

Volume 24 Number 1  
\$6.95

# Casino Collectible News

Brought to you by The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.



# Life is a Highway

A TOUR OF THE  
BOULDER HIGHWAY

*Part 1*

**PLUS...**

**CC&GTCC Convention 2011**

**The New ChipGuide**

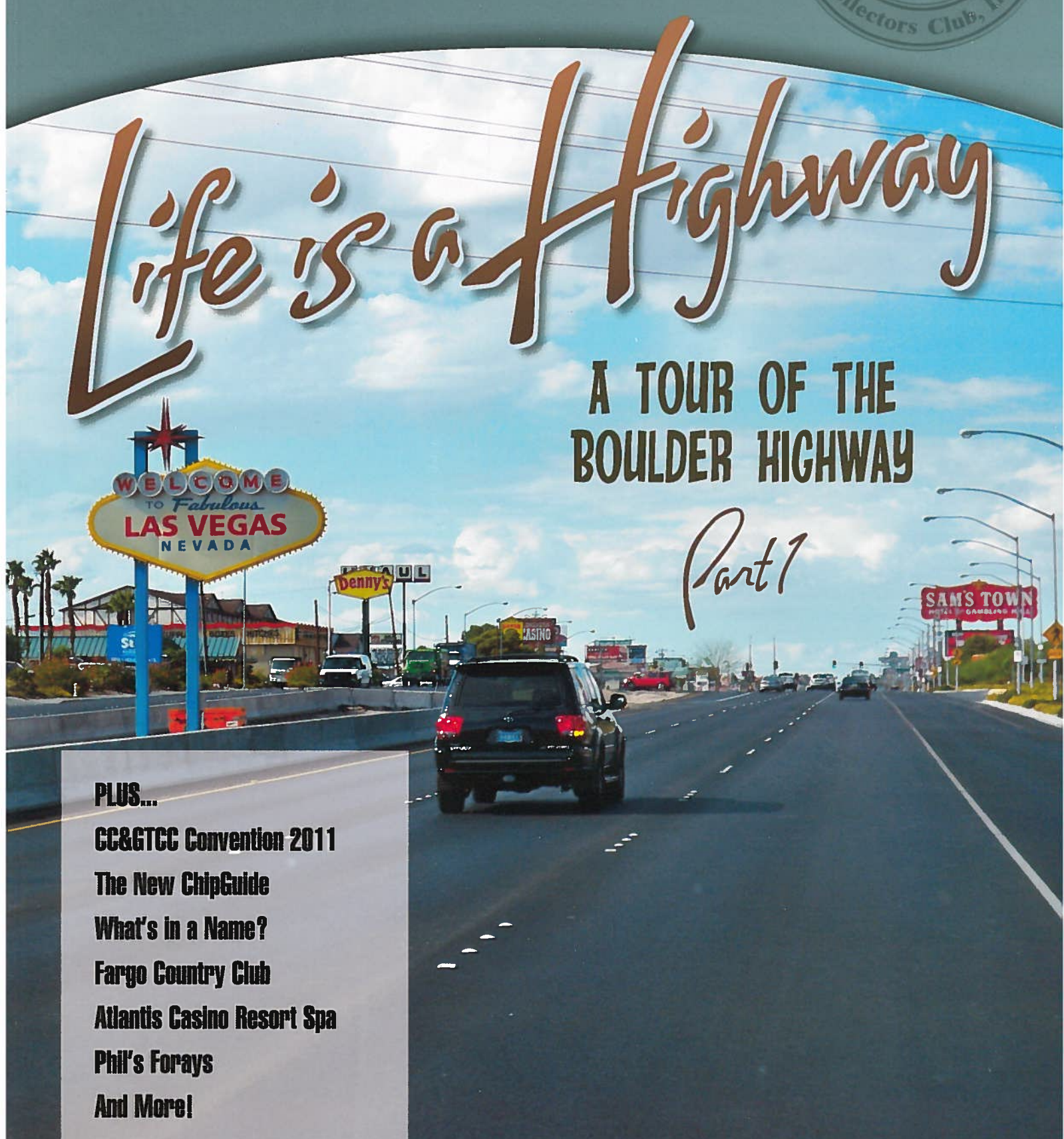
**What's in a Name?**

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**Atlantis Casino Resort Spa**

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**David Spragg**

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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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## Casino Collectible News

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*The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.*  
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# Join The Fun!

## CC&GTCC Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

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

My collection interests are:

Chips       Tokens       U.S.       Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

- Name and address
- E-Mail address
- Do not publish any of my information

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

- One year \$30.00 - bulk mailing rate
- First two years \$56.00 - bulk mailing rate
- First three years \$81.00 - bulk mailing rate
- First five years \$125.00 - bulk mailing rate
- One year Associate Member \$5.00
- Five year Associate Member \$20.00
- 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&GTCC to:

**CC&GTCC Membership Officer**  
**Steve Bedo**

1215 E. Dalton Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91741

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

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**www.CCGTCC.com**

# Casino Collectible News

Brought to you by The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.  
A Member of the American Numismatic Association (C-140538)



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## American Numismatic Association Membership Application

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

Regular  Student  Junior  Senior  Associate

Present or former ANA number, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs  Ms.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Country

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card all Numbers

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date

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

### Dues

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

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

Forward completed application to:

ANA

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

Please contact us with any questions (800) 367-972

# Visit Us Online!

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



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

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

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



# See You There!

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

# Advertising

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

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

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

## Please Note

- Do not send in ads that are folded. We recommend that you send in your ads by Priority Mail in a flat pack marked "DO NOT BEND". This will only cost you about \$4.95 and we will receive them in about two to three days.
- When you place a one inch or two inch ad for more than one issue, you may make changes in that ad for each issue. Try to get the changes to us well before the deadline of each issue.
- When ordering items from one of our advertisers, let them know what issue of the magazine in which you noticed their ad.
- All ad copy must be accompanied by payment made out to "The Casino Chips and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc." or CC&GTCC. No ad will run without payment

## Schedule of Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

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](mailto:advertising@ccgtcc.com)

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

Wants you to advertise in your quarterly magazine for FREE



This coupon is worth one FREE one-inch ad  
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Deadline for ads are  
January 1st for 1st qtr. issue April 1st for 2nd qtr. issue  
July 1st for 3rd qtr. issue October 1st for 4th qtr. issue

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



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

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



**Jim Steffner**  
President

## President's Letter

June 22 – 25, 2011 – keep those dates open. My how time flies. Seems like only yesterday that a genie was cutting the ribbon at the old Aladdin to open the clubs first show.

And now, Dave and Debbie Harber will be cutting the ribbon to open our Nineteenth Annual Convention at the South Point. Dave and Debbie have a great show planned (check out the convention article in this issue for all the details). Don't forget to see the club web site for up-to-date dealer listings, event schedules, and registration form. And more.

Over the past nineteen years our club has offered so much for our members. We have many very knowledgeable members who are able to answer specific questions, offer seminars, and some great stories, facts and history about casinos and collecting all over the world. But you may never hear much of this if you don't attend the convention (June 22 – 25, 2011 – South Point Hotel). It's a great place to be and oh so much fun. Hope to see you there!

I hope you took the time to nominate and now vote for the candidate of your choice to fill the two Board of Director positions. This is your chance to have a voice toward running your club. This is not the time to sit back and make negative comments, but the time to stand up and take action. Get involved the good way with good people to represent you.

Greg Susong was very active and dedicated to all aspects of collecting and our club. The Greg Susong Memorial Award was established to honor one of our members who has shown this same dedication and enthusiasm this past year. Be sure to cast your vote for that most deserving member.

Your Board of Directors held it's semi-annual meeting in February. Meeting was to late to bring you updates in this issue but next issue I'll recap the important topics we discussed.

Till next time – keep on chippn' and have fun.

Jim Steffner  
CC&GTCC President

**SEE YOU AT**  
**“SPLASHBAR VII” 2011**  
**Brian “Mr. Splashbar” Cashman**  
**LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06**



# New Members

Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
8228	Goldstein	Adam	CA	Pacific Palisades	Club Website
8229	Hempel	Todd	OH	New Albany	Fred Hempel
8229-A	Hempel	Melissa	OH	New Albany	Fred Hempel
8230	Kendra	Ken A.	IL	Oak Lawn	Club Website
8231	Galati	Joseph	NJ	Medford	Archie Black
8232	Regentin	Douglas	MI	Deckerville	Club Website
8233	Belknap	Randy	CA	Lemon Grove	Club Website
8234	Hearn	Lawrence	IL	Chicago	Club Website
8235	Mitchell	George	PA	Mars	Club Website
8236	Buchanan	Robert	CA	Sonoma	Coin Magazine
8237	Wendt	Philip	MO	Lees Summit	Archie Black
8238	Davis	Jarrid	IN	Bedford	Rich Hanover
8239	Hembrough	Todd	MD	Gaithersburg	Sheldon Smith
8240	Schwartz	H.	NJ	New Brunswick	Club Website
8241	Genga	Hilary	CA	Encino	Club Website
8242	McDonald	Michael	NJ	Clifton	Former Member
8243	Beasley	Brian	GA	Smyrna	Former Member
8244	McNeill	Stanley	PA	Philadelphia	Former Member
8244-A	McNeill	Jeffy	PA	Philadelphia	
8245	Tisdale	Craig	IL	Grayslake	Club Website
8246	O'Connor	William	MD	Glen Burnie	Archie Black
8247	Galanoudis	Ike	NY	Farmingdale	Archie Black
8248	Giametta	AJ "Jim"	TX	Tyler	Richard Gummer
8249	Proffitt	Randall	FL	Davenport	Former Member
8250	Smith	Charles	FL	Wesley Chapel	Jim Belligan
8251	Pochat	Sheri Ann	NY	Monroe	Website
8252	Robinson	Dennis	IA	Ottumwa	Club Website
8253	Choy	Marshall	CA	Cupertino	Club Website
8254	Turner	Charlie	KY	Louisville	Club Website
8255	Medford	Lisa	NV	Henderson	Sheldon Smith
8256	Gulbranson	Jeanne	NV	Henderson	Sheldon Smith
8257	Gaudette	Ronald	CA	Barstow	Club Website
8258	McDonald	Lance	CA	Half Moon Bay	Club Website
8259	Pokrywiecki	Stan	IL	Arlington Heights	Former Member
8260	Freedner	James Eric	CA	Sun Valley	Raulin Mendonca
8261	Seymour	Rick	WA	Laurier	Robert Smith
8261-A	Seymour	Marie	WA	Laurier	Robert Smith
8262	Maykut	Albert R.	AL	Huntsville	Jim Steffner
8263	Lax	Alan	NY	Yonkers	Andy Hughes
8264	Gardner	Jon	MN	St. Paul	Andy Hughes
8265	Switchulis	Tim	MI	Clinton Twnshp	Greg Cagle

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

As of 30 January, 2011, the CC&GTCC membership is at 1708 members -- 1224 Regular (R) Members, 234 Life (LM) Members & 250 Associate Members.



**Doug Smith**  
Treasurer

# Treasurer's Report

The information contained in this report reflects costs and expenditures for the period of 10/01/10 thru 12/31/10.

## Highlights of the Fourth Quarter of 2010 (10/01/10-12/31/10)

- Completed accounting for 2011 Calendar sales.
- Compiled list of suggestions to discuss at mid year BOD meeting.

## Club Accounts

The current balances as of 12/31/10 in the CC&GTCC accounts are as follows:

Museum Fund Money Market	\$99,757.17
Life Membership Fund Money Market	\$61,118.28
General Fund Money Market	\$14,623.05
General Fund Business Checking	\$71,761.28
Total of all four accounts	\$247,259.78

The above totals do not reflect checks written in the amount of \$6,594 for payments that have not yet cleared and deposits in the amount of \$13,684 that were made after the 12/31/10 date.

## The 19th Annual CC&GTCC Convention

Thru the period ending 12/31/10 there has not yet been a ton of activity for the 2011 Convention.

To date we have had a total of \$ 6,685 in revenue from Dealer Checks along with about \$800 in Pre-Registration payments that are not included in this report as they came in after the cutoff.

We are looking forward to another great convention in 2011 and I want to thank Dave and Debbie Harber for stepping up to chair this years big event.

## The Museum Fund

The total amount currently in the Museum fund is now

\$99,757. This current period shows donations in the amount of \$120 thru sales from one of Andy Hughes Chipboard auctions.

The only MOGH costs accounted for this period were for assistance with a focus group in the amount of \$2,795.

## 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 \$3,893 in transactions thru Paypal after fees.

## 2011 Casino Collectables Calendar

As of 12/31/10, we have collected nearly \$3,456 in payments for Calendar and Date sales. This effort has raised over \$2,100 for the club and turned out to be a tremendous success. We look forward to next years calendar with even more enthusiasm and hope to continue this for many years to come.

## Period Revenue (Thru 12/31/10)

The following monies were collected during the period of 10/01/10 thru 12/31/10.

Membership Renewals	\$8,086
Dealer Table Fees (2011)	\$6,665
Calendar Sales	\$752
CCTN Magazine Advertising	\$725
Promotion Sales	\$566
Museum Fund Donations	\$120
Interest Income	\$56
Auction Proceeds (Minus Costs)	(\$18)
Total Period Revenue	\$16,952

## Period Expenses (Thru 12/31/10)

The following expenses were paid during the period of 10/01/10 thru 12/31/10.

CCTN Magazine	\$6,341
MOGH Focus Group expenses	\$2,795
Insurance	\$1,034
Quarterly Storage	\$852
Misc. Postage (Membership/Promotions)	\$815
Misc. Supplies (General Club Business)	\$238
Promotions	\$198
Filing Fees (NY State AG Charities)	\$180
Credit Card / Paypal Fees	\$118
Printing	\$65
Telephone	\$50
Advertising	\$20
Total Period Expenses	\$12,706

**Period Account Balance Reconciliation  
(Thru 12/30/10)**

Total balance in all accounts as of 10/01/10	\$243,014
Revenue for the Period thru 12/31/10	\$16,952
Expenses for the Period thru 12/31/10	(\$12,706)
Balance of all accounts as of 12/31/10	\$247,260

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THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB INC.  
 Income & Expense/Equity Statement (Cash Basis)  
 January 1 Thru December 31, 2010

**INCOME**

Membership Dues (Includes 1st class postage & Life Memberships)	\$	38,172
Convention 2010:		
Table Fees	\$	26,815
Registration	\$	10,784
Banquet	\$	8,775
Auction Proceeds (Includes Catalog)	\$	5,446
Program Advertising	\$	1,654
Convention 2010 Total:	\$	53,474
Promotion Sales	\$	6,927
Dealer Table Fees (2011)	\$	6,665
Museum Fund Donations	\$	4,703
Magazine Advertising	\$	4,440
Calendar Sales	\$	3,456
Misc (Donations)	\$	659
50/50 Raffle	\$	460
Interest Income	\$	379
Life Member Challenge	\$	50
Total Income :	<u>\$</u>	<u>119,386</u>

**EXPENDITURES**

Convention (Includes Convention program)	\$	36,816
Magazine	\$	30,196
Museum Committee Workshops & Meetings	\$	10,408
Promotion	\$	4,020
Storage (Occupancy)	\$	3,408
Postage (Other than Magazine)	\$	2,673
Video Production (Convention/Seminars)	\$	2,400
Museum Fund Expenses / Promotional Items	\$	1,822
Misc Supplies (Includes Membership Pins/Cards)	\$	1,799
Meetings	\$	1,680
Insurance	\$	1,302
Website	\$	1,248
Awards	\$	1,216
Bank Charges / Paypal Fees / Ebay Fees	\$	991
Printing	\$	432
Filing Fees	\$	380
Advertising	\$	335
Telephone	\$	150
Total Expenditures :	<u>\$</u>	<u>101,275</u>

Net Income - 01/01/10 to 12/31/10 \$ 18,111

Beginning Equity Balance - 01/01/10	\$	249,488
Net Income - 01/01/10 to 12/31/10	\$	18,111
Change In Inventory - 01/01/10 to 12/31/10	\$	242
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31/10	<u>\$</u>	<u>267,841</u>

**Detail of Equity Balance - 12/31/10**

General Fund - Checking	\$	71,761
General Fund - Money Market	\$	14,623
Museum Fund (Formally Building Fund)	\$	99,757
Life Membership Fund	<u>\$</u>	<u>61,119</u>
Total Cash Available	<u>\$</u>	<u>247,260</u>
Inventory (October 2010 listing)	\$	20,081
Advance (Promotions & Secy)	\$	500
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31/10	<u>\$</u>	<u>267,841</u>

Respectfully Submitted, Douglas P. Smith - Treasurer  
 January 27, 2010

## Of Literary Note

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

Mark Gereb donated a copy of Cruise Ships and their Casino Chips by John Long. Mark also donated copies of 2 past issues of the club magazine.

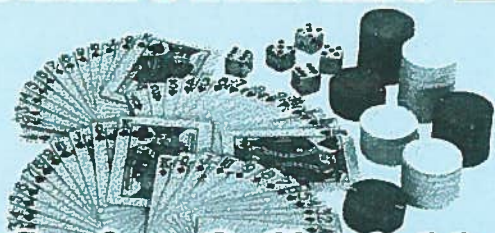
Heritage 2nd auction of casino chips was a pale comparison to their first auction, both in the number of lots as well as the quality of the material present. This may be the end of this venture unless additional interest can be mustered from both consigners as well as bidders. None the less, the related auction catalogued has been added to the club's library.

Mike Awbrey donated:

- *Howard Hughes in Las Vegas* by Omar Garrison
- *Inside Las Vegas* by Mario Puzo
- *Police Guide on Organized Crime*

## HIGHLAND COLLECTABLES

Buy  
Sell  
Trade



### Casino Collectables

Casino Chips • Tokens • Dice • Playing Cards  
• Post Cards • Anything Casino Related

Coins US/Foreign • Postage Stamps  
Stereo Views • View Masters  
Old Documents • Marbles • Old Tools • Etc.

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or trading, so please send details of any UK chips you may have.

**Jason Skinner LM-5528-164**

**jdskinner123@yahoo.co.uk**

**www.ukcasinochips.com**

**62 Layer Road, Colchester, CO2 7JH, United Kingdom**

# CONVENTION 2011

by David Harber and Sandi Steffner

Now that 2011 is here it's time to start to think about attending our annual convention being held once again at the beautiful South Point Hotel & Casino at the southern tip of the strip. The 19th annual 2011 gala will be held from Wednesday June 22nd through Saturday the 25th. You're not going to want to miss getting together with old friends and meeting lots of new fellow collectors.

that's where you come in. Why not take a few hours and help out the club. We need help with registration, promotions, the auction table, the membership table and show setup/tear down among other things. Contact our volunteer coordinator, Belinda Hixon, at [txbel711@aol.com](mailto:txbel711@aol.com) if you'd like to help out.

## PRE-REGISTRATION

Once again, pre-registration is offered to those that would like to eliminate standing in the long lines on Thursday morning. The price is only \$20.00 and your packet will include a chip worth \$3.00 in trade at any of the show floor dealers. Very likely, there will also be some other goodies in that pre-reg packet so you'll want to get yourself signed up in advance.

The registration form can be found in this issue of the magazine and on both the club and [convention2011.com](http://convention2011.com) web sites. George Dmitrevsky will once again be handling the pre-registration. His address and email are on the registration form. Payment by check

For those of you that have never experienced the South Point there's lots of reasons why the club has chosen this facility to host our convention through 2013. The show floor is huge and easy to access with nice wide aisles. There are several reasonably priced restaurants. The hotel even boasts a beautiful spa, sixty-four lane bowling alley and sixteen movie theaters besides the usual slots, video poker, table games and showroom. The guest rooms are great as well. Each newly appointed spacious room features a 42-inch plasma television and wifi.

So it's time to get those airline reservations, book your room and pre-register with the club. You're not going to want to miss this one and all the fun that is in store.

## CONVENTION2011.com

We've set up a new "unofficial" web site for this year's convention at [www.Convention2011.com](http://www.Convention2011.com). We've also started a facebook group and twitter feed. Sign up and visit frequently for lots of up-to-date info. Much of the general information surrounding the convention can be found on the club site as well at [www.ccgcc.com](http://www.ccgcc.com).

## "CHIP" IN AND HELP OUT

We can't pull this off each year without scores of volunteers and



or money order made out to CC&GTCC must accompany the form. We cannot accept credit card payment with the mailed in form. If you'd rather pay with your card then go online to the club site at [www.ccgcc.com](http://www.ccgcc.com) and you can use your VISA or MasterCard to get registered. Be sure to include your email or phone number so you can receive your confirmation. With either the mail in form or the online registration you will receive a confirmation within 30 days. If you do not then please inquire via the club site. Postmark and online deadline is May 8th. Any registrations received after that date cannot be accepted.

A photo ID with address will be required to pick up your packet and each person must pick up their own. No packets will be mailed to non-attendees. Children under the age of 12 do not need to pre-



register and there is no charge for show entry. However we do ask that you let us know their names and ages since we'll put together a junior collector packet for each of them. Pre-registration packets can be picked up at the registration desk on Wednesday June 22nd between 9 AM and 4 PM ONLY, and during regular registration desk hours on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Your pre-registration envelope will contain your badge, banquet tickets (if ordered), poker &/or blackjack tournament confirmations (if participating) and any coupons, freebies or giveaways that we can obtain along with the \$3.00 show chips.

### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Reserve your room directly with the South Point Hotel. Call their toll free reservation number at 866-791-7626 or 702-797-8005. Be sure to tell them that you are with the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club or use our special booking code "CCG0617". The deadline to book your room within our block is May 27th, 2011 or until our block or rooms is filled.



Hotel room rates for the 2011 convention are \$60.00/night Sunday through Thursday and \$90.00/night for Friday and Saturday. If you are coming to Las Vegas early or staying over after the convention our room block runs for a full two weeks from Wednesday June 15th through the 29th. Remember though, in order to be within our block your reservation MUST be made by May 27th.



As an incentive to book your room using the club special booking code your name will be entered into a drawing for prizes throughout the show. Beside the drawings, made only available to those who book their reservations through the club, keep in mind

that all the reservations made at the South Point that are included in our special room block help the club keep costs down in future years and assist us in negotiating favorable contracts for future conventions. Support your club, be eligible for prizes and stay at the South Point.

### CHIP & MEDAL DESIGN CONTEST

Bring out your inner artist and submit your ideas, sketches or finished art for our chip and medal design contest and compete for cash prizes. Your winning entry could be on the club chip, the silver and bronze medals or the T-shirt for the 2011 19th Annual Convention. Cash prizes will be awarded for first and second places in the chip, medal and T-shirt design categories. The convention theme this year is "Patriotism". Good luck!

### EARLY BIRD BANQUET AND TRADE SESSION

The banquet is scheduled for Wednesday evening, June 22nd. Reserve your tickets using the registration form or online. Ticket price is \$45.00 per person or a table of ten seats for \$450.00. No tickets will be available at the door. The banquet is always a sellout so don't miss your chance to attend. Once again we will have a theme for the banquet as well as for the whole convention. We'll be showing our patriotism. Wear your red/white/blue, an old military uniform or even come as Uncle Sam if you'd like. There will be a prize for the most creative outfit. While this is not a formal event, patriotic-related or business casual will be appropriate. Please, no flip-flops, shorts or tank tops.



Reserve your seat or reserve a full table of ten seats so all your friends can sit together. Please provide all ten names and full payment when you send in the reservation form. Several serving lines, fabulous food and elegant deserts will add to an event you won't want to miss.

All banquet attendees must be club members. If you plan on bringing a spouse or friend, make sure to sign them up for club

membership BEFORE the banquet. There will be no opportunity to join the club at the show before Thursday morning after the exhibit hall opens. Banquet tickets will be in your pre-registration envelope and can be picked up at the registration desk between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM only on Wednesday prior to the banquet.

When the banquet ends about 8:00 PM, the trade session begins. Bring what you can carry, allow space for others and remember NO direct selling of items. Have fun!

### EXHIBITS GRAND BALLROOM - A & B

All members are encouraged to enter an exhibit and compete for cash prizes. The exhibits that members provide show their collecting specialties and interests. The exhibits can be either competitive or non-competitive. Contact Casey Focazio-Follis, exhibit chairman at [exhibits@ccgtcc.com](mailto:exhibits@ccgtcc.com) to enter or for more info. The club will provide the display cases at no cost for your exhibit.

This is one of the highlights of the convention and members look forward to seeing what other members collect. In the past exhibits have included chips, tokens, silver strikes, ashtrays, dice, belt buckles, money clips, hotel history, security badges, T-shirt quilt and much more.

### EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

Once again, Sheldon Smith has lined up some great speakers to keep everyone well informed, educated and entertained. Watch for a complete seminar schedule in the next issue of the Chip and Token News and on the club web site.

### BRUCE LANDAU MEMORIAL AUCTION

During past conventions the auction has always been held on Friday evening. However, this year the auction will take place on Thursday, June 23rd at 5:30 PM. Once again David Spragg will be organizing the popular event. David has assembled some excellent lots for this year's auction that may include some lower and medium priced items other than chips. Be sure to order your auction catalog as they usually sell out by show time.

### POKER CHALLENGE AND BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT

The Poker Challenge and Blackjack Tournament will again be held at the South Point. The action starts on Wednesday June 22nd with the Blackjack tournament at noon. The Poker Challenge will be Friday evening with a start time of 7 PM. Be sure to stay tuned for more details. Advance for both tournaments can be done on the registration form. PLEASE NOTE - due to recent gaming regulations payment for the tournaments MUST be made by check

and mailed in on the registration form. No online payments can be accepted. Players can sign up at the convention for the Poker Challenge if seats are still available. Cost this year will be \$90.00 for the Poker Challenge and \$70.00 for the Blackjack Tournament.

A special set of tournament chips will be available for purchase starting on Saturday morning when the show opens or mail thru the Promotion Director. For any questions please contact Tournament Chairman Bob Pardue at [robert.pardue@cox.net](mailto:robert.pardue@cox.net).

### TRADE SESSIONS

Several trade sessions are planned during the convention. Check the schedule at the show for times and locations. Bring some binders but leave space for others. Please, no outright sales of merchandise or you will be asked to leave the trade session.

### LAST DANCE SWAP MEET

On Saturday, June 25th, the Last Dance Trade Session will be held. The event will begin at 7:00 PM and last until the last two traders call it quits. This will be the last chance for members to get together after the show floor closes to add that last chip, token, strike or slot card to their collection. Check the show schedule for location.



Watch for more updates in the next magazine and on both the club web site at [CCGTCC.com](http://CCGTCC.com) or the "unofficial" convention one at [Convention2011.com](http://Convention2011.com). Make your plans now to be in Las Vegas on June 22nd through the 25th for our 19th annual gala. We hope to see you there!







# CONVENTIONS PAST



*The CC&GTCC 1st Annual Convention back in 1983. (L-R) Janice O'Neal, Bruce Landau, Brenda Black, Archie Black, Vince Mowrey, Earl Donley, Chuck Tomarchio, Jerry O'Neal*



*Janice & Jerry O'Neal manning their tables at the 1st convention*



*The ribbon from the 1st convention taken at Janice & Jerry O'Neal's home back in Michigan in 1993*

## Update from the Auction Chairman - David Spragg

The 2011 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will once again be held during the convention, at the South Point Hotel & Casino, on the earlier date of Thursday June 23, 2011.

By the time you are reading this message, the deadline for submission of auction lots will of course have passed, so this is just an update of what to expect, and some information for first timers.

The auction will again comprise approx 200 lots (including donated lots), of which a number of the donated lots (probably 20) will be sold by silent auction during the first day 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, consigned lots consist generally of single items or small groups. Donated lots may of course be bulkier as within reason I would have accepted anything as a donation.

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. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and are available to view in full on the club website.



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. If you wish to purchase a printed copy this year there will only be two options:

Color copies will only be available if ordered and paid for in advance (for mailing or collection in Vegas). Price will be \$35 shipped or \$30 collected at the convention. There will be no spare copies available at the show.

B&W xeroxed copies will be available at the show only for \$10, either from the club or auction tables, or in the auction room.

Once the catalog is available, you may place absentee bids as detailed in the terms and conditions (which are repeated

at the front of the catalog). Email me at any point if you have any problems.

Please use [auction@ccgtcc.com](mailto: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.

# So Where is My OTY Ballot?... OTY Chairman - Jim Follis

In a departure from what was previously announced both on-line and in the last issue of the CCTN, there is a wrinkle in the 2010 OTY Balloting process. This issue of the magazine was to include both a Ballot and a pictorial layout of all the 2010 OTY Nominees. However, it seems that the CCTN deadline and the results of the OTY Nominations do not overlap and therefore this issue will not be used to display the 2010 OTY Nominees and voting ballot. Instead, the 2010 OTY process will be changed, as follows...

Firstly, since the time period available for Nominee submissions (which was tied to the publication date of this issue) is now not needed, the deadline for OTY Nomination submissions is extended by about 30 days, to February 28th.

The next change is that we will return to the printed Judge's Pamphlet for candidate viewing and voting and the pamphlets will be mailed to everyone that has (and will) submit a Nomination form in any of the accepted methods of submission (mail, email, fax and telephone).

However, possession of a Judge's Pamphlet is not a requirement to vote and voting will remain open to all Club Members (in good standing) for the 2010 OTY Awards. However, in order to see the 2010 OTY Nominees (if you do not have a Judge's Pamphlet) it will require visiting the Un-Official OTY Viewing Sites (on-line) via the Internet at the addresses provided below.

As an alternative, I can be contacted anytime prior to March 31st, via my cell phone (520.971.7909) and if you provide me with a mailing address I will send a Judge's Pamphlet right out. Please note that it is my plan to mail them on or about 31 March, 2011, with a planned return date of April 18th

We certainly apologize for this last minute change, but with these modifications, every Member should still have the opportunity to vote!

In other OTY developments, we are still in search of a donation to the Club's Permanent Collection of all Past OTY Awards, the 2009 Silver Strike of the Year, the \$200 Palms, Statue of Liberty strike. If you own one and are interested in donating it to the CC&GTCC, or offering it For Sale at a favorable price please contact me at the above number.

By now, all of the GPI gifts (noted in CCTN issue, Volume 23, Number 3) have been distributed to Club Members that submitted Nominations for the 2009 OTY Awards. We thank GPI for these gifts (key chains) and wish them well in future OTY competitions. I have also distributed a "Thank You" chip to each of the Members that submitted Nominations in the 2009 OTY Awards and while I cannot commit to a similar action this year (2010 OTY Awards) I can only recommend that every Member try to submit a Nomination form.

I look forward to hearing from every Member! To visit the Un-Official OTY Viewing Site you will need a computer with Internet access. Point your browser to:

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

Just remember, up until the Nominations are fully received and tabulated, the OTY Viewing Sites will not reflect the finalists (the top ten) and voting will not begin until the change is made.

Jim Follis  
OTY Awards Chairman  
Life Member 3872-53





*47th Bombardment Wing Crest*

# RAF SCHULTHORPE

By John K. Kallman

RAF Schulthorpe is situated about three miles west of Fakenham in Norfolk, England. Born out of what was to become World War II and expired due to the end of the cold war. Over the years, this base hosted a number of both United States and British forces, with both its mission and units changing over the years. Where there are large number of men separated for long periods of time from home and families, various activities helped pass the time, gaming was one of these activities.

Of the many units that were stationed there, one was the 47th Bombardment Wing. The crest of this unit is boldly displayed on a series of chips used at the Non-Commissioned Officers Club located on the base. This unit was stationed here between June 1, 1952 and June 22, 1962



*A \$1.00 chip from the Officers club is known to exist (and probably other denominations), but no similar unit designation is shown with just Schulthorpe Officers Club inscribed on the chip.*

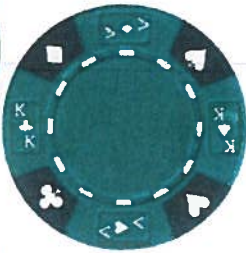
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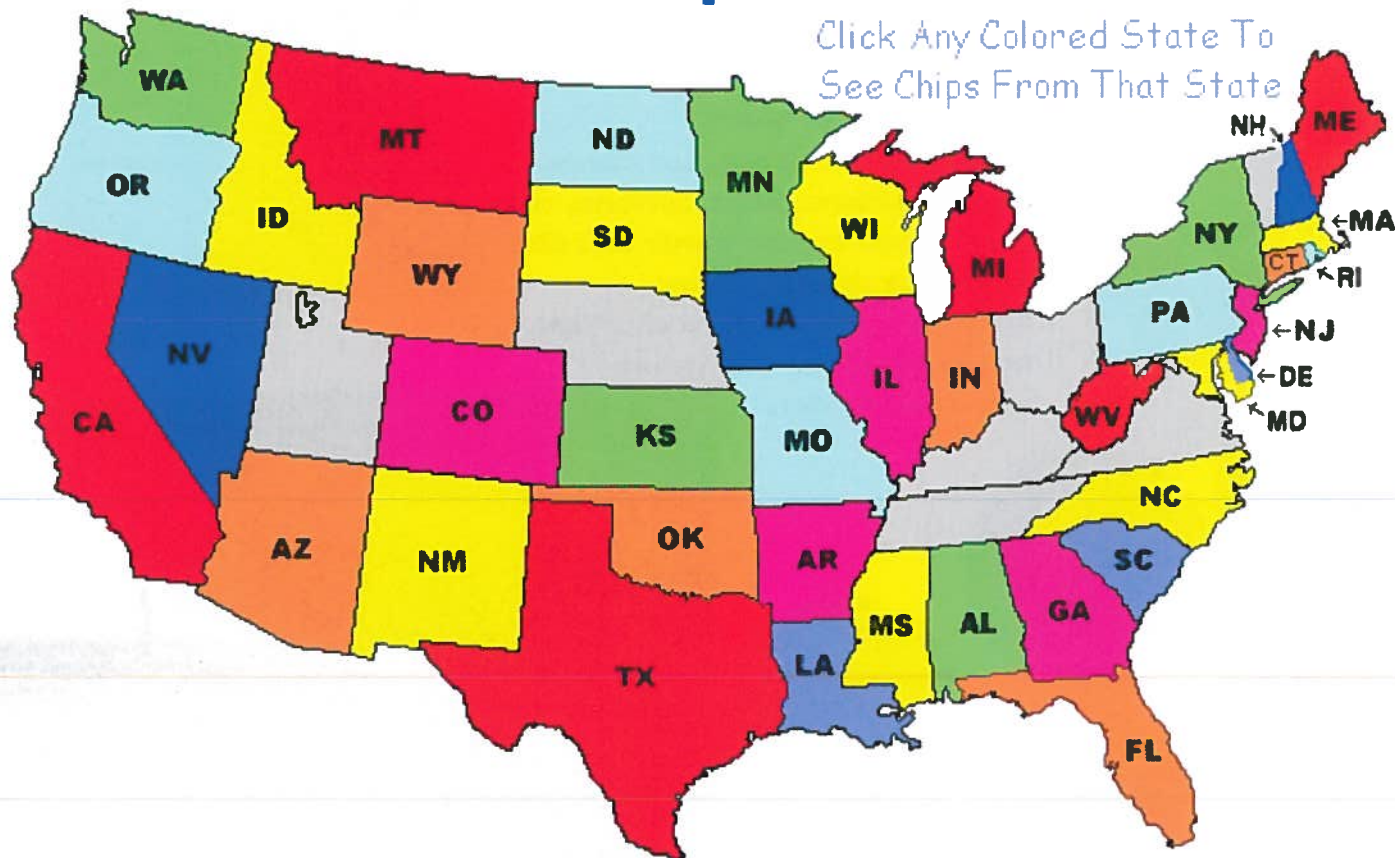
\* With this ad (one per customer)

# - The New ChipGuide - The Online Catalog of U.S. Casino Collectibles

by Charles Kaplan, LM-115-48

## The ChipGuide

Click Any Colored State To  
See Chips From That State



The ChipGuide is an online catalog of collectible items from casinos in the United States. The ChipGuide address is <http://chipguide/themogh.org>. The ChipGuide is THE place where collectors go to see pictures of casino chips, tokens, slot cards, dice, postcards, room keys, silver strikes, matchbooks, TITOs (Ticket In - Ticket Out coupons) and many other casino collectibles. The ChipGuide has features that help identify where a chip was used, even if the location is not on a chip. The "What's New" feature lists recent additions to the ChipGuide so that collectors can know when new chips have been released. The ChipGuide is a place you should visit often to keep up with the casino collectibles hobby.

A little about the history of the ChipGuide. The ChipGuide was started by Greg Susong. Greg's contributions to the hobby are considerable. He was the first webmaster of the CC&GTCC website. He started and ran the ChipBoard, the StrikePoint and the SlotCardBBS online discussion websites. He broadcast the conventions over a live webcam to those who couldn't attend. He hosted the Tuesday night ChipGuide Get Together at the Palms casino just prior to the start of the convention. He is a member of the CC&GTCC Hall of Fame. He turned a hobby of remotely located individuals into a community, a community of friends.

In the late 1990's, the ChipGuide began as a catalog of the casino chips from riverboat and Indian casinos. Over the years the ChipGuide expanded to include: personal chips, Nevada \$1 chips, chips from Maryland Charity casinos, day cruise chips and some others. Links were also added to the other online catalogs for locations not in the ChipGuide, like foreign chips, chips from illegal casinos, and chips from Colorado casinos.

Greg passed away in October, 2009. Just prior to the 2010 convention, Greg's wife Carol donated the ChipGuide to the CC&GTCC. And the ChipGuide was to find a new home on the Museum of Gaming History's (MoGH) website. As the MoGH webmaster, it became my responsibility to migrate the website to its new location. I was supplied with all the contents of the website and upon initial examination the migration looked like a daunting task. The major problems were: 1) There was a webpage for each casino, about 1,100, that needed updating in order to work in the new location; and 2) We had no idea how Greg updated the website, that information was never found.



I run the Caribbean ChipGuide (CCG), which is the ChipGuide for Casinos of the Caribbean, <http://www.CaribbeanChipGuide.com>. The design of the CCG was based on the ChipGuide, with Greg's permission. In fact Greg designed the CCG logo for me. The websites looked similar, but they were implemented totally differently. For the CCG, I wrote a browser based update facility to allow me to add new items to the website and change or delete existing items. I thought that with some modification this could become the new update facility for the ChipGuide. A plan was finally worked out for a three phase implementation of the new ChipGuide.

1. Migrate the website as is to its new home. Instead of modifying each of the 1,100 webpages, a program would be written that would read the webpage and make the necessary changes on the fly. It turns out this wasn't as difficult as first thought and in about a week after starting, the new ChipGuide went live.

2. The second phase was to write a conversion program that would extract data out of the 1,100 webpages and build a database. Once completed, the website would be in a condition that would allow for easy updating. This step turned out to be much more challenging than first thought. It was not easy to programmatically figure out where all the data was and what it meant. At least 100 trials were run before I thought we were ready. Programs to analyze the database were written to help figure out where there were conversion problems. It was quite satisfying when the phase 2 went live, until some errors were discovered a week or two later. A bunch of corrections were made to the conversion program and the database was reloaded.

3. Write the ChipGuide Update Facility (CGUF). The CGUF is a series of related programs that are able to add, modify and delete data (states, casinos, chips, and submissions) in the ChipGuide database. This was also a very satisfying task.

I knew that I alone could not maintain all the data in the ChipGuide. Instead a team of ChipGuide administrators was recruited, each handling different locations. A training manual was written and three webinars (internet seminars) were held to train the admins. And off we go.


## **What is New in the New ChipGuide?**

**Locations** - Casinos are opening up all across the country. Gambling was legalized in Nevada in 1931 to help the state survive the Great Depression. Now that we are again in hard times, many other states are doing the same. These states are recent additions to the ChipGuide: Colorado, Deadwood South Dakota, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island, Idaho, Alabama and New Hampshire.

**Collectible Types** - The original ChipGuide was just for casino chips. These days collectors are interested in many other types of items found in casinos. The ChipGuide now includes just about anything in a casino that isn't nailed down, including: chips, roulette chips, tournament chips, no cash value chips, manufacturers sample chips, fantasy chips, ivory chips, mother-of-pearl chips, tokens, TITO's (Ticket-In, Ticket-Out), slot cards, room keys, dice, plaques, jetons, silver strikes, playing cards, ashtrays, matchbooks, postcards, key rings, key FOBs, match play coupons, pictures and several different types of Win Card items.

**Casino Filtering** - filtering allows you to limit which items appear in a list. With Casino Filtering the list of casinos in a state can be limited by Casino Type, City or Status. The Casino Type indicates if the casino type is land based, a riverboat, charity, military, Indian reservation, or whatever. Status shows if the casino is opened, closed or never opened. For example, there are 37 casinos listed for the state of Iowa. With Casino Filtering the list can be reduced to just the 14 open riverboat casinos.

## Iowa

Selections

Casino Type Riverboat ▾

City All ▾

Status Open ▾

14 Casinos Found

Casino	City	Type	Status	Website
Amenstar Casino	Council Bluffs	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Argosy Casino	Sioux City	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Catfish Bend	Burlington	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Diamond Jo Casino	Dubuque	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Diamond Jo Casino	Northwood	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Harrah's	Council Bluffs	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Isle of Capri	Bettendorf	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Lady Luck	Marquette	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Rhythm City Casino	Davenport	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Riverside Casino	Riverside	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Terrible's Lakeside	Osceola	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
The Isle Casino	Waterloo	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>
Wild Rose Casino	Emmetsburg	Riverboat	Open	<a href="#">Link to Casino Web Site</a>

**Casino Search** - The Casino Search function allows searching casino names by keyword. How is this function helpful? Occasionally, you will come across a casino that has a name on it or initials, but no location. With Casino Search you can quickly find the location. Simply input what is written on the chip and Casino Search returns a list of matching casinos. For example - enter "GOLD DUST" and Casino Search returns this list:

### Casino Name Search

State	Casino	City	Website
Nevada	Gold Dust	Reno	
Nevada	Gold Dust West	Carson City	<a href="#">Link to Website</a>
Nevada	Gold Dust West	Elko	<a href="#">Link to Website</a>
Nevada	Gold Dust West	Reno	<a href="#">Link to Website</a>
South Dakota	Gold Dust	Deadwood	

Keywords

Message 5 casinos with "gold dust" found



Wild card searches are allowed, so Gold\* will find any casino whose name has a word starting with Gold, like Golden Nugget or Goldiggers. From the casino list, clicking on a casino name brings up the chips and other collectibles for that casino.



