harry Badger partnered up in 1945 to buy the Jackpot Club. They remodeled it, decorated it with a Western motif, and reopened as the Club Savoy.

The bar was nearly sixty feet long, one of the longest bars in



Nevada, and it could serve more customers than the four gaming tables; one craps, one roulette, and two blackjack tables.

In 1949 the club was sold to Norman Khoury and the name was changed to Khoury's Club Savoy. The Savoy closed in 1952.

SAHATI'S STATE LINE COUNTRY CLUB-LAKE

TAHOE

Sahati's State Line Country Club, Highway 50 on the south shore of Lake Tahoe, offered blackjack, slots, craps, and roulette.

Brothers Eddie and Nick Sahati were gamblers. Their game of choice was craps and they would spend hour after hour at the dice tables. Called the "ultimate gambler" by Harold Smith Sr., Eddie would sit on a stool, furnished for him by Harold's Club, at the craps table for as long as 48 hours without sleep. Food and drink was brought to him at the table.

During Nick Sahati's gambling marathons, he preferred to stand at the end of the table next to the dealer. The opposite of Eddie, Nick was a rude and crude gambler, verbally abusing the dealers and the other customers when the dice didn't go his way. He bet heavy and when the dice did go

his way, he sometimes won tens of thousands of dollars during his play. Nick was banned from some casinos...both because of the damage he could do to their bottom line, and because of his bad behavior while he gambled.



A great postcard of Sahati's State Line Country Club. On the marquee are the Three Stooges. Postcard courtesy of the Pomona Library

In 1945 the Sahati brothers bought the State Line Club, on Highway 50, at the south end of Lake Tahoe. Because of the weather, the Tahoe Clubs only operated seasonally during the 1940's; usually from Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day weekend.



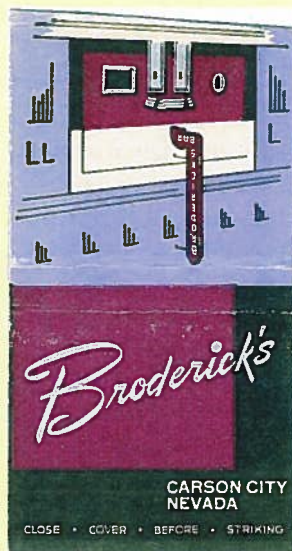
Eddie Sahati became addicted to drugs and in March of 1952 he was arrested, along with 22 others, on narcotic charges. In May he was sentenced to two years in a federal prison, and then found himself in the prison hospital. On May 25, 1952, it was announced that Eddie had stomach cancer and would be released from the prison hospital. He died on November 11, 1952, in a San Francisco hospital. He was forty-one.

Nick continued to operate the State Line Club until 1957, when he leased it to Harrah's Club; in 1958 he sold the club to Harrah's for over \$1 million.

BRODERICK'S BAR- CARSON CITY

Broderick's Bar was located at 507 North Carson Street, in Carson City, and their phone number was 33. That was in 1945.

Ella and Jack Broderick lived in Carson City in 1945, when they bought the Top'er Café. They remodeled the café and reopened it as Broderick's Bar, with an unrestricted gaming license. Three different chips have been found from Broderick's Bar; two \$5 chips and one \$25. They don't have the bar's name on them, they're hot-stamped EB for Ella Broderick. No roulette chips have been found, but a real-photo postcard of the interior shows a roulette table; the table has graceful curved legs and a rather thin table top, there's no shield around the wheel like you find in today's casinos. It looks rather old fashioned, which it should...because Broderick's Bar closed more than 55 years ago.



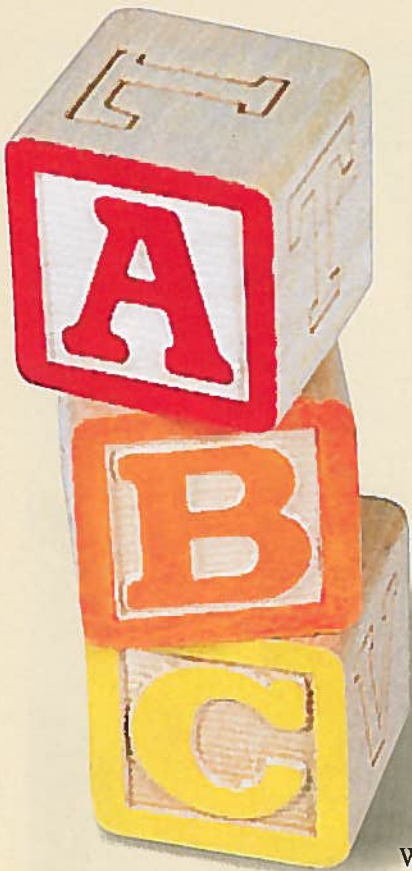
I couldn't find much information on Broderick's Bar or Ella Broderick...just that they had a reputation for running clean games and serving full shots. There was one story that the gracious lady would always save silver dollars that were minted in Carson City, and would use those silver dollars to pay jackpot winners. Along with the Carson City dollars came the advice to save those dollars, because someday they would be worth a lot more than one dollar.

In 1954 Broderick's Bar was sold to Dick Graves who renovated the place, then reopened it as Dick Graves Nugget.

IN CLOSING... As always, special thanks to the authors and editors of *The Gaming Table*, Fuller's *Index of Nevada Gaming Establishments* and *The Rise of the Biggest Little City*; without those three books, this article wouldn't have happened. Thanks also to Doug Saito, Al Moe, and Mark Englebretson, all of whom provided some of the research for this article. And my usual disclaimer: A lot of books, magazines, pamphlets, and websites provided the information and stories contained in this article...I've done my best to verify the information, but there is some room for error.

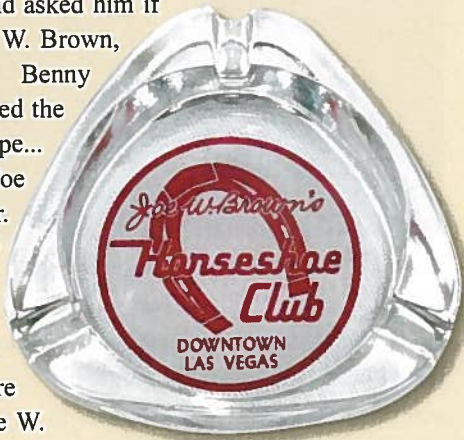
THE A-B-C'S OF CASINO COLLECTIBLES...

By Pam Goertler #R-3432



My husband and I started collecting casino memorabilia around 1995 or 1996. We'd gone to a small local flea market and I spotted an ashtray on one of the vendor tables. The ashtray was from "Joe W. Brown's Horseshoe Club" in Las Vegas, Nevada. I pointed

it out to my husband and asked him if he'd ever heard of Joe W. Brown, because I thought Benny Binion had always owned the Horseshoe Club. Nope... he didn't know who Joe W. Brown was, either. We bought the ashtray for .75. When we got home I looked through a few Vegas books that we had to see if there was any mention of Joe W. Brown. Nope...couldn't find a thing.



A few months passed and I pretty much forgot about Joe W. Brown. We went to an antique/collectibles show and my husband was flipping through a box of postcards when he called me over to look at one of the cards. The caption was "ONE MILLION DOLLARS in actual cash! - one hundred \$10,000 bills - on display in giant horseshoe at Joe W. Brown's HORSESHOE CLUB in Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada"!!! He bought the card, and the quest began anew.

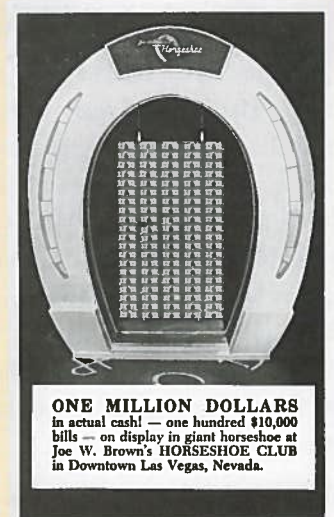
We happened to be going to Las Vegas about that time, so I carried a photocopy of the postcard around with me. We went to an antique shop on Industrial Road (no longer there) and saw "our" ashtray on display! We asked a man at the store if he knew anything about it. We showed him the copy of our postcard, and he got very excited! He asked us to wait a minute, and he dashed across the room and up some stairs! We just looked at each other

and shrugged...we had no idea what that was all about! He came back a few minutes later, carrying a box that contained a game "LAS VEGAS CRAPS as played at Joe W. Brown's Horseshoe Club".

As a youth, he knew the Binion kids and actually helped them to stuff the game pieces in the boxes! He then told us the story of how Benny Binion came to Las Vegas from Texas, with a million dollars cash in the trunk of his car. In 1951 he opened the Horseshoe Club, but a few years later he had to go back to Texas to serve time for income tax evasion. While Benny was gone, his friend Joe W. Brown operated the Horseshoe Club and put his name on everything. I loved hearing the story.

A day or two later we were at the Gambler's General Store and I spotted a book, written by Art Anderson, that was titled "Casinos and their Ashtrays". I looked in the book and our ashtray was there (valued at \$12-\$15!), even better...the story was there!!! It seemed silly at the time, but I spent \$20 for the book, so I could have the story of our .75¢ ashtray!

Then we started collecting casino ashtrays...which, in my mind, justified spending the \$20 for the book! Gradually our collection grew to encompass chips, cards, dice, matches, postcards, and almost anything from a Nevada casino. Eventually we even found one of the Joe W. Brown craps games to add to our collection.



ONE MILLION DOLLARS
in actual cash - one hundred \$10,000 bills - on display in giant horseshoe at Joe W. Brown's HORSESHOE CLUB in Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada.

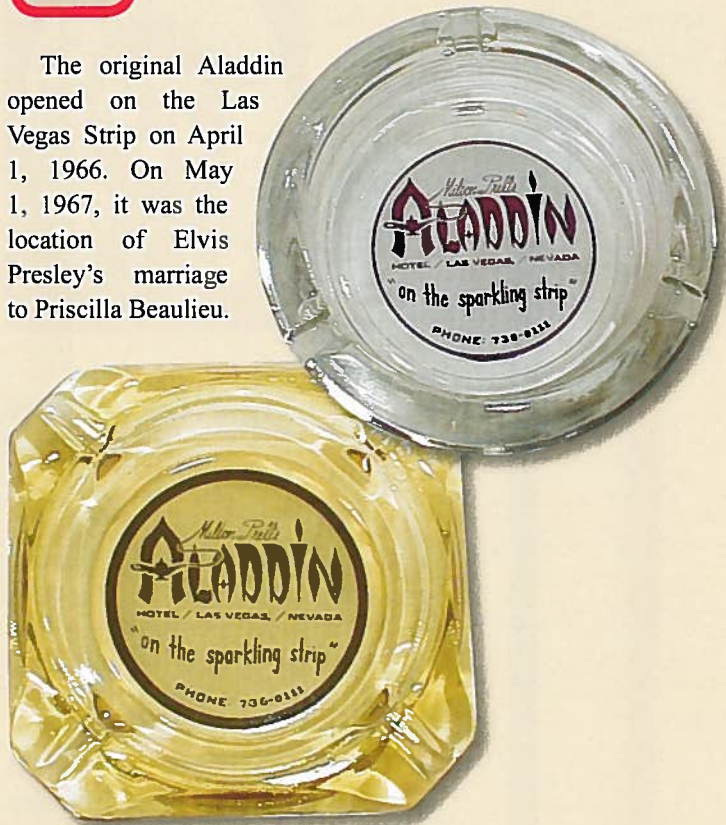


Since ashtrays were the casino items that started our collection, it seems only right to start this casino-stuff showcase with ashtrays...enjoy!

