

Volume 25 Number 2
\$6.95



Casino Collectible News

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

Cuba Today

Havana, a travel back in time

Part One

PLUS...

Story of the Willows

Profile of a Pioneer

Tony Cornero

Honest John's

Hard Rock Openings

CC>CC 2012 Convention

And More!



James Campiglia



The undisputed King of Casino Chips

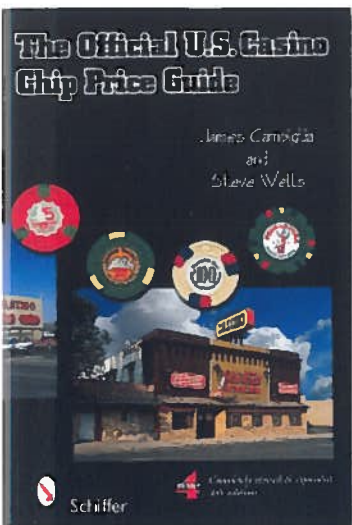


Finally has a website!



JamesChips.com

**Your New Source For Casino Chips From:
Vegas, Tahoe, Reno, Small Towns
Deadwood and more!**



**Buy "The Official U.S. Casino
Chip Price Guide"
on my website - Get an
autographed copy with
FREE Priority shipping!**



www.jameschips.com



The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

EDITORIAL

Editor
Todd Barrett

16717 Sky Valley Drive
Ramona, CA 92065
editor@ccgtcc.com

ADVERTISING

Advertising Manager
Charles T. Rodgers

P.O. Box 4572
Lakewood CA 90711
advertising@ccgtcc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Doug Smith P.O. Box 691085 Houston, TX 77269-1085 president@ccgtcc.com
Vice President	Sheldon Smith 3549 Casa Real Way Las Vegas, NV 89147 vicepresident@ccgtcc.com
Treasurer	John Zoesch 533 Hunting Hills Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 treasurer@ccgtcc.com
Secretary	David Spragg 38 Oak Tree Road Marlow Bucks, SL7 3EE United Kingdom secretary@ccgtcc.com
Membership Officer	Steve Bedo 1215 E. Dalton Ave. Glendora, CA 91741 membership@ccgtcc.com

CLUB OFFICIALS

Claims Director	Mike Quinlivan claims@ccgtcc.com
Legal Counsel	Eric S. Rosenblum, Esq legal@ccgtcc.com
Publicity Director	Sheldon Smith 3549 Casa Real Way Las Vegas, NV 89147 publicity@ccgtcc.com
Promotions Director	Roy Nelson 4338 Grey Spencer Dr Las Vegas, NV 89141 promotions@ccgtcc.com
Education Director	Rick Pokracki P.O. Box 360 Plainfield, IL 60586 educate@ccgtcc.com
CC&GTCC Webmaster	David Spragg webmaster@ccgtcc.com
CCN Magazine Webmaster	Allan Anderson adesign@sbcglobal.net
Club Librarian	John Kallman P.O. Box 122 Sartell, MN 56377 librarian@ccgtcc.com
Building Project Finance Committee Chair	Mike Skelton building@ccgtcc.com
Convention Chairpersons	Mike Quinlivan & Corni Quinlivan PO Box 8627 Bend, OR 97708 convention@ccgtcc.com
Election Committee Chairpersons	Bruce & Mary Ann Massey election@ccgtcc.com
Auction Chairman	David Spragg auction@ccgtcc.com
OTY Chairman	Jim Follis oty@ccgtcc.com
Planning Committee Chairman	Jim Follis jim@gamingore.com
Hall of Fame and Standards & Archives Committees	Michael Knapp ChipProf@aol.com
Corporate Advertising	Allan Anderson corporateadvertising@ccgtcc.com
Historian	Carey Burke



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

Editor	Todd Barrett
Assistant Editors	Carl Kogut and Ken Kleber
Advertising	Charles T. Rodgers
Printing	Modern Litho Printing

President	Doug Smith
Vice President	Sheldon Smith
Treasurer	John Zoesch
Secretary	David Spragg
Membership Officer	Steve Bedo

Contributors

Allan Anderson • Steve Bedo • Westen Charles
Casey Focazio-Follis • John Kallman • Robert Pardue
Ralph Pollack • Corni Quinlivan • Mike Quinlivan
Doug Smith • David Spragg

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

Original articles are encouraged and are welcomed by the Editor. However, no assurance is implied that such material will be used or returned to the author. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not represent those of The Casino Collectible News or the Editorial staff.

Join The Fun!

CC>CC Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Country _____

E-mail or Phone Number _____

My collection interests are:

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

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>CC to:

CC>CC Membership Officer
Steve Bedo

1215 E. Dalton Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741

Sponsored by: _____

or sign up or renew on line at...

www.CCGTCC.com



Casino Collectible News

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

A Member of the American Numismatic Association (C-140538)



Cover Story
Cuba Today - Part One
Page 36

- 6 President's Letter
- 7 New Members
- 8 CC>CC 2012 Convention
- 22 Of Literary Note

28 Story of the Willows



- 34 Club Merchandise
- 36 Cuba Today - Part One
- 48 Hard Rock Las Vegas
Back Stage Pass



- 50 Hard Rock Casino Aruba
- 52 Hard Rock Northfield Park
- 54 Auction Chairman Update
- 56 Profile of a Pioneer
Tony Cornero



- 70 Meet Me at Honest John's
- 75 People's Choice Awards
- 76 CC>CC Raffle
- 77 Mentoring Program
- 78 Logo Usage
- 79 Claim Form
- 79 Reward Fund
- 80 CC>CC Web site

Cover Photo Courtesy of
The Ralph Pollack Collection

American Numismatic Association Membership Application

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

Regular Student Junior Senior Associate

Present or former ANA number, if any _____

Mr. Mrs Ms.

Name, please print

Street

City

State Zip

Country

Date of Birth

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

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

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

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

Signature of Applicant

Date

Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Check Money Order Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers

Expiration Date

Signature of Cardholder (Required)

Dues

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

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

Forward completed application to:

ANA

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

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

Visit Us Online!

www.CCGTCC.com



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

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

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



See You There!

www.CCGTCC.com

Advertising

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

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

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

Please Note

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

Schedule of Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

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

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

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

Winter Issue
Mailing Date: December
Deadline for Ads: October 1st

Moving?

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

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

Rates

Advertising rates for members are available by emailing the advertising manager at advertising@ccgtcc.com

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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



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 _____



Doug Smith
President

President's Letter

It is hard to believe that it's just about time again for our 2012 Convention.

This year being our 20th we have lots of great stuff in store for everyone. For the first time that I remember we are having a sit down Banquet rather than the traditional buffet.

While we are still awaiting confirmation on a banquet speaker, we have secured Mark Hall Patton (Pawn Stars expert) to be the speaker at our volunteer reception which is just one more great reason to volunteer.

As mentioned in the last issue, both pre-registration and regular registration fees have been lowered again this year. Some very special goodies will be available only to those that pre-register including a special octagon snapper and some great coupons we have recently secured from several casinos. In addition, those that pre-register can also get into the show 30 minutes early on Thursday and Friday.

Another change scheduled for this year, due to popular demand, is the show will be opened for one hour longer on opening day Thursday till 7:00 PM.

We have some super educational seminars scheduled again this year including presentations by Ralph Pollack, David Schwartz of UNLV, Charles Kaplan and for the first time a special Illegal's seminar hosted by Gene Trimble and Ed Hertel.

Be sure not to miss your chance for the 2012 CC>CC Raffle which will be one of the largest ever. An amazing amount of items have already been donated and each prize is sure to be a huge win. The raffle is a GREAT way to support the club and at the same time have a chance to win some nice prizes. Please look for the add in this issue of the magazine for information on making a donation or purchasing tickets

The CC>CC Relies on our members support and efforts each year to continue to put on our conventions and if you would like to help, we would love to have you as a volunteer. No experience is necessary and it's a fantastic way to meet new people and help the club. Please contact Belinda Hixon @ Txbel711@aol.com if you can help out.

I can't give enough thanks to all our volunteers, our committee chairs and especially our convention chairs Mike and Corni Quinlivan for all their efforts. It is because of members like these who make this a special club that we can all be proud of.

See you at the South Point !!!!!

For a full Presidents Report as well as Treasurers, Membership, MOGH and other committee reports, please visit the club website at www.CCGTCC.com.

Doug "Cigarman" Smith
LM-3209-147

New Members

Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
8394	Brown	David K.	PA	Chambersburg	Club Website
8397	Brattain	Kevin	IL	Peoria	Former Member
8398	Wonch	Mike	MI	Troy	Andy Hughes
8399	Kinder	Al	NJ	Pennsauken	Ricky Pushkin
8400	Kershaw-Cole	Dr. Pamela Jo	CA	Palm Desert	Walter Cole
8401	Kincheloe	Richard	TX	Dallas	Archie Black
8402	Arial	Alexandre		France	Club Website
8403	Carson	Jack	MD	Takoma Park	Former Member
8404	James	Michael	NC	Waxhaw	Archie Black
8405	Murray	Mark		Australia	Matt Elliot
8406	Kriegel	Jeremy	MA	Arlington	Andy Hughes
8407	Neilmeyer	Brian		Canada	Andy Hughes
8408	Moore	Kevin R.	TX	Sulphur Springs	Club Website
8409	Murillo	Lench	CA	Palmdale	Mike Baldwin
8410	Ruhberg	Gary	SD	Sioux Falls	Club Website
8411	Frischkom	John	OR	Portland	Club Website
8412	Bulanda	Joe	CA	Riverbank	Archie Black
8413	Bardascini	David	NY	Broadalbin	Former Member
8414	Schuyler	Alan	TX	Austin	Andy Hughes
8415	Hinkle	Billy	WY	Cheyenne	Club Website
8416	Chitty	David	MS	Benton	Archie Black
8417	Clewell	Ron	MO	Raymore	Former Member
8417	Safronov	Vitaly		Russia	Leonidas Tan
8419	Schoening	Brian	MO	Kearney	Former Member
8420	Breslin	Robert	AL	Eufaula	Club Website
8421	Kahn	William	NY	New York	Andy Hughes
8422	Kelly	John	IL	Decatur	Debra Meister
8423	Hertzberg	Taryn	TN	Columbia	Former Member
8424	Brinton	Keith	NV	Las Vegas	Robert Brinton
8425	Schaller	Robert	CA	Barstow	Club Website
8426	Fabbiano	Roberto		United Kingdom	Jason Skinner
8427	Smeiser	Dwight	OK	Oklahoma City	Club Website
8428	Jones	Huff	OR	Eugene	Club Website
8429	Fraietta	Frank	PA	Prospect	Ricky Pushkin
8430	Tomaszewski	Trisha	CA	El Segundo	Malcolm McNeil
8430-A	Tomaszewski	John	CA	El Segundo	Trisha Tomaszewski
8431	Hagan	Jim	TX	Santa Fe	Andy Hughes
8432	Griffiths	William	CA	Canyon Country	Andy Hughes
8432-A	Griffiths	Evelyn	CA	Canyon Country	Andy Hughes
8433	Prasad	Joel		Australia	Andy Hughes
8434	Peterson	Christopher	AL	Birmingham	Andy Hughes
8435	Loneragan	William	CA	Simi Valley	Former Member
8436	DiGiovanni	Joe	NV	Las Vegas	Andy Hughes
8437	Douglis	Michael L.	CA	Redwood City	Mike Wonch

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

Convention 2012 Our 20th!

WELCOME TO SOUTH POINT

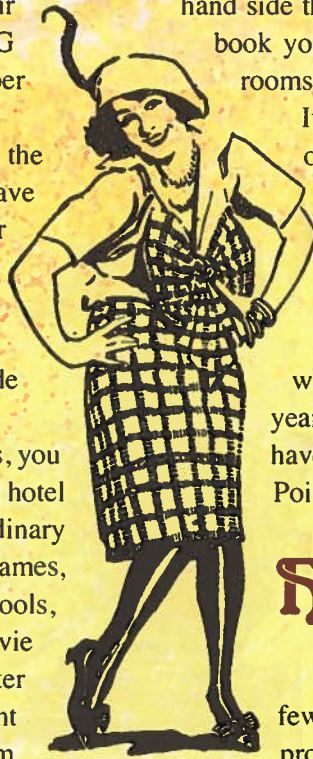
By Mike and Corni Quinlivan



HOT DAWG!! Our 20th annual convention will be **THE BEES KNEES!** Come join us from Wednesday, June 20th through Saturday, June 23rd at the South Point Hotel in Las Vegas as we celebrate 20 wonderful years of our club! The theme this year is **THE ROARING 20's** ... so dig up some glad rags and flapper dress and get a wiggle on!

We will be **PUTTING ON THE RITZ** at the beautiful South Point Hotel once again. We have many great events planned with over 80 dealer tables of merchandise, educational seminars, the 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 past three conventions, you know that the South Point property is a beautiful hotel with an easy-access show floor, an extraordinary casino floor with lots of good slots and table games, several restaurants with reasonable prices, pools, spa, 64 lanes of bowling, a 16 screen movie complex, and a state-of-the art equestrian center for when you need a break from the excitement of the convention! You will be a short ride from one of the larger outlet malls, a large antique mall, and of course the fabulous Strip! New this year in Las Vegas is the Mob Museum, near the Fremont Street Experience in downtown, and it has gotten rave reviews since opening on February 14th ... a memorable, infamous date from 1929.



(866) 796-7111, and use the club's special booking code of CAS0615. If you'd rather book on-line, go to the club website (www.ccgctcc.com) and select the link on the left hand side that says "2012 Hotel Booking". The deadline to book your room is May 25, 2012 or until our block of rooms is filled.

If you are coming to Las Vegas early or staying over after the convention, our room block runs for more than two weeks from Tuesday June 12th through Thursday, June 28th. So... make those reservations my May 25th!

These room nights are extremely important to keep our facility costs down, and they help with negotiations for convention space in future years. Support your club, stay in a great room, and have easy access to all our convention and the South Point have to offer!

HELP WANTED

Volunteers run our conventions! Spend a few hours helping out with registration, at the promotions table, the membership table, setting up or taking down the show floor. Contact Belinda Hixon at TXBel711@aol.com to volunteer a bit of time to our club. You never know whom you'll meet when volunteering at the convention!

Through Sheldon Smith's efforts, we are pleased to announce that Mr. Mark Hall-Patton, curator of the Clark County Museum and frequent expert on Pawn Stars will be the speaker at the Saturday night volunteer reception. As in the past, this reception is for Volunteers ONLY!!

HOTEL

RESERVATIONS

The South Point Hotel sells out most weekends at \$120 plus per night, so we are excited to secure favorable room rates of just \$50 per night Sunday through Thursday and \$80 per night for Friday and Saturday. Each room comes with a 42" flat screen LED TV, Point Plush mattresses, and Wi-Fi is available. Call the toll free reservation number at



PRE-

REGISTRATION

Each person must pick up his or her own packet using a photo ID with address. No packets will be mailed to non-attendees. Children under 12 will not be charged for show entry; therefore pre-registration for them is not required. However, please provide their names and ages so that a special Junior Collector packet can be made available for them.

Pre-registration packets can be picked up at the Registration desk on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm ONLY, and during regular registration

desk hours on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There will be 4 lines, separated alphabetically to help make the process fast and smooth. Your pre-registration envelope will contain your show badge, banquet tickets (if ordered), poker and blackjack confirmations (if participating), and any freebies, special coupons, giveaways or “swag” that we can obtain. Remember – if you are attending the banquet on Wednesday evening, you must pick up your registration packet before 4:00 pm that day!

EARLY BIRD BANQUET AND TRADE SESSION

Just a note – all Banquet attendees must be club members. If you plan on bringing a spouse or friend, be sure to sign them up for Club membership BEFORE the banquet. There will be no opportunity to join the club after the registration desk closes at 4pm on Wednesday.

The Banquet, scheduled for Wednesday evening, June 20th, will be a fabulous ROARING 20’s themed SIT-DOWN dinner this year! Come dressed as a flapper, a silent movie star or a rum runner, and you just may win a prize. If you’re not in a costume, business casual dress is appropriate. Though it’s hot in June in Vegas, tank tops, flip-flops or shorts are not acceptable at the banquet. No rag-a-muffin dress, please.

Reserve your tickets via the registration form or on-line. The ticket price is \$45 per person, or \$450 for a table of 10. Please provide all 10 names and full payment when sending in the reservation form. A special Roaring 20’s themed menu will be served, which will be a sit down affair instead of buffet style this year. The speaker for this event will be Dr. Eliot Jacobson, who holds a Ph.D. in mathematics. For 25 years, Dr. Jacobson has held positions as professor of mathematics and professor of computer science. With dozens of research articles, publications and media appearances, Dr. Jacobson is widely recognized as one of the world’s top experts on casino table games and casino game mathematics. Unfortunately, no tickets will be available at the door.

When the banquet ends, the trade session begins! Bring what you can carry, allow space for others, and remember – NO direct selling or buying of items.

- EXHIBITS - GRAND BALLROOM A&B

All members are encouraged to enter an exhibit and compete for cash prizes. The exhibits that members display show their collecting specialties and interests, and can either be competitive or non-competitive. Please contact Casey Focazio-Follis, Exhibit Chairman at exhibits@ccgtcc.com to enter. The Club will provide display cases for your exhibit at no cost.

Personalized exhibits are one of the highlights of the Convention, with members looking forward to seeing what other members collect. Past exhibits have included chips, tokens, silver strikes, ashtrays, belt buckles, dice, money clips, hotel history, security badges, a t-shirt quilt, and much more. Be sure to vote for your favorite exhibit.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

Rick Pokracki has scheduled some “pos-i-lute-ly” fabulous seminars this year – two on Thursday and two on Friday at 9:00 am and 3:00 pm respectively. You can read all about these seminars in this issue of *Casino Collectible News*.

BRUCE LANDAU MEMORIAL AUCTION

This year’s auction will be held on Thursday evening, June 21st at 7:00 pm, and should prove once again to be a memorable part of the Convention. Auction Chair David Spragg has once again put together a stellar list of lots that can be viewed on the show floor prior to opening gavel drop by our illustrious “live wire” auctioneer Tyrus Mulkey.

Auction catalogs can be purchased by contacting David Spragg through the Club website.

