

Volume 27 Number 4  
\$3.95

# Casino Collectible News

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

## THE ABANDONED CASINOS OF MOON LANDING

### PLUS...

Lammers & Buttons part II

Member's Corner

The Olson Brothers'  
Great Harold's Club Caper!

What Can I Collect Spotlight:  
Silver Strikes

Antique Playing Cards

And More!





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

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

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

---

**Also lots of Chips from these states**

---

Wisconsin  
Minnesota  
North Dakota  
South Dakota  
Iowa  
Illinois  
Michigan  
Indiana

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

Arkansas  
Louisiana  
Montana  
Caribbean  
Canada  
Cruise Ships  
Many Misc.

---

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

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

*Thank You, Gary*



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

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

**(877) 4CCGTCC or (877) 422-4822**

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## Casino Collectible News

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

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*The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.*  
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**(877) 4CCGTCC or (877) 422-4822**

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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&GTCC Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

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

My collection interests are:

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

I would like you to publish my . . .

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

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

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

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

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

### CC&GTCC Membership Officer

**Steve Bedo**

1215 E. Dalton Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91741

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

**or sign up or renew on line at...**

**www.CCGTCC.com**



# Casino Collectible News

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



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**Mhoon Landing**  
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Cover Photo Courtesy of  
**Heather Ingram**

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## American Numismatic Association Membership Application

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

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

Mr.  Mrs  Ms.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Country

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Proposer

The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

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

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

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

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

### Dues

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

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

Forward completed application to:

ANA

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

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

# Visit Us Online!

www.CCGTCC.com



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  
775-425-0590 and talk to Allan Anderson.  
Fax - 775-410-8322  
Email - [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net)

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

Allan Anderson  
Advertising Manager, CC&GTCC  
2340 Soar Drive, Reno, NV 89441

## 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 \$5.75 and we will receive them in about two to three days.
- When you place a one inch or two inch ad for more than one issue, you may make changes in that ad for each issue. Try to get the changes to us well before the deadline of each issue.
- When ordering items from one of our advertisers, let them know what issue of the magazine in which you noticed their ad.
- All ad copy must be accompanied by payment made out to "The Casino Chips and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc." or CC&GTCC. No ad will run without payment

## Schedule of Publication and Ad Deadline Dates

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

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

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

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

## Moving?

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

Richard Huber  
P.O. Box 6994  
Burbank, CA 91510

## Rates

Advertising rates for members are available by emailing the advertising manager at [advertising@ccgtcc.com](mailto:advertising@ccgtcc.com)

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

Wants you to advertise in your quarterly magazine for FREE



This coupon is worth one FREE one-inch ad  
in *Casino Chip & Token News*

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

Send all ads to the following:  
Allan Anderson, Advertising Manager  
via e-mail at [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net)  
or call Allan at 775-425-0590 for more info



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

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



**Doug Smith**  
President

## President's Letter

It has only been a few months since the 2014 convention and we are already in full swing preparations for the 2015 event.

Sheldon and Christine Smith, our new Convention chairs, have jumped in feet first and have already announced a theme and begun working the show details.

Thanks to Cale Guthmiller, we have had numerous press releases and look forward to many great things in the years to come from him.

There have been several new positions that were filled this past quarter and we still have the position of Educational Director to fill. If you think you may be interested, please drop a note to any BOD member as we would love to have you join us.

I want to take a minute to reflect on the passing of a pivotal Hall Of Fame member and good friend to so many of us, CT Rodgers. CT was one of the pioneers of this hobby and much of the success we have seen over the past 25 years has come from

him and his support. Charles was a fixture at every convention and was loved by everyone who knew him. CT will be dearly missed by many of us and his absence at future conventions will be hard for us all. We will miss you my friend, Rest in Peace.


Allan Anderson has volunteered to step in and take over the advertising duties previously held by CT and we can't thank him enough for his offer.

Please look for the advertisement in this issue of the magazine kicking off the 2015 annual CC&GTCC Convention raffle. This has always been one of the largest fundraiser for the club and with your help, we can make this year the most successful ever.

Thanks again everyone and looking forward to a fantastic 2015 and beyond.

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

**Christine and Sheldon Smith**  
*of*  
**ONENEVADADOLLAR,**  
our eBay user ID,  
take this opportunity to thank all of  
the people who have purchased casino  
memorabilia from us.