A

Ashtrays from the Aladdin

The original Aladdin opened on the Las Vegas Strip on April 1, 1966. On May 1, 1967, it was the location of Elvis Presley's marriage to Priscilla Beaulieu.



B

Bingo Card from Bal Tabarin

Located in Crystal Bay, the Bal Tabarin was open from 1955-1960.



C

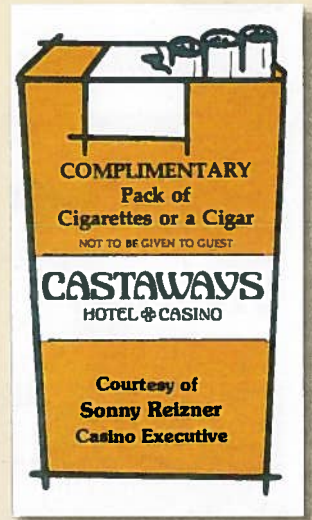
Complimentary Cigarette Coupon from the Castaways

I wonder why it says "Not to be given to guest"?

D

Decanter from the Dunes

Well, it's not exactly *from* the Dunes...but it's the Dunes Sultan, for sure!



E

Ephemera from the El Cortez

One definition of ephemera (plural) is "paper items (as posters, broadsides, and tickets) that were originally meant to be discarded after use but have since become collectibles". Sounds right to me!



F

Fun books & Freebies from the Flamingo Capri

Free is always fun!

LAS VEGAS SPECIAL
99¢
 Breakfast
 MIDNIGHT TO 11 A.M.
FLAMINGO
 MOTEL AND CASINO
 3535 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SO. / LAS VEGAS, NEV 89109

Buffet RESTAURANT
 OPEN 24 HOURS
99¢
 Buffet
 ALL DAY - EVERY DAY
\$1.75
 Luncheon
 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
\$2.25
 Dinner
 5 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE BEVERAGE, TAX, OR GRATUITYES
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VEGAS BOUND
Flamingo
 3535 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SO. / LAS VEGAS, NEV 89109

GIANT SHRIMP COCKTAIL
49¢
 Limit One Per Person Per Day. All Rights Reserved by Management.

Coffee and Doughnut
5¢
 Limit One Per Person Per Day. All Rights Reserved by Management.

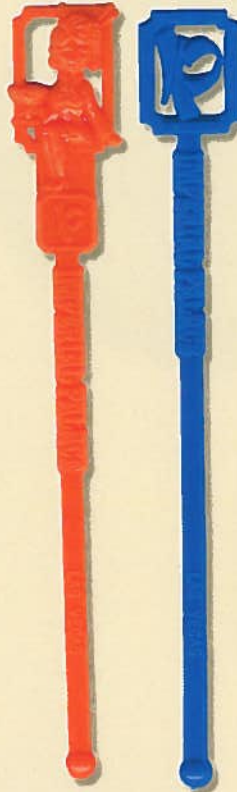
\$2.51 **PLAY \$2.51**
 LIVE 21
 21 FREE PLAY
 Good One Play Only

\$12 VALUE FOR ONLY **\$6**
 LAS VEGAS STRIP
 LAS VEGAS STRIP
FLAMINGO CAPRI
 HOTEL AND CASINO
SPECIAL FREE FUN BOOK
 • WIN SILVER DOLLARS
 • SOUVENIR
 • PLAY LIVE 21
 MORE! MORE! MORE!

H

Horoscope from the Horseshoe

This booklet was copyrighted in 1956, when Joe W. Brown was operating the Horseshoe Club for his friend Benny Binion.



I

Icy-drink stirrers from the Imperial Palace

The drinks served at the Imperial Palace are best icy cold. Agitating the drinks with these special stirrers guarantees that you get the maximum amount of pleasure from your chilled refreshment. (Hope no one objects to the improvisation...seemed more interesting than "Images of the Imperial Palace")

G

Gun from the Golden Gate

I'm lucky to still have this. I bought it in 2002, and the lady who sold it to me told me not to pack it in my suitcase. She said to carry it on the plane, but show it to a security person before putting it in the tray that would go through the scanner. She'd had calls from other people who'd bought these, saying they had been detained and searched because it looked too real on the scanner screen (the gun is about 3" long)! The security person I handed it to showed it to about three other people, including the scanner operator, then she gave it back to me.



J

Joker from Jerry's Nugget

According to Wikipedia, these cards were supposed to be used on the tables, but instead ended up in the gift shop. They were sold there until 1999. The card stock that was used is heavier than the stock used today. They also had a special finish that is no longer in use. The weight and finish makes them a favorite with magicians, and a 12-deck box of these cards once sold for \$1,500! With prices like that, it's not surprising that there are now fake Jerry's Nugget cards out there. I'm glad I bought ours directly from the casino several years ago!



K

Kard from Kactus Kate's

Open from 1984-1991 in the bordertown of Jean, Nevada.



L

Lipstick from the Las Vegas Club



One of our more unusual collectibles, this could be called a lipstick compact. There's a mirror on the back of the Las Vegas Club logo, and a tube of lipstick fits into the handle. The handle then folds so it will fit neatly into a lady's purse.

M

Menu from the Mapes

Someone saved this menu as a souvenir of ringing in the year of 1981. They also taped a picture of the Mapes to the menu. Unfortunately the caption under the picture was a reminder that the Mapes was imploded on Super Bowl Sunday in 2000.



N

Napkins from November, 1943

I know these napkins have a story; I just don't know what it is. The four napkins are glued to a scrapbook page, front and back. I wish I could have seen the rest of the scrapbook, but the page came from an online auction...somehow separated from the rest of the book and the rest of the story.

It looks like the trip started in Reno-the Club Fortune napkin is dated Nov. 11, 1943. From Reno, "Irene & I" went to Las Vegas-the Pioneer Club napkin is dated Nov. 12, 1943. No napkins from November 13, which was a Saturday, but there were two from the 14th, a Sunday, still from Las Vegas. Cinnabar and The Apache. The Apache napkin tells more of the story:

"Lt. Harold McCabbie

Lt. Wm. Lane

Irene & myself.

The boys were fliers from

Tonopah Air Base"



O

Octagon from the Opera House

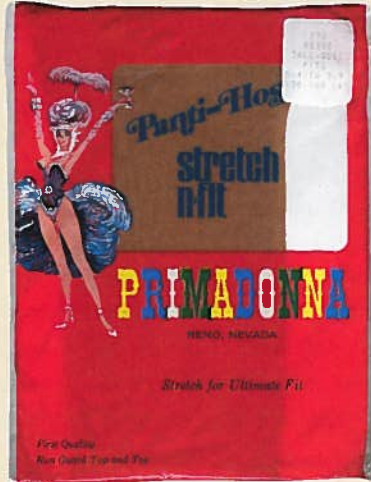
I think this is our one and only octagon... glad it's from the Opera House and not Harrah's!



P

Panti-Hose from the Primadonna

I'm glad I wear slacks and jeans these days, pantyhose are a nuisance... but these are cool!



S

Soaps from the Sands, Sal Sagev, Silver Bird, and Sundance

I once told Todd (half-jokingly) that if I couldn't meet the deadline for whatever article I was writing, I'd do a real short article on hotel soaps or sugars and send it to him with a bunch of scans. He said it was a good idea, and has mentioned it again once or twice since then! Todd, the letter S is for you...



Q

A quarter from the Quality Inn

I have to admit that I really cheated on this one, I couldn't come up with anything from our collection...not even using my imagination! I had to ask a fellow chipper for a scan. Thank you Nate Pincus...you came through for me!



T

Token from the Treasury

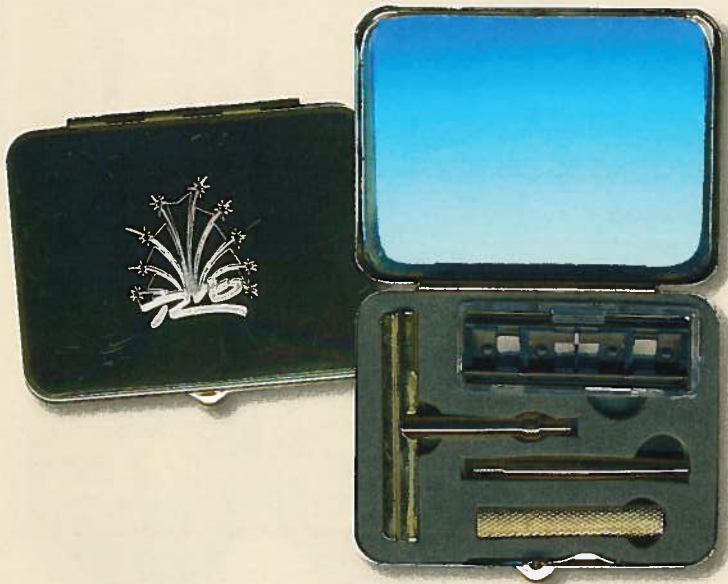
This token is really ugly.



R

Razor from the Rio

Is this cool, or what? There's even a mirror in the lid of the case.



U

Unique denomination from the Union Plaza

The 11th edition of The Chip Rack lists over 28,300 chips from Nevada; this keno chip from the Union Plaza is the only .70 chip listed.





Vouchers from Virginia City

Yes, they're really from the Delta Saloon, but that didn't fit my A-B-C's, and the Delta Saloon IS in Virginia City.



Whatever I can find from the Westerner

I was thinking of going with a White chip from ____, but "whatever" sounded like more fun!



Xactly nothing from the Xanadu

But that's OK because the Xanadu never existed beyond the minds of those who conceived it, and the drawing board of the architect, Martin Stern Jr. The property that the men had chosen for Xanadu, in the 1970's, is now occupied by the ~~Xanadu~~ Excalibur.



Yellow matchbook from the Yucca Club

In case you can't read it, the caption under the young lady says "A PEEK-A'-KNEES". Bad pun aside, I'm just happy that half the cover is yellow...there's just not a lot out there from clubs that begin with the letters X, Y, and Z...trust me!