Included in the lots will be some lower and medium priced items, including non-chip gaming collectibles. Swing on by the show floor on Thursday to view the lots. You may just be "sittin' pretty" by winning a lot that didn't cost too many simoleans! See page 52 for more details on the auction.

POKER CHALLENGE AND BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT

Our table game tournaments will once again be held at our host hotel. The 10th Annual Blackjack Tournament will be on Wednesday, June 20th at 12:00 noon, and the Poker Challenge will be on Friday, June 22nd at 6:00 pm. You can get all the details on these tournaments on pages 20 and 21.

Due to Gaming Regulation changes, payment for tournaments **MUST** be made by check and mailed in with your registration form. No on-line 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 as last year at \$90.00 for the Poker Challenge, and \$70.00 for the Blackjack Tournament.

A special set of tournament chips will be available for purchase starting on Saturday morning, June 23rd when the shop opens, or from the Promotions Director through the mail. See pages 18 and 19 for more details, or contact Bob Pardue, our Tournament Chairman, at robert.pardue@cox.net with any questions.

TRADE SESSIONS

We have several trade sessions planned throughout the four days. Be sure to check the signage and your convention program for times and locations. Bring a few trading binders

but 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 to wear your convention badge, as it is a requirement for all attendees.

LAST DANCE SWAP MEET

On Saturday, June 23rd, the Last Dance Trade Session will be held. Jitterbug on by starting at 7:00 pm and see if you can be one of the last 2 traders there ... This will be your last chance after the show floor closes to trade for that last chip, token, strike or slot card for your collection.

Be sure to check the show schedules and signage for the latest up-to-date times and locations for all events. If you have specific questions, please stop by the Club Table right inside the show floor's entrance door. You can also check the club site.

Remember to get your hotel registration at South Point in the club block, pre-register, volunteer a few hours, sign up for the banquet, plan your days to attend the tournaments, trade sessions, seminars, the auction, and we know you will have an "ab-so-lute-ly" great time!





CONVENTION SCHEDULE



WEDNESDAY – JUNE 20th, 2012

- 9:00 AM REGISTRATION OPENS – DEALERS AND MEMBERS
PRE-REGISTRATION AND BANQUET TICKET PICK-UP ONLY
- 9:00 AM GENERAL TRADE SESSION – NAPA A (9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM)
TRADE SESSION – NO SALES
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY
- 9:00 AM DEALER SET UP BEGINS – GRAND BALLROOM
DEALER CREDENTIALS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY
- 12 NOON 10th ANNUAL BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT – CASINO FLOOR
- 4:00 PM PRE-REGISTRATION & BANQUET TICKET PICK-UP CLOSES
GENERAL TRADE SESSION CLOSES
- 5:00 PM DEALER SET UP CLOSES
- 5:30 PM EARLY BIRD BANQUET – SONOMA A&B
(TICKETED EVENT – ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY)
- 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM MEMBER TRADE SESSION OPENS – NAPA A
TRADE SESSION – NO SALES
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY

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!**



CONVENTION SCHEDULE



THURSDAY – JUNE 21st, 2012

- 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
“CUBA TODAY”
PRESENTED BY RALPH P. POLLACK
- 9:30 AM EARLY ADMISSION FOR PRE-REGISTERED MEMBERS
GRAND BALLROOM
- 10:00 AM OPENING CEREMONIES – 2012 SHOW BEGINS
GRAND BALLROOM
- 3:00 PM EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A
“JAY SARNO/CAESARS/CIRCUS”
PRESENTED BY DR. DAVID SCHWARTZ
- 5:30 PM SHOW FLOOR ENTRANCE CLOSED – EXIT ONLY
- 6:00 PM SHOW IN RECESS TILL 10:00 AM FRIDAY
- 6:00 PM THIRD ANNUAL SEYMOUR ANTIQUE CHIP CODE SESSION - NAPA A
- 7:00 PM SHOW FLOOR SECURED
- 7:00 PM BRUCE LANDAU MEMORIAL AUCTION – SONOMA A
- 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM GENERAL TRADE SESSION – NAPA A
TRADE SESSION – NO SALES
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY



CONVENTION SCHEDULE



FRIDAY – JUNE 22nd, 2012

8:00 AM	DEALERS WITH CREDENTIALS MAY ENTER SHOWROOM – GRAND BALLROOM
9:00 AM	EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A “CHIPGUIDE USE AND CHANGES” PRESENTED BY CHARLES KAPLAN
9:30 AM	REGISTRATION OPENS
9:30 AM	EARLY ADMISSION FOR PRE-REGISTERED MEMBERS GRAND BALLROOM
10:00 AM	SHOW FLOOR OPENS – GRAND BALLROOM
10:00 AM	CARIBBEAN CASINO COLLECTIBLES CLUB (CCCC) MEETING – NAPA A
11:00 AM	HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE MEETING – NAPA A
12:00 NOON	OTY AWARDS – GRAND BALLROOM
1:00 PM	TICKET IN/TICKET OUT (TITO) MEETING – NAPA A
2:00 PM	FLORIDA COLLECTORS CLUB MEETING – NAPA A
3:00 PM	EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – SONOMA A “ILLEGAL SEMINAR OF THE YEAR” PRESENTED BY GENE TRIMBLE/ED HERTEL
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 – 11:00 PM	GENERAL TRADE SESSION – NAPA A TRADE SESSION – NO SALES REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY
6:00 PM	14th ANNUAL POKER CHALLENGE – CASINO FLOOR

***Galveston Island of Change, A Complete
History of Galveston Gambling
182 Pages, 464 Photographs
\$27.95 + \$3.00 Shipping
TREATOST@SWBELL.NET • (713) 460-9244***



CONVENTION SCHEDULE



SATURDAY – JUNE 23rd, 2012

- 8:00 AM DEALERS WITH CREDENTIALS MAY ENTER SHOW FLOOR – GRAND BALLROOM
- 8:00 AM CLUBS PRESIDENTS MEETING – NAPA A
- 9:00 AM ANNUAL CC>CC BUSINESS MEETING – SONOMA A
- 9:30 AM REGISTRATION OPENS
- 10:00 AM SHOW FLOOR OPENS – GRAND BALLROOM
- 12:00 NOON PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS – EXHIBIT AREA – GRAND BALLROOM
- 3:30 PM SHOW ENTRANCE CLOSED – EXIT ONLY
- 4:00 PM 2012 SHOW CLOSES – 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
TRADE SESSION – NO SALES
REGISTRATION BADGE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY

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

EARLY BIRD BANQUET

WEDNESDAY – JUNE 20th, 2012

5:30 PM – SONOMA A&B

Keynote Speaker - Dr. Eliot Jacobson



Eliot Jacobson was Professor of Mathematics at Ohio University from 1983 to 1998, and currently holds the position of Lecturer in Computer Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Eliot has over 20 professional publications, has received numerous research grants and honors, and was undergraduate chair of mathematics at

Ohio University. In addition, Eliot has been active as a computer consultant and webmaster for ten years.

Eliot's expertise is the design and analysis of games. He offers a wide-ranging set of skills, from game layout, rules, and design, to a complete mathematical analysis of your game idea. Eliot's

game analysis and consulting availability is also featured on www.gamingmath.com and www.compdance.com.

Eliot's numerous hobbies and skills include creative writing, poetry, juggling, magic, Irish flute, bluegrass and old-timey guitar/mandolin, chess, bridge, and games of all sorts.

- Highly successful advantage player, specializing in table games.
- Author: *The Blackjack Zone: Lessons in Winning at Blackjack and Life*, Blue Point Books, 2005.
- Computer simulations of games to determine optimal strategies, weaknesses, and edge.
- Consultant to casinos in matters of rule variations, promotions, side bets, shuffles, statistical analysis, and game development.
- Frequent appearances on the radio, newspaper, magazines, and TV.
- Professor of Mathematics, Ohio University, 1983 - 1998.
- Lecturer in Computer Science, UCSB, 1998 - present.

3RD ANNUAL GREG SUSONG MEMORIAL GET TOGETHER

**At Garduños inside
The Palms Casino
on Tuesday
June 19th, 2012
at 5:30 PM**



**If you plan on
attending e-mail
your name and
guest names to
Allan McCurdy at
annallan@aol.com**

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



**Thursday, June 21st,
9:00 AM – SONOMA A
Mr. Ralph Pollack
“Cuba Today”**

Ralph Pollack has been an active member of the CC>C Club for twenty years, and is a Life Member #13 and also a member of the Caribbean Casino Collectors Club #001. Ralph won an award at the Clubs 10th Anniversary meeting at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in

1998 for his “Code Standardization” Workshop. He has written many articles in the *Gaming Times* Magazine on various areas of the Caribbean. Ralph travels extensively in the Caribbean to gather

vital historical information where no public records exist.

His latest trip was to Cuba where he visited many of the hotels where casinos existed. Some of these hotels and clubs were the Hotel Nacional which was Wilbur Clark’s, the Riviera Hotel, the Comodoro Hotel, the Habana Hilton, the Tropicana Night Club etc.

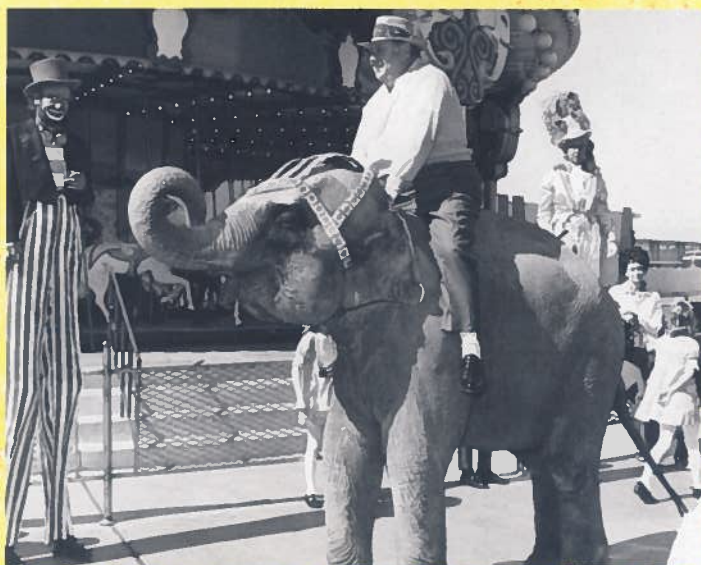
He has published three books on Caribbean casinos and the last book which was published in 2000 won the CC>CC award of the “Book of The Year” at the 2001 Convention at the Tropicana Hotel & Casino. This award was presented to Ralph “In recognition of your dedication to the hobby and for publishing *Casinos of Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, St. Maarten and introducing Surinam*. Over the past four years he has presented Educational seminars at the Club’s annual meeting and will present his recent visit to Cuba at the 20th Annual Meeting in June, 2012.



**Thursday, June 21st,
3:00 PM – SONOMA A
David Schwartz
“Jay Sarno/Caesars/
Circus”**

David G. Schwartz, the Director of the Center for Gaming Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, is a writer, speaker, and consultant whose areas of specialty include the history of gambling, gaming statistics,

casino surveillance and security, gaming and technology, casinos and social media, and related issues. An Atlantic City native with a Ph.D. in U.S. History from UCLA and hands-on experience in the gaming industry, Schwartz has been at UNLV since 2001. In addition to his work at UNLV, Schwartz is an active consultant. As Vice President of Research and Analytics for Santo Gaming, he assists the Las Vegas-based gaming management and consulting firm with a range of projects. He’ll be talking about the history of Las Vegas casinos and resources that are available for historical inquiry.



*Jay Sarno on top of Tanya the Elephant.
Photo courtesy of UNLV Special Collections.*

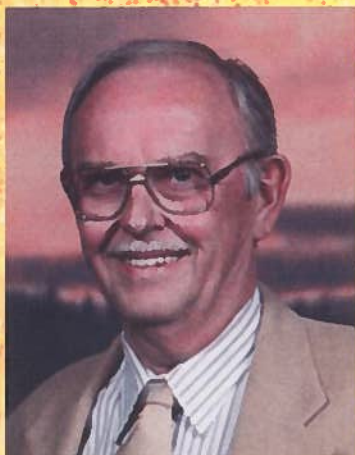
EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS



**Friday, June 24th,
9:00 AM – SONOMA A
Mr. Charles Kaplan
“The ChipGuide Now
and into the Future”**

Two years ago the ChipGuide was donated to the Museum of Gaming History. At that time the ChipGuide had about 16,000 chips from the riverboats, tribal casinos and a few other locations in the

United States. Today it has grown to a global guide for chips and all casino collectibles and now has over 66,000 items. Join us for a behind the scenes view of how the ChipGuide operates. As a special bonus, another major acquisition will be announced and before your eyes it will be added to the ChipGuide. You will not want to miss this !!!

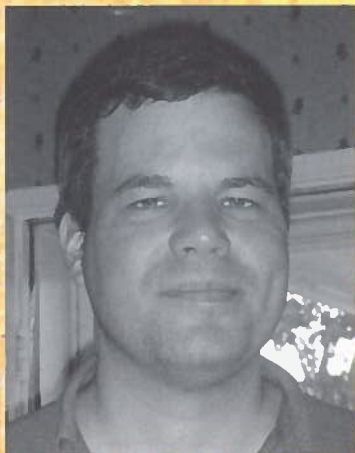


**Friday, June 24th,
3:00 PM – SONOMA A
Mr. Gene Trimble
and Mr. Ed Hertel
“Illegal Seminar
of the Year”**

Trimble has written many articles on chip and poker related matters. He wrote in every issue of Gaming Times, and has written a number of articles for the Club magazine,

Poker Digest and *Blackjack Confidential*. With Mark Lighterman, Gene has published a book on the H C Edwards records. He continues to research the History of pre 1960 illegal club chips. With David Spragg he has established the Preserving Gaming History web site. It has well over 15,000 manufacturers records, from the old distributors of chips.

He has over 30,000 different chips in his collection including over 3,500 Illegal Club chips with ID's.



Ed has been researching illegal gaming history for 18 years and has an extensive collection of everything related to the clubs. Ed also publishes an Illegal Casino Chip Price Guide (available free on the net at www.chipster.net). Come and learn more about this fascinating segment of casino collectibles.

WANTED

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

TOLL FREE (800) LUCK - 707

LOOKING FOR
**OBSOLETE
NEVADA
CHIPS**

*New Website
&
New Contact info*

SCOTT HARTMAN — “THE CHIP MAN”

9811 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 2-433, Las Vegas, Nevada 89117

Tel: (818) 706-1197 • Toll Free (800) 582-5707

Web: www.chipman.com • E-mail: scott.thechipman@gmail.com

CC>CC 2012 Blackjack Tournament • South Point Hotel Casino Wednesday June 20, 2012 12:00 noon

General Info

The 2012 CC>CC Blackjack Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. This is the 10th 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. Blackjack tournament is subject to minimum pre-registration entries.

Tournament chips are NOT part of the tournament package. Commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

Time & Place.

Time & Place

Wednesday afternoon, June 20, 2012 – 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>CC members and associate members only. (Age 21+ of course.) Maximum 54 players in 3-table format. 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 one 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, up to 6 players per table. 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: Four to 6 players each table, depending on total number of advancing players in initial rounds. The FIRST and SECOND place players from each semi-final tables advance to the final round.

Final round: One table with up to 6 players. Finalist 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. 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. 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>CC 2012 Poker Tournament • South Point Hotel Casino Friday June 22, 2012 at 6:00 pm

General Info

The 2012 CC>CC Poker Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. The tournament format will be No-limit Hold'em. This is the 14th 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. Commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

Time & Place

Friday evening, June 22, 2012, 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>CC members and associate members ONLY. (Age 21+ of course.) Maximum 120 players (12 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 10 players split the prize pool based on a declining percentage. Distribution: 36%, 18%, 12%, 9%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 4%, 3% and 3%.

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!**

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!

Of Literary Note

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

A little more to report this time around than last, and with the upcoming convention hopefully, even more to come!

Mike Awbrey donated the following items:

- *Lucky Luciano – The Man Who Organized Crime in America* by Hickman Powell
- *Hoffa's Man – The Rise and Fall of Jimmy Hoffa as Witnessed by His Strongest Arm* by Joseph Franco
- *Bringing Down the House* by Ben Mezrich
- *Mafia Princess – Growing up in Sam Giancana's Family* by Antoinette Giancana and Thomas C. Renner
- *Mafia Cop* by Lou Eppolito & Bob Drury
- *Slots – 41 Different Systems for Playing the Slots* by John Patrick
- Two Books on Blackjack by Ken Uston

George Marquez donated a copy of *Noir Afloat* by Ernest Marquez.

And yours truly is donating a copy from my recent trip of *Australian Cruise Ships* by Peter Plowman. This book is one of many books written by Peter Plowman, and if the other books are anything like this one, I will be ordering more! With over 100 pages, ANY cruise ship that has EVER sailed to Australia up until the time the book was published is included. A color picture of the ship, along with vital information concerning the ship: when and by who built; tonnage; dimensions; speed and propulsion. Next follows a history of the ship; the various names, change of owners, and / or cooperative changes, etc. While little mention is made on the casinos aboard these vessels, there are some notations, with the most interesting being about some illegal operations related to some of the vessels. The author uses some local slang along the way (i.e. I have never hear of a ship being "arrested"), but for the most parts this only make the read that much more entertaining!

Calling all poker players and pack rats! Poker is one of the many games that I am NOT good at, other than making contributions to someone else's pot that is. I know neither when to call, fold, or raise, so for the most part I do not play the game. I do visit the places were poker is played as often the chips in use are different than those in the pit areas in hope of finding something new to add to my collection. While I often note that there are various publications (for free none the less) in and around these areas, I always seem to forget to pick one of each up. If you are a poker player, and CAN remember, these would be great additions to the club's library as they serve as a basis of what games were in play when and at what locations.

While the library has a wealth of many published guides, it is lacking in basic research type material. Items like phone books from major metropolitan areas can be a virtual goal mind of information. Earlier publications before phone books became a staple; business directories were the publication in vogue. So if you have any, while you might not want to consider parting with them yet, when it comes time to do so, please consider donating them to the library as opposed to the land fill.

