



Casino Collectible News

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

SEX, MONEY, FIRE!

The El Rey Casino & Willie Martello The Real Story!



Plus....

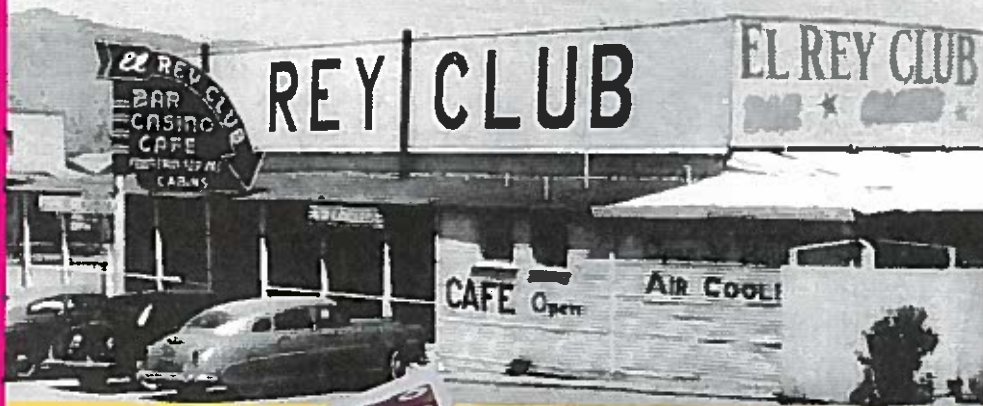
Confessions of a Harley-Davidson Chip Collector

Visiting Cripple Creek CO

2014 Convention Info Northern Nevada

Patches

More What Can I Collect



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.



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

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

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Casino Collectible News

A publication of

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

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

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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:

Chips Tokens
 U.S. Foreign

I would like you to publish my . . .

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 Do not publish any of my information

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

One year \$30.00 - 3rd class or bulk mailing rate
 One year Associate Member \$5.00
 First class postage - additional \$14.00
 International \$55.00 - includes first class postage

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

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

CC>CC Membership Officer

Steve Bedo

1215 E. Dalton Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741

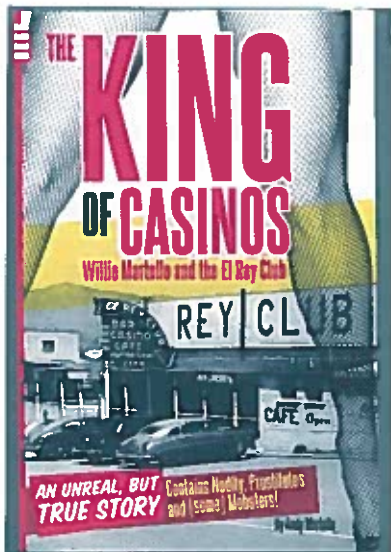
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or sign up or renew on line at...

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)



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King of Casinos, excerpt about the history of the EL Rey Casino

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**American Numismatic Association
Membership Application**

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

Regular Student Junior Senior Associate
Present or former ANA number, if any _____

Mr. Mrs Ms.

Name, please print

Street

City

State Zip

Country Date of Birth

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

Please check here if you DO NOT want your name and address forwarded to the ANA representative in your area. Please check here if you would like your name provided to companies with offers we feel may interest you.

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

Signature of Applicant

Date

Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Check Money Order Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card all Numbers

Expiration Date

Signature of Cardholder (Required)

Dues

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

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

Forward completed application to:

ANA

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

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

Visit Us Online!

www.CCGTCC.com



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

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

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



See You There!

www.CCGTCC.com

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. Dalton Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741

Rates

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

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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



Steve Miller
Co-Editor

President's Letter

The year seems to have just flown by.

The 2014 convention will be here before we know it and preparations are in full swing.

One of the major changes to this years event will be the fee structure. For the first time, we will be offering free admission for two days and hope to attract additional walk ins.

The BOD has just completed the mid year meeting and discussed many items suggested by our members over the past several months. Among them were approval for the club to move forward with some social media outlet including Facebook and Twitter.

Look for some very special announcements around convention time as the club could have some exciting news coming our way.

The Club is still in need of additional volunteers to help out our new Editor Steve Miller with the magazine. If your interested in becoming a Co-Editor or helping with the magazine, please contact Steve at Editor@ccgtcc.com.

The CC>CC will once again be holding a raffle at the convention. This years prize packages promise to be some of the best ever and already include some fantastic donations including an iPad Mini. Please look for the ²⁰¹⁴ CC>CC raffle add in this issue with information on how you can donate and ticket purchases.

In closing I want to make everyone aware of an important ballot included in this issue. Up for vote is the position of Vice president as well as a member proposed amendment. This is your chance to make a difference so please make your voice heard and VOTE !!!!

Doug "Cigarman" Smith
LM-3209-147
Proud President of the CC>CC

Editor's Note

Welcome to my first issue of Casino Collectible News. I hope that you will find the issue as interesting as I did as I was putting it together. While pasting up the issue, I found that things have change dramatically since the last time I had editor responsibilities. So it took me a lot longer to create the this issue than I expected. I hope that you enjoy.

I want to thank everyone, in particular, Todd Barrett in assisting me in creating this issue. I also would like to thank the CCGTC Board of Directors for giving me this opportunity to serve the club.

In the future I would like to have a Letters to Editor column, for comments, questions, or suggestions. Just e-mail me at Editor@ccgtcc.com. If you have any interest in writing for magazine please contact me with your copy or ideas.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at this years convention!

Steve Miller LM 1069-245

Attention Convention Advertisers:

Help support your Club.

Please contact Allan Anderson at adesign@sbcglobal.net

New Members Last Name

Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Referred By
8592	Halloran	Tim	WV	Charleston	Club Website
8593	Stephens	Dave	TX	Sulphur Springs	Club Website
8594	Stukel	Dave D.	SD	Sioux Falls	Club Website
8595	Weaver	Lee	NC	Wake Forest	Club Website
8596	Hopper	Timothy	AL	Decatur	Club Website
8597	Baworowsky	Ted	IL	Palatine	Club Website
8598	Stella	Adam	VA	Annandale	Club Website
8599	Speizman	Gary	IL	Lincolnwood	Club Website
8600	Uresti	Martin	UT	West Jordan	Club Website
8601	Damonte	Audrey	NV	Reno	Club Website
8602	Sardella	John A.	OH	Columbus	Club Website
8603	Grosse	Nicholas	CT	Windsor	Club Website

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

SEE YOU AT
"SPLASHBAR X" 2014
 Brian "Mr. Splashbar" Cashman
 LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06

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!



The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc

www.ccgfcc.com

A Non-Profit Corporation: FED ID: 11-3193244

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE CC>CC

We have examined the Treasurer's Report of **THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB, INC.**, for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Our examination included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The Club's policy is to prepare its reports on the cash basis of accounting. Consequently, revenue and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the income is earned or the expense was incurred. For this reason the Treasurer's Report is not intended to present results of operations on the accrual basis.

In our opinion, the Treasurer's Report referred to above, presents fairly the income and expenditures of **THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB, INC.**, for the year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting applied on a consistent basis.

DAVE HARBER

DEBBIE HARBER

DOUGLAS SMITH

MIKE QUINLIVAN

January 31, 2013

THE CASINO CHIP AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB INC.
Income & Expense/Equity Statement (Cash Basis)
January 1 Thru December 31, 2013

INCOME

	1/1/13-12/31/13
Membership Dues (Includes 1st class postage & Life Memberships)	\$ 38,339.00
Convention 2013:	
Table Fees	\$ 22,400.00
Registration	\$ 6,955.00
Banquet5	\$,490.00
Program Advertising2	\$,429.81
Poker & BJ Tournaments	\$ -
Auction Proceeds (Includes Catalog)	\$ 7,518.99
Convention 2013 Total:	\$ 44,794
Convention 2014 table fees	\$ 2,850
Promotion Sales	\$ 8,013.95
Museum Fund Donations	\$ 565.00
Magazine Advertising	\$ 2,995
Nevada State sales tax (To be paid)	\$ (548.98)
Raffle Tickets	\$ 3,625.00
Calendar Sales (Costs Deducted)	\$ 1,395.94
Other Donations	\$ 1,014.70
Greg Susong Memorial Fund donations	
Sale of donated items	\$ 1,180.00
50/50 Raffle	\$ 270.00
Interest Income/misc	\$ 368.17
Total Income :	<u>104,861.58</u>

EXPENDITURES

Magazine	\$ 33,686.51
Convention (Includes Convention program)	\$ 37,646.37
Advertising	\$ 4,711.04
Promotion	\$ 5,082.91
Video Production (Convention/Seminars)	\$ 2,157.50
Storage (Occupancy)	\$ 3,408.00
Museum Fund Expenses / Promotional Items7	\$ 39.88
BOD audit/meeting expense	\$ 2,799.67
Postage (Other than Magazine)	\$ 2,961.84
Bank Charges / Paypal Fees / Ebay Fees	\$ 958.31
Websites	\$ 744.85
Misc. Supplies (Includes Membership Pins/Cards)	\$ 2,540.44
Filing Fees	\$ 290.00
Printing	\$ 583.62
Telephone	\$ 110.00
Insurance	\$ 1,574.00
Total Expenditures :	<u>99,994.94</u>

Net Income - 01/01 to 12/31 **4,866.64**

Beginning Equity Balance - 01/01/13	<u>\$ 319,385</u>
Net Income - 01/01 to 12/314	\$,867
Change In Inventory - 01/01 to 12/31	\$ 10,364
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31	<u>\$ 334,616</u>

Detail of Equity Balance - 12/31/13	
General Fund - Checking2	\$ 1,028.11
General Fund - Money Market	\$ 110,015.71
Museum Fund (Formally Building Fund)	\$ 99,850.40
Life Membership Fund	\$ 63,222.56
Total Cash Available	\$ 294,117
Inventory	\$ 40,299
Advance (Promotions)	\$ 200
Ending Equity Balance - 12/31/13	<u>\$ 334,616</u>

Respectfully Submitted, John Zoesch - Treasurer
January 10, 2014

\$ 0

Convention 2014

By Mike and Corni Quinlivan



This year's convention theme is "The Mob". The actual tagline has not yet been determined, but it will be announced as soon as it is determined. In any case, just about anything Mob related will work if you are planning on designing personalized chips, so it's not necessary to wait for the tagline. The 22nd annual celebration will begin Wednesday June 18th (with the banquet) and conclude on Saturday June 21st.

SHOW HOURS:

Thursday June 19th: 10:30 am to 6:00pm (9:30am for those that pre-register)
Friday June 20th: 10:00am to 4:00pm
Saturday June 21st: 10:00am to 4:00pm

SHOW ENTRANCE FEES:

Thursday June 19th: \$15 (\$20 for those that pre-register)
Friday June 20th: FREE
Saturday June 21st: FREE

For those of you that have not experienced the South Point, there are several reasons why this facility has been chosen to host our conventions through 2016. The show floor is big and easy to access with wide aisles. They have excellent restaurants that are reasonably priced, a bowling alley with 64 lanes, a movie theater with 16 screens, a very good selection of table games and slots, and

very competitively priced rooms with free Wi-Fi (if you book using the CC>CC Convention code).

Be sure to make your plans early, book your room at the South Point and make your airline reservations. We hope to provide yet another great convention for all to attend and enjoy.

Help Wanted

Our conventions are run by volunteers and without volunteers the show could not go on. Please consider donating a few hours to help with registration, promotions table, auction table, membership table, or show set-up and tear down. Please contact Belinda Hixon, Volunteer Coordinator – txbel1711@aol.com.

Pre-Registration

Pre-registration is again being offered to those who would like to eliminate standing in long lines on Thursday and Friday morning. The price this year is \$20.00 and you get to enter the show a full hour early on Thursday. In addition, there will be a \$2.50 Scrip octagon chip (snapper) included with each pre-registration packet, along with discount coupons and other items.

The registration form can be found in this issue of the magazine and on the Club website. George D. will again be handling the pre-registration. His address and e-mail are on the registration form. Payment by check or money order made out to CC>CC must accompany the form. No credit card transaction can be used with the mail-in form. Be sure to include your e-mail or phone number to receive your confirmation

You can also pre-register on-line at the Club website, www.ccgcc.com using PayPal. Select the link on the left hand side that says "On-Line Pre-Registration". Be sure to follow all of the instructions in each step of the registration process. Do not close out until you are shown that you have completed the process. With either the mail-in form or the on-line process, you WILL receive a confirmation within 30 days. If you do not receive your confirmation, you are NOT registered. Postmark and on-line deadline is May 23, 2014. Any registrations received after that date cannot be accepted.

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 available for them.

Pre-registration packets can be picked up at the registration desk on Wednesday June 18, 2014 between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. ONLY and during regular registration desk hours on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. There will be 4 lines

separated alphabetically to make the process smooth and fast. Your pre-registration envelope will contain your show badge, banquet tickets (if ordered), poker and blackjack confirmations (if participating), and any special coupons, freebies or give-a-ways that we can obtain.



Hotel Reservations

You may reserve your room directly with the South Point Hotel by calling their toll free reservation number at 866-791-7626 or 702-797-8005. Be sure to tell them to use our special booking code "CAS0613". You may also book your reservation by using the Internet. Go to the Club website, www.ccgcc.com and select the link on the left hand side that says "2014 Hotel Booking". The deadline to book your room within our block is May 23, 2014 or until our block of rooms is filled.

Hotel room rates for the 2014 convention are \$60.00/night Sunday through Thursday and \$90.00/night for Friday and Saturday. Keep in mind that room Internet access is included (a savings of \$14.00 per night). If you are coming to Las Vegas early or staying over after the convention our room block runs from Thursday June 13th through Monday June 23rd. Remember, in order to be within our room block your reservation MUST be made by May 23, 2014.