**Casino Alias** - Sometimes the name on a chip is not the same as the name of the casino. For example, some chips from the Coin Castle Casino in Las Vegas just have the initials "CCC". If you select CCC from the list of Nevada casinos, it will bring up a page explaining that the CCC chips were used at the Coin Castle Casino and give you a link to go to that casino.

Casino alias is also used when the same set of casino chips are used in more than one casino. A good example of this is the charity casinos in Michigan. A casino management will run the casino for the charity and use their own chips. The casino management company may run casinos for many different charities in different locations. Instead of listing the same set of chips for each charity and each location, the set of chips are listed once with the casino management company. For each casino the ALIAS is used to refer to the chips used there from the casino management company.

**State and Casino Pictures** - To make the ChipGuide a little more attractive, there is room for two pictures at the top of the state and casino pages. For the state page, we show the state flag and a map of the state. For the casino pages, we try to show the casino logo and a picture of the casino.

<h2>Hard Rock</h2>			
			
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>777 Beach Boulevard Biloxi, MS 39530 Type: Riverboat 228-276-7625 Status: Open Opened: 6/30/2007 . Closed: No Link to Website</p> </td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;"> <input type="button" value="Updates"/> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>777 Beach Boulevard Biloxi, MS 39530 Type: Riverboat 228-276-7625 Status: Open Opened: 6/30/2007 . Closed: No Link to Website</p>	<input type="button" value="Updates"/>
<p>777 Beach Boulevard Biloxi, MS 39530 Type: Riverboat 228-276-7625 Status: Open Opened: 6/30/2007 . Closed: No Link to Website</p>	<input type="button" value="Updates"/>		

**Chip Search** - I use this all the time. I will get an email from someone, usually not a collector, who writes that they have a chip listed in the ChipGuide as CG12345 and wants to know how much is it worth and where can they sell it. Without Chip Search, the only way to find out which chip they are talking about is by writing back asking them to send a scan of the chip or a description. Chip Search will find a chip using the ChipGuide number or a Catalog number. Catalog numbers are identification numbers assigned by other chip catalogs, like The Chip Rack (TCR).

<h3>ITEM VIEW: CG29162</h3>	
<h4>Fremont</h4>	
<p>Casino Image Needed</p>	<p>200 E Fremont St Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 800-634-6460 Status: Opened: 5/18/1956 . Closed: No Link to Website</p>
<p>No Cash Value [QuickView]</p>	
	<p>CG29162 Denom: 1.00 Color: PURPLE Inserts: 3 GREEN Mold: ARODIE Catalog#: TCR #110355</p> <input type="button" value="Updates"/>
CG	Catalog# N0355
<input type="button" value="Show"/>	<input type="button" value="Previous Record"/> <input type="button" value="Next Record"/>
<p>Message: Item found</p>	

**Contributors** - This is the new function that I like the most. ChipGuide cannot be done by any one individual or any group of individuals. It takes the entire chip collecting community to provide scans of collectibles not currently in the ChipGuide to make a valuable resource for all. Contributors are given credit for their submissions, as follows: "Contributed by: Charles Kaplan". If they want to, contributors can remain anonymous. The CONTRIBUTORS page shows a list of all the ChipGuide contributors and how many of each type of item they have contributed. By clicking on a contributor's name, a page will be presented with all the person's submissions. By clicking on the item type, you will see all of the person's submissions for just that type of item.

### Chips Submitted by: Jim Buell
















											
Nevada	====>	CG19385	TCR# N2820	CG19631	TCR# N7110	CG19632	TCR# N1473	CG19642	TCR# N6520	CG19642	TCR# N6520
											
CG19666	TCR# N4757	CG19759	TCR# N3855	CG19764	TCR# N2874	CG19763	TCR# N2835 L	CG19763	TCR# N2835 L	CG19762	TCR# N2901
											
CG19813	TCR# N1673	CG19814	TCR# N1690	CG19487	TCR# N1740	CG19872	TCR# N3553	CG19874	TCR# N1827	CG21114	TCR# N2994

As an added bonus, at the bottom of the contributor's page is a summary of how many of each type of item is in the ChipGuide. Clicking on the summary item type will bring up a complete list of those items in the ChipGuide. So if you are a dice collector, clicking on the contributor summary item for DICE will bring up a page of all the dice in the ChipGuide.

The contributor page is meant to honor those who have submitted items to the ChipGuide and have made it what it is today. You can be included by submitting items that are not currently in the ChipGuide with the easy to use SUBMISSION function.

**QuickView** - Casino pages are displayed as a vertical list of items. With well established casinos, there could be 100's of items and the list is quite long. To help zip through the list quickly QuickView presents the casino page in a different format, 4 to 8 items across each row. The number of items per row is selectable to make it look as good as possible for each user. I also call this Catalog View because the resulting pages are very similar to the format found in many published chip catalogs. If you haven't tried this for your favorite casino, you must... the results are dazzling.

## Cotton Club - Greenville, MS

CHIPS, Columns: 4 5 6 7 8 [ListView]					
					
CG00538	CG00539	CG00540	CG00369	CG18035	CG18036
No Cash Value, Columns: 4 5 6 7 8 [ListView]					
					
CG14864	CG09034	CG14865	CG09033	CG09032	CG09031
					
CG10747					
Odds & Ends, Columns: 4 5 6 7 8 [ListView]					
					
CG18687	CG18687				

**WinCards** - WinCards is a casino promotional program to attract new players by giving them some education and incentives. WinCards has its own webpage which shows a list of all casinos with WinCard items. There are several different types of WinCard collectible items - chips, dealer tip chips, dealer tip coupons, strategy cards, sign up forms and brochures.

**Full Size Images** - Images are displayed at a certain maximum size throughout the ChipGuide to keep the pages aligned correctly and easy to read. But sometimes images are much larger than the allocated space. When this happens, the ChipGuide automatically: 1) Reduces the size of the image proportionally to fit in the allocated space; and 2) Makes the image a link so when it is clicked, a full size image is displayed.

**Casino Lineage** - Casinos come and go. Sometimes another casino will open in the same location. Sometimes when a casino is sold, the new owners will change the casino name. The Casino Lineage function tracks casinos at the same location. With the casino WAS and BECAME fields, the previous and next casino names at this location are shown. Clicking on the WAS and BECAME casino names takes you to those casino pages.

## Resorts



Was: Harrah's Showboat Mardi Gras  
Became: Ameristar  
777 Harrah  
E. Chicago, IN 46312  
Type: Riverboat  
877-496-1777  
Status: Closed  
Opened: 4/26/2005 . Closed: 6/24/08

Updates

## The Future of the ChipGuide

While the ChipGuide started out as an effort of a single collector for his particular areas of interest, it is grown to be a collaborative project with wide appeal to the casino collecting community. We have come a long way, but there are still many great ideas out there yet to be implemented. Here are some of our current plans.

**Convention Seminar** - at this year's convention, the ChipGuide administrators will host an educational seminar about the New ChipGuide. The seminar will be fun and informative for new collectors and even for collectors who are very experienced with the ChipGuide. You may even be able to see the inner workings of the ChipGuide, how we put it all together with the ChipGuide Update Facility. And when I mentioned FUN, it will be fun for all, expect some surprises.

**New Functions** – One recent function that is being implemented at this time is the ChipGuide News Service (CGNS). Collectors will be able to subscribe to this service that will send them a daily email with all the new items added to the ChipGuide that day. After all the kinks have been worked out, we plan to enhance the CGNS with the ability to customize the items that are included for each subscriber. Subscribers will be able to build a profile with the collectibles that are of interest to them. Examples are: Items from Riverboat casinos; Just Silver Strikes; or \$25 chips from Nevada casinos.

Other new functions are also being planned. One is the ability to generate a customized catalog. Let's say you collect Riverboat casinos, or Silver Strikes, or \$25 chips from Nevada casinos. With the custom catalog function you will be building a catalog with just the items you want from the locations you want. The customized catalog will be created as a PDF (a printable computer document) and emailed to the subscriber. If a hardcopy of the catalog is wanted, just send or bring the PDF to your local office supplies store or copy center and they can print it for you in color and bind it.

Another new function being considered is a subscriber list service. Subscribers will be able to maintain lists of items on the ChipGuide. What kind of lists? Want lists, trade lists and my collection lists. If an item is on someone's want or trade lists it will be indicated when viewing the item on the ChipGuide. From there you will be able to work out a trade. You might also be able to print out a custom catalog with all the items in your collection.

I regularly get requests about the ChipGuide from collectors. The answer is almost always, "Yes, it is possible." The idea will get serious consideration if it is thought that it will be of interest to enough collectors to make the development effort worthwhile. What's your idea?

**New Venues** – as more and more states legalize casino gaming, they will be added to the ChipGuide. The ChipGuide can even be enhanced from United States to worldwide gaming. Some day when you go to the ChipGuide you may be greeted with a map of the globe. From there you would click on a country to see a list of all the casinos there. The ChipGuide realizes that there are many online

and published catalogs of casino collectibles. An effort will be made to see if there is a way to enhance the ChipGuide by joining with other catalogs. Everyone would benefit from a unified casino collectible catalog – collectors would have one resource to find all casino collectibles; catalogs would benefit from the enhanced functions of the ChipGuide and the reduced expenses for operating and updating the catalogs.

## Summary

Personally, it is an incredible honor to assume responsibility for the ChipGuide. I enjoy working (should be playing, because it is so much fun) with the ChipGuide Administrators and collectors to take their requirements and bring them to life.

I cannot thank the ChipGuide Administrators enough for their dedication to the project. Day after day I am simply amazed at their efforts, their attention to accuracy and quality, and the time that they devote to the ChipGuide. Thank you Barry, Al, Luke, Jim, Eric S., John, Lee, Cale and Eric D.

And of course we have the collectors, the collectors who provide the scans of the items in their collection and submit them to the ChipGuide. The collectors who provide so many good ideas. And the collectors who visit the ChipGuide daily to research, to see what's new, and to let us know when an item needs updating. If you are a collector who is not yet a ChipGuide contributor, give it a shot. I am sure that every collector has something to contribute. Don't worry about the quality of your scan, the ChipGuide staff can improve it or guide you to becoming an expert scanner.

*Good luck and good chipping.*

## 19th Annual CC&GTCC Convention Program Advertising



**For rates, and to advertise in this years program, contact Allan Anderson at [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net) or fax your ad idea to 775-425-0592 and I will create it for you.**

# Club Merchandise

**Convention Chips** – \$5.00 each  
 Set of 10 (including 2010) – \$35.00  
 Years Available –  
 95, 96, 01, 02, 04, 06, 07, 08, 09, 2010



**Poker/Blackjack Tournament Sets** – \$15.00  
 (2 or more sets \$12.00 each)  
 Years Available –  
 2004, 06, 07, 08, 09, 2010  
 (08, 09 & 2010 sets are  
 4 chip commemorative sets)



**2010 Convention Pin** – \$5.00

Prior Year Pins Available 1997-2009 – \$3.00 each  
 Set of all 13 pins (including 2010) – \$25.00

**CC&GTCC Member Pin** – \$5.00



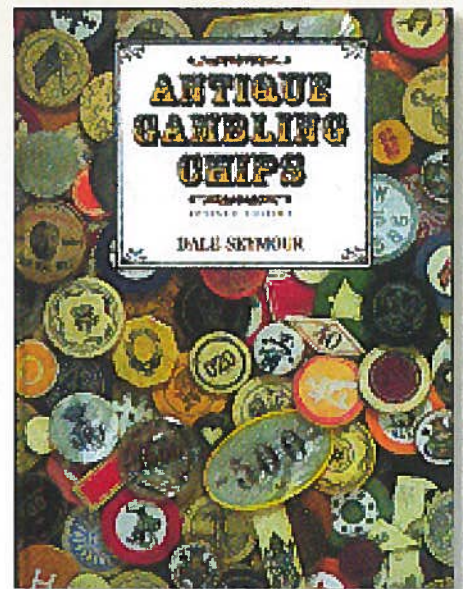
**CC&GTCC Playing Cards** – \$1.00/deck

**CC&GTCC Wooden Nickels & Dollars** – \$1.00 (one each)

**CC&GTCC Totes** – \$5.00

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

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



**2010 Convention T-Shirt – \$15.00**  
Sizes Large & XXL.

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

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

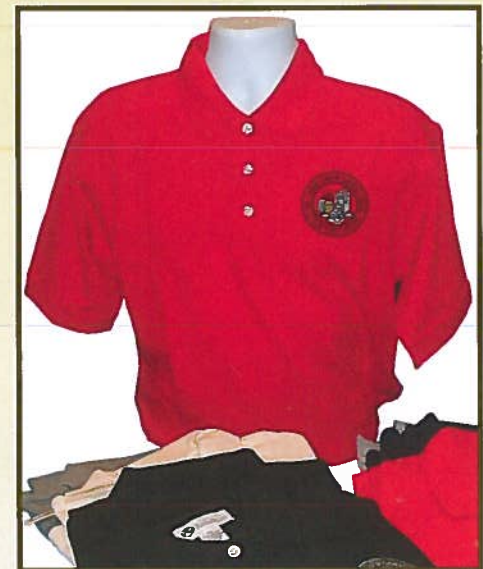
**2010 Convention DVD – \$20.00**  
2004, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09 Convention DVD  
\$5.00 each  
All 7 for \$30.00



2010 Convention T-Shirt  
(Back shown)



CC&GTCC T-Shirt



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up to \$5.00 add \$2.50  
up to \$10.00 add \$3.50  
up to \$25.00 add \$6.95  
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up to \$100.00 add \$10.95

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

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

*For more club apparel check out the 'On-line Club Shop' on the website [www.ccgcc.com](http://www.ccgcc.com).*



Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.



# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

In 1962 the Thunderbird Casino ordered a series of \$1.00 Hat & Cane Christy & Jones chips featuring the names of various casino employees. We will take a look at the names on those chips.



A lot of speculation has been made as to exactly why the host chips were made. The general consensus seems to be that they were given out to special casino patrons to be used as they wished. These chips are not NCV chips, so they could have been put into play at any table game. But, it seems to me that the name on the back would have been more valuable than the single dollar denomination on the front. For instance, a \$1.00 chip with Joe Wells on the back might get you preferred service at "Big Joe's Oyster Bar". Maybe Marty Poser's chip slipped to the maître d' at The Navajo Room could get you a stage side seat at the Rodgers and Hammerstein show, "South Pacific," in the Thunderbird Theater. As they say, it's not what you know, but who you know that matters.

Others have theorized that the chips might even have been an entry to an exclusive sort of "organization" working at the Thunderbird at the time. Possibly, the amount of chips printed represented the host's hold in the club.

What is known, is the quantity of chips produced and their date of production. Club member Jim Blanchard, who owns Atlantic Standard Mold (ASM), has the records from the Burt Company which produced the Thunderbird host chips. He sent the following information from the Burt Company records...

**February 1962**

A total of 16,000 chips were produced; but, the actual quantity for each name was not listed. These chips were divided among 12 names: Jimmy Schuyler, Joe Wells, Ash Resnick, Art Grant, Lee Deer, Jack Walsh, Maury Stevens, Everett McCarlie, Dave Victorson, Al Proctor, Bill Deer, and Monte Proser.

**March 1962**

2,000 - Morrey Brodsky  
2,000 - Bob Coyner

**April 1962**

1,000 - Joe Yip

**May 1962**

1,000 - Bill Hicks

**July 1962**

5,000 blank chips with \$1.00 on one side and blank on the reverse inlay. These would have been hot stamped by Christy & Jones with host names provided by the casino.

What Jim Blanchard is referring to in the July 1962 date is that the batch of chips produced in February, March, April and May, were printed with the names of the hosts on the reverse side in black block letters. In July, 1962, the Burt Company manufactured 5,000 chips with the \$1.00 denomination in black and a blank circle on the reverse. The Burt Company then sent the chips to

Christy & Jones who hot stamped the names of the casino hosts on the chips that the Thunderbird provided. What is not known are the amounts of each host chip created or the names of those hosts. Also not known is when the chips were stamped. Because 5,000 blanks were produced, the casino may have been able to produce the host chips for awhile after the July 1962 date.



*An example of the first batch of chips produced in February, 1962. These chips have the host's name printed in black on the inlay at Burt Company.*



*This Vince Anselmo chip is an example of the July, 1962 batch of chips produced by Burt Company. These chips were created with blank inlays on the reverse. They were later hot stamped with the host's name by Christy & Jones.*

In researching the individual names on the host's chips, some names were easier to find than others. We'll start with a name that may be familiar to those who collect Nevada chips.

**February 1962**

**Everett McCarlie**

McCarlie was the Thunderbird Casino Manager in 1962; but he left shortly afterwards to become the General Manager of the Castaways Hotel and Casino in 1963.

McCarlie later went on to open two casinos in Sparks, Nevada: McCarlie's High Sierra in 1977, and McCarlie's Gold Club in 1978. Both had closed by 1980.





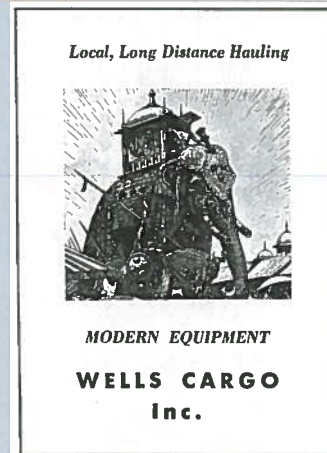
## Joe Wells

Joe Wells was the Executive Director in 1962, and according to Ed Reid and Ovid Demaris from *The Green Felt Jungle*, Wells had a 17% share of the hotel. The only larger share owner at the time was the Marion Hicks estate. Hicks, the co-owner of the casino since it opened in 1948, died in 1961.



In the early 1960's, Wells built the Thunderbird Downs racetrack located behind the Thunderbird Hotel. Joe was well known in the 1960's Las Vegas casino circles; but, his daughter was making a bigger splash on the small screen. Dawn Wells played Mary Ann Summers on CBS's "Gilligan's Island" from 1964-1967.

Wells also had a host chip with his name hot stamped in red. This means he had a second batch of chips from the July 1962 batch of blank chips. It is not known when those chips were hot stamped with Wells' name, or how many were produced.



*Wells owned a cargo hauling company named Wells Cargo Inc.*



*This postcard of the Thunderbird from 1962 shows "Big Joe's Oyster Bar" open daily from 11am to 7am. Joe Wells is "Big Joe".*

## Art Grant

I can't find any further information on Art Grant. Some names lend themselves to anonymity in research methods. Try Googling Art Grant. Even the addition of "Las Vegas," "Thunderbird" or "Casino" does not help in the search returns.

I assume he must have had an important position at the Thunderbird as he was in the original batch of chips ordered in Feb. of 1962.



## Jimmy Schuyler

Conversely, one would think that a name such as Jimmy Schuyler would produce a more focused internet search. But, once again, I came up with nothing about the Thunderbird and Jimmy Schuyler.

However, there is a famous beatnik poet with the same name from Chicago if you are into that sort of thing.

I have a friend who, in doing some business dealings in Las Vegas, has spent some time with Mr. Schuyler (pronounced Skylar). This friend has a few interesting stories about Jimmy, but none are suitable for this publication.



## Ash Resnick

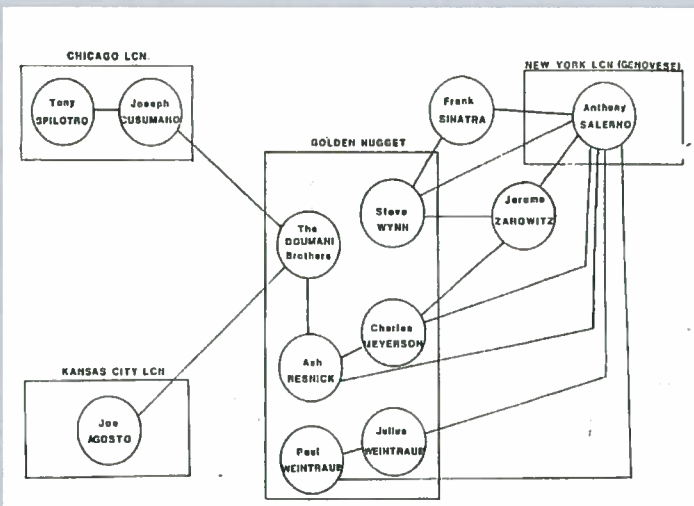
Ash Resnick was one of the most colorful members of the first batch of 1962 Thunderbird host chips. Ash Resnick was well known to local residents, fellow casino workers, Gaming Control agents and even the FBI. He was a long-time figure in the Las Vegas scene and his career as a casino host spanned four decades. Resnick is credited as being the inventor of organizing gaming junkets for high rollers that are common today. According to the *Los Angeles Times* obituary of Resnick from January 23, 1989, Ash worked at the Thunderbird as well as at Caesars Palace, the Aladdin, the Dunes, the Tropicana, the El Rancho Vegas, and the Maxim. He is also credited with bringing the first baccarat game to Las Vegas when we worked at the Dunes.