Zouvenir from the Zanzibar

Once again I had to improvise just a little...

I hope you enjoyed the A-B-C's of our collection (and one of Nate's twenty-fives...thanks again, Nate!)



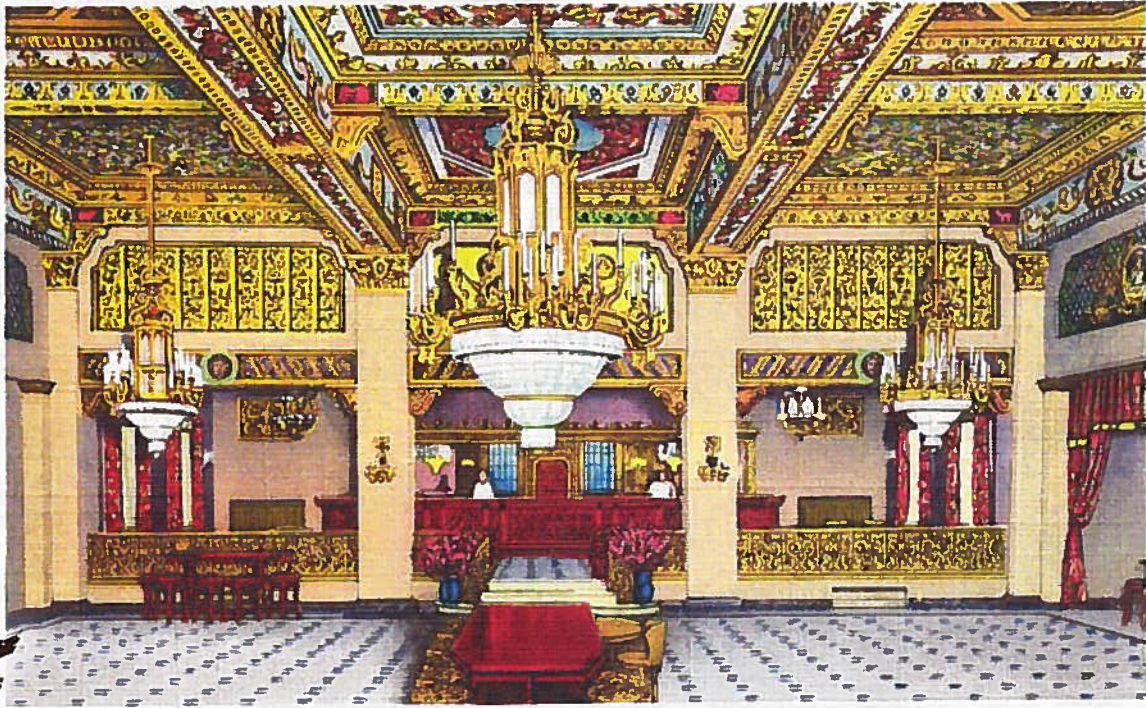
Agua Caliente

THE HEMISPHERE'S GREATEST GAMING SPA

By Paul Vanderwood

(Material for this article was largely extracted from the author's new book, Satan's Playground: Mobsters and Movie-Stars at America's Greatest Gaming Resort, which is reviewed by Michael Knapp on Page 56 in this issue of the Casino Chip & Token News Magazine.)

X-50 ELABORATE INTERIOR OF CASINO AND FAMOUS GOLD BAR, HOTEL AGUA CALIENTE, MEXICO



IA-H460

If or unstinted elegance and gracious charm, impassioned casino gambling, playing the ponies, culinary delights and celebrity hobnobbing, nothing in the world quite equaled the exquisite resort called Agua Caliente which flourished just across the U.S.-Mexico border in bustling Tijuana during Prohibition and beyond. Many judged the splendid complex and its superb libations to be more diversified and exhilarating than those offered at Europe's aristocratic Deauville and the renowned Monte Carlo. Diplomats, royalty, egoistic movie moguls and preening film stars, sports celebrities, moneyed bluebloods, and nouveau riche capitalists regularly patronized the resplendent spa, along with more ordinary folks out to mingle with the famous and daydream (quite hopelessly) of transcending their class. Mobsters like Al Capone also visited, as did Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, who borrowed his idea for a resort-style casino in Las Vegas from the Tijuana marvel.

Agua Caliente was the place where the "greats" mingled: England's Sir Henry and Lady Wood; opera's famous Wagnerian, Ernestine Schumann-Heine; the U.S. Secretary of the Navy: Johor's Sultan and Sultana; the Scottish songwriter and singer Sir Harry Lauder (Roaming in the Gloamin' and I Love a Lassie, said in the late Twenties to be the highest paid entertainer in the world; Hollywood's Clark Gable and Gloria Swanson; the French wine king, Monsieur Cruse; Sir James Currie of England; Australia's Major General Johnson, and Prince Zurlo of Italy.

Hollywood and the resort fit hand in glove. The spa's deluxe surroundings, its flamboyant display of gambling, thoroughbred horse racing, and cocktails mixed of the world's best liquors, proved tailor-made for movie magnates and stars reveling at the zenith of their public acclaim. At Agua Caliente blue-bloods took a step down (even as they craved to frequent the place) and

Hollywood a step up. "For the first time in their quixotic careers," noted the Los Angeles Times, "the glamour girls and boys from Hollywood found a place where they could play in the manner of emperors and czars and in keeping with their large salaries. Their patronage naturally attracted other people with more dollars than sense."

Special events packed the resort's calendar, not only with high-take championship bridge and golf tourneys, but also a festive carnival of creative attractions, all subject to betting. Ostrich races became a favorite on the track normally reserved for greyhounds. (Ostriches are the fastest creatures on two legs, and in short bursts can run up to forty-three miles an hour.) The resort annually staged the "Kentucky Derby of Greyhound Racing" and the world's richest (at that time) golf tournament (\$15,000 total prize money), as well as handicap horse racing (originally \$100,000 but reduced to half that by the Depression.) Boxing steadily drew huge



Bath House at edge of pool.



Lobby of Bath House

betting crowds, even if the promise of a new ring to sit 40,000 fans failed to entice a star spangled bout between Jack Dempsey (who had invested in the resort) and the German heavyweight, Max Schmeling.

Where else in the world might one mingle so openly with neither fanfare nor modesty among royalty, movie stars, ambassadors, ministers of government, Hollywood moguls, and pure-blooded thoroughbreds (horses as well as their owners)? Whether you paid the notables much special attention was your choice—and many did not. It may have been titillating to consort with the well known, but you had come with friends and family to have lunch chosen from menus with fancy, French dishes (at \$1 a plate during the week, and \$1.50 on weekends) on the spa's main patio, surrounded by au courant Spanish Mission Revival architecture, and serenaded by Mexican musicians in colorful serapes and entertained by troupes performing Flamenco and folkloric dances.

Among the most popular entertainers was a comely teenager, Margarita Carmen Cansino, nicknamed Rita. A Los Angeles film producer soon hired her to dance in Hollywood movies where she changed her surname to Hayworth, danced with the likes of Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly, and was publicly crowned "The Great American Love Goddess." Rita Hayworth. She is but one of many such legends spawned by the fabulous resort.



It was the times that brought this dreamy Camelot into view, plus the unquenchable ambitions of three American entrepreneurs (and a ranking Mexican politician)—together labeled the Border Barons—who carried it to fruition. As the U.S. moved into the twentieth century, political Progressives demanded an end to

political bossism and business monopolies and thundered against "vice." They equated sporting with mental, moral, and physical debauchery and called it a national disgrace. Boxing, horse racing, gambling, prostitution, and liquor all caught their wrath, and state legislators driven by shrill, self-righteous minorities steadily imposed legal bans on such pursuits. These pressures forced proprietors of these activities underground or into a search for new outlets, which took them south of the border where deals could be made.

But deals with whom? Mexico exploded in revolution in late 1910 and the country soon collapsed in ferocious civil war with no one faction in control for very long. With the country's leadership in doubt, official appointments in the far northern federal district of Baja California became a revolving door.

There was no opportunity for municipal plans and programs. Certainly there were no elections. Powerbrokers simply took for



Barber Shop

Long had found a (tawdry) niche in a society testing its traditional ties and ways of thinking in a pivotal epoch of historical change.

themselves what they could garner during their few months in authority.

Vice establishments became their main benefactor. For a steep stipend, which they pocketed, they issued a raft of permits for casinos, prostitution, cantinas, liquor stores, and horse tracks. Mexicans and Americans, many of them with prior experience in gaming and sporting operations, gobbled them up. Taxes on these concessions funded civic improvements and also went into the pockets of politicians and their henchmen. Enactment of U.S. Prohibition in 1920 only greased the wheels and planted the seeds for Agua Caliente.

None of the American Border Barons who envisioned a sumptuous, world-class resort for somewhat disreputable Tijuana, enjoyed inherited wealth or social privilege. Instead, Wirt Bowman, James Crofton, and Baron (his given name)

They wormed their way in, and then up. As teenagers, each had left home to try his fortune in the West and took catch-as-catch-can jobs en route—Crofton as a flamboyant circus barker and Long as a traveling flimflam medicine man, while Bowman bummed around as a lumberjack and railroad section hand before heading for a remote train depot in northern Mexico where he became telegrapher. As these go-getters moved about by their wits, they learned to draw sustenance from both sides of the law and eagerly dared to



Entrance to Plunge

do it. Once well into the Roaring Twenties, their paths crossed along the border. Aggressive, unscrupulous enterprisers and experienced participants in gaming ventures (then labeled vice and now called leisure), they formed an uneasy but highly lucrative partnership at Agua Caliente.

The fourth Baron, the critical Mexican connection, was Abelardo Rodríguez, governor of Baja California's northern district which encompassed Tijuana and environs. He was a trustworthy military officer in the faction that had emerged victorious in the Revolution, and as reward for loyal service received the governorship from the country's rulers. Rodríguez administered the federal territory for seven years, from 1923 to 1930, and two years later became interim president of the republic, hint of his political clout. Although his governmental position precluded much openness about his connection to large, well-financed gaming conglomerates, he rightly deserves to be counted among the other Barons. The four of them, working in tandem, blended prominent political and social associations with dog-eat-dog sporting expertise to found and operate for much of its existence the fabulous gaming resort.

By law, the tract on which Agua Caliente was to rise, had to be owned by a Mexican, and Rodríguez made sure that it was. He bought 491 acres from an heir to the property just outside town-center, fought off legal challenges by other heirs in the nation's highly politicized Supreme Court, and leased it (all but twenty-five acres which he reserved for himself) to the other Barons for \$25 annually for seventy-five years after which the property would revert to his personal estate. Building began in 1927 with the governor's brother as construction boss. Agua Caliente was still very much a work in progress when it opened to a thrilled, invitation-only, dressed-to-the-nines crowd on June 16, 1928. From the beginning, the resort's money-making machine—its casino—performed like a veteran, gnawing away at purses and wallets. Patrons feigned disappointment at losses but remarked they would soon return to whatever enjoyments the Barons concocted. Their mood and resolutions fit the mood of the period.