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

Early Bird Banquet And Trade Session

The banquet is scheduled for Wednesday evening, June 18th. Reserve your tickets using the registration form or on-line. Ticket price is \$45.00 per person or \$450.00 for a table of 10. No tickets will be available at the door.

While this isn't a formal event, Mob related outfits or business casual would be appropriate. Please, no flip-flops, shorts or tank tops.

We have confirmed Mr. Karl Bennison, Chief of the Nevada Gaming Control Board Enforcement Division, as our guest speaker for the 2014 Annual Banquet. This is sure to be one of the most interesting and fascinating speakers that we have ever had and something you don't want to miss !!!

Reserve your seat or reserve a full table of 10 so all your friends can sit together. As it was last year, this will be a sit down event and you will need to select among 2 to 3 entrees.

All banquet attendees must be Club members. If you plan on bringing a spouse or friend, make sure to sign them up for Club membership BEFORE the banquet. There will be no opportunity to join the Club at the show before Thursday morning after the exhibit hall opens. Banquet tickets will be in your pre-register envelope and can be picked up at the registration desk between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. ONLY on Wednesday June 18, 2014.

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

Exhibits

Grand Ballroom – A & B

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

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

Educational Seminars

Rick Pokracki has lined up some great speakers to keep everyone well informed, educated and entertained. Watch for a complete seminar schedule in the next issue of the Casino Collectible News and on the Club website.

Bruce Landau

Memorial Auction

The auction will be held Thursday, June 19th at 7:00 P.M. Once again, David Spragg will be organizing this popular event. Please consider donating some chips or other casino related items to benefit the Club. David is assembling some excellent lots for this year's auction that may include some lower and medium priced items other than chips. Be sure to order your auction catalog as they usually sell out by show time.

Tournaments

Blackjack Tournament

Wednesday June 18th - 12:00 Noon - South Point Hotel and Casino Floor

The 2014 CC>CC Blackjack Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. This is the 12th annual Blackjack Tournament the club has sponsored. Commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

Entry fee: \$70 per player. Open to current CC>CC regular, life and associate members only (age 21+ of course). Maximum 54 players and also subject to minimum number of entries. Each player receives 3,000 in NCV tournament chips each round. Bet limits: 25 minimum / 3000 maximum.

VOLUNTEER RECEPTION

Jonathan Ullman, Executive Director and CEO of the Mob Museum in Las Vegas, has graciously agreed to speak at the volunteer reception on Saturday, June 21, 2014. There will also be a "special" gift for each volunteer that attends the reception. Remember, only those that volunteer are invited to the reception. There is good food, it is always a good time AND a great way to say THANKS to all of our volunteers that make the convention possible. So, while you are thinking about it, contact Belinda Hixon, Volunteer Coordinator at txbel711@aol.com and tell her "I want to volunteer at the 2014 Convention". You will be glad that you did.

Last Dance Swap Meet

On Saturday, June 21st, the Last Dance Trade Session will be held. The event will begin at 7:00 P.M. and last until the last two traders call it quits. This will be the last chance for members to get together after the show floor closes to add that last chip, token, strike or slot card to their collection. Check the show schedule for the location.

Watch for more updates in the next magazine and on the Club website at CCGTCC.com. Make your plans now to be in Las Vegas on June 18th through the 21st for the 22nd annual gala. We hope to see you there!!



Up to three preliminary rounds, followed by one semi-final round, finishing with one 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 is available) at \$70 per re-entry; the 2:00 pm round may be cancelled if warranted.

Prizes – Final round players win a portion of the net prize pool. Full tournament rules available on CC>CC website and at the tournament.

Poker Tournament

Friday June 20th - 6:00 PM - South Point Hotel and Casino Poker Room

The 2014 CC>CC 16th Annual Poker Tournament will be held during the club's annual convention in Las Vegas. The tournament format will be no limit Texas Hold'em. Commemorative chips will be available for sale separately. See the club table for details.

Entry fee: \$90 per player (no rebuys or add-ons). Open to current CC>CC regular, life and associate members only (age 21+ of course). Maximum 120 players. Each player receives 2,500 in NCV tournament chips for entry fee. Blinds start at 25-25. Limits and antes increased each period of play. Minimum bet and raise increments equal to big blind unless all-in.

Tables and seats assigned at registration. Tables will be consolidated periodically throughout the tournament. Finalists will be paid in the order of finish, based on the number of players. Full tournament

Trade Sessions

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

YOU MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE WEDNESDAY TRADE SESSION, WHICH THIS YEAR WILL OPEN AT 9:30 am INSTEAD OF 9:00 am.

2014 CCGTCC ELECTION UPDATE

The nominations for CCGTCC Board of Directions positions were closed on January 18, 2014. 15 nominations were received, with one voided due to late arrival.

The following members received the required two nominations and responded to the nomination as follows:

Vice President:

- Mike Quinlivan - Decline
- Jay Sands - Accept
- Marc Shapiro - Decline
- Sheldon Smith - Accept

Treasurer:

- John Zoesch - Accept

Membership Officer:

- Steve Bedo - Decline
- Richard Huber - Accept

A ballot vote will not be required for the positions of Treasurer and Membership Officer since these Board of Directors positions are uncontested. Messrs. Zoesch and Huber are elected to the respective offices by acclamation. Congratulations!!

The ballot for Vice President—Messrs. Sands and Smith—will be included in the next issue of the CCN magazine. Also included on the ballot will be a proposed Constitution Amendment.

The election results will be presented at the Annual CCGTCC Business Meeting on Saturday, June 21,

Jay Sands

It is with great pleasure that I accept the nomination for Vice President of the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collector's Club and ask for your encouragement and support.

For those of you who don't know me, I would like to tell you a little about myself. I've lived in Los Angeles for the past 20 years and I've spent my career working in the entertainment business. I've spent 32 of the last 38 years with Sony Pictures. I had always been fascinated with the compelling history of Nevada and, since I attended an annual film industry convention in Las Vegas since the mid 1980's, I started picking up chips from all the casinos I visited around then. I discovered and joined the CC>CC in 1999 and became a life member in 2002.

I've always been passionate about the hobby and the Club and looked for a way to give some time and energy back. In 2004, I became the Club Auction co-chair, and I've continued on and off for the past 10 years, producing the auction catalog which I always infuse with a touch of humor.



I spent two terms as Vice President of the CC>CC, having been first elected in 2007. It was in 2008, a group of three of us bought THE CHIP RACK and since then I've worked on the book on a daily basis. In 2009, David Spragg and I added our good friend, and former Club President, David Sarles to the group, becoming SSS Publishing, and added THE GAMING TABLE to our literary dynasty.

I spent two terms as Vice President of the CC>CC, having been first elected in 2007. It was a great fit from the start... I've been a member of committees and boards in my business life for many years and the skills translated well. Chemistry between the members can be tremendously important, and members who bring ego or fear of lack of conviction or discipline can be disruptive and reduce the effectiveness of the organization. It's also crucial that the members of the board have a healthy respect for each other and the ability to compromise and work through differences. I've decided to accept the nomination and run for Vice President of the CC>CC because I feel I would like to again make a difference to the Club as a member of the Board Of Directors. I believe I would be an excellent fit with the current board as I have excellent relationships mutual respect with all of the members.

Sheldon Smith

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CASINO CHIP & GAMING TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB, INC:

I am pleased to present my bona fides in support of my re-election for the Vice-Presidency of the CC>CC. I have been a member of the CC>CC since 2001. My wife, Christine, and I were the first husband and wife life members. For the past 13 years, we have collected casino memorabilia and our collection concentrates mainly on \$1 Nevada chips. I also sell casino memorabilia on eBay as "onenevadadollar." Christine and I retired from Chicago in 2008 and relocated to Las Vegas, NV. Every day, we wake up and say, "It's another beautiful day in paradise!"



From 2011 to the present, I have been honored to be your Vice-President. The official duties for the Vice-President are: to represent the Club when the President is unable to do so; to monitor the Chip & Token Report (but this function has traditionally been fulfilled by members posting on "thechipboard"); and, to perform special assignments (which covers just about everything else, including the complaint department)!

Here is a short summary of what I have been doing on behalf of the CC>CC both in and outside of my current official duties:

- From 2007 to 2011, I was the Education Director for the seminars that were held at the national convention in June in Las Vegas.
- From 2007 to the present day, I produce the press releases for the CC>CC. These take the form of notices of speakers, major accomplishments of the Club and almost any other item I can make into a press release so the Club's name is out there!
- In August 2009, I initiated our Club's membership on eBay. We have had a presence since then and, although not yet as successful as we anticipate it will be, we have a brochure and a membership offering which to date has been viewed by 486 people.
- In early 2010, I initiated our Club's membership into PayPal which is now the way our Club receives most of its payments for many of our activities and services. We also opted into the PayPal charity system. Since early in 2010, we have been offering sellers the opportunity to participate in eBay "Giving Works" which allows sellers the possibility of making donations to the CC>CC.
- Like many of you, I have tirelessly campaigned to expand our membership. Recently, on behalf of our Club, I concluded a pilot campaign for new members using inventory from previous conventions that were sitting unsold for a very long time. This allowed us to use resources that were untapped and made some head-way in reducing our stored inventory!

Perhaps one of my most satisfying accomplishments has been the publication of three articles that I authored in the "JOURNAL OF ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES." These articles were devoted to collecting casino memorabilia. They were posted on the chipboard and I've included the URL's here for your perusal. Paste them into your web browser! ***(Continued on the next page)***

Sheldon Smith (continued from previous page)

My goals for the next two years are pretty straight forward:

- I will continue to perform my official duties with enthusiasm, care and integrity.
- I will work diligently to promote our Club in any and all venues.
- I will work for the betterment of our hobby.
- I will push for more ways to attract new members.
- I will work to find ways to make our Club more inclusive and more meaningful to our members.

I hope that when the time comes for you to mark your ballot, you will be happy to mark it next to my name: Sheldon Smith.
Thank you!

<http://journalofantiques.com/collecting-gaming-memorabilia/> <http://journalofantiques.com/chips/>
<http://journalofantiques.com/values/>

Respectfully submitted,

Sheldon Smith

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2015

CC>CC CALENDAR!



The official 2015 CC>CC calendar is now available for purchase. This calendar is a club fund raiser which raises money by the sale of individual dates, banner ads and whole pages, and of course the final printed calendars.

Individual dates are \$10 each. To reserve a specific date e-mail Steve Bedo (stevebedo@yahoo.com) to make sure that the date you require is still available. Then supply a chip scan for that date (NO personal chips allowed) at preferably 300dpi or better.

Banner ads at the bottom of the page(s) are \$70.

A "month", including the banner ads, is \$300.

The finished printed calendars are \$18 each (includes shipping within the US)

Please check with Steve Bedo BEFORE sending payments though. E-mail Steve at stevebedo@yahoo.com.

The calendar shown above is a sample of the 2014 calendar.

***Because of his prior experience as Vice President,
his continuing involvement with preserving gaming
history and his commitment to both the hobby & the
CC>CC...***

**We support Jay Sands for Vice President
of the CC>CC.**

(in alphabetical order):

Andy Hughes
Barry Weintraub
Belinda Hixon
David Sarles
David Spragg
Doug Smith
Eric Rosenblum
Gene Trimble
James Kruse
John Zoesch
Mike Skelton
Mike "Q" Quinlivan
Nate Pincus
Neal Silverman
Richard Huber
Steve Bedo
Wayne Thompson

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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

Website Update!
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Exhibitors and Exhibits Needed for The 2014 People's Choice Awards!

The Convention is just around the corner and we need more Exhibits. If you are planning on going to the Convention, please think about doing an Exhibit of some of the things you collect. Last year's winner (Carl Osborne) had a great display of memorabilia and pictures of Nevada's jailhouse casino! There was a very interesting (and large) display of advertising chips from US manufacturers, distributors and gaming suppliers that won 2nd Place. We also had some non-Competitive Exhibits and some other really neat stuff, and we are looking forward to more sign-ups for this year!

Basically, you bring the stuff and the Club will provide display cases and table space. Just remember, Exhibit set-up is Wednesday only, from 9 – 1 (providing we will following last year's schedule). Please contact me by email at: Exhibits@CCGTCC.com to ask questions and/or sign-up. I can also be contacted through my Dad at: 520.971.7909.

Club provided display cases are 22" x 34", hinged on the 34" side, and are 2 inches high. A slightly deeper case (3 ¼") is available for display of items with a little bit more height.

I will need this information:

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



Exhibits must be casino related in some way in keeping with the nature of our Club. If any

the exhibit will include slabbed chips, special permission must be received from Club President Doug "Cigarman" Smith. You need to coordinate this approval, not me.

The deadline for submissions will be May 31st. Please feel free to submit a Competitive Exhibit or contact me to suggest other Non-Competitive Exhibits.

Lastly, past records keeping seems to have missed who won The People's Choice Awards in 1996, 1997 and 1998. If you know who won in any of those years, please contact me.

Thank you, Casey Focazio-Follis Exhibit Chairman

Of Literary Note

by the Club Librarian
John Kalman
P.O. Box 122
Sartell, MN 56377
librarian@ccgtcc.com

It is often said that art imitates life, but sometimes it is the other way around!

Sir Author Conan Doyle and his fictional detective Sherlock Holmes would be proud with *Ringers & Rascals – The True Story of Racing's Greatest Con Artists* by David Ashforth.

In a tale right of Doyle's *Silver Blaze*, a horse is run in a race with its distinctive markings masked so that an otherwise "nag" wins a featured race, and those with inside knowledge; rake up at the windows (and in this case, one of the holders of a winning ticket is none other than Mr. Holm's himself!).

