

Volume 24 Number 2  
\$6.95

# Casino Collectible News

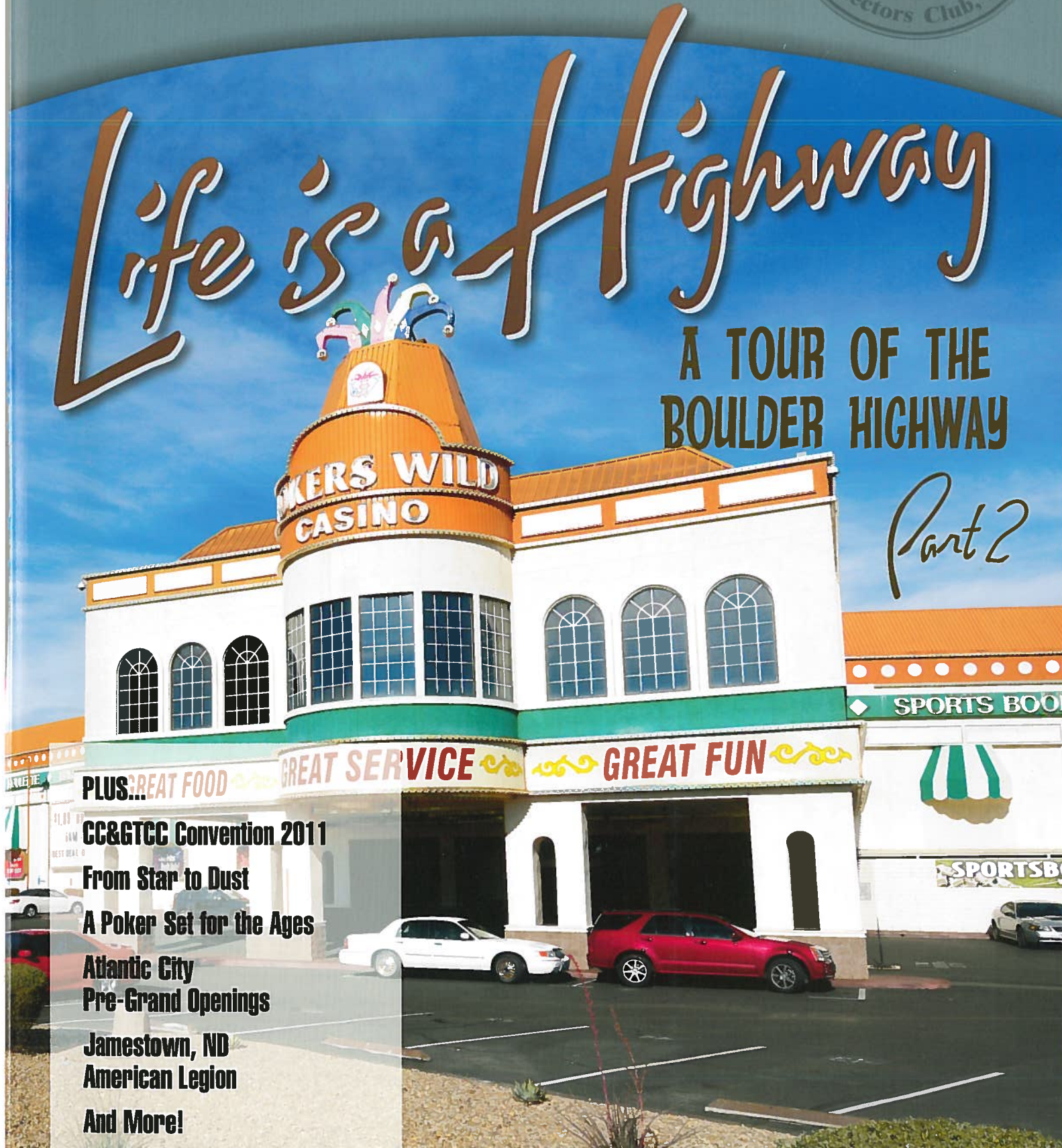
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*Part 2*



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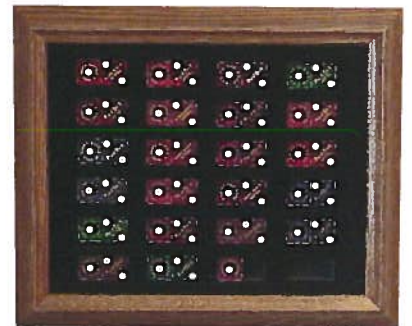
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## The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

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## Casino Collectible News

A publication of

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

*The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.*  
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with the mission of preserving gaming history.

|                          |                           |
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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:

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

I would like you to publish my . . .

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 Do not publish any of my information |

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

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

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

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

### CC&GTCC Membership Officer

**Steve Bedo**

1215 E. Dalton Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91741

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# Casino Collectible News

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**Life is a Highway - Part 2**  
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Cover Photo Courtesy of  
Las Vegas News Bureau

## American Numismatic Association Membership Application

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

Regular  Student  Junior  Senior  Associate

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

Mr.  Mrs  Ms.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Country

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

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

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

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

### Dues

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

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

Forward completed application to:

ANA

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

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

# Visit Us Online!

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



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

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

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



# See You There!

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# Advertising

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Email - ctcoins@aol.com

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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  
in *Casino Chip & Token News*



Deadline for ads are  
January 1st for 1st qtr. issue April 1st for 2nd qtr. issue  
July 1st for 3rd qtr. issue October 1st for 4th qtr. issue



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

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

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



**Jim Steffner**  
President

## President's Letter

Five – four – three – two – one. And it's a take off for Las Vegas. Our 19th Annual Convention is almost here. I can almost see the line starting to form to enter the show on Thursday. Are you going to be part of the crowd? I sure hope so!

A lot has happened in the past several months. Many suggestions from members were discussed at our BOD mid-year meeting earlier this year. To keep expenses down we held this meeting by way of a telephone conference call that worked out just fine. Many topics you may have already seen implemented. We have increased the annual budget for convention advertising to bring more people in the door. Our club and convention will be featured on several television and radio talk shows this year. An information table was set up at the Super Bowl show to get attendees interested in the club and the convention. You will find new multi-year membership rates now in effect. The designation for Associate Members has been redefined so that they do not have to live in the same household. The Bruce Landau Memorial Auction has been moved to Thursday evening this year and the poker tournament takes its previous place on Friday night.

The pre-registration participants will be receiving several nice coupons, and another more valuable script chip in their packets – PLUS they will be able to enter the show floor earlier on Thursday and Friday. Saturday is once again a free admission day as that was very successful last year and drew a large crowd.

The theme for the convention this year is "Patriotic". Show your country's colors at the Early Bird Banquet. Jim Kruse has lined up a great speaker.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your club President these past two years and at the business meeting I will be turning over the gavel to your new President, Doug Smith. I wish him success and enjoyment in his new position.

As always have fun in this hobby and I'll see you at the show.

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        |
|----------|--------------|-------------|-------|------------------|------------------|
| 8265     | Wiegele      | William     | WI    | Hortonville      | Andy Hughes      |
| 8266     | Buet         | Tristan     |       | 33800 Bordeaux   | Club Website     |
| 8267     | Herman       | Roger       | NV    | Henderson        | Sheldon Smith    |
| 8267-A   | Herman       | Sandy       | NV    | Henderson        | Sheldon Smith    |
| 8268     | Switchulis   | Tim         | MI    | Clinton Township | Greg Cagle       |
| 8269     | Goldman      | Philip A.   | MD    | Rockville        | Jeff Buckner     |
| 8270     | Henderson    | Tracy       | CA    | Weed             | Andy Hughes      |
| 8271     | Mirra        | Ronald S.   | NV    | Silver Springs   | Club Website     |
| 8272     | Runyan       | Dennis      | AZ    | Goodyear         | Club Website     |
| 8273     | Maslowski    | Ronald A.   | CT    | Meriden          | Andy Hughes      |
| 8274     | Peterson     | Jeremy      | FL    | Cape Coral       | Andy Hughes      |
| 8275     | Cohen        | Mark        | FL    | Palm Harbor      | Allan Anderson   |
| 8276     | Seaford      | Ray         | FL    | Tampa            | Club Website     |
| 8277     | Harper       | Steven      |       | Canada           | Club Website     |
| 8278     | Dambach      | Michael     | CA    | Santa Clara      | Club Website     |
| 8279     | Brinton      | Robert      | CO    | Arvada           | Club Website     |
| 8279-A   | Brinton      | Phyllis D.  | CO    | Arvada           | Club Website     |
| 8280     | Warren       | Trey        | TX    | Keller           | David Sowell     |
| 8281     | Carnuccio    | Nicholas    | DE    | Dover            | Club Website     |
| 8282     | Hollibaugh   | Sarah       | ID    | Meridian         | Larry Hollibaugh |
| 8283     | Waterman     | Allen       | IA    | Johnston         | Andy Hughes      |
| 8284     | Manske       | Zeb         | MN    | Truman           | Andy Hughes      |
| 8285     | Escobosa     | Marcia      | CA    | Corona           | Archie Black     |
| 8286     | Skutt        | Joe         | NY    | Versailles       | Club Website     |
| 8287     | Mizelle      | Alan        | NC    | Greenville       | Archie Black     |
| 8288     | Rickert      | Dick        | PA    | Greenville       | Ricky Pushkin    |
| 8289     | Voges        | Christopher | DE    | Seaford          | Andy Hughes      |
| 8290     | Von Wahlde   | Stephen     | OH    | Hamilton         | Andy Hughes      |
| 8291     | Zandonai     | Louis       | IL    | Rockford         | Andy Hughes      |
| 8292     | Palitti      | Leo         | TX    | Ft. Worth        | former member    |
| 8293     | Benassi      | Mauro       |       | Lucca, Italy     | Archie Black     |
| 8294     | Maris        | Nick        | IN    | West Lafayette   | Club Website     |
| 8295     | Redding      | David       | NV    | Las Vegas        | David Spragg     |
| 8296     | Palmieri     | James       | NJ    | Woodbridge       | Club Website     |
| 8297     | Gilgoff      | Joel        | AZ    | Sedona           | Archie Black     |
| 8298     | Kubala, Jr.  | Joseph      | MD    | Mt. Airy         | Club Website     |
| 8299     | Aylward      | Tom         | OH    | Cincinnati       | Richard Klabacha |
| 8300     | Francey      | Robert      | CA    | Moorpark         | John Coushay     |
| 8301     | Hull         | Jay         | CA    | Napa             | The Chip Rack    |
| 8302     | Jacques      | Leonard     | OH    | No. Royalton     | Club Website     |
| 8303     | Schexsnayder | Brenda      | TX    | Cleburne         | Club Website     |
| 8304     | Lott         | Eric        | NY    | Buffalo          | Club Website     |
| 8305     | Joseph       | Louis       | NV    | Reno             | Former Member    |
| 8305-A   | Joseph       | Judy        | NV    | Reno             | Former Member    |
| 8306     | Fies         | David       | CA    | San Leandro      | Archie Black     |
| 8307     | Stock        | Richard     | AZ    | Mesa             | Archie Black     |
| 8308     | McCormick    | Albert D.   | NV    | Las Vegas        | Club Website     |
| 8309     | Kelly        | Steve       | CO    | Parker           | Archie Black     |
| 8310     | Schiefelbein | Mark        | MO    | Springfield      | Andy Hughes      |
| 8311     | Elliott      | Matthew     |       | Australia        | Tim Harry        |
| 8312     | McElyea      | Murray      | AL    | New Market       | Archie Black     |
| 8313     | Hought       | Duane       | TX    | Temple           | Club Website     |

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



**Doug Smith**  
Treasurer

# Treasurer's Report

The information contained in this report reflects costs and expenditures for the period of 01/01/11 thru 03/31/11.

## Highlights of the First Quarter of 2011 (01/01/11-03/31/11)

- Held the mid year BOD meeting by Teleconference.
- Solicited donations for the Room Key Cards for the convention
- Discussed and implemented numerous ideas submitted by the membership
- Solicited and interviewed potential replacements for the Treasurers position.
- Completed the 2010 Financial books to be audited at the next meeting.

## Club Accounts

The current balances as of 03/31/11 in the CC&GTCC accounts are as follows:

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Museum Fund Money Market          | \$98,423.20  |
| Life Membership Fund Money Market | \$61,133.35  |
| General Fund Money Market         | \$14,624.85  |
| General Fund Business Checking    | \$95,419.40  |
| Total of all four accounts        | \$269,600.80 |

The above totals do not reflect checks written in the amount of \$10,190 for payments that have not yet cleared and deposits in the amount of \$12,001 that were made after the 03/31/11 date.

## The 19th Annual CC&GTCC Convention

To date we have had a total of \$18,545 in revenue from Dealer Checks along with \$3,680 from Pre-Registration and tournament fees.

I wanted to thank Dave and Debbie Harber once again for chairing this years convention and look forward to another great event.

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 \$98,423. This current period includes donations in the amount of \$250 thru sales of chips thru Andy Hughes Chipboard auctions.

MOGH costs for this period included a fee of \$1,200 for artist renderings, and another \$246 for Logo Wear merchandise and the purchase of calendars for promotional purposes.

## Online Renewals & Pre-registration

This past quarter we have had a total of \$9,149 in transactions thru Paypal after fees.

## 2011-2012 Casino Collectables Calendar

As of 03/31/11, we have collected nearly \$4,520 in payments for Calendar and Date sales for this years and next years calendar. Assuming the same cost for the 2012 calendar as the 2011, we should have a profit of over \$4,000 for the two calendars.

## Period Revenue (Thru 03/31/11)

The following monies were collected during the period of 01/01/11 thru 03/31/11.

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Membership Renewals            | \$13,317 |
| Dealer Table Fees              | \$18,545 |
| Room Card Donations            | \$1,470  |
| Banquet Fees                   | \$1,260  |
| Registration Fees              | \$1,220  |
| Poker & BJ Tournament Fees     | \$1,200  |
| Calendar Sales                 | \$1,064  |
| Promotion Sales                | \$569    |
| Museum Fund Donations          | \$250    |
| Convention Program Advertising | \$175    |
| CCTN Magazine Advertising      | \$70     |
| Interest Income                | \$29     |
| Raffle Ticket Sales            | \$25     |
| Total Period Revenue           | \$39,194 |

## Period Expenses (Thru 03/31/11)

The following expenses were paid during the period of 01/01/11 thru 03/31/11.

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| CCTN Magazine                         | \$10,262 |
| Quarterly Storage                     | \$1,692  |
| Calendar Printing & Shipping          | \$1,346  |
| MOGH Concept Drawings                 | \$1,200  |
| Misc. Postage (Membership/Promotions) | \$625    |



|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Paypal Fees                            | \$296    |
| MOGH Promotional Items                 | \$246    |
| Coupons for Pre-Reg Packages           | \$200    |
| Filing Fees (Nevada State Transfer)    | \$180    |
| Replacement Bulb for Projector         | \$177    |
| MOGH Website                           | \$150    |
| Misc. Supplies (General Club Business) | \$115    |
| Convention Supplies                    | \$105    |
| Auction Payments                       | \$90     |
| Insurance                              | \$75     |
| Telephone                              | \$50     |
| Promotions                             | \$44     |
| Total Period Expenses                  | \$16,853 |

**Period Account Balance Reconciliation  
(Thru 03/31/11)**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Total balance in all accounts as of 01/01/11 | \$247,260  |
| Revenue for the Period thru 03/31/11         | \$39,194   |
| Expenses for the Period thru 03/31/11        | (\$16,853) |
| Balance of all accounts as of 03/31/11       | \$269,601  |

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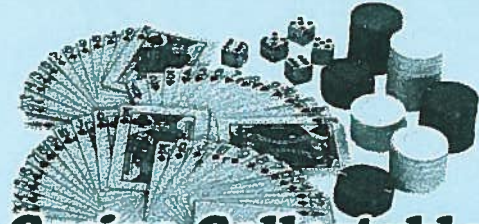
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Phone or Fax: 847-540-7790 E-Mail: sales@directordercenter.com  
CC&GTCC LM 172

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







# Of Literary Note

by the club Librarian, John K. Kallman

P.O. Box 122

Sartell, MN 56377

librarian@ccgtcc.com

It is always far too easy to place people into pigeon holes, but gambling seems to either attract two type of people: those who shy away from the camera lens and headlines (think unlicensed operations); and those who in an effort to promote their activity; seek out the limelight. Howard Hughes easily falls into both categories!

Whatever the reason, being a phobia of one sort or the other or fear of process servers, he stayed as far away as one can while actually living in Las Vegas at the same time being one its biggest casino owner at the same time. Yet, at the same time, this larger than life garnered his fare share of publicity before, during, and after his tenure there. The club is quite lucky in a small but growing number of books related to this magnetic individual with a book being added both last and this installment as well.

Last time around, the Howard Hughes book was: *Howard Hughes in Las Vegas* by Omar Garrison. This of course covers the period that Mr. Hughes was actually in Las Vegas and was written while Mr. Hughes was still there, although parts of the book tend to indicate that he might not have actually spent the entire time holed up in his hotel room. The book does cover some of the activities preceding his arrival his there. The book closes with the speculation that he may have already departed.

This time around, the book is: *The Hidden Years* by James Phelan. While this book covers a long period of time than the previous book, it is much smaller in both length as well as “new” details.

Both books rehash much old news, the first book was, to me, the more entertaining of the two, told in a much more breezy style with some “new” information as well as additional details on some of the “old” news.

Mike Awbrey donated:

- *Howard Hughes: The Hidden Year* by James Phelan
- *Complete Guide to Gambling* by John Scarne

Richard (Dick) Staeffler donated:

- *C.T. Coins Supply Catalog for 2002, Nevada Chip Price List for 1999 and 2002*
- *Casino Collectible Magazine Sales & Inventory Catalogue – 2001*
- *Scott Hartman Chip Catalogue & Reference Guide – 1999*
- *B&V Catalog of Nevada Gaming Tokens*
- *Gaming Table Revised Edition*  
by Myers, Wheelden and Knapp
- *Janice O’Neal’s Check List of Chips /Tokens for Colorado, South Dakota and Miscellaneous*
- *Janice O’Neal’s Check List of Nevada Tokens (Casino, Bar, Store)*
- *Janice O’Neal’s Check List of Indian and Riverboat Tokens*
- *Guide to Colorado Chips and Tokens – 7th Edition, June 2003, by Allen Banick*
- *North Dakota Charity Chips* by John Kallman
- *Eastman’s Illustrated Guide to California Card Room And Indian Gaming Chips & Checks*
- *Cruise Ships and their Chips* by Patty Smith and John Long
- *The Casino Chips of Washington State* by Steve Goodrich, 2nd Edition
- *The Casino Chips of Washington State* by Steve Goodrich, 3rd Edition
- *Black’s Catalog of Atlantic City Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens, 2003*



# CONVENTION 2011

by Dave and Debbie Harber, Convention Co-Chairs

Summer brings the scorching heat to the Las Vegas valley and more importantly it also means that it is convention time once again. Things will be heating up both outside and inside the South Point Hotel and Casino when the 19th Annual CC&GTCC Convention once again takes place between June 22nd and 25th.

This year we are having a theme of Patriotism/Americana. So get out your red, white and blue, those American Flag socks you haven't worn since the 70's or your Uncle Sam top hat and make plans on attending this year. We've got lots of great things planned with over 85 dealer tables of merchandise, educational seminars, our banquet, gaming tournaments, auction and most importantly getting together with fellow gaming collectible enthusiasts to trade memorabilia, stories and friendship.



If you've attended the convention over the last two years you already know the South Point is a fantastic property. Besides the extraordinary casino floor, great restaurants, pools, spa, showroom and everything you'd expect in a first rate Las Vegas casino, there is also a 16-screen movie theater, a 64 lane bowling alley and state of the art equestrian center/arena for when you want to take a little break from gaming collectible overload.