Agua Caliente's opulent and glamorous casino was by far the star attraction in the pleasure playground. Everything else around it played a supporting role. Enormous proceeds from the casino financed losses elsewhere and stuffed the coffers of the Barons. Because their betting odds cannot be beat, casinos always make



Detail of a mural in the Racetrack.

millions or more, and Agua Caliente stood tall as a symbol of the Jazz Age.

The structure itself with its classic Mission Revival style established the overall ambiance of the place acclaimed in leading architectural journals: graceful arches, an array of painstakingly landscaped patios, entryways accented by elaborate tile work and swirling, Churrigueresque molding topped by a traditional red tile roof. Inside was breathtaking in its rich sophistication. A diversity of decorators and expert craftsmen were given an open checkbook to add their specialties to the interior. Close inspection revealed a hodgepodge of styles and designs, but the overall impression was of Moorish royal wealth and splendor. Gamblers delight in such magnificence; it makes them feel rich and important, and honored, and creates a devil-may-care sensibility which loosens purse strings. Give them a free drink and a cheap meal and they will gamble it all away.

Adjoining one side of the casino was the famous Gold Room, preserve of the highest "plungers," which required formal dress, tuxedo or gown. The movie titans Joe Schenk and Carl Laemmle regularly gambled there and at times had it reserved for themselves and a few gambling friends. Bets of \$1,000 were common, and losses for an evening reached \$30,000 to \$50,000 (the latter equals half a million today). (Pictures of poker chips used in the casino appear on page 267 of the book. Chips personalized by the initials of Baron Long and James Crofton may be seen for sale on eBay.)

Mexico's government meant to control all casinos in the country, especially those near the international line. If Americans like the Border Barons aimed to profit from their businesses on Mexican soil, they would have to pay heavy fees, taxes, and

bribes, and contribute to civic improvements for local inhabitants. Licenses granted by the government outlined fees and taxes to be exacted—not only immense monthly amounts for general operations, but supplementary charges for every roulette wheel spun and each horse race run. Overall, the financial demands appeared to be a gigantic shakedown, but at the same time, they highlight the financial fruits of the Agua Caliente enterprise. Truth was, however, that, in essence, the casinos had always been held hostage by the Mexican government which issued and canceled gaming concessions at whim, for political purpose, or financial gain. The “game” was in its hands. Even the Border Barons had to play by Mexican rules. Under such circumstances, unpredictability reigned, luck changed.

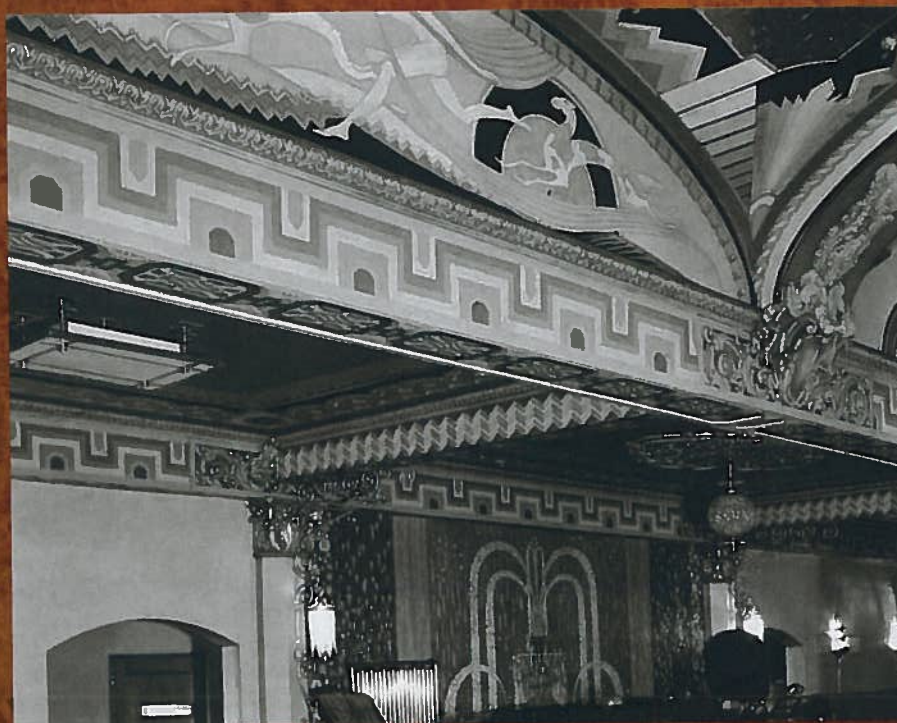


Mexico elected a new president, Lázaro Cárdenas, in 1934. In his stern inaugural address, Cárdenas vigorously deplored the cavernous pockets of poverty in his homeland; the lack of basic, practical education, which contributed to personal lassitude and irresponsibility; the general dependence of the citizenry on priests and fate; and the overall deleterious resignation common to so many of his countrymen. Changing Mexican nature (and cherished traditions) was at the heart of the Cárdenas crusade. Among other things, Mexicans had to be weaned from drunkenness and gambling (prostitution was largely ignored) and endemic corruption curbed throughout society.

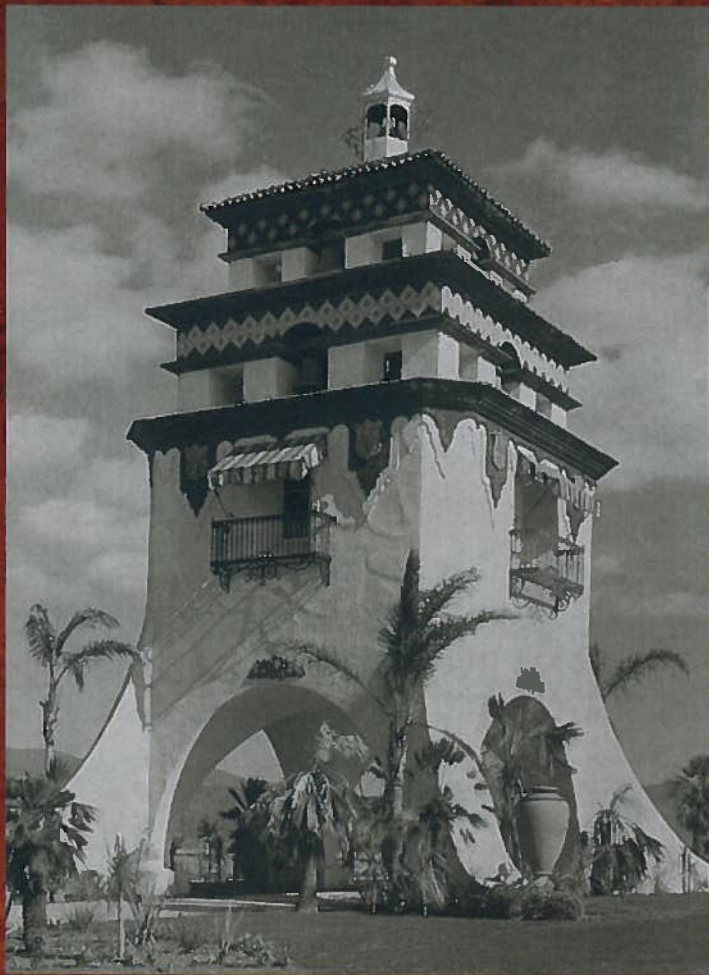
The new president meant business and within a month closed

down the country’s gambling casinos in all but Baja California Norte (Tijuana), a border district he recognized as dependent upon casino tax revenue. It turned out to be but a brief respite for the Border Barons. On July 20, 1935, the hammer fell on Agua Caliente’s casino and other gaming outfits in the district. For the next three years the Border Barons, Baja California officialdom, and labor unions representing workers at the complex lobbied the president for a reprieve, but Cárdenas stood firm. Nettled by reports that sporadic gaming continued in the district, the president finally ran out of patience, and on December 18, 1937, expropriated in the name of the nation all but the racetrack at the troubled resort and ordered the entire complex redesigned as an industrial trade school, which opened as the Instituto Técnico de Tijuana in October, 1939. Mexicans generally praised their president for transforming a North American gambling den into a Mexican cultural and educational center.

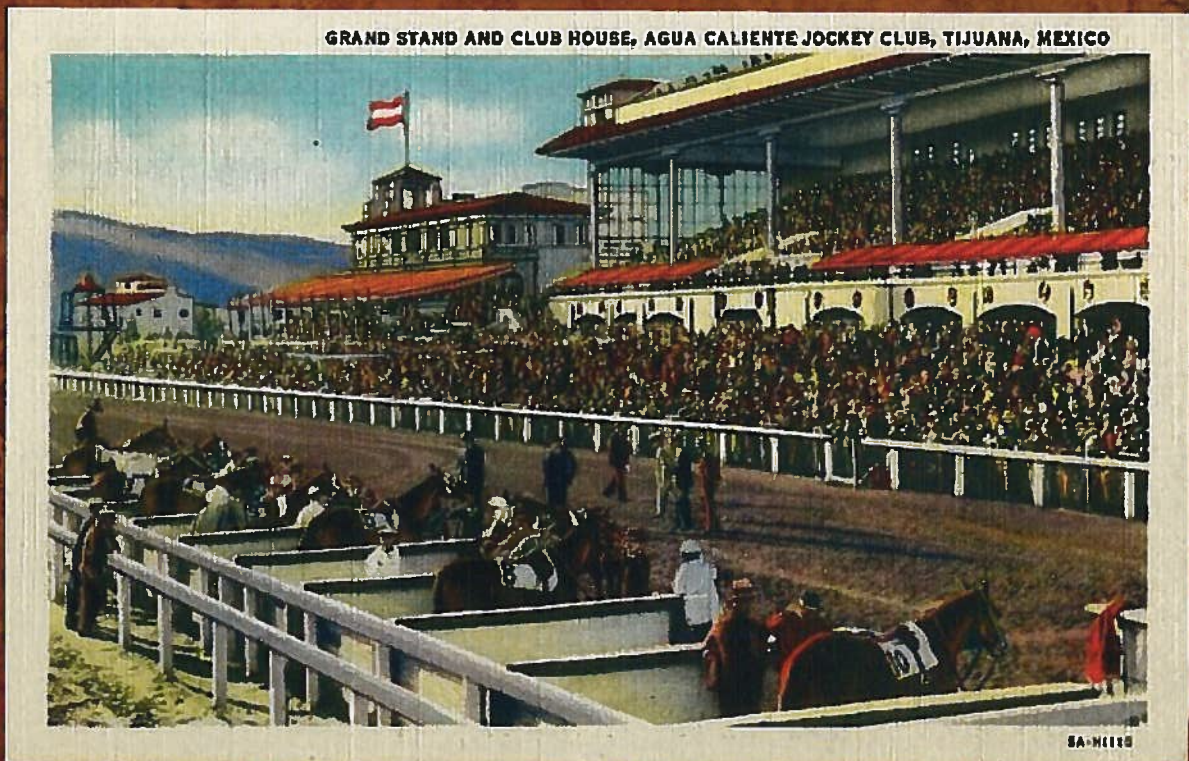
Of course, Agua Caliente was not forgotten. It faded softly, instead, into remembrance nourished by imagination where it resides today. As one now strolls across the campus of the Técnico, there remains little evidence of the grandeur that formerly graced the site, just a few beautiful hand-painted tiles assembled on a wall, a towering minaret-like tower capped with decorative tiles which camouflage a smokestack, or the recently renovated, Olympic size swimming pool in which international celebrities once bathed. While little physical evidence of the remarkable resort endures, there is just enough scattered about to spawn some ghost stories and other tales (some of them quite tall) about the spa, its clients, and their activities there, just enough to make one stop and muse, Agua Caliente sure would have been a nice place to have known.