While no deaths are recounted in the story by Ashforth he does recount similar sleight of hand (or should I say horse?) in this tale of racetrack chicanery. As stated on the books back cover:

Peter Christian Barrie had a peculiar skill: he painted horse. Not with oils on canvas but with henna dye on the horses themselves. The King of the Ringers disguised good horses as bad ones and tricked bookmakers out of millions of dollars. Barrie's nefarious skill made him a sought after man not only by corrupt cotemporaries but by Pinkerton's detectives and law enforcement agents who tracked him from Cuba to Chicago, Mexico to Canada. The full, extraordinary talk of the world's greatest racing fraudster is told here for the first time along with the exploits of Barrie's disciples in Britain, Australia, and the United States.

So it is not just the card counters and the dice manipulators' that try to change the odds of lady luck. If there is money to be made, and there is a means to do so, legal or otherwise, there will be those who try and those who succeed!

This is just one of many books that you can check out from the club's growing library collection.

ChipGuide Profiles

By Charles Kaplan, LM-115-48

Hello collectors. 2013 has come and gone and 2014 is here, Happy New Year. Just before the New Year a ChipGuide enhancement was announced ... ChipGuide Profiles. I noticed that many collectors only collect a few different types of collectible items and yet when they want to view collectibles from a casino they had no choice but to see all the collectible types available. The ChipGuide currently recognizes 54 different collectible types. For example, collectors may only collect table chips and nothing else. But when collectors want to look at table chips from a casino, they will also see Limited Edition chips, No Cash Value Chips, dice, matchbooks, ashtrays and everything else. ChipGuide Profiles solves this problem by letting collectors create a profile indicating which collectible types they see when they open up a casino page.

In order for a collector to create ChipGuide Profiles they have to become a member of the ChipGuide. ChipGuide membership is free and available only to members of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club. A new section called MEMBER SERVICES has been added to the ChipGuide sidebar menu. Under MEMBER SERVICES there is a link called MEMBERSHIP, when you click on this link a ChipGuide Membership Request page will come up. Just fill out the form and if you are a member of the CC>CC, you will soon receive an email indicating that your membership request has been accepted. Now using your email id and password you can LOGON to the ChipGuide.

When you LOGON to the ChipGuide there will be additional options under MEMBERSHIP SERVICES. Clicking on the PROFILES option will take you to the page where you can create, modify and delete profiles. Oh yes, you can have multiple profiles. If you collect table chips and matchbooks, you can create two profiles, one for table chips and the other for matchbooks and switch between them to only see one or the other. On the PROFILES page you will see all your profiles. One profile will be the DEFAULT profile which is activated when you LOGON. You can also switch profiles by clicking on the profile's ACTIVATE button. If you are not a ChipGuide member or do not LOGON, then the ChipGuide will operate as it did previously.

A profile has a name and display setting for each collectible type that each collector customizes to meet their own collectible needs. The display settings are:

- DON'T SHOW – do not show this collectible type.
- SHOW COLLAPSED – these items will show on the ChipGuide, but the section will be collapsed, only the section heading will show. Click on the EXPAND (“+”) button to see the items.
- SHOW EXPANDED – these items will show on the ChipGuide.

ChipGuide members can also customize the ChipGuide by selecting a personal Home Page. The personal Home Page is the page that loads after LOGON. You can choose from any of the regions: United States, Canada, Central America, South America, Caribbean, Europe, Asia, Middle East, Australia/Oceania, Africa or any of these non-location areas: Wet Chips, UFC's or Other Stuff. If you do not select a personal home page then the default home page, the map of the United States, will be shown.

Here is a picture of the Aladdin Resort and Casino page. Notice the Member Services section on the left hand sidebar in the middle. There are two options: Membership and Logon. This means that I have not yet logged on and the ChipGuide is not using a profile so all collectible types are shown. I collapsed all the sections so that you can see the entire page. The green icon on the left side of each section with a “+” in it is the EXPAND button. When you press this button, then all the items in the section will appear.

Here is the Aladdin Resort & Casino page again, but this time I have logged on and activated my ALL CHIPS

profile. Under MEMBER SERVICES you will now see my name and role, Webmaster, everyone else will be a Member. You will also see that the active profile is ALL CHIPS. On the rest of the page, only the sections


that contain chips are shown and all the other sections are not displayed.


Not only will this let the ChipGuide be more user friendly, but it will also help out collectors who do not have high speed internet connections. The smaller pages will download and display much faster.

ChipGuide Profiles required a structural change to the ChipGuide website to allow for LOGONs, so it took a bit of work. But, the dividends will pay off down the road as we are now able to add even more enhanced services

ChipGuide - A Catalog of Casino Chips and Collectibles

Aladdin Resort & Casino





Was Aladdin
Became Planet Hollywood
3667 Las Vegas Blvd S
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 [MAP](#)
Type Land Based
Status Closed
Opened: 2000 Closed: 2007

[Updates](#)

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Collapse All	Return to Nevada	Expand All
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grand Opening Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Edition Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Cash Value Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tournament Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Roulette Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plaques [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tokens [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Strikes [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ticket In Ticket Outs [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Playing Cards [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Players Club (Slot) Cards [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Cards [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match Books [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post Cards [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Room Keys [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Casino Report [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Win Cards Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>


to eventually let every ChipGuide user have their own personal ChipGuide that looks and behaves the way that they want it to.

Even though it is January, the 2014 CC>CC convention is just around the corner. There will be a ChipGuide educational seminar again this year at the convention and I promise that it will be another fun event with ChipGuide training and surprises. See you then!

ChipGuide - A Catalog of Casino Chips and Collectibles

Aladdin Resort & Casino





Was Aladdin
Became Planet Hollywood
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Tournament Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Roulette Chips [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plaques [QuickView]	<input type="checkbox"/>

MUSINGS from the MoGH By Mike Quinlivan

Museum of Gaming History

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



Dedicated to the preservation and education of Gaming History

For those members (new and established) that may not be aware of what the MoGH is all about, the mission of the Museum of Gaming History (MoGH) is to preserve collections, artifacts and archives for the purpose of educating the public through exhibitions, programs and information. For more details, please visit the MoGH website at www.museumofgaminghistory.org.

Display at the El Cortez (Las Vegas)

We have received a green light from the El Cortez management for the MoGH to display inside the El Cortez casino in downtown Las Vegas. We are currently determining the size and location of the display. The display will primarily house El Cortez artifacts. More info will be reported in the next issue.

Partnership with the Mob Museum (Las Vegas)

We have very good news regarding the beginnings of a partnership with the Mob Museum in downtown Las Vegas. With a mutual collaboration between the Mob Museum and the Museum of Gaming History (MoGH), we have started plans for significant presence of the MoGH within the existing and updated displays throughout the Mob Museum. This process will take quite a bit of time (several months to years), but we have mutually agreed to make every effort to have at least one display in place by the time we have our annual convention in June. This is very exciting!! We will be calling on members to loan and/or donate to the MoGH for use in the Mob Museum over the coming months. More will be reported in the next update.

ChipGuide Update:

Charles Kaplan has provided an update on ChipGuide Profiles in this edition of the magazine. Please take a look at some of the new features that are now available to members of the CC>CC.

Museum of Gaming History – Website Redesign Project (Virtual Museum)

More exciting news: The MoGH website will have a complete facelift with new features. Without giving away too much, we can mention that the design of the new website is meant to provide an experience that would be similar to visiting a real “brick and mortar” museum building. The design is being worked on now and the new website is projected to go live in the Spring of 2014.

That's it for now. We welcome your comments. You may contact any one of the board members at any time. Information on how to reach us can be found on the MoGH website (www.museumofgaminghistory.org) currently listed on the right side under “Contact”. Please be sure to visit the MoGH website often!!

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

CONFESSIONS OF A HARLEY-DAVIDSON CHIP COLLECTOR

By William Harkins

It all started so innocently. Knowing that I collected casino chips, my boss brought me a Harley-Davidson dealer chip back from his Hawaii vacation. It sat with the rest of my chips for a year or two. Then one day, as I was driving by my local Harley-Davidson dealer, I got the urge to see if they had any chips. That's when it all began!



with black inserts, orange/black, pink/black, and red/black. In 2013, two additional colors - black with white inserts and white with black inserts - were introduced. To further complicate things, 2013 was Harley-Davidson's 110th anniversary, and dealers could order a special chip on the black/white Harley-Davidson mold. The dealer logo is on one side, and the 110th anniversary logo is on the other, in gold hot stamp. Approximately 280 dealers are known to have had these chips produced. Dealers can order as many or as few of these colors as they desire. Some dealers who realize the appeal of these chips may have all 18 varieties of chips, while others don't want to make the investment in inventory, and stock just one or two colors. Most dealers charge between \$1 and \$2 per chip. Some dealers give them free as souvenirs, and the most expensive I have seen is \$7 per chip.

There are more than 800 Harley-Davidson dealers in the United States, and many more in other countries. Most locations are full service dealers – motorcycle sales and service, parts sales, and selling clothing and merchandise, or “Motorclothes” as they refer to it. There are also retail locations that sell mainly Motorclothes. These are usually located in malls, airports and other tourist areas. Similar to Hard Rock Cafés (before the casinos took over), a large portion of their revenue comes from Motorclothes.

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Dart World is the company that has produced the dealer poker chips since 2004. Originally, the chips were available in ten colors – black, blue, green, grey, orange, pink, purple, red, white and yellow, all with the AKQJ mold. In 2012, the Harley-Davidson signature mold was introduced in five colors- black with orange inserts, blue



known to have had these chips produced. Dealers can order as many or as few of these colors as they desire. Some dealers who realize the appeal of these chips may have all 18 varieties of chips, while others don't want to make the investment in inventory, and stock just one or two colors. Most dealers charge between

\$1 and \$2 per chip. Some dealers give them free as souvenirs, and the most expensive I have seen is \$7 per chip.

For the collector who has to have everything, the biggest challenge lies in the fact that these chips are not regulated like casino chips, so re-orders are more frequent, and variations are plentiful. While AKQJ is the regular mold, many times the Dice mold is found mixed in. In addition, the hot stamp can be black, silver or gold. On one occasion, I found four variations of the same color chip being sold at the same time – green AKQJ and dice molds each with black and silver hot stamp. The ordinary store clerk would see this as one chip, but the trained collector has to have all four varieties!

The design of the chip can change from reorder to reorder. The change can be as obvious as a different dealer logo, to as subtle as the website address being substituted for the phone number on the back of the chip. Some dealers are starting to issue special edition chips, honoring dealer anniversaries, special events, or to be used for discounts. When revisiting a dealer to check for new chips, a sharp eye must look for different mold/hot stamp combinations, in addition to design differences.

When planning a chip run, the dealer locator feature of harley-davidson.com is invaluable. After a location is entered, all nearby dealers are shown on a map. Sometimes completing a chip run becomes a challenge, however, because dealer hours are not like other retail stores. Many dealers close at 6:00 or 7:00 pm each day, sometimes even earlier on weekends. Many dealers are closed one or more days a week. I guess they would rather be riding their motorcycles instead of selling new ones.

I have been adding my collection of Harley-Davidson dealer chips to the ChipGuide. Please check it out and submit any chips that are missing.

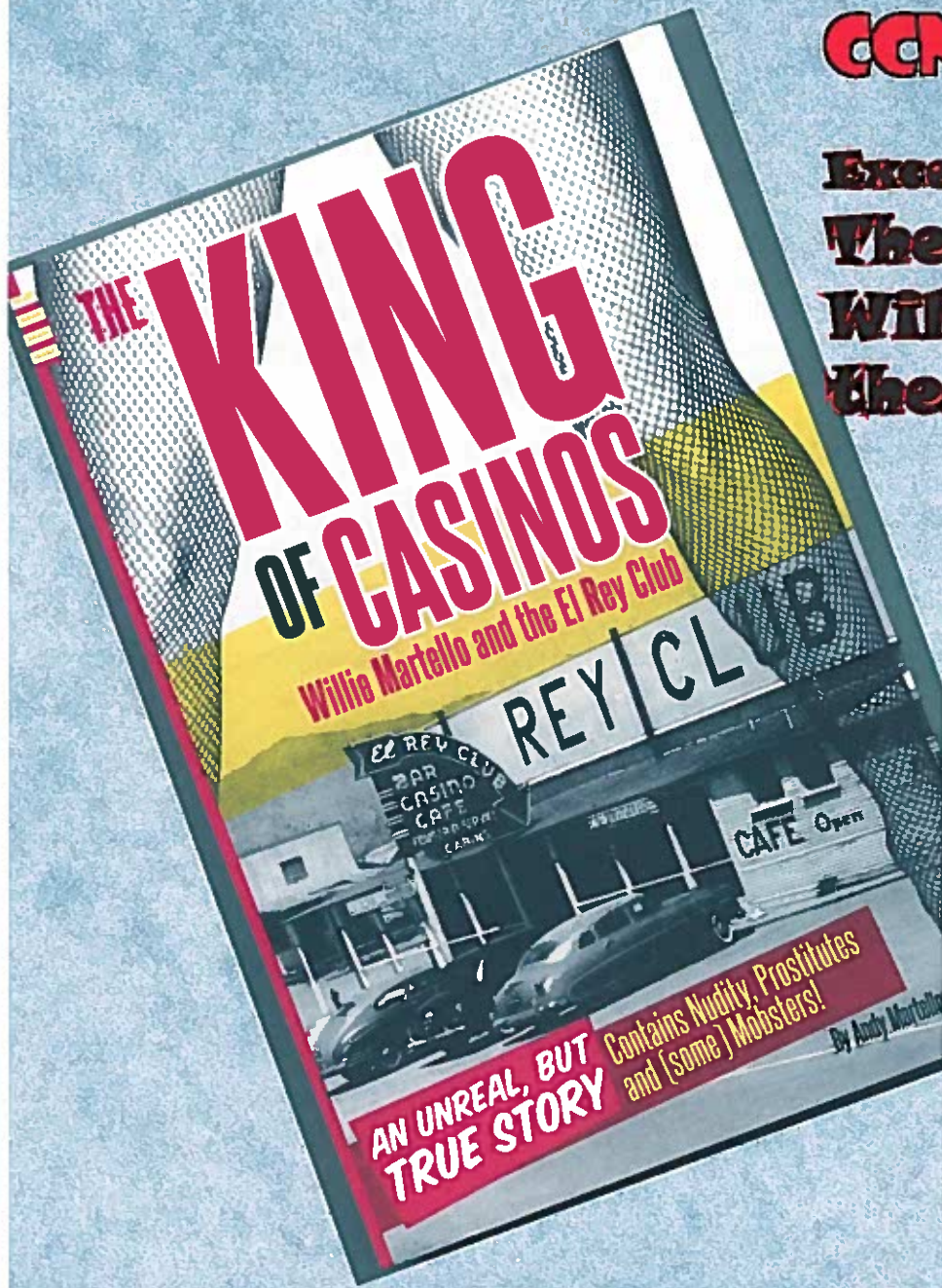
I'm not sure if I should thank my boss for introducing me to Harley-Davidson dealer chips. My wife wishes that he never went to Hawaii!