The South Point still sells out almost every weekend usually at \$120+/night so we were very happy to secure favorable room rates of just \$49.00 for Sunday through Thursday and only \$89.00 for Friday and Saturday. Be sure to book your room as soon as possible as our room block slams shut on May 27th (or until our block is full, whichever comes first). Tell the reservation agent that you are with our club or just use this code when booking: CCG0617. The South Point has a toll free reservation line so give 'em a call at 866-791-7626. These rooms are worth every penny. Each room comes with a 42" plasma flat screen TV and Point Plush mattresses. WiFi is available to stay up to date with The Chip Board or your eBay auctions.

Remember, by booking and staying at our host hotel you are

supporting YOUR club. Those room nights are crucially important in keeping our facility costs down and definitely help in our negotiations for future convention space in the years to come. There will also be special drawings throughout the day that can ONLY be won by those in our room block. Support our club, stay in a great room and have quick and easy access to all of the convention action.

Want to know how else you can help? Volunteer! Spend a few hours during the seminar helping out with registration, at the promotions table, at the membership table, or even setting up or tearing down the show floor. Belinda Hixon is coordinating the volunteer help and can be contacted at [txbel711@aol.com](mailto:txbel711@aol.com).

Besides securing your room and transportation to the South Point, you'll also want to pre-register in order to get early admission to the show floor and a script chip to use at your favorite dealer's table. You can do this on the club website at [www.ccgfcc.com](http://www.ccgfcc.com).

In order to pick up your pre-registration packet you will need a photo ID and show up in person on Wednesday June 22nd between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm as well as during regular registration desk hours on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. No pre-registration packets will be mailed out, they MUST be picked up in person by each attendee. There is no show entry fee for children under 12 years of age and they do not need to pre-register. But if they are attending please provide their names and ages so we can prepare a special age appropriate junior collectors packet for them.

Your pre-registration packet will include your show badge, banquet tickets if you are attending, poker and blackjack tournament confirmations if you are participating, as well as coupons, freebies and give-aways.

The early bird banquet and trade session will kick off our convention at 5:30 pm on Wednesday. If you'd like to join in the fun of the theme you'll want to show off your patriotism. There will be prizes for the best themed costume and you're going to love the all-American BBQ menu that we have planned. This is not a formal event but we do request that everyone wear business casual. Despite the 100+ degree temperature outside, the banquet is not a place to show up in flip-flops, shorts or tank-tops.

All banquet attendees MUST be club members. If you plan on bringing a guest make sure you sign them up for membership BEFORE the banquet. There won't be an opportunity to sign up





on Wednesday prior to the opening of the exhibit hall on Thursday morning.

Besides the great meal and awards we also have a fantastic keynote speaker that you won't want to miss. At the conclusion of the banquet at 8:00 pm we invite you to stick around for the giant trade session. Bring what you can carry, but remember this is a time to trade and have fun, this is not an appropriate venue to sell or buy.

On Thursday morning the fun will kick into high gear with the opening of the exhibit hall at 9:30 am to those that pre-registered. The show floor will open at 10:00 am for all others. Besides the many dealers that will have their tables jam packed full of every casino collectible imaginable you'll also want to spend some time browsing the exhibits. Fellow club members have spent many hours in order to share aspects of their own collections with you. Be sure to vote for your favorite exhibit.

This year the Bruce Landau Memorial Auction has been moved to Thursday night and always proves to be one of the highlights of the convention. Auction Chair David Spragg has put together a great group of lots that can be viewed on the show floor prior to the opening gavel by golden throated auctioneer Tyrus Mulkey. Auction catalogs can be purchased by contacting David Spragg through the club website. In the past I've been told that some members don't attend because they believe there are only high end, very valuable chips being auctioned but this couldn't be further from the truth. There are many lower and medium priced lots available as well as non-chip gaming collectibles. Swing by the auction table on the show floor during the day Thursday to see what can be won should you be the lucky highest bidder.

Our very own Educational Director, Sheldon Smith has lined up four seminars: two on Thursday and two on Friday

at 9:00 am and 3:00 pm respectively. You can read all about the content of these presentations in this issue of the *Casino Collectible News*.

Our table game tournaments will once again be held at the host hotel. The Blackjack Tournament will be on Wednesday afternoon and the Poker Tournament on Friday evening. You can get all the details on these tournaments on page 14 and 15. You can sign up for both tournaments on the registration form. PLEASE NOTE, due to recent gaming regulation changes payment for the tournaments MUST be made by check and mailed in with your registration form. No online payments for the tournaments can be accepted. Member players can also sign up at the convention for the Poker Challenge if there are any seats available. The cost for the two tournaments remains the same, \$70.00 for Blackjack and \$90.00 for Poker entries. For more details or specific questions contact the tournament director Bob Pardue at [robert.pardue@cox.net](mailto:robert.pardue@cox.net).

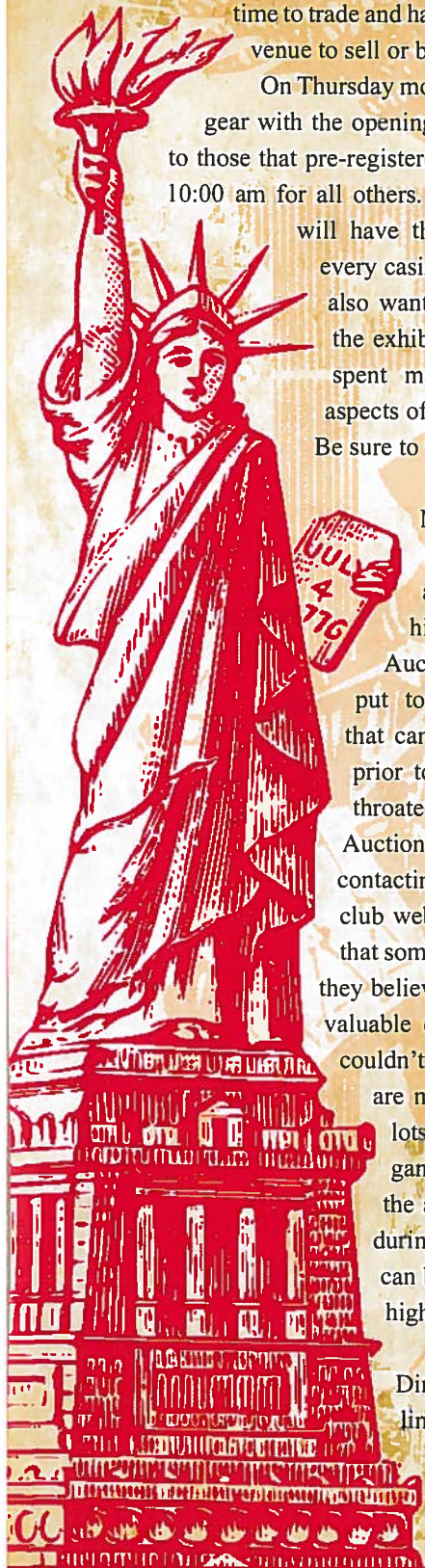
We have several trade sessions scheduled throughout the four days. Be sure to check the signage and your convention program for times and locations. Bring a few trading binders but again keep in mind that currency is not to trade hands during trading sessions. Those that are selling will be asked to leave the trade sessions. Make sure you wear your convention badge as it is a requirement for all attendees.

The final trade session, called the Last Dance, will be held at 7:00 pm on Saturday July 25th. It will run until the last two traders call it quits. This will be your last chance to acquire that final convention piece for your collection.

Be sure to check the show schedules and signage for the latest up-to-date times and locations for all the events. If you have specific questions you can stop by the club table right inside the entrance door on the show floor. You can also check the club site or the special "un-official" show site at [www.Convention2011.com](http://www.Convention2011.com) for more up-to-date info.

So remember... get your hotel registration at South Point in the club block, pre-register, arrange to volunteer a few hours, plan accordingly to attend the tournaments, seminars, trade sessions, auction and tournaments but most of all have fun! This is your club, your vacation and your convention all because of OUR great hobby.

And if you can't make it this year be sure to get June 20th-23rd 2012 on your calendar when we'll be celebrating our 20th annual convention once again at the beautiful South Point. It's bound to be the biggest and best convention ever!







## CONVENTION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY – JUNE 22nd, 2011

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 9:00 AM            | REGISTRATION OPENS – DEALERS AND MEMBERS   |
| 9:00 AM            | GENERAL TRADE SESSION (9 AM to 4 PM) – TRADE SESSION – NO SALES<br>REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY |
| 9:00 AM            | DEALER SET UP BEGINS – GRAND BALLROOM<br>DEALER CREDENTIALS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY                           |
| 12 NOON            | 9th, ANNUAL BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT – CASINO FLOOR  |
| 4:00 PM            | PRE-REGISTRATION & BANQUET TICKET PICK-UP CLOSES   |
| 5:00 PM            | DEALER SET UP CLOSES   |
| 5:30 PM            | EARLY BIRD BANQUET – SONOMA A&B<br>TICKETED EVENT – ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY                                |
| 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM | MEMBER TRADE SESSION OPENS – NAPA A<br>REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY                             |

## 2ND ANNUAL GREG SUSONG MEMORIAL GET TOGETHER

**At Garduños inside  
The Palms Casino  
on Tuesday  
June 21st, 2011  
at 6:00 PM**



**If you plan on  
attending e-mail  
your name and  
guest names to  
Allan McCurdy at  
[annallan@aol.com](mailto:annallan@aol.com)**





# CONVENTION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY – JUNE 23rd, 2011

- 7:00 AM DEALER SETUP CONTINUES – GRAND BALLROOM  
DEALER CREDENTIALS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY
- 9:00 AM REGISTRATION OPENS
- 9:00 AM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A  
“THE NEW CHIPGUIDE”  
PRESENTED BY MR. CHARLES KAPLAN
- 9:30 AM EARLY ADMISSION FOR PRE-REGISTERED MEMBERS  
GRAND BALLROOM
- 10:00 AM OPENING CEREMONIES – 2011 SHOW BEGINS  
GRAND BALLROOM
- 11:00 AM OTY (Of the Year) AWARDS  
GRAND BALLROOM
- 3:00 PM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A  
“I CAN HEAR THE APPLAUSE”  
PRESENTED BY MS. LISA MEDFORD & CO-AUTHOR MS. JEANNE GULBRANSON
- 4:00 PM SILVER STRIKE FORUM – SONOMA A
- 4:30 PM SHOW FLOOR ENTRANCE CLOSED – EXIT ONLY
- 5:00 PM SHOW IN RECESS TILL 10:00 AM FRIDAY
- 5:00 PM SILVER STRIKE MEETING – SONOMA A
- 6:00 PM SHOW FLOOR SECURED
- 6:30 PM BRUCE LANDAU MEMORIAL AUCTION – SONOMA A
- 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM GENERAL TRADE SESSION – NAPA A  
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY





# CONVENTION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY – JUNE 24th, 2011

- 8:00 AM DEALERS WITH CREDENTIALS MAY ENTER SHOWROOM
- 9:00 AM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A  
“THE ARUBA CARIBBEAN HOTEL AND CASINO”  
PRESENTED BY MR. RALPH POLLACK
- 9:30 AM REGISTRATION OPENS
- 9:30 AM EARLY ADMISSION FOR PRE-REGISTERED MEMBERS  
GRAND BALLROOM
- 10:00 AM SHOW FLOOR OPENS TO MEMBERS – GRAND BALLROOM
- 10:00 AM CARIBBEAN CASINO COLLECTIBLES CLUB MEETING – NAPA A
- 11:00 AM FLORIDA COLLECTORS CLUB MEETING – NAPA A
- 12:00 NOON HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE MEETING – NAPA A
- 1:00 PM TICKET IN/TICKET OUT (TITO) MEETING – NAPA A
- 3:00 PM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A  
“THE HISTORY OF THE HOBBY & CHIP CHAT”  
PRESENTED BY MR. DOUG SAITO
- 3:30 PM SHOW FLOOR ENTRANCE CLOSED – EXIT ONLY
- 4:00 PM SHOW IN RECESS UNTIL 10:00 AM SATURDAY
- 5:00 PM SHOW FLOOR SECURED
- 6:00 PM 13th ANNUAL POKER CHALLENGE – BRUNSWICK ROOM
- 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM GENERAL TRADE SESSION – NAPA A  
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY





 **CONVENTION SCHEDULE**   
SATURDAY – JUNE 25th, 2011

- 8:00 AM DEALERS WITH CREDENTIALS MAY ENTER SHOW FLOOR
- 8:00 AM CLUBS PRESIDENTS MEETING – NAPA A
- 9:00 AM ANNUAL CC&GTCC BUSINESS MEETING – SONOMA A
- 9:30 AM REGISTRATION OPENS
- 10:00 AM SHOW FLOOR OPENS TO MEMBERS – GRAND BALLROOM
- 12:00 NOON EXHIBIT AWARDS – EXHIBIT AREA
- 3:30 PM SHOW ENTRANCE CLOSED – EXIT ONLY
- 4:00 PM 2011 SHOW CLOSSES – SEE YOU NEXT YEAR
- 6:00 PM ALL DEALERS MUST VACATE SHOW FLOOR
- 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM “LAST DANCE” TRADE SESSION – NAPA A
- 7:00 PM SECOND ANNUAL SEYMOUR ANTIQUE CHIP CODE SESSION – NAPA A

\*\*\* TIMES & LOCATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK SCHEDULE AT CONVENTION.







# EARLY BIRD BANQUET



WEDNESDAY – JUNE 22nd, 2011

5:30 PM – SONOMA A&B

## Keynote Speaker - Jeffrey Silver



As Chairman of the Administrative, Gaming and Government Affairs Department of Gordon Silver, Jeffrey A. Silver has been involved in every aspect of gaming, licensing and regulatory law. He served as a former Clark County Chief Deputy District Attorney in the White Collar Crimes Division and was the resident member in charge of Las Vegas office for the Nevada

State Gaming Control Board during the State's tumultuous period of developing regulatory oversight. He also held positions at various resort hotels, such as COO and General Counsel for the Landmark Hotel & Casino, President of the Riviera Hotel & Casino and Sr. Vice President of Marketing for Caesars Palace.

Mr. Silver is regularly listed as one of Nevada's pre-eminent gaming law practitioners by "Chambers USA", "America's Leading Lawyers for Business", "Mountain States Super Lawyers", and Woodward & White's "Best Lawyers in America" where he has also been recognized for his work in Administrative Law and Zoning Law. Mr. Silver holds the highest "A-V" classification issued by Martindale-Hubbell, an independent attorney rating service.

Mr. Silver is an active member in several professional organizations including his former leadership roles as Trustee and President of the International Association of Gaming Advisors ("IAGA"), where he currently serves as a "Counselor." He is Past-

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the American Bar Association's Gaming Law Committee. He has published articles in journals sponsored by many of these organizations. Mr. Silver has spoken at numerous IAGA, ABA, State Bar Associations, Nevada Society of Certified Public Accountants conferences and has testified before the Nevada Legislature and U. S. Congressional sub-committees on gaming law matters.

A long time Nevadan, Mr. Silver is regularly involved in community and civic affairs. He previously served as Trustee and then Chairman of the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, Director and Secretary-Treasurer of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, Boulder Dam Area Counsel of Boy Scouts, William McCool Science Center Foundation and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Current activities include service on the Chamber's Insurance and Benefit's LLC Board and a Board Member for the non-profit Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement, now under development in Downtown Las Vegas.

Mr. Silver is a member of the Nevada and California (inactive) Bars having received his Juris Doctorate from the University of San Diego and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Northwestern University. Mr. Silver has also qualified as a Certified Public Accountant in Nevada and California (both now inactive). He is authorized to practice law before all Nevada courts, the U.S. Tax Court, the U.S. District Court for Nevada and the United States Supreme Court.





## EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



**Thursday, June 23rd,  
9:00 AM - SONOMA A  
Mr. Charles Kaplan  
"The New ChipGuide"**

The ChipGuide, developed by Greg Susong, was the definitive on-line catalog for casino chips from Riverboat and Indian casinos in the United States. With Greg's passing the ChipGuide was donated to the Museum of Gaming History and has begun a transformation.

There are many new features, new venues added, and new types of casino collectibles added to the ChipGuide catalog. And there is more to come.

Spend an hour with the ChipGuide Administrators, the experts who keep the ChipGuide up to date, and learn about everything that is new. Even if you are an experienced user, you are guaranteed to learn something that will make using the ChipGuide easier, more powerful and enjoyable. And you will have the opportunity to influence future enhancements with your creative ideas and requirements. This is a must attend seminar for all collectors.

Charles Kaplan, LM-115-48, is the President of the Caribbean Casino Collectors Club, President of the Atlantic City Casino Collectibles Club, Museum of Gaming History webmaster, ChipGuide webmaster, Caribbean ChipGuide webmaster, CC&GTCC convention volunteer, and frequently provides articles for the Casino Collectibles News.

Charles is a casino chip collector who specializes in the Caribbean, obsolete \$1 Nevada chips, and \$1 chips from everywhere

# HUGE CHIP SALE

**Hundred's of Chips at  
50% Off  
Chip Rack Value**

**Las Vegas and All of Nevada**

**SEE NATE AT TABLES 50 & 51**

**Nate Pincus**

**nate@chipcollector.com • (610) 507-1115**





## EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



**Thursday, June 23rd,  
3:00 PM – SONOMA A  
Ms. Lisa Medford and  
Co-Author Ms. Jeanne  
Gulbranson  
“I Can Hear the  
Applause”**

Lisa Medford has had a varied career, as an actress, and a member of the Screen Actor’s Guild, Lisa had a contract with Warner Brothers and appeared in “Nevada Smith” with Steve McQueen. In addition to acting, Lisa established a film production and distribution company, specializing in television documentaries, industrial training films and Public Service Radio ads. Her projects filmed not only domestically but also internationally, in China, Korea and Taiwan. Her client base included the Department of

Defense, the National Rifle Association, UPS and television stars and other celebrities such as Lee Majors, Kareem Abdul Jabar and Bob Hope. Lisa earned an Emmy nomination as TV Producer for an ABC documentary, “All Things Being Equal” and is a current member of the Director Guild of America.

In addition to acting and directing, Lisa was also a freelance photojournalist with feature articles in Variety and the Hollywood Reporter trade magazine. She has the dubious distinction of being shot by the Russians while a reporter and film technology instructor in Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1968.

But, of all the activities and acclaim that Lisa has earned in her multi-faceted career, she is probably best known for being Las Vegas’ first nude showgirl.

Lisa began her career in “old” Vegas and she serves as an unofficial historian of the city’s casinos – some long gone, but definitely not forgotten; some still operating but unaware of their proud history. Lisa Medford knows Vegas and the characters who have added to its character.

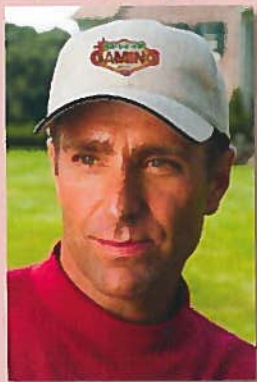
## Museum of Gaming History

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



*Dedicated to the preservation and education of Gaming History*

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



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

Visit the Museum of Gaming History at [www.themogh.org](http://www.themogh.org).  
The on-line museum has many great features including “This Week in Gaming History”,  
On line videos, plus, 1000’s of photos and scans are being loaded.





## EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



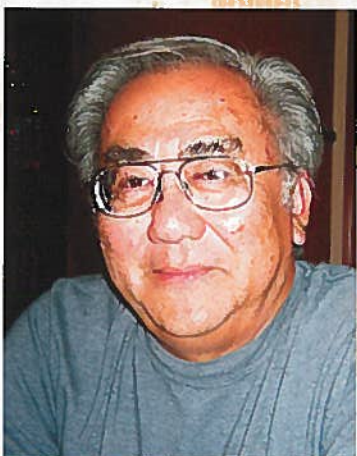
**Friday, June 24th,  
9:00 AM – SONOMA A  
Mr. Ralph Pollock  
“The Aruba Caribbean  
Hotel and Casino”**

Ralph Pollack has been an active member since 1992 of CC&GTCC with R-749, and became one of the first lifetime members with No. 13. Ralph is an avid collector of Las Vegas fractional chips. He travels extensively in the Caribbean to

gather vital historical information where no public records exist. Ralph started Dartmouth Chip Exchange in 1995, buying and selling Caribbean and Nevada chips. Ralph has donated several

copies of his books to the CC&GTCC library for member use. He is constantly contacted as expert resource in history of Caribbean Casinos. He is also constantly asked to authenticate chips of the Caribbean. Ralph Pollack continues to recruit new members for the CC&GTCC. Ralph is also Co-charter member of Caribbean Casino Collectibles Club (“CCCC”). Issued member number R-001.