And to save yourself some postage as the rates keep going up, and up and...., I try and make it to ALL of the club's conventions, so just bring them with you and I will be glad to take them home with me.

FREE LIST OF \$1.00 CHIPS

Jerry Hoover (R-2572)
10655 Kinnard Ave. #204
Los Angeles, CA 90024-5939
(310) 441-1171 • jerry.hoover@pepperdine.edu



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, GCN webmaster, at adesign@sbcglobal.net.



Story of

THE
WILLOWS

By Westen Charles



RENO'S GRAND RESORT

CASINO CHIP COLLECTING

I enjoy reading old-time stories of early casino chip collectors going to great lengths to blend in and sneak out coveted chips for their collection. Whether by accident or for a clever keepsake, this practice has been happening since chips were used on tables. From the palatial game rooms of Monte Carlo to the weekly poker night at the local cigar shop; gambling chips, also known as “checks” have gone un-cashed for one reason or another and made their way out of the clubs and into a purgatory of sorts.

The afterlife of these little pieces of clay is uncertain. Perhaps, a chip is stashed into a jewelry box at first, then after being tossed away for years, it gets down graded to a junk drawer dweller. It spends what seems to be an eternity hoping to see the light of day. After decades, the chip is eventually rescued by an early-bird estate sale hunter looking for a tasty worm to feast on. Within hours the chip is scanned and listed for sale online for the world to see. Many of these finds represent all that is left from a once legendary establishment and the sellers don't have a clue of their collectability. The allure of making a wager and beating house odds is universally shared among players, and for a few old-time players, taking a piece of the game home with them allows a new generation of collectors the chance to revisit the action of the past.

BUYING CHIPS ONLINE

The online giant (ebay) has become the central market place for everything that is for sale both new and old, casino chips included. I've noticed that most of the casino chip listings on ebay are from sellers who seem to know the approximate value of what they are selling. It is tough to get a good deal on an item when the seller begins their auctions with an opening bid that follows the published pricing guides. There are exceptions when a seller lists an item that they are not very knowledgeable about; however, if they use the regular auction format, collectors will bid the item up to what they are willing to pay. This method of selling will usually bring a reasonable sale price given that the item is listed in the appropriate category. When true chip rarities are offered for auction on ebay, it is the deep pockets that prevail.

The majority of seasoned ebay sellers are trying to turn a profit on items that they have bought for resale and they will deal in just about anything if they can make a return on it. Newbie ebay sellers may just be cleaning out their clutter and not be savvy as to the best way to list an item for maximum profit. When listing items for sale you have a choice to use the auction format (typical auction) or you can also add a “buy it now” option that guarantees a set price and profit from the listing if it sells. When you are offering a rare item, it is best to use the regular auction format, because if you get two hard heads that are gunning for the same target, you may see a very profitable bidding war take place.

When I search for casino collectibles on ebay, I browse the

“newly listed” items; this strategy helps when looking for the best deals. Every now and then there are opportunities to capitalize on the right combination of a rarity that is being offered for sale with a low “buy it now” price. If you get lucky and stumble across this scenario, you have to be fast enough to pull the trigger and seal the deal before someone else beats you to it.

IDENTIFYING CHIPS

One night I came across a pair of interesting (crest and seal) chips that had just been listed on ebay with a (buy it now) price of \$2,000 for the pair. These beautiful antique poker chips were made by the United States Playing Card Company in 1930, for Francis Victor du Pont. He used them on his yacht “Tech Jr.”, named after his alma mater Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Rich Hanover had an example of the chip displayed in his collection at (oldpokerchips.com); however, the auction that I was eyeing had different colors from the chip that was shown.



Rich Hanover's Tech Jr. Crest and Seal samples from his website www.oldpokerchips.com

The “buy it now” price for these chips was way out of my price range, but I figured I'd watch the auction to see if anyone else bit. I sent Rich an email to let him know about the chips for auction, as he had been generous with me more than once in the past. The next day I browsed the auction to see if anyone had bought the pair for the inflated price, but they were still for sale. While checking my email I noticed that Rich had replied back, thanking me and noting “Looks like my site added some value to them”. Rich had also sent me a second email saying that the seller had some other chips for sale as well that were being offered at a buy it now price. I hadn't seen any other chips being offered so I figured that the seller had recently added more chips. I immediately returned to the seller's auction page.

While scanning to see what had been added, I noticed some

other c&s chips, but they were pretty common. There was one chip in particular that caught my eye. I'd never seen it before. The item description was not much help, "Willows Casino Poker Chip \$1 Very Good Condition". At this point, I look down to see the visitor counter on the auction and it read 001. "Wow", I thought, "I'm the first person to view the auction page." The seller must have listed it seconds before I got there. This chip was fresh to the market and for sale with a "buy it now" price of \$100. I said to myself, "first things first, could this be a rare chip?" I didn't know yet, but I knew that I didn't have a lot of time to do research. If a chip is rare, it is usually gone in a snap.

TRIGGER HAPPY

Did I read that right? Now my blood was pumping. Could this be a chip from the older casino called (The Willows)? I'm ready to bite. I return to the auction page and click the "buy it now" link. Anxiously, I wait for the next web page to load in. While the cursor spins, I expect the next page to allow me to "confirm your bid". Instead, I'm redirected to my paypal account, Please "Sign In", Huh? I haven't won the auction yet, but I need to sign into my paypal? Time is ticking away and it's taking way too long to get the deal done. All of the countless hours that I have spent mulling

The Willows Casino Poker Chip \$1 Very Good Condition

Item condition: **Used**
 Ended: Sep 20, 2010 16:25:28 PDT

Sold For: **US \$100.00**
 Add to list

Shipping: **\$2.00 Expedited Shipping** | See all details
 Estimated delivery within 4-5 business days

Returns: **7 day money back, buyer pays return shipping** | Read details

eBay Buyer Protection
 eBay will cover your purchase price plus original shipping. Learn more

Seller Info
 alamedaenterprises (17 ★)
 100% Positive feedback

Save this seller
 See other items

Other item info
 Item number: 120624161572
 Item location: Alameda, California, United States
 Ships to: Worldwide
 Payments: PayPal See details

Share Print Report item

Description Shipping and payments

Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing.

Item specifics

Condition: **Used**. An item that has been used previously. See the seller's listing for full details and description of ... Read more

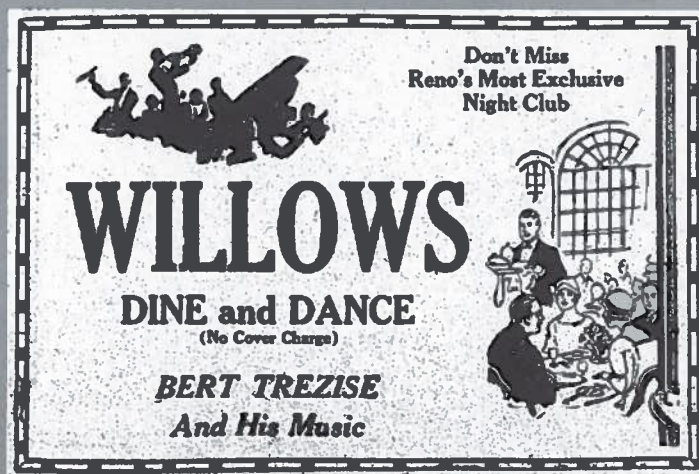
Denomination: **\$1**

Screen capture of the ebay auction for the Willows chip

Because the chip appeared to be a crest & seal (plain mold), I went to Rich Hanover's comprehensive website for research. I remembered that there is an alphabetical reference for his entire collection and I quickly find the W's and scroll down the list to see West End Club... Wilbur Clark's... WKL... No Willows! Then back to the auction page and enlarged the single photo shown, it showed a bold black gothic font "The Willows" bridging over a centered 1.00 at the bottom. At this point the chip has just about sold me, but I knew I'm taking a gamble when spending \$100 on a chip that I know nothing about. I pulled out my Campiglia/Wells chip price guide and did a quick flip through the Las Vegas section; When I didn't find anything, I continued through to Reno and "voila", there it is was at the end of the list.

"(Willows) Reno 1953-56" Then it notes, "(This club should not be confused with The Willows- the plush dinner club which had gaming before legalization until 1932- when a fire burned it to the ground. The post cards you see are from this original old club showing the "Chinese Room". Located several miles away on Old Verdi Road. Were chips ever made for this early swank club?)"

around on ebay have prepared me for this moment. The page finally loads in, "Confirm your purchase" (Click) "Congratulations you have won this item!" Yes! I got it. Awesome! Easing down from my consumer rush, I thought to myself, so what did I just buy?



1932 ad for the Willows

THE HUNT IS ON

I began by doing web searches for “the willows” to see if I could locate any information on the club, but there are too many red herrings. I tried “The Willows Reno” and I eventually found a lead, a vintage photo postcard from Mark Englebretson’s website dedicated to casino collectibles (The Nevada Casino Ashtray Project). The classic black and white photo peers down onto a dramatically lit roulette table. Five elegant ladies wearing evening gowns are positioned around the table. The women are adorned with orchid corsages and have stacks of chips in front of them. The interior is exquisite. Panel walls are set in a Far East motif. Dark wood pilasters divide glowing medallion sconces. Filigree lighting illuminates the tables from above. The interior is very unusual; however, it somehow looks familiar. The caption at the bottom of the card reads, “Roulette at the Willows”.



March 31, 1931 photo of the Willows



Postcard from Mark Englebretson’s website www.nevadacasinoashtrays.org

I have seen this interior before. I recognize it from an old photograph that I added to my collection years back. The photo came from an archive of published newspaper images that were being broken up and sold off. When I bought it I didn’t know anything about where the picture was taken. What are the odds? After doing some digging through my files, I found it. The photo shows a very similar scene to the postcard online, this is definitely the same interior of “The Willows” in Reno. The subject is a (chuck-a-luck) table with the same dramatic lighting as the postcard. Three ladies are seated at the table; however, they share different fates. The woman closest to us looks away from the game with dismay as the others across from her celebrate their good fortune. An ominous shadow from the overhead lamp obscures the dealer’s face. On the back of the photo is a “use” date stamped in blue, March 31, 1931. I would later find out that this date was exactly one month before the club’s official opening. The pictures must have been staged publicity shots made to promote the club’s opening.

WOMEN’S INTUITION

Telling your wife that you just spent \$100 on an obsolete \$1 poker chip is akin to a “magic bean” tale. After providing my wife with the few pieces of evidence that I had gathered, she was not convinced that there was anything magical about the chip. Her comments to me were, “If you could actually see the chip in the photos, I’d be a believer”. Yes, there is no way to make out an individual chip in the photos. (I thought of that approach already but had no luck with it.) As I continued my online research, I heard a scream from the other room “I see it! That’s the chip!” Apparently my better half had gotten her loop out and was able to see what I had missed. I was sure she was pulling my leg until she handed me the loop

and I realigned the photo. I couldn’t believe my eyes. Just below the dealer on the (chuck-a-luck) table there were chips with the same design as the chip I had just won! She was right! My wife smiled and said... “What else can I help you with?”



Enlargement of the above photo showing the Willows crest and seal chip

IN THE BEGINNING

The Story of The Willows Club in Reno begins long before its doors opened for legalized gambling in April of 1931. The story begins with a man named Rick DeBernardi who moved from San Francisco to Reno in 1906. Upon DeBernardi's arrival in Reno he immediately purchased a fifty-acre tract of land west of the city and within a year he constructed a grand three-story resort that would go by the name "Rick's Resort" or "Rick's Roadhouse". DeBernardi would live there with his wife Constance and their son. Rick's was a popular destination for locals and passers-through wanting to unwind. The business was licensed as a hotel but it also had licenses for liquor and slot machines. Downstairs there was a long oak bar, a living room, and an entertainment area where local talents performed. The back room was reserved for gambling. Upstairs there were five bedrooms and two sitting rooms. Accompanying the main house were twenty small cabins and a large barn, built on the north side of the property, housing horses used for carriage rides into town.

In 1910 Reno hosted one of the America's most controversial heavyweight boxing title fights. (Jack Johnson vs. Jim Jeffries) Rick's Resort was made famous when Johnson and his crew used



A photo of Rick's Resort, before the transformation to the Willows

Rick's as their training camp for the fight. Rick's was the perfect location for Johnson's crew because it was out of the way and catered to the party atmosphere that the crew enjoyed. For training, the horse barn was converted into a temporary gymnasium; however, it was said that Johnson and his crew did more partying and

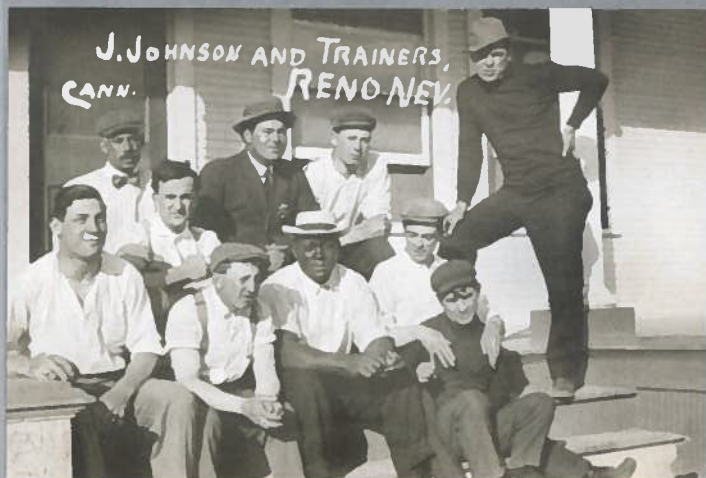
posing for photos than training. Johnson, the African American World Champion, was fighting the white World Champion, James Jeffries, who had come out of retirement in order to retake the title. This bout would later be coined "The Fight of the Century". Jack Johnson won the fight in the 15th round when Jeffries threw in the towel. The result was said to spark a newly found respect for African Americans throughout the country.

THE TRANSFORMATION

DeBernardi would have a successful run with the popular speakeasy and casino; however, when prohibition was enacted in 1920 it wasn't long before the pressures of operating became too much for him. Rick's Resort was sold in 1922 to notorious gangsters



Bill Graham (L) and Jim McKay (R)



Jack Johnson and his training crew on the steps of Rick's

Bill Graham and James "Chich" McKay for a mere \$43,000. The partners had their hands in most of the action happening in Reno including The Bank Club, The Rex, Cal-Neva Lodge at Lake Tahoe and "The Stockade", a city sanctioned whorehouse that lived up to its name. With the help of Reno's legendary banker George Wingfield, Graham and McKay were able to secure more than a

\$150,000 to sink into their newly acquired investment property. After full renovations, the roadhouse would reopen with the name "The Willows", which apparently referred to the white willow trees that lined both sides with entrance road leading to the resort.


Tex Hall, an associate of Gram and McKay, was brought into the project to oversee the remodeling and perfect the new décor. The main floor would now have a large ballroom, an entertainment area known as the "Blue Room", and an elegant dining hall and a decadent casino area known as the "Chinese" room. Tex would spend thousands of dollars alone on machines that were used to stamp out delicate metal filigree that adorned lighting fixtures throughout the property. Before long the club would be transformed into one of the country's most luxurious roadhouse casinos. George Hart, the popular piano player and crooner delighted the crowds nightly. As word got out about the club, its notoriety grew quickly. The once sleepy roadhouse had turned into a national hotspot where the social elite came to indulge in the pleasures of vice. It was said that nights at The Willows resembled star-studded Hollywood Premieres with the finest of entertainment, dining, dancing, and big-time gambling.

Assembly Bill signed into law by Governor Fred Balzar on March 19, 1931. Bill 98 opened the state for legalized gambling. This allowed establishments like The Willows to conduct and promote business freely. The legislation would lead to the beginning of more modernized casinos being built. Reno was also becoming



READY FOR BUSINESS

The Willows was poised to take advantage of the historic



The Willows

Reno's Most Exclusive Night Club

At The Willows, where the social and elite gather for an evening of rare entertainment.

DANCING
Music by Our Special Orchestra

Dining . . . No Cover Charge

"MEET ME AT THE WILLOWS"

1931 ad for the Willows

recognized as the "Divorce Capital of the Country". Eager women were flocking into town from east and west to take advantage of the relaxed 6 months residency requirement for granting divorce in the state. In 1931 this period was shortened even further to only six weeks and Reno's hotels and resorts became filled with wealthy women that were said to be waiting to "take the cure". George Wingfield was a savvy businessman and mindful of the economic potential represented by these women. It was Wingfield who was responsible for constructing the marketing plan for The Willows. The upscale roadhouse would cater to the divorce seekers. Wingfield branded The Willows with an advertising campaign that used dramatic black and white photos of sophisticated ladies at play in the lavish casino. The idea worked perfectly, but it would be short-lived.

AN EARLY ENDING

The Willows met an early fate on June 14, 1932 when it burned to the ground in less than an hour's time. Workmen had been busy that morning putting the final touches on the second major renovation started back in January. At noon the workers were taking a break, when flames broke out. The fire spread throughout the interior so quickly that the workers couldn't even reach the house telephone. They raced to a neighboring ranch in order to call in the alarm. As a gentle summer breeze fanned the flames, the county fire engine hurried out to the resort. Thick black smoke could be seen rising high into the sky from miles away. Even before the fire engine arrived people from the area knew there was trouble out at The Willows. News of the fire spread throughout Reno and hundreds of cars began making their way out on old Verdi road to see the event. In two hours time the fire was near over and all that could be recognized of the resort was the brick fireplace leaning precariously on the smoldering remains of the twisted metalwork. The club had been scheduled for its Grand Reopening in just four days.

There was very little saved from the blaze. When the fire engine arrived, the men drafted water from a ditch across the road but the fire proved to be too strong for the single engine. James McKay and Tex Hall arrived on scene shortly after the fire fighters responded, they could only stand back and watch their club go up in smoke. Insurance on the Willows totaled \$70,500 but that would not come close to covering the partner's investment. According to the fire department, the furnace room was the cause of the fire and that may have been true because although much attention was paid to the outward appearance of the club, the infrastructure had been neglected. There was talk of rebuilding the resort at the same location but this would never come to pass. As Reno dealt with the expansion of gambling and other illicit behavior, the city pushed for a centralized district in order to have better control of the activities. Nightclubs and gambling would now be directed down Virginia Street in the middle of town where a kind of "sin zone" was enacted.