But the stories of Ash Resnick also have a dark side. Rumors of his ties with organized crime have always followed him. A 2005 story by Steve Miller entitled "The Wynns, and what they may not want us to know" from Rick Porrello's americanmafia.com featured a flow chart from Scotland Yard that shows Ash Resnick's dealings with the Chicago and Kansas City Mafia. Scotland Yard investigated Steve Wynn when he applied for a gaming license in Great Britain in 1983. In the flow chart shown, Resnick is a direct report of Anthony Salerno with the New York Genovese crime family.

The *Los Angeles Times* reported in its obituary for Resnick that, in 1974, Resnick was convicted of income tax evasion while



employed at Caesars Palace. Allegedly, he skimmed over \$300,000 from Caesars and never paid taxes on the money but that decision was later overturned. *The New York Times* obituary notes that in the same year, eight sticks of dynamite were found under Resnick's car. Then, in 1976, Resnick was shot at while at Caesars Palace.



*The Scotland Yard flow chart featuring Ash Resnick in a web of connections with such well know figures as Steve Wynn, Tony Spilotro, Anthony Salerno and even Frank Sinatra.*



*Ash Resnick's 1958 wedding photo with his bride, Marilyn Johnson, 22, who was "Miss Hollywood, 1956."  
Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.*

## Lee Deer

Another difficult name to research is Lee Deer, His name comes up as the Credit Manager of the Thunderbird in 1962. This information is provided by Deanna DeMatteo and her web site, [www.lvstriphistory.com](http://www.lvstriphistory.com).



## Bill Deer

It is unclear to me whether Lee Deer and Bill Deer are related to each other in any way. But, according to Ed Reid and Ovid Demaris from *The Green Felt Jungle*, Bill Deer had a 7% share of the hotel in 1962. He can be traced back to the days when Marion Hicks built the El Cortez in Downtown Las Vegas. Deer was working for Hicks at the El Cortez, and went with him to work at the Thunderbird in the very early 1950's.



## Jack Walsh

According to DeMatteo and her web site ([www.lvstriphistory.com](http://www.lvstriphistory.com)), Jack Walsh was General Manager of the Thunderbird in 1962. The July 25, 1996 *Las Vegas Sun's* obituary for Walsh reported that Jack Walsh was General Manager of the Thunderbird during the late fifties. The obituary also mentions that, in 1961, Walsh took a position as General Manager of the Algiers. Built in 1953 by Marion Hicks, The Algiers was a small hotel built to accommodate overflow guests of the Thunderbird. It makes sense to me that even if Walsh was General Manager of the Algiers and not the Thunderbird in 1962, he may have had chips made for his connection to the Thunderbird.



The obit in the *Las Vegas Sun* also shows that, in 1973, Walsh was named to the Nevada Gaming Commission by then Governor Mike O'Callaghan. Current Nevada State Senator Harry Reid (D), served for four years on the Commission with Walsh. Walsh served on the Gaming Commission until his retirement in 1985.

## Dave Victorson

Victorson's chips were in the original 1962 batch of chips ordered. He also had a second run of chips hot stamped with his name from the July 1962 order.

According to *The Gaming Table*, Dave Victorson and Ash Resnick opened the El Morocco Casino at 2975 Las Vegas Blvd., South It was open from 1972 until 1983. After the closing of the El Morocco, the fantastically shaped building was host to a generic souvenir shop and internet cafe. Sadly, the building was torn down in April, 2008.



Happy New Year

We join you in  
a chorus of praise  
for the New Year

And send our  
wishes for your  
prosperity.  
1952

**W. E. "Bill" Deer**  
**George Rosen**

HOTEL THUNDERBIRD CASINO

*A Bill Deer ad from the 1952 Las Vegas Magazine*



## Monte Proser

Monte Proser produced several shows during his time in Las Vegas. While at the Thunderbird, he obtained exclusive rights to produce the Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals at the Thunderbird Theatre. The first was “Flower Drum Song” in 1962, followed by “South Pacific” with Mitzi Gaynor in 1963.



A 1963 photo of the Thunderbird marquee featuring Monte Proser's production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "South Pacific".

Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.

UNLV Special Collections credits the man in the center as Thunderbird and fellow host chip member Joe Wells.

Before Proser came to Las Vegas, he was a fixture in the New York entertainment scene. In fact, he was one of the original owners of the famed Copacabana Club. Unfortunately, his choice of a partner in New York mobster Frank Costello, caused Proser to lose control of ownership a few short years after the club opened. During

an interview of Kristin Baggelaar the author of “The Copacabana”, by Craig Zavetz for his website [www.bigbandsandbignames.com](http://www.bigbandsandbignames.com), Baggelaar had this to say about Proser.

*Nightclub impresario Monte Proser was the quiet, dynamic force - the entrepreneurial spirit and creative spark - behind the original concept and operation of the Copacabana. This imaginative man, dubbed by Frank Sinatra as "the Genius," created, built, and ran the world's great American nightclub in its heyday, before he was muscled out by the Copa's moneyed organized crime interests. From his early adventures as a press agent, he segued into a number of Broadway and other ventures, from a string of Beachcomber nightclubs - predecessors of the Copacabana - a Madison Square Garden Dance Carnival, producer of Broadway and TV show producer, and owner-operator of La Vie en Rose, to entertainment director of the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas. One day while screening candidates for a new line of Copa Girls, he was smitten by one, the stunningly attractive Jane Ball. The story goes that he glanced up from his racing form, looked at the dancers, pointed to the three most beautiful, and said, "OK, you're hired. You're hired. And you, I am going to marry." He and Jane Ball were married in 1946 and had five sons.*

After he was forced out of the Copacabana, Proser opened up another New York night club, Monte Proser's Beachcomber, sometime in the 1940's.



Once Proser moved to Las Vegas, he took over production of the Tropicana's headline shows. In 1957, he opened the “Tropicana Revue” starring Eddie Fisher. By February 1958, Fisher was replaced by Mickey Hargitay and Jayne Mansfield.

## Maury Stevens

The only information I could find on Stevens was that he was a close friend of fellow host chip member Morrey Brodsky. According to Brodsky's obituary that appeared in the *Las Vegas Sun* July 9, 1996, when Stevens passed away in 1982 Brodsky made a donation to the SUN Camp Fund in memory of Stevens. The SUN Camp Fund is a summer camp program for economically disadvantaged youth.



## Al Proctor

Add Al Proctor to the list of hosts from the Thunderbird for whom I have no further information.



## March 1962

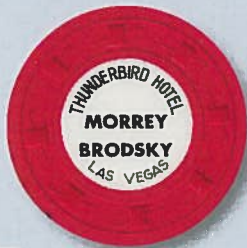
### Bob Coyner

Coyner is in the 2nd batch of host chips produced by the Burt Company in March of 1962. The Burt Company produced 2,000 chips for both Coyner and Morrey Brodsky. I cannot find any further information on Coyner.



### Morrey Brodsky

Brodsky was a PR man. Like others who have chips from the host series, Brodsky worked for several casinos on the strip during his career as well as the Cal Nev Lodge in Reno. *The Las Vegas Sun*, in its July 9, 1996 obituary for Brodsky, called him, "...a brash and energetic public relations man who helped promote the glitzy image of the Las Vegas Strip from its beginnings in the late 1940's through the '80's..."



Brodsky started out at the El Rancho Vegas and was known for his unusual and sometimes controversial PR stunts. Ruthe Deskin, a *Las Vegas Sun* assistant to the publisher, and Herb McDonald, a fellow PR executive with Brodsky at the El Rancho, recall one of Brodsky's stunts. "Morrey dropped leaflets from a plane to promote the El Rancho, and the police arrested him," said Deskin, who, along with Brodsky, was one of the original members of the Las Vegas Press Club. "The leaflets blew all over the place."

Brodsky failed to get a permit for dropping the leaflets, so no one (including the authorities) knew they were coming. The stunt caused a bit of confusion on the Strip, and Brodsky was jailed for a brief period of time.

## April 1962

### Joe Yip

1,000 Joe Yip chips were produced in April, 1962. According to *ChipChat* issue #12 from July 1998, "In 1964, Yip opens the Jade Room at Pussycat A Go-Go, owned in part by another former host, Vince Anselmo."



An ad from *Keno Confidential* 1964 featuring a restaurant operated by Joe Yip.

## May 1962

### Bill Hicks

It is not clear if Bill Hicks is in any way, related to the owner and founder of the Thunderbird, Marion Hicks. When Marion Hicks died in September, 1961, he designated that his nephew, Marty Hicks, along with Joe Wells and Cliff Jones continue as owners and operators of the Thunderbird.

An advertisement from the December, 1959 edition of *Fabulous Las Vegas* magazine lists Billy Hicks as the Pit Boss of the Casino Graveyard shift in 1962; but, that hardly seems like a position for someone directly related to Marion Hicks. But, you never know.



## July 1962

All the red hot stamped chips were printed in this batch. 5,000 were produced, some new names were produced, and some previously produced names were reprinted with the red hot stamp.

### Bob Taylor

I cannot find any information for Bob Taylor at the Thunderbird. But, Mr. Taylor is well-known for the steakhouse he opened in 1955, named "Bob Taylor's Ranch House Restaurant." The restaurant is still open to this day and claims to be the oldest steak house in Las Vegas. The western-themed restaurant is situated in the northwest corner of the Las Vegas city limits. Even though it is now surrounded by suburban sprawl, the Ranch House has not changed much since it was opened and still retains a classic Old Vegas feel.



*Interior shot of Bob Taylor's Ranch House.*

### Murray Dubow

In 1955, the Thunderbird had its gaming license revoked by the Nevada Tax Commission. The Commission alleged that Cliff Jones and Marion Hicks had not reported substantial investments by three underworld figures: Jake and Meyer Lansky and George Saldo. It doesn't prove that any of the host chip members were involved in organized crime; but, rumors still persist. The rumor on Murray Dubow is that he was eliminated from the organization. According to Chip Chat #12 July, 1998, "Dubow disappeared; but may still be enjoying desert scenery."



### Sam Landy

Sam Landy worked at the Hacienda in 1956 and was V.P. of Public Relation at the Dunes in 1959. Landy's name also appears on a casino chip from the Bonanza Hotel in Las Vegas. The Bonanza produced its own series of host chips when it opened in 1967. 1,000 small crown chips with Landy's name were produced, curiously, all that have been found are canceled.

The Chip Rack lists the Thunderbird Sam Landy chip not only in red, as shown above, but also in black as well. This may be an error as I have not found a sample of the Landy chip in black and it is not listed in the Burt Company production notes.



*Alex Cilento at the entrance to Bob Taylor's Ranch House.*



*Sam Landy Bonanza host chip provided by Ernie Molinari.*



## Vince Anselmo

Anselmo and Joe Yip were part owners of the Pussycat A Go-Go on the Las Vegas strip in 1964.



## Pat Foust

According to Deanna DeMatteo and her web site ([www.lvstriphistory.com](http://www.lvstriphistory.com)), Joe Wells appointed Pat Foust Director of Guest Relations in 1963.

Foust is one of four host name chips that has a variation in the hot stamp name as seen in the two samples on the right. The top image is the common hot stamp with a serif type face; below it, is the less common and smaller hot stamp type face with no serifs. The other samples are shown below.



For awhile, collectors questioned Foust's gender. A few years back, before the Martha Herndon chip was found, all known host chips were for males. It wasn't known at the time if Pat was a man or a woman. I have since found a photo of Ms. Pat Foust in a May 6, 1979 *Las Vegas Sun Magazine*. She is alongside Marion Hicks' wife, and she is very much a female.

## Larry Rosen

Larry Rosen's host chip is another one with the sans serif type face. This chip is not known to exist with the more common serif type face.



## Ed Lewis

The Lewis chip is very rare, *The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide* by Campiglia and Wells lists the chip shown on the right as only 1 of 2 known.



## Martha Herndon

This is the last of the smaller sans serif type face chips. The Herndon chip is also very rare with *The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide* by Campiglia and Wells listing it as only 6 known.

The Herndon chip, along with the Pat Foust chip, represent the only females in the series of 27 hosts. I could find no other info on Herndon in my research.



## Sammy Boss

This is another rare chip in the host series. *The Official U.S. Casino Chip Price Guide* by Campiglia and Wells lists it as a "R-9" or only 4-7 known. Maybe that is why I could not find any info on Boss in my research.



## Rick Williams

Although slightly more common than the Sammy Boss chip, I could not find any other info on Rick Williams.



## Fred Glass

This is the last of our Thunderbird host chips. I also struck out in finding any info on Fred Glass.



The research I have done in finding info on the host chips consisted mainly of searching on-line and in obituaries from the *Las Vegas Sun*. I imagine that a few of these hosts could still be alive, or have family in the Las Vegas area. I would love to do a follow up to this story, if any club members would care to take on the task of tracking down these specific hosts.



*Original artwork obtained by Jim Belligan for the July 1962 run of chips with the blank obverse and, eventually, the hot stamped names.*

Thanks to Christine Smith for her assistance in writing this article. Thanks to Jim Belligan for the Thunderbird chip images and Larry Hollibaugh for the McCarlie chip images. Thanks to Martin Kenney for the other memorabilia images.

# Life is a Highway

A TOUR OF THE  
BOULDER HIGHWAY

*Part 1*



Las Vegas Boulevard is home to some of the greatest casinos on earth. But just a few miles to the east is a highway that hosts quite a few timeless places.

On October 19, 2010, a group of collectors gathered together for a guided tour of the Boulder Highway. The collectors present were Greg Birdsell, Sheldon Smith, Tyrus Mulkey, Rich Klabacha, Alex Cilento, Sunday Silverman and your narrator for this story, Todd Barrett. The good news for this group of collectors is that CC&GTCC Hall of Fame Member Phil Jensen and Club Historian Carey Burke agreed to come along and help sort out the wheres and whens of what we were about to see.

The tour, organized by Greg Birdsell, started out at the Gold Coast Casino in a deluxe Bell Trans tour bus. We traveled north up I-15 to Charleston Avenue and then went east. We made a stop at Highland Collectibles on 2030 East Charleston Boulevard. This is the very well-stocked shop of club member Frank Muscat. If you haven't been to Frank's shop yet, you definitely should make a point to stop in. He has boxes and folders and barrels filled with all kinds of casino-related memorabilia including matchbooks, ashtrays, photos, casino chips, tokens and strikes. We spent about 30 minutes there and I didn't feel like I scratched the surface.

From Highland Collectibles it is little more than a block to Fremont Street where we turned right and headed towards the Boulder Highway. While waiting at the light at Fremont Street and Charleston, we saw the Silver Saddle Saloon on the northeast corner of the intersection. Its sign read "Silver Saddle Casino • Saloon" on one side, and "Silver Saddle Casino • Dance Hall" on the other side. It didn't appear to be open as not a soul was around and there were no cars in the parking lot.



Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau



"This was where the Black Cat Inn was back in the 1930's; then in the 1940's it was The Purple Sage. After that it became the Saddle Club, and then The Silver Dollar Saloon, and then the Silver Saddle as it is now," Phil pointed out. Carey added, "Beyond the Silver Saddle down Charleston a bit was the Meadows, Tony Cornero's place."



The Black Cat Inn.

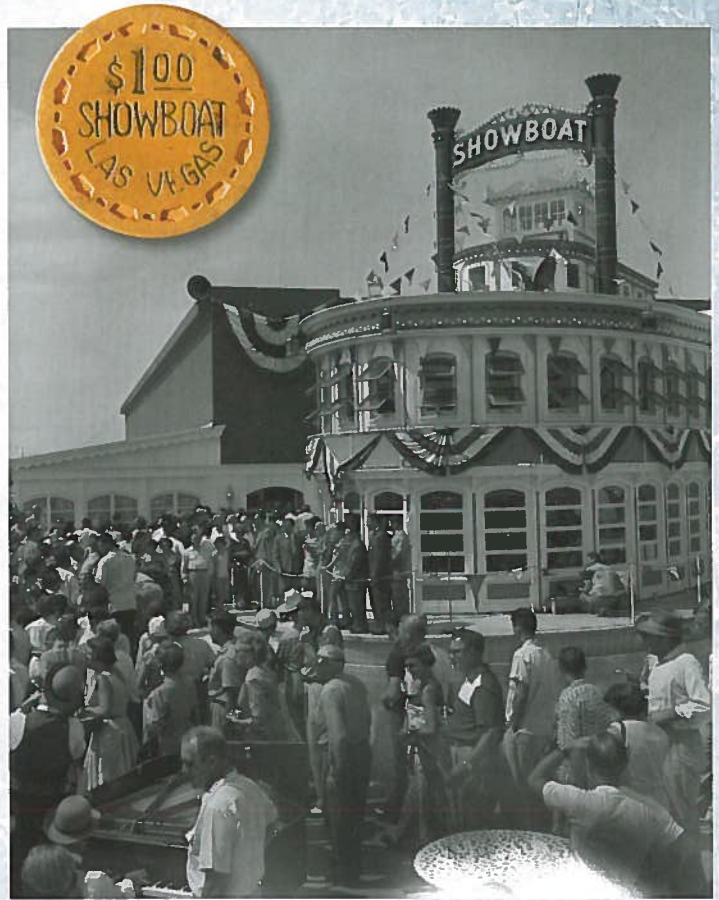
Cornero built the Meadows back in 1931. It was a swanky club in a town that at the time mostly catered to cowboys and dam workers. Patrons of the Meadows were the Las Vegas elite and socialites. These patrons were particularly fond of the fact that because of Cornero's connections to bootleggers, the Meadows was well-stocked with the best of all liquors even though the country was in the midst of Prohibition.



A photo of a very busy roulette table with Tony Cornero overseeing the bets. Tony is the man on the right pointing to the number 9 on the layout. Photo courtesy of Phil Jensen.

The club burned white hot for the first few months it was open, but a fire in the hotel on Labor Day 1931 put a damper on the initial success. Cornero's contributions to Las Vegas are numerous and extremely interesting to say the least, but to be brief, he sold the Meadows in 1932 and went on to sail the S.S. Rex off the coast of California. The Meadows went on for a while longer, but closed for good in 1943.

As we made our right-hand turn onto Fremont Street, we passed a vacant lot filled with broken glass, broken shopping carts and a sign that must have been beautiful when it was fully functional. I heard Phil say, "The sign is all that is left, but that is the site of the Green Shack." Famous for its fried chicken, the Green Shack opened way back in 1932 by Mrs. Mattie Jones. From what I can tell, the live gaming didn't start until the 1950's, and stopped in 1956. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in June 1994, and was still operating until 1999. Unfortunately, the Green Shack fell victim to "Las Vegas progress" and was torn down in 2005 to make way for a banquet hall. As of October 2010, the classic sign is the only structure on the famous plot of land.



*A photo of the Showboat Opening Day of September 3, 1954.  
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

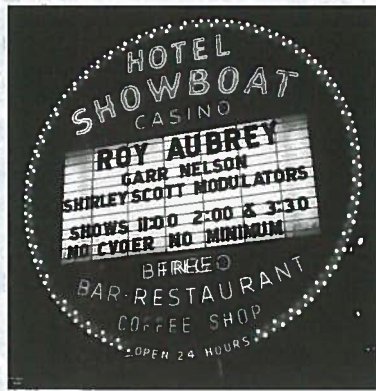


*A photo of the Green Shack from the mid 1980's.*

Just a few empty lots past the Green Shack is the empty lot of the Showboat Casino Hotel. Located at 2800 Fremont Street, The Showboat was built for \$2 million by William Moore, architect

and designer of the Last Frontier back in 1954. Moore's partner at the time was J.K. Houssels, a veteran casino owner/operator who was a key figure in running the El Cortez back in the 1940's. Houssels hooked up with Joseph Kelly and Moe Dalitz to run the day to day operations of the Showboat.

When the Showboat opened, it considered itself in competition with the other flashy casinos on the Las Vegas strip, but it was too far away from the strip and in the early years it struggled to gain a customer base. Then in 1959 Houssels and Kelly bought out all the other partners and changed the direction of the casino to appeal to more of a local crowd. They abandoned the hunt for the high roller gambler and instead installed a 24-lane bowling center and created a 49¢ breakfast special that was a big hit with the more bargain-seeking local crowd.



*A photo of the Showboat marquee from New Years Eve, 1955.  
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*



The Showboat was successful until the dawn of the Las Vegas Strip Mega Resorts in the 1990's. It limped along until March 2000 when it was sold and its name was changed to the Castaways. But the Castaways struggled with the same issues that plagued the Showboat: location, location, location. The Castaways closed for good in 2004, and on January 11, 2006, was demolished in a controlled implosion that lasted only a few seconds. Today, the lot is completely devoid of anything other than gravel, broken glass and yellow painted parking lot lines.



The bus grew a bit abuzz with talk of the famous casinos we passed in the first two blocks of our tour. Phil and Carey passed around some photos they had of these casinos and Rich Klabacha showed off some great early matchbook covers. We got a bit engrossed in our stories and photos and hardly noticed the many single story motels, strip malls and auto parts stores on Fremont Street until we eventually crossed over Sahara Avenue. At this point, Fremont Street becomes Boulder Highway. Nothing remarkable signals the changing of Fremont Street to the Boulder Highway, but less than a mile past Sahara Avenue on the west side of the street, we made our first stop.