At the 1998 Convention, Ralph received the “Code Standardization Workshop” award presented “in recognition of his valuable volunteer service to help make the 1998 CC&GTCC Convention a tremendous success” At the 2001 Convention, he was awarded “The Best Book of the Year for 2001” “in recognition of his dedication to the hobby and for publishing “Casinos of Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, St. Maarten, and Suriname The Dutch Caribbean.”



**Friday, June 24th,  
3:00 PM – SONOMA A  
Mr. Doug Saito  
“The History of the  
Hobby and Chip Chat”**

Born in 1946. Still living. Because of chips, Doug has been jobless since 1991. Like others, he’s a self-proclaimed expert on casino chips, helped immensely by old-timers in the hobby, like Harvey Fuller, Phil

Jensen, Bruce Landau, et al, et al, et al.

The subject of Doug’s Seminar will be The History of The Hobby. This seminar is free for all attendees and it’s a shame that there’s no charge for speaker’s fees. It promises to be entertaining, educating and enlightening, so long as Doug Dust shall live. What made our hobby today and what our hobby might become, that’s what Doug will deliver. Meantime, enjoy the Convention.

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

#### **Visit the Greg Susong Digital Media Center!**

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



# CC&GTCC 2011 Blackjack Tournament • South Point Hotel Casino Wednesday June 22, 2011 12:00 noon

## General Info

The 2011 CC&GTCC Blackjack Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. This is the 9th annual Blackjack Tournament the club has sponsored. Pre-registration for the Blackjack tournament is encouraged -- see club magazine or website for details. Walk-up entries and re-entries will be accepted on the day of the tournament as well, based on space available.

Tournament chips are NOT part of the tournament package this year, but commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

## Time & Place

Wednesday afternoon, June 22, 2011 – 12:00 noon to approx. 5:00 pm at South Point Casino Resort – casino floor. See specific schedule below.

## Entry info

Entry fee: \$70 per player. Open to current CC&GTCC members and associate members only. (Age 21+ of course.) Maximum 54 players in 3-table format; may be expanded up to 6-tables and 108 players ONLY IF sufficient pre-registration. Each player receives 3,000 in NCV tournament chips each round. Bet limits: 25 minimum / 3000 maximum.

## Prize pool

\$45\* per player goes to prize pool and \$25 to South Point for hosting the tournament. \* 3% of prize pool held for tournament staff.

## Prizes

Final round players win the following portion of the net prize pool: 1st place - 40%, 2nd- 25%, 3rd - 15%, 4th - 10%, 5th - 7%, 6th - 3%.

## BJ Tournament Format

Up to three preliminary rounds, followed by 1 semi-final round, followed by 1 final round. Players will be scheduled to play in one of the preliminary rounds (12:00 noon, 1:00 pm or 2:00 pm). If you do not advance to the semi-final round on your first try, re-entries into the 1:00 pm or 2:00 pm initial rounds will be accepted if space available, at \$70 per re-entry; the 2:00 pm round may be cancelled if warranted. **Semi-final round begins immediately after the last preliminary round finishes and Final round begins immediately after the semi-final round finishes... so if you advance to the next round, remain available for the next round!! Each round starts promptly. Late players will be disqualified. No refunds for no-shows.**

**Preliminary rounds:** Three-table format, but may be expanded to up to 6 tables. Five to 6 players at each table, depending on number of entries. Players may be moved to balance tables. First preliminary round starts at 12:00 Noon. Same format for 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm. The FIRST and SECOND place players with the most chips from EACH table advance to the semi-final round.

**Semi-final round:** Three-table format, but may be expanded up to 6 tables. Four to 6 players each, depending on total number of advancing players in initial rounds. The FIRST place player from each semi-final table advances to the final round; if 3 or fewer semi-final tables, both FIRST and SECOND place players will advance to the final round.

**Final round:** 1 table with up to 6 players. Final position based on order of elimination. For players with chips remaining at end of final round, the final order of finish will be determined by chip count.

## Tournament play

Each round begins with each player receiving 3,000 in NCV chips. Betting limits: 25 to 3,000 anytime. Players make betting decisions in turn for each hand, with "chung" marker at first-base player for first hand. Chung moves clockwise each hand, so new player acts first each time. Open play for the first twenty (20) minutes, then five more additional hands will be played at each table before play ends. Set bets in turn. Maximum of 1 minute per player to make betting decision.

Blackjack Tournament will use multiple decks, up to 6-deck shoe, with cards dealt face up. Dealer must hit soft 17. Blackjack pays 2-to-1. Double down on any two initial cards. Split any pair, resplit to total of 4 hands. Resplit aces to total of 4 hands if additional ace(s) dealt immediately. Double down after split permitted. Surrender permitted, rounded to nearest 25-unit chip. (Example: 75 bet surrenders 50; 100 surrenders 50; 125 surrenders 75, etc.)

## Additional tournament rules

One player per hand -- No coaching from other players or spectators. Must leave table when no chips remain. All standard South Point 21 rules apply. If there is a tie between two contestants who may advance to the next round, one (1) card will be dealt in normal order to each contestant. High card dealt will determine who will advance to the next round. (Ace high, deuce low.) All disputes resolved by the South Point tournament representative whose decision is final. All decisions will be based on normal house rules. Any extenuating circumstance will be based on the fairness for all participants. **And finally, absolutely NO harvesting tournament chips!**



# CC&GTCC 2011 Poker Tournament • South Point Hotel Casino Friday June 24, 2011 at 6:00 pm

## General Info

The 2011 CC&GTCC Poker Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. The tournament format will be No-limit Hold'em again this year. This is the 13th annual Poker Tournament the club has sponsored. Pre-registration for the Poker tournament is encouraged -- see club magazine or website for details. Additional entries on the day of the tournament will be accepted if space available. Wait-listed players will be seated in the tournament during the first hour, if seats become available.

Tournament chips are NOT part of the tournament package this year, but commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

## Time & Place

Friday evening, June 24, 2011, beginning at 6:00 pm in the Poker Room at South Point Hotel Casino. Depending on the number of players, the tournament may last 4 to 5 hours or so.

## Entry info

Entry fee: \$90 per player. (No optional rebuys or add-ons.) This is a PRIVATE TOURNAMENT -- Open to current CC&GTCC members and associate members ONLY. (Age 21+ of course.) Maximum 130 players (13 tables with 10 seats per table). Each player receives 2,500 in NCV tournament chips for entry fee.

## Prize pool

\$60 of each player entry goes into prize pool\* and \$30 to South Point for hosting the tournament. \*3% of prize pool held for tournament staff.

## Prizes

Prize pool distribution: the final 12 players split the prize pool based on a declining percentage. Distribution: 38%, 18%, 12%, 9%, 6%, 4%, 3% for 1st through 7th places, and 2% each for 8th through 12th place.

## Poker Tournament Format

No-limit Texas Hold'em. Start with 2,500 in tournament chips. No rebuys. Blinds start at 25-25; ante added in later rounds. Limits increased every 15 minutes of play. Minimum bet and raise increments equal to big-blind unless all-in. Tables & seats assigned as registered. Tables will be consolidated periodically throughout the tournament. Finalists will be paid in the order of finish.

No refunds for no-shows. No-show chips will be blinded off, then picked up after 40 minutes of play if no player.

## Tournament Play

South Point Poker Room tournament rules for this type of tournament will apply. Seat assignments, table combinations, rulings on play, etc. according to Tournament Director whose decision is final. Also...***Absolutely NO HARVESTING tournament chips.***



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# Jamestown, North Dakota American Legion

By John K. Kallman

The American Legion post located at 116 1st Street East in Jamestown, North Dakota has been closed for some time. But we do know it was operating at that address in the early 1990's. Since that time the building has been host to several other tenants, among them:

|                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 09/28/1998 to 06/30/1999 | Elks Lodge No. 995              |
| 07/08/1999 to 06/30/2000 | Eagles No 2337                  |
| 08/23/2000 to 06/30/2007 | Vets Club, Inc.                 |
| 08/09/2007 to 06/30/2008 | Knights of Columbus No 1883     |
| 07/01/2008 to 06/30/2011 | North Dakota Buffalo Foundation |

Dates listed here are those for approved gaming activities and do not necessarily represent actual dates of occupation for those organizations.

The American Legion has never held a state gaming license, but held at least two legal gaming events at the 116 1st Street East

location. The games were conducted by Alpha Opportunities, Inc. on 02/21/1992 and Progress Enterprises, Inc. on 03/23 and 03/24/1991.

The Knights of Columbus, the North Dakota Buffalo Foundation, and the Vets Club have all issued a number of chips related to charitable gaming over the years. I currently show no known chips from the Elks, nor the Eagles.

Chips without denominations can be used for a variety of purposes other than gambling. Given the mold on the following chips, one thing is for certain, whatever they were used for was well before charitable gambling was authorized! With nearly 1,000 chips total between the Triangle and Wreath mold, it is highly unlikely that these were used for "drinks" or other such things.

There appears to have been at least one re-order of both the White and Yellow Wreath Mold chips as there are two different fonts noted on the "14".







In addition to these clay chips, some plastic chips also originate from this establishment, with at least three different varieties noted to date:





# Casino Collectible News



## Website

The Casino Collectible News website has archived articles from 1988, when it started out as a newsletter, through the years as The Casino Chip and Token News magazine to the current Casino Collectible News magazine. All PDF's are optimized for easy downloading. If you have any requests for articles contact Allan Anderson, CCN webmaster, at [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net).

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Welcome to the Casino Collectible News magazine website, formerly the Casino Chip and Token News magazine, a quarterly publication of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. On this site you will find featured stories from current and past issues as well as some complete issues from 2000. All older articles, including the original newsletters, are being uploaded on a weekly basis.

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The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club was established to promote the hobby of casino chip collecting. Since those early days, members now collect just about anything that a casino has to offer. From chips, tokens, silver strikes, slot cards, room keys to cocktail napkins and swizzle sticks. Our annual convention in Las Vegas draws sellers and buyers from all over the world. There are also many shows throughout the year all over the country sponsored by local clubs or club members. For more information on the club, click on the logo.

The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. is a member of The American Numismatic Association.

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ChipGuide.com is a database that identifies casino chips from 36 states.

**Chip Guide.com**

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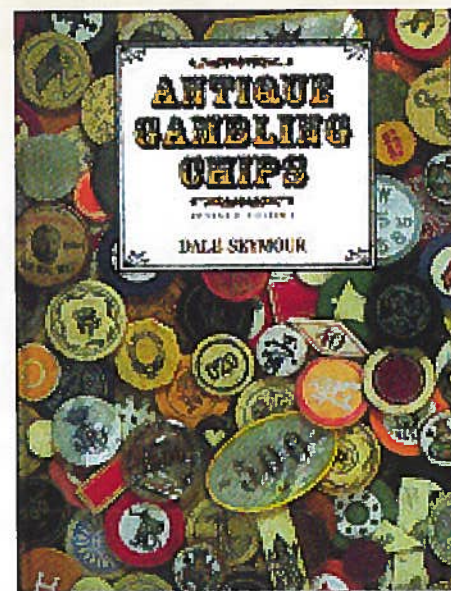


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From

STAR

to

DUST

CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH

# HISTORICAL TIDBITS OF THE STARDUST HOTEL & CASINO

by Jim Steffner





A vast expanse of desolate desert stretching as far as the eye can see. The only noise is the wind and the only movement is tumbling tumbleweed. Long before the Stardust was even a thought, a man who would change the desert sand into concrete was on his way.

**F**ar away, in a small town in Italy, Anthony Cornero Stralla was born on August 18, 1899. His parents, after losing their farm in a card game, set out for America with Anthony (then age 5), his two sisters, and two brothers. By age 30, Tony Cornero, aka Tony Stralla, was very successful financially (he was a millionaire) in the rum-running business he ran along with his two brothers, Frank and Lewis. On May 3, 1931 after finishing a prison term for liquor smuggling in California, he, along with Frank and Lewis as front men, opened the Meadows Club, a fancy



and his associates, Myer Lansky and mobster Frank Costello, strongly requested a percentage of the profits. Cornero refused, and the hotel portion somehow burned to the ground several months after opening in September 1931. The city fire department did respond but did not act since the club was outside city limits. After rebuilding in February 1932, they leased the casino to three associates: Guido Marchetti, H.H. Switzer, and Frank Miller. After Boulder Dam was completed, the number of gambling clientele dropped drastically as many left town. The Meadows closed in 1936.

Tony went on to operate three gambling ships off the coast of California between 1934 and 1946: the S.S. Rex, with Wilbur Clark



*The Meadows Club. Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.*

dress-up carpet joint near present-day East Charleston and Boulder Highway. The 30 acres of land cost Tony \$10.00 per acre and it took \$31,000 to build the Meadows. The Meadows contained a small hotel, a showroom that hosted three shows nightly, and an elegant restaurant. Tony even built a small landing strip so patrons could fly in. The brothers would soon sell the 25-room hotel portion to Alex Richmond, a Southern California hotel owner, but retain the casino and ballroom. The Meadows was so successful that Cornero caught the attention of the syndicate. Charles "Lucky" Luciano, boss of the New York crime family,



*S.S. Rex Matchbook.*

as an investor, the S.S. Lux, also known as Bunker Hill, and the S.S. Tango. Tony battled with the Feds almost constantly over the legality of his ships which were

in international waters. In the end, the Feds won out by enforcing a maritime law that required ships to have engines.

Returning to Las Vegas in 1944, Tony opened the S.S. Rex Casino in the Apache Hotel on Fremont Street. He leased the casino space from Orlando Silvagni, builder



*Tony Cornero (second from left) at a craps table at an unknown location.*





of the Apache Hotel. Orlando ran into licensing trouble because of his association with Cornero and the operation was closed several months later. Tony tried to set up casino operations in Mexico but was greeted one night at his home by a gunman and was shot four times. The message was delivered, but he survived.



*The S.S. Rex Club in downtown Las Vegas occupied the building that is now Binion's.*

In 1954, Tony saw the light—the Starlight, that is: the dream of opening his own casino on a grand scale. He purchased 40 acres on Highway 91 just north of the location of the Last Frontier and started construction of “Tony Cornero’s Starlight.” Tony wanted a casino for the masses, not something overly fancy like the Desert Inn, Sands, or Flamingo. He planned to charge \$5.00 for a room and give the guest \$5.00 back to use for gambling. Tony even planned to have his own railway station on the Union Pacific tracks that ran near the back of his property by the Motor Vu Drive-In theatre. The name of the casino was soon changed to the Stardust and Tony sold hundreds of shares of stock in his new venture, the Stardust Company, raising \$6 million of the needed \$10 million. He reportedly sold the same shares over and over to different people. Cornero retained 60% of the stock for himself as majority stockholder. The problem was that he forgot to register the company and he was ordered to stop selling the shares. Tony knew he would have trouble obtaining a casino license so he struck a management deal with Milton “Farmer” Page who had a license as owner of the Pioneer Club on Fremont Street in downtown Las Vegas. Tony had grandiose ideas for his new venture including convention and meeting space, retail and recreation, top line entertainment, and



luxury at down-to-earth prices. Guests would enjoy air-conditioned rooms and the largest theatre on the strip, with 700 seats.

Even after selling shares and borrowing from the mob, his dream was still shaky—while the Stardust was about 70% complete, Tony had no money left to fill the slot machines or even put liquor behind the bars. Already in debt for \$6 million, Tony again met with Moe Dalitz who ran the Desert Inn and was a syndicate connection for financing; alas, after hours of talks, no more money was provided to complete the \$3 million project. Tony even talked to Dalitz about leasing the casino operation to the Desert Inn, but Tony was over a barrel and in no place to even negotiate. Dalitz had already made sure Tony would never get a gaming license in Nevada or anywhere else. At age 55, on a fateful July 13th in 1955, Tony’s dream would come to a heart-stopping end. Tony was shooting dice at the Desert Inn and was down \$10,000—money he should have been using across the street for his beloved project. He took a drink and fell over, dead. Publically, he died of a massive heart attack, but privately, the speculation was that he was poisoned. That will never be known as the glass he drank from was quickly whisked away and washed, and no autopsy was performed. More than 500 people attended Tony’s funeral in Los Angeles where mourners sang his favorite song, “The Wabash Cannonball.” He was buried at Inglewood Park Cemetery. Tony’s entire estate consisted of \$800 he had in his pocket.



The 1943 film *Mr. Lucky*, Cary Grant portrayed “Joe ‘The Greek’ Adams”, a character loosely based on Tony Cornero.



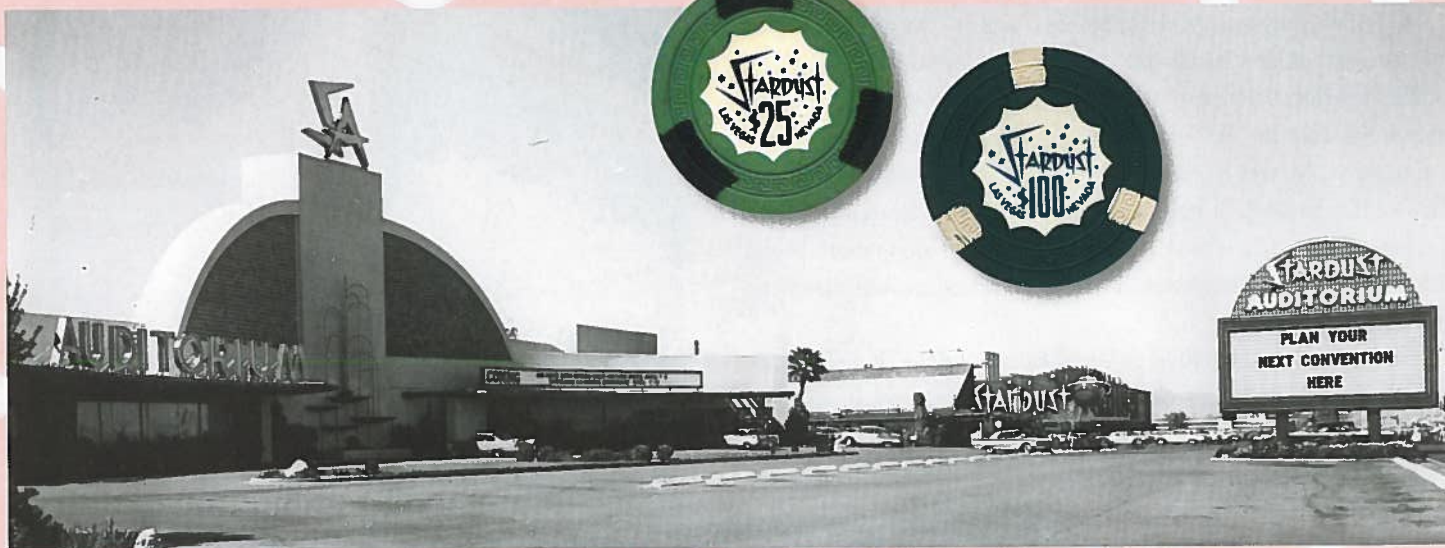
Although Tony was dead, the Stardust was not. After some delays by court orders and bankruptcy claims, the mafia sent Jake “The Barber” Factor, brother of Max of cosmetics fame, to take charge of the Stardust in 1957 and see it to completion. Also assisting were Dalitz, Morris Kleinman, Murray “The Camel” Humphreys (one of the original 11 people in Nevada’s Black Book), and Sam Tucker. Dalitz, Cleveland syndicate member, along with Rella Factor and Allard Roen, would take over actual ownership of the \$10 million Stardust.