Despite the total loss of The Willows, operations elsewhere were booming for McKay and Graham, that is, until everything changed when they were arrested for mail fraud in 1934. They would be tried twice in court over the next several years, but both trials ended in hung juries. Their third trial would result in a conviction for both men and carried a sentence of nine years in federal prison. They would enter prison in 1939 after exhausting all of their delays and appeals. After serving less than six of those years at Leavenworth Penitentiary the partners were granted full pardons with the aid of Senator Pat McCarran and President Harry S. Truman. Following their release, the pair returned to Reno in an attempt to reclaim their holdings and influence, but the landscape had changed while they were gone.

The 1950's began a new reign of organized crime syndicates from places like Chicago, Los Angeles, Cleveland and Kansas City. These groups flexed their muscle, investing millions of dollars in over-the-top hotel/casinos in Las Vegas. Institutional bank lending was loosened by Mob persuasion, helping to finance hotels such as the Flamingo, the Thunderbird, the Dunes, the Sands and the Sahara. Las Vegas would rise to eclipse its competition for gaming and would become the new capital of gambling in the country. Back in Reno, Graham and McKay struggled to piece together the remnants of their past, eventually they fade from the scene.

Memories of The Willows are all but faded now, but the legendary mystique of such a place lives on through the telling of its tale. Since the roadhouse caught fire when it was closed to the public and because the casino's run was short lived, you can figure that most of everything in the place was lost to the flames. Licensed gambling was only officially offered for nine months and nine days, so there was not much time for chips to make their way out of the club. It is a mystery how this \$1 chip avoided that fateful day. Maybe it was pocketed as a keepsake or good luck charm; it was a lucky chip indeed.

The Willows casino chips were most likely ordered from the US Playing Card Company around 1930; however, they are not included in their known archived sample books that display many of the Crest and Seal chips that were made during this time period. In the photograph where the \$1 chip can be seen in the rack on the (chuck-a-luck) table, it appears that only the \$1 denomination crest and seal chip is in use along with coins and what looks like a hot stamped chip on the far right of the tray.

Seen on the roulette table are stacks of chips that appear to be different colors and a different inlay design than the \$1 chip. The design on these chips is in the shape of the letter Y, but does not look like a generic letter Y chip. Could this be a picture of a loan



willow tree? Maybe there are some of these chips out there in the world waiting to be discovered. Views of the original willow trails that led up the roadhouse can still be seen near the Oxbow park area.

Special thanks to John Evanoff and Rich Hanover







Classic Vegas Polos
and more!

www.vintagevegasandmore.com

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

*A name to remember
when you need supplies!*

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.
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.



Visit the Greg Susong Digital Media Center!



at the Museum of Gaming History

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**

Club Merchandise

Convention Chips – \$5.00 each
 Set of 10 (including 2011) – \$30.00
 Years Available –
 95, 96, 01, 04, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10 & 2011



Poker/Blackjack Tournament Sets – \$15.00
 (2 or more sets \$12.00 each)
 Years Available –
 2004, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10 & 2011
 (08, 09, 10 and 2011 sets are 4 chip commemorative sets)



2010 Convention Pin – \$5.00
 Prior Year Pins Available 1997-2010 – \$3.00 each
 Set of all 14 pins (including 2011) – \$25.00

CC>CC Member Pin – \$5.00



CC>CC Playing Cards – \$1.00/deck

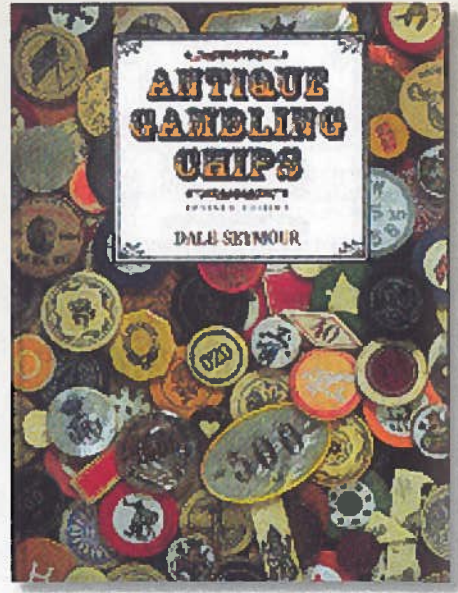
CC>CC Wooden Nickels & Dollars – \$1.00 (set of 1 each)

CC>CC Totes – \$5.00

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



Casino Chip & Token News Back Issues – \$3.00 ea.
 1993-2010 (Not all issues available & shipping cost varies depending on quantity ordered – email request before ordering)



CC>CC T-Shirt – \$15.00

Sizes Med, Lrg, XL, XXL

CC>CC Polo Shirt – \$25.00

Colors-Red, Navy, Black, Cream, Grey

Sizes Sm to XXL

(Not all colors in all sizes, email to check)

2011 Convention DVD – \$20.00

Prior Years available

(2004, 05, 06, 07, 08 & 2010) \$5.00 each

Set of all 7 (including 2011) \$30.00



CC>CC T-Shirt



CC>CC Polo Shirt



"Welcome to Las Vegas"



"Legendary Stardust"

Carlos Cartagena Prints – \$20.00 each

Specify "Welcome to Las Vegas" or

"Legendary Stardust"

Make Checks Payable to: **CC>CC**

Mail Orders To:

Roy Nelson

P.O. Box 777602

Henderson, NV 89077-7602

Use the order form included in this magazine, or, download an order form from...www.ccgcc.com

Email order questions to: promotions@ccgtcc.com

Shipping and handling charges within the continental U.S.

Order amount up to \$5.00 add \$2.50

Order amount up to \$10.00 add \$3.50

Order amount up to \$25.00 add \$6.95

Order amount up to \$50.00 add \$8.95

Order amount over \$50.00 add \$10.95

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

International Orders/Orders from Alaska and Hawaii—Contact for shipping charges.

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



Cuba Today

Havana, a travel back in time

By Ralph Pollack LM-13

Part One



The map of Cuba (shown above) on a stone memorial is exhibited in "Little Havana" in Miami, Florida. The Island to the south of the mainland of Cuba is called "Nueva Gerona" while the Islands to the north of the mainland are called "Archipiélago De Sabana".

Jose Marti was born in 1853, became a Cuban national hero and was noted for his efforts in the Cuba War of Independence against Spain. Marti was also recognized for his journalism and writings.

On a recent Humanitarian Mission to Cuba, houses of worship were visited as well as the seeing the architecture of the buildings in Habana. In a recent Notre Dame magazine, Nagy calls Habana "The Rome of the Americas". This trip took us to a famous church Monserrat where a statue of "Our Lady of Charity" who is the "Patron Saint of Cuba" and a synagogue, Gran Sinagoga Bet Shalom. The Synagogue was built with the help of Meyer Lansky and is located only a few blocks from the Hotel Nacional.

United States currency was not allowed to be used, instead Convertible Currency Pesos (CUCs) were used. In November 2011 the exchange rate was one US Dollar for .87 CUC. These CUC's were used in restaurants, taxis and stores.



Gran Sinagoga Bet Shalom



Left: Front View of synagogue Bet Shalom

Bottom Left: Close up of the front doors of Bet Shalom

Bottom Right: Side entrance to the Safardic Hebrew School





Left: Church of Montserrat

Bottom Left: On top of this statue is Our Lady of Charity, who is the Patron Saint of Cuba ever since the 1600's

Bottom Right: Figurine depicts the boys in the boat who found the statue of the Lady of Charity



“Notra Senora De La Caridad” means “The Patron Saint of Charity” or the “Virgin of Charity” and also the “Patron Saint of Cuba” dating back to the 1600’s. The original statue of the Virgin of Charity is located in the mining town of El Cobre near Santiago de Cuba. As the story goes, in 1608 two men and a boy were gathering salt near El Cobre and they found a small statue of the Virgin Mary carrying Christ and a gold cross. The board that the statue was on had the words “I am the Virgin of Charity”. In 1916 Pope Benedict XV declared her “the Patron Saint of Cuba”. On March 26th Pope Benedict XVI celebrated mass at the church in Santiago de Cuba.



The silver commemorative medal about one inch high has the “Patron Saint of Cuba” on one side and the words of the “Casino Espanol 1869 – 1919” on the other. This medal gives us information that the Casino Espanol was founded in 1869, and that this medal commemorates 50 years of existence of this casino.



The Casino Parisien was in the Hotel Nacional and was not a casino, but a fabulous night club and cabaret.

Wilbur Clark's Casino (In the Hotel Nacional)



Above: View of the original Wilbur Clark's Casino with the original brown marble tile floor at the Hotel Nacional

Right: Interior view of the original casino at the Hotel Nacional

Chip images - Top: the rare weave mold \$100.00 chip from Wilbur Clark's Casino at the Hotel Nacional

Bottom: Crest and seal roulette chip from the same casino



The Riviera

This hotel was built by Meyer Lansky in 1958 and was described to be the first totally air conditioned hotel in the world.



Top: View of the Riviera Hotel, and on the right side is the Gulf of Mexico. The casino was housed in the 'dome-like' structure, today it is an active night club

Above right: Close up view of the famous sculpture of the 'mermaid and the swordfish' by the famous artist Florencio Gelabert

Above left: Original entrance view of the Riviera Hotel.



Rare bronze medal " Huesped Distinguido " from the Habana Riviera Hotel Club

Plaza Hotel



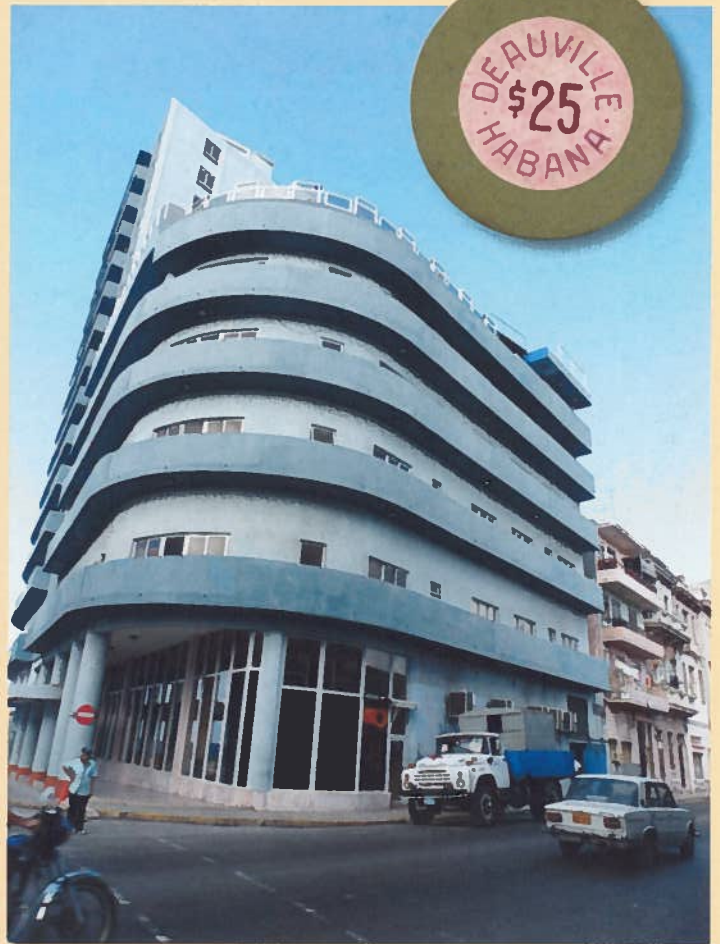
Top: The Hotel Plaza was built in 1902

Above left: Close up view of the original signage

Above right: In 2012 the Plaza Hotel celebrated its 102nd anniversary. It is believed that these doors were the entrance to the famous Plaza Casino.

Deauville Hotel & Casino

This great architectural design hotel is located on the Malecon across the harbor inlet from El Morro Castle



Casino de Capri





The Hotel Capri with the Casino De Capri is presently being renovated. Note the proximity to the Hotel Nacional in the background



Please note that there were two kinds of dice from the same casino. One on the left says "Casino de Capri", while the right set depicts the Island of Cuba and the words "Capri Casino".

The chips below also demonstrate two different versions. The one on the left has a Small Greek Mold and "Casino de Capri" and the one on the right has the Hub Mold with the Island scene and the words "Capri Casino".



Part Two coming up!
All photos are copyright of the Pollack Collection



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

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

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

Also lots of Chips from these states

**Wisconsin
Minnesota
North Dakota
South Dakota
Iowa
Illinois
Michigan
Indiana**

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

**Arkansas
Louisiana
Montana
Caribbean
Canada
Cruise Ships
Many Misc.**

My website is: www.rollyschips.com

**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

By Allan Anderson R-2927

On March 21st, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, introduced the Backstage Pass, a unique loyalty program offering hotel guests and patrons backstage access to experience the ultimate in rewards from Las Vegas' premier rock and roll entertainment destination.

The one-of-a-kind tiered program presents escalated earning potential for every dollar spent anywhere at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino and offers an unmatched collection of benefits spanning from hotel amenities, casino rewards, dining exclusives, nightlife experiences, insider privileges and personalized offerings. Advantages include room upgrades, access to ticket presales and offers for concerts at The Joint, complimentary access and priority entry to Beachlife pool events, up to 30% off select retail outlets as well as spa service discounts.

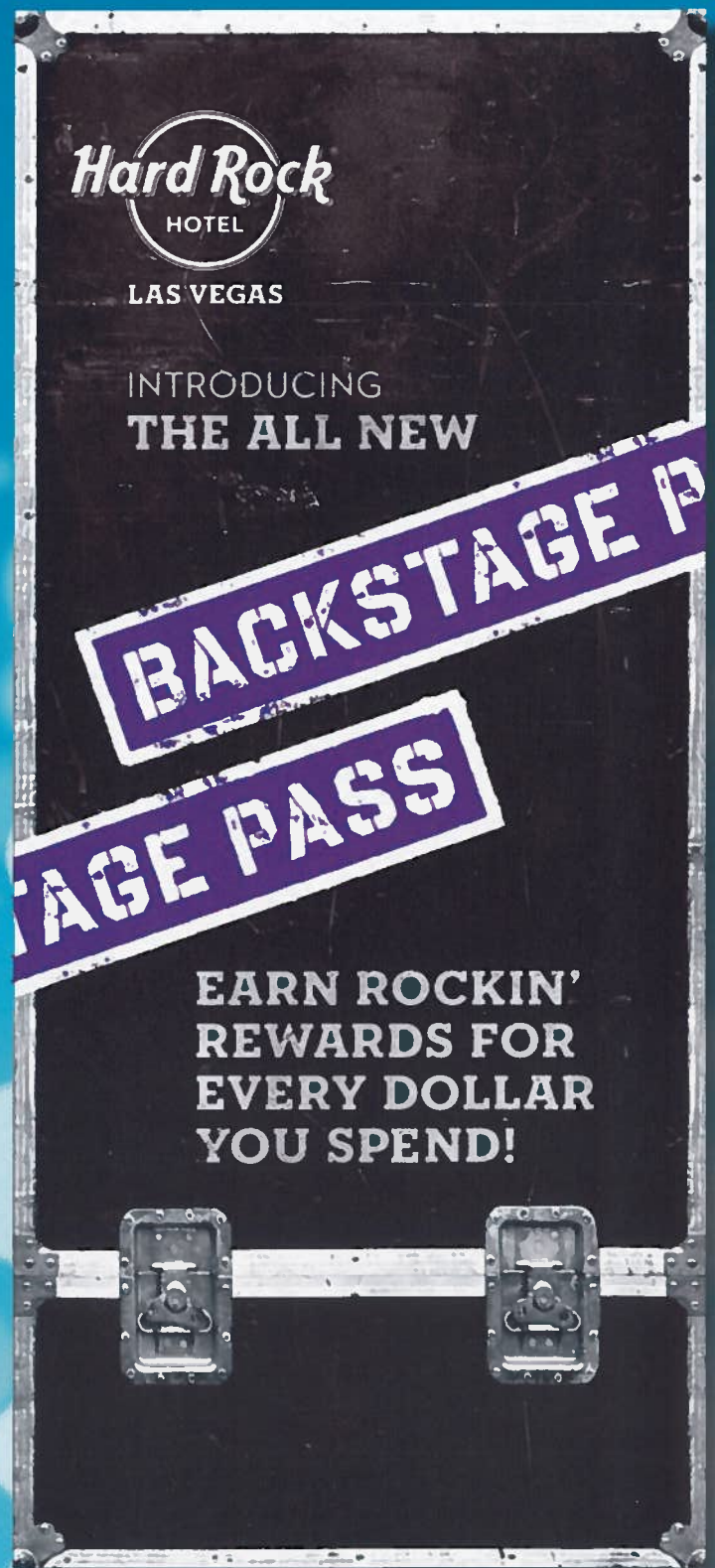
"The Backstage Pass program celebrates Hard Rock Hotel's loyal guests by offering them exceptional reward benefits," said Bill Warner, President of Warner Gaming and CEO of Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. "We are thrilled to be able to offer our customers this exciting extension of the Hard Rock Hotel experience."

Backstage Pass has three member tiers – General Admission, Entourage and Platinum Access. New members begin their membership with the complimentary General Admission Backstage Pass and can earn their way to higher tiers, unlocking greater rewards as they graduate to the next level.

Members may use their Backstage Pass while gaming on Hard Rock Hotel's newly-renovated casino floor, high limit lounge or full pay video poker machines to receive the ultimate program benefits per dollar spent. Guests can play the slots and receive one point for every \$1 coin-in on reel/video reel machines and every \$2 coin-in on video poker machines. One hour spent at the poker table will earn 500 points for Backstage Pass members. Additionally, Backstage Pass members earn 10 points for every \$1 spent on non-gaming experiences including hotel services, dining, nightlife, entertainment, spa/salon and retail.