We had seen one operational casino and several vacant lots that were once home to casinos, we had talked about those casinos and we had seen some pictures of some of those casinos, so it seemed like a good time to have a beer and talk some more about these casinos! Our tour bus swung into the parking lot of the Four Mile Bar, and the driver seemed a bit perplexed as to why we needed to stop after traveling for only 10 minutes or so. The group exited the comfort of the tour bus and wandered into the darkened bar at about 11:30 am. A couple was playing video poker at one of the two banks of machines, and two large construction worker-type men sat at one end of the large, L-shaped bar. Being that it was Tuesday, we ordered a round of drinks. Phil mentioned that he



*A Four Mile break in the action. (L-R) Tyrus Mulkey, Phil Jensen, Rich Klabacha and Greg Birdsell.*

often stopped at the Four Mile Bar in the past, citing the fact that they had cheap, cold beer and good slots.

The bartender could not shed any light on why it was called the "Four Mile Bar," but the couple playing video poker mentioned they thought it was because it was four miles from Union Station train station.

Just as Phil had mentioned, the beer was cold and cheap, and I even managed to turn a profit on an 8/5 Jacks or Better video poker machine. I would have liked to stay for another and shoot the breeze, but we had lots to see and we all decided to pile back into the bus and be on our way.

Before we even pulled out of the Four Mile Bar parking lot, Carey pointed out that across the street behind a row of trees was the home of Roxie's, a famous cathouse from the 1940's. I asked why I often saw the name as "Roxie's Formyle," but I pronounced it "for meal." Carey corrected me with, "You mean Four Mile? It was just their clever way for spelling Four Mile." I tried to pretend like I knew that, but I don't think Carey bought it.

As the confused tour bus driver made the right-hand turn to take us back out onto Boulder Highway, we noticed a gentlemen's club on the left called The Library. It's a great name for a club, and one that I wish had some ties to casino history, but no one on the bus seemed to know that it was ever anything but the seedy topless joint it is today.

We crossed over Interstate 515 and approached the first major casino on the Boulder Highway, Boulder Station. As we approached Boulder Station, which was on the left, we passed an Arlen Ness Motorcycle dealership on the right. Before the motorcycle dealership was built, there was a small casino in the 1970's called Big Daddy's in the same location. I can't find much info on the small casino other than there are only a few \$5.00 Nevada mold inlaid chips known to exist, two of which are notched samples.

Immediately across the street from the old Big Daddy's location is Boulder Station.

Built in 1994 by the Station Casino group, the hotel tower contains 300 rooms and suites and includes five restaurants. It's certainly a nice casino, but after being in the Four Mile Bar, it seems to lack a bit of the character I appreciate in Vegas casinos.

We passed over Desert Inn Road and out the window to the right was the Dew Drop Inn. Listed as a slots only casino in the Gaming Table, it opened in the 1970's and looked to be still going strong today. I wanted to stop for a beer, but was informed there was plenty time for that later.



A few minutes past the Dew Drop Inn we passed Arizona Charlie's Boulder on our left. It is an interesting layout for a casino complex. The casino itself is your typical large, single story building with the porte-cochère entryway. But the hotel rooms are more



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

of a segmented compound of buildings set at strange angles to the street. It looks more like a set of townhomes rather than the hotel tower you typically see today. They actually look very similar to the townhome complex that is directly across the street.

Phil informs us that the casino was originally built as the Sunrise Suites Casino.

Built in 1999 by developer Michael Mona Jr., he seemed to be all set to open what he called a casino without a theme. The buildings were built and he even had the chips produced, but he was denied his gaming license. He sold the property to American Casino & Entertainment Properties, which runs the Arizona Charlie's on Decatur as well as the Stratosphere Casino, in 2000 for \$43 Million. They redid the property in the Arizona Charlie's theme, complete with an RV park.



As we passed Arizona Charlie's, the landscape changed from vacant lots, strip malls, bars and auto repair shops to more of a suburban sprawl with lots of RV dealerships as well as townhomes and single-family home complexes.

We passed over Flamingo Road and saw Sam's Town looming large on the left side of the road. By far the largest casino we had seen on our trip thus far, Sam's Town is huge. But it didn't start out that way. Built by Sam Boyd in 1979, it was only a small portion of what is present today. Since its opening, it has undergone nine expansion projects. According to the Boyd Gaming website, Sam Boyd came to Las Vegas in 1941 with just \$80 in his pocket. He started his gaming career as a dealer then moved up the ranks, learning the business.

Through hard work and saving his money Sam earned enough to buy into the Sahara Hotel and Casino. At the same time, he became the general manager of the Mint Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas. He learned the art of casino marketing while at the Mint. In 1968 the Mint was sold and Boyd took on managing the Eldorado Casino in downtown Henderson, a location we also visited later on in this tour. Boyd purchased the Eldorado in 1962 with his son, Bill, who was an attorney who did all the legal work for the Eldorado.

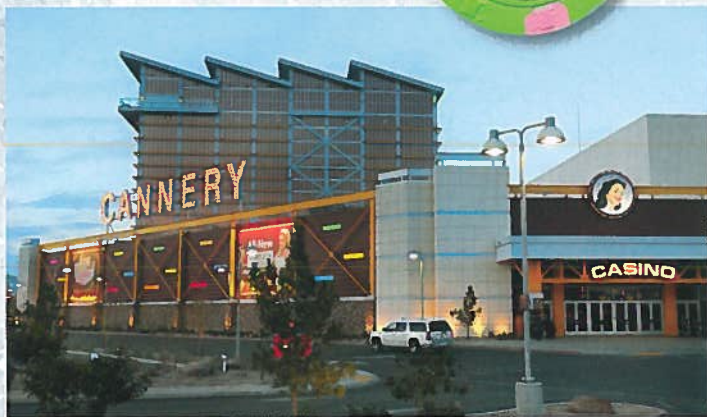
Boyd Gaming was created in 1975 when Bill and Sam opened the California Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas. Just a few years after opening the California, Boyd Gaming purchased 13 acres of land on the Boulder Highway near Flamingo Road. The idea to build a large casino focusing on the local clientele seemed very risky. The Showboat, which was located much closer to downtown Las Vegas, was able to pull it off for a while, but Sam's Town was miles from any of the nearest Las Vegas strip casinos. Its opening is generally considered to have started the growth of Boulder Highway gaming properties.



Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

The critics were silenced early on as Sam's Town consistently won awards as the favorite locals casino. The expansions have created an all-inclusive complex with a movie theater, bowling alley, shopping, restaurants and a salon. One of the unique features of the hotel is "Mystic Falls," a large glass-roofed atrium with tall live trees, cobblestone paths, a rock waterfall, and an animatronic wildlife show which is performed daily at different times.

Just past Sam's Town's 500-slot RV park is the Eastside Cannery. In direct opposition to the western theme of Sam's Town, the Cannery has a very industrial look to it. Exposed steel girder framework, glass, and concrete set the hotel tower apart from most surrounding buildings. The Eastside Cannery was built in 2008 and takes some of its styling cues from its sister property in North Las Vegas which was built in 2003. The casino is a yellow, white and red single story box devoid of any ornamentation. I imagine they are looking to present a commercial canning operation and from the outside it does look that way. The interior is also concrete and exposed steel girder framework, but they accent the stark commercial façade with 1950's pop cultural design work. The chips reflect this 1950's styling with a pinup woman who is the mascot of the casino chain.



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

The Eastside Cannery was built on the site of the Nevada Palace. Back in July 1979 the Nevada Palace opened just three months after Sam's Town opened down the street. The Nevada Palace was the first to jump on the Boulder Highway bandwagon that was created by the opening of Sam's Town. Many thought the Boulder Highway was poised to become the second Strip, and the owners of the Nevada Palace were banking on it. According to the Las Vegas Review Journal from February 29, 2008, The Nevada Palace opened under the direction of casino veteran Gene Lucas and Los

Angeles partners Rene Diaz, Dan Straub and Bill Gallagher. After just one year, the casino filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. It was closed for 10 months before reopening. It was a rocky road for the casino until 1985 when William Wortman and his partner, Renate Schiff, took control.



*A February 2008 photo of the Nevada Palace.  
Photo courtesy of Roadsidepictures*

Under Wortman and Schiff's direction, the Nevada Palace turned into a friendly casino with a wonderful staff and great food. The locals and out of town clientele that supported the Nevada Palace were fiercely loyal. It had a family feel to it with the wait staff and even Wortman knowing some of the regulars by their first names. But the 15,000 sq. ft. casino was no match for the ever-growing behemoths on the Las Vegas Strip or even the ever-growing Sam's Town right next door.

In 1996, Wortman decided to go in a different direction and founded the Cannery Casino Resorts with casino industry veteran Bill Paulos. They first put up the Cannery in North Las Vegas, with plans to build the Eastside Cannery on the site of the Nevada Palace after Wortman bought out Schiff in 2005. Construction on the Eastside Cannery proceeded literally around the Nevada Palace casino until February 2008. Then without much fanfare, after 29 years of operation, the "Palace" was bulldozed to make way for the



Eastside Cannery parking garage.

Across the street from the site of the old Nevada Palace casino is the Longhorn Casino. The Longhorn is stuck on the end of a Tudor-style Super 8 Motel. It's small and not much to look at, but the \$4.99 steak special gets rave reviews and the \$2.00 minimum at their four blackjack tables makes the Longhorn a hit with stingy gamblers. Built in 1988, the Longhorn has managed to stay open even while larger casinos like the Nevada Palace just across the street fell victim to the "bigger is better" Vegas mantra.



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

As we headed further southeast down the Boulder Highway, we came up to the third of three "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" signs in the median of the highway. This sign, which is larger than the original on the Strip and "Welcome to Fabulous Downtown Las Vegas" signs, was put up in March 2007.



As we crossed over Tropicana Avenue, we caught sight of the Sportsman's Royal Manor. *The Gaming Table 3rd Edition* shows that the Sportsman opened in 1987. So now we know where Circus Circus got their inspiration to build the Excalibur Casino on the Strip in 1990! The Sportsman is a bit unusual as they focus on mid- to long-term residency. They are not a hotel or motel, but an apartment complex. They have Studio, 1- and 2-bedroom apartments available for rent. Their Facebook page states:

*Sportsman's Royal Manor is a beautiful resort style property with 2 pools, clean rooms and a staff that treats our residents like royalty. Located on property is a mini-mart and lounge to watch sports, win on our slot machines, browse the web at our internet café or relax and play a game of pool. All rooms are fully furnished and include 75 channels of cable; three HBO channels, free local calls, free voicemail and free utilities – all at a safe and quiet place to live! Once you check in you won't want to leave!*

Something about that last line gives me the creeps. It reminds me of the Eagles song "Hotel California:" "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

Continuing southeast, we passed Tropicana Avenue and came to another stop just past Missouri Avenue. Phil wanted to check out a place he used to frequent back in the early 1990's. The Bungalow Bar at 5822 Boulder Highway is a very small single story building currently occupied by a Home Center; they sell lawn ornaments,



*The Bungalow Bar building, currently a home center*

bird baths and fountains. *The Gaming Table* shows the Bungalow Bar with an opening date of 1993, but Phil thinks it was earlier. In fact, I have since found a Las Vegas Metro Police website that lists cold case files in which they look for help from the public. It turns out John Donald Valin, 46, of Las Vegas was shot and killed back in 1985. The police report shows he was in the parking lot behind the Bungalow Bar when his body was discovered.

Just a few vacant lots down from the old Bungalow Bar location is the location of the Bigger Jigger bar. In my notes from the trip, Phil mentioned he stopped in the Bigger Jigger often back in the 1970's.



*The old Bigger Jigger building with a faded outline of a sign on the facade that reads Four Aces. Also there are small posters advertising a Hooka Lounge, but it was difficult to tell if the building is vacant or the Hooka Lounge is operating.*

Once I am at home, I looked up the opening dates listed in *The Gaming Table* for the Bigger Jigger. It shows it opening in 1969 and closing in 1970. It does seem a little weird, as Phil was pretty sure about it being there in the 1970's. To clarify, I sent him an e-mail questioning it again after the tour was over. Here is his reply:

*I went in to the Bigger Jigger many times. It seems that it was there a long time-much of the 70's. I question the 69-70 timeframe. I remember them using Doc Holiday's matches for a while. I also went into the Bungalow a lot too. They had a dollar token for the slots. It later became Heinies Bar before closing.*

If the man can remember the matches that were on the bar, I have to trust he remembers the dates it was open.

We hopped back in the tour bus and headed out on the highway once again. The landscape got less cluttered the further southeast we went, becoming more wide open desert scrubland. Back off the highway a bit were clusters of homes and townhomes, with fewer boarded up businesses and less foot traffic.

We crossed over Russell Road, Gibson Road and Stufflebeam Avenue, and out of the left side of the tour bus we come upon the abandoned Roadhouse Casino. This was the first casino on our tour with a Henderson address. It is 2100 Boulder Highway, Henderson, NV. Built in 1995, the Roadhouse was a slots only joint for the seven years it was open. However, it has a coveted nonrestricted gaming license, which makes the Roadhouse a pretty valuable piece of property.

In a January 18, 2011 story in the *Las Vegas Sun*, it was reported that Creekside Holdings Inc., is suing the current owner of the property, Robert McMackin, and his company, Marengo Inc. Apparently Creekside Holdings Inc., owned by a California real estate broker, is working with the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians who are attempting to purchase the Roadhouse and the valuable nonrestricted gaming license. They offered to pay \$11 million in 2005 after Creekside renovated the property and secured its gaming permit. Creekside then claimed that McMackin refused to sell it to Creekside by falsely claiming Creekside was in breach of the lease. They claim that McMackin now wanted to solely profit from the increased value of the Roadhouse.

A 2007 court settlement concluded that McMackin would sell the Roadhouse if a qualified buyer agreed to buy it for at least \$12.75 million. McMackin would then have to pay Creekside \$1.5 million. Not long after this settlement, McMackin found a buyer for the Roadhouse. This buyer wanted to purchase the property for \$14



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*



Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

million in cash but Creekside claims McMackin queered that deal as well by changing the terms of the offer.

In the meantime, Sunset Station Inc. is suing McMackin because they claim the nonrestricted gaming license is invalid because they do not have an operating hotel. McMackin claims the is grandfathered in by the city of Henderson, and he opens the Roadhouse for one day a year for 8 hours with 17 slot machines to keep his license current. It is amazing how valuable something that looks like the Roadhouse Casino can be!

We passed Sunset Road and approached the Skyline Casino. This was going to be our lunch stop after our hard day of shopping, drinking and gawking. Carey raved about the food in the Skyline. We agreed to meet up in the diner after 20 minutes of browsing

through the casino. It is a cozy feeling casino with the familiar clanking of coins from a few of the video poker machines that still operate on a coin in coin out basis.

John Ligouri built the Skyline Casino back in 1964. He operated the Skyline for a few years, but sold it so he could open Ligouri's Bar and Casino that we also passed on the Boulder Highway a little later on our tour. Shortly after Ligouri got out of the Skyline, it closed down. I



Henderson Home News, Henderson, Nevada

# GALA OPENING

Thurs.—6 a.m. Thurs.—6 a.m.  
OCT. 1 OCT. 1

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A September 29, 1964 ad in the Henderson Home News announcing the Grand Opening of the Skyline Casino.

had a hard time finding exactly when or why it was shut down, but Ligouri came to the rescue of the Skyline again in 1974. He reopened the casino with the help from Gene Munari, who was the Casino Manager. The Skyline has operated continuously since 1974. Its current owner is Jim Marsh. Marsh is a familiar name in the area as he also owns an auto dealer ship in the northwest corner of Las Vegas. Jim is also a bit of a collector and there are several antiques placed in corners and hallways of the Skyline.

Tyrus, Phil, Carey and I were admiring some of the antiques together. As we passed the casino cage we were drawn in by a few restored antique slot machines. I have to admit I have been in the Skyline a few times before and have always admired these slot machines. As I was gawking over the beautiful Mills prospector machine, Phil dropped a quarter in and pulled the handle! I whipped my head around to see if anyone saw what was happening and asked Phil what he thought he was doing. He coolly responded, "I play these quite a bit." I assumed these were decorations and not available for play, but Phil was going to town on the thing. I was

standing next to Tyrus who mentioned that he thought they were decoration only as well. We each took turns playing the antique machines. They operated smoothly and took our quarters just as quickly as any modern day machine I have ever played.



*(L-R) Sheldon Smith, Phil Jensen and Carey Burke playing one of two fantastic antique slot machines at the Skyline.*



We all met up back in the diner and treated ourselves to a fantastic lunch. Carey was right—the food was wonderful, the service was better and we all agreed it was just what we needed to take on the rest of the tour.

Feeling refreshed and revitalized after our lunch and gaming at the Skyline, we hopped back on the bus and headed out on the Highway toward Henderson. We didn't get very far when Phil pointed out the right side window by a small grocery store. "The 7th One was right around here." I was looking forward to seeing where this interestingly-named casino was, but the exact location is a bit of a mystery. The address listed in most chip reference materials is 1721 N. Boulder Highway, but that address doesn't exist—in fact, it is actually a street named Cougan Drive. Of course so much has changed since the 7th One opened way back in 1953, and chances are that Cougan Drive was simply an alleyway or did not exist at all.

There are a couple of great chips from the



7th One, and one recently appeared in the February 2011 *ChipChat* auction. It was the \$1.00 variety, and the catalog description sheds the following light:

*The 7th One, what a great name, and one that makes sense, being it was the seventh business operation started up by an old-timer named Charles Woods, who converted the Blue Ribbon Bar, an old burlesque house and gambling joint into his seventh business enterprise.*

*...Always a special chip in rarity and Nevada history, [it's] our hobby's only known piece of clay in which the township of Pittman has been imprinted on the clay.*

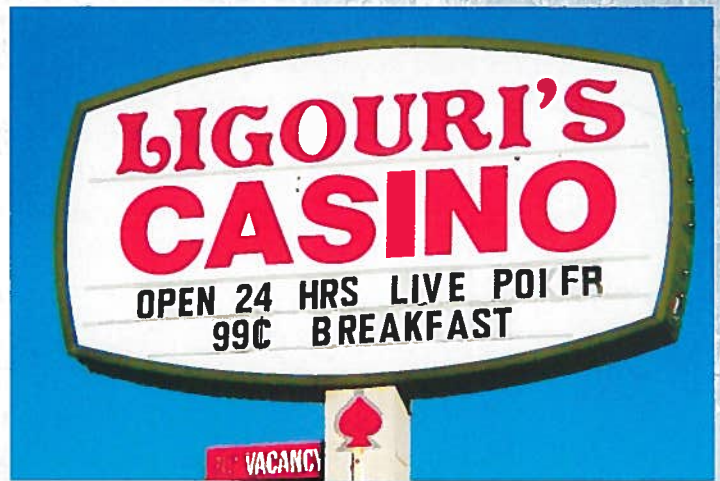
Just a bit down the road, we came up to the former home of the Bingo Barn. Unfortunately, the Bingo Barn was turned into a Holiday Inn not too long ago. But you cannot suppress the spirit of a casino named the Bingo Barn! It was only open for a year, from 1978-1979, and to date, there are only three denomination chips known. The \$1.00, \$5.00 and \$25.00 chips are boring H&C chips with a plain "BB" hot-stamp, but damn it, the place was called the Bingo Barn! It just makes we wish I was in the place once and placed a bet on their 21 table with these boring, but rare, BB chips.



We traveled about a half a mile southeast on Boulder Highway and we came across John Ligouri's (our old friend from the Skyline) second club on Boulder Highway. After Ligouri sold the Skyline back in the 1960's, he opened up Ligouri's Bar and casino in 1965. According to the *Henderson Home News* of September 23, 1965, Ligouri's license was approved for one poker table and six slot machines.



*Dotty's Casino #8 now occupies the old Ligouri's Casino.*



*An undated photo of the old Ligouri's Casino sign.*

Ligouri was involved with the operation of Ligouri's until he retired in 1998. Shortly after Ligouri retired, Ligouri's shut down; it was later replaced by a Dotty's Casino. Strangely enough, John Ligouri passed away on October 14, 2010, just five days before our Boulder Highway tour.

Directly across the street from Dotty's Casino is a Chicago-themed restaurant/casino named Mugshots Eatery and Casino. It is a family-owned casino that has been there for over 20 years. If you like Italian Beef, Italian Sausage (or the Combo if you like both), Chicago Style Hot Dogs and Berghoff Beer, Mugshots is your place.



*Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

We did not have much time to look at Mugshots as Phil and Carey were pointing out the right side of the bus toward the location of the old Magnesium Club built sometime in the 1930's. Henderson was found to sit on one of the largest deposits of magnesite in the world. The Basic Magnesium Plant was established in Henderson in 1941 and began production of the "wonder metal" (magnesium) that was critical to the United States' war effort. The metal was used for a wide variety of items from incendiary munitions casings to airplane engines. The Basic Magnesium Plant employed over 13,000 workers during the height of its production during World War II. This compares to a mere 5,000 who worked at the Boulder Dam during the height of its construction.

After the war, magnesium production was no longer necessary for defense and the Basic Magnesium Plant closed its doors, dealing a crippling blow to southern Nevada's economy. The Magnesium Club closed its doors sometime in the 1950's. I can find very little information on the Magnesium Club except for this photo Phil took of his companion Pearl, in front of the club long after it had closed. There is only a parking lot for an automobile auction company there today.