On July 2, 1958, at 3000 Las Vegas Boulevard South, the world’s largest casino and hotel would open with 1065 rooms. Its outdoor sign was 27 feet tall by 215 feet long and contained 6 miles of wire, 7100 feet of neon tubing, over 11000 bulbs, and required over 80 gallons of paint. This sign would last until 1967. It also featured Las Vegas icons such as a 140 foot long bar, the 150 foot long “Big Dipper” pool, and the “Ticker Tape Café.” As though the Stardust wasn’t large enough, in 1959 the Royal Nevada (1955-1958), located just South of the Stardust, would be incorporated into its property footprint, increasing the room count to 1300. The Stardust started life with a space age theme with hotel building names such as Mars, Venus, Mercury, Saturn, Jupiter, and Neptune. This theme would last until 1977.



This aerial photo from the late 1950's shows the Stardust on the right and the old Royal Nevada on the left. The Royal Nevada became the Stardust Auditorium.





*Above: Another view of the Stardust Auditorium . Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections*

*Left: A postcard view of the Royal Nevada from mid 1950's.*



Frank Sennes, Entertainment Director at the Desert Inn, was called to the Stardust in the same position. He developed and promoted Donn Ardens Lido de Paris, the longest running of the Las Vegas stage spectaculars. The massive stage where the show took place was over 50 feet wide by 100 feet long, and was one of the most elaborate in the world. The large area was actually composed of 6 smaller stages, each operated by a giant hydraulic lift that could move each stage up and down over 30 feet. It took 20 stagehands to keep everything operating, including the built in ice rink, an 11 x 30 foot swimming pool, and a waterfall.

One of the Stardust's opening entertainers was Billy Daniels, a singer from New York who had the biggest cabaret draw in the 1950's. He was the first Las Vegas entertainer to sign a long term contract—a

3-year, 40-week deal worth \$25,000 per week.

The 1960's and 1970's saw both good and bad times. On the good side, Cassius Clay used the Stardust as his training site for his November 1965 fight with Floyd Patterson. The casino was filled with lots of high rollers and French showgirls. In 1964, the Stardust added the 9-story Stardust Tower (later changed to the East Tower), bringing room count to 1470; a 1976 addition brought the room count to 1550. The Stardust Company also operated the International Raceway west of the property. The auto racing course



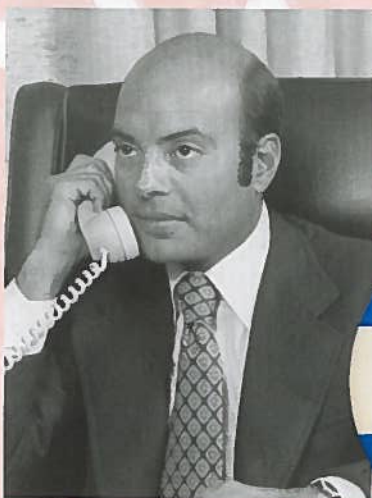
*Billy Daniels*



between Tropicana and Flamingo along Rainbow Boulevard officially opened on September 21, 1965 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by Moe Dalitz and Wilbur Clark. The raceway, which hosted Can-Am and USC Championship Car Series races, lasted until 1971. The Stardust Country Club was located four miles east on Desert Inn Road. Also acquired was the Motor Vu Drive-In which changed its name to the Stardust Drive In. This was the only drive-in theatre in Las Vegas. The bad side was dominated by slot machine skim, which by itself was bad enough.

The Parvin-Dohrmann Corporation bought the Stardust in November 1969.

The Central States Pension Fund had loaned frontman Allen Glick \$62.75 million toward purchase of the Stardust from the Recrion Corporation, which was an offshoot of Parvin-Dorhmann. He also received a loan of \$83 million from the Teamsters Pension Fund. Glick was ostensibly the owner from August 1974 until Nevada Gaming Control ordered him to put the property on the market five years later. While Allen Glick was the owner, the Chicago mob owned him. In December 1979, Glick, CEO of Argent Corporation, sold to Trans-Sterling Corporation which was run by CEO Al Sachs and Herb Tobman.



Allen Glick, photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.



The Stardust from July of 1968.

Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.



Al Sachs opened the Royal Nevada in 1955 and was later a minor investor in the Tropicana. In the early 1970's Sachs was President

of the Stardust but left a few years later because of disagreements with Glick and Rosenthal. While Sachs was President, in 1974 he installed Herb Tobman, General Manager of the Aladdin since 1971, as Vice President. Within two months of Sachs's problems with Glick and Lefty Rosenthal, Tobman was promoted to President of the Stardust.

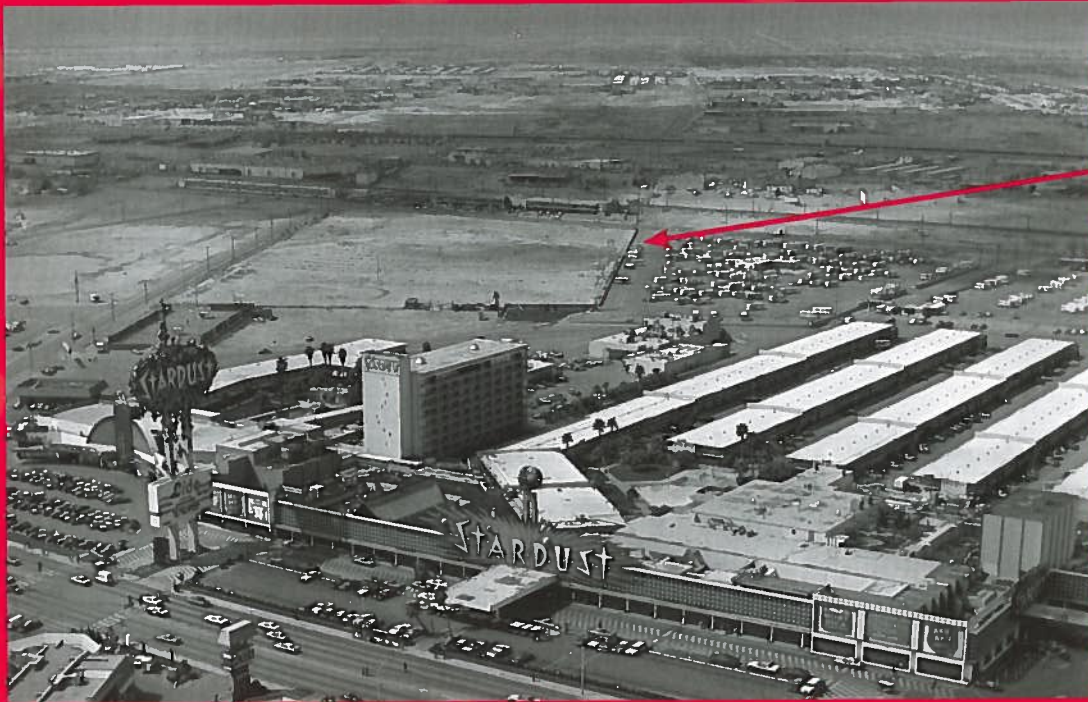
Tobman began his career in the 1950's as General Manager of the Moulin Rouge, Las Vegas's first racially integrated casino. The problems continued as a \$1.5 million skim was uncovered at the Stardust and the Gaming Commission removed Sachs and Tobman from management. They were fined \$3.5 million by the State. Sachs would later become Casino Manager at the Aladdin in 1977.

On May 18, 1976, Dennis Gomes of the Nevada Gaming Control Board conducted a raid on the Stardust at night with one other person from his office. They were looking for an auxiliary change vault that wasn't listed on official paperwork. The two investigators were first told the vault didn't exist, but later that only George Jay Vandermark, an expert at stealing coins from slot machines (and also the Stardust Slot Manager), could open the vault. Coincidentally, Vandermark had just left that evening for a vacation in Mexico.

In all probability, the first skim method used was a simple one: when the count room attendants were counting the \$100 bills, they would put aside 4 for the casino and 1 for the skim. The skim portion was placed in a box that simply disappeared. Investigators







At the rear of the property was a drive-in theatre. The Stardust bought the theatre and renamed it the Stardust Drive In. It was open all night, every night. Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.



Vandermark probably estimated that over \$7 million was skimmed in the year before the raid and that left with about \$3 million of that for his vacation. He was never heard from again. A second version of the skim was based on coin counting scales in the hard count room that had a switch. Throw the switch one way and the scales counted the coins accurately—throw it in the other direction and the scale gave an undercounted reading that would allow the extra coins to be placed in the auxiliary vault, readily available to “walk” out the door. To switch the coins for more easily-handled bills, rolls of coins were put into a special slot change cabinet. The slot floor attendants would periodically exchange bills for these coins which would be used to refill the slot machines. A third version of the skim operation under Trans-Sterling ownership used forged fill slips of \$20,000 each which were required to have four signatures when exchanged for chips that are removed from the cage and taken to the tables. The casino was fined \$1 million.

The Stardust skim case also involved Mob Boss Joey “Doves” Aiuppa and Capos Joey “The Clown” Lombardo and Angelo LaPietra. All three were given some vacation time in 1986 courtesy of the government. Lombardo left prison in 1992. Chicago mob leader Jackie Cerone and figures from the Milwaukee and Kansas City Syndicates were also convicted.

estimated that over \$7 million was skimmed in the year before the raid and that left with about \$3 million of that for his vacation. He was never heard from again.

Lefty Rosenthal, born in Chicago in 1929 and former bookie for the Chicago mob, was sent to Las Vegas as Stardust casino boss to help run the casino skim operation. While Lefty technically started as a floorman in 1971, he was essentially running the whole show. Robert DeNiro’s character in the movie Casino was based on him. Nevada Gaming Control did not like Lefty being in charge and tried to revoke his casino license as a key employee.



*Frank “Lefty” Rosenthal*

Lefty then went thru several title changes attempting to get around the “key employee” status. He was Entertainment Director, then Food & Beverage Director, and even a radio talk show host, but the Control board saw through his ruse and eventually barred him from casinos altogether, giving him an entry in the “Black Book” in 1988.

On October 4, 1982, Rosenthal exited Tony Roma’s Restaurant on East Sahara. He entered his 1981 Cadillac Eldorado, only to have it explode moments later. A heavy steel plate under the driver’s seat saved his life. While it has been speculated that Tony Spilotro was responsible, no one was ever charged. At the time Spilotro and Lefty’s wife, Geri, were having an open affair. The mob had not sanctioned this attempt on Lefty’s life and they did



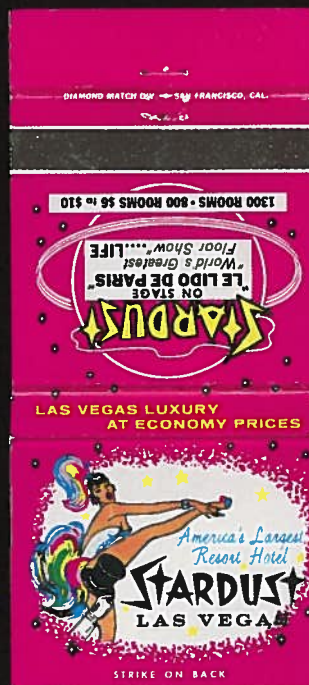
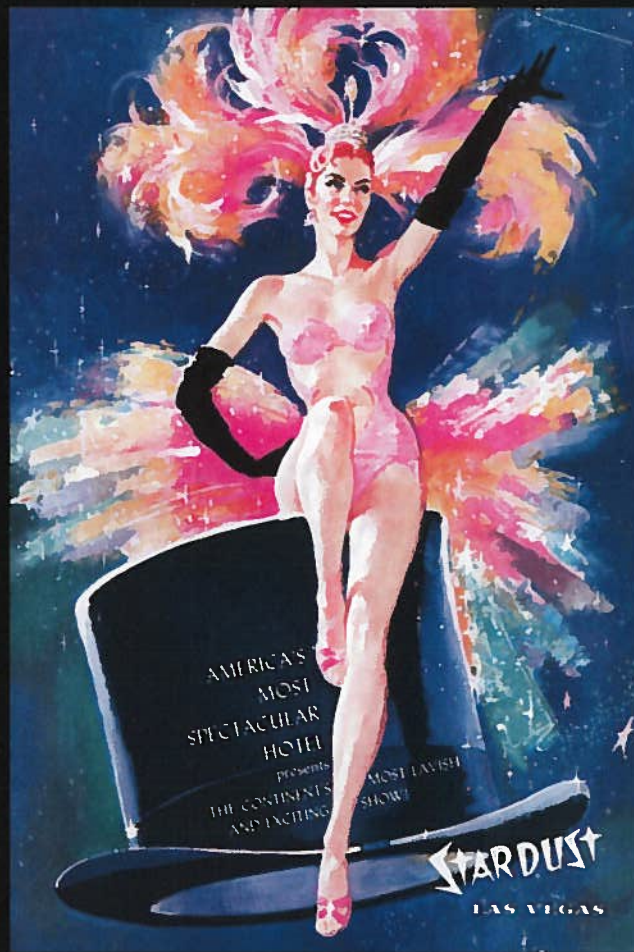
suspect Spilotro, which was the first of many nails in his coffin. Five weeks after the explosion, on November 9, 1982, Geri died from a drug overdose. Lefty retired to Florida; he occasionally visited Las Vegas, in disguise, until his death on October 13, 2008.



*Frank Rosenthal's bombed out Cadillac from 1982.*



*Tony Spilotro (left) and his attorney, current Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, in the mid 1970's. Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.*



The Stardust was the second hotel after the Dunes to stage topless shows, *Lido De Paris* debuted in 1958. *Lido De Paris* ended in March 1991 after an amazing 22,000 performances over 32 years; it was watched by more than 19 million people. Program cover shown above courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.



On February 28, 1985, Sam Boyd of Boyd Gaming, ending the long rough run under mob control, purchased the Stardust. Argent Corporation had sold the casino to Trans-Sterling in 1979 but had retained control of the rest of the resort. It would be almost a year after Boyd took over casino management before they were able to buy the complete operation. The Stardust was the world's largest casino at 72,000 square feet. A new convention center and the 32-story West Tower were added in 1991. Wayne Newton signed a contract in 1999 for \$25 million per year and that same year Boyd spent \$23 million on room renovations, a 4000 square foot pavilion, and a new buffet. The year 2000 saw more remodeling and in 2004 the Stardust under Boyd Gaming was merged into Coast Casinos.



*The Stardust from December of 1992.  
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*



In September 1992, Bill Brennan was a cashier working at the Stardust. One afternoon, he simply walked past security guards at the start of his lunch break with more than \$500,000 in cash and chips in a backpack flung over his shoulder. Brennan got away with the heist and has never been found or heard from since. His theft is believed to be the largest theft from a Las Vegas casino in history.



*The Stardust marquee  
December of 1999  
featuring Wayne Newton.  
In 1999, Newton signed  
a 10-year, 40-week  
contract for \$25 million  
per year.  
Photo courtesy of the  
Las Vegas News Bureau.*



*The Stardust from July of 2006.  
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

On a tragic and fateful day, November 1, 2006, at 12 noon, the Bobby Howard Band playing "When The Saints Go Marching In," led a conga line of faithful Stardust guests through the casino and out the door, and the doors were closed and locked—forever—ending a 48-year run. Jimmy Kumihiro of Hawaii threw the last dice at the crap table. Outside, the loudspeakers were playing "Nobody Told Me" by John Lennon. A line from the song is, "Nobody told me there'd be days like these."

Friday, November 17, 2006 started what would be one of the largest casino and hotel auctions in Las Vegas history. The 4000



square foot pavilion was stuffed with every imaginable item from playing cards, slot cups, hotel furniture, signs, historical items, blackjack and crap tables, to showgirl costumes and headdresses, dishes and silverware, and much, much more. The auction would take five days to complete. Pre-auction inspection time was a chance to wander through the casino innards and see the count room (where the skims took place), executive offices (where years ago Cornero, Glick, or Rosenthal could have been sitting), the sports book operations center, theatre backstage (imagine the showgirls parading by with their giant feather headdresses), and security control center, before heading down to the sub-basement equipment rooms. The general public never sees most of these areas.

The famous Stardust was imploded at 2:33 am on March 13, 2007. The implosion turned a 32-story tower, now only bare



*The Stardust set for implosion in March of 2007.*

concrete and steel, into the tallest building ever leveled on the Strip. LVI Services Inc. used 428 pounds of explosives to destroy the casino's two towers. The dust cloud blanketed the area in gray ash, and the main drag of the 24-hour gambling mecca was temporarily shut down.

The clean up of the site would take up to two months. Goodbye old friend!



Lefty Rosenthal was famous for being the first person to put a sports book in a casino (the year was 1975). Rosenthal was crowned by Sports Illustrated magazine as the greatest living expert on sports handicapping. The above photo of the famous Stardust sports book in July 1976, courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

*Thanks to Martin Kenney, Pam Goertler, Alex Cilento, David Sarles, Mike Christensen, Doug Smith, Jim Follis, Mike Gersie and Ross McCammon for the use of their images in this story. Thanks to Jim Follis for his help with obtaining images for this story.*



# BUSINESS AS USUAL



While other casinos had business card or host chips such as the Thunderbird in Las Vegas and Cactus Pete's in Jackpot, NV. The Stardust had a number of business card "chips" that resembled the current house chips. They came in two forms, metal and plastic encased paper chips. 31 different chips styles are known to exist, with 22 different names. A few of the names such as Mark Swain (shown above), have different styles such as paper or metal, as well as different titles or phone numbers. Also, there were two different denominations on the back \$100 and \$1,000. Some of the chips were "canceled" or had a hole drilled in them. Of the 22 different names, some were well known in the 1960's gaming circles, such as Moe Dalitz and Al Sachs, while others need more researching. Of the chips shown here, Milton Jaffe, Abe Goodman, Robert Stella and Sil Petricciani are very rare.



Above: The back of the paper chips, both \$100 and \$1,000 denominations. Left: The back of the metal chips were all \$1,000.





# AKU AKU

## The Magic Touch: Kenny Ryan Knows The Ingredients That Make For A Great Restaurant

If a tourist wants to combine a trip to Las Vegas with a visit to the South Sea Islands all he has to do is lift up his telephone and make a reservation at the Stardust's Aku Aku.

The minute you set foot in this exotic restaurant you are instantly transported to the romantic atmosphere of the legendary islands of the South Pacific. You see tropical plants growing against stone walls. You hear the gentle splash of water like the sound of a waterfall in a peaceful clearing.

The soft music of the islands engulfs you and you may even find yourself swaying just a little to its hypnotic rhythms.

As you pass through the bar you see that its roof is thatched. By the time you enter the main dining room with its peaked Polynesian Roof, you will know you are in another world.

But the best is yet to come. Look at that menu. There is pressed duck, Yokohama teriyaki steak, curries, broiled mahi-mahi and other Polynesian and Chinese dishes to tease the palate of the most sophisticated gourmet. This is the restaurant which Holiday Magazine described as "Perhaps the best on the Strip."