Rewards and benefits of the Backstage Pass include:

- Preferred Guest Room Rates (All Members)
- Access to ticket pre sales for concerts and fights at The Joint (All Members)
- Priority Reservations for unique Spa Treatments at Reliquary Water Sanctuary & Spa (Entourage and Platinum Access Level Members)
- Complimentary Access & Priority Entry to famed Rehab Pool Party/Beachlife Experience (Entourage and Platinum Access Level Members)
- Complimentary Bottle Service and Priority Entry to the Exclusive Vanity Nightclub (Entourage and Platinum



- Access Level Members)
- Two (2) Complimentary Concert Tickets every 25,000 points earned (Entourage and Platinum Access Level Members)
- Personal Host Services (Platinum Access Level Members)



← **SIGN UP TODAY
AND GET YOUR
GENERAL
ADMISSION
BACKSTAGE PASS**
START EARNING REWARDS!



← **GET YOUR
ENTOURAGE
BACKSTAGE PASS**
AT 25,000
TIER LEVEL
CREDITS

**PARTY LIKE A
ROCK STAR WITH
PLATINUM
ACCESS** →
WHEN YOU RACK
UP 150,000
TIER LEVEL
CREDITS



Hard Rock Hotel/Casino Aruba

By Allan Anderson R-2927

Southwest Horeca Development has won a contract to build a Hard Rock Hotel which is scheduled to open in 2014. The 120 million dollar 310 room hotel will be located right outside Oranjestad, Aruba's capital.

The new property will be built on the ruins of the abandoned Bushiri Hotel, which has not been operating for nearly a decade and whose demolition will be completed by the end of the year. The Aruba Hard Rock Hotel and Casino will cover a total area of 308,000 square feet and will have a maximum height of seven floors.

The hotel itself will be built in an environment-friendly manner, with reflecting roofs against the heat, systems to collect rainwater, LED-illumination wherever possible, attention for wind ventilation, use of indigenous plants that can stand the dry climate, swimming pools and spas heated by the sun and chlorine-free swimming pools with seawater.

\$600,000 is to be spent on social projects and the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino is to ensure that the coastline between the hotel and Tamarijn becomes a public beach. There will also be a 10,000 square foot training facility managed by government.

Southwest wanted to build a hotel and casino with the Hard Rock brand which was an important consideration for the special committee that had to choose between two candidates, said Otmar Oduber, Minister of Tourism, Labour and Transport. Hard Rock guests are in the 28 to 57 year age bracket and come from the United States, Canada, The Netherlands, Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil.





Hard Rock Northfield Park

By Allan Anderson R-2927

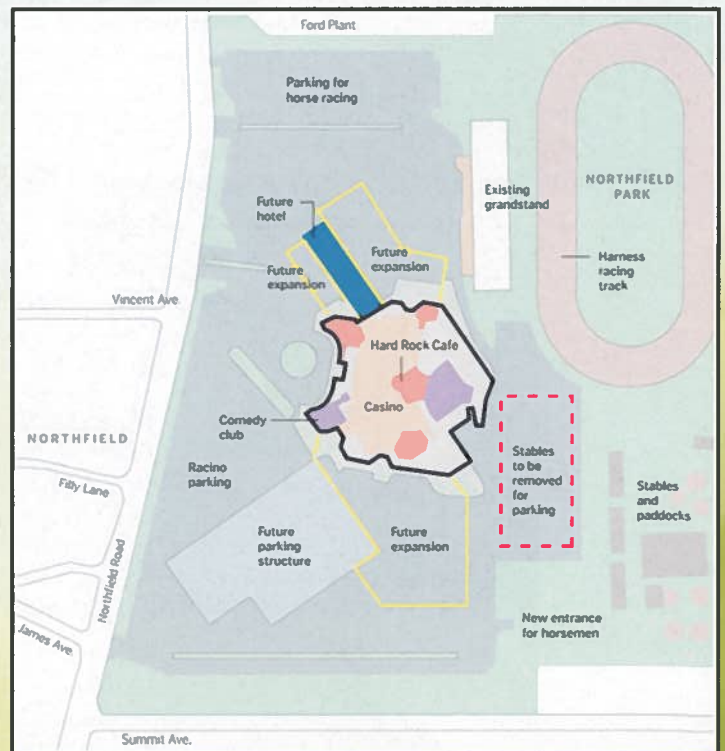


On April 5th, 2012, Hard Rock International announced that it has entered into a joint venture and related agreements to acquire equity in, and to develop and operate a Hard Rock Gaming and Entertainment Facility at Northfield Park racetrack in Northeast Ohio. This proposed project is subject to a successful resolution of the pending litigation in Ohio regarding video lottery terminals. While specific laws governing the gaming aspect of the facility are ironed out in the legislature, the slots-only racino will include 2,500 machines – the maximum allowed by Ohio law.

An agreement with the state, which was reached last year by the owners of the four full gaming casinos, Rock Gaming and Penn National, cleared the way for video lottery terminals or VLTs at the state's seven horse racing tracks – including Northfield.

The proposed \$275 million Hard Rock project would include a Hard Rock-branded gaming center, premium steakhouse, Hard Rock Cafe, ongoing lineup of live music and iconic music memorabilia from Hard Rock's unmatched collection, as well as a center bar, buffet and conference and meeting space.

The Hard Rock Gaming and Entertainment Facility would be developed as part of the current Northfield Park Racetrack located in Northfield, Ohio. Northfield Park is one of the nation's premier harness racetracks, and the joint venture with Hard Rock will enable the racetrack to provide additional enhancements to its current programming that features more than 200 live racing events each year.



\$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25



**I Am The
\$25¢
Collector**



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

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

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

Nate Pincus

P.O. Box 693, Havertown, PA 19083
610-507-1115 nate@chipcollector.com

\$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25 25¢ \$25

Direct Order Center

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

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

www.LasVegasGiftStoreOnLine.com

OR

www.VegasEast.com



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

www.DirectOrderCenter.com



Almost Everything Hard Rock

Included on the DVD is the complete 354 page book

The book is also broken down by:
Casinos, Cafes, Hotels and the Park as individual sections
as well as all past, present and future casinos listed individually.

Casino chips, silver strikes, room keys, slot cards, and all things
collectible along with property photos, information and history.

Free upgrade 6 months after you purchase.
The DVD is updated on a monthly basis so it is always current.
The DVD is formatted for Mac and Windows, files are in pdf and
can be easily transferred to an iPad

\$35
plus \$5 shipping

To order send an email to:
Allan Anderson at adesign@sbcglobal.net

Update from the Auction Chairman - David Spragg

The 2012 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will once again be held during the convention, at the South Point Hotel & Casino, on Thursday 21st June 2012.

By the time you are reading this message, the catalog will be available so this is just an update of what to expect, and some information for first timers.



The auction again comprises 200 lots (including approx 50 donated lots), of which a number of the donated lots (probably 20) will be sold by silent auction during the first day of the convention. Bulky lots have caused us a problem in the past, in terms of the preparation of the auction & catalog, cost of return of unsold items, and the additional cost of shipping sold items. Consequently, consigned lots consist generally of single items or small groups. Some donated lots are bulkier as within reason I accepted anything as a donation.

The purpose of introducing minimum bids several years ago was twofold - firstly to try and improve the overall quality of auction lots and secondly to speed up the live auction itself. I appreciate that we are not in a sellers market at present and it is getting harder to secure the same quality of lots in the past. Therefore, bidding on ALL donated lots will start at just \$5. The minimum bid of \$50 or above on any consigned item remains except where vendors gave express permission in advance for these to be lowered, and in those cases the lots will start, for the purposes



All chips featured on pages 54 and 55 will be available at this years auction.

of advance/proxy bidding, at the lower prices. In a few cases, the auctioneer will still have discretion to reduce that opening bid in the case of there being no bids. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and are available to view in full on the club website.

The catalog is available on-line for anyone wishing to view, download or print. If you wish to purchase a printed copy this year there will only be two options:

Color copies will only be available if ordered and paid for in advance (for mailing or collection in Vegas). Price will be \$35 shipped or \$30 collected at the convention. Only a limited number will be available and there will be no spare copies available at the show. B&W xeroxed copies will be available at the show only for \$10, either from the club or auction tables, or in the auction room.

You may place absentee bids as detailed in the terms and conditions (which are repeated at the front of the catalog). Email me at any point if you have any problems.

Please use auction@ccgtcc.com to contact me. If you need to contact me by snail mail, please write to: David Spragg, 840 S Rancho Dr #4314, Las Vegas, NV 89106, or, if you have no other means of contact, leave me a message via Gene Trimble (702 683 6729) and I will contact you.



Top Quality

Ivory Gaming Chips

Faro and Other Vintage Gaming Collectibles

Stan & Betty Wilker

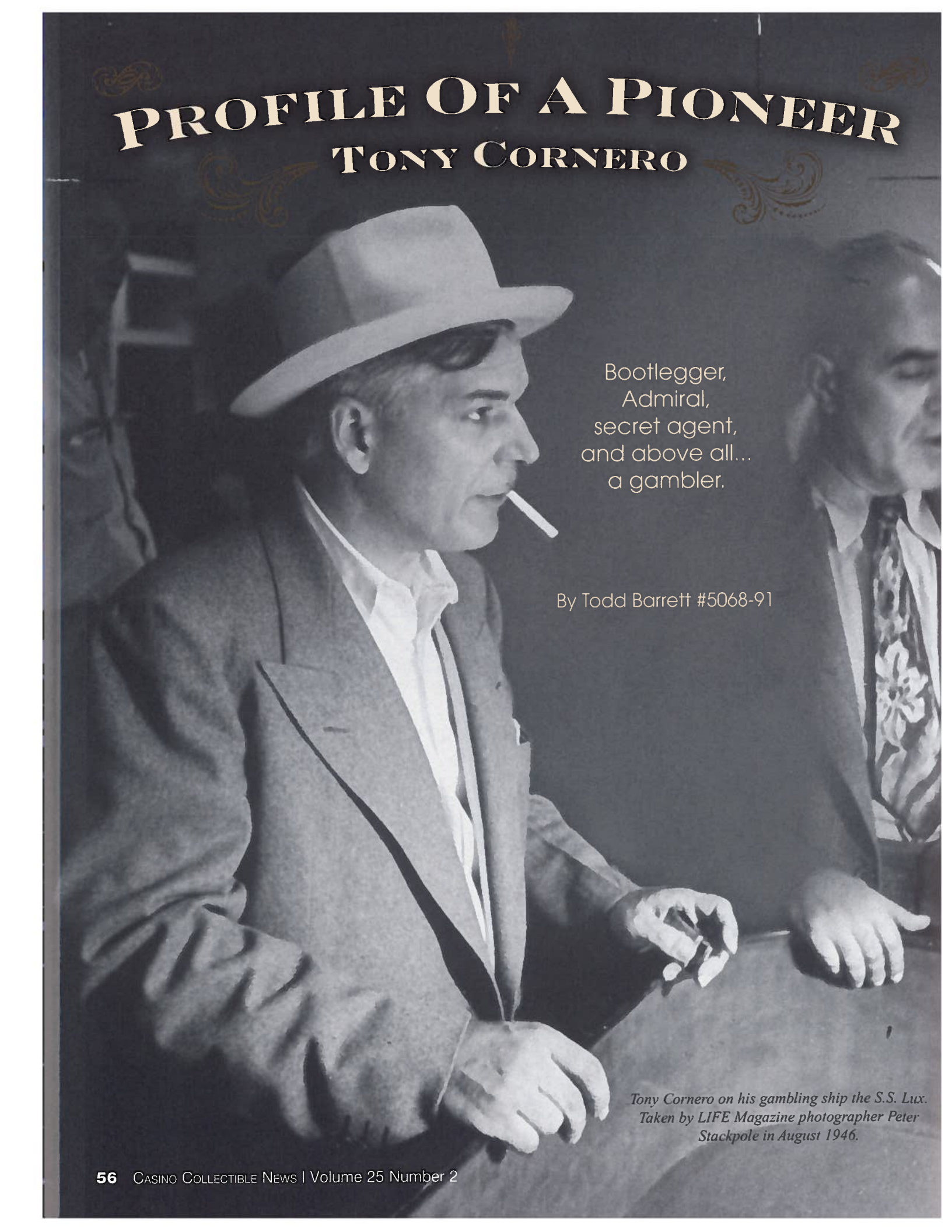
R-0868



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

PROFILE OF A PIONEER

TONY CORNERO



Bootlegger,
Admiral,
secret agent,
and above all...
a gambler.

By Todd Barrett #5068-91

*Tony Cornero on his gambling ship the S.S. Lux.
Taken by LIFE Magazine photographer Peter
Stackpole in August 1946.*

Tony "The Hat" Cornero was born Anthony Cornero Stralla on August 18, 1899 in Lequio Tanaro, a small village in Northern Italy. His family immigrated to the United States after his father lost the farm in a card game and a fire destroyed their harvest. Cornero's father died a few years later and his mother married Luigi Stralla, a former suitor from Italy. After their arrival in San Francisco, Cornero used the aliases Tony Cornero and Tony Stralla as he signed on to merchant ships bound for the Far East.

PROHIBITION BRINGS AN OPPORTUNITY

By the time prohibition took effect in 1923, Cornero was just twenty-four years old. He decided the path to self-reliance was bootlegging liquor to high-class speakeasies in the southern California area. Cornero's specialty was running Canadian Whiskey by his boat the S.S. Lily to the three-mile limit off the coast of California. The three-mile limit was the start of international waters where Cornero was exempt from U.S. prohibition laws. He would unload his diabolical cargo onto speedboats that would make a run for the California coastline. The speedboats were far too fast for any of the U.S. Coast Guard's fleet to catch. Within a year or two, the all-cash business easily made Cornero a millionaire.

In an effort to expand his product line, Cornero started making a run from Mexico to bring rum back to his clients in California. But in 1926 the feds intercepted one of his Mexico runs with 1,000 cases of rum on board; he was convicted and sentenced to two years in prison. But the tenacious Cornero decided that prison life was not for him, and while being transported by train to serve his sentence, he broke free from the guards and jumped off the train. He made his way to Europe where he stayed until 1929. He eventually decided that a life of hiding was worse than prison and he returned to California to serve his sentence.

VIVA LAS VEGAS

Cornero returned to civilian life in 1931, the same year casino gambling was legalized. Cornero wanted in on the action. He began work on his newest venture: a casino, nightclub, diner, and hotel in Las Vegas. He teamed up with his brothers, Louis and Frank, and bought a thirty-acre plot of land just off Fremont Street south of Charleston Avenue. The Corneros planned a different type of casino than what was typical at that time

in Las Vegas. While most clubs on the famed "Block 16" were dark, gritty and a bit dangerous, the Corneros planned to make their new club the place to see and be seen.

But there was a problem with obtaining the gaming license for their new club. The Las Vegas Gaming Commission would not allow Tony to be listed as having any control of the casino because of his former convictions and prison time back in California. Tony's brother, Louis, would eventually obtain the gaming license, but there was no question that it was Tony who was pulling the strings of the day-to-day operations of the casino portion of the club.

The brothers spent \$31,000 on the club they called The Meadows, and it was an instant hit. It was the finest club in Las Vegas and because Tony Cornero was a former bootlegger, and he had the connections to keep his club stocked with the finest liquors available. Even though the country was still in the clutches of the prohibition movement, The Meadows flaunted its vices that brought patrons from miles away. Local politicians, including Las Vegas Mayor Fred Hesse and his wife, Patricia, frequented The Meadows. The city's business leaders and upper crust residents were not afraid to be photographed enjoying the spoils of The Meadows. It opened on April 1, 1931, with two craps tables, two roulette tables, two blackjack tables, two poker tables, a hazard game, a faro table, a Big Six Wheel, and five slot machines. Along with the casino, The Meadows had a house cabaret band, and had other musical acts brought in for engagements on their main stage. One of the featured acts brought in to perform was the Gumm Sisters. The Gumm Sisters featured a young girl named Frances Gumm, later known as Judy Garland.

The Corneros built a small thirty-room hotel next to The Meadows, and it was soon selling out most every night. It turned out to be a large source of revenue for the brothers. There were plans to



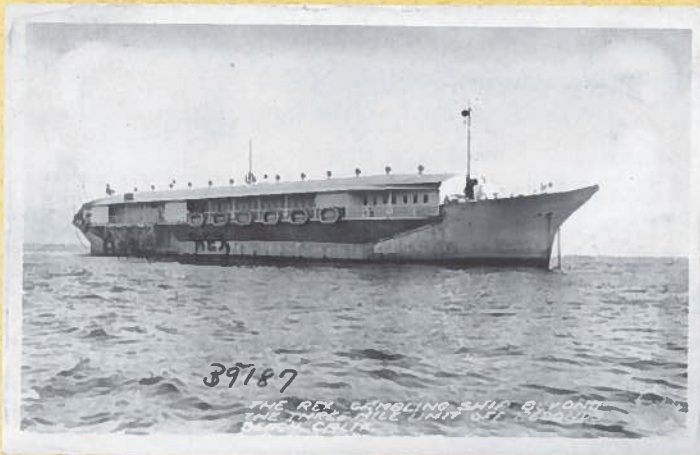
A postcard of the Meadows off of Boulder Highway.

expand the hotel to fifty rooms, but the sudden success of the club brought some unwanted attention for the Coroneros. Although not completely confirmed, there are stories that Tony was approached by New York mob boss Charles "Lucky" Luciano, who wanted a portion of the proceeds. But Cornero would not be extorted, and as the story goes, the hotel portion of The Meadows was burned down on Labor Day 1931, just six months after his successful opening.

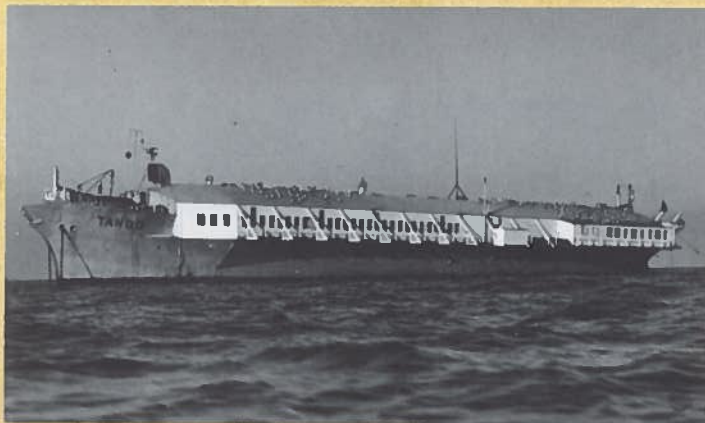
While Tony escaped with only his hotel being burned down, he may have seen the writing on the wall and he and his brothers sold their interest in The Meadows to Dave Stearns, his brother, Sam Stearns, and Larry Potter. Tony returned to Los Angeles and made plans for his next daring adventure.