CCN EXCLUSIVE!

**Excerpt From:
The King of Casinos:
Willie Martello &
the El Rey Club**

by Andy Martello



GONE IN 90 MINUTES

The Fire that Destroyed Willie Martello's El Rey Club

January 21, 1962, was like any other Sunday at the El Rey Club. There were probably 150 people or more who had turned out to enjoy a night of fun and frolic. The crowd included five plane-loads of people who flew in from California, according to Bob Martello, who was there that night managing operations for his uncle Willie alongside manager, Joe Speranza. Regular patrons and good friends of Willie Martello, Ted Enoch, of Southgate, California's Enoch Chevrolet and Searchlight Judge, Jack Dillon were there enjoying the comforts of the El Rey Club. Willie, the ever-present figurehead of the town and now former owner of the El Rey, was on-hand to entertain his guests and visit with friends. He was unsure of his future and took in another of his customary long nights. Willie looked visibly tired as he ate his steak dinner and posed for J. Florian Mitchell's camera.

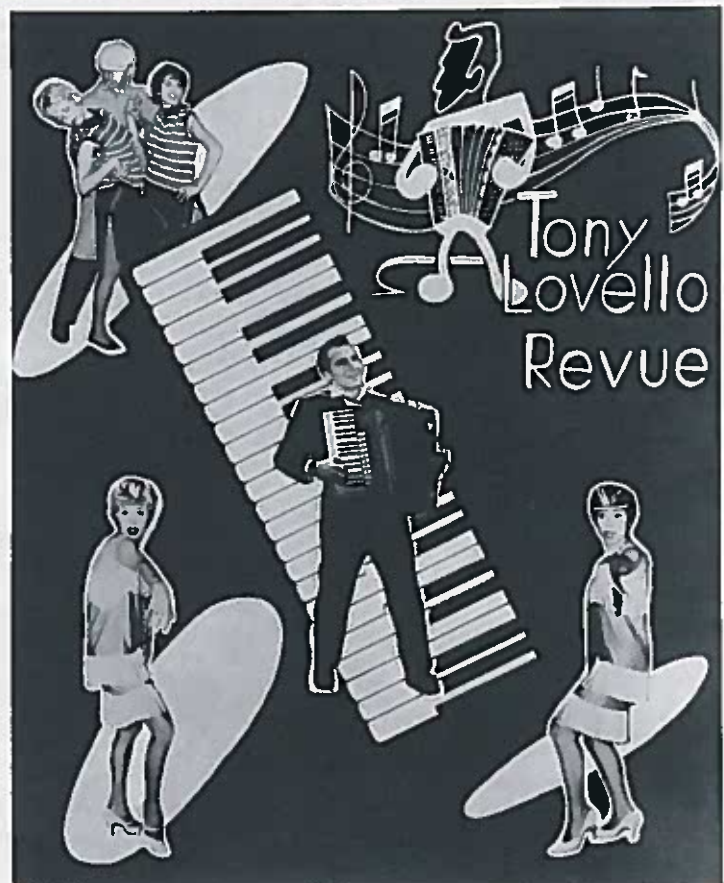
As always, the bar and the gambling attracted the patrons and promised a night full of fun. After all, the El Rey had been known as THE place to drink or gamble in town for 15 years. Those not interested in either of those vices so familiar to Nevada may have been enticed by the lure of live entertainment. The night before, the star of TV's *The Bob Cummings Show*

(aka *Love that Bob*), Bob Cummings, was in the crowd to check out a fancy new electronic keyboard called a Chamberlain. The idea behind his visit was because he hoped to invest in the production of the instrument. Past weeks showed customers enjoying the sensual allure of Sally Rand or the vaudeville No matter who was on the bill you were almost guaranteed to hear at least two bands, a comedy of Mousey Garner. No matter who was on the bill you were almost guaranteed to hear at least two bands, a "Las Vegas Show" and "Dancing" as so many advertisements for the club had promised. On this night the headlining act was none other than the fabulous DeCastro Sisters and a seven-piece ensemble called the Tony Lovello Revue.

Tony Lovello, largely recognized for generations as the greatest accordion player in all the world, described the act to me, "We had a six week contract there. Our review had seven members, two girl singers and five musicians. We put on three shows a night and the girls made five to seven costume changes per show." The Tony Lovello Revue consisted of singers JoAnn Conti and LaVonne Lovello (Tony's wife), Artie Stevens (Joe Veronese remembered the name as Art Toscano) on string bass, Joe Veronese on drums, British tenor sax player, Barry Kaye, and guitar player Kenny Laursen, who was noticeably unshaven for their first set.

"Our show was the one of two groups playing the El Rey that week. We had played the first show and I had gone back to my room at the motel to shave," recalled Laursen. "That afternoon I had driven 60 miles to Las Vegas to pick up dates for Barry Kaye and me. An accident had caused car travel on the highway to move very slowly and I arrived in Searchlight just in time for the show." Nearly being late for a

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The Tony Lovello Revue, circa 1960s Photo courtesy Kenny Laursen

continued from previous page

show was the least of his concerns.

"We were off stage and they [the DeCastros] were on at the time," recalled Veronese, "and we were just sitting down to dinner." While the DeCastro Sisters played their set and members of the Tony Lovello revue scattered to take their break, Bob Martello, working the casino pit, recalled a commotion emanating from the kitchen. At approximately 8:00 p.m. the chef came out, visibly upset and sweating, "There's a fire in the kitchen," he told Bob. "After the first show went off I went to the kitchen to see if we could order a couple of hamburgers," said Lovello. "I was surprised to see that there was a grease fire already going up the hood."

The chef ran back out less than 30 minutes later to find Bob, *"There's a BIG fire in the kitchen!"*

"I could tell it was a blaze," said Lovello of the fire. "I ran out and told the girls to get to the dressing as quickly as possible and throw everything out the dressing room window." Fearing the fire could rapidly become worse, he knew it was time for everybody to start making an exit from the club.

"Needless to say I told the band to not ask questions, get the band stand, and pack up now."

"As I put the lather on my face," said Laursen, "the drummer, Joe Veronese, pounded at my door yelling that the club was on fire. I grabbed a shirt, wiping shaving cream as I ran."

Laursen would continue to describe what appeared to be an otherwise normal night at any other club or casino. *"The other group was in*

the middle of their first show. People were drinking and gambling," he said. The fire spread rapidly in the kitchen, unbeknownst to the customers in the casino. "Suddenly a large bubble appeared in the paint of the ceiling above the middle of the casino," recalled Laursen, "It was as if someone were inflating a balloon to about 5 feet across." Soon the paint bubble reached its maximum capacity and, "as if it had been stuck by a pin it returned to its proper place." An eerie, smoky sigh emerged and echoed throughout the casino, and accompanied the band who was still playing on stage. Veronese and Laursen ran to the dressing room.

Kenny Laursen continued to describe the frenzy to me, *"The building was concrete block construction with windows that had cranks to open and close. We opened two of them and started passing instruments, cases, and costumes out the window to another band member who stacked them up by the pool area. After we had removed everything we went back into the casino and told our dates to leave the casino." In spite of everything, the other band played on.*



Joe Veronese (L) and Kenny Laursen (R) of the Tony Lovello Revue
Photo courtesy Kenny Laursen

Kenny went up to the stage and subtly told one of the band members what was happening in the casino. "About that time someone from the pit came up to ask them to announce that the customers were to calmly exit to the parking lot." Joe Veronese remembered a representative from the El Rey Club asking, "Could you give us a hand clearing the place? We've got a little bit of a kitchen fire," which proved to be an understatement. "We started to ask people to leave. We all headed in different directions toward different tables," said Veronese.

According to *The Las Vegas Sun*, Joe Speranza was the first to notice the fire and the first from the El Rey Club to begin leading the guests outside. Judge Dillon is credited with sounding the fire alarm.

"Pit bosses were gathering up the money and asking the folks to leave the casino," recalled Lovello. Kenny Laursen confirmed, "Security then came up to the stage and herded everyone out the front door." Tony Lovello remembered, "It was very orderly as they filed out." As orderly as it was, not all of the customers were happy about their situation. "I'll never forget the look on one guy's face," said Veronese, "He had just handed the dealer a hundred and the guy dropped it when we told them he had to leave." Veronese continued, laughing, "The dealer handed him some chips and he took off!"

"Flames from the brick and wood building soared high over the small desert community," wrote the *Review-Journal* of the blaze. From as far away as the Railroad Pass Casino located just outside of Henderson, Nevada, smoke and flames were seen by Ethel and Buddy Martello who were driving in from Las Vegas to start their night time shift. "We saw the smoke and we just knew it was the El Rey," recalled Ethel. The couple increased their speed and hoped to arrive in time to put out the blaze. Kenny Laursen described the scene outside, "The fire spread to more than half the roof area." Joe Veronese recalled, "Just about the time we got everybody outside, we looked



back and the whole roof was in flames."

"Just across the street there was a gas station. We were standing out in front of it," said Veronese. The Tony Lovello drummer noticed there were no flames emanating from the back of the El Rey: "I told Kenny the back part's not burning. I oughta go back, bust that window and get our stuff." Against everyone's better judgment, Laursen and Veronese went to the back of the casino and noticed the back window was open.

Joe Veronese crawled through the open window and began to shove equipment outside to Kenny. After successfully moving the equipment and clothing out of harm's way, the realization something had been left behind fell over them. A string bass and an amplifier were still inside the building. Veronese remembered Art, the bass

player, asking if they could retrieve his string bass. According to Laursen, "Joe climbed through the window into the pitch black dressing room and opened the door to the stage." "That's when the lights went out," said Veronese. At that point a massive swell of fresh air rushed into the burning building and let out a loud, thunderous sound. "The concussion was tremendous," said Kenny. "Kenny said when I hit the wall across the room my feet were on the ceiling," laughed Veronese.

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After the booming blast of sound had subsided, Kenny called out to his band mate from outside the open window, "I yelled for Joe and got no answer." Kenny crawled through the window and hoped he would find Veronese but feared the worst. "I found him barely conscious, lying on the floor. I dragged him to the window, lifted him upright, put his head and shoulders over the window sill then lifted his legs up and shoved him through the opening," said Laursen.

"I could hear glass breaking and things crashing inside the casino by now and didn't waste any time following Joe out the window."

The two men walked across the street to safety, "just as the Searchlight Volunteer Fire

Department pulled up in an ancient fire truck," according to Laursen.

"It must have been at least 10 minutes before the one fire truck arrived," said Lovello. "By that time the whole building was engulfed in flames shooting up about 50 feet high." Almost everyone on the scene made attempts to aid in extinguishing the fire, including a bucket brigade of twenty prospecting miners from Chicago who were in town on an excursion to find gold. One man was seen standing on a ladder wielding nothing more than a garden hose. While it sounds comical to think a garden hose would be sufficient to quell such a blaze, that hose provided a raging torrent compared to the equipment the fire department was using that night.

As in previous incidents throughout Searchlight's history, it was not the bravery of the Searchlight Volunteer Fire Department that was lacking. It was the condition of the antiquated and inadequate fire prevention equipment that was the story on this night. Judge Dillon said, "The volunteer fire department; 'did a good job'" but ultimately, "the fire was too big to handle."

The Nevada State Journal reported,



Header artwork from Ray Chesson's, Big Hearted Town on a Bald Headed Mountain. Originally appeared in the *Nevadan*, February 16, 1964.

"Low water pressure hampered the efforts of the firemen." Kenny Laursen, now safe with his friends, watched the action and said, "They [the fire department] leaped to the street and dragged hoses from the truck to the front of the casino. The end of the hose was connected to the hydrant on the corner, a fireman with a wrench turned the valve and the hose began filling with water. Leaks were squirting water the entire length of the hose resulting in a weak two foot dribble." Tony Lovello commented on the performance of the hydrant and hose, "I was standing there watching the fire

department trying to put out this hot fire with just a trickle of water."