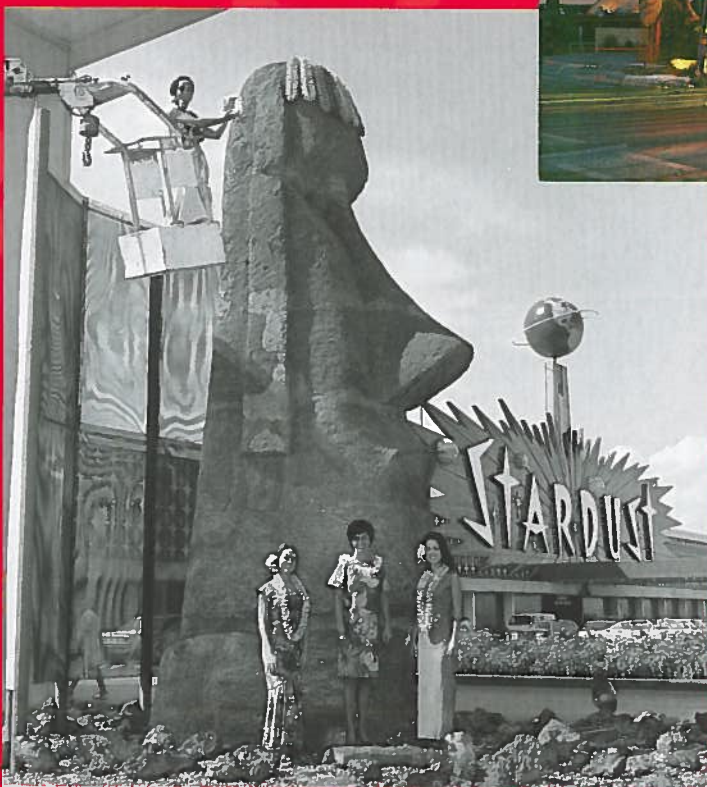
You would swear that they must have imported a whole tribe of Polynesians to make the Aku Aku the kind of place that it is. But the truth of

the matter is that the fellow who helped make it a great restaurant came out of Peoria, Ill.

Kenny Ryan, Manager of the Aku Aku, broke into the hotel business while he was still in college in Peoria. He rose from night bellman to Executive Assistant Manager working nights. When he came to Las Vegas he soon became the top dining room captain on the Strip.

In 1960 the Stardust gave Kenny a chance to prove that he could create a great restaurant. He was given the authority to buy the finest foods and to get the best staff he could find. It didn't take Kenny long to make the Aku Aku the busiest diner restaurant in Las Vegas.

*This article was in the Dec 67/Jan 68 issue of the casino's "STARDUST NEWS" magazine.*



*Above: An early Stardust postcard featuring the Aku Aku roadside neon sign. Left: The iconic stone Tiki head that marked the entrance to Aku Aku. The restaurant was closed in 1980 and the tiki head was moved to an island in an artificial lake at Sunset Park in Winchester, Nevada. Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau. Right: Aku Aku menu.*





# Life is a Highway

A TOUR OF THE  
BOULDER HIGHWAY

*Part 2*



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.



Last issue we traveled southeast down the Boulder Highway visiting the casinos and bars along the way. That article left off when we crossed over Warm Springs Road and then turned right onto Lake Mead Parkway, where we headed into downtown Henderson. That is where we pick our tour up once again.

We pulled the tour bus up to the new Emerald Island Casino and we all piled out. The downtown area has a lot of history and Phil pointed out a building on the corner of Army Street and Market Street: "This was Cowboy Gene's place."



*Cowboy Gene's at 128 Market Street in Downtown Henderson, NV.*

Cowboy Gene is Gene Munari, our friend from the second opening of the Skyline Casino. Munari was the Casino Manager for the Skyline back in 1974 and before that he worked at the Dunes for eight years. Back in 1979, he made a go of running his own place: Cowboy Gene's. I'm not sure why he decided to use the "Cowboy" in front of his name; from the look of his photo he was one of the most straight-laced guys I've ever seen. The chips do not have a western theme to them, although the casino may have. As a matter of fact, I'm surprised



*An ad from the Henderson Home News from February 1, 1979 that shows a close up magician Geno Munari performing his magic at the "New Drug Store Tavern" at 128 Market Street. This is the address for Cowboy Gene's which opened sometime later in 1979 and closed in March 1980.*

**THE NEW MANAGEMENT OF THE "NEW DRUG STORE TAVERN" IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE "NEW TALENT SHOWCASE"**

ON SATURDAY EVENINGS AT 8:00 P.M. WE ARE PRESENTING TALENT INCLUDING SINGERS, COMEDIANS, VAUDEVILLE, MAGICIANS & MANY OTHERS... WE BELIEVE HENDERSON IS IN NEED OF SUCH A PROGRAM, FEATURING FINE ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGE GROUPS.

TO WIN **CASH PRIZES** IF YOU HAVE ANY TALENT CALL 564-3190

**CLOSE UP MAGIC NITELY**  
Featuring **Geno Munari**

**NEW DRUG STORE TAVERN**  
128 MARKET STREET • HDN



it wasn't called Magic Gene's. Gene (or Geno, as he was sometimes called) was also a professional magician. Even back during his days at Cowboy Gene's, he was doing magic shows.

A short time after Cowboy Gene's closed, Munari took a job as an assistant casino manager at the Imperial Palace. Then, in 1984, Gene attempted to open a hotel/casino close to the airport named The Astro. In an August 19, 1984 article in the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Munari explained his

theory for doing so. The Astro was to be built in the 5700 block of Paradise Road, and if you Google that address you will see it's more like in the airport rather than by the airport. But he charged ahead and construction was started on the \$10 million dollar, 150 room hotel and 12,000 square foot casino featuring 300 slots, 12 table games and a sports book. He expected to open in November pending gaming approval. It must have never come, because, as we all know, The Astro never was.

But don't fear for Geno Munari, as he did very well with his magic. He owns and operates several magic stores in Las Vegas. His Houdini's Magic Shops are in the MGM Grand, the Venetian, the Forum Shops at Caesars, Planet Hollywood and New York, New York.



I was taking photos of the old Cowboy Gene's building with Trompe l'oeil artwork that gives the impression that the façade of the building is being torn away or opened up. We didn't know what to make of it. The building itself looked abandoned, with no signs or business names anywhere. There were lights on inside and through the windows it was evident it was an office of some sort. Suddenly, a man appeared behind us and asked if we were looking to purchase the building. We were a bit startled, but it afforded us a chance to use the "We are historians" line on him. He looked a bit confused, and we explained that we were on a tour of old casino locations and that this building used to be Cowboy Gene's. He



told us he was the owner of the Emerald Island Casino (right next to Cowboy Gene's) and that he was the owner of this building as well. He gave us his card, which read "Timothy J. Brooks - Owner/Manager of the Emerald Island Casino The Jewel of Henderson."



*Tim Brooks in front of his casino, the Emerald Island*

We talked for awhile and after he realized we were not a threat to the security of the casino and certainly no threat to purchase anything other than a beer from his casino, he invited us into the building that was Cowboy Gene's. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to take cameras into the building as he does some maintenance work to his slot machines here. We entered through the back of the building in what Tim told us was an old VFW Hall or Moose Lodge. There was an old kitchen area that he doesn't use and it's not clear if Munari used it during the operation of Cowboy Gene's. We passed through the old kitchen area into a hallway of offices. Tim explained that he bought this building and built these offices to support the operation of the Emerald Island. After the offices we entered into a large open room that appeared to be where the casino was in Cowboy Gene's. It was filled with slot machines, tables and chairs, and other miscellaneous items that make a casino run, but none were from Munari's casino.

Tim took us to the front offices and showed us some photos of the area from the past. Phil saw a photo of the old Post Office Casino he had seen before. It struck up a conversation of casinos gone by and Tim asked if we were familiar with the Henderson

area history. Carey told him he used to sit on the front steps of the building where his casino is now in the 1950's and fold papers he would then deliver on his bicycle. Phil mentioned the Lucky Club, the City Club and the Pot of Gold, all of which sat where his casino is now. Tim seemed satisfied that we knew our stuff.

As we left the front offices, we saw behind the slot machines and machinery a bar that ran the length of the south wall. The bar looked to be part of Cowboy Gene's, or perhaps even before. Too bad I could not have my camera at this point because it was a pretty cool sight.

We left the old site of Cowboy Gene's and headed over to Tim's Emerald Island Casino. It is nicknamed "The Jewel of Henderson" because of a large, illuminated "emerald" on the roof. The Emerald Island started life as the Lucky Star Club back in the 1950's, and then changed over to the Lucky Club (from where we see the first casino chips). The Lucky Club lasted until 1973 and there was a short year where the Post Office Casino operated. Then there was the Pot of Gold, which opened in 1996 and closed in 2000. Mr. Brooks then bought the property, remodeled it and opened the Emerald Island in May 2003. It is an all penny slots casino, and while it is not huge, it has a cozy feel to it. You step down into the gaming area which opens up the ceiling above you. The casino is decorated nicely in an Irish theme, and the ice cold Guinness served at the bar is an added bonus. We did not have time to try the Emerald Island Grille, which gets good reviews.

We thanked Tim for his hospitality and guided tour and made plans to visit the other casinos and past casino locations in the downtown area. Between the Emerald Island Casino and location of Cowboy Gene's Casino was the home of the Lucky Club Casino. The Lucky Club had a long history of Grand Openings,



- 1) 128 Market Street • Cowboy Gene's
- 2) 120 Market Street • Lucky Star Club, Lucky Club, Yep Lucky Club
- 3) 120 Market Street • Post Office Casino, Pot of Gold, Emerald Island Casino



Re-openings and closings along with a slew of different owners, including Don French from the famed Don French's Bonanza in North Las Vegas.

On New Year's Day 1958 the Lucky Star Casino opened at 120 Water Street. Owned by Jack Conlon, Art Whitaker, and Warren Doing, the Lucky Star was a slots only casino with a new neon sign by the famous Yesco Sign Company.



LUCKY STAR SHINES ON MARKET STREET—HOLDS GRAND OPENING TONIGHT

An artist's rendering of the Lucky Star Club that appeared in the Henderson Home News on December 31, 1957.

This version of the Lucky Star Club lasted only until July 1958. In August 1958 a trio of owners from North Dakota purchased the Lucky Star Club and re-opened it; the trio only lasted until March 1959, when it was shuttered once again.


On September 30, 1960 The Lucky Star Club was re-opened by famed casino owner and operator Don French as simply, The Lucky Club. French was, at the time, running the successful Bonanza in North Las Vegas. Hopes were high that the Lucky Club was in good hands under French's command.

A craps table, a 21 table and a poker table were installed in November 1960. Strangely, no chips are known from the Don French era of the Lucky Club although we know he operated table games there.

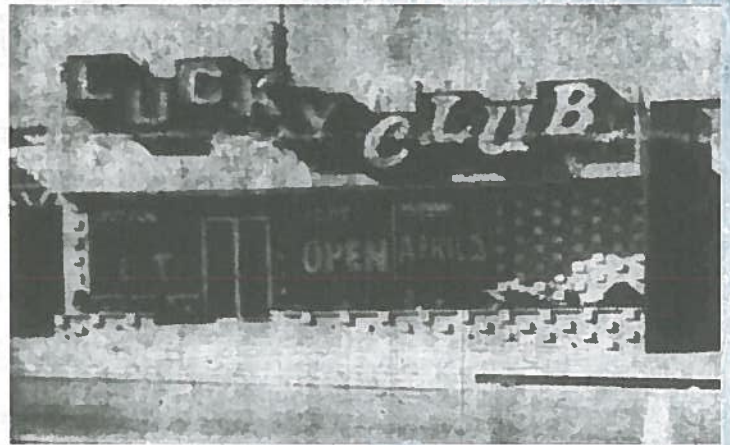
The high hopes of the Lucky Club came crashing down once again in July 1961. It sat for almost a year until Sam Perlstein bought the club and reopened it once again on April 2, 1962.

**DON FRENCH'S  
LUCKY CLUB**

120 MARKET ST. HENDERSON



|   |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
| <b>FINE FOOD — FINE SERVICE</b>   |     | <b>PAY-ROLL<br/>CHECKS<br/>CASHED</b>                          |
| <b>T-BONE STEAK</b><br><small>with vegetables, potatoes, toasted bun and coffee</small>       | 99¢ |  |
| <b>1/4-LB. GROUND BEEF</b><br><small>seasoned onion, glass bun, coffee, mustard</small>       | 19¢ | <b>WIN<br/>VALUABLE<br/>PRIZES<br/>WITH<br/>JACKPOT POINTS</b> |
| <b>LUNCHEON SPECIAL</b><br><small>salads, potatoes, vegetable, toasted bun and coffee</small> | 59¢ |  |
| <b>BEEF STEW</b><br><small>large bowl, garden fresh, toasted bun, and coffee</small>          | 49¢ |  |
| <b>COFFEE</b> always  | 5¢  |  |



The Lucky Club re-opening under Sam Perlstein on April 2, 1962. Photo from the Henderson Home News.

Although the sign outside the club remained Lucky Club from the remodeling that Don French did in 1960, Perlstein referred to it as the Yep Lucky Club.

# YEP!

## GRAND OPENING

### LUCKY CLUB

#### Monday, April 2

**YOU ARE ALL CORDIALLY INVITED**

•

**YOUR OLD TIME FAVORITES**

### Wade & Clem

**Doing The Pitching**

•

**Come To The Club That Has That Friendly  
Atmosphere... We'll Be Looking For You**

**Listen** YOU ALL — start today to spend your leisure time at our pleasant and friendly club, where the LUCY LUCY liberal Jackpot slots are appopin all the time. YOU'LL BE HAPPY THAT YOU DID . . . .

**YEP** We also serve these tasty and delicious meat packed Kosher Corned Beef, Pastrami and roast beef sandwiches with all the trimmings, at our cozy and comfortable Snack Bar and priced less than you can cook them yourself at home. . . . Yes, we also serve many other sandwiches too. The service is fast and the prices will surprise you . . . .

**YEP** We also serve a daily SOUP SPECIAL Just like mother tried to make . . . .  
**BIG BOWL WITH CRACKERS** 25 CENTS

**YEP** Also at our big roomy and cozy cocktail bar the drinks are served right and the prices are right. In Clem and Wade, we have the most friendly, congenial and pleasant Bar men who will laugh or cry with you if it will make you happy. Our club atmosphere is pleasant and inviting which means that you will be happy with us. Come in and see for yourself . . . .

In Downtown Henderson Under New Management  
**CLOSED SUNDAYS**

An ad from the Henderson Home News showing the starting of the "Yep" in front of the Lucky Club. For some reason the only known chip from this era of the Lucky Club reads "Yep Luckie."



I cannot find any information on the Lucky Club from 1962 until July 1972. An article from the Henderson Home News of



April 21, 1972 shows that the Lucky Club was set to re-open once again after being closed for some time. The new owners were Art Liebert and Richard Thurmond, who purchased the Lucky Club from the estate of the deceased Sam Perlstein. Liebert was the current owner of the Rainbow Club across the street from the Lucky Club. Liebert and Thurmond decided to lease the operation of the casino out to another group. It opened on July 1, 1972 with three 21 tables, a poker table and a keno game. It is not known what chips were used at the tables during this time.

The Lucky Club's luck finally ran out on October 5, 1972 when it closed for good after only 3 months of operation under Liebert and Thurmond.

Across the street from the old location of the Lucky Club is the Rainbow Club. The Rainbow opened in 1967 and has operated continuously for 44 years. It was originally owned and operated by Art Liebert and Richard Thurmond, (who were also the owners of the last version of the Lucky Club) and Liebert's son, Mark.



The Rainbow Club's main entrance off Water Street.  
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.



The back of the Rainbow Club on the corner of Market and Army Streets, directly across from the site of Cowboy Gene's.



- 1) 128 Market Street • Cowboy Gene's
- 2) 122 Water Street • Rainbow Club



The Rainbow Club opened with seven table games and 100 slot machines and was an immediate success. By March 1968, Liebert and Thurmond had applied for a permit to build an eight-story hotel on the property. While it appears the permit was approved, the expansion never went through.

Liebert bought out his son, Mark, and Thurmond in October 1979, and was the sole owner until the club was purchased by the Peppermill Corporation out of Reno, Nevada in 1983. Peppermill took out all table games not too long ago, but there are plenty of chips and even dice left over from when the Rainbow Club had table games.

If you exit through the back of the Rainbow Club, you come out onto Water Street which dead ends into the Eldorado Club, but it wasn't always that way. On August 21, 1956 two brothers from Boise, Idaho, L.A. and W.H. Adams, opened the Royal Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge. It was located at 141 Market Street, on the corner of Market and Atomic Streets. At that time, Market Street ran all the way through to Atlantic Street. The Royal initially did not have a casino, but offered nightly cash jackpots to patrons who entered their drawings.

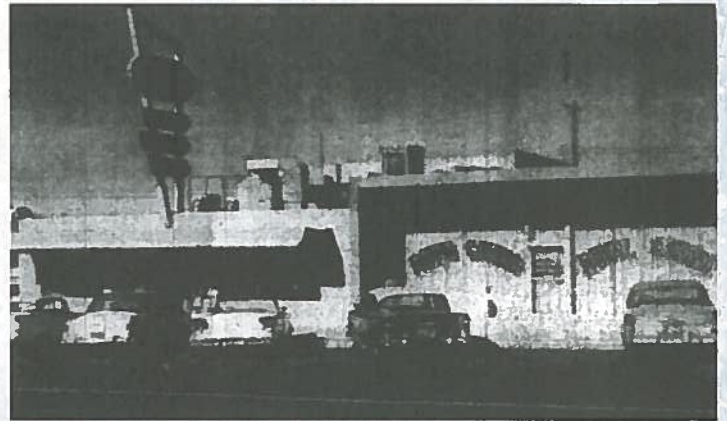






- 1) 128 Market Street • Cowboy Gene's
- 2) 122 Water Street • Rainbow Club
- 3) 140 Water Street • Eldorado (The Wheel)
- 4) 141 Market Street • The Royal
- 5) Nevada Hardware Store

The Royal had some initial success, but after just two years of operation, the Adams brothers were looking to sell out. In July 1958, they sold the Royal to the group of Ray Davis, Bernie Sullivent, Lincoln Rosen and Jerome Zurkow. Ray Davis was to take on the day-to-day operations of the Royal. By 1960 Davis was looking to expand into gaming operations by purchasing the Nevada Hardware Store adjacent to the Royal and installing a new casino.



*A photo from the Henderson Home News on September 27, 1960. This view is looking east from Market Street. The original restaurant and cocktail lounge is on the left, the new casino is on the right. This was the site of the Nevada Hardware Store.*

Something **NEW** at the 

**BUDWEISER**  
**DRAFT BEER**  
 NOW ON T-A-P **15¢** 

GRUB STAKE DRAWINGS ARE

**BIG**

EVERYNIGHT 8 pm & 10 pm  
**WIN FROM \$50 TO \$500**  
 at the  
**ROYAL**  
 Good Grub!

*An ad from the Henderson Home News on June 24, 1958.*



With one crap table, one 21 table and one poker table, the Royal was one of the favorite downtown clubs for local residents. It was doing good business when on July 1, 1964 it suddenly closed its doors. According to the Henderson Home News, the closing was completely unexpected and employees who showed up for their shifts were surprised to find themselves out of jobs. At the time, gaming licenses needed to be renewed on July 1 of any given year, and rumors as to why the license was not renewed were flying amongst the locals. The mystery was solved a month later when the owners of the Eldorado Casino next door announced they had bought the Royal with plans of expanding their own casino.



The Eldorado Club is across Atomic Street from the Rainbow Club on the corner of Atomic and Water Streets. It was opened on June 30, 1962 by Paul Perry and George Crowley. It is still operating today, and has been in competition with the Rainbow Club for patrons for decades. But before the Eldorado opened at 140 Water Street, The Wheel occupied that location.

An ad from the Henderson Home News from February 14, 1961, featuring a rare photo of the Wheel Casino.



A beautiful set of hot stamped Christy and Jones chips from the Wheel. Oftentimes, these chips are mistakenly associated with the Wheel Casino on the Strip in Las Vegas.

The Wheel was opened for business on February 15, 1961 by a group of developers headed by Jim Gunville and Don Yost. Yost was the manager of the casino, which featured two 21 tables, a craps table and 32 slot machines. The casino was decorated with a modern western theme, and according to the Henderson Home News, the dining area booths were covered with "...a newly developed naugahyde that is cushioned with foam rubber."

The Wheel lost its lease and closed after only 13 months of operation in March 1962.

After the closing of the Wheel, Paul Perry and George Crowley quickly stepped in to take over the lease of the building. Perry was previously at the Royal Casino, just behind the Wheel on Market Street, and Crowley was working at the Mint Casino in downtown Las Vegas. After remodeling the casino, bar and the restaurant, Perry and Crowley opened the Eldorado Club on July 1, 1962.