ANCHORS AWEIGH

Cornero's next adventure combined his rum-running days with the casino gambling of The Meadows club in Las Vegas. In 1938 he purchased two large ships and converted them into luxury floating casinos at a cost of \$300,000. The S.S. Rex and the S.S. Tango were enormous vessels which were able to accommodate over 2,000 gamblers. Each carried a crew of over 300, including waiters and waitresses, gourmet chefs, a full orchestra, and a squad of gunmen.

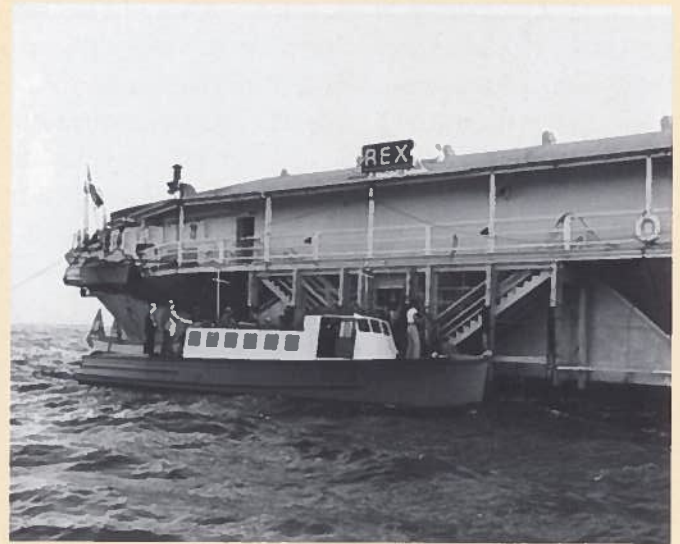


A postcard of the S.S. Rex



The S.S. Tango. Photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection

S.S. Rex



This photo show the S.S. Rex water taxi delivering patrons to the mother ship 3.1 miles off the Santa Monica coast line. Photo courtesy of the Santa Monica History Museum.

Right: S.S. Rex matchbook showing a very stylized and glamorous ocean liner. The real S.S. Rex however was nice inside, but had an exterior that looked as if it was put together by Dr. Frankenstein.



Left: A full page ad for the S.S. Rex placed in the Los Angeles times. This was a major irritant for the Los Angeles County District Attorney. He felt as if Cornero was flaunting his illegal gambling.

Play OUTSIDE the 3 MILE LIMIT!

CONTINUOUS WATER TAXI SERVICE
25c ROUND TRIP
 ENJOYABLE 12 MINUTE BOAT RIDES

Perk on the PIER AT THE END OF COLORADO AVENUE Santa Monica
 FOLLOW THE "X" to the before the X

S.S. REX
 Open for play - 24 hours a day!

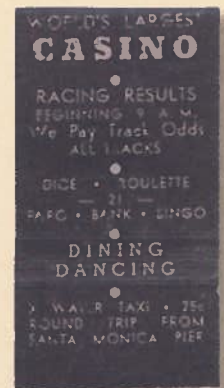
DINE and DANCE
 to the Rhythms of REX MARINERS
CUISINE by Henri
 We Serve Blended Drinks Exclusively
 Super-tender **My Hoffman**
 of Treasure Boxes
LE BARRON, Master of Host

RACING RESULTS
 COMPLETE DESCRIPTION
 Including Ages Colors Race Schedules
 WE PAY TRACK ODDS ALL TRACKS
DAILY from 9 A.M.

Do You Know These Facts?
 The S.S. Rex is the first ship in the world to provide water taxi service to the mainland on the S.S. Rex operates a float platform on board at all times.
 The S.S. Rex carries only A-1 class passengers. These guests are served by the S.S. Rex crew in an exclusive dining room, equipped with the S.S. Rex's own kitchen. The S.S. Rex is the CASINO, which will open on the first of the month and will be the first of its kind in the world. The S.S. Rex is the only ship in the world to provide water taxi service to the mainland on the S.S. Rex.

AT YOUR SERVICE

The World's Largest Ship Casino!
 ANCHORED IN CALM WATERS OFF SANTA MONICA PIER



Right: S.S. Rex matchbook showing a much more realistic view of the ship.



S.S. Tango



Matchbook for the S.S. Tango that makes a veiled mention of gambling as "fascinating sportive games." It also shows the ship is not operating 24 hours a day like the S.S. Rex.

S. S. TANGO
TWO DECKS
of fascinating sportive
games
more exciting than the
races
Two Dining Rooms
Two Cocktail Bars
A modern fireproof all steel
safety pleasure ship . . . Dual
electrically powered . . . inspected
and passed by United States Steam-
ship Inspectors . . .

Dining-Dancing
Entertainment
CLARENCE BLAZIER, Manager

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

OPEN

Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays
1 P. M. Until ??
Week Days, 6 P. M. Until ??
Speed boat schedule is every
fifteen minutes both ways from
7th & PICO
LONG BEACH
FARE 25¢ ROUND TRIP
FREE PARKING

For complimentary dinner in-
vitation write to P. O. Box No.
227, Long Beach, California or
phone Los Angeles, Thornwall
7811 or, Long Beach 629-42 . . .
or apply at Cashier's Office . . .
board ship . . . No obligations . . .



A photo of the interior of the S.S. Tango showing the amazing capacity of the ship. This casino floor was larger then any casino in Las Vegas at the time. Photo courtesy of the Historical Society of Long Beach



A Modern Safety Ship — Certified by Lloyd's
Dual Electrically Powered

Anchored Off Long Beach, California
CARE FREE DUTY FREE
DINING · DANCING · ENTERTAINMENT
FLOOR SHOW
Open Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays 1 p.m. Until ?
Week Days 6 p. m. Until ?

Comfortable and Fast Speed Boats Leave Every 15 Minutes
From 1315 West Seventh Street
LONG BEACH
SECOND Water Taxi Parking Lot on 7th St. west of Pico Ave.

WEST SEVENTH ST. WATER TAXI CO.
DIRECTIONS FROM LONG BEACH

WEST 7TH ST. 1315 W. 7TH ST.

Second Water Taxi Parking Lot on 7th Street West of Pico	SECOND WATER TAXI PARKING LOT
---	-------------------------------------

Look FOR SIGN
TANGO

ANAHEIM TO PICO
FREE PARKING

For Further Information and Reservations Phone
Long Beach, 620-430

LOOK FOR RED SIGN "TANGO"
FREE PARKING

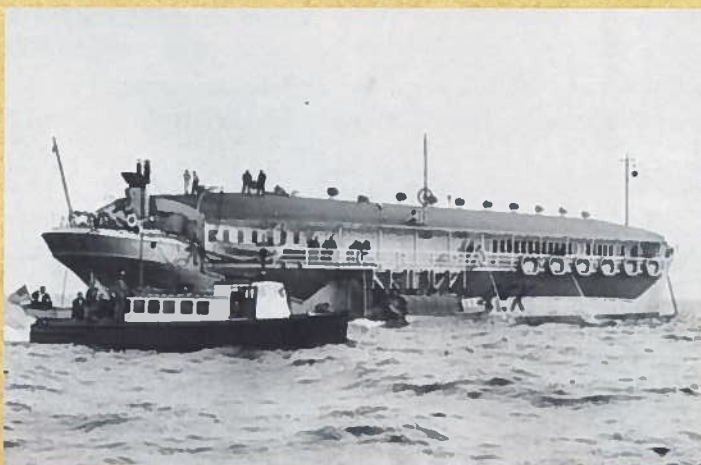
An interesting invite for the S.S. Tango that makes no mention of gambling. The front also shows the ship under the management of Clarence Blazier, which is the same as the matchbook cover.

The games available included roulette, blackjack, poker and craps. They also had 300 slot machines on board, and a bingo parlor that seated 500 players. Their first class dining rooms served French cuisine exclusively. The boats were anchored just three miles off the southern California coast in international waters. Cornero had a fleet of water taxis that would pick patrons up from the shores and piers of Long Beach and Santa Monica.

The S.S. Rex was a bit more upscale than the S.S. Tango and drew slightly higher-class patrons who enjoyed the dinner, shows, and gambling. Cornero, who was calling himself "Admiral" Cornero at this time, advertised in the southern California newspapers almost flaunting the illegal activity in the authorities' faces. The ships were open twenty-four hours a day, making Cornero lots of cash; estimates range from \$300,000 to \$500,000 a month. That did not go unnoticed by the California State's Attorney, Earl Warren, who would go on to be the Governor of California, then to the U.S. Supreme Court and also to head the commission to investigate the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Warren mounted an aggressive campaign of raids on Cornero and his gambling ships.

THE BATTLE OF SANTA MONICA BAY

On July 28, 1939 the federal authorities planned a raid of Cornero's two ships along with two other ships operating in the same area. The authorities served each of the ships' owners with a notice that charged them with being a public nuisance. The notice read in part that the gambling operations "contributed to the delinquency of minors by openly glorifying...gambling and the evasion of the laws of the state, and by inducing them to lead idle and dissolute lives." Once aboard the S.S. Tango, the officers served their papers to the management crew. The crew then invited the lawmen to dine as their guests; the lawmen accepted the offer and stayed for two hours.



A photo of the authorities attempting to raid the S.S. Rex

The owners and operators of the ships ignored the notices and continued with business as usual. But Warren expected this and he launched a secret raid two days later. Three ships, including the S.S. Tango, were easily boarded and overtaken. But Cornero himself was on the S.S. Rex, and he had no intention of giving up so easily. When the authorities tried to board the S.S. Rex, Cornero's enforcers hit the lawmen with water cannons, claiming they were boarding his ship without permission, which, in essence, was piracy.



This photo shows Cornero's security team with their water cannons ready to defend the S.S. Rex.

The lawmen decided to wait out Cornero, and they surrounded the boat, not letting anyone come or go. At the time there were roughly 600 patrons on the S.S. Rex. Cornero assured his guests that they had plenty of food and drink to outlast Warren's lawmen. Warren sent word to Cornero that he was essentially holding these patrons as prisoners. Cornero was able to strike a deal with then-District Attorney Warren Olney to release all of the patrons without giving himself up.

With only the crew and Cornero aboard the S.S. Rex, authorities were sure it would only be a short time before they surrendered. But Cornero and his crew lasted nine days at sea, only surrendering because as Cornero put it, "I needed a haircut." The standoff resulted in front-page headlines in the Los Angeles area newspapers that were calling it "The Battle of Santa Monica Bay."

COURT BATTLE

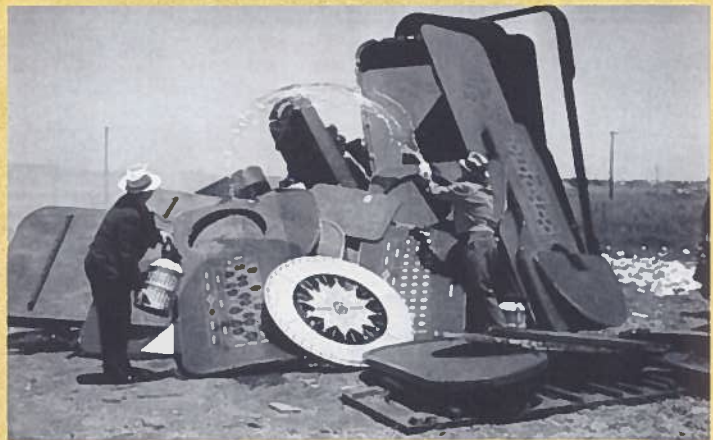
The case against Cornero and his gambling ships went to court, and the battle lines were drawn, literally. The main point of contention was the three-mile line that marked international waters; Cornero claimed the U.S. officials had no jurisdiction. Tony drew the three-mile line along the meandering California coastline, while Warren used the method of drawing a straight line between

the two farthest points of land off of the Santa Monica Bay. Not surprisingly, the courts sided with Warren and decided the bay was under California jurisdiction.

Tony had to pay for the cost of the standoff, the destruction of all of his gambling equipment, and unpaid taxes. Both the S.S. Tango and the S.S. Rex were confiscated by the U.S. government, refitted as cargo ships, and pressed into military service during World War II. The S.S. Rex, renamed the Star of Scotland, was attacked and sunk by a German U-boat in November 1942 off the coast of Africa.



Much of the S.S. Rex and S.S. Tango's slot machines were destroyed by dumping them into the Santa Monica Bay. Photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection.



Some of the larger gaming items such as these roulette tables, craps tables and wheel of fortune were later burned on land. Photo courtesy of the Santa Monica History Museum.

At only 39 years old, Cornero had very little business dealings that were outright legal and legitimate. He had operated on the outskirts of the law, and was always battling either law enforcement agents or underworld figures, both of whom wanted to put him out of business. In 1940, Cornero decided to run his own shipping

business that was completely within the law. He did so through 1944 and had successfully stayed off the authorities' radar. Later in life, Cornero would claim that during this time he was also a U.S. secret agent working in South America. I have not been able to find any information confirming Cornero's claims.

VIVA LOS ANGELES

After Cornero shelved his ideas of being the king of the high seas, he looked into opening a casino in the Los Angeles area. At the time, the law in California permitted only card rooms. But laws didn't particularly interest Cornero. When he started scouting locations for a planned illegal casino, he ran into some trouble that did catch his attention. Mickey Cohen, a mobster who ran most of the illegal gambling in the Los Angeles area in the 1930s through the 1960s put the word out to Cornero that he was not welcome in California. It was during this time that Cornero's home in Beverly Hills was bombed. Details are hard to find, but no one was hurt, and Tony decided that rubbing elbows with the likes of Cohen might be too risky for him. He packed his bags for another try at the Las Vegas casino game.

VIVA LAS VEGAS

Cornero knew the ins and outs of a casino and returned to Las Vegas to try his hand at a land-based casino once again. In 1944, Tony contacted P.O. Silvagni, owner of the Apache Hotel in Las Vegas at the corner of Fremont and Second Streets, and future home of the Eldorado Club and Binion's Horseshoe. Cornero asked Silvagni if he could lease the bottom floor for a casino he wanted to name the S.S. Rex after his beloved gambling ship. Tony knew



*Cornero's S.S. Rex in downtown Las Vegas.
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

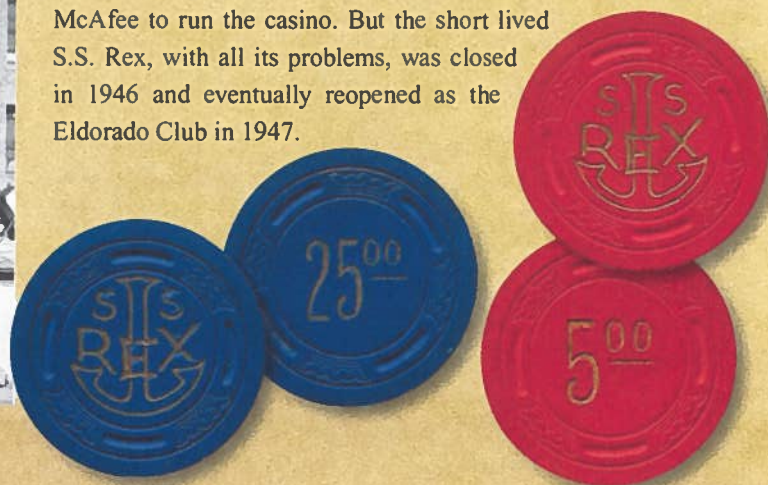
that he could not get a gaming license from his previous experience at The Meadows, so he asked Silvagni to hold the license for him. But the Gaming Commission knew that Cornero was going to be running the casino and they were not happy about it. Most of Las Vegas held a grudge against Cornero for his time of running the S.S. Rex and the S.S. Tango. Those ships had casino floors larger than any casino in Las Vegas. They siphoned off a large portion of the Southern California clientele who used to travel to Las Vegas on the weekends and holidays. He also took experienced dealers and wait staff from Las Vegas to run his ships. In early December 1944, the Commission voted 3-2 to deny Silvagni his license. Silvagni lobbied the Commission to change its mind;

he pleaded that Cornero would not actually run the casino. His efforts paid off and a few weeks later the Commission reconvened and voted in favor of Silvagni and "his" S.S. Rex casino.

Cornero was back in the game and the S.S. Rex casino opened for business in early 1945. But the joy was short lived. When Silvagni came up for his gaming license renewal in June 1945, he again faced the battle of proving that Cornero was not involved with the S.S. Rex. The Gaming Commission pointed to charges by Las Vegas police that Cornero's partners were carrying concealed weapons in the S.S. Rex, and there were allegations of cheating the players at the table games as well. Silvagni decided he had enough and cut his ties with Cornero. He obtained the services of Guy McAfee to run the casino. But the short lived S.S. Rex, with all its problems, was closed in 1946 and eventually reopened as the Eldorado Club in 1947.

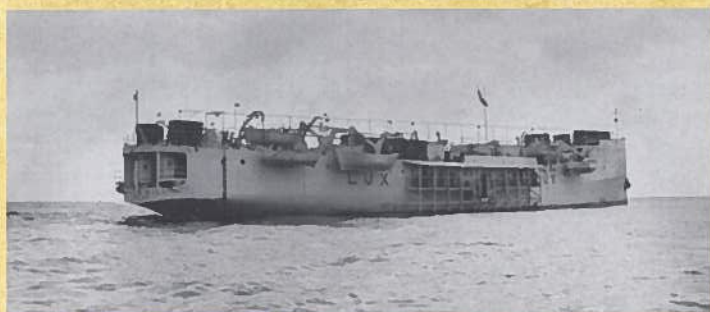


An interesting brochure from American Airlines showing the S.S. Rex in color!