Casino Dining Room



Chime Tower images from the 1930's on the left, and in it's present day state on the right.



Postcard of the Horse Track and Grand Stands.

THE CASINO

If the casino was the highlight of the Agua Caliente's pleasure playground, the highlight of the casino was the Gold Room [pictured on page 48]. Heralded as the Monte Carlo and Deauville of the Western Hemisphere, it attracted movie czars and stars, sports notables, diplomats, maharajas, ranking politicians and famous aristocrats.

♠ 8

♠ 7

♠ 6

♠ 5

♠ 4

♠ 3

♠ 2

♠ 1

THE CASINO, AGUA CALIENTE, TIJUANA, MEXICO



Postcard of the Casino entrance and the wishing well.



The Casino bar

16 crest and seal Roulette chips shipped to Agua Caliente in 1929 by the U. S. Playing Card Co.

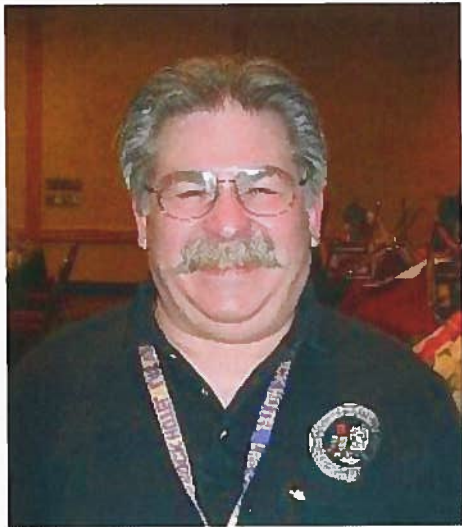


*Below:
Denomination chips used by the Agua Caliente produced by the U. S. Playing Card Co. The gothic Mission-style structure of the hotel entrance adorns the crest and seal casino chips*



*Above:
These BL and JC chips were the private chips of two of the famous three "Border Barons" who built, owned and ran the Agua Caliente. Baron Long, one of the entrepreneurs and James Crofton, who was in charge of the casino operation at the spa. The third of the "Border Barons" was Wirt G. Bowman, no personal chips have been found for him.*





Knapp on Books

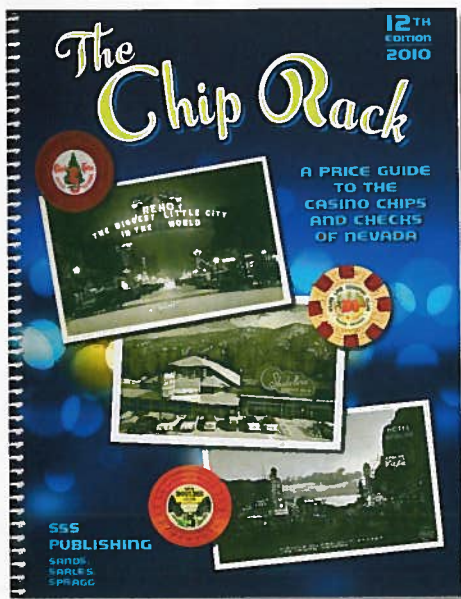
By Michael Knapp

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 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.

THE CHIP RACK: A PRICE GUIDE TO THE CASINO CHIPS AND CHECKS OF NEVADA, 12th Edn., (2010) by Jay Sands, David Sarles and David Spragg



Since its first publication in 1993, *The Chip Rack* has been the foremost price guide and catalog for Nevada casino chips and checks. It's been the most complete, attempting to list all chips, whether house issues or limited editions or com-memoratives, and its unique catalog numbering system has provided the hobby with a quick and easy reference to Nevada chips.

When it was first published, *TCR* contained fully descriptive listings in 58 pages. Over the years, the authors enlarged and expanded the book, and today's *TCR* consists of almost 360 pages.

The new authors received the Book of the Year award at the 2010 Club convention for their first effort (11th Edition), and the 12th Edition, released at the convention, continues with the wealth of information and guidance as did the previous editions.

The current edition continues the catalog numbering system as well as the letter code value guide, so users of previous books will find no difficulty in using the 12th Edition.

The new authors have also continued the practice, begun with their first book in 2009, of condensing and revising some of the listings. To save space, and for ease of use, roulette chips, for example, are now listed on one line, by type, rather than each chip having its own line with all information except color repeated. That change alone has saved a significant number of pages in the book.

Another change that makes a lot of sense is that rather than assigning a different *TCR* number to variations of the same chip, suffixes are now used in many cases. For example, when *TCR* was first published, the distinction between "long cane" and "short cane" H&C chip rims was not necessary. As short cane versions began being produced and noticed by

collectors, *TCR* listed each variety with its own catalog number. That used up many numbers, and was at times confusing.

TCR 12 changes that practice, and (for example) Big Al's Speakeasy with a long cane H&C rim is now TCR N2822.L and the short cane version is TCR N2822.S. Easy enough to understand, and because both listings appear together, less opportunity for confusion.

That innovation does mean, however, that TCR E3122 (previously the short cane version) may no longer appear in the book at all, and may be reused in the future. One of the many reasons that all serious collectors of Nevada chips must be sure to have the most recent edition of *The Chip Rack* handy!

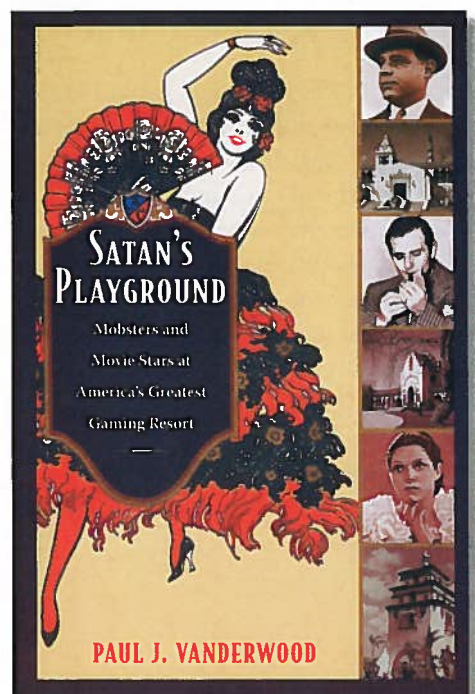
The Introduction to the book is, in itself, an extremely valuable addition to the literature of chip collecting. It explains in detail *The Chip Rack's* methodology, the considerations which determine chip values, and the manner in which *TCR* goes about compiling the chip values shown in the book.

While the Introduction is often left unread, I suggest that everyone who is interested enough in the hobby to buy the book, owes it to himself to read the entire Introduction.

Another caution which bears mention is something else often ignored: condition. *TCR* shows estimated values for chips, but only in the condition shown in the listings themselves. Some collectors seem to use the book to suggest chip values regardless of condition ("oh, that's a K chip" even when the book's listed condition is SU (slightly used), and the chip in the collector's hand is very well worn. When used properly, *TCR* is an invaluable and essential work which belongs in the library of every Nevada chip collector. The book is available at www.thechiprack.com/order.htm.

SATAN'S PLAYGROUND: Mobsters and Movie Stars at America's Greatest Gaming Resort

(2010) by Paul J. Vanderwood



This is the story of Agua Caliente, the fabulous casino and resort in Tijuana, Mexico, from 1928 to 1937. It's also the story of the robbery of the Agua Caliente money car on its way to a bank in San Diego, and the killing of the driver and guard, in May, 1929, just a year after Agua Caliente opened.

Vanderwood is professor emeritus of Mexican history at San Diego State University, and he has researched Agua Caliente and gambling in Baja California thoroughly. A more detailed and authenticated book on the subject would be difficult to imagine.

Gambling in northern Baja California was legalized in 1908, but only in a limited sense: no slots, no roulette, no Mexican monte, no 21 or craps games were allowed. Not that they didn't exist; they just weren't "legal." Payoffs to the proper authorities managed to work wonders in Mexico as they did in the United States.

Early Tijuana gambling was run by a syndicate of U.S. vice figures – Marvin Allen, who made his money in bootleg liquor in Bakersfield; Carl Withington, who ran prostitution in the same town; and

Frank Beyer, described as a "card sharp and philanthropist," who had made his money in California gambling. Known as the ABW Corporation, the group ran horse racing, gambling, prostitution, and virtually any other vice known. Monte Carlo Casino, Foreign Club, Sunset Inn at the racetrack, and Tivoli Casino were all ABW properties. Not that ABW was the only group in Tijuana gambling. James Crofforth, for example, a competitor, opened the racetrack and Jockey Club in Tijuana in 1915.

When Withington died in 1925 and prohibition (1920-1933) was in full swing in the United States, three men who became known as the "Border Barons" began taking over the ABW business in Tijuana, and eventually built Agua Caliente, three miles outside of town.

James Crofton, Baron (his actual first name) Long, and Wirt Bowman were the three, and they teamed up with Abelardo Rodriguez, a Mexican national who eventually became governor of Baja California and for a short time, president of Mexico.

Although the Barons were famous for not getting along, their success with the smaller clubs in Tijuana led them to build what became the lavish and opulent complex which set the standard for the classy gambling resort during prohibition. In the 1920's, resorts with air-conditioned hotel rooms, 48 separate bungalows, an 18-hole golf course, olympic-size swimming pool, steam and vapor baths (Agua Caliente means hot water, and had been a spa for many years), gardens, continental and cantina-style restaurants, a private airstrip, a private railroad siding, a \$2 million thoroughbred racing track, and of course an opulent European-style casino, was a novelty.