As people watched helplessly outside and waited for fire trucks from Boulder City, Las Vegas, and Needles, California, to arrive, someone from the Searchlight Fire Department called out for more water pressure. Kenny Laursen remembered the event well. *"The hose was attached to the fire truck and another short hose from the truck to pump water from the hydrant. On command, the engine revved up and a huge bulge worked its way to the end of the hose."* Laursen later described that bulge to me as, *"a scene from out of a Tom & Jerry cartoon,"* though Joe Veronese felt watching the Fire Department was more akin to watching the Keystone Kops. Laursen said the hose began to swell and grow, not unlike the bubble in the El Rey's ceiling paint he'd seen moments before. *"The pressure was so strong that it blew the nozzle off the end of the hose."* Joe Veronese remembered, *"The nozzle went right through the front window,"* adding, *"That brought a round of applause and laughter."* As the nozzle from the town's fire hose flew off into the distance, the El Rey Club became fully engulfed in flames. *"We just stood there and watched her burn."*

There was nothing we could do," said Veronese. Club became fully engulfed in flames.

"We just stood there and watched her burn. There was nothing we could do," said Veronese.

A lone figure of a man could be seen near the building, standing on a ladder, garden hose in hand. It was a feeble attempt to fight a raging fire with equipment at hand, but it was equipment at hand, but it

was only marginally better than that of the town fire department. Kenny Laursen and Tony Lovello remember walking towards the ladder to discover the man in the smoky shadows was Willie Martello. According to Laursen, *"As the roof collapsed, Willie climbed down from the ladder with bitter resignation."* Willie's only remark...

"Piss on it!"

"I will always remember Willie and his famous line at the time of the fire," said Lovello. Willie walked away from the ladder and noticed Tony Lovello and Kenny Laursen standing there. *"He asked if we were all right. I said yes and he told me to come see him tomorrow."* Soon thereafter, Willie walked away and headed toward the motel. Bob Martello stayed on the scene and guarded the motel as he sat up and kept looters away, shotgun in hand.

Eventually fire engines from Las Vegas and Boulder City arrived. They contained and extinguished the fire, but the damage had already been done. While the El Rey Motel was unharmed, the El Rey Club, the casino, the café, Buddy's precious gun collection, the mural, the swimming pool, the memories, and all the hard work that 15 years' worth of love and dedication



Photo from Author's collection

continued on the next page

had built was gone. The fire razed the El Rey in just 90 minutes.

With the fire out and smoking coal left behind, the old fire truck made its way out of town and once again took its rest upon a Searchlight hillside.

A photo on the front page of **The Review-Journal** the next day summed it up in the first two words of the photo's caption; **"ONLY EMBERS."** The photo shows one of Searchlight's brave and valiant volunteer firemen standing on top of the remains, continuing to fight the blaze, ironically, with a full stream of water flowing perfectly through the hose. However, the remainder of the caption echoed what the people of Searchlight knew not only that night, but back in 1946 and 1949 (the years of previous Searchlight fires). *"The stream looks strong at the moment, but low pressure has been indicated as a serious difficulty which hampered Searchlight volunteer firemen who tried to control the blaze."*

Tony Lovello and company returned to meet with Willie the next day. *"We walked into the still smoldering rubble,"* said Kenny, *"We found a burnt piece of name plate from our Fender Bassman amp and the peg from the bottom of the string bass. The slot machines had all melted into blobs of metal and silver."*

When they found Martello, *"He paid me for that week and wanted to pay off the entire contract,"* said Tony in an astonished tone. I asked Lovello about this as I was a bit shocked. As an entertainer myself I'm very familiar with stories of club owners looking for excuses NOT to pay an act. Tony told me Willie's response was, *"I pay my people!"* Tony admitted to me he turned down Willie's offer to pay off the six week contract in full. *"I felt he had enough problems."* Willie was grateful for the gesture and promised that he would rebuild the club and invite the Tony Lovello Revue back to perform.

Miraculously, there were no injuries reported during the fire and evacuation of the building. **The Review-Journal** reported, *"patrons had adequate warning and reached safety without difficulty."* Of course, nobody knew the terrifying tale of Kenny Laursen and Joe Veronese nor were they aware there was, in fact, one significant injury.

Buddy Martello, who arrived on scene with wife Ethel, started fighting the fire immediately. He hurriedly climbed a ladder and attempted to spray water onto the casino. During the confusion, he fell from the ladder and injured his leg but continued to try to fight the fire. Bob Martello remembered, *"We didn't see Buddy for a few days after that and we were very worried about him. When he returned we found out that Buddy had no idea his leg was actually broken."*

Along with the painful injury to Buddy's leg, I found out that another member of the Martello family carried a pain with him for nearly 50 years as a result of the fire. One man truly believed he was responsible for the disaster.

Andy Martello is an entertainer and freelance writer living in Las Vegas. **The King of Casinos: Willie Martello & the El Rey Club** is available at Amazon.com, select retailers nationwide, at KingofCasinosBook.com and at AndyMartello.com.

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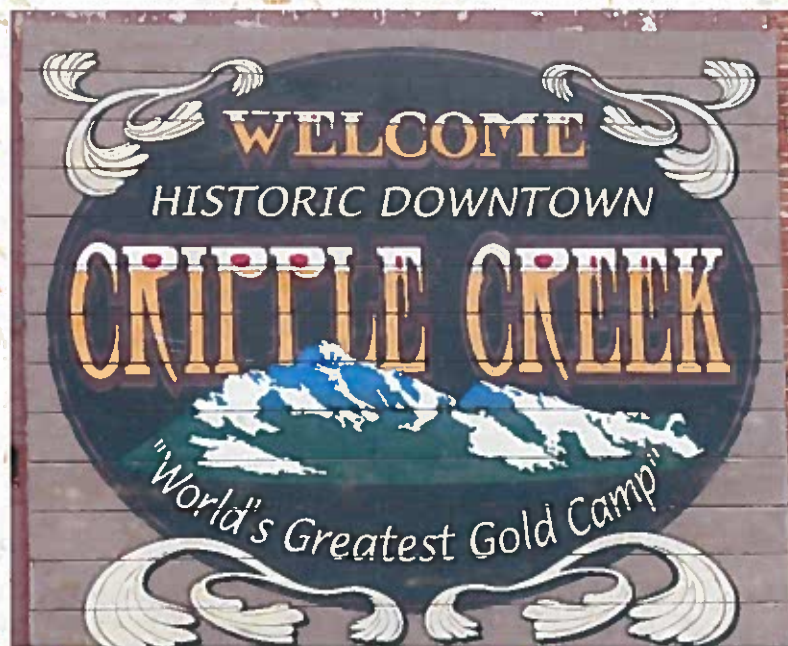
BY: ERIC DAUPLAISE

My wife Carole and I love going to places that have a rich history. We also enjoy casino gaming. In 2011 we went to Virginia City, NV. for a few days and had a great time. I knew Cripple Creek had to be on our short list of new places to visit. So for her June 2013 birthday I planned an August trip to Colorado. It was an awesome vacation and I managed to do some casino

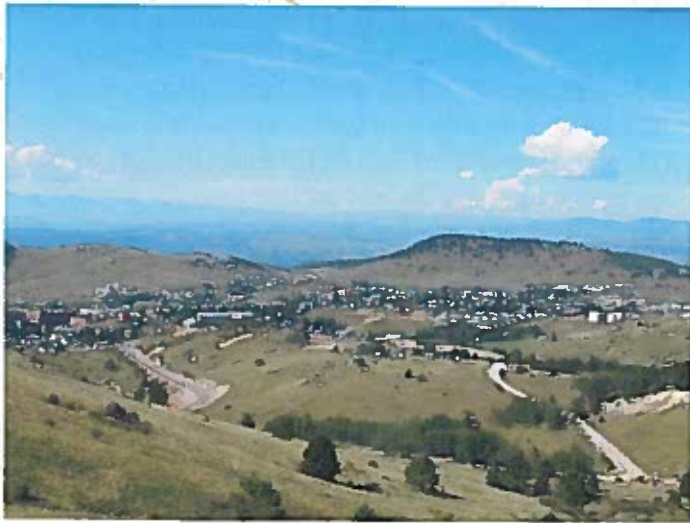
According to author Jan MacKell in the book "Cripple Creek District" the name originates from two possible sources: (1) by the Welty family around 1871-1872 after a series of unfortunate accidents resulted in injuries to both people and livestock while walking around the creek or (2) by the Womack family, who purchased the Welty's property in 1876, naming it after their home region of Cripple Creek, Kentucky.

The California gold rush had occurred from 1848 until 1855. In 1884 a couple of men perpetrated a fake gold find in Cripple Creek in an attempt to profit from land sales. After searching for almost 20 years Bob Womack actually found gold ore in 1890 which led to mining in the Cripple Creek area. At that time the population of Cripple Creek was under 100. By 1893 the population expanded to 10,000 and reached approximately 35,000 people at its peak. Miner union strikes in 1894 and 1903 resulted in bombings and bloodshed in the area. Two fires in 1896 destroyed most of

the town and new, strict the town and new, strict building codes (brick, no more than 4 stories) went into effect. Due to the flowing money flowing from the gold mines the

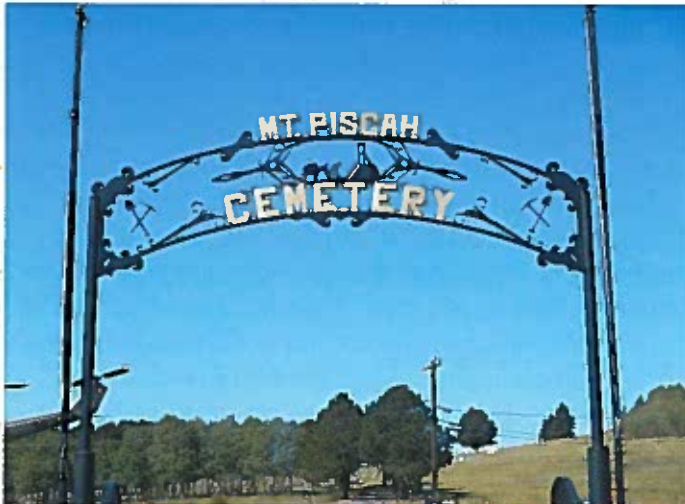
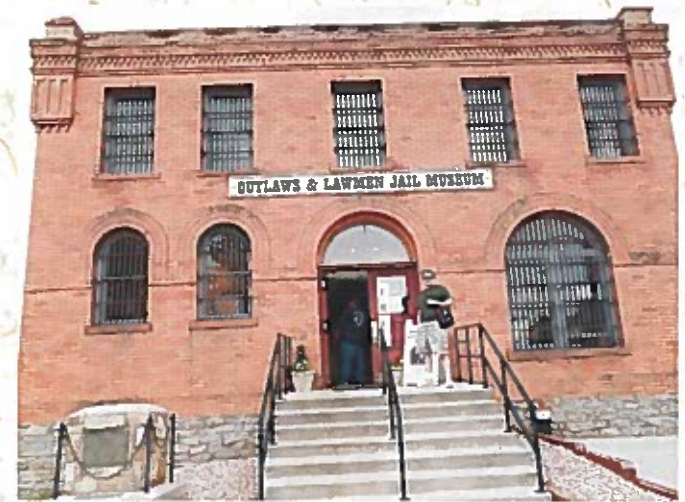


own was quickly rebuilt. Many of the new buildings erected in 1896 still stand today. Mining ended around 1961 and Cripple Creek became a living ghost town for 30 years. Glory holes, abandoned mines, and structures dot the landscape as a reminder of old days. Wild donkeys, decedents descendants of the miners' burrows burros, roam free. We never saw the wild donkeys but we did see their droppings.



Maimont Castle above, Cripple Creek Jail Museum middle, and Mount Pisgah Cemetery bottom. All pictures are from the author

Colorado Grande Casino above, below Windwood Casino



continued on the next page

In 1991 casino gaming was approved by the Colorado legislature for Cripple Creek and two other former mining towns. In 1994 open pit mining started in nearby Victor and continues today. The current census lists the population of Cripple Creek at approximately 1,200 residents.

Our Visit: We arrived in Cripple Creek on Saturday August 17th in the afternoon and right in the middle of the "21st Annual Salute to American Veterans Rally & 26th Annual POW/MIA Recognition Ride." This year was special because Highway 67 between the towns of Divide and Cripple Creek is now the "POW/MIA MEMORIAL HIGHWAY." I have seen estimates that between 8,000-10,000 bikers attended this year's rally & ride.

Right now twelve casinos are open on Cripple Creek's main road, East Bennett Avenue (Route 67) and a 13th less than a quarter mile away on Route 67 headed north out of town. Signs are still up for four closed casinos.

Casinos in Cripple Creek are not like Las Vegas casinos. Most of these casinos have been shoe-horned into 100+ year-old buildings. Those that span multiple buildings have archways and often stairs between buildings. (East Bennett is built on a slight hill). Due to the 4 story building limitation there are no hotel towers. The 12 casinos combined have about 400 rooms. Only one location has more than 100 rooms, the others average 35 rooms each. And unlike Las Vegas, most casinos do not have a gift shop filled with logo merchandise.

Casinos & Collecting: There are 13 casinos in Cripple Creek. are mixed: 6 have table games & slots, 2 have poker tables & slots and 5 are slots only. All 6 casinos with table games have blackjack, some have roulette and craps plus a few have poker variations. The betting minimums were usually \$5 but on occasion we found \$3 tables. Only one casino had a "high rollers" area of \$25 minimums. The eight casinos with table games or poker tables have chips. I did not see snappers at any casino though one casino is using 50¢ chips, one casino is using 25¢ chips and one casino is using both. Only one casino was advertising slot machine tokens – they had a banner advertising that the machines that accepted tokens had returned. I was able to find tokens from current and past casinos at local shops.

I was issued eight different player cards, two groups operate 3 casinos each (Billy's/Buffalo Billy's/Bronco Billy's & Brass Ass/Midnight Rose/JP McGill's is) and one group operates 2 casinos (Double Eagle/Gold Creek.). Even though some casinos are owned by the same person or company each one has its own casino license. I collected 14 TITOs, each "Billy's" has its own TITO and Century Casino has two different versions: blue & yellow. Century took ownership of Womack's hence the 2 tickets.