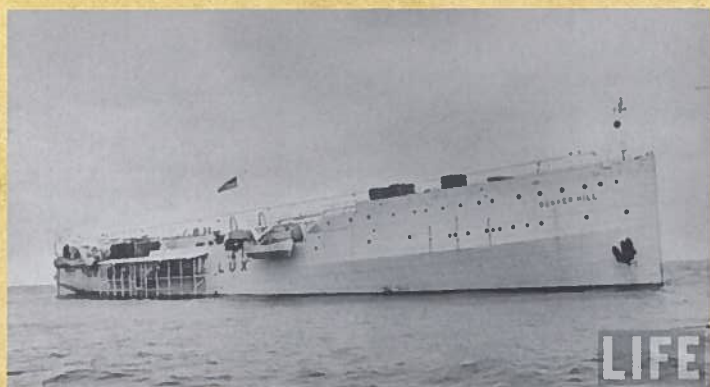
THE “ADMIRAL” RETURNS

Cornero left Las Vegas and decided he would try his hand at the floating casino one more time. In 1946, he purchased a 386-foot Navy minelayer named the Bunker Hill. He outfitted the behemoth into another large, floating casino he named the S.S. Lux. It had fourteen crap tables, 150 slot machines, twelve roulette wheels and five poker tables. This time, Tony was determined to fit within the laws and regulations to avoid the outcome of the S.S. Tango and S.S. Rex. He incorporated his enterprise under Nevada statutes as the Sevenses Trading & Steamship Co. Then he had the ship towed out more than seven miles off the coastline to avoid any confusion with the three-mile international water line. He was sure this time he would succeed.



*The S.S. Lux in all of it's awkward and hulking glory.
Photo from August 1946 LIFE magazine.
Photographer Peter Stackpole.*

Opening night in August 1946 was a huge success. People stood in line for hours on the shore, waiting for the water taxis to ferry them aboard. The table games and slot machines were busy all night long, the band played, the drinks flowed, and Tony Cornero was on top of the world. But two days later it all came crashing down. The local sheriff's officers arrested the drivers of the water



*In this view of the S.S. Lux the “Bunker Hill” name is still visible.
Photo from August 1946 LIFE magazine.
Photographer Peter Stackpole.*

S.S. Lux

When Cornero launched the S.S. Lux in August of 1946, he invited the press along to show off the ships facilities. LIFE magazine showed up and photographer Peter Stackpole took several photos show on these two pages.



The two photos above show Tony Cornero in a familiar position, at the craps table. The top photo shows him with his trademark hat on and rather relaxed. This must have been early in his gambling session, maybe even “set up” for the LIFE magazine photographer. The photo below shows Tony in a bit more disheveled and puffing away on his cigarette. Although he is the owner of the ship and I imagine all losses would be forgiven, he seems to be involved as much as anyone at the table. More then any other photo, this shows Tony the gambler. It may have started out as a staged photo, but he seems to have forgotten all about the assignment.



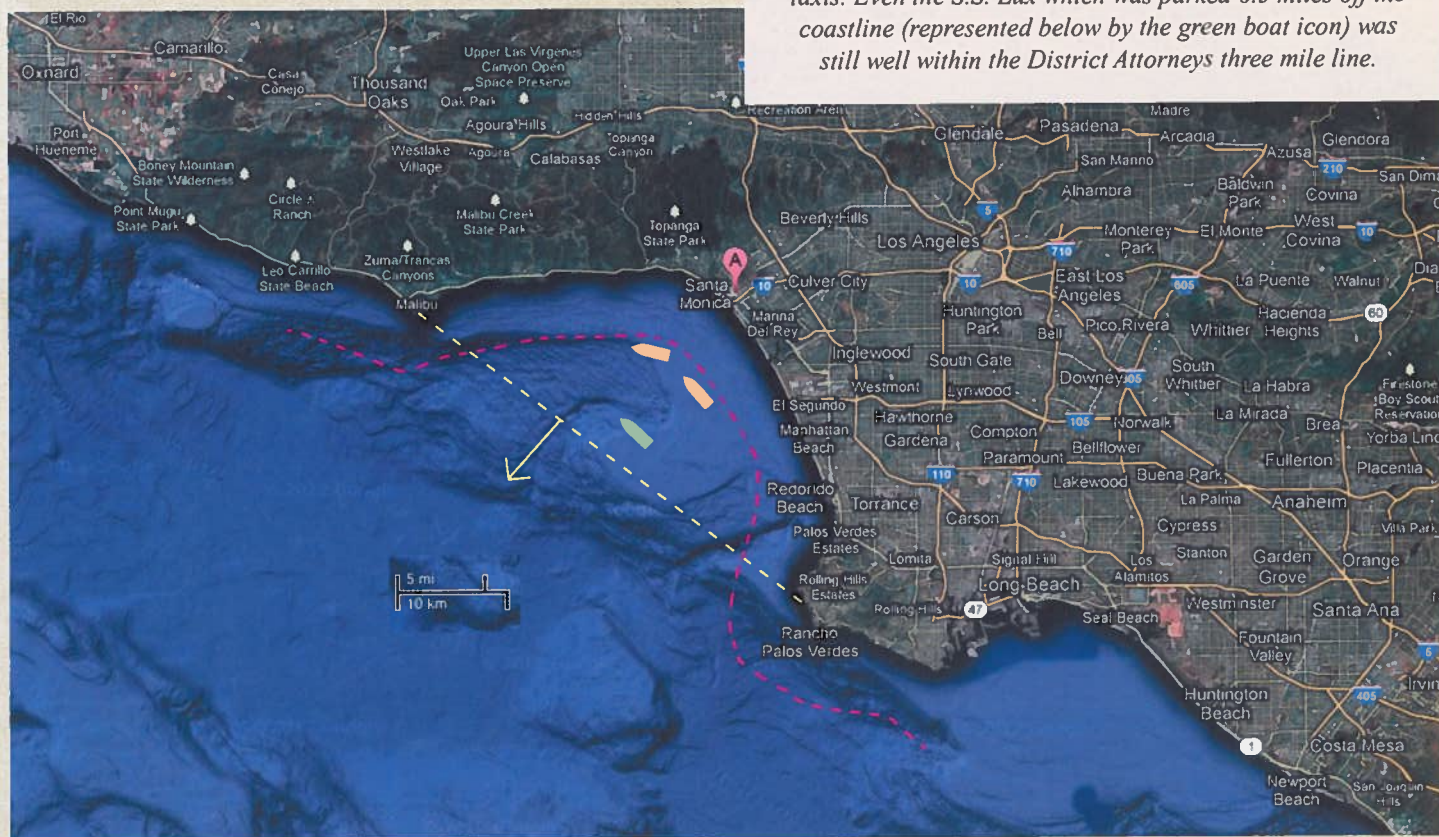
The S.S. Lux had all the table games that you would find in Las Vegas at the time. Above, craps. Right, Roulette and below, banks of slot machines.



taxi. This left the patrons stranded all night aboard the S.S. Lux. There were few chairs and no beds, so people had to stand all night long waiting to be rescued.

When Tony went to court for this latest interruption to his gambling operations, he argued the water taxis were engaged in foreign commerce, and that the sheriff had no jurisdiction over them. But the District Attorney did not agree, and to make matters worse, the Coast Guard seized the S.S. Lux. Tony had registered the ship under coastal trade, but the Coast Guard saw it differently as it had done nothing but sit idle off the coast of California. By 1948, new offshore gambling laws were put in place that made it next to impossible for Cornero to operate. Tony hung up his admiral's cap for the last time.

Below: This map shows the boundaries in question during the trial of Cornero and the location of his gambling ships. The dotted pink link shows what Cornero used as the three mile limit off the coast of Santa Monica. As you can see it follows the shore line and allows his two ships, the S.S. Rex and S.S. Tango (represented below by the gold boat icons) to remain close in toward the Santa Monica pier. Earl Warren and the Los Angeles County District Attorney developed a law to make the three mile boundary off of the two farthest points of the California coastline represented below by the yellow dotted line. This meant that the gambling ships would have to be a long distance from the shore line in very choppy waters. It would be a long and uncomfortable ride for the patrons in the water taxis. Even the S.S. Lux which was parked 6.5 miles off the coastline (represented below by the green boat icon) was still well within the District Attorneys three mile line.



PACKAGE FOR MR. CORNERO

With his luck exhausted on the high seas, Tony decided to try the land-based casino game once again. This time he was considering a new venue.

After being pushed out of Las Vegas by the Gaming Commission and by characters more unsavory than himself, being sunk by the Feds in his floating casino venture, and being told to stay away from illegal casino operations in California by Mickey Cohen, Tony was considering opening a casino across the border in Mexico. In 1935 all

“legal” casinos were shut down by then-president Lazaro Cardenas. But there was always a casino to be found if you looked hard enough. And most likely, Mexican government officials not only knew of the operation, but were also in on the action, so to speak.

Cornero contacted some Mexican officials about his plans, but he may have contacted the wrong men. On February 9, 1948, two men came to his home in Beverly Hills. When Cornero answered the door, one man handed him a package, then proceeded to shoot him four times in the stomach. The wounds were very serious, and Cornero was hospitalized for several weeks. Tony's dream of a Baja California casino died on the spot, and the case of his shooting was never solved.

PUSHING FORWARD

While most men would tend to look for opportunities away from the industry that had literally tried to kill them, Tony pushed on. He started to develop plans for a grand casino in Las Vegas. By the early 1950s, the boom on the Las Vegas Strip was well underway. Hotel Casinos such as the El Rancho, the Last Frontier, the Flamingo, and the Thunderbird were all successful, and Tony planned on joining the trend. He had a vision to build a 1,000-room hotel and a casino to rival all others on the Strip. Although the hotel and casino would feature all the latest amenities, it would be affordable. It wasn't to be a plush resort for high rollers and California socialites; this was to be a place for the masses. He had plans of \$5.00 hotel rooms along with a \$5.00 credit for gambling to bring the people in. He named his project the Starlight, and started looking for investors. Like many of his projects before, Tony did not follow typical protocols for building a casino. He did not keep many records, he did not file much paperwork, and he certainly did not follow many rules. But he was a great salesman, and he was able to persuade many investors to buy into his project. Once he had secured enough funds, Tony purchased thirty-two acres of land just north of the Royal Nevada casino on the Strip for \$650,000. It was at this time that Tony changed the name of his project to the Stardust and filed papers to incorporate under Stardust Inc.

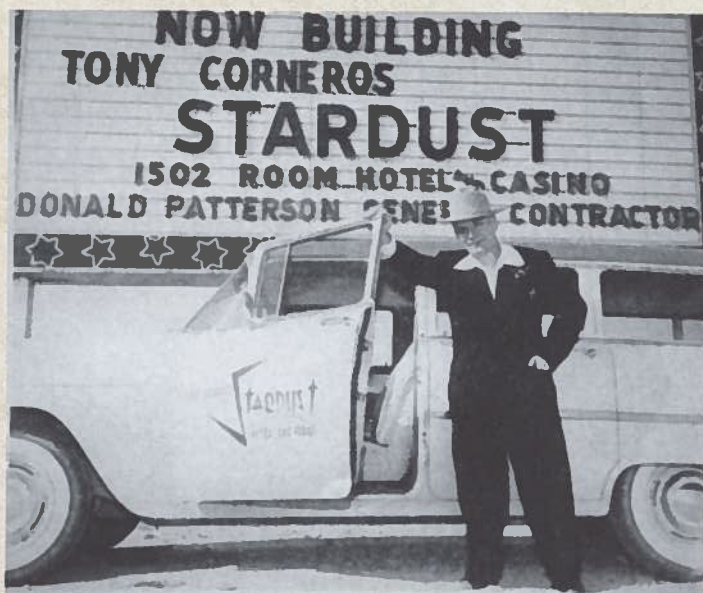
A MAN CAN DREAM

Tony was anxious to get construction underway. He had investors, land, and a dream. But due to his lax method of keeping records, the SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission) had an issue with the way he sold stock and ordered him to stop selling it. It was a stumbling block, but Cornero pushed on. He had raised enough money to start construction. He planned for the largest casino in Las Vegas at 16,500 square feet. He planned for a 140-foot lounge area that took up one entire wall of the casino. He planned for one the largest pools in the area with his 105-foot "L" shaped "Big Dipper" pool. And he planned for the largest sign on the Strip, which was to be 216 feet long and twenty-seven feet high, with 7,100 feet of neon tubing and 11,000 blinking bulbs. The interplanetary-themed sign stretched the entire front of the casino and was topped off with a huge, spinning replica of the earth with a blinking satellite orbiting it.

PRESSING HIS BETS

Tony had raised \$6 million for his project, and construction on the Stardust was underway. But Tony had problems. He had a problem with the SEC for the way he sold stock to raise funds. He

had not yet applied for a gaming license, which he knew he would most likely be denied because of his prior convictions and time in prison. But what was more pressing was that much of the \$6 million Tony had raised had come from the mob, and it was evaporating quickly. He was about 70% of the way to completing construction and he knew he would need more money to complete the Stardust.



Tony Cornero in front of his Stardust Casino marquee during construction.

Photo courtesy of the Ernest Marquez private collection.

Tony was a gambler, literally and figuratively. He was gambling that his investors would give him the rest of the money he needed to complete the project. He also gambled at the craps table. He could not account for much of the \$6 million that he had already spent and many of his "associates" assumed he had gambled it away. As the day to open the Stardust drew closer, Cornero had to make a move. He set up a meeting with Moe Dalitz, a man with ties to the Cleveland syndicate who had taken over as owner and operator of the Desert Inn casino in 1950. Cornero wanted more money and help with his gaming license. Dalitz knew Cornero was in a tough spot and that he held no chips.

SEVEN OUT

The meeting was set for July 31, 1955 at the Desert Inn. Dalitz insisted on taking over control of the Stardust. But Tony would have none of it; he wanted the money and he wanted the control, and the meeting was not going well. After several hours at Dalitz's office, Tony took a break and went out to the craps table. He quickly fell in the hole to the tune of over \$37,000. While trying to get back to even, a waitress brought Tony a bill for \$25.00 for his drinks and food. This was insult to injury and Cornero pitched a fit. He screamed about the injustice of it all, grabbed his chest and fell

dead right there at the Desert Inn craps table.

While no one came right out and said it, there was some suspicion around Tony's death. Some thought one of his drinks at the craps table might have been poisoned. He owed a great deal of money to the wrong people and he didn't seem to have a plan to get the Stardust open to pay the loans back.

As soon as his body hit the floor at the Desert Inn, it was whisked away and shipped to Los Angeles for a quick burial. No autopsy was ever performed, and no charges were ever filed.

Some theorize the syndicate that loaned him a big portion of his funds knew the outcome even if Tony had not died. He could not get a gaming license and he had no money left to finish his project. They were the only game in town that could take over.

On July 2, 1958, after sitting unfinished for almost three years, the Stardust opened under the control of Jake "The Barber" Factor, brother of the cosmetics giant Max Factor. Factor leased the control of the casino out to Dalitz and his company, the United Hotels Corporation.

While not a big man in stature, Tony lived large. He gambled big, took big risks and lived life by his own rules. There wasn't time for small plans, and he went out like he came in: kicking and screaming.



Opening day of the Stardust Hotel and Casino on July 2, 1958, Three years after Tony passed away at the Desert Inn. Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.

Sources

“The First 100 Persons Who Shaped Southern Nevada: Part 1: Tony Cornero: More Sinner Than Saint” by Alan Balboni, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.
<http://www.1st100.com/part1/cornero.html>

“Stardust Hotel” by Jeff Burbank, *O•N•E Online Nevada Encyclopedia*
http://www.onlinenevada.org/stardust_hotel

“Stardust In Your Eyes - Tony Cornero And The Stardust Hotel”
By John William Tuohy
Rick Porrello's American Mafia.com
<http://www.americanmafia.com>

“Tony Cornero” by Sam Gnerre
South Bay History
<http://www.insidesocal.com/history/2011/01/tony-cornero.html>

“The Great Resorts Of Las Vegas - How They Began!”
by George Stamos Jr.
Las Vegas Sun Magazine, Sept. 9, 1979

“Tony Cornero Dies At Gaming Table”
Los Angeles Times, Aug. 1, 1955

“Hoses Turned On Officers.”
Los Angeles Times, Aug. 2, 1939

“Gambling War Ended By Cornero.”
Los Angeles Times, Nov. 30, 1939

“Warren Places Ban On Gambling Ships.”
Los Angeles Times, July 29, 1939

“Officials Keep Watch On Rex.”
Los Angeles Times, Aug 8, 1939

“Warren Flays Cornero As Nuisance To Public.”
Los Angeles Times, June 12, 1946

“Gambling Ship Lux Opening Set For June 17.”
Los Angeles Times, May 30, 1946

“The Battle of Santa Monica Bay” by La Angelena
laist.com
laist.com/2009/08/08/laistory_the_battle_of_santa_monica.php

“Turning A Cannery Into A Casino” by Tom Viscount
Santa Monica Daily Press
www.smdp.com/Articles-c-2011-05-04-71759.113116-Turning-a-cannery-into-a-casino.html

“Noir Afloat: Tony Cornero And The Notorious Gambling Ships Of Southern California” by Ernest Marquez
Angel City Press, 2011



*Opening day of the Stardust Hotel and Casino on July 2, 1958.
Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau.*

Thanks to David Sarles, Jim Follis, Albert Scalzo, Von McKenzie and Alex Cilento for the use of their chip images. Thanks to Pam Goertler for the use of her matchbook and brochure scans. Thanks to Barry Weintraub for the use of his S.S. Rex matchbooks and Dave Hepburn for the use of his S.S. Tango matchbook covers and other S.S. Tango images.

Meet me at

HONEST JOHN'S

Many collectors are familiar with Honest John's Casino located at 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South, in Las Vegas, but they may not be aware of the other Honest John's casinos. The 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South location was one of four Honest John's casinos. This casino was located in the same strip mall that once housed casinos such as The Wheel, The Centerfold, and The Jolly Trolley among others. 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South currently houses the Bonanza Gift Shop across the street from the Sahara Casino. There was also 206 N. 3rd Street in downtown Las Vegas, the current site of the shuttered Lady Luck Casino. But through coupon books and handouts we find there was also a third location at 4813 Paradise Road (Paradise and Tropicana) as well as one at 2524 Sherwood, a few blocks behind the closed Sahara casino.

By Todd Barrett #5068-91

The only Honest John's Casino that featured table games and issued casino chips was the 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South location. This location was open from 1963 to 1974. This Honest John's was a casino/liquor store and was started by former Thunderbird Casino executive Art Grant. Grant was one of the featured names on the famous 27 host chips created in 1962 by the Thunderbird Casino.