Because prohibition was in full force, Agua Caliente's duty-free shop which allowed visitors to obtain legitimate liquor which they could then smuggle across the border below San Diego, was a significant draw.

Champion golfer Gene Sarazen, New York Mayor Jimmy Walker, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks, Clara

Bow, Bing Crosby, the Marx Brothers, Howard Hughes, Joseph Schenck (co-founder of 20th Century Fox and chairman of United Artists), Fatty Arbuckle, Mabel Normand, Clark Gable, Jean Harlow, Charlie Chaplin, Louis B. Mayer (MGM), Gloria Swanson, Jack Dempsey, Al Capone and Ben Siegel were among the glitterati who were known to frequent Agua Caliente in its heyday.

A teenage dancer from New York named Margarita Carmen Cansino was performing at the resort. She was hired away by a Los Angeles film producer to dance in motion pictures, and became Rita Hayworth!

In 1935, Dolores Del Rio, Pat O'Brien, Leo Carillo, and Edward Everett Horton starred in a movie made at Agua Caliente, titled "In Caliente." The famous over-the-top choreographer Busby Berkeley produced the movie's dance sequences.

Despite its success, and despite the substantial financial contributions it had made to northern Baja California and national Mexican governments for years, a new Mexican government outlawed all gambling in Baja. Overzealous and perhaps misguided moralistic and nationalistic motives dealt the death blow to the industry that had supported the Tijuana area for many years.

Agua Caliente was expropriated by the Mexican government and converted into a technical school.

The Barons tried to auction off the gaming equipment and furnishings from Agua Caliente after the closing in 1937, but the San Diego and Los Angeles police wouldn't allow them. Eventually, most of the gaming equipment was donated to Hollywood for use as movie props, and some of it remains in use today.

It's not often that a detailed and thoroughly researched book about a single casino and its environs is published. *Satan's Playground* is one of them, and anyone with an interest in Agua Caliente will find it valuable and enjoyable. It can be ordered directly from Duke University Press at www.dukeupress.edu.

Call for Hall of Fame Recommendations for 2011

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, 2011, and the final selections, if any, will be announced at the Club's annual convention in Las Vegas.

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	Wayne Thompson
Robert Mera (deceased)	Gene Trimble
Allan Myers	Ernie Wheelden

For biographies of the HoF members, please visit the Club website at http://www.ccgcc.com/hall_of_fame.html

Michael Knapp
Hall of Fame Committee Chairman

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The 2009 OTY Awards

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 2010 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 2010. 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 a chance at winning an OTY Award.

Only as a CC>CC 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 2010 Awards will be marking the Club's 21st year of COTY and TOTY competitions, our 11th year of the SSOTY competition and our 9th year for CKOTY honors. I am both honored and pleased to be serving as the COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and CKOTY Awards Competitions Chairman for 2010, along with my son, Casey, as 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, 2011 and February 01, 2011 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. Postage will then be .44 cents.) 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. 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(s). Emailed submissions must be sent prior to midnight (PST) February 01, 2011.

Judging will be open to any and all CC>CC, 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 will 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 2010. Various members of the CC>CC may be called upon to verify that nominees meet this criterion for chips and tokens. The Officers of the Silver Striker's Club shall be called upon to verify that this criterion is met for Silver Strikes. The Officers of the Slot Card and Room Key Club shall be called upon to verify that this criterion is met 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 the minting of coins for 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 guest room.

Casey and I look forward to receiving your nominations shortly. We may be contacted via email: oty@ccgtcc.com. Lastly, for those who are Internet connected, be sure to visit the Un-Official OTY Viewing Sites, where you can view many of the potential 2010 OTY candidates. There are four locations to visit:

<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2010?dir=COTY>
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2010?dir=TOTY>
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2010?dir=SSOTY>
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2010?dir=CKOTY>

Jim Follis
OTY Awards Competition Chairman

Message from the Auction Chairman

The 2011 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will once again be held during the convention, at the South Point Hotel & Casino, on Friday 24th June 2011.

As before, there are no constraints on either the number of consignors or the number of lots they can consign, but that is subject to the terms listed below of which there are a few changes. 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.

I plan to maintain the same format for 2011. 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. Bulky lots caused us a problem this year, in terms of the preparation of the auction & catalog, cost of return of unsold items, and the additional cost of shipping sold items. Consequently, I ask that consigners submit as many suitable single chip lots as possible, and I will only consider larger lots on their individual merit. If anyone has anything at all that they wish to donate, then in view of the fact the club gets the full proceeds, and there is a guaranteed sale, I will be more flexible over what will be accepted, and, I reserve the right to combine donated lots together if appropriate. The club makes considerably more money from donated lots than the consignments, and being that is the purpose of the auction, I strongly urge anyone who is willing to donate chips to do so.

In order to try and reduce time and costs for both myself and the club, the following changes will be made for 2011. The purpose of introducing minimum bids two years ago was twofold - firstly to try and improve the overall quality of auction lots and secondly to speed up the live auction itself. I appreciate that we are not in a sellers market at present and it is getting harder to secure the same quality of lots in the past. Therefore, bidding on ALL donated lots will start at just \$5. While I will retain the minimum bid of \$50 or above on any consigned item for the purposes of advance/proxy bidding, the auctioneer will have discretion to reduce that opening

bid in the case of there being no bids, so please bear that in mind when consigning. Reserves may still 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. 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. If you are not attending the show and have lots to donate or consign, please don't wait to contact me, the earlier the better.

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, 2011.

Please use auction@ccgtcc.com to contact me. If you need to contact me by snail 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.

David Spragg
Auction Chairman

Get Involved!

Inserted into this issue of the Casino Chip & Token News Magazine is an Official CC>CC officer nomination form. Take the time to nominate someone you think would make a good addition to the Board of Directors. This year we are looking for nominations for Club President and Club Secretary.

There is also a form to recommend a club member whom you feel is worthy of being selected to the CC>CC Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame is the clubs highest honor, so take the time to recommend somebody who was given their time to make our club great. See page 58 for more details.

Lastly there is a "OTY" or "of the Year" award nomination form enclosed in this issue. Take the time to fill out this nomination form with your favorite chips, tokens, silver strikes and slot card/room key of the past year. Complete details are on page 60.

Take the time to get involved and make the CC>CC a better club for everyone!

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Re-Launches Rockstar Players Club

By Allan Anderson



Hard Rock Hotel & Casino has upgraded and re-launched the Rockstar Players Club to provide even more benefits and access for its members.

The Rockstar Players Club is multi-tiered (based on play during a six month period)

- Vinyl (free)
- Gold (earn 2,000 base points)
- Platinum (earn 40,000 base points)

Rockstar Players Club Overview:

- \$1 coin-in playing slots = 1 point on all machines including video poker
- Every 500 points earned = \$1 towards free slot play, restaurants, bars, spa, room and retail
- Points will remain valid as long as one point is earned every six months
- Rated table games and slot play qualifies you for complimentary such as meals, rooms and concert tickets

As part of the overall expansion, the casino floor has been redesigned. Table games have been relocated to create a better playing environment and allow for more space. The casino now features 111 table games and has added the most requested games in town including Ultimate Texas Hold Em, Black Jack Switch and Pai Gow Poker Progressive. There is also a newly re-designed High Limit Salon and Players Lounge. Additionally, a convenient parking garage and valet service located off Harmon Avenue allows for easy access to the casino.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB!



The CC>CC is running a contest to design a new chip to be given away to new club members. The only rule is that the person be a current CC>CC member. It's to be a "WELCOME" chip, so anything that would make someone feel welcome would be great.

Both sides can and should be different, and the winner of the contest will get free club membership for a year! If the winner of the contest is a Life Member, they will receive two years of First Class mailing of the club magazine. In addition, the winner will receive a copy of their winning chip in a nice display. The "Welcome Chip" design submissions will be judged by the club's BoD & the winning chip design will be announced in an upcoming

edition of the club magazine. Send your designs to Steve Bedo at

CC>CC Membership Officer 1215 E. Dalton Avenue

Glendora, CA 91741

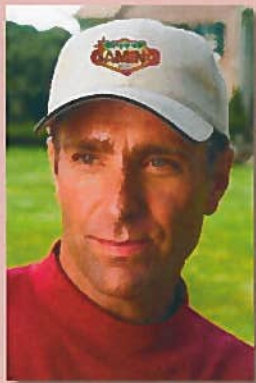
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Visit the Museum of Gaming History at www.themogh.org.

The on-line museum has many great features including "This Week in Gaming History",

On line videos, plus, 1000's of photos and scans are being loaded.

★ **NEW at the Museum of Gaming History** ★

Visit the Greg Susong Digital Media Center!

The Greg Susong Digital Media Center is dedicated to Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club Hall of Fame member Greg Susong. Greg is one of those who brought the Internet to chip and token collecting. His website, The ChipGuide, was one of the first sites devoted entirely to chip and token collecting, and serves as a tremendous resource for collectors throughout the world. His work has been kindly donated to the Museum and will be continued to be updated at the Museum of Gaming History. Visit it today at museumofgaminghistory.org

HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO



Punta Cana

By Allan Anderson

Hard Rock International and Palace Resorts unveiled the new Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic on November 1st following a recent transformation. The 121-acre property located on Macao Beach became the first all-inclusive Hard Rock Hotel and Casino. The grand opening is scheduled for January 2011. The 1,800 room Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana brings together the best of the former Moon Palace Casino, Golf & Spa Resort amenities and the vibe of the Hard Rock brand.

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana will offer an endless array of services, outdoor activities and entertainment options. Among the resorts many offerings are luxe accommodations featuring the Hard Rock's signature "Rock Star Suite," the signature Rock Spa®,

Recognized as the largest casino in the Dominican Republic, the 48,000 square foot venue includes an exclusive high-limit poker room, VIP lounge, race and sports book, 457 slot machines and 40 gaming tables. Late night offers a new level of entertainment at Oro nightclub.

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana is fully equipped to handle the largest events, from full-blown rock concerts, to small, intimate occasions, offering more than 65,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space. Golf enthusiasts can enjoy the 18-hole Nicklaus designed golf course. There are also 11 expansive pools, four swim-up bars, a kids pool and lazy river.

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana blends the



An aerial view of the stunning 121-acre Hard Rock Punta Cana compound

a celebrity chef branded restaurant, iconic music memorabilia, a larger-than-life Vegas-style casino and the Oro nightclub created by the Miami Marketing Group.

The Rock Spa®, has the most complete hydrotherapy circuits, clay steam and color therapy steam rooms, saunas, a sensory experience pool and an innovative ice room for skin purification.

Celebrity chef Kerry Simon, dubbed the "Rock n' Roll chef" by Rolling Stone Magazine, unveils his latest restaurant .

characteristics of the Hard Rock with the lavish, five-star all-inclusive experience where Palace Resorts brand loyalists find the stellar service and attention to detail customary to the resort chain.