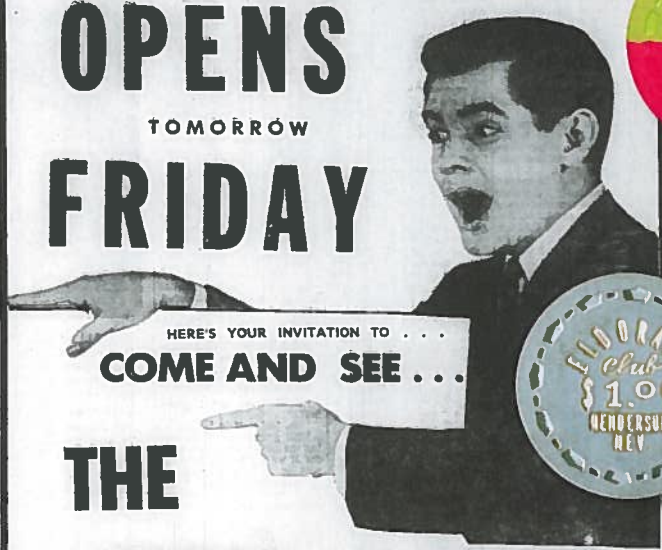


A photo from the Henderson Home News from June 28, 1962. This view is looking east at the Eldorado from Atomic Street. While owners Perry and Crowley did a quick job of remodeling the old Wheel Casino, it looks as if they left the sign from the former casino in place. The back of the sign, that was over the entrance to the Wheel (seen on the ad to the left of this photo) can be seen on the left side of the above photo.

The Eldorado was immediately successful, and a lot of it was due to the experience of Perry and Crowley. While Perry and Crowley ran the day-to-day operations of the casino and restaurant, Bill Boyd, son of the legendary casino owner and operator Sam Boyd, was the Eldorado's attorney. According to The Henderson Home News, in April 1963 Crowley bought out Perry and became the sole owner of the Eldorado and named Bill Boyd as a corporate officer without investment. At some point Sam Boyd joined his son as either a corporate officer without investment, or bought into the Eldorado Corporation. The Boyd Gaming Corporation website mentions that Sam Boyd purchased the Eldorado with his son, Bill, in 1962. But The Henderson Home News does not show either Boyd as an owner until 1964.



**OPENS**  
TOMORROW  
**FRIDAY**



HERE'S YOUR INVITATION TO . . .  
**COME AND SEE . . .**

**THE**  
**"NEW LOOK"**

**at the Eldorado Club Restaurant**

IN DOWNTOWN HENDERSON



Our new, larger, ultra-modern restaurant will open tomorrow (Friday) and we hope you'll come and eat with us . . . breakfast, lunch, dinner . . . or any of our famous specialty items, served "around-the-clock." Same low prices! Top quality food and friendly service.



★ **FREE Punch and Champagne**

★ **FREE GIFTS TO OUR CUSTOMERS**



Our all-new restaurant and kitchen will be among the finest in the West. Seats 180 hungry people. Banquet room will be available for club banquets and meetings, private parties, etc. Make it a point to come in tomorrow . . . for **FREE CHAMPAGNE or PUNCH . . . and FREE GIFTS . . .** and a delicious meal at modest prices! We think you'll like the "new look" at the Eldorado Club Restaurant.

Children Are Always Welcome at the Eldorado Club Restaurant

the Friendly

**ELDORADO CLUB**

DOWNTOWN HENDERSON

- CASINO
- RESTAURANT
- BAR

OPEN 24 HOURS . . . SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

An ad from the Henderson Home News on July 20, 1965, announcing the grand re-opening after the Royal Expansion project.

Originally, the Eldorado was a single story building on the corner of Water and Atomic Streets, but by 1964 plans were underway to expand the Eldorado by purchasing the Royal Casino across the alley behind the club. In 1965 the Eldorado broke ground on that expansion and bridged the alley between the Eldorado and the closed Royal Casino, making it one large, seamless building.

**The Great Topless Wars of 1967!**

The Eldorado Club had a great rivalry with one of its main competitors in downtown Henderson, The Rainbow Club. It was mostly a war of words, threats of expansion and grandiose plans to run the other casino out of business. In March of 1968 The Rainbow Club asked the city of Henderson for a variance to build a eight story hotel on their current property. Later Sam Boyd announced plans to enlarge his Eldorado Club by adding a hotel and parking garage for his patrons. But the war of the topless waitresses of 1967 was a real doozy!

In June of 1967, The Eldorado began a nude dancer show nightly in the lounge. It was a hit and the Eldorado began to see an uptick in business. Soon, an anonymous complaint was filed with the Henderson City Council requesting that the lewd show be stopped. By July of 1967 the city council members had scheduled a appointment to go see the show in question for themselves! Meanwhile, not to be outdone by the Eldorado, the Rainbow hired four topless dancers for a Friday Night topless review. And to go one step further, the dancers were hired to serve the patrons drinks topless. When the city council heard of this development, they made an appointment to see the show at the Rainbow as well! It is tough work serving the public!

While the city council was busy "reviewing" the shows and the waitresses at the Rainbow, Sam Boyd said he couldn't wait for a ruling anymore and hired his own set of topless waitresses. The competing casinos were starting to look like a Playboy Playmate convention right there in downtown Henderson! Unfortunately for the men of Henderson it all came to an end in September of 1967 when the city council passed an ordinance against topless dancing and topless waitresses.

**"The Hottest Stripper in Show Business"**

**"TALLULAH BANKHEAD"**

**3 Shows Nightly**  
**10 PM-12 M-2 AM**

Miss Bankhead has all the critics raving about her exotic dance of exposure, a delight to behold!

**ELDORADO CLUB**

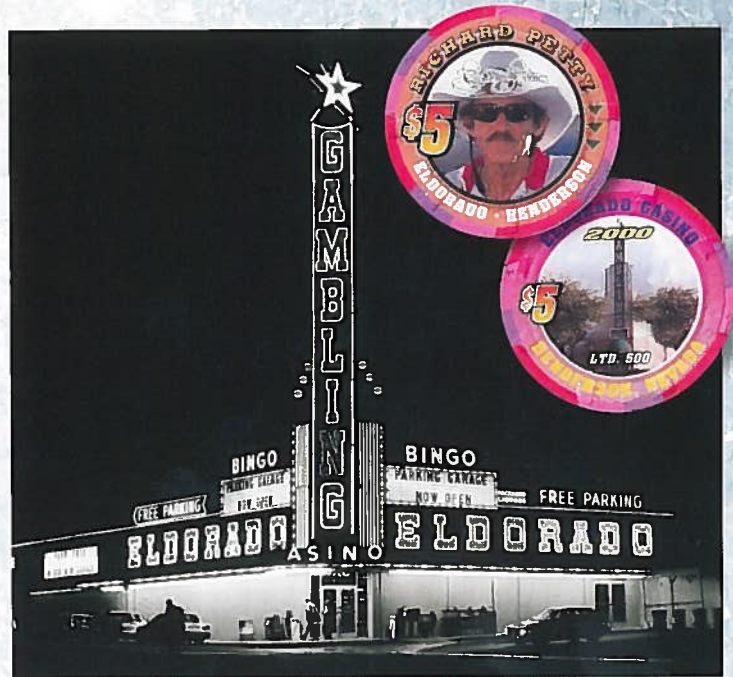
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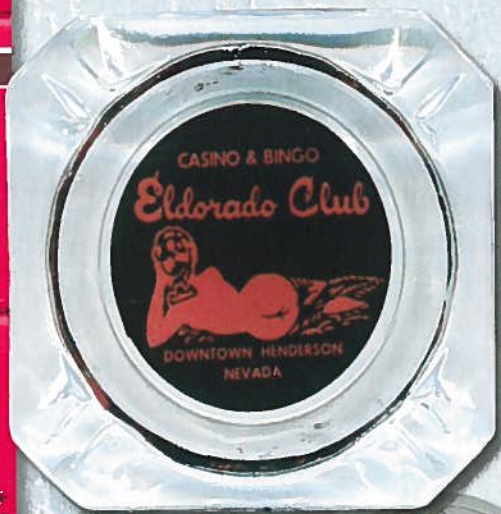
Articles in the Henderson Home News begin to refer to Bill Boyd as “landlord” of the Eldorado in 1964. There is no mention of Sam Boyd until April 1966, when he is referred to as a host at the Eldorado. On May 24, 1966 an article in the Henderson Home News referred to Sam Boyd as the owner of the Eldorado.

In 1975, Boyd Gaming Corporation was formed by Bill and Sam Boyd. The corporation was formed when they built the California Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas. Eventually the Eldorado, and several other casinos, were brought under the Boyd Gaming umbrella.

In 1977, another expansion project was announced by Sam Boyd. A three story hotel and parking garage was to be built to the west of the casino across Market Street. The plans required Market Street to be closed between Atomic and Atlantic Streets, and have the new structure tie into the existing casino. The Rainbow Club owners blocked the plans with an injunction claiming that the general public will have impeded access to the central business district of the city. Boyd and the Eldorado eventually won the battle and put up a four story parking garage without the hotel.



The Eldorado Club's main entrance off Water Street. This photo, taken in 1988, shows the “GAMBLING” Marquee that was salvaged from Binion's Horseshoe Casino in Las Vegas. Photo Courtesy of Roadsidepictures.



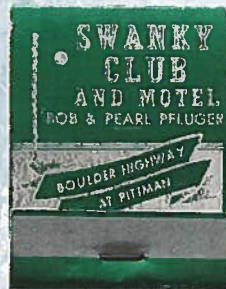
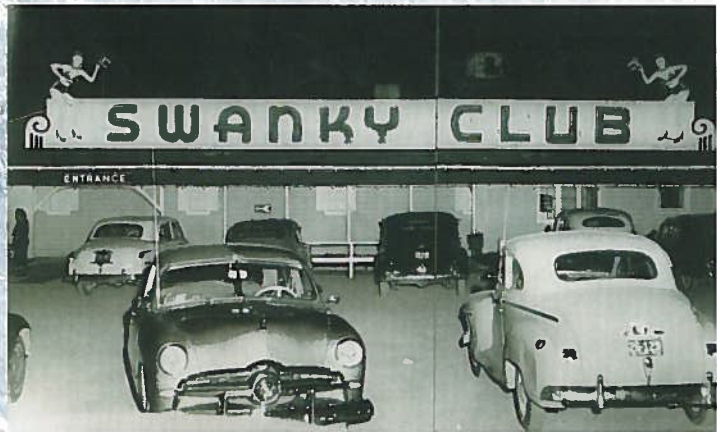
A photo of the same entrance off Water Street as it looks today. The “GAMBLING” Marquee sign was replaced sometime after 2000. Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.





We headed out of downtown Henderson back toward the Gold Coast. Greg mentioned we needed to make two stops before we got back to home base. We hit the Boulder Highway, this time heading northwest, and ran right into the Jokers Wild. The Jokers Wild is a modern Strip-like hotel and casino, but it didn't start out that way. Way back in 1942 a club named Casa Blanca was opened in the same spot. Later, the club was renamed the Swanky Tonk and was a very popular bar and dance hall.

In 1946, Bob Pfluger bought the Swanky Tonk and turned it into the Swanky Club. He installed the Smorgasbord dinner concept, which was basically the forerunner to the modern-day all you can eat buffet now common in Southern Nevada casinos. Back in the 1950's the Swanky Club Smorgasbord was the place to go for dinner.



Tragedy struck the Swanky Club at the height of its popularity on July 15, 1958 when it burned to the ground. The fire was set by a group of thieves who were

robbing a nearby club and hoped the fire at the Swanky Club would act as a distraction to the police.

Pfluger decided not to rebuild and sold the land to a one-time partner in the Swanky Club, Jack Mallory. Mallory rebuilt the Swanky Club with a state of the art kitchen and dining area, banking on the continued success of the smorgasbord dinner concept. While early ads for the Swanky Club under Pfluger show a casino, Mallory decided not to renew the gaming license and concentrated on the restaurant only.

On July 29, 1959 the Swanky Club re opened their highly successful smorgasbord dinner restaurant to rave reviews. Business picked up right where it had left off before the fire in 1958. Mallory worked with his wife and their partners, Glenna and Glen Reber.

## Swanky Club

NOW SERVING  
**NOON LUNCHES**  
 FROM 11:30 to 1:30 O'CLOCK  
 DAILY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY  
**SMORGASBORD**  
 SERVED DAILY FROM 4 to MIDNIGHT  
**BAR -- CASINO**  
**SWANKY CLUB**

Two Swanky Club ads from the Henderson Home News. The 1951 ad on the left is from the Pfluger ownership where "casino" is listed. Below is the grand opening ad from 1959 under the Mallory ownership.

*Grand Opening*

OF THE NEW  
**SWANKY CLUB**  
 BOULDER HIGHWAY

DORIS and JACK MALLORY AND GLENN and GLEN REBER

Cordially Invite You To Attend  
**THE GRAND OPENING**  
**TOMORROW AT 4 P.M.**

★ ★ ★ FEATURING ★ ★ ★  
 SMORGASBORD WITH FRIED CHICKEN  
 CHARCOAL STEAKS  
 SHRIMP AND PRIME RIBS

★  
**COCKTAIL LOUNGE SERVING YOUR FAVORITE DRINKS**



A photo of the Swanky Club's Smorgasbord diner and catering van. Photo courtesy of Henderson Public Library.

The Swanky Club was highly successful under Mallory's ownership for many years. By 1979, after 20 years of running it, Mallory decided to sell. In August of that year John Gledhill purchased the club and planned to install gaming once again as Pfluger had done back in the 1950's. But there was a problem that



In Appreciation of your Patronage

# THE SWANKY CLUB

"Home of the Smorgasbord"

Celebrating  
**OUR 4th ANNIVERSARY**  
 INVITES YOU TO WIN!  
 A BEAUTIFUL  
**PALOMINO SHETLAND PONY**

Try  
 Our  
 Flavorful  
 Sea Food



Try Our  
 Delicious  
 Home Made  
 Bread

"Molly"

A Gentle Mare, Well-Trained. 41 Inches High  
 The Swanky Club, celebrating the fourth year in our new building, invites you to enter the drawing for this beautiful pony. Each time you dine with us or visit our relaxing cocktail lounge you will be given a numbered ticket. Each gives you a chance in the drawing and tickets will be issued until MIDNIGHT, SUNDAY JULY 28th.

You will enjoy your visit to the Swanky Club where you'll find choice food, friendly service and surroundings conducive to pleasant dining. VISIT US VERY SOON!!!

Try Our  
 Choice  
 Char-Broiled  
 Steaks

Try Our  
 Old Fashioned  
 Pan-Fried  
 Chicken

Try Our Original Smorgasbord

Joyce Dilley at Organ

**DRAWING JULY 29, 1963**

The 4th Year In Our Lovely New Building!  
 Winner Need Not Be Present

## SWANKY CLUB

HENDERSON, NEVADA

For Take-Out Orders & Reservations 565-9997



Above: A postcard showing the interior of the Swanky Club and the famous Smorgasbord layout. Left: an ad that appeared in the Henderson Home News in 1963 featuring a pony giveaway during the Mallory ownership.



Club after 30 years. During this time, the Swanky Club produced their famous H&C chips with the hot-stamped logo on the front.

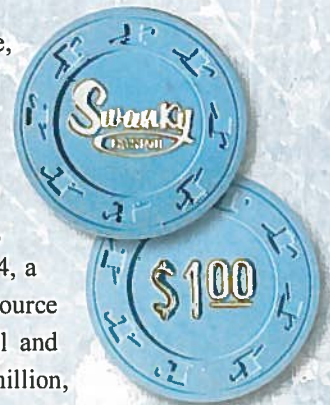
After all of Gledhill's efforts to re-install gaming at the Swanky Club, it only lasted four years. In late 1984, a venture capital company named Source Venture Capital bought out Gledhill and unveiled their plans for a \$65 million, 41,000 square foot hotel and casino complex.

The Cattle Baron was scheduled to open in the summer 1986, but a series of delays forced that opening back years.

Royce E. Warren was named as President of Source Venture Capital, and was placed in charge of getting the new casino built and operating. He was previously appointed by the Nevada Gaming Control Board to oversee operations at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas when they ran into trouble in 1979. He was also General Manager and Casino Manager of the Marina Hotel during the property's turn-around period, and also held an equity stake in the Las Vegas Travelodge.

The Cattle Baron was supposed to be a Las Vegas strip-like casino with all the trappings: a large modern casino, meeting rooms, restaurants and lounges, as well as an escalator. In fact, the escalator to take people from the entryway down to the casino level was to be the first one installed in Henderson!

As mentioned earlier, the Cattle Baron was plagued by delays. The first came in August 1985 when money they had already raised from the sale of stock to start construction was unable to be used to secure a loan. They had to raise money in other ways to get construction started. By February 1987, the Henderson City Council had still not approved the architectural plans submitted by the Cattle Baron officers. Warren was getting frustrated and had only two construction trailers on the plot of land that was supposed





to be a fully-functioning casino by February 1987. They had spent \$1.5 million on the project so far, including the purchase of the land, destruction of the old Swanky Club, and architectural plans. By April 1987, the Henderson City Council had approved the plans for the casino and Cattle Baron claimed financing was set. But they suddenly ran into trouble with their contractor. Just before the heavy equipment was to start work on the site, the chosen contractor, Ainsworth and Faulkner, backed out of the deal. They claimed they were uneasy with how the funds were raised and they cited the on again, off again nature of the project in their decision to decline the work.

Finally, in late April 1987, construction was started on the Cattle Baron. Warren was again optimistic and claimed the project would be complete in five to six months. However, the Cattle Baron had not yet applied for their gaming license. You can see where this is going, right?

Warren had predicted an October or November 1987 completion date, but by April 1988 the work was still going on at the Cattle Baron. While close to completion, there was a bigger problem brewing. Meyer Blinder and his company Blinder, Robinson & Co., was the primary stockholder in Source Venture Capital and had applied for a Nevada gaming license for the Cattle Baron. But besides Blinder and his company, there were also 53 individual investors and 15 publicly traded companies that had also invested in Source Venture Capital. Blinder, who owned 32% of Source Venture, applied for the gaming license, but because of the number of companies and individuals involved in the application, state gaming agents were bogged down in paperwork.

While things were looking bleak with the gaming license, the construction was going very well. In fact, there were even plans to open the casino with no gaming because they could see that



*A photo of the near-completed Cattle Baron from the Henderson Home News, April 12, 1988.*

construction would probably be finished before the license was approved. But of course, there was a problem. On May 4, 1988 there was a massive explosion at the PEPCON plant located a little over two miles southwest of the Cattle Baron construction project. PEPCON was a producer of ammonium perchlorate which is used in the solid rocket boosters of the space shuttle. Without going into too much detail of the event (an Internet search will provide spectacular video and photos), at 11:30 a.m. an explosion roughly equivalent to 1,000 tons of TNT ripped through the plant. It caused seismograph needles to dance as far away as Colorado. It was



measured as a 3.5 Richter scale tremor. At the time of the blast, there were 30 people working on the Cattle Baron; all but two who were working on the roof escaped uninjured. The same could not be said for the building itself. Millions of dollars in damage was done to the unfinished casino. All the windows were broken, most of the installed walls were damaged, and structural damage was even detected in some of the load-bearing walls. Warren was undeterred and claimed he would rebuild and be finished by the time the gaming license was approved.

In April 1989, construction and repairs were just about finished on the Cattle Baron, but the trouble with the gaming license was just beginning. Blinder was under an IRS investigation for alleged stock fraud and a money laundering scheme. The IRS asked Nevada Gaming to hold off on any approvals until the investigation was over, but Warren and Source Venture Capital went seeking new owners to take control of Blinder's 32% investment in the project.

Norman Kaye of Norman Kaye Realty Company of Nevada stepped in with \$6.8 million to buy out Blinder's portion in the Cattle Baron in November 1989. Warren was, as usual, optimistic that the casino would open in early 1990. But of course, Norman Kaye was not the answer and Warren was once again scrambling to find one.