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

*-Thank You!*



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# New Members

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Member #	Last Name	First Name	State	City	Reference
8671	Rico	Maria Rosa L		Spain	Club Website
8670	Tinker	James	OH	Kent	Club Website
8669	Grizzell	L. Anthony	CA	Sacramento	Club Website
8668	Newcastle	Mike	NV	Indian Springs	Club Website
8667	Brutcher	Paul	NY	Cheektowaga	Club Website
8666	Berman	Lyle	NV	Las Vegas	Club Website
8665	Swartz	Lowell	IA	North Liberty	Club Website
8664	Schlinger	Hubert	CA	S. Lake Tahoe	Club Website
8663	Weiner	Richard M.	FL	Plantation	Club Website
8662	Ammenhauser	William	MD	Prince Frederick	Club Website
8661	Koryn	John	NC	Franklin	Casino Player Magazine
8660	Stoops	Bobby	IL	Hoffman Estates	Club Website
8659	Bonner	Dwight L.	CO	Colorado Springs	Club Website
8658	Hertz	Robert	CA	Encinitas	Club Website
8657	Ross	James	NV	Sparks	Club Website
8656	Morel	Michael	IL	Kankakee	Former Member
8655	Kass	George	MI	Okemos	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.*

## 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!**

# Call for Hall of Fame Recommendations for 2015



Membership in the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club's Hall of Fame is the Club's highest honor. Each year several members are considered for induction into the Hall of Fame, based on the recommendations of the Club's members.

Consideration is given to their contributions to the hobby as a whole, their contributions to the Club, their impact on the hobby and on the Club, and their exemplary integrity and adherence to the principles upon which the Club was founded. The names of the members of the Hall of Fame appear below.

The selection of honorees each year is made by the Hall of Fame Committee, which consists of all living members of the HoF. The input of the membership in the selection process is indispensable. The members of the HoF cannot know every member of the Club, nor have knowledge of the contributions to the Club and the hobby that may have been made by each member.

Enclosed with this issue of Casino Collectible News is a recommendation form which we urge you to complete and submit to us so that we may consider the contributions of those members who you believe deserve the Club's highest recognition. Please provide as much information as possible so that the Committee can give it full consideration. The form may be mailed as indicated on the form itself, or your recommendation may be sent to the committee by e-mail.

The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2015, and the final selections, if any, will be announced at the Club's annual convention in Las Vegas. Only members recommended in the current year will be considered by the Committee. It is therefore important to recommend a member you believe to be deserving, even though you may have done so in the past.

Please take the time to recommend those you feel should receive the Hall of Fame honor.

## *The members of the Hall of Fame, in alphabetical order:*

Allan Anderson	Janice O'Neal (deceased)
Archie A. Black	Steve Passalacqua
Carey Burke	Charles T. Rodgers
Harvey Fuller (deceased)	Eric S. Rosenblum
Howard Herz	Douglas Saito
Belinda Hixon	Dale Seymour
Phil Jensen	Mike Skelton
Michael Knapp	Jim Steffner (Chairman)
Jim Kruse	Greg Susong (deceased)
Bruce Landau (deceased)	Wayne Thompson
Mark Lighterman	Gene Trimble
Robert Mera (deceased)	Ernie Wheelden
Allan Myers	

For biographies of the HoF members, please visit the Club website at [http://www.ccgccc.com/hall\\_of\\_fame.html](http://www.ccgccc.com/hall_of_fame.html)

**Jim Steffner**  
**Hall of Fame Committee Chairman**



# Call for Convention Exhibits

With the Convention just around the corner, we need more Exhibits. If you are planning on going to the Convention please think about doing an Exhibit.

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

The Club provided display cases are about 22 x 32 inches and are about 1 inch high. A slightly deeper case is available for display of items with a little bit more height.

I will need this information:

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

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

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

the Convention Program, but will be eligible for the People's Choice Award!