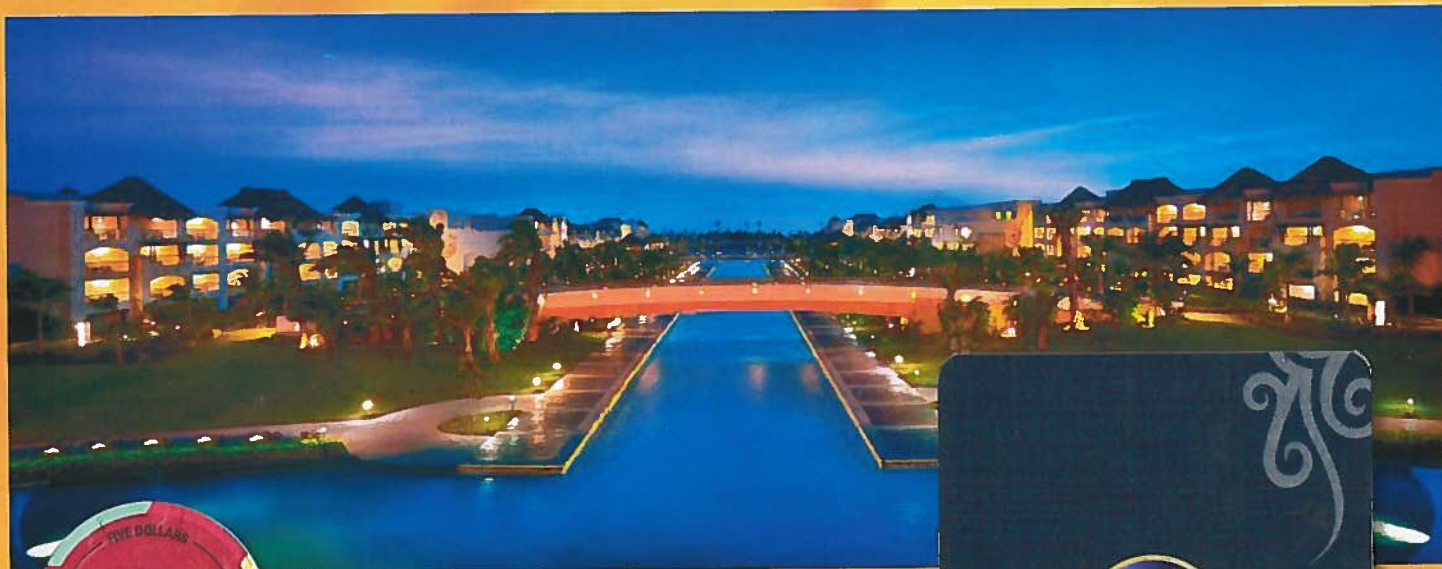
ABOUT HARD ROCK INTERNATIONAL

With a total of 168 venues in 51 countries, including 133 cafes and 14 Hotels/Casinos, Hard Rock International is one of the

world's most globally recognized brands. Beginning with an Eric Clapton guitar, Hard Rock owns the world's greatest collection of music memorabilia, which is displayed at its locations around the globe. Hard Rock is also known for its collectible fashion and music-related merchandise, Hard Rock Live performance venues and an award-winning website. In addition to the two flagship Seminole Hard Rock Hotels and Casinos in Tampa and Hollywood, Fla., Hard Rock Hotels/Casinos are located in Las Vegas, Biloxi, Orlando, Chicago, San Diego, Pattaya, Bali, Macau, Penang and Singapore. Additional hotel and casino projects have been announced Panama, scheduled to open in 2012; and Hungary, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, scheduled to open in 2013. Hard Rock International is owned by Seminole Hard Rock Entertainment, Inc. For further details on Hard Rock Hotels and Casinos, visit www.hardrockhotels.com. For more information on Hard Rock International, visit www.hardrock.com.

ABOUT PALACE RESORTS

With 12 oceanfront resorts overlooking sparkling turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea or the tranquil Pacific Ocean, Palace Resorts celebrates 25 years of setting the highest standards for five-star all-inclusive vacations in Cancun, Riviera Maya, Cozumel, Isla Mujeres and Riviera Nayarit in Mexico and Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. Palace Resorts provides an exceptional experience for travelers, offering luxurious and spacious accommodations accentuated by their signature in-room double Jacuzzi®, nightly entertainment, included select off-site excursions, the Caribbean's most extravagant spas and premier championship golf courses. Palace Resorts' unparalleled level of service and comfort found at each property makes them a leader in providing world-class resort vacations.



Thanks to Joanna DiNizio, Coyne Public Relations, for her help in putting this article together and to Gregg Morton for the chip scans.

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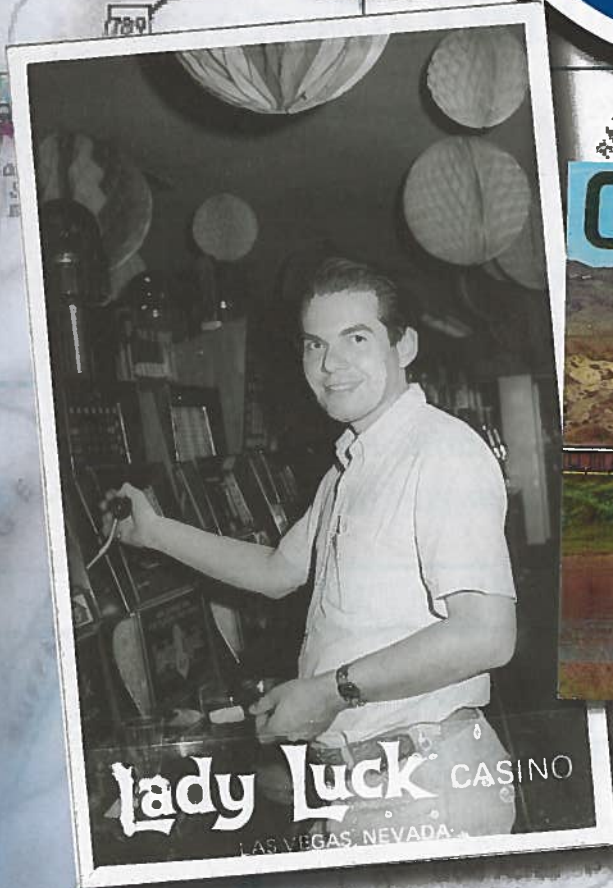
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Phil's Forays



In the last issue, Phil was way up north visiting McDermitt, NV. This time we revisit an article Phil wrote in the fall of 1999. This article appears as it was written in 1999, but is updated with photos and postcards from Phil's collection.

Leaving Las Vegas by Phil Jensen

Living in Southern Nevada in the early '70's was fun but it was difficult to pursue

my passion for small town gaming chips. Unlike the Northern part of the state with its well established history of gambling in the hinterlands, dark County was practically barren of any live gaming outside of the Las Vegas valley.

I made my first trip to Pahrump in the summer of 1970, which was seven years after electricity and three years before the Saddle West which was Pahrump's first full-bore casino. The only bar in town was a place called Joe's Cotton Pickin' Saloon which by the way is still in business and looks much the same now as it did then,



however the name changed to the Waterhole. It's also been known as the Eight Ball Lounge and BJ's which had a 21 game at one time. After the long trip from Vegas I was anxious to go inside and have a cold one. I was disappointed that there wasn't any gambling there but passed the time talking to the bartender, who could

have been Joe himself, and he told me that the bar came out of an old saloon in Virginia City. I thought that was interesting as I had spent some time in the bars there when I lived in Reno. Anyway, I asked him if there were any other, around and he directed me to a place called Fred's Bar located a few miles down the road on the way to Death Valley.

I finished my beer and headed out in search of the place. It wasn't hard to find as Pahrump in those days was mostly desert and critters. I pulled up to the bar and as I got out of the truck I came within inches of stepping on a very large snake who had been sunning himself in my parking space. I don't know who was more startled but we both took off in opposite directions-me into the bar yelling "SNAKES!" or something to that effect. The bartender, who could have been Fred, thought it was real funny. Anyway, we talked for a while and I put a few nickels in the two or three antique slot machines that stood along the wall. I was disappointed that there was no 21 game but didn't really expect to find one. As it turned out it would be my only visit to Fred's Bar as it burned down sometime after that. You can still see the ruins if you know where to look.

Leaving Fred's I took off into the desert on a dirt road that went through the Ash Meadows Wildlife Area. I had heard there was some neat stuff out there and wanted to check it out, besides, I still hadn't located any chips and was getting a little frustrated.

It wasn't long until I ran across a bar with an attached runway, swimming pool, and cathouse. It was pretty nice actually with quite a few slot machines but no live gaming. After a beer or two I continued my journey through the outback of the Amargosa desert. Shortly I came across Devil's Hole, home of the endangered Pupfish and former stomping ground of Charles Manson. Curious, I climbed down into the hole and watched the little Pupfish swim around. Today, the place is surrounded by a chin-link fence and impossible to enter.

Continuing on, I finally reached the paved highway leading to California and eventually discovered the Stateline Saloon. Much to my delight, there was a 21 and poker table although neither looked like they had been used for some time. Luckily the owner, a lady by the name of Doris Jackson, who by the way still owns the place today took me in the office and sold me some of her chips. After a long, dry trip I had finally hit pay dirt-wa-la. Happily I headed back to Las Vegas but would return whenever I could to the Stateline Saloon, the crown jewel of the Amargosa.

Heading south from Las Vegas were a couple of places I could scrounge for chips. The first was Searchlight and there was a neat old place there called Sandy's. It was originally owned by a Sandy Sandquist and the chips which bore his name were still in use. By now though, Warren Doing owned the joint and he was quite a character. One could usually find him wearing a red baseball cap and yucking it up with the old timers who hung out in the place. Once in a while the boys would get up a poker game with some old Boulder Club chips from Vegas. They were the small crown

red ones with an insert showing the old sign. One day I was able to talk old Warren out of one and I was real proud of it



Sandy's Club in Searchlight probably early '70's. The building still stands.

Next door was a place called the El Ray Club. It wasn't the original one owned by Willie Martello which had been across the street but a second version which had one 21 table and about four slots. They used a yellow \$5 chip from the Last Frontier in Vegas-the one with the dancing girl on it. It was one of my favorites and I managed to rathole a couple extra. Still, I wished they had used something with the town name.

Another place called the Chevron Bar was located at the opposite end of town and was connected to a Chevron Gas Station. Unfortunately, it had closed in 1969 so I just missed it. I was able to locate the owner and he gave me a couple of the chips. I was disappointed that they didn't say Searchlight on them but was glad to get them just the same. You can still see inside the place with its rather ornate ceiling.