Finally, in April 1990, the Walter Development Corporation out of Beverly Hills, CA was able to secure financing and set out to finish up the casino and make a few changes. They added a 55-seat race and sports book, a 25-seat keno lounge, a 260-seat bingo parlor, a dance hall, and made a few changes to the Swanky Room



Coffee Shop and smorgasbord. They scrapped plans for a hotel on the premises, and planned to open in early 1991. They also had millions of dollars riding on the project.

Walter Development had the right combination of financing and the skills needed to obtain a Nevada gaming license; on Friday February 1, 1991 the Cattle Baron opened its doors for business 10 minutes ahead of schedule! It seemed as if the streak of bad luck for the Cattle Baron may have been broken. Over 2,000 people came through the doors within the first hour and packed the casino. When patrons entered, they went down the highly-touted "first escalator in Henderson" to the casino level. But that much stress on the escalator caused it to malfunction and patrons had to instead take the stairs. Again, bad luck haunted the Cattle Baron.

To say the Cattle Baron was cursed may be a bit extreme but after only four months of operation, on June 24, 1991, the Cattle Baron closed its doors. The money invested and the high operating



Cattle Baron photo Courtesy of Roadsidepictures



The Cattle Baron was not open very long, but they did manage to release this fantastic set of Langworthy & Co. HHR chips.

costs could not be recovered by the casino. The Cattle Baron was once again sitting vacant. On November of 1992, Eldorado Inc., a division of Boyd Gaming Corporation (the division that owns and operates the Eldorado in downtown Henderson), purchased the Cattle Baron for about \$5 million--a steal compared to the \$15 million that was invested in the property over the previous six years.

Eldorado Inc. set an April 1, 1993 opening date for the new Jokers Wild Casino. They planned just a few small changes to the casino: they added a few more slot machines, changed the upper level casino area previously used by the Cattle Baron to administrative offices, and put all the gaming on the main casino level. They also removed the escalator. Just as planned, the Jokers Wild opened on April Fool's Day 1993 and has operated continuously since that day. Carey mentioned that the food in the Jokers Wild is outstanding. I wondered if the spirit of



Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

**Some folks'll wait for their Bingo.**

**Some folks won't.**

Photos "Boulder Club Bar—Las Vegas" and "Woman on Las Vegas Creek" Courtesy of the Gladys Frazer Collection and the Helen J. Stewart Collection UPLV Special Collections Library

Used to be that folks with a fair bit of grit and gumption could find a Bingo game without havin' to practically take up arms...

Still Can!

In fact, at the brand new Cattle Baron you don't even need the grit: we've added so many Bingo games that you can start a session from 10 o'clock in the morning 'til 10 o'clock at night. Shoot, we're so excited that we'll even throw in a board for FREE!

Bingo Club Member's Session • 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. daily

---

FREE \$1 Board with minimum buy-in • 10 a.m. or 10 p.m. sessions only

CATTLE BARON

CASINO

Henderson, NV

Present coupon • One coupon per customer per session • Expires March 21, 1991



the Swanky Club smorgasbord is alive and well within the Jokers Wild. We stopped to take some photos but decided it was getting too late to stop in. We hopped back on the bus to make our last stop on the way back to the Gold Coast.

website of Wynn Stewart (www.wynnstewart.com). Stewart was a honky-tonk singer from Missouri who moved out to Las Vegas in 1961 to become a part owner in the Nashville Nevada Club. He then put together a band which became the house band for the club. According to rockabillyhall.com, Jim Pierce, who was the



Viva Las Vegas screen capture



Nashville Nevada from www.wynnstewart.com



piano player for Stewart's house band, believed there were some tax-related debts, which caused the IRS to shut down the Nashville Nevada Club. It is not clear if this was the 1977 closing date, or if it was closed for a short time and then re-opened.

It appears the club was abandoned until 1988 when a very unlikely hero brought the Nashville Nevada back to life. A local singer named Calamity Jayne was making her mark with her brand of cowpunk music at concert halls around Las Vegas. Her following began to grow in the 1980's, and by 1988 she decided to open her own concert venue for her band and other up-and-coming acts of the day. She remodeled the long-closed Nashville Nevada using what she claimed was a modern western brothel motif. The club was an instant hit, booking bands such as Social Distortion, The Blasters, Nirvana, The Black Crowes, The Byrds, Kris Kristofferson, Concrete Blonde, Sonic Youth, The Beat Farmers, Warren Zevon, The Wailers, Ian Hunter, Iggy Pop, Carl Perkins, The Goo Goo Dolls, the Smithereens, and Buddy

Guy, just to name a few. Some of these bands got their starts at the venue; others were already huge draws, but came to play at Calamity



Page 14 Henderson Home News, Henderson, Nevada  
Thursday, April 1, 1993

**THE**  
**\$40,000.+**  
**WILD**  
**Grand Opening Giveaway!**  
April 1 thru April 18

The doors open 4pm Thursday, April 1. It Will Be the Wildest Grand Opening Celebration Ever!

**WIN \$1000**  
Monday - Saturday During Our WILD Celebration. 3 Drawings Daily.

**FREE**  
T-SHIRT FOR ROYAL FLUSH WINNERS!

**SUNDAY \$500.**  
BONUS CASH DRAWINGS  
April 1 only  
**CAKE & CHAMPAGNE**  
Your slice could be worth \$\$\$

**JOKERS SLOT SURPRISE!!!**

**WILD BUFFETS**  
LUNCH \* 3.25 - DINNER \* 4.95

**2ND CHANCE** Play on the WILD Paycheck Tower!

**GRAND PRIZE DRAWING!**  
**Win a 1993 Saturn Station Wagon!**  
Or More Cold Cash!  
Sunday April 18 - 8pm

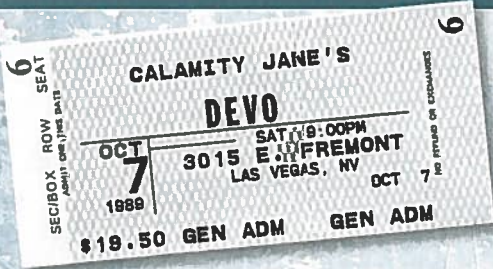
**WILD**  
Food Specials, WILD Entertainment & Much, Much More!  
All Details Posted

**JOKERS WILD**  
CASINO  
Boulder Highway • Henderson

Greg wanted to find the old Nashville Nevada Club site. We passed the building at 3015 East Fremont Street, which is across the street from the Showboat vacant lot on the way down the Boulder Highway. We were so engrossed in the Showboat stories, we passed right by the Nashville Nevada so we decided to head back up Boulder Highway just to see the site of the old club.


Strangely enough, although the Nashville Nevada Club opened back in 1961 and didn't close until 1977, finding any photos of the place is very difficult. Greg found a screen capture from the Elvis Presley Movie "Viva Las Vegas" in which they are driving past the club. The only other photo I could find was a grainy image on the





Jayne's because it was "the place" to be. Calamity Jayne's was at the height of its popularity in 1992 when Jayne herself got mixed up with some unsavory characters. She was involved in a drug smuggling ring that landed her in a maximum security prison





**NASHVILLE NEVADA**  
SALOONS & OPERA CLUBS

**NOV. HIGHLIGHTS**

28 TOM GRANT (JAZZ)  
29 DOWNY MILDEW  
30 DUKE ROBILLARD

DEC

1-EEK-A-MOUSE (REGGAE)  
(SHOWTIMES 8:30 PM 12 MIDNIGHT)

DEC. 13

**U.F.O.s**  
FORMOST AUTHORITY  
**ED SLADE**  
AEROSPACE SCIENTIST  
8 PM \$4.00 a Ticket

COMING JANUARY  
TOWER OF POWER



- Living Room Atmosphere (Brothel Decor)
- Concert Quality Stage & Sound
- Top Name Recording Artists in Concert
- Surprise Guest Appearances

**CALAMITY JAYNE & HER COWPUNX**  
EVERY FRI. & SAT. 9:00 TILL 3 AM

JAM WITH BAND AND TALENT WED. NITE  
NITE EVERY SUN. 9:30 3-BAND ROCK SHOWCASE

**3015 BOULDER HWY. — Just So. of Showboat**  
• 384-4591 • 384-6336 • OPEN 11 AM TILL...

**NOW APPEARING**  
THE UNPREDICTABLE

**Calamity Jayne**

HI, I'M CALAMITY JAYNE  
SEE ME FOR A GOODOOD TIME!

Major Credit Cards Accepted



**TIMES:**  
11 P.M. to  
3 A.M.

**NOW THRU**  
DEC. 16  
IN THE CASINO LOUNGE

**Dunes**  
HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB LAS VEGAS

*During the 1980's Calamity Jayne was gaining popularity with an underground group of very loyal fans. She even took her unusual brand of cowpunk/ shock and awe type music to the Dunes. It must have been quite a sight to see!*

for two years. The club was forced to close and sat abandoned again for several years until recently when it was reopened as the El Premier Nightclub. We took several photos of the place; maybe 20 years from now someone will unearth these photos and be amazed about how it looked back in 2011!



*The Nashville Nevada building in its current state.*

After the Nashville Nevada, we headed back to the Gold Coast, where we kicked back with a couple of drinks to discuss the day's events further. We were all amazed at what little remains of clubs that are only 20 years gone. We were disappointed that the history of these places seems to disappear a little more each year.

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, Rich Klabacha for his matchbook scans and Bill Judge for his ashtray scans.

I want to thank Greg Birdsell for putting together the tour and Phil Jensen and Carey Burke for giving us the guided tour. The amount of detail these two can remember from these clubs is amazing. This story does not do justice to their dialog and notes they gave us at each location. Someday I hope to learn just half of what these guys have forgotten about Nevada history.



# 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.

Tyrus Mulkey LM2211-21



- 100's of older LE's priced to sell!
- NCV's from all over the US!
- House chips from all over the US!
- Tokens!
- Older *Chip Chat* issues!
- Much, much, more! Check it out!

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



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## Need Supplies????

**We have Supplies!**

**Free 50 page supply catalog**

**Just for Chip and Token Collectors**



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

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

Phone 562-408-2463

E-Mail: [ctcoins@aol.com](mailto:ctcoins@aol.com)

*A name to remember  
when you need supplies!*



# A Poker Set for the Ages

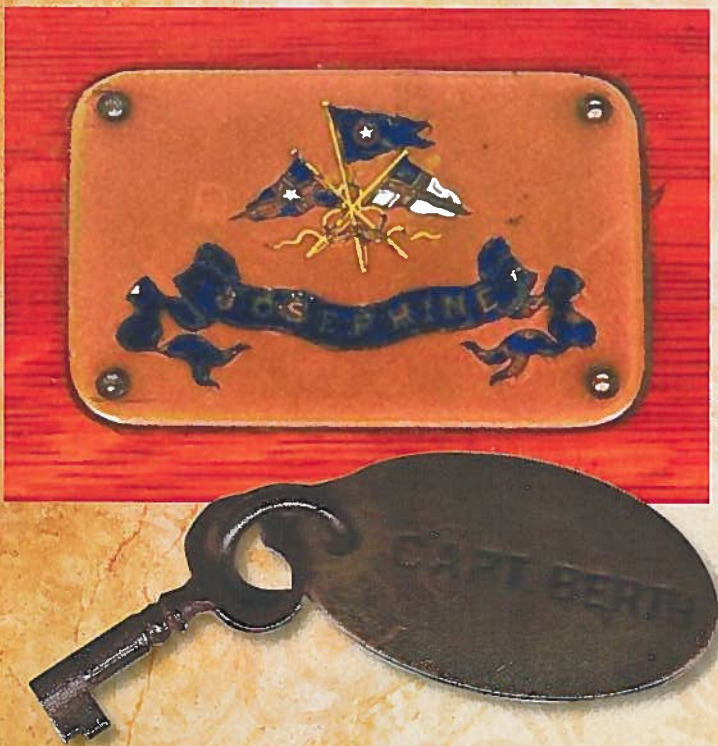


**P.A.B. Widener's Ivory Poker chip set from 1896**

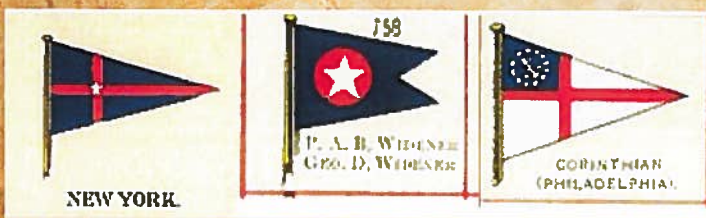


In February of 2011, club member Robert Eisenstadt was able to procure what is arguably the best and most valuable ivory poker chip set known! The 699-piece personalized set from 1896 belonged to Peter Arrell Brown (P.A.B.) Widener, one of the richest men in America at the time. But, when Robert purchased the set, he wasn't sure who originally owned it.

Robert had this to say about the set, "When I acquired this set, the only thing said about it was that Josephine was the name of a ship. The chips came in the oak box shown on this page (58). There are three wooden pull-out tiers (or trays) for the chips. Like many other old poker chip racks, there are divisions for groups of 10 chips that lie in a slanted position. 'Josephine' is inscribed on the brass plate atop the chest (shown more clearly below). The set has a working lock and key; the old key has a fob with it that is engraved, 'Capt. Berth,' and I guess that's where these chips were kept."



In working to determine the original owner of the set, Robert teamed up with fellow club member Richard Hanover. The name "Josephine" and the nautical pennants (burgees) seemed like the most promising leads. It turns out that the burgee on the left belongs to the New York Yacht Club. The burgee on the right is the Corinthian (Philadelphia) Yacht Club. The center burgee was determined to be the personal, registered flag of P.A.B. Widener and his son, Geo. D. Widener.



The center burgee not only appears on the name plate, but on all of the chips as well. Along with his personal burgee, Widener, was tied to the other two burgees as well. He was a member of the New York Yacht Club and the Corinthian Yacht Club in his home town of Philadelphia.

Peter A. B. Widener (1834-1915) of Philadelphia, was one of the wealthiest Americans of his time. According to the Philly History Blog at [www.phillyhistory.org](http://www.phillyhistory.org):

*During the second half of the nineteenth century, prominent businessmen throughout the United States amassed great fortunes through the development of new industries including railroads, steel production, and mining. Men such as Carnegie, Rockefeller, Morgan, and Vanderbilt became wildly wealthy and often spent that wealth on lavish houses, yachts, and travel as well as philanthropic endeavors such as universities, museums, and charitable organizations. The era became known as the Gilded Age, and many critics accused the wealthy of wielding unchecked power ...*

*During this time, there were few people in Philadelphia who could rival the wealth of Peter A.B. Widener. Born on November 13, 1834 to a bricklayer, Widener worked as a butcher and saved enough money to start one of the first meat store chains in the country. He also began buying stocks in street railways. Together with his friend William L. Elkins, Widener eventually controlled the streetcar system in Philadelphia. His wealth grew even more as he became involved in public transportation systems in Chicago and other cities. [He helped finance the NYC subway system.] He later expanded his power by purchasing large blocks of stock in the United States Steel Corporation, Standard Oil, and Pennsylvania Railroad.*

Widener was also a community organizer, art collector and philanthropist and, on March 4, 1896, he launched his yacht *Josephine* named after his wife, Hannah Josephine Dunton (1836–1896). The steel-hulled, schooner-rigged, steam-powered yacht was 225 feet long, had 1,200 horsepower, and a speed of 16 knots. Some 200 guests were invited to the launch, including high-ranking members of the military, federal, state and local governments, commerce and society. The *New York Times*' news story of the event noted, "...the most important fact in connection with this launch is that it shows that the tide, which has set toward England for building yachts for American owners, will soon be stayed" as yachts could be made more quickly and cheaply in the U.S. rather than abroad. Mr. Widener was praised for showing his Americanism by building his yacht in America.

"The eyebrow-raising accouterments" on the *Josephine* were certainly indicative of P.A.B. Widener's wealth. The vessel



included: a piano; a 30-by-18-foot-wide saloon (which featured paneled mahogany, a fireplace and large bookcases). The vessel also included a very large deck-room apartment (which served as a primary sleeping quarters, including a tiled bathroom). There were also eight double staterooms with washrooms, bathrooms and pantries, according to the Times. It is very likely that the vessel also carried the ivory poker chip set. The oak box holding the chip set had a working lock and key. The old key has a fob with it that is engraved, "Capt. Berth."

According to [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Hannah Josephine Dunton Widener died on July 31, 1896 on the *Josephine* just five months after the ship was launched. Shortly after her death, the yacht was transferred to the U.S. Navy and renamed the USS *Vixen* in 1898.



*A photo of the former Widener yacht Josephine outfitted as the USS Vixen from the State of New Jersey - State Department website, [www.njarchives.org](http://www.njarchives.org).*



*Widener portrait by John Singer Sargent - 1902  
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.*

The ivory chip set is amazing in many ways, one of which is its condition. Robert commented, "Everything is in excellent condition, the racks and the chips! The chips are 1-1/2" in diameter, with the same design on both sides of each chip. They are in surprisingly perfect condition except that, on some of the blue and lavender chips, the rim color is slightly faded and a little mottled, but, only on some, and this imperfection is not serious on any of the chips. The chips seem to have no exposed nerve hole and no cracks at all, not even edge cracks! They are definitely ivory. They have the distinctive ivory grain, etc. and, many of the chips show the smallest dark dot in the center where the nerve would have gone. But not one of the chips has a hole or anything that would let light through."

Another quality that makes the set unique is the completeness and size of the set – there are 699 chips in the set. Amazingly, 115 years after the set was produced, only one chip is missing. The rack has spaces for exactly 700 chips (70 ten-chip sections), and only a single red "5" chip is missing.

Another aspect of this set that makes it unique are the denominations included: "5" and "25" denomination chips are common in ivory sets, but this set includes denominations of: "1", "10", "50" and "100." Robert cited the book, "Antique Gambling Chips," which stated that "Only about a half-dozen different ivory chip designs of "10" are known, and only about a dozen each for "1", "50" and "100." And, it is unheard of to have six different denominations in one chip set."

Hardly any poker chips have been traced to their owner, and with this set being traced to such a famous figure makes it all the more impressive. Even the custom-made chest is impressive. Made from tiger oak, the chest contains three chip trays that sit atop each other. Each of the trays sections are configured so the chips slant backwards slightly. Both the chest and the trays are made of oak, with brass hardware.



*Seen here are the 10-chip sections of the three chip trays. In all, there are 70 sections in the 700 chip-capacity rack.*



It is no coincidence that there is a white star on Widener's personal burgee, the chips, and on the logo and burgee of White Star Line, which built the Titanic. Widener was part-owner of White Star Line. Ironically, Widener's son and grandson perished on the Titanic's fateful voyage.



This impressive set contains 100 white "1", 99 red "5", 150 blue "10", 150 burgundy "25", 100 orange "50" and 100 lavender "100" for a total of 699 chips. The set did not come with playing cards and the ones shown here are just props for the photo.

The USS *Vixen* was decommissioned from the US Navy on November 15, 1922. Ownership of the vessel changed through the 1920's, as well as the name of the ship, that included such tags as the *Tamiami Queen* and the *Collier County*. Ownership changed hands again in 1928 with the schooner being named the *Princess*

*Montagu*. The *Montagu* hit a rock in 1929 and was eventually scuttled in June 1930. Fortunately, this fantastic chip set will live on in Robert's care. You can view more at Robert's website... [http://www.antiquegamblingchips.com/Ivories\\_Josephine.htm](http://www.antiquegamblingchips.com/Ivories_Josephine.htm)



# Marlow Casino Chips

CC&GTCC Member R-6180

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**Read "Gene Trimble on Chips"**

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**David Spragg**

38 Oak Tree Road, Marlow, Bucks SL7 3EE, United Kingdom

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

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**Richard Edward Staeffler Memorial  
California Card Room Reference  
by  
Dick Staeffler**

**Dedicated in Memory of  
Richard Edward Staeffler**

We, the collecting community, thank him for his exhaustive efforts in creating, and updating, this comprehensive and monumental project.

Thank you Dick for your dedication and hard work.