Thank you,

Casey Focazio-Follis  
Exhibit Chairman





# Of Literary Note

by the club Librarian, John K. Kallman

P.O. Box 122

Sartell, MN 56377

librarian@ccgtcc.com

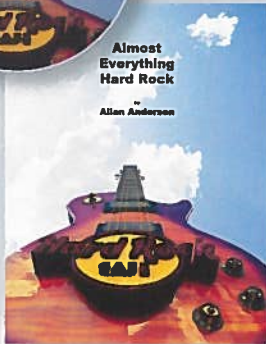
Mike Skelton donated 127 issues of the *Las Vegas Advisor* along with the other following items:

- *Las Vegas Advisor Guide to Slot Clubs* by Jeffery Compton
- *The Enforcer* by William F. Roemer, Jr.
- *Little Man* by Robert Lacey
- *The Money and the Power* by Sally Denton & Roger Morris
- *Las Vegas* by Deke Castleman
- *The Man with the \$100,000 Breast (and Other Gambling Stories)* by Michael Konik
- *Las Vegas* by Donn Knepp
- *Viva Las Vegas* by Delilah Jones
- *The Venetian* (by the casino)
- *Las Vegas Pictorial Review* by the Las Vegas Review-Journal
- *Las Vegas – A New Destiny* by M&M Graphics
- *Stardust of Yesterday* by Heidi Knapp
- *Quick Silver – The Ted Binion Murder Case* by John L. Smith
- *Winning Thoroughbred Strategies* by Dick Mitchell

- *Beyer of Speed (Horse Racing)* by Andrew Beyer
- *Whale Hunt in the Desert* by Deke Castleman
- *The Godfather Returns* by Mark Winegardner
- *Cult Vegas* by Mike Weatherford
- *The Last Don* by Mario Puso
- *US Casino Price Guide* by James Campiglia and Steve Wells
- *Hold'em Excellence* by Lou Krieger
- *High Stakes – Inside the New Las Vegas* by Gary Provost

Also, the following VHS tapes:

- Las Vegas – 24 Hours of Entertainment
- Las Vegas Today & Yesterday
- Flamingo Hilton
- Viva Las Vegas (with Elvis Presley)
- Las Vegas Video Postcard
- Las Vegas Video Postcard 2000



**\$35.00**  
free shipping

## Almost Everything Hard Rock

Included on the DVD is the complete 506 page book listing Casinos, Cafes, Hotels, and The Park.

There are also individual files for all the sections and all the casinos along with casino chips, slot cards and room keys.

This is to make it easier to transfer to an electronic reader.

The book includes casino chips, silver strikes, dice, room keys, slot cards, and all things collectible along with property photos, information and history.

No pins are listed.

Free upgrade 6 months after you purchase.

The DVD is updated on a monthly basis so it is always current.

The DVD is formatted for Mac and Windows, files are in pdf.

To order send an email to:  
Allan Anderson at [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net)



## Local Casino Collectibles Clubs

**Atlantic City Casino Collectibles Club;** <http://gaming-chips.com/>; Charles Kaplan, 11 Calais Court, Rockville Centre, NY 11570; 5 meetings a year on Sunday's in AC; \$10.00 annual dues.

**Chicagoland Casino Collectibles Club;** [ikcarkop@comcast.net](mailto:ikcarkop@comcast.net); Riverboat Rick Pokracki; various locations in the tri-state area.

**Dallas Chip Club;** [txbel711@aol.com](mailto:txbel711@aol.com); Belinda Hixon; various contact for next meeting

**Florida Casino Chip & Token Collectors Club;** [jerryleonardo@bellsouth.net](mailto:jerryleonardo@bellsouth.net); Jerry Leonardo 561-445-4007; Sebastian Fl. Quarterly meetings at various locations. Membership \$10.00 Yr.

**Houston Chip Club;** Houston Chip Club on Facebook; Frank Chalfant; 1st Wednesday of the month starting at 7 PM

**Michigan Chip Club;** [albertscalzo@gmail.com](mailto:albertscalzo@gmail.com); Al Scalzo; 7229 Flamingo St. Clay, MI 48001; Elks Lodge #810, 2100 Scott Lake Rd. Waterford MI

**Nor-Cal-Nev Casino Collectibles Club;** Todd Dingley, email: [sandpointe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sandpointe@sbcglobal.net), 6 Sandpointe Ct. Sacramento, Ca 95831. Contact us about our next Get-together!

**NY Metro Chip Club;** [qualpete@aol.com](mailto:qualpete@aol.com); Pete Volberg, 516-322-3892; PO Box 3037, Farmingdale, NY 11735; Knights of Columbus Bethpage, NY; no membership dues.