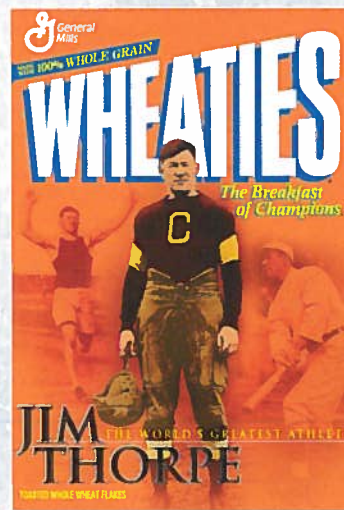


We barely passed the site of the old Magnesium Club when we approached a trailer sales company on the left side of the road. The Trailer Depot has two large parking lots filled with a variety of trailers, but the small Quonset hut in the center of the lot is what Phil is pointing to. "That is the where the Hut Club was."

Of all the things we have seen on the tour thus far this one surprised me the most. I actually thought Phil was somehow mistaken as it is the lowest form of a building we have seen today. The semicircular metal tube with a cinder block front façade looks

very temporary—like something the military would put up in a distant combat zone. Of course he is correct, and since this tour Phil has updated me on a few of the facts. He wrote to me in an e-mail the following:

*I also drove out to the old Hut club in Henderson which is now a trailer sales office. It was owned by Jim Thorpe at one time. I worked with a guy years ago who owned it before him. His name was George Jameson. I talked with the manager there who was aware of Thorpe but very uninterested in the history of the place. He did show me a 2001 Wheaties box featuring Jim Thorpe he kept in his office. He also told me that the building is owned by Boyd gaming which I thought was interesting.*



*Carson Trailer Sales building, former home to The Hut Club.*

*The Gaming Table* shows the Hut Club, as it was appropriately named, opening in 1948 and closing in 1952. It also lists the ownership as Bente and Jameson, just as Phil said in his email to me. I found a small ad for the Hut Club that mentions “For mighty fine noise hear the Hut Club Boys Leo & Red.”



It was apparently after the Hut Club closed that Jim Thorpe tried his hand at a restaurant/casino. In a December 15, 2010 article by Scott Dickensheets in the *Las Vegas Sun*, Dickensheets had this to say about Thorpe:

*Like plenty of celebrities to come, he was running on fumes when he got to the Las Vegas Valley — in 1951, by some accounts. He'd lost his gold medals to an amateurism issue (he'd been paid \$25 a week to play baseball, forbidden in those pre-Dream Team days) and was beset with demons internal (alcohol) and external (anti-Indian prejudice). He was still well-known, but his celebrity doesn't appear to have turned Jim Thorpe's All-American Supper Club and Casino into one of the valley's hot spots. "Most days Jim sat silently at one end of the bar with a beer," Buford writes, "while Patsy (his wife) and the manager served the few customers."*

The Buford that Dickensheets quoted in his story is Kate Buford, author of the book *Native American Son: The Life and Sporting Legend of Jim Thorpe*. Not long after he opened his club, Thorpe suffered a heart attack and moved back to L.A. It's hard to believe that this tiny metal hut was once owned by the greatest athlete of all time. There's lots of history in that old Quonset hut.

As we flew past the trailer lot, Phil pointed out the location of Vic's Jolly Jug, the next empty lot south of old the Hut Club location. The Jolly Jug opened sometime in the mid to late 1950's. Rich Klabacha has provided an image of a matchbook from the Jolly Jug in which they list “GAMING” on the spine. But chips don't show up until 1965 when they



appear as Vic's Jolly Jug.

A June 11, 1959 *Henderson Home News* article mentioned that Alden and Ruth Warner, a couple from California, are opening their new restaurant/cocktail lounge named the Anchor Inn. The article also mentioned how the couple has completely remodeled the old Jolly Jug into a maritime-themed restaurant.

I cannot find any other info on the 1024 Boulder Highway address until 1965 when the same *Henderson Home News* reported that the Jolly Jug was set to open again under the newest ownership of Victor Mastin, hence the name Vic's Jolly Jug. I believe this is when the table games appeared and we got the famous Christ and Jones H&C Hot Stamped chips.



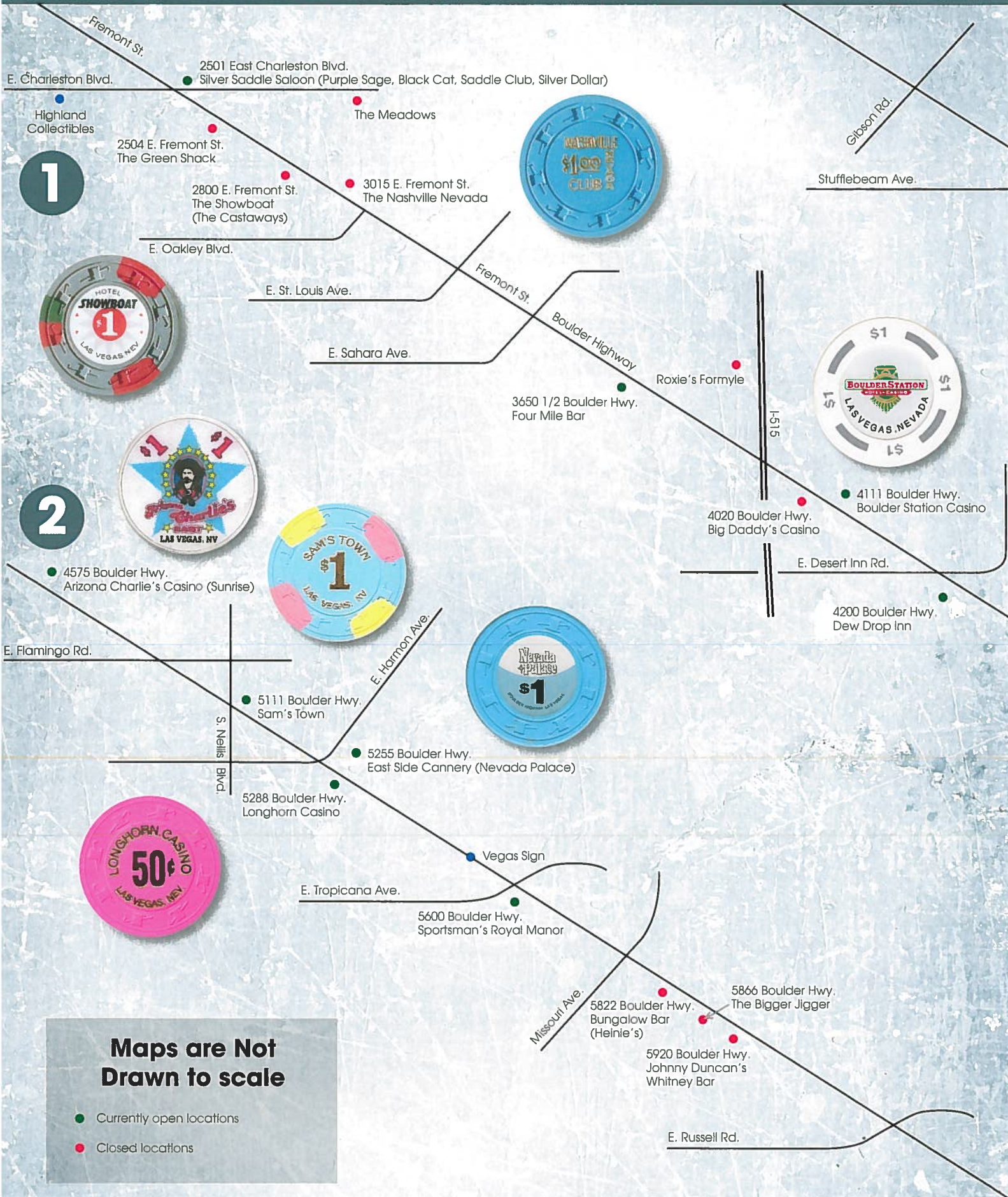
Further correspondence with Phil revealed some interesting facts about past tenants in the Jolly Jug building. He wrote to me,

*I remember going in there quite a bit in the 70's and there was never any live gambling. I also remember it well when it was a topless joint called Boo Bee's. The two o's on the sign were made to look like boobs. I called Carey and he remembers it also. The other thing I remember was the place looked like it was about to fall down-the place was really old-it must not have taken much to tear it down!*

Just south of the empty lot of Vic's Jolly Jug is the Joker's Wild Casino. Since it is on the opposite of the road, we decided we would stop at the Joker's Wild on the way back.

We crossed over Warm Springs Road and then hit Lake Mead Parkway, where we made a right turn off of the Boulder Highway and headed into downtown Henderson. There is plenty of history in downtown Henderson, but you will have to wait until next issue to hear about that!

I'd like to thank Greg Birdsell, Tyrus Mulkey and Phil Jensen for the use of their photos. Martin Kenney, Greg Birdsell, Ricky Pushkin and Phil Jensen for the use of their chip scans, and Rich Klabacha for his matchbook scans.



**Maps are Not Drawn to scale**

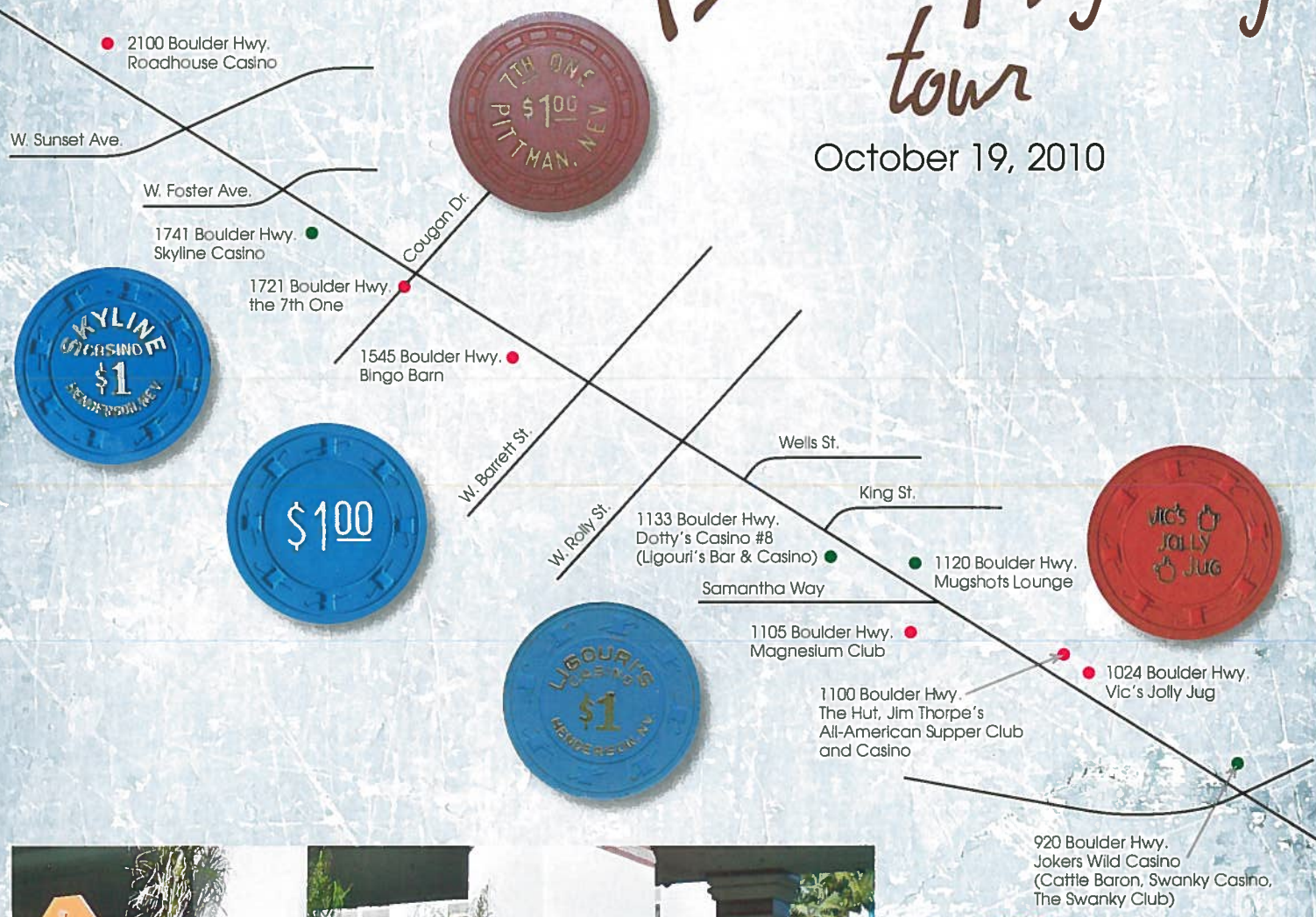
- Currently open locations
- Closed locations



3

# the Boulder Highway tour

October 19, 2010



*The Boulder Highway tour group (L-R) Sheldon Smith, Carey Burke, Phil Jensen, Tyrus Mulkey, Rich Klabacha, Greg Birdsell, Alex Cilento, Sunday Silverman and Todd Barrett.*



# CC&GTCC RAFFLE

The CC&GTCC 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&GTCC) to:



Steve Bedo  
CC&GTCC 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!!

# Fargo Country Club

By John K. Kallman



Those of you who are familiar with the movie “Fargo”, may think the city by that name if not the entire state of North Dakota as nothing more than a very cold and uninviting land of snow covered frozen tundra! There are, however, seasons other than winter. And for those who have the time and money for pursuits such as swimming, tennis and golf, the Fargo Country Club is one such place to partake in these activities.

The Fargo Golf Club was founded in the spring of 1898. It was later renamed the Fargo Golf & Tennis Club. They established the Fargo Country Club on May 1, 1916 and purchased 80 acres for a 9-hole golf course. An additional tract of land was purchased between 1916 and 1920 for an additional 9 holes.

In 1923 the Club opened the first 18-hole golf course in North Dakota.

A new clubhouse was constructed in 1934 and expanded in 1950. Tennis courts were added in 1970 and a swimming pool opened in 1986.

As the club’s web site freely admits, under its “history” page:

*1934 sees the construction of the first true clubhouse at a staggering cost of \$35,000. And in 1935, proceeds from the slot machines operated by the Club allowed the club to construct their first watering system for the golf course. These slot machines remained in operation here at the club and provided valuable income until shortly after the end of World War II when a state crackdown on gambling forced their removal.*

And where there are slot machines, table games and chips cannot be that far behind!



The Red “F” chip was ordered in 1964, while the Red ‘FCC’ chip was ordered in 1965 along with a green chip as well. In 1966, chips in Blue, White and Green were ordered. Dates for the \$1.00 and \$5.00 chips are currently unknown.

# Atlantis

CASINO RESORT SPA • RENO

TM

By Allan Anderson



The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno has undergone a \$100 million expansion resulting in it becoming the premier destination of Northern Nevada.

The expansion touched many facets of the property including an additional 20,000 square feet to the casino floor. The gaming space features a variety of games from keno to the latest in slots, to classic table games like blackjack, roulette, and craps. The Atlantis also features the Sky Terrace that provides slots in a smoke-free atmosphere along with a new smoke-free slot area on the main casino floor. The expanded gaming space also includes a new Race and Sports Book featuring individual 13' X 7', high-definition

visit one of the convenient EZComp kiosks located throughout the casino floor.

The Atlantis has 50,000 square feet of meeting and convention space and a grand ballroom with the capacity to host over 1,200 people. Atlantis is the only resort connected to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, with a sky bridge designed to keep conventioners out of the cold.

Spa Atlantis now offers 30,000 square feet of opulently appointed treatment rooms accented with imported tiles, rich woods, and more. The Spa offers mineral mud treatments in the Rasul Ceremonial Chamber. It also offers couple's massage and features a cool brine inhalation-light therapy lounge with heated floors and seating, a nature experiential shower, and a laconium relaxation lounge. Relax in the brand new Aqua Lounge with indoor whirlpools and cold plunge, and enjoy the men's and women's cedar wood sauna and herbal steam rooms. Spa Atlantis is also one of less than a dozen U.S. Spas to offer Pantai® Luar treatment. The Spa also brings with it a brand new cardio theater and fitness center with state-of-the-art cardio equipment from TechnoGym®, containing built-in television monitors which are

iPod-compatible for music and video.



*Sports Book*

wall-mounted flat-screen TV's amid multiple 51" flat-screen HD TV's and wall-to-wall surround sound. The Race & Sports Book features 4,000 square feet of the latest wagering technology, a new lounge area, seating for more than a 100 guests, dozens of private carrels with internet access. The all-new Sports Bar tiled with numerous flat-screen TV's, complements the Race & Sports Book. The gaming floor now includes a newly designed high limit area that is 30% larger and boasts 3 gaming tables, high limit video poker, and added amenities that include the new high limit bar, new adjustable height chairs, a complimentary food and drink menu. The smoke-free Poker Room offers the region's best promotions, tableside dining, and a self-service beverage bar. Flat-screen TV's are visible from every table.

As a Club Paradise member, your play whether at slots, tables, keno, race & sports books, and/or poker, earn valuable comp points for use at the restaurants and numerous other resort amenities. The comp points will remain on your account and will not expire provided there is tracked gaming activity at least once every 13 months. Your current comp point balance is easily viewed; just



*Aqua Lounge*

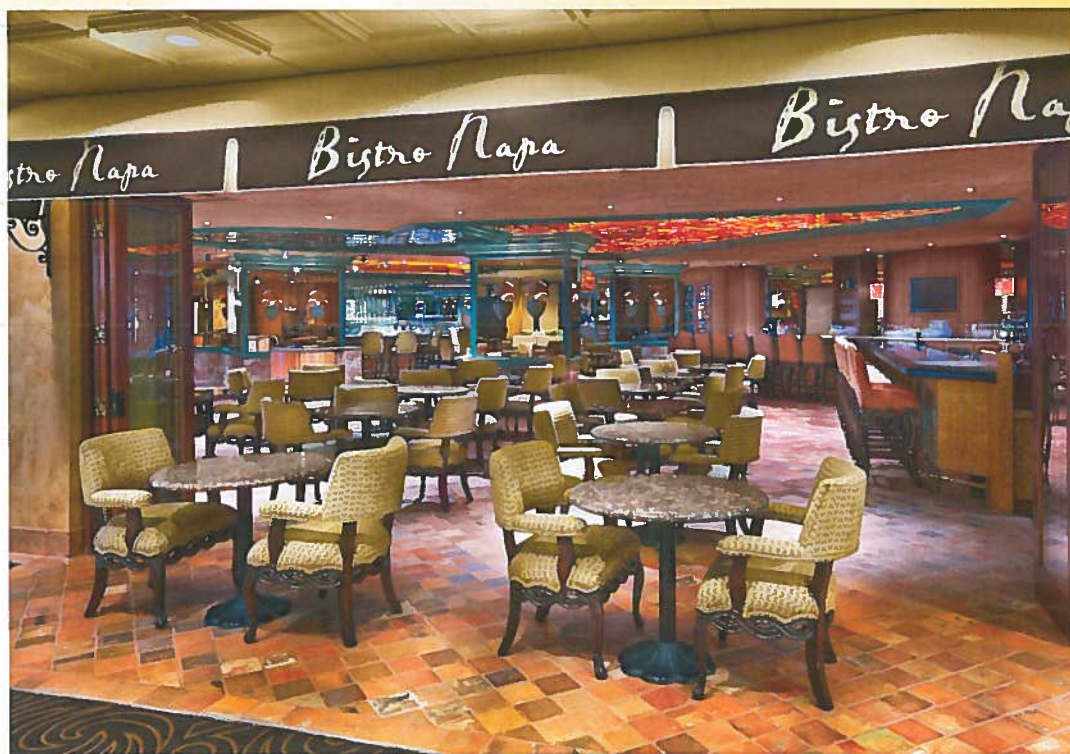
The Atlantis offers many dining options including the all-new Atlantis Steakhouse, which seats over 160 guests. Enjoy a fine

dining experience whether you're sitting around the 1,100 gallon aquarium, in the lounge, or in the private Cove. The Atlantis Steakhouse is framed with a back-lit Honey Onyx beneath a mesmerizing custom Bauble Ceiling.



*Atlantis Steakhouse*

Bistro Napa, located on the second floor of Atlantis, offers the freshest, eclectic, organically inspired seasonal menu with spacious seating and a large bar in the lounge. Bistro Napa also features an award winning wine selection.



*Bistro Napa*

Across from the newly expanded casino floor is the Manhattan Deli & Restaurant where the East Coast meets the West Coast. Experience piled-high sandwiches, traditional matzoh ball soup, bagels & lox,



the Manhattan Cobb salad, and New York style cheesecake.

Guest rooms at the Atlantis include Reno's only Concierge Guest Rooms, which feature rich, warm woods, a stylish neutral color scheme, plush carpeting, and imported marble. The pillow-top mattresses are the perfect place to watch the brand new 42" LG Flat Screen TV's with DVD players and iPod docking stations. If work is included in your stay, the custom desks with built-in media launch pad allowing multiple connections for laptops will assist you.

The newly renovated Luxury Tower rooms feature pillow-top mattresses, fresh carpeting, 42" LG Flat Screen TV's, custom furniture, contemporary artwork, built-in media launch pads and the latest web technology for direct or wireless internet access. For those with total relaxation in mind, the Atlantis' 3rd Floor Spa Rooms offer accents of elegance and relaxation.