A few miles down the road was the Cal-Nev-Ari Casino and landing strip. It opened in 1967 and was owned by Slim Kidwell and his wife, Nancy. Slim was an old time pioneer aviator who also tended bar on occasion. I asked him why he built his place in the middle of nowhere. He told me one day he was flying around scouting for a site and had his plane on automatic pilot. He wound up falling asleep and when woke up he was just about out of gas. Fortunately, he was able to land OK and when he got out of the



plane declared the place Cal-Nev-Ari. Anyway, they had a crap and 21 game in there but rarely opened them due to a scarcity of dealers in the area. I was able to buy the chips, the one with the Horsehead mold.



The Cal-Nev-Ari around 1970 showing the original sign with "CASINO". It was later changed to 21-SLOTS

Leaving the main highway, the road to Laughlin snaked over the mountains down to Davis Dam and the Colorado River. From there a narrow road followed the river into Laughlin itself here there were three casinos- The Riverside, Monte Carlo and Odie Lopp's Nevada Club.

The Riverside was a small, cramped place with 4 or 5 twenty-one tables and a crap game that was so close to the wall you could hardly get by it to use the restroom. The Post Office was also located there using the name Laughlin. It's interesting to note that the dollar token in play had the location as Davis Dam, Nevada and the name Southpoint was used by the government. Anyway, for it's



The original Riverside Resort as it appeared about 1970.



...and several years later after some major improvements.

first few years of existence there was some confusion as to what the name really was but Laughlin won out in the end. Anyway I rounded up the available chips and headed down the road.

Down the road on the other side was the Monte Carlo Resort. I believe it was a little larger than the Riverside and I remember it being rather cool and dark inside-a nice respite from the summer sun. The bar ran the length of two of the walls so the bartender was kept on the run. There were probably 4 or 5 twenty-one tables and a crap and poker game. There was never much business as hardly anyone went to Laughlin in those days. I bought in on the 21 game and began looking through the chips which turned out to be all in good shape since the place had only been open about a year. I was delighted that they used a dove tail 50¢ chip even though it didn't have the town name on it-just Monte Carlo. I was only able to get a few and discovered that there were actually two varieties-I was really on a roll! Anyway the place lasted until 1977 and was at a disadvantage because it was away from the river. It was re-named the Crystal Palace and that lasted until about 1985 when it closed. I believe the building was used by the Chamber of Commerce for a while and it still stands today.



The Monte Carlo Resort as it looked around 1970.



...and a few years later after an addition had been built on the front.

Leaving the Monte Carlo there was a fork in the road. If you went right you were on your way to Needles-if you went left it took you down to the river and Odie Lopp's Nevada Club. It was previously the Bobcat Club which supposedly had live gaming a couple of years earlier but I was never able to locate any chips from there. Anyway, you couldn't see it from the road because the sagebrush and blocked the view and I think there was a small sign directing one to the casino. There was also a row of trees in front of the place which was the only shade in town. If I stayed overnight I would park under them to escape the morning sun.

The chips were kind of neat having Odie's name on them and some of the five dollar denominations had the name Southpoint. The place went through a series of owners after Lopp sold out around 1975 and today the place is the Golden Nugget. Amazingly, the pit area is much the same today as it was in 1970!



The eighties saw phenomenal growth as Laughlin blossomed into a mini-Las Vegas complete with biker rallies and rodeos. I still go down to goof off and collect a few of the chips and tokens that are issued these days but I still have fond memories of when Laughlin was young thirty years ago.

The last holdout for chips in Clark County was Mesquite, a sleepy community eighty miles east of Las Vegas. Unfortunately, there was only one place with live gaming and that was George

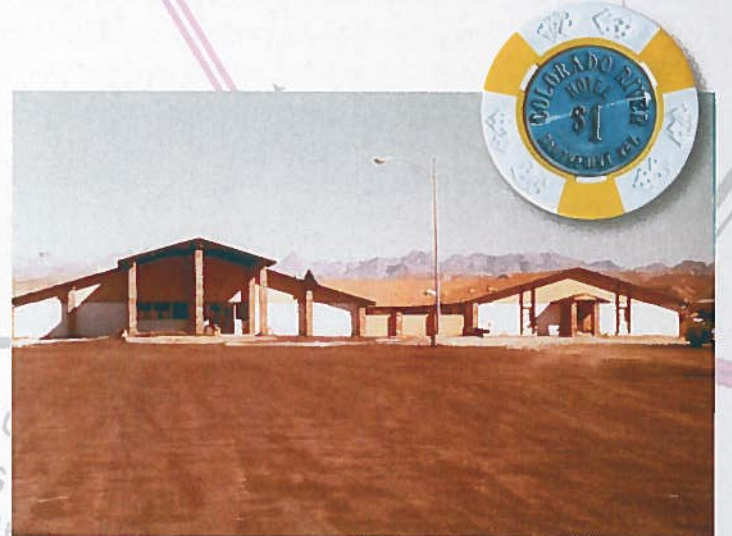


Harmon's Valley Inn. It was a dusty old joint with only one twenty one game and some old slot machines. Getting the chips was a real challenge since the game was hardly ever open. It took several trips before I was able to get the one and five dollar diamond molds that were in use and later a plain black 50¢ chip on the NEVADA mold. After George died around 1975 the new owners pasted stickers on the chip to cover up the Harmon name. I thought it was pretty tacky. In recent years the place was demolished and replaced with the Golden West Casino.

The present-day Oasis was called Western Village in those days but had no live gaming. It was mostly a restaurant serving travellers on their way through town and had a long row of slot machines overlooking the street. Eventually a 21 table was added and bit by bit the place grew into the resort it is today.

There were two other bars in town, the Corner which is still in operation, and a neat old place called the Blue Spot which looked like a house with a screen porch. It was located roughly across the street from the present-day Stateline Casino.

Anyway, I made a lot of dry runs to the outlying areas of Las Vegas but even if I didn't come up with any chips I always had a good time, I'll always remember them.



The Colorado River Resort probably taken in 1979. It was the forerunner of the Pioneer Club.

CASINORAMA 2010



On Saturday October 16th, 2010 Jim Munding hosted the last of his Casinorama shows. The casino collectibles show was held in California for the last 12 years. It started in Bellflower, CA in a small hall with just a few dealers. It grew each year and moved from Bellflower to Arcadia, CA, then finally ending up in San Marino, CA. Despite the shows initial successes, the last few shows have been effected by the bad economy. Fewer and fewer dealers booked tables, the Masonic Hall where the show was held raised their rental fees, and the chip collectors were not coming out in the same numbers as in earlier years. Jim decided to end the California Casinorama show and concentrate on his successful SUPER SHOW held in Las Vegas on the same weekend as the NFL SuperBowl.

"The SUPER SHOW is alive and well and will continue", Jim said. "Las Vegas has so much more than a small show in California, people like to go to Vegas, and the show is a plus".

Plan your trip to Las Vegas in February, watch the SuperBowl and check out all the great casino collectibles at the SUPER SHOW!



Over the years Jim has put out several Limited Edition chips to celebrate the Casinorama show.



(L-R) Friends and club members Tyrus Mulkey, Steve Bedo, Steve Passalacqua and Marc Shapiro at the 2008 Casinorama show.

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Christine and Sheldon Smith

of

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CC>CC RAFFLE

The CC>CC will be conducting another raffle at the June 2011 convention at the South Point Hotel, Spa & Casino in Las Vegas. We are looking for all types of donations of items to be included as part of the raffle—chips, dice, slot cards, strikes, tokens, postcards, matchbooks, ashtrays, swizzle sticks—ANY type of casino memorabilia that is in good condition that you'd like to have in YOUR collection. Thanks to the GREAT participation in the past from our wonderful club members in the way of ticket & raffle item donations,

this has been a success over the past several years both for the club AND for the lucky winners. Ticket costs are a single raffle ticket for a donation of \$10 or three raffle tickets for a \$25 donation. You do NOT need to be present at the convention to win and those not attending will have their winnings shipped to them (at no additional cost to the winner) after the convention closes. Ticket donations can be made via mail by sending your ticket donations (payable to the CC>CC) to:



Steve Bedo
CC>CC Membership Officer
1215 E. Dalton Avenue
Glendora, CA 91741

This address above is also where you would send your donated items (chips, dice, slot cards, strikes, tokens, postcards, matchbooks, ashtrays, swizzle sticks—ANY type of casino memorabilia that is in good condition that you'd like to have in YOUR collection) for the raffle. Thanks for all of your past support and we look forward to your continuing support to once again make this year's raffle a SUCCESS!!

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Take 4 TITOS

By Jim Noll R3123

If you collect TITOS or have other collectors gather TITOS for your collection. Be sure to "Take 4". TITO printing companies have been selling casinos TITOS of late in sets of 4 designs.



The above picture shows an unissued fan fold of four tickets, each of a different design. This example is from Terrible's Casino in Las Vegas, NV and are the backs types CS21, CS22, CS24, CS25. The fan fold shows how you can get four different back types from a single machine one

after another. Four types seems to be the standard, however examples have been seen where a design is repeated every other ticket to give 3 designs in four ticket types. ie: A,B,A,C vs the above pictured A,B,C,D.



Sample TITOS from Horseshoe Casino in Council Bluffs, IA



Sample TITOS from Harrah's Chester Pennsylvania Casino and Racetrack



Sample TITOS from Terribles Casino in Las Vegas.

Logo Usage Policy

The Club has certain logos and symbols which it must protect in order to protect its reputation in the collectibles community. No member is allowed to use the Club name, logo or symbol other than is approved by the by-laws or as otherwise specifically approved in writing by the Board of Directors.

- Only members in good standing may identify themselves as members of the Club
- Any member who identifies himself/herself as a member must affix or state their membership number so as not to confuse the public.
- “Identifies” includes advertising, announcements, business cards, internet websites, internet or live auctions, e-mails and any and all types of communication.
- Every member must make an effort not to confuse the public or lead the public to think that the member represents or speaks for the Club, other than those officers who actually do speak for the Club or those who have been authorized by the Board to speak for the Club.
- No event, show, auction or convention shall use the Club name, logo or symbol for any reason whatsoever unless it is an event, show, auction or convention run by the Club.
- The Board has approved a “Member’s Logo” which contains the member’s membership number. Only that logo may be used by members in their advertising, promotions, business cards, auctions, etc.
- Any other use of the Club name, logo or symbol must be submitted to the Board of Directors for their approval prior to such use.
- The entities formerly known as “Chapters” are prohibited from using the Club name, logo or symbol as representative of their organization

Example



Please contact the Secretary for a copy of the logo with your membership number on it.

CC>CC 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, click on the "EDUCATION" button to the top of the page. From there click on the "CC>CC 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

CC>CC 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 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.

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

Reference Center

Welcome to the CC>CC 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>CC members who have volunteered to answer your questions.
- [Chip Conditions](#) - an official list of CC>CC 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>CC 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.ccgccc.com>

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