A oversized (6" x 9") postcard from the 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South location.



PRESENT THIS AT HONEST JOHN'S CASINO & LIQUOR STORE AND RECEIVE

FREE! FIVE LUCKY NICKELS
ONE PER COUPLE - ADULTS ONLY

PAYROLL CHECK CASHING
10% DISCOUNT ON LIQUOR IN CASE LOTS • CALL 384-3522 OR 384-3523
OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY • ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
ACROSS FROM THE SAHARA HOTEL
2444 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SOUTH, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



As were many casinos of the same era, Honest John's was heavily "couponed" to bring customers in the door. The coupon above offers five free "lucky" nickels.



A dual coupon from the 2444 location this one for the customary five free "lucky" nickels, and also good for one free hot dog.



2440 Las Vegas Blvd., South
Jolly Trolley

2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South
Honest John's

2535 Las Vegas Blvd., South
The Sahara Hotel and Casino

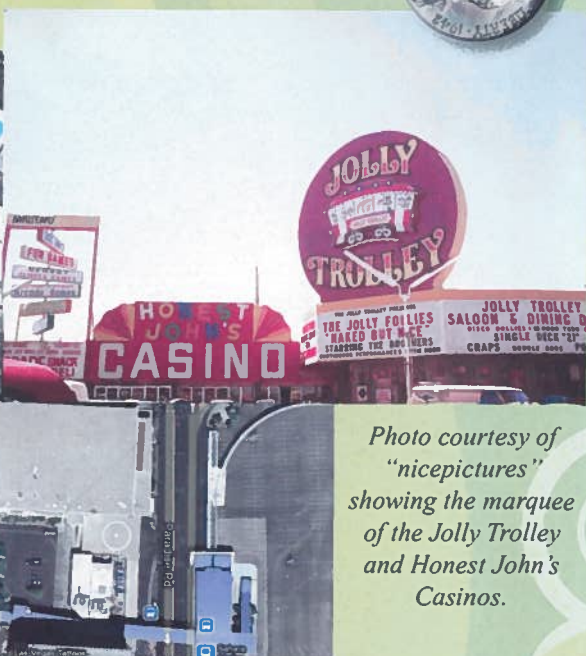
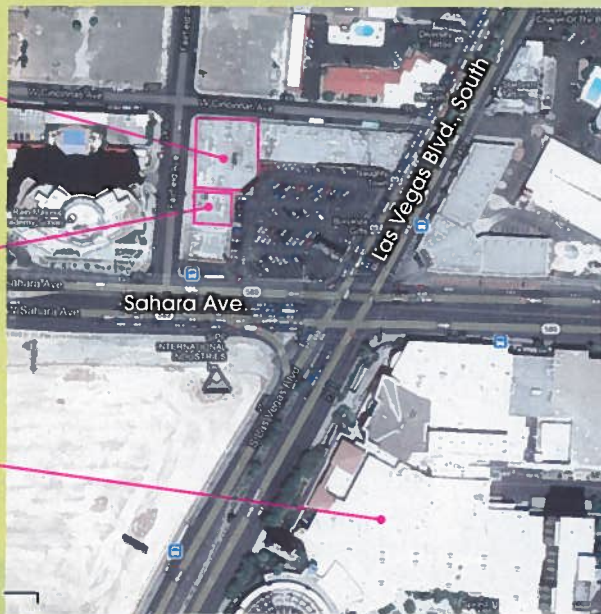


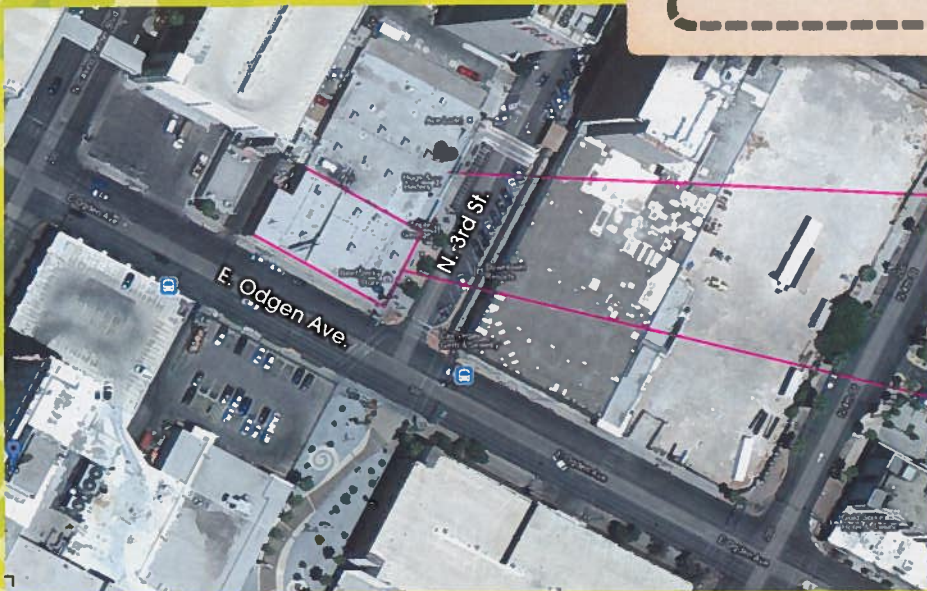
Photo courtesy of "nicepictures" showing the marquee of the Jolly Trolley and Honest John's Casinos.



The 3rd and Ogden Ave. address is in downtown Las Vegas, and opened in 1961. It closed in 1968 and was taken over by the Lady Luck Casino. The postcard on the left shows the brightly colored marquee and a shot of the interior as well. Hall of Fame club member Phil Jensen recalls it as one of his favorite downtown casinos. "I remember walking in after my shift at the Golden Gate around one in the morning. They always greeted you with a mug of beer and a change girl would come around with a big coffee can full of nickels that they let you take a hand full of."



Similar to the 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South location, the downtown casino couped heavily for five free "Lucky" nickels.

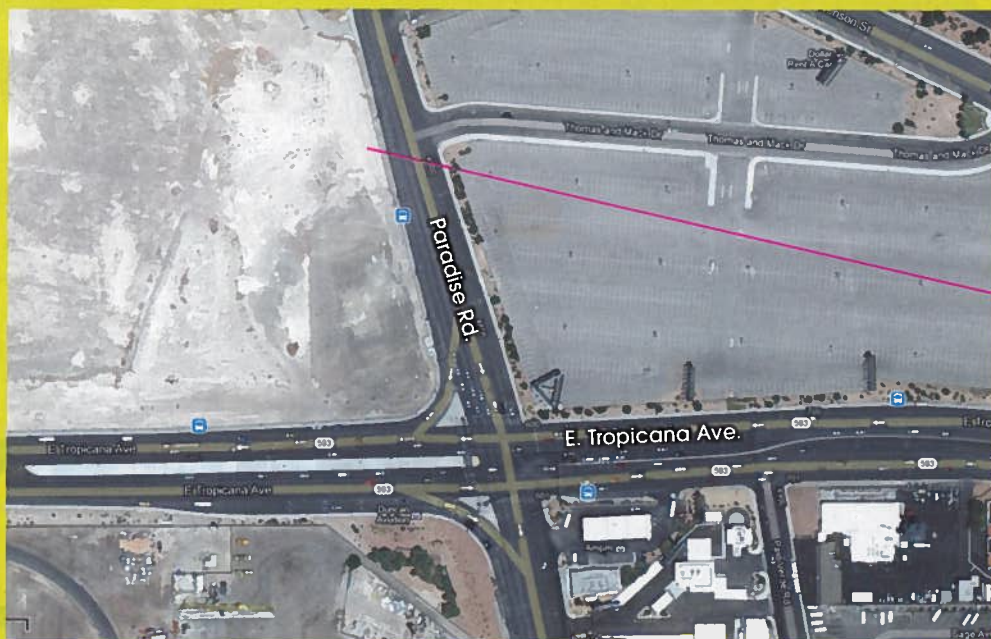


Lady Luck Casino

Original location of Honest John's at 3rd and Ogden.



The 3rd location of the Honest John's casinos was at 4813 Paradise Road, at Paradise and Tropicana. I cannot find information on opening and closing dates for this location. It does however run a similar five free "Jackpot" nickels coupons that the other locations use.



Location of Honest John's at 4813 Paradise Road.

GOOD FOR
**ONE FREE
 COCKTAIL**
 —at—
**HONEST JOHN'S
 CASINO**
 3 Blocks Behind Sahara Hotel on
 E. San Francisco at Sherwood
 Las Vegas, Nevada
 One to a Customer

Location of the 4th Honest John's location at 2524 Sherwood Street. Just a few blocks behind (or east) of the Sahara Casino. This location is currently home to the Eureka Casino. Interestingly, the Eureka uses the address of 595 E. Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89104. But Honest John's used the Sherwood Street address. There is a entrance to the Eureka casino in the back parking lot area, maybe that was the main entrance to Honest John's back in the day. I have not uncovered opening or closing dates at this location either. It also has the least amount of surviving coupon material. I could only find one paper coin good for one free cocktail at this location.



Sahara Casino just a few blocks down Sahara Ave.



Location of 4th Honest John's location at 2524 Sherwood Street



**PAYROLL
 CHECKS
 CASHED**
OPEN 24 HOURS

 **3** 
Locations

HONEST JOHN'S LIQUOR
 (Downtown)
 308 E. OGDEN
 382-9030

HONEST JOHN'S COCKTAIL LOUNGE
 2524 SHERWOOD
 (2 Blocks Behind Sahara)
 735-1240

HONEST JOHN'S LIQUOR STORE
 FRANCISCO SQUARE
 2444 Las Vegas Blvd. South
 382-9164

The ashtray to the left and the jackpot points coupon above could have come from any of the Honest John's locations. Possibly they were used at all the locations. The dollar token most likely used at all four locations. A few of the Honest John's items contain the phrase "He's in Europe." It's also not known if this was used in all the locations, or for that fact, what it even means! There is a website showing an Honest John's casino opening again in the same location as the 2444 Las Vegas Blvd., South location, but phone calls to the number give a "No longer in service" recorded message.

Thanks to Martin Kenney for the images used in this story.

The People's Choice Awards!

One of the things I was not aware of when I became the Exhibits Chairman was that the Club had a name for the Awards given out to the Exhibitors voted by the Convention attendees as the Best of Show. In reading some older issues of the Club's magazine, I found out that the Awards had been called The People's Choice Awards. So we will continue in that tradition, and without any further ado, here are the exhibitors for the People's Choice Awards for 2012:

Competitive Exhibits:

"Remember When..."
Bill Judge - R-3264

"Baseball and Casino Chips"
Jerry Vergatos - R-8093

"20 Years of Collecting Roulette Related Memorabilia"
Jerry Birl - LM 0774-27

"What chips should I collect?"
Erik Dauplaise - R-8053

"Cathouse Commemorative Chips of Nevada and Australia"
The Estate of Don Zeni

"The Hacienda"
Jim Steffner - HLM-1508

Non-Competitive Exhibits

"20 Years of Convention Badges"
Presented by: Jerry Birl - LM 0774-27

"20 Years of Convention Programs"
Chuck Tomarchio R-377

"2011 OTY Nominees"
Presented by: Jim Follis, LM 3872-53

"The Permanent Collection of all Past OTY Awards"
Presented by: Jim Follis, LM 3872-53

CC>CC Club Exhibit
"20 Years of Convention Medals"

I want thank everyone that contributed an exhibit at this years Convention. Please stop by and take a look at these exhibits and vote on your favorite during regular convention hours.

Casey Focazio-Follis
CC>CC Exhibits Chairman
5466 Jacobs Field Street
Las Vegas, NV

SEE YOU AT
"SPLASHBAR VIII" 2012
Brian "Mr. Splashbar" Cashman
LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06

CC>CC RAFFLE

The CC>CC will be conducting another raffle at the June 2012 convention at the South Point Hotel, Spa & Casino in Las Vegas. We are looking for all types of donations of items to be included as part of the raffle—chips, dice, slot cards, strikes, tokens, postcards, matchbooks, ashtrays, swizzle sticks—ANY type of casino memorabilia that is in good condition that you'd like to have in YOUR collection. Thanks to the GREAT participation in the past from our wonderful club members in the way of ticket & raffle item donations, this has been a success over the past several years both for the club AND for the lucky winners. Ticket costs are

a single raffle ticket for a donation of \$10 or three raffle tickets for a \$25 donation. You do NOT need to be present at the convention to win and those not attending will have their winnings shipped to them (at no additional cost to the winner) after the convention closes. Ticket donations can be made via mail by sending your ticket donations (payable to the CC>CC) to:

Douglas Smith
CC>CC President
PO Box 691085
Houston, TX 77269-1085



Our Club Members have come through already with nearly 1,500 Chips & Tokens, 20+ Plaques and Jetons, 100+ Matchbooks, 350+ Slot Cards, 70+ Die, 50+ Decks of Cards, Postcards, TOTO's,

Badge Holders, Pens, and a rare collection of Australian gaming items. Take a look at just some of the items shown in the photos above! The Raffle Prize pool continues to grow every week!

CC>CC Mentoring Program

Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

The Program

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

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

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

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

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

Mentoring Program Director, Terry Shaffer R-5645
terryshaffer@hotmail.com

Logo Usage Policy

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

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

Example



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

CC>CC 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.ccgctcc.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.

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

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

Reference Center

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

Casino Collectible News - A publication of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club
This official club magazine is a must-read for every casino collectible enthusiast.

For The Beginner

- [CCGTCC Mentoring Program](#) - Help others or find help for yourself!
- [2007 Buyer's Guide to Casino Collectibles](#) - Be an informed collector!
- [2005 Buyer's Guide to Casino Collectibles](#) - Be an informed collector!
- [Ask The Expert!](#) - a list of CC>CC members who have volunteered to answer your questions.
- [Chip Conditions](#) - an official list of CC>CC sanctioned terminology used to describe chip condition.
- [Glossary](#) - an extensive list of the terminology used in our hobby - a "Chiptionary", if you will.
- [Chip FAQ](#) - a huge list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding our hobby.
- [Chipology 101](#) - a great intro-to-chipping seminar presented at the national convention.
- [Cleaning Chips](#) - a good primer on cleaning casino chips.
- [Mold Designs](#) - Robert Eisenstadt's mold design project.

- [2011 Club Auction](#) - Catalog, Terms and Conditions & Current High Bids.

Detailed Reference

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

Books, Magazine Articles, etc.

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

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

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

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

<http://www.ccgcc.com>

Very user friendly website

Now over 10,000 chips in stock
We have Cruise, Island's and
many US and Foreign Casinos

Old Obsolete's and New
House and LE in stock

Always Buying Nevada
chips Please email
for an offer on
one chip or a
complete collection

All Atlantic City and
Las Vegas New Releases
House and Limited Edition

Las Vegas
WWW.
all-chips
.com
Atlantic City

Email: Ricky@all-chips.com

Huge selection of Atlantic City and Las Vegas
Limited Edition and House Chips
Very fast service. All orders shipped next day

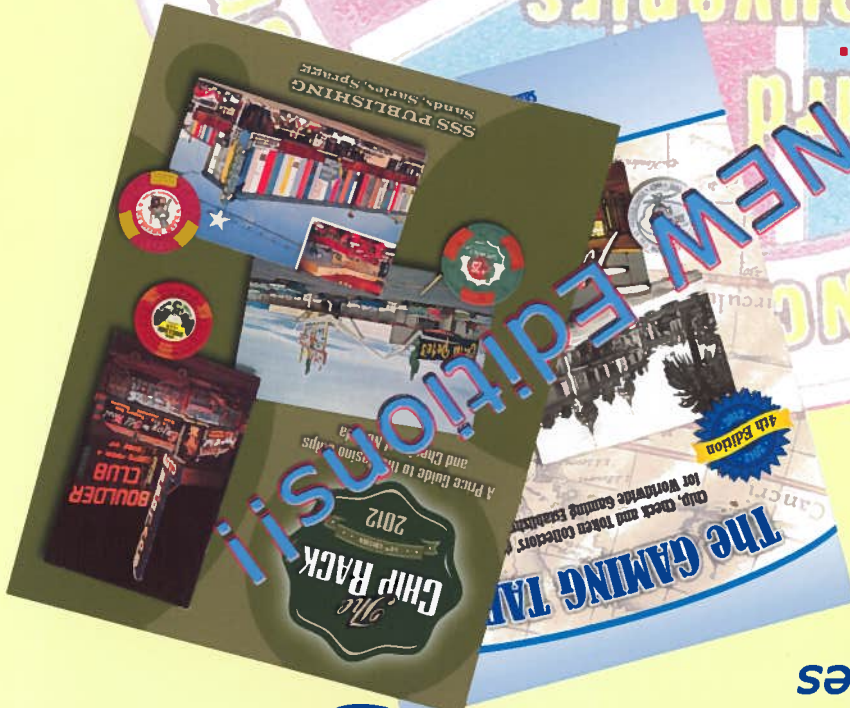


SSS Publishing

(Jay Sands, David Sprag)

proudly announce The Chip Rack Edition 14, published June 2012, and The Gaming Table Edition 4, published January 2012.

Order from www.thechiprack.com or meet us at the convention - TABLE 80.



The Chip Rack is the #1 reference guide for all Nevada chip collectors, with its unique copyrighted numbering system identifying 32,000 chips! The Gaming Table is the ONLY worldwide guide to gaming establishments and chip identification, now completely re-designed with over 30,000 entries!

The authors are always interested in BUYING complete collections or single chips. Come and talk to us or contact us through the website.

Marlow Casino chips

continues the sale of one of the world's leading collections of Plaques & Jetons plus many rare and not so rare chips. Available to view and purchase at Table 80 or from my website! Many other sales including the 8,000 chip Batten collection, consignments, previously unrecorded Aspinalls pieces and the rare Ray & Ruth's and Sal Sagev chips below. Visit website for mailing list subscription & new issues service.



David Sprag LM-6180-166
38 Oak Tree Road, Marlow
Bucks, SL7 3EE, United Kingdom
or 840 S Rancho Dr #4314, Las Vegas, NV 89106
www.marlowcasinochips.com
Email: david.sprag@marlowcasinochips.com