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa is located on the strip at the corner of South Virginia and Peckham Lane, in the heart of Reno's new shopping and dining district. Atlantis offers a variety of exceptional dining choices, world-class casino action, live entertainment, complimentary valet service and acres of free self-parking. Visit [www.AtlantisCasino.com](http://www.AtlantisCasino.com) for information on events, tournaments, dining specials, online reservations and more. For more information call (775) 825-4700 or toll-free at (800) 723-6500.



Atlantis Sky Bridge



# Nevada Biltmore Update

In the last issue of the *Casino Chip and Token News Magazine* (23-4) we ran Pam Goertler's "As Time Goes By - Part Two" article. Within Pam's article she cites the fact that the Nevada Biltmore opened on January 7, 1944. She states this information comes from Harvey Fuller's records. Some of us, including myself, have come to accept Harvey's records as gospel. But Harvey is human, and at times we find that his facts are wrong. In the case of the Nevada Biltmore it seems that Harvey was off by more than a year and a half.

Pam also used Bob Stoldal and his story "The Black Biltmore" from the *Desert Companion* SUMMER 2009 as a reference for some of her Nevada Biltmore facts. Stoldal served as Chairman of the Nevada State Museum and History Board, as well as Chairman of the Las Vegas City Historic Preservation Commission.

In "The Black Biltmore," Stoldal writes:

*All that's left of the Biltmore is a huge old palm tree in the middle of an otherwise bulldozed lot on the northeast corner of Main and Bonanza. The Biltmore was built on this corner in 1942 by Bob Brooks. His single-story resort on 17 acres—featuring a hotel, cottages, showroom, casino, restaurant, bar and pool—was Polynesian-themed, a motif he'd brought with him from his famous Seven Seas restaurant and lounge in Hollywood.*



*Nevada Biltmore cocktail napkin ca. 1942-43  
Bob Brooks' Hotel and Bungalows.*



*Nevada Biltmore exterior man diving into pool ca. 1942-43 Bob Brooks owner.  
Photograph by Larry Ulkom.*



*Nevada Biltmore Matchbook  
Jack Walsh General Manager  
ca. 1944-46.*



With his renewed interest in the exact opening date of the Biltmore, Stoldal has uncovered the following facts. He wrote to me in an e-mail:

*An article and an advertisement in the Las Vegas Evening Review Journal dated June 20, 1942 that I used as one of the sources for my story. In a page six story titled "Seven Seas Room To Open This Eve," the newspaper reported "The colorful Seven Seas room at the New Nevada Biltmore Hotel will be opened this evening... it was announced today by Bob Brooks owner."*

*The story went on to say, "the gaming casino, cocktail lounge and dining room all are done in South Sea Island motif." The advertisement in the same June 10, 1942 issue, on page seven provides the additional detail that the "casino" is "under management of Johnny Hughes." Hughes was a well known gaming operator in the 1940's in Las Vegas, opening "The Players" club on what would become the Las Vegas Strip.*

Faced with the facts Bob has presented, we have to look into changing the records that we use as our sources. Both *The Gaming Table*, 3rd edition, and *The Chip Rack* 12th edition cite the opening date of 1944. We can see that information is in fact incorrect. By the way, in April 2009 Bob Stoldal joined the CC&GTCC as club member #8023. What a great addition to our club roster!

*Right: Nevada Biltmore opening advertisement Las Vegas Review Journal, June 20, 1942 page seven.*

*Below: Nevada Biltmore cocktail lounge. Photograph by Larry Ullom ca. 1942-43.*



**BOB BROOKS**

*Announces His*

*Preview Opening*

of the

# NEVADA BILTMORE HOTEL'S 7-SEAS ROOM

MAIN STREET AND BONANZA ROAD

DANCE TO

- EXOTIC ISLAND MUSIC
- NATIVE FLOOR SHOW
- RUM DRINKS

Casino - Cocktails - Entertainment

**CASINO**

under management of Johnny Hughes.

**MUSIC**

directed by Eddie Bush, famous band leader from Hawaii.

**DANCERS**

direct from the 7 Seas in Hollywood.

**RUMS**

from all the islands in the 7 Seas blended into unusual, beautiful palatable drinks.

**HOST**

Bob Brooks will look forward to the pleasure of personally greeting you.



# 2011 CC&GTCC Election Nomination Results

---

The nominations for the 2011 CC&GTCC Officers and Board of Directors have been submitted and tallied. 37 nomination forms were received.

The following members received one nomination. Per the CC&GTCC Constitution, a member must receive two nominations to be eligible to run for Office:

**President:**

Jim Follis  
Mark Lighterman  
R. Bruce Massey  
Marc Shapiro  
Gene Trimble

**Secretary:**

Steve Bedo  
Mark Lighterman  
Mary Ann Massey

The following members received a nomination and a second from current CC&GTCC members, but respectfully declined the nomination:

**President:**

Steve Bedo  
Mike Quinlivan  
Albert Scalzo  
Jim Steffner

**Secretary:**

Roy Nelson  
Joe Pavlik  
Dawn Satter  
Ann Skelton

The following members received a nomination and a second from current CC&GTCC members and accepted the nomination:

**President:**

Doug Smith (Unopposed)

**Secretary:**

James Follis  
Richard Pokracki  
David Spragg

Congratulations to all the Nominees and the best of luck to the candidates.

The CC&GTCC Election Ballot will be an insert in the next *Casino Collectible News* Magazine with a postmark deadline of Saturday, May 14, 2011.

The term for the Offices President and Secretary will be two years (2011 - 2013).

At the CC&GTCC annual business meeting in June 2011, we, the Election Co-Chairmen, will report the results of the election which will then be certified, at the meeting, by a vote of the current Officers and Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce & Mary Ann Massey,  
CC&GTCC Election Co-Chairmen

# T Y R U S R E X

has returned with an all-new website!

Howdy Chippers!

After taking three years off, I'm back with an all-new website. The new website is designed with fun in mind. Pour a cup of coffee, sit down, and browse a while. No boring text links here. Instead, you'll click on images of casinos, state flags, and other photos used as links to browse through items. Just keep clicking!

I've only got about 500 items up right now, but I'm adding as fast as I can. Should have several thousand added in the next few months! Plus, it's not just new Vegas releases and LE's anymore. I have lots of house chips and NCV's, from all over the US, tokens, older *Chip Chat* issues, supplies and more!



Thanks for taking a look.

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- House chips from all over the US!
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## Candidate for 2011 Club Secretary - Jim Follis



Greetings! My name is Jim Follis, and I am a candidate for Club Secretary of the CC&GTCC, Inc. Some time ago I made the conscientious decision to “Get Involved” with the Club and at that time I was fortunate enough to have the CC&GTCC’s Past President and Founder, Mr. Archie Black, take me on as the Assistant OTY Awards Chairman. Shortly

thereafter, Archie passed full Chairmanship duties to myself and for the past 9 years, I have been running the Club’s Chip, Token, Strike and Room Key/Slot Card recognition program along with my son, Casey, as the Assistant OTY Chairman, both of us serving at the discretion of the Boards from those years.

As a very active Internet person, I was honored to be selected as the Club’s first (and what turned out to be the only) On-Line Communications Director (OLCD) in April of 2002. I served in that capacity until the position was eliminated in 2007. During that 5 year period I logged as many 600 or so messages on the Club’s Message Board, as well as a like amount between the other major collector Message Boards and processing countless emails in an effort to pass information to and from the BoD and Club members. While the position no longer exists, it remains that I am very engaged in those same Internet venues, as well as several others (some at the Admin or Moderator level) that pertain to the collecting of casino memorabilia.

I have been recognized in 2006 and 2007 as one of the Top Ten Recruiters, receiving a Robert “Bob” Mera, Recruiter of the Year certificate in both of those years. While certainly not the Top Recruiter in those years, I am pleased to have been able to recruit enough new members in each of those years to gain this recognition. In more recent times I developed and presented to the then BoD a concept to establish a Membership Recruitment Committee, to which the BoD had installed me as the Chairman.

In the past I assisted Club member Terry Shaffer in the development and presentation (to the then BoD) the concept for a Mentor/Mentee Program, to which Terry was later established as the Director. I was also a contributor to the development of the Planning Committee program and have served on two iterations of the Committee as a Planning Committee Member.

I actively participate in the Club’s annual Convention Exhibit activity by displaying both competitive and non-competitive Exhibits during the Convention, placing Second in the 2008 competition and again in the 2010 competition. I also assist my son Casey, in his appointed duties as the Exhibits Chairman. I am a volunteer at the Conventions and last year I provided and operated the Convention-Cam, as previously done by the late Greg Susong.

I write and have written numerous articles for the Club’s

magazine, both as a member-at-large and in my official capacity as an appointed official of the Club. I am an active participant in the Museum of Gaming History’s ChipGuide Project, another Greg Susong legacy.

So, as anyone can see, I am very active in the Club and in seeking election as the Club’s next Secretary, it is in keeping with my desire to be proactively involved with this great Club. As evidenced by my past, and present efforts, to both maintain the quality and purpose of the Club, it is my future plan to help achieve new heights for the members, as well as the Club in general.

While there are two significant situations facing the Club right now (financial considerations and a lack of membership) I will not pretend to be the white knight, riding in to save the day! I believe that the current BoD’s representation is extremely mindful of the situation and their current, ongoing efforts are the likely paths that need to be followed at this point in time. Recognizing also that 3 of the 5 current BoD members will continue on the Board, it is my plan, should I win election, to work with them and the to-be-appointed Treasurer, to help solve any lingering issues with regard to these two major concerns.

Casino memorabilia collecting is my passion and short of that, the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. is my expression of that passion. In short, my attention is focused on the Club.

I believe in the Museum of Gaming History (MOGH) as a project of the CC&GTCC and have done so since day one of Jim Kruse’s dream. I congratulate the Team that has brought the MOGH along and will look to have some of those advances shared with the CC&GTCC.

I will be supporting the traditional and historical assignments and responsibilities of the Club’s Secretary, and will also look to introduce and promote my own beliefs, concepts and ideas that I feel will move the Club forward, while striving to maintain the fine accomplishments and achievements of those who went before me.

As always, I believe that the undisclosed repair of casino collectibles must be frowned upon. There is no room for slabbing in this hobby and we should always guard against the encroachment of slabbing through a process of education. Our tax exempt status is critical to the Club and must be protected at all times.

These are just some of the things I stand for in my campaign for Secretary of the CC&GTCC, Inc. and I respectfully request your vote on the enclosed ballot to this issue of the award winning Casino Collectible News.

Thank you,  
Jim Follis  
LM 3872-53  
CC&GTCC, Inc.

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# Candidate for 2011 Club Secretary - David Spragg



For those who don't know me, allow me to introduce myself. I am David Spragg, LM6180-166 and I am now in my 8th year of membership. From my experience in the hobby, which is also a full time business for me, and my extensive work as a volunteer for the club in many facets, I believe I am the most suitable candidate for the position

of Club Secretary and ask for your support by way of your vote.

A very brief background – prior to leaving from the financial sector industry to raise a family and become a full time chip dealer, I trained and qualified as a CA, working in the UK Treasury and then as a management consultant for KPMG for a combined 20 years.

I am currently in my 5th year as the club webmaster, and the 4th year as club auction chairman. I have also been heavily involved in much other club volunteer work, both at and away from the annual conventions, and in fundraising for the club & MOGH.

Aside from now being a full-time chip dealer, I am also a joint editor & publisher of “The Chip Rack” catalog and a joint owner of “The Gaming Table” reference work. I also operate the chipboard, strikepoint & slotcard bulletin boards created by the late Greg Susong.

The club's main issue without doubt at the present time is to stop any further decline in the hobby. Naturally there have been events outside our control (the economy) but I also believe many chip values have been over-inflated for years. This is something cyclical that occurs in all hobbies as a result of people believing they can treat their hobby as a pure investment and not a hobby and then dropping out when the market peaks and they realise they can't recoup their investment. Chip collecting is a hobby! The annual convention is as much a social get-together for many friends as it is a business for the table holders.

Most talk seems to revolve around increasing non-member convention attendees in the hope of attracting additional members. While I don't disagree, I think there needs to be more thought applied ‘outside of the box’. I believe we primarily need to grow the hobby in order to grow the membership in order to grow convention attendees. I don't profess to have instant solutions or I would have made sure they were already implemented. I do however have a number of workable ideas, which through my numerous contacts in the industry, would have more likelihood of success if I was acting as BoD member rather than just a member/collector.

In terms of growing, I believe the greatest free marketing opportunities we have are through the casinos who continue to

regularly produce commemorative chips. I want to look at how those casinos could publicise those chips, our hobby and the CC&GTCC in their promotional mailshots which they send by paper and electronically on a regular basis. Some years ago Harrah's did in fact do this. We also have several prominent hobby related storefronts in Las Vegas which we should probably do more to cultivate relationships with. Similarly we should be working with chip manufacturers to give the hobby and the club publicity. I understand the fact that casinos are not going to willingly publicise the convention at the risk of losing business to the host casino, but it should be possible to have them help publicise the hobby and the club without direct mention of the convention. These are all areas where I have extensive contacts. We also need to see if we can cultivate collectors from any other hobbies.

Other issues – I'm not going to dwell too much on these as I believe the club is either currently progressing well in these areas or they are not currently items of contention.

Protection of the club's 501(c)(3) status is our greatest asset and remains our key to obtaining any major funding for the Museum of Gaming History. I am a continuing supporter of the MOGH project not least because a physical presence is another major opportunity to grow the hobby.

I am against slabbing in our hobby (maybe it has its place with coins but not with chips), and I am also against chip alteration or repair where it can possibly mislead anyone either now or in the future.

Due to the diligence of the current BoD, the club's financial position is a lot healthier than it was 18 months ago and with a long term convention contract in place, I think we will remain in a healthy position as long as we look to address the main issue above.

Finally, I believe the BoD should be as transparent as possible in terms of communication with the membership. If you ask a question, you deserve an answer. It might not always be the answer you wanted to hear, but you should receive it nonetheless. While the BoD is elected to operate the club on your behalf, elected members must always remember that they were elected to do their best to fulfil the membership's wishes.

Once again, I call for your support and hope to see many of you in Vegas in June once again.

David Spragg  
LM6180-166, Club Webmaster & Auction Chairman.

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# Candidate for 2011 Club Secretary - Rick Pokracki

---



Hello, my Name is Rick Pokracki (LM 3113-84) Most people know me as Riverboat Rick on the Chipboard and throughout the hobby in general.

I am running for the position of Secretary of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club (CC&GTCC) and I need your support.

While I have always tried to help out through volunteering, at the convention and other places, I now want to step up my volunteering service by serving the club membership as Secretary.

As a lifetime member of the CC&GTCC, I have been awarded my 10 year pin and eagerly await my 15 year pin. I am a member of the CC&GTCC planning committee, a contributor to the CC&GTCC magazine, CC&TN, one of the administrators for The Chip Guide, a member of the Slab Free Club, and a charter member of the slot card club. Some other facts about me are, I am a member of the Chicagoland Chipper Steering Committee, and a past member of the Silver Strike Club. In addition, I would like people to know I support the Museum of Gaming History (MOGH) and what they are trying to accomplish.

I have a tremendous respect for the people in this club and love how everyone helps each other out without looking for accolades or payment in return, other than to perhaps pay it forward.

I have had people I have never met help me out. My daughter has received fun gifts and get well wishes and presents from club members we have never met. This is the part of the hobby I want to continue and also to grow, and its the caring for and supporting of fellow members, that makes us different from others.

I understand one of the largest problems our club faces is growth, this important issue needs immediate attention. I believe we need to first identify the problem(s), find solutions, and then fix those problems, as quickly as possible. For example, working with the membership officer, to try and regain past members, or at least find out why they don't return. I know the issue has been presented in the past, but I feel we need to remain focused on it and

the future.

When I am not chip collecting, I work for a fortune 500 company in a unique position. It is one that requires honesty, integrity, organizational and prioritizing skills, along with a steadfast attitude. These I plan on bringing to the position of Club Secretary.

Also at work, I'm on a few different committees and have a reputation for following through on company inspections and other important matters , and as Club Secretary I will continue to do the same.

It may be of interest, that other than being a convention volunteer I hold no other official club titles, so all my time, effort, and energies can and will, be focused upon the Club Secretary position.

I believe we need to implement the ideas of others and that the club needs a growing membership and the their dues to survive. We also need to show people what we love about this hobby; that it is all about fun and volunteering and the good people who help one another. I respectfully ask you to cast your vote in my favor to provide me with the opportunity to serve you and this wonderful Club.

Respectfully,  
Riverboat Rick Pokracki





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Christine and Sheldon Smith

*of*

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Watch for our future sales on eBay and  
elsewhere. What a great hobby!

*-Thank You!*

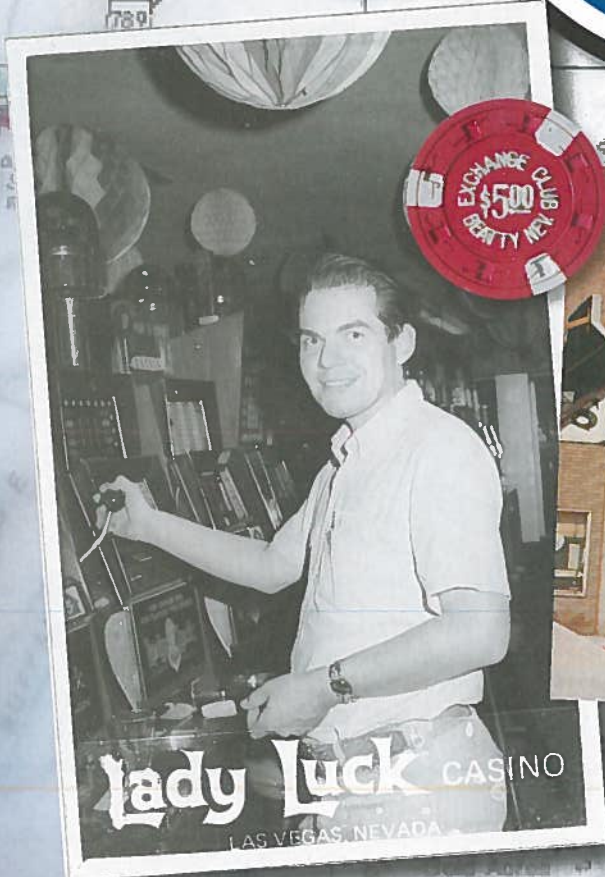
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# Phil's Forays



Last issue, Phil was down in southern Nevada visiting the small towns of Pahrump, Laughlin, Cal-Nev-Ari and others. This time we revisit an article Phil wrote in the Spring of 2000. This article appears as it was written in 2000, but is updated with photos and postcards from Phil's collection.

## Leaving Las Vegas by Phil Jensen

When I began writing my memoirs in

the summer of 1998 I promised a short series of articles on my chip collecting adventures in Nevada. I've attempted to do this by either writing about individual towns or several places strung together. In doing so I've covered most of the state except for a few places which I'll touch on now.

One of those was Tonopah which was actually one of my favorite spots. In the late 60's and early 70's the two main joints in town were the Mizpah Hotel and Tonopah Club. They both had live gaming and were a rich source of chips both for the ones in

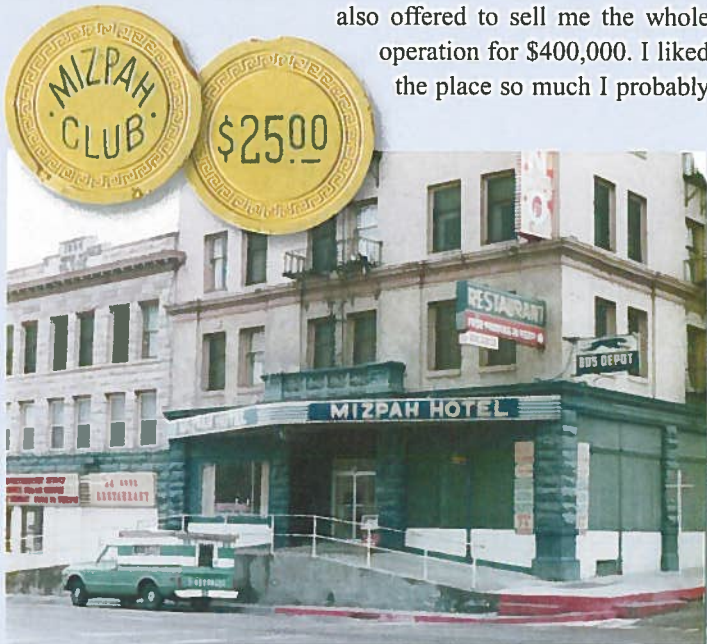
use and obsolete issues which turned up over the years.

The Tonopah Club was an old-time place which, I imagine, didn't change much over the forty or so years it was in business. There was an old bar, probably built by Brunswick, and a neat cashier's cage with ornate brass bars

and fancy hardware. There was a 21 and crap table which was one of the longest I'd ever seen. In the back was a Keno game that featured a huge board and a lot of old-fashioned equipment. It was quite an operation. Unfortunately, the joint was destroyed by fire and eventually torn down. Nothing remains today except a parking lot.