Unfortunately collecting matchbooks is no longer an option. The Chip Guide has scans of casino specific matchbooks but now every casino shares a generic "recycled paperboard" matchbook.

I do not collect keycards but a walk thru the hotel portion of The Brass Ass/Midnight Rose/JP McGill's is confirmed they use them. I suspect the newer built casinos, Double Eagle & Wildwood, also use keycards but I do not know. We stayed at the Colorado Grand. Their 7 room hotel still uses key fobs – their manager gave me an unused fob for room 3, the room we had in during our visit. Best souvenir ever!

There are a few other collectibles in Cripple Creek casinos if you are interested. Several of the casinos have their own napkins and swizzle sticks. Some craps dealers at the Brass Ass tried to get me a set of dice or a deck of cards but they did not have canceled ones at that time. I did manage to make a couple of elongated pennies and a Ghost Town Museum token.

Other fun things not in a casino:

One reason I chose Cripple Creek was all of the great things we could do besides gambling.

Local Attractions: Cripple Creek itself has many great historical places to visit. In two leisurely days you can easily stop by all of the following these tourist destinations. Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad, Cripple Creek District Museum, Cripple Creek Heritage and Information Center, Cripple Creek Information Center (an old train car,) Cripple Creek Jail Museum, Fire Station #3, The Old Homestead House Museum, Mount Pigash Cemetery, Cave of the Winds and the Marimont Castle Museum.

A short 20 minute ride south on Route 67 will take you to Cripple Creek's sister town of Victor. Besides the open pit mine (see next section) there are two museums in town: Victor Lowell Thomas Museum and Victor's Gold Camp Ag & Mining Museum.

Mine Tours: If you are going to visit the area you have to visit the mines. The Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine is just north of Cripple Creek on Route 67. You squeeze into a closet-sized elevator with 5 new best friends for a 1000' descent into mother earth. While in the shafts you get a small glimpse into the harsh working conditions of late 1800's mining. They even let you have a sample of Cripple Creek gold ore. Only 40 tons more and you will have an ounce of gold!

If you want to see modern mining book a tour at the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine. The approximately 2 hour bus tour drives you around the 10+ square mile site.: You will drive down into the active pit, visit the rock crushing machine, and climb into a decommissioned rock hauler (they are NOT dump trucks) at a scenic overlook. I recommend you visit the old mine first and then the new mine. The 120 years of technology advances are incredible.

Horseback Riding: There are a few different businesses that offer horseback riding in the area. We chose the Grey Wolf Ranch which is 40 minutes south of Cripple Creek. Daniel and Christine have a beautiful piece of property and can accommodate any skill of rider including children. If you like to stay way off the beaten path they have several different accommodations from a private log home, rustic rooms in the "barn" (no horses, just people) and two tee-pees, if you feel like roughing it. We did not get to visit Pike's Peak or ride the Cog Railway. We wanted to visit the Race Car Museum, Garden of the Gods and the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo but needed another 3-4 days.

A word of caution – due to recent forest fires, part of the Manitou Springs area is very susceptible to flooding. While we were visiting a rain storm moved across the area and sections of road between Cripple Creek and Colorado Springs were closed. The only other way around Pike's Peak is south thru Pueblo which adds up to 4 hours of driving time!



Chips and slot card images provided by Chip Guide
www.themogh.org

continued on the next page

continued from previous page

Fun Facts: Colorado's capitol city, Denver, is the called the "Mile High" city. It's elevation is exactly one mile, 5280 feet above sea level. Cripple Creek, CO has an elevation of 9494' which is almost two miles high!

Cripple Creek is a "PEPSI" town. Every casino had free fountain drinks offering Pepsi products. Some casino restaurants did not charge for your soda. I could not find a Coke bottle within city limits.

Grasshoppers in Colorado are loud, very loud. They are not bigger just noisier. And the squirrels have brown fur, sometimes black fur. We only noticed this because all New England squirrels have grey fur.

The More Things Change: Casino gaming has been legal in Cripple Creek for just over 20 years. In that time 40+ casinos have come and gone. With the 12 existing casinos that is more than 50! That is a lot of turnover in a short period of time. Atlantic City has had less than 30 legal casinos since 1978.

As I mentioned earlier four previously opened casinos were closed/empty when we visited. The Billy's brand was in the process of expanding into another adjacent store front. I suspect Cripple Creek will continue to change over the next several years before the dust settles.

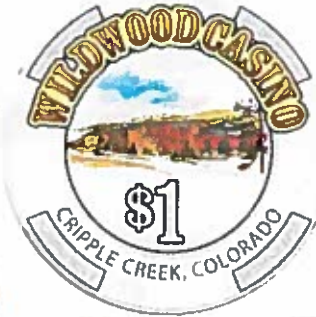
Final Thoughts: We loved our trip to Cripple Creek. We enjoyed the history, the scenery, the calm atmosphere, and the way visitors are treated. It does not have the same destination/yearly visit appeal to us that Las Vegas does but we do look forward to returning within the next 4-6 years.

For more information about Cripple Creek area you can visit these websites:

<http://www.cripple-creek.co.us/>
<http://www.greywolfranchcolorado.com/index.php>
<http://manitousprings.org/>



Cave of the Winds entrance to the right
Below pictures of the Molly Kathleen
Mine Tour



CASINO PATCHES

CASINO PATCHES

CASINO PATCHES

Reno - Lake Tahoe Edition

In this issue we are continuing to present part of CC>CC Club member Jim Munding's collection of casino security guards patches.

Patch images provided by Jim Munding

All other images are from the Miller Collection

Casino security guards protect properties from vandalism, theft and other illegal activity. Guards may do this while patrolling the grounds or while stationed at a static position. Casino security guards also protect the gambling hall's money during transport from the gaming pit to the vaults and other destinations.

Interacting with the general public is a big part of a casino security guard's regular routine. Not only do they safeguard patrons and their property, officers are expected to assist guests whenever asked. This includes greeting visitors, giving directions and escorting motorists to their car if need be.