The following people wanted to demonstrate their appreciation by placing an ad in the convention program and in the club magazine.

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday Silverman  | Jim Follis        |
| Barry Weintraub   | Jim Noll          |
| Butch Reynolds    | Jim Rauzy         |
| Caleb Nolley      | Joel Bloom        |
| Charles Davis     | Kermit Stephen    |
| Charles Kaplan    | Larry Odoms       |
| Doug Deems        | Luke Rapley       |
| Fred De Keyser    | Raulin Mendonca   |
| Fred Hempel       | Reggie Gummer     |
| Fred Lamb         | Robert Mc Column  |
| George Dmitrevsky | Steve Passalacqua |
| Greg Birdsell     | Stu Lovett        |
| Jim Colbert       |                   |



# POPE AIR FORCE BASE



By John K. Kallman

In 1918, Congress established Camp Bragg (later renamed Fort Bragg), as an Army field artillery site named for the Confederate General Braxton Bragg. An aviation landing field was added a year later. The War Department officially established "Pope Field" in 1919, and it ranks as one of the oldest installations in the Air Force. With the establishment of the United States Air Force, Pope Field became Pope Air Force Base.

Pope Air Force Base is located 12 miles northwest of Fayetteville, North Carolina. It is named after an early military aviator, 1st Lt. Harley Halbert Pope and was carved out of Fort Bragg.

I acquired a 50¢ Wreath Mold chip several years ago, and have to date not seen another denomination of this style, although where there is one, generally there are others as well.

More recently I received four additional chips from Pope that are also in the Wreath Mold, but this time with "Good For In Trade" added. This is usually done as a ploy to get around existing anti-gaming laws. Of course, the chips could have been used for exactly what the purport to be: Good For In Trade!







# FREE CHIP LIST



**JERRY  
HOOVER  
(R-2572)**



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



Christine and Sheldon Smith

*of*

**ONENEVADADOLLAR,**

our eBay user ID,  
take this opportunity to thank all of  
the people who have purchased casino  
memorabilia from us.



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

*-Thank You!*

## Update Your Club Listing On the Club Web Site

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

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

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





# Pre Grand Opening

**A first hand account of  
Pre-Grand Opening nights from  
some of Atlantic City's first casinos.**

Once New Jersey voters approved casino gambling for Atlantic City back in 1976, a couple of casino memorabilia collectors decided to make plans to visit the newly opened casinos. This couple was able to get invited to the exclusive "pre-opening" nights of some of the newly created casinos. Along with picking up

the pre-opening night memorabilia such as chips and fun money, the couple took notes on their experiences. The couple wishes to remain anonymous so the signatures on their note cards have been electronically removed.



# Resorts Hotel and Casino Atlantic City



Photo courtesy of B64 at en.wikipedia

First Casino in New Jersey  
Resorts International  
Atlantic City, N.J.  
Play money from pre-official  
opening, May 19, 1978  
Previously was:  
Haddon-Chalfonte Hall  
On the Boardwalk between  
Pennsylvania & N. Carolina Aves.  
Officially opened May 26, 1978

*We were guests.*



The play money is the same front and back, printed on very thin paper with no names or identification of any kind. The Paulson H&C Chips are custom made "Training School" NCV chips.



# Boardwalk Regency

Second Casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

Play money from the pre-opening of the Boardwalk Regency (Caesars World) Casino, Atlantic City, N.J., June 21, 1979. Good for play on the tables. Slot machines not open until June 23, 1979. Official opening - June 26, 1979. 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.



The play money from the Boardwalk Regency is generic, and only the "10" and "20" are similar. The "5" is printed on extremely thin, delicate paper. The "1,000" is a higher quality thicker paper. There are three training chips and a set of colored non denomination chips, probably for roulette.





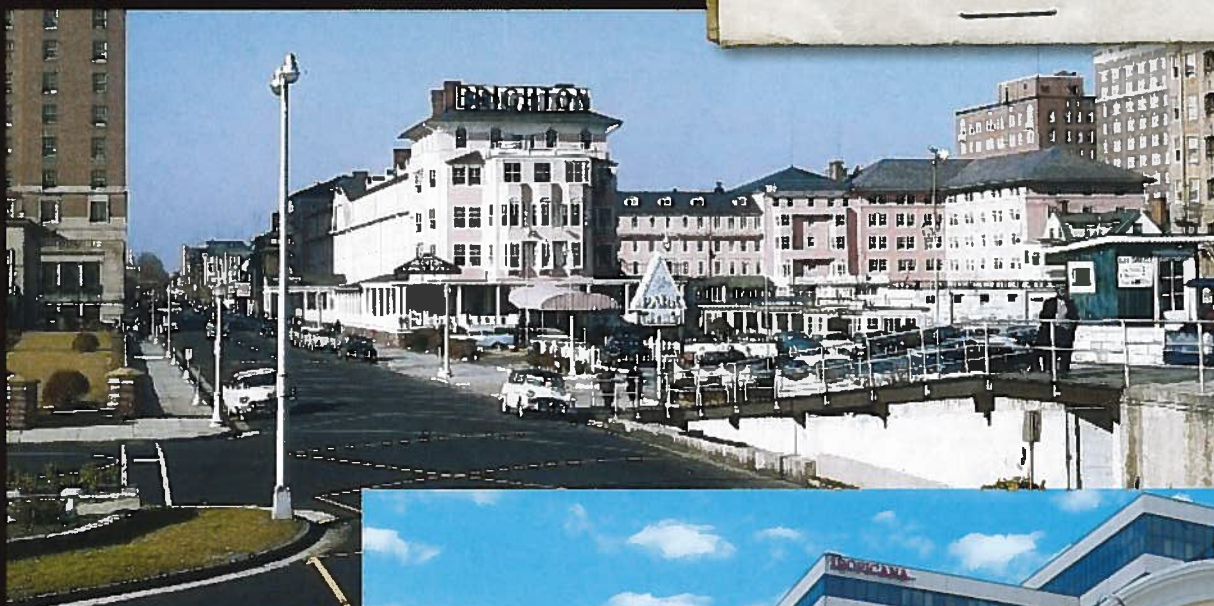
# Brighton Hotel and Casino

*While play money is mentioned in the notes, none were included with the other memorabilia. The photo below shows the Brighton Hotel years before the casino took over the property in 1980. It currently is the Tropicana A.C.*

Fourth Casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

Grete Bay's "Brighton Hotel and Casino" opened on Friday, Aug. 8, 1980, from 2 P.M. to 2 A.M. for gambling with play money at the tables. Some slot machines were open for real money. Officially opened for real money at the tables on Aug. 13, 1980.

*I was there Aug 8+9, 1980*

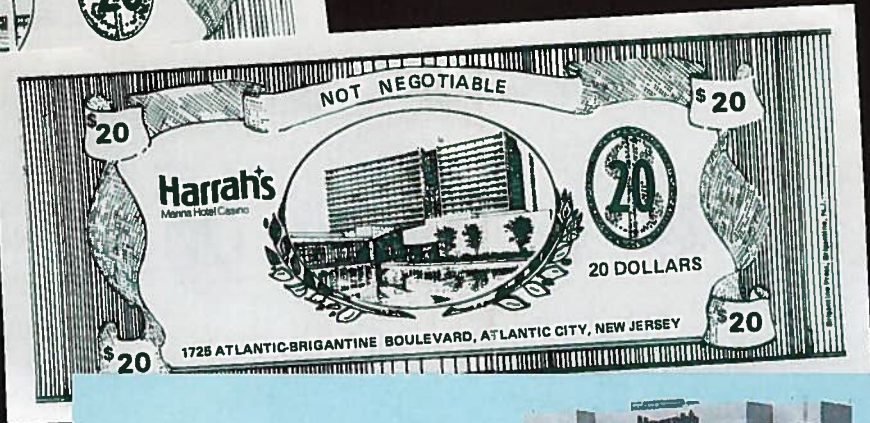
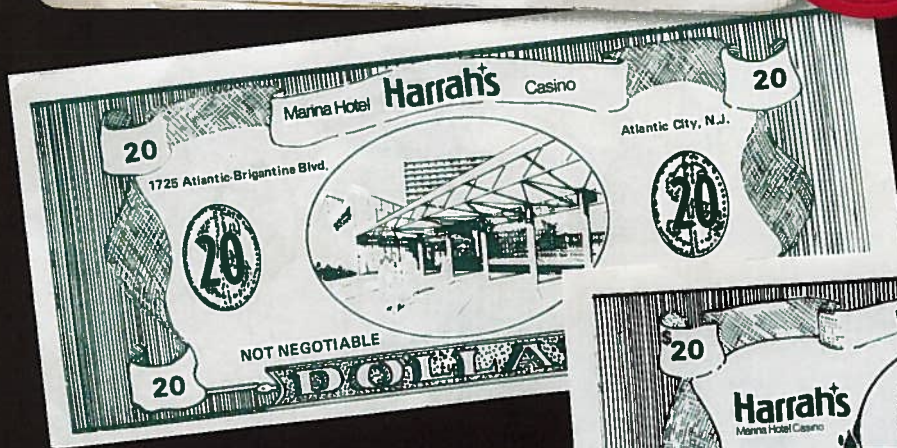




# Harrah's Hotel and Casino

Fifth Casino in Atlantic City, N.J.  
Harrah's Hotel & Casino, at the Marina, opened on Monday, Nov. 10, 1980 with play money at the tables, 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.. Also on Nov. 11 for play money. Most slot machines were opened for real money play. This is the first casino to have dime slots. Closed Nov. 12, 13 & 14. Dealers didn't have enough practice. Opened officially on Nov. 15, 1980.

*We were there for opening  
Nov. 10, 1980 at 3 p.m.*



*The play money from Harrah's is custom made for the first few nights of operation. As written in the notes, the slot machines were operating with real money, but the table games were using the play money shown for at least five days. The chips shown were provided as part of the Harrah's memorabilia set, but it is not known how they were used. The two generic chips with no printing might have been for roulette, the \$1.00 gaming school chip and the Harrah's \$5.00 Fun Nite chip may have been used at the black jack and craps tables.*

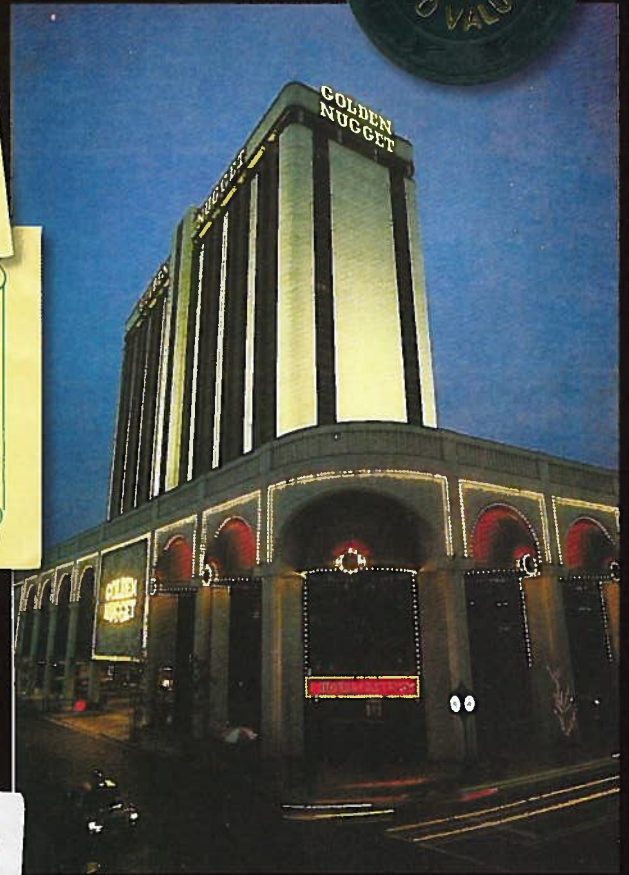
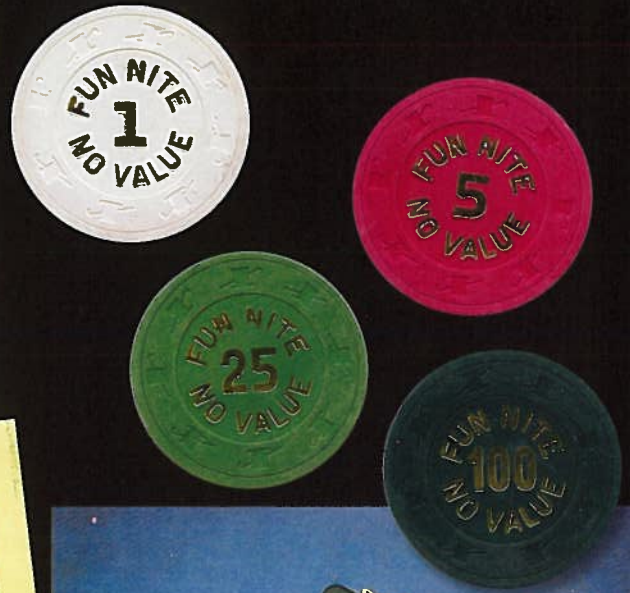




# Golden Nugget

Sixth Casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Golden Nugget, Boston & Pacific Aves. Most beautiful so far. Opened with play money at the tables Dec. 9 & 10, 1980. Most slot machines were open for real money play. Used play money to help charity. United Way sold the play money, \$20.00 for \$1.00 real money. Gaming commission met after closing time and okayed for next day opening with limited play at the tables (42.00), Dec. 11, 1980. Opened for full play Dec. 12, 1980. The only casino, so far, that wasn't closed down temporarily between play money use and real money.



The Golden Nugget used generic Fun Nite chips but custom printed play money. The notes show the play money was "sold" to patrons for two days prior to going to real money. The Golden Nugget closed in 1987 but recently announced plans to re-open their casino by purchasing the Trump Marina Hotel and Casino.



# Playboy Hotel and Casino

The play money from the Playboy Hotel and Casino are fantastic looking custom printed bills. Unfortunately, the Playboy Casino itself did not fair well with it's three level casino design. Problems obtaining their gaming license meant that the Playboy executives needed to sell their shares in the casino to their partner, the Elsinore Corporation.

It operated for three years as the Playboy before it was changed over to the Atlantis Casino. The bills shown below were not included in the collection, these bills were obtained from an on-line auction site.

In June 1984, Playboy owner, Hugh Hefner was refused a renewal of his gaming license, The Hotel/Casino was sold to the Elsinore Corp. and renamed "Atlantis". As they were losing thousands of dollars every day, they were ordered to close on May 22, 1989.

*The hotel part will stay open*





# 10

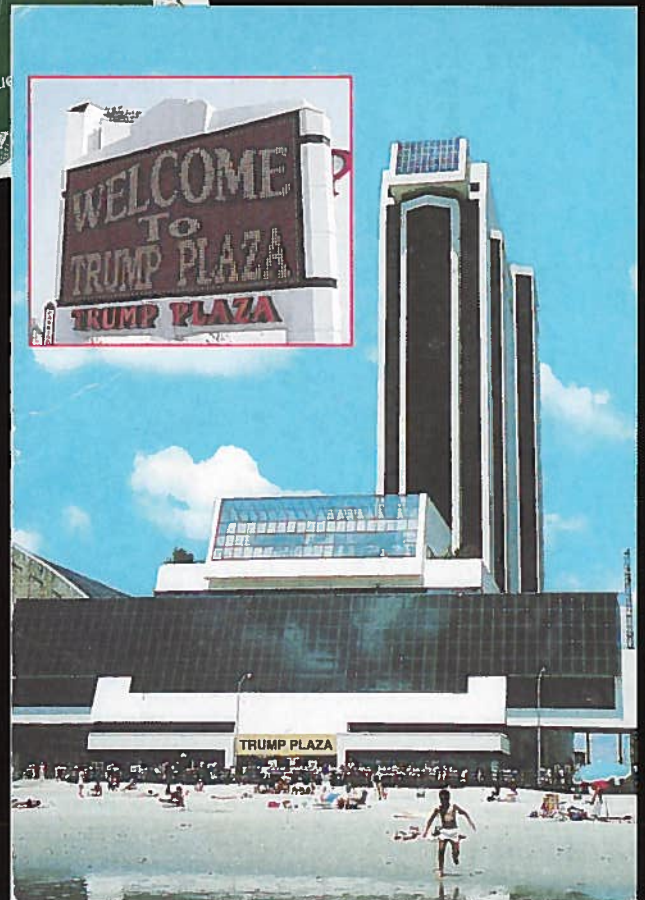
Play money from the pre-opening of Harrah's at Trump Plaza Casino, Atlantic City, N.J., May 14, 1984, at 2 p.m.. Had a false-alarm fire at 3 p.m., and we all had to leave. We were allowed back in about a half hour later. Next day they had to shut down half their slots as they were not ready for handling jackpot payoffs. Next day the casino commission had them shut down all the machines. What with all their problems they didn't receive their permanent license until June 11, 1984.

*We attended the opening.*

# Harrah's at Trump Plaza



*"The Donald" jumped into the casino business in 1984 and as you can see from the notes above, it was a rocky road from the start. The custom Fun Night chips and Fun Night currency are nice souvenirs from when the casino first opened as Harrah's at Trump Plaza. The partnership between Harrah's and Trump only lasted for about 6 months before Donald told Harrah's "You're Fired." Trump thought Harrah's was mismanaging the casino, so he decided to go it alone and the casino is now known simply as Trump Plaza.*





#12

On April 4, 1987 a new casino "Showboat" opened on the boardwalk in Atlantic City, N. J. Unfortunately we were out of town and missed the opening.

We visited "Showboat" on April 7th. As we were unable to obtain their "Play money", we bought some of the regular chips for our souvenirs.

# Showboat



*Photo courtesy of Bob Jagendorf*



# Trump Taj Mahal



On April 2, 1990 the Taj Mahal opened in Atlantic City, N.J. The thirteenth in sequence, but now the twelfth as the Atlantis closed. It is fantastic! and beautiful! Lavish decor! It is breathtaking! But they had their share of problems. The slots kept going on "tilt". And a good many of the change machines stopped working. The Casino Commission closed the casino for 24 hours or until the problems were corrected. One section of slots was reopened in 24 hrs. The rest shortly thereafter. The entrance up Virginia Ave. from Pacific Ave is outstanding!

We attended the opening.



*While the Fun Nite chips are generic, the play money for the Trump Taj Mahal are nice looking bills printed on high quality paper. From the notes, it sounds as if the opening was a bit rough.*





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

I have one of the  
largest collection  
from these states  
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## Gary Rohloff

[garyro@mtc.net](mailto:garyro@mtc.net)

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

---

### Also lots of Chips from these states

---

Wisconsin  
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Michigan  
Indiana

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

Arkansas  
Louisiana  
Montana  
Caribbean  
Canada  
Cruise Ships  
Many Misc.

---

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

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

*Thank You, Gary*



# Logo Usage Policy

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

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

Example



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



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# CC&GTCC Claims Form

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

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

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

The process will work as follows:

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

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

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

## Reward Fund

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

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

The Club will pay a reward as follows:

If the retail value of the stolen property is less than \$5,000, the reward is \$250

If \$5000 to \$20,000, the reward is \$500

If greater than \$20,000, the reward is \$1000.

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



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

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

## Reference Center

Welcome to the CC&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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Flamingo \$25 Las Vegas Casino Chip,  
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**Sold for \$8,365** May 2010  
HA.com/6035\*47353

Consign now and  
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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 \$100 Chip: The Elusive  
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Chip Series  
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November 2010  
HA.com/6047\*47353



Golden Nugget \$25 Las Vegas Casino Chip,  
Sixth Issue, R-10, Circa 1950s  
**Sold for \$10,755** May 2010  
HA.com/6035\*47360

View all lots for this October event at [HA.com/6066](http://HA.com/6066)  
and bid in real time at [HERITAGELive.com](http://HERITAGELive.com)  
**Consignment deadline: August 24**



For more information contact:  
Tom Slater - Director, Americana  
214-409-1441 • [TomS@HA.com](mailto:TomS@HA.com)

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