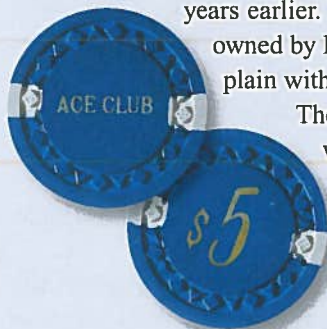
Across the street was the Mizpah Hotel which has been through several different owners over the years but at the time was owned by Lester Short. One day he took me into his office and gave me an old yellow twenty five dollar chip from the Mizpah the likes of which I'd never seen before or since. I was real proud of it. Lester also offered to sell me the whole operation for \$400,000. I liked the place so much I probably



would have bought it except I didn't have the money. In fact I was lucky to have enough to stay in one of the rooms overnight which I did on several occasions. Later on the place was bought by Frank Scott of the Union Plaza in Las Vegas and remodeled extensively.

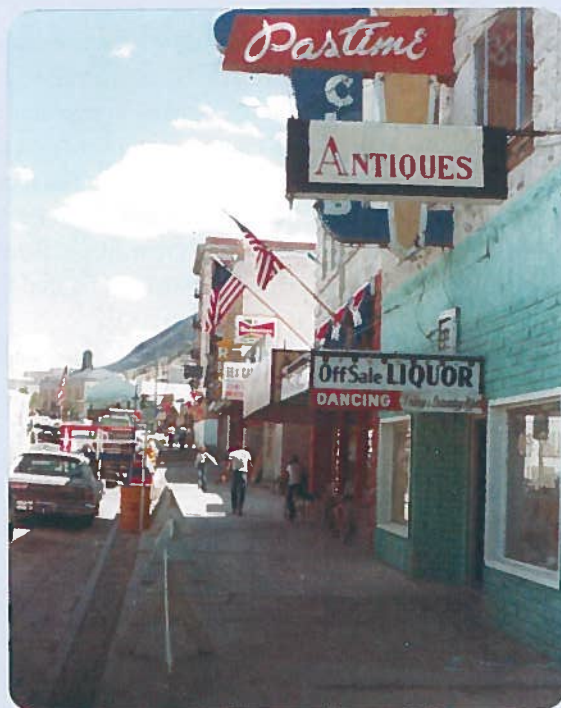


There were a couple of other places in town with live gaming. One was the Tonopah Belle which was the Ace Club a couple of years earlier. It had a 21 and crap game and was owned by Bob Perchetti. The chips were pretty plain with only his initials - RWP.



The Rex Bar also had a 21 game with chips stamped REX. Bob also owned this place and I was able to get an assortment of old Tonopah Club chips from him after much pleading.

Next door was the Pastime Club and although the 21 table was still there the live gaming had ceased around 1969. Luckily the bartender was able to scrounge up an errant chip from a drawer in the back bar and I was happy to get it.



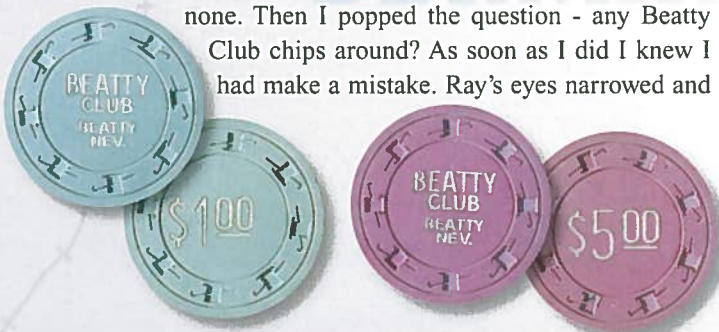


*This picture shows Tonopah Lil's Big Casino which was either someone's idea of a joke or a casino owner who ran out of money after the sign was painted. Anyway, it never existed. The place was a bowling alley and later used as the Mizpah casino while the hotel was being remodeled.*

Another of my favorite small towns was Beatty, which was a couple of hours south of Tonopah. The main place there was the Exchange Club which still exists but has been drastically remodeled. There was a 21 and crap game there and they used a blue hot-stamp dollar chip with a picture of a burro on it. Every time I'd go in I'd buy a couple. They were always a favorite of mine.

Directly across the street was the Beatty Club, which is still open, but it was owned by a gentleman by the name of Ray May then. It have live gaming for years but by the early 70's all that remained was a roulette table that served as a display rack for some bottles of wine. I asked Ray if he had any of the Beatty Club chips around and he led me to a small room off the bar. Stacked on a shelf were maybe a dozen boxes of chips and he said I could look through them and buy, at face value, whatever I wanted. I picked out a five, two ones and four twenty-fives centers, handed him eight dollars and left-happy to have added to my small town collection. Sometime after that I had talked a couple of people into collecting so I thought I'd better pick up a few extras. The next time I was in Beatty I asked Ray if he'd sell me a few more of the Beatty Club chips. He told me that he had burned them all and there were none left. I was disappointed and a bit skeptical so I figured I'd give it some time and ask later.

It was probably a year and a half later that I strolled back into the Beatty Club. There was Ray, behind the bar as usual. I ordered a beer and looked for a sign that he might remember me. I saw none. Then I popped the question - any Beatty Club chips around? As soon as I did I knew I had make a mistake. Ray's eyes narrowed and

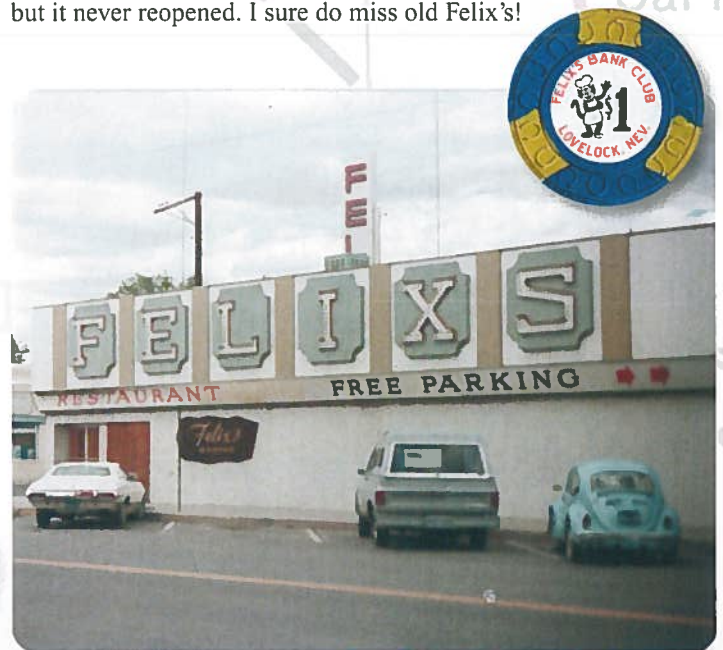


he yelled - I TOLD YOU I BURNED THEM ALL! Embarrassed, I slipped out of the bar convinced that there were no more chips. At least the ones I had were rare!

Up the road from Beatty was the turn-off to Death Valley and Scotty's Castle. There was an old bar called Slim's Place and one day I stopped to check it out. As I sat at the bar I noticed a shrine-like structure in the corner. There was a poker table and a lot of pictures and old newspaper clippings about Death Valley Scotty. There were also about twenty boxes of chips stacked on the poker table and on close examination turned out to be old roulette chips from Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn. There were about 20 different colors and varieties and the bartender let me have one of each. I wasn't too thrilled as I didn't really care for roulette chips much but I figured they were better than nothing.

Anyway, as it turned out, the bartender told me that Death Valley Scotty had died in that bar. I was skeptical so later I did some research and found that on January 5, 1954 Scotty was experiencing severe internal bleeding at the castle. They loaded him in a car and headed for Las Vegas which was 185 miles away. They only got to Slim's Corners which was what the junction was called in those days-today its called Scotty's Junction-and Slim Riggs, the proprietor and good friend of Scotty carried him in the bar where he laid him on the floor to await the undertaker. I don't know if Slim built the shrine to Scotty but I imagine old Scotty hoisted a few in that bar. It wasn't long after my stop that Slim's burned to the ground-memorabilia and all. I still have a matchbook from there and whenever I drive by I think of that old bar and Death Valley Scotty.

Lovelock was a welcome stop along interstate 80 and Felix's Bank Club was the main joint in town. I got to know Felix pretty well and although I didn't get much in the way of old chips out of him he was always good for a story or two. He liked to talk about his father who operated the old Northern Club in Reno. Unfortunately for Felix authorities found evidence of creative dealing at his club and closed him up around 1977. Felix attempted to sell the place but it never reopened. I sure do miss old Felix's!



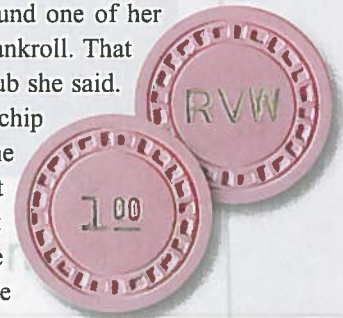
I never did get to see the Big Meadow Hotel in Lovelock. It closed in 1963 and burned years later. I was able to buy most of the chips however.

Gerlach is 112 miles north of Reno and not on the way to anywhere, in fact the pavement ends just outside of town. The main place there was Bruno's Country Club, which was a very unlikely name. It had a 21 and roulette game and Bruno Selmi was the owner and bartender. He was a pretty crabby old guy but he did give me a set of his roulette chips that had a picture of a bulldog and his initials, B.S. on them. His wife was the 21 dealer and there was a five dollar maximum limit on the game. One day I was rat-holing some chips and accidentally let a four dollar bet ride. She got real mad at me and threw the money back at me. I have no idea what she would have done if she had caught me taking chips!

Bruno's brother, Joe, owned the joint next door called Joe's Gerlach club. For some reason, which I never did find out, the two brothers hadn't spoken in twenty-five years but they still operated side by side. Joe had one 21 table which I never did see open. Luckily, Joe's wife, Ann, was really nice and gave me some of the chips. They were just hot stamps and had JOE'S in large letters. There was a 50¢, \$1, and five with the square-in-circle mold that I really liked.



One day I met a lady by the name of Vera Cross who, with two other people, owned the Miner's Club in Gerlach. She told me that one day she went to work and found one of her partners had left town with the bankroll. That was pretty much the end of the club she said. She gave me a pink one dollar chip with the initials RVW and said the V was for her, the W stood for Walt and she couldn't remember what the R stood for. I didn't ask but I've got to think that Walt was the one who took the bankroll!



I was also able to find some Capooch Club chips which, like the Miner's Club, closed in the mid 1950's. I always longed to be there twenty years sooner!



The Desert club was located next door but I don't remember too much about it as it closed in the early 70's. The owner took his 21 game to Gabbs and used the Desert Club chips at the Keystone Club there for a while.



Cactus Pete's as it appeared in 1969. Today it looks like a Strip Hotel.



*I previously wrote about Winnemucca and here's a shot of the Humboldt Hotel after it burned. It was later torn down.*

(Editor's note, we could not find the originals of the Humboldt Hotel that Phil took after the fire from his original article. Below is a postcard of the Hotel Humbolt, and photo of the Big Meadow Hotel after it had burned. Notice the sign bent at the top for some reason.)

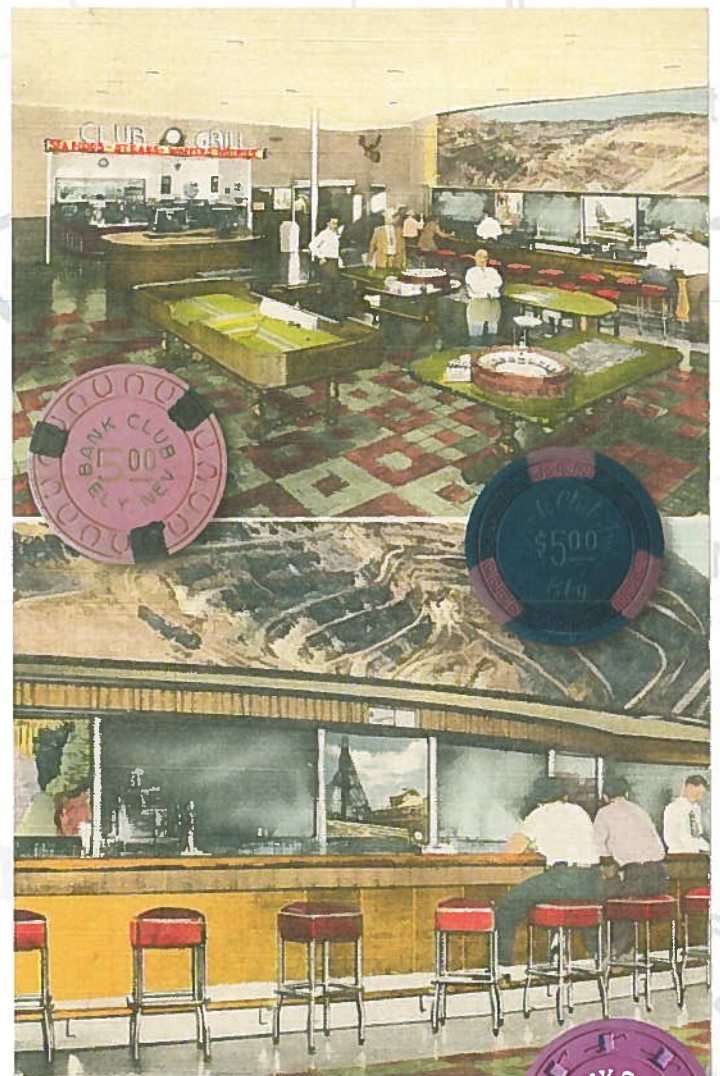


The Golden Club in Austin owned by Clara Williams and the bar part of the Austin Hotel when they were in business- If you won any money here Clara would cash you out from a "weasel-sack" she kept in her apron. She was one of my favorite Nevada people.



*Also shown is a picture I took of the Ironhorse Casino in Winnemucca. It was built by Joe Mackie's son-in-law and later changed to the Cattlemen's. The building was later demolished.*

(Editor's note, we could not find the originals of the Ironhorse Casino that Phil took. Below is a photo of the Cattlemen's that Phil describes above.) Cattlemens chip image courtesy of Andy Hughes



The now-closed Bank Club in Ely was quite a place in its day.



Here's a photo showing the Montgomery Pass Casino when it was on the opposite side of the road from where it is now. I remember slot machines in here from the Golden Bubble in Gardnerville and a crap table that barred ace-duce on the don't.



A shot of Whiskey Pete's taken around 1978 shortly after it took over the Bordertown Club in what is now Primm, Nevada.

Well that about wraps it up. I know I've omitted a few things, but you get the idea. For twelve years I travelled the hiways and back roads of Nevada indulging in a hobby that was mostly ignored. I tried to persuade others to collect but it was a tough sell and I got a lot of funny looks.

Anyway, I was on a fantastic run of luck although I didn't realize it at the time. I guess I thought the good times would never end - I was young and there was no stopping me. Then, on August 9, 1981, it all came to an abrupt end. Someone broke into my house and stole all my precious chips! I was devastated to say the least. For fifteen years I blocked out the memories and tried to ignore chips in general.

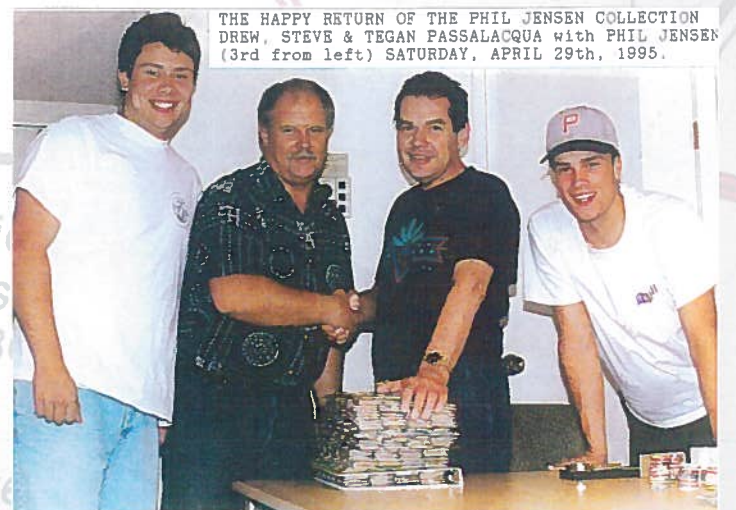


Then at the 1996 chip convention in Las Vegas I was browsing through a dealers stockbooks-not looking to buy anything-but just reminiscing. Then I began to recognize a lot of familiar stuff-**REAL** familiar stuff. In the old days I used to buy drilled chips on keychains and plug them up and paint them. The exact same chips were in the book! In fact I had collected every chip there. It only took a few minutes to realize what I was looking at-my missing chips! I walked away not knowing what to do. Eventually, I told my friend Howard Herz about my discovery. He knew the dealer who turned out to be Steve Passalacqua. I didn't know him but that was about to change. Howard and I went over to Steve's table and we told him the story, I pretty much stood around and let Howard do the talking and I'm thinking to myself that I've got about as much of a chance of getting my stuff back as a busted out crapshooter getting his bankroll back.

Anyway, the details of what took place have already been told in a story that Steve wrote later on so I won't go into that. In a nutshell, Steve came over to me and said that he would return the chips! At first, I didn't think I heard right but he said yes, that was true.

Anyway thanks to Steve, I was able to write this series of articles. I enjoyed doing it and sharing my memories of the good times I had prowling the towns of Nevada. The hobby has grown tremendously and the chips I bought for face value have increased

beyond anything I ever dreamed of. I don't collect old chips anymore but I remember them all with great fondness and emotion. Anyway, thanks for reading my stuff and thank-you Steve Passalacqua!



# Convention Exhibits are Needed

With the Convention just around the corner, we need more Exhibits. If you are planning on going to the Convention please think about doing an Exhibit. Last year's winner (Bill Judge) had a great display of old placemats and there was an interesting display of Win Cards chips and other Win Cards items that won 2nd Place. We also had some non-Competitive Exhibits and some other really neat stuff.

Basically, to participate, just sign-up, bring the stuff and the Club will provide display cases and table space. Just remember, Exhibit set-up is Wednesday only, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, if we follow last year's schedule. Please contact me by email at: Exhibits@CCGTCC.com. I can also be contacted through my Dad at: 520.971.7909.

The Club provided display cases are about 22 x 32 inches and are about 2 inches high. A slightly deeper case is available for display of items with a little bit more height.

I will need this information:

- Exhibit content or theme,
- Number of cases needed,
- Your name,
- Your CC&GTCC member number, and
- Title of the Exhibit.

Exhibits must be casino related in some way, in keeping with the nature of our Club. If any of the exhibit will include slabbed chips special permission must be received from President, Jim Steffner. You need to ask, not me.

The deadline for submissions will be May 15th, however, I can accept late submissions but they will not meet the deadline for inclusion in the Convention Program.

Thank you,

Casey Focazio-Follis  
Exhibit Chairman





# CC&GTCC Mentoring Program

## Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

## The Program

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## Reference Center

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

### [Casino Chip & Token News](#) - A publication of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club

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

### For The Beginner

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

### Detailed Reference

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

### Books, Magazine Articles, etc.

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

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

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

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

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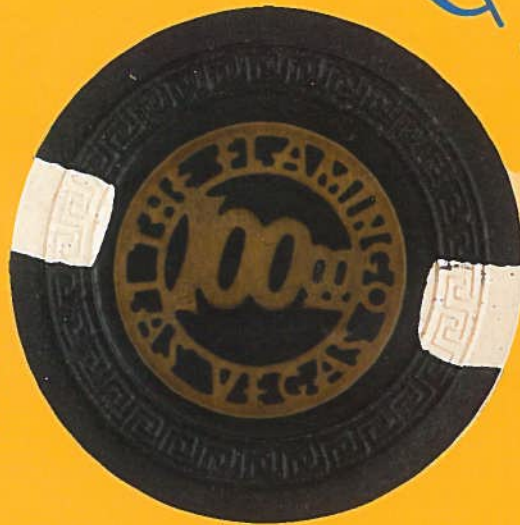
Sands \$5 Cowgirl and Hourglass Las Vegas Casino Chip, Ninth Issue, R-9, Circa Late 1950s  
**Sold for \$26,290**  
May 2010  
HA.com/6035\*47380



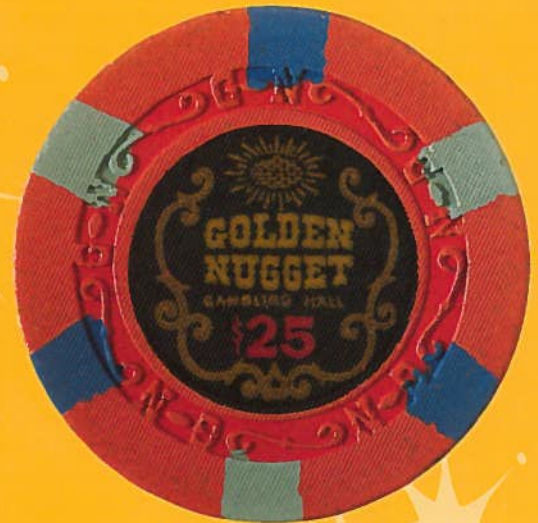
Flamingo \$25 Las Vegas Casino Chip, Third Issue, R-8 / R-10 Uncancelled, Circa 1950  
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