Reno



Boomtown Hotel & Casino

really in Verdi NV. Opened in 1964



Clarion Hotel

3800 S Virginia St.

Opened: 1991, Closed: 1996

Now operating as the Atlantis Casino

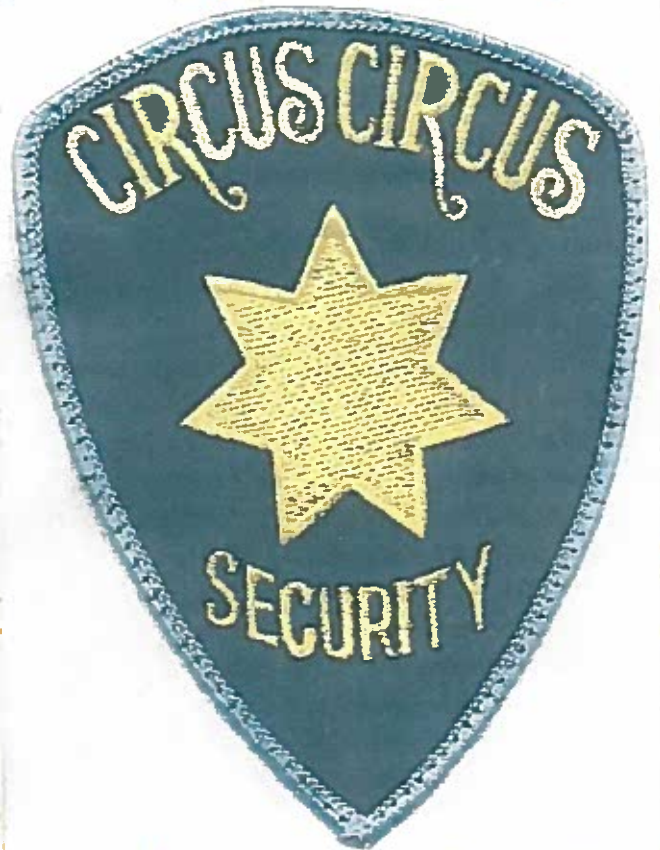


Club Cal-Neve

38 E 2nd Street

Opened: 1948

via Casino

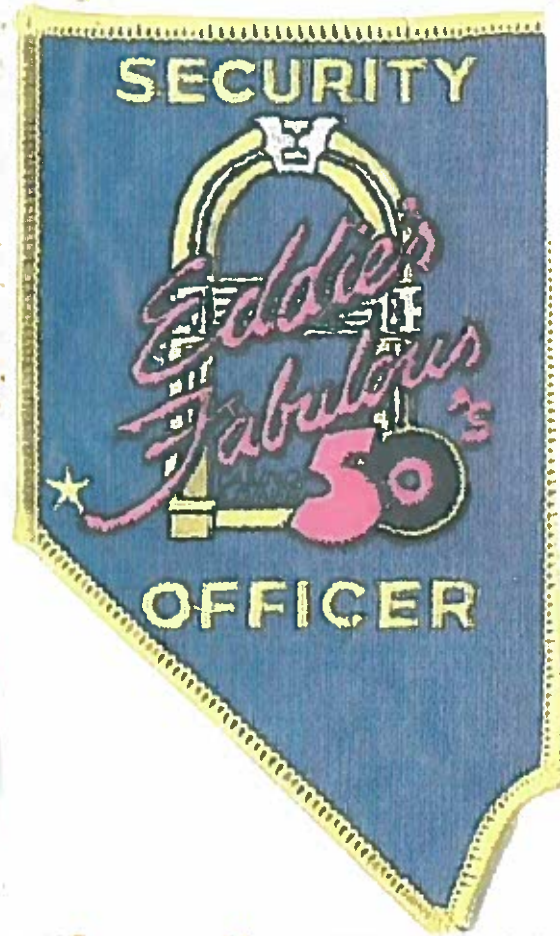


Circus Circus
500 N Sierra St
Opened: 1978,



Eddie's Fabulous 50's

211 N Virginia St
Opened: 1987/1996,
Closed: 1989/1999





Eldorado
345 N Virginia St
Opened: 1973,





Flamingo Reno

255 N Sierra St
Opened: 1989
Closed: 2001



Golden Phoenix

255 N Sierra St
Opened: 2002
Closed: 2005



Harolds Club

250 N Virginia St
Opened: 1935
Closed: 1995



Harrah's Reno

219 N Center St
 Opened: 1946

Harrah's Lake Tahoe

Highway 50
 Opened: 1955



Virginia Street Reno Nevada





Reno Hilton

255 N Sierra St

Opened: 1981

Closed: 1989





Nevada Club

224 N Virginia St

Opened: 1946

Closed: 1998



Primadonna

239 & 241 N Virginia St

Opened: 1955

Closed: 1978



Primadonna Club

Lake Tahoe



Barney's

27 Highway 50

Opened: 1961/1967

Closed: 1967/1988





Caesars Tahoe
55 Highway 50
Opened: 1980
Closed: 2006



Del Webb's Sahara Tahoe
50 Highway 50
Opened: 1965
Closed: 1983



John's Tahoe Nugget

Hwy. 50 & Kahle Drive

Opened: 1983

Closed: 1991



High Sierra

50 Highway 50

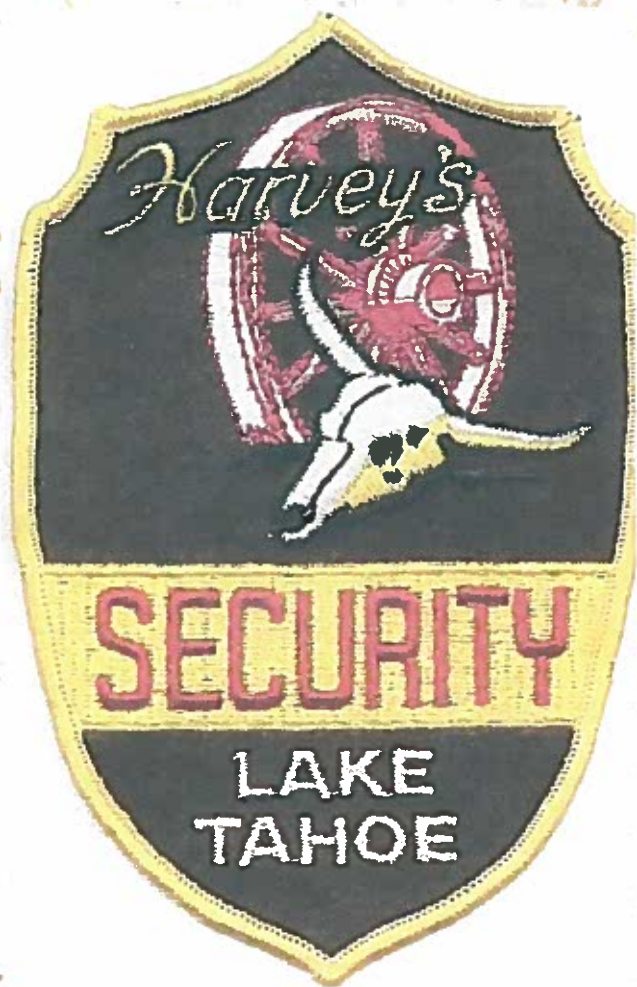
Opened: 1983

Closed: 1990





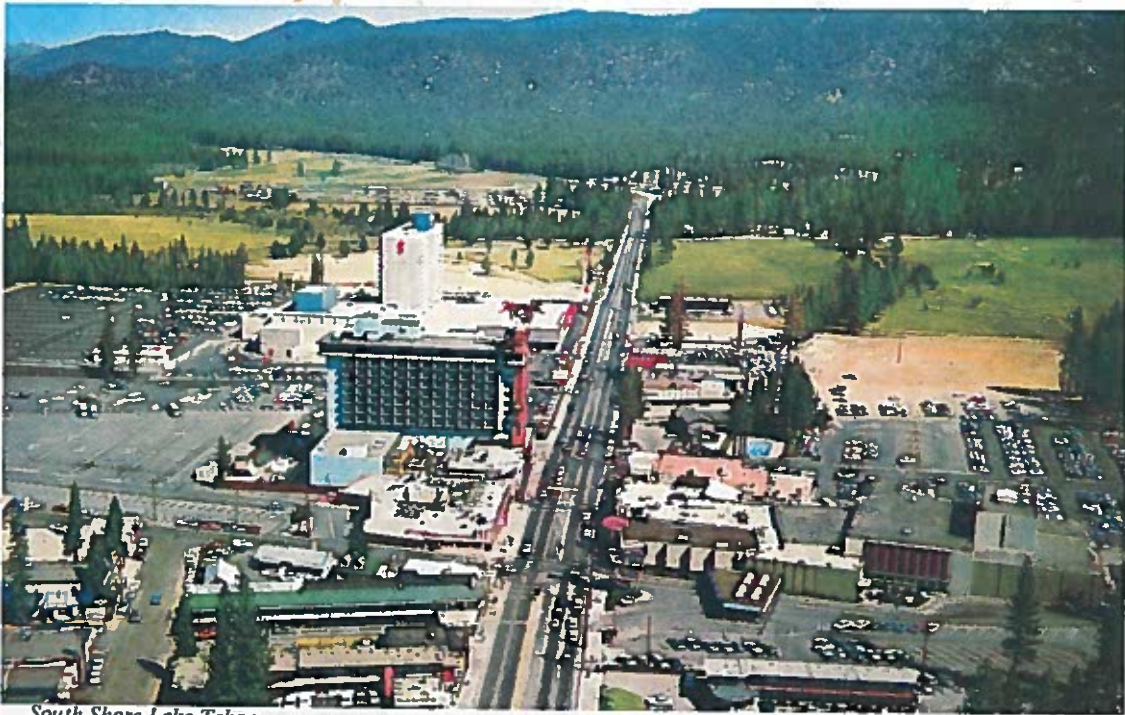
Harvey's
18 Hwy 50
Opened: 1944



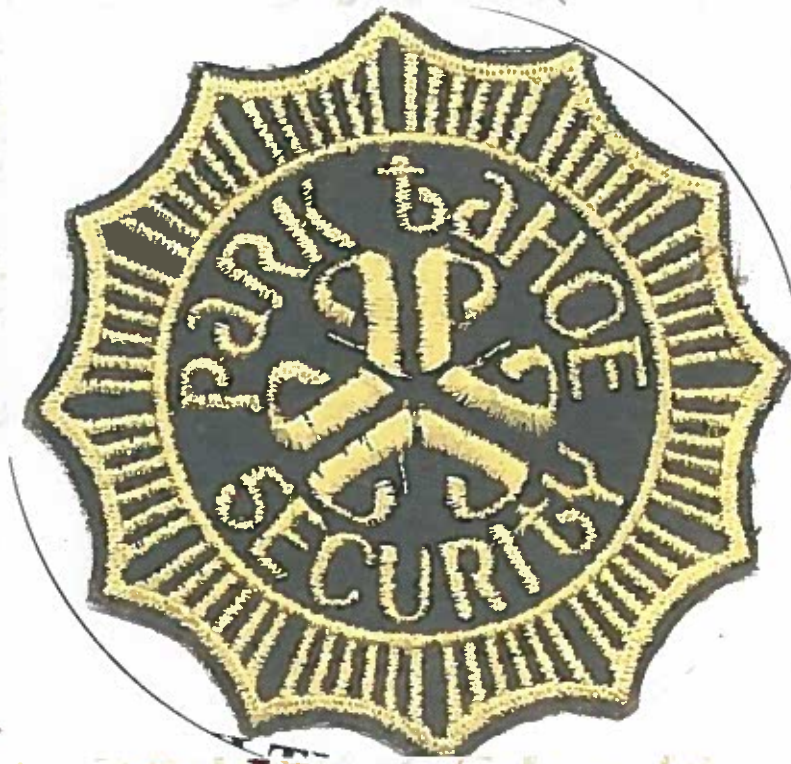


Lakeside Inn and Casino

168 Highway 50
Opened: 1985



South Shore Lake Tahoe



Park Tahoe

Hwy 50

Opened: 1978

Closed: 1979

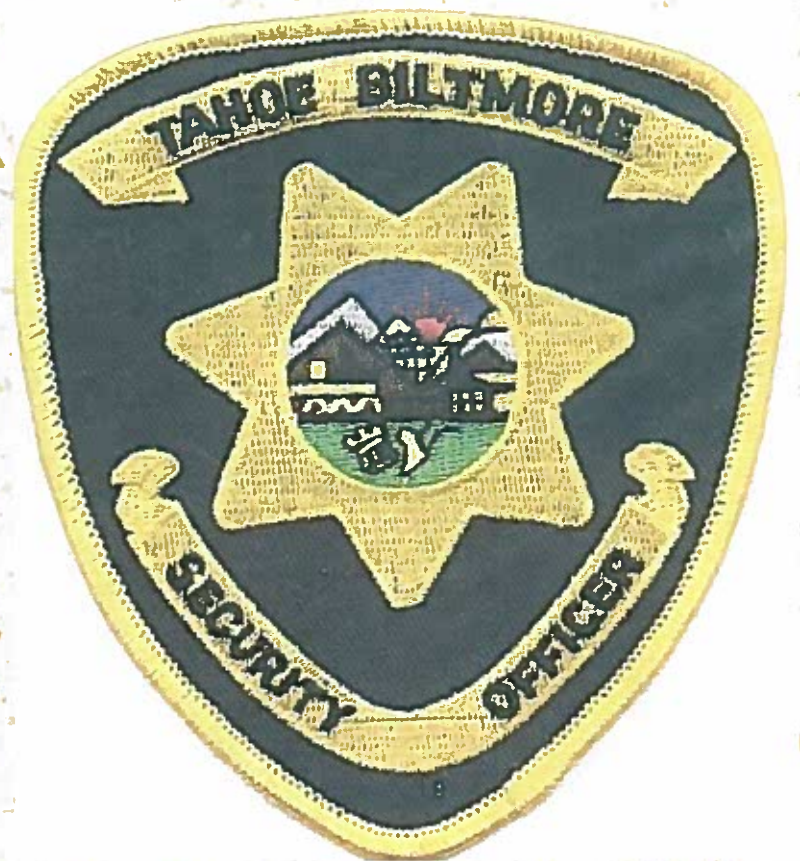
Tahoe Biltmore

Became: Cal-Neva Biltmore

Hwy 28, Crystal Bay

Opened: 1948/1986

Closed: 1957/No





Crystal Bay

Sparks

John Ascuaga's Nugget

1100 Nugget Ave
Opened: 1960





This 36 ft. high statue of "Last Chance Joe", symbol of Western fun and hospitality at the NUGGET CASINO AND MOTOR LODGE, stands majestically beside the main casino entrance in Sparks, Nevada (3 miles East of Reno).



Vikki Carr

Billy Fellows

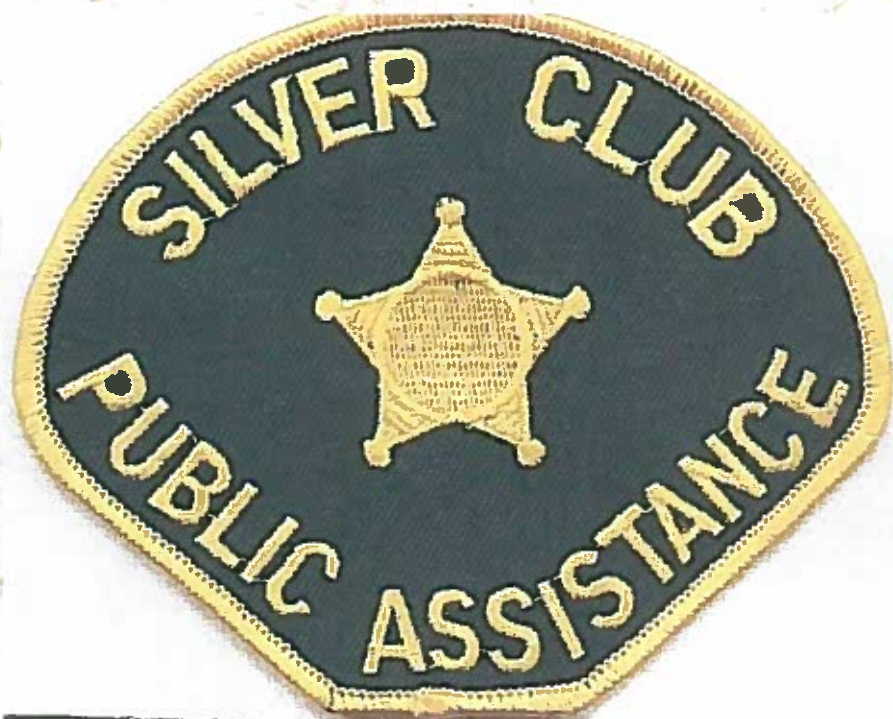


Celebrity Room Theater Restaurant

Karl's Silver Club

1040 Victorian Ave
Opened: 1963/1989
Closed: 1967/2009





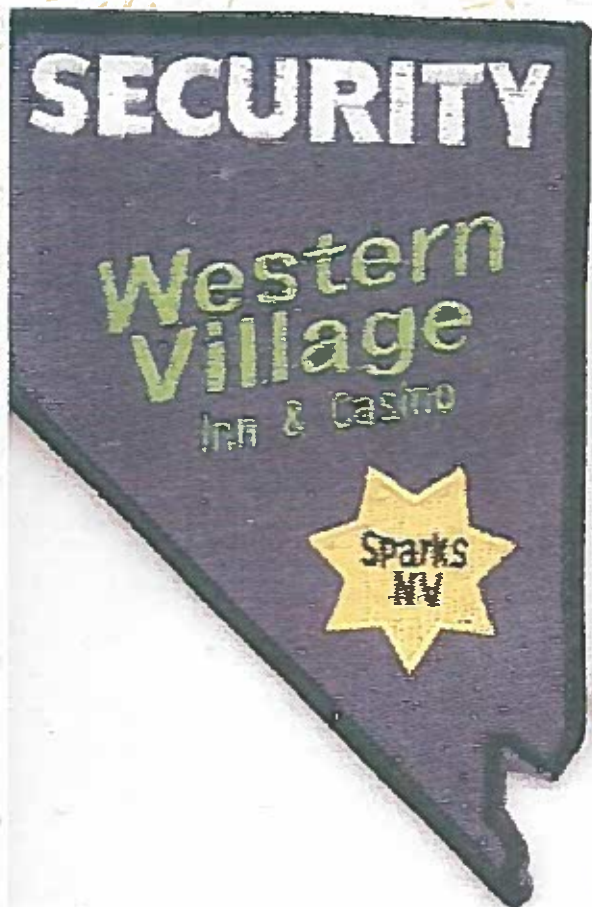
Shy Clown

865 S Rock Blvd

Opened: 1976

Closed: 1981





Western Village

815 Nichols Blvd
Opened: 1987

Carson City

Ormsby House.

600 S Carson St
Opened: 1960/1995, Closed: 1993/Just to
keep the licence in place



Part II

The Fire Continues.....

from page 38

On January 22, 1962, a prostitute, new to the town of Searchlight, emerged from one of the rooms at the El Rey Motel. She had heard good things about the cash available to a girl who was willing to spend a little quality time with strangers in Searchlight and came to town where she hoped to find some action.

She was absolutely glowing with the excitement and satisfaction of knowing she made the right decision. After all, the night before she met a man of obvious charm, but what was more obvious to her was that this guy had MONEY. Her new client had spent most of the entire evening with her and was more than happy to pay her well for her services and showered her with many black \$100.00 poker chips from the El Rey Resort & Casino. She must have earned thousands of dollars that night from this one man alone.

Soon after she exited from the man's El Rey Motel room she went up to the cashier and wanted to know where she could cash in her fortune.

"Lady, you aren't cashing those things in for shit. The El Rey burned to the ground last night."

When I first began corresponding with Bob Martello via email I had to tread carefully. The only knowledge any other Martello had of my interest in the El Rey was my childish interest in the prostitutes and the gambling. I frequently had to prove to him I wasn't just looking for "dirt." When Bob invited me to speak with him on the phone for the first time I was convinced I'd have one shot to speak with him before everyone expected me to leave him and his family alone. By the time Bob and I were actually talking on the phone I had a firm belief Bob knew I was truly interested in much more than whores and poker chips.

I had neither hopes nor expectations I'd hear tales about insurance fraud or other scenarios taken from the pages of a movie script about mobsters in Vegas. However, I did have questions. As with any casino fire, there were investigations into the cause, and rumors of illicit plans for financial gain. When you consider Willie's recent announcement about the sale of the El Rey just one week before the fire, it is certainly fair for people to ask questions. In our first actual conversation I simply asked Bob to tell me about the fire. I never expected him to be so open and honest with me right away.

"Don't get your hopes up, kid. It wasn't that exciting," he said, laughing a little. Since I had only known him for a short time I was rather taken aback by his next response. He sounded confident and vibrant all through the discussion, once he realized I wasn't a nosy jerk. Yet after that initial comment his voice became noticeably quiet and reserved. After a pause and a deep breath he spoke again. *"I was there, you know,"* Bob said. *"Willie had me out there often learning the ropes, running the business, taking care of his place. That night I was watching the place while Willie was relaxing with his friends."*

Though it was uncertain if it was a simple grease fire that got out of hand or faulty wiring in the lights that were strung throughout the kitchen that started the fire, he confirmed the fire began in the kitchen. He even laughed as I did when he



"Only Embers" Photo courtesy the Las Vegas Review-Journal, January 21, 1962

recalled telling the chef, "There's ALWAYS a fire in the kitchen!"

"When the chef came out to tell me it was a BIG fire, I went back there to see what the heck was going on," Bob said, *"The fire had gotten out of control almost immediately. It was already into the flue. 'There was so much smoke.'" He mentioned how dry and dusty the Mohave Desert could be and told me fires just smell different in the desert than they do anywhere else. According to Bob the smell of the smoke in the kitchen was just awful, worse than any other smoke-filled room.*

"I got back there and saw that the fire extinguisher had already been used up. It was so difficult to breathe," Bob told me, *"I had to do SOMETHING."*

The fire quickly spread into the ceiling of the kitchen, and smoke was billowing everywhere. While it was probably already likely the fire was fully out of control, Bob had hoped he could contain the situation before it was too late. A flurry of coughing and mild panic was in the air along with that awful-smelling smoke.

"The back of the El Rey had these two metal

continued on the next page

continued from previous page
doors with crash bar handles on them," Martello said, "I ran toward them and pushed them open as hard as I could. I thought I was helping, but it turned out to be the worst thing I could have done."

When the doors were opened a rush of fresh air entered, and a loud whooshing sound as the outside air flooded the room and fanned the flames. "I was trying to clear the smoke. Instead I created a massive fireball," Bob reluctantly told me. "It was over. The fire got into the ceiling, into the walls; it grew so fast." Following that, evacuation of the guests and employees began.

"I never had the heart to tell Willie about it. About what I had done," said Bob with shuddering breath. He took a long pause, cleared his throat and told me, "I've never told anyone this before."

At the time Bob had not heard about Joe Veronese reentering the building minutes later and had no idea a similar event had caused even more air to flow into the already burning building. He truly believed he was the reason the fire went out of control when, in reality, it was already too far gone by the time he opened those kitchen doors. Considering how dry the tinder was and how quickly a grease fire can spread, it was probably too late by the time the fire extinguisher had run out.

I took a moment before I said anything to Bob. As I began to speak, Bob regained a little bit of composure and said, "That was Willie's place. He loved that club." Another long passage of silence followed before I spoke.

Plane Makes Forced Landing Here

WEATHER
PARTIAL SUNNY
TEMP. 70-75
WIND 10-15
HUMIDITY 40-50
VISIBILITY 10-15
CLOUDS 20-30
PRECIP. 0.00
SUNRISE 6:58 AM
SUNSET 5:02 PM

Las Vegas SUN

THE CIVIL RIGHTS CENTER

PH. 12, 10, 212 OF 53411 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 1982

FIRE DESTROYS CASINO

"Bob," I said, "you do know that you were in a desert and the wood was extremely dry. You didn't start the fire and you didn't destroy the club. You were trying to keep from choking to death on smoke. ANYONE would have done the same thing. Anyone."

"I know," he said, "but that was Willie's life. I should have been able to save it for him. I always thought I did something wrong. I could have done more to keep it from burning."

"In the desert? With no working fire extinguisher or water," I asked him.

Bob emphatically said, "YEAH!" He then took a pause as if to listen to our last exchange in his head again and began to laugh. "Yeah."

I relayed to him some of the stories I'd heard about that night from Kenny and Tony and he very quickly came to terms with the fact he'd been carrying guilt for no reason other than the fact

he'd been carrying guilt for no reason other than the fact he felt so badly for his uncle. "He was just heartbroken. He wanted so much for that town."



Willie Martello, Owner of the El Rey Club Photo Courtesy Suzan Riddell

The entire town of Searchlight felt the sting of losing the El Rey. Harley Harmon, a member of the Clark County Licensing Board made a plea on behalf of Willie and the El Rey to allow Martello to move his operations into the Crystal Club across the street. Up to that point it had been used mainly for storage. Remarkably, the Board agreed to waive close to \$2,000 in liquor and gaming fees for moving to a new location just to allow Willie to remain in business. The reason, in the words of Harmon, *"If you close the El Rey, you kill Searchlight."*

The **Nevada Star News** reported that an estimated \$100,000 in checks and cash was lost that night. A piece in the **Reno Evening Gazette** quoted Martello as saying the fire represented a total loss of \$800,000. He also stated it was fully insured. However, with the closing of the sale of Willie's property now in question, Martello's secretary commented to the **Review-Journal**, *"she did not know of the insurance status of the destroyed building."*

There were many questions in the aftermath of the devastating fire. The **Review-Journal** wrote, *"Martello, who fought the fire last night, was sleeping late today and could not be*

reached for comment." What Willie did next was a topic on everybody's mind. Sharon Richardson, Willie's niece, recalled asking her uncle this very question sometime after the smoke had cleared. *"What am I gonna do? I'm going to live in Mexico and grow elephant garlic. That's what I'm going to do,"* insisted Willie. Richardson, in disbelief, asked, *"Garlic? You're going to raise elephant garlic? Come on, Uncle Willie, what are you really going to do?"*

"I don't know. I can't really tell you what I'm GOING to do." With that, a wicked grin took root on Willie's face, a look many in town and in his family knew all too well. *"But I can tell you what I already DID."* Sharon leaned in to hear of Willie's fire recovery plan. Willie began to speak, grinning the whole time, *"Last night, after the fire, I met this woman who'd just hit town. A hooker. She'd thought she could score big in Searchlight and found me. She scored big alright. I took her to the motel and spent the night with her. Paid her off with \$100 chips from the El Rey!"*

The town's newest and possibly last prostitute never noticed the face of the man she'd spent the night with was on every one of those poker chips.



The El Rey Club in its hey-day, circa late 1950s/early 1960s. From the author's personal collection.

CC>CC RAFFLE

The CC>CC will be conducting another raffle at the June 2014 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
P.O. Box 691085
Houston, TX 77269-1085

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

Best Offer Sale



This is a sample of chips I will have at this years CC>CC convention.



Please stop by my table and see what else I have.

I will accept any reasonable offer.



See you in June!!!

Jon Cybulski CC>CC #0665

What Can I Collect?

SPOTLIGHT



Atlantic City Shoe Chips

In each issue we will shine the spotlight on a type of casino collectible and seek out a member who specializes in this item to provide more information.

This time with the help of Ron Leis R-3110 and Ricky Pushkin LM-134 we look at Shoe Chips used in Atlantic City.

Ron Leis' Story

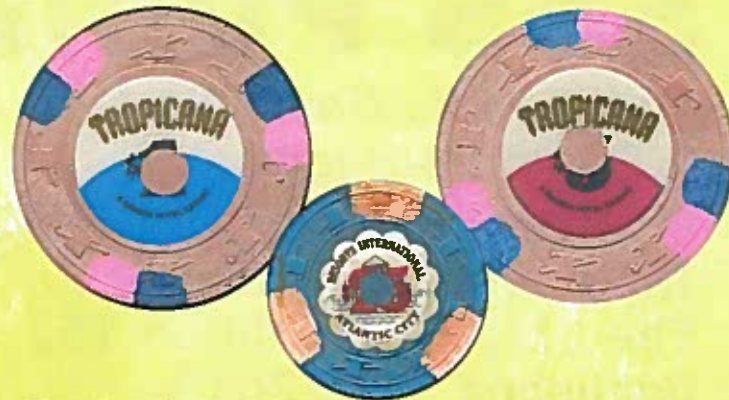
Years ago all blackjack was dealt out of the hand. Dealers were caught rolling the deck, dealing seconds, dealing off the bottom and other cheating methods. Nevada casinos thought they would solve this by dealing double deck blackjack face up. Dealers complained and players did not except it thus the shoe. We had problems with these small four-deck shoes being switched by a player from the outside that was in with the dealer, thus the idea of a shoe chip. Surveillance in those days was a catwalk where security people would watch through one way glass to the pit area below. If a shoe was switched the dealer and pit boss were fired as it was the pit personnels' duty to watch those shoe chips.

Early surveillance with the naked eye and the first camera was very poor. The first cameras used were B/W and used Betamax or VHS tapes. These were kept for a few weeks; then recorded over and over and over again. When something happened and the tape was needed for court one could not make it out. We had security catch more on the floor watching the pits in plain clothes.

I came to Atlantic City from Nevada in 1980 to open the Brighton. By that time cameras were much better, the shoes were now being chained to the tables, with a clip under the table in case the shoe broke it could be removed in a hurry, we did have a cat walk also over the pit area and we did not use shoe chips.

Shoe chips did come back a few times with casinos in Atlantic City. This was caused by untrained management who thought the Baccarat shoes which are passed around the tables and are not chained to the table would be a security problem without a shoe chip. However these shoes in Baccarat are not a risk if game is run correctly. It is hard to get four dealers to risk their jobs for a scam, unlike only one with blackjack. There are other House security measures with Baccarat shoes which I will not bore you with.

Cameras in casinos today can tell what color the hairs are on your wrist.



These shoe chips have hole-punched inlays & are not standard colors

Shoe Chip Info

Shoe chips vary from the regular house chips.

Some are regular house issues with a hole punched thru the inlay to blank out the dollar value and the chip color does not conform to New Jersey's strict rules. Others have hot stamp inlays.

There are not 100s of shoe chips to collect. To date only 29 casinos have existed in Atlantic City and not all of them uses shoe chips.

It can be a challenge finding shoe chips in perfect condition. These chips were glued to the back of card shoes so it is not uncommon to find one side covered in glue or distorted if the glue used melted the chip.



Thanks, Ron & Ricky!

Thank you to Ron for sharing your first-hand knowledge about shoe chips and to Ricky for the scans from your personal collection.

Got a Spotlight Idea?

Do you specialize in one area of casino memorabilia?
Would you like to see a particular collectible in a future issue?
Please let me know and I will work with you and make it happen!

Erik Dauplaise R-8053
erik24@cox.net



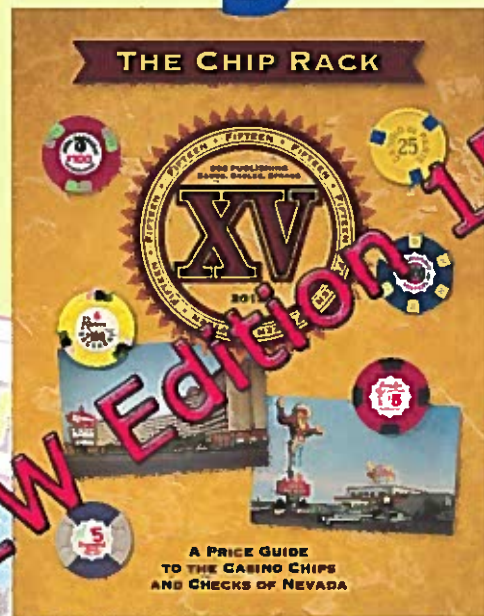
Two shoe chips with hot stamps from Bally's Park Place

SSS Publishing

(Jay Sands, David Sarles & David Spragg)

also publishers of The Gaming Table, proudly announce The Chip Rack Edition 15, published June 2013.

Order from www.thechiprack.com or meet us at the 21st annual CC>CC convention at TABLE 80.



The Chip Rack is the #1 reference guide for all Nevada chip collectors, with its unique copyrighted numbering system identifying 33,000 chips!

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of

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-Thank You!

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 Years Available –
 1996, 2001, 04, 07,
 08, 09, 2010, 11, 12



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 Years Available –
 2004, 06, 07, 08, 09,



2013 Silver/Bronze Convention Medal Sets – \$60.00

Common back design



(Silver front and bronze back shown)



2013 Convention Pin – \$5.00 each
 Prior year pins
 (1997 - 2012 - \$3.00 each
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 (2013 included) - \$25.00



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 depending on qty ordered —
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 White
 Sizes Med, Lrg, XL,XXL



CC>CC T-Shirt - \$15.00

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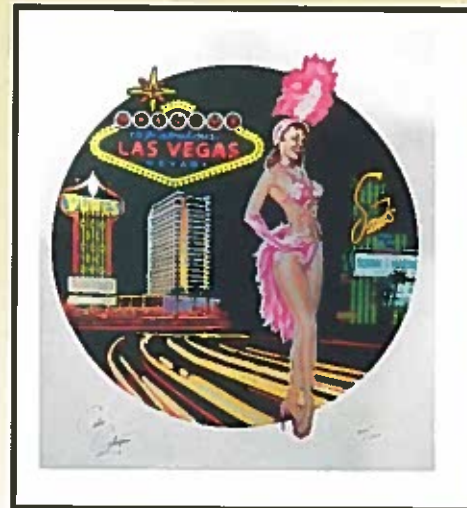
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CC>CC Polo Shirt



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Roy Nelson

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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

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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.

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 \$260

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.

NOW AVAILABLE

THE OFFICIAL

2015

CC>CC CALENDAR!



The calendar shown above is a sample of the 2014 calendar.

The official 2015 CC>CC calendar is now available for purchase. This calendar is a club fund raiser which raises money by the sale of individual dates, banner ads and whole pages, and of course the final printed calendars.

Individual dates are \$10 each. To reserve a specific date e-mail Steve Bedo (stevebedo@yahoo.com) to make sure that the date you require is still available. Then supply a chip scan for that date (NO personal chips allowed) at preferably 300dpi or better.

Banner ads at the bottom of the page(s) are \$70.

A "month", including the banner ads, is \$300.

The finished printed calendars are \$18 each (Includes shipping within the US)

Please check with Steve Bedo BEFORE sending payments though. E-mail Steve at stevebedo@yahoo.com.



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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

Casino Collectible News



Website

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