**Slot Card & Room Keys;** Dave Johnston, 350 E Desert Inn Rd D-205, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 702-351-8573

**Southern California Collectibles Club;** [georged@mindspring.com](mailto:georged@mindspring.com); George Dmitrevsky; 818-384-7357; 3rd Tuesday of every month locations vary 7-9 PM

**Southern Nevada Collectibles Club;** <http://snccc.weebly.com/>; Rich Klabacha; 1616 Gleneagles Court, Boulder City, NV 89005-3653; monthly meetings; membership dues \$12.00

*All the club information that was received at the time of the creation of the list. If you have information your club would like to add please contact the editors at [Editor@ccgtcc.com](mailto:Editor@ccgtcc.com).*

## FREE LIST OF \$1.00 CHIPS

**Jerry Hoover (R-2572)**

10655 Kinnard Ave #204 Los Angeles, CA 90024-5939

Phone 310-441-1171 E-Mail [jhoover7777@gmail.com](mailto:jhoover7777@gmail.com)



LAMMERS  
&  
BUTTONS

Part 2

Erik D  
R-8053



My friend suggested I create an awesome sounding name for these articles. His ideas included:

- Lammers are not Lame
- The Glamor of the Lammer
- Lammers, on the Button
- Don't be a Loser, Love a Lammer
- War and Peace and Lammers and Buttons
- Life of a Lammer

It might be difficult to get excited about lammers & buttons but without them casinos would not function as efficiently. Remember, these innocuous disks were created for a reason.

First, some definitions. These first two are from Wikipedia.

A *laminate* is a material that can be constructed by uniting two or more layers of material together. The process of creating a laminate is lamination, which in common parlance refers to the placing of something between layers of plastic and gluing them with heat, pressure and an adhesive.

In poker, the *buck* or *dealer button* is a marker used to indicate the player who is dealing or, in casino games with a house dealer, the player who acts last on that deal (who would be the dealer in a home game). The term button is also used for a variety of plastic discs or lammers, used by casinos to mark the status of players.

From <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=lammer>

Indicating the amount of value chips that have been removed from a table tray during a table credit slip transaction, or an amount of chips that has been given to a customer for wagering on credit prior to completion of a credit instrument (marker). When the customer requested a marker for the remainder of his credit line, the pit boss put a 5000 lammer on the blackjack table and the dealer cut out \$5000 in chips to give the player.

From <http://www.casinodelive.com/casino-review/theterm158.html>  
(This website is now defunct.)

Lammers - Casino Term Definition: These are the plastic buttons used in baccarat to signify how much commission is owed by the players. The term is also used to identify the amount of money issued to a player for a marker.

++++

Although both terms are used interchangeably the correct usage is:

- A *lammer* has a number and represents money
- A *button* has words and represents table or player status

Both lammers and buttons are used so a camera can record information not easily determined by simply looking at video of the table and chips.





# Lammer/Button Construction

If a lammer/button is going to have the same colors (body + text or number) on both sides it is constructed with 3 layers of plastic. A milling tool engraves both red outer layers exposing the green inner layer. Sometimes only one side is engrave and the other side left blank.



If a lammer/button is going to have reversed colors on each side it is constructed with 4 layers of plastic. A milling tool engraves the red outer layer exposing the green inner layer on one side then engraves the green outer layer exposing the red inner layer on the other side.



If a lammer/button is going to have different colors on each side but the same colored text it is constructed with 3 layers of plastic. A milling tool engraves the red outer layer exposing the green inner layer on one side then engraves the black outer layer exposing the green inner layer on the other side.



The outer layers are usually very thin compared to the inner layers.

Most of the lammers/buttons that will be shown are laminates because of their construction. They are usually smaller than chips, about 30-32mm/1.125" diameter but can be larger, up to 50mm/2" diameter. But not all lammers/buttons are laminates. Look at the images below. The On-Off-Buy-Lay 36mm/1.5" diameter buttons are made out of plastic-clay and use a "sun" mold. The 50 lammer, generic RESERVED button and Palms button are regular 39mm/1.675" diameter chips.



Most lammers and buttons do not have a color standard like casino chips. If one is typically one color or another I will specify it within its description. We are going to look at how lammers and buttons are used in many different games. Plus, we will see some buttons that I have not been able to identify.

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\***

These articles focus on how lammers and buttons are used not on how the games are played. I am assuming that you have at least a basic understanding of how casino games are played. I will give a very brief description of how Pai Gow Poker is played because it is not in every casino like blackjack, roulette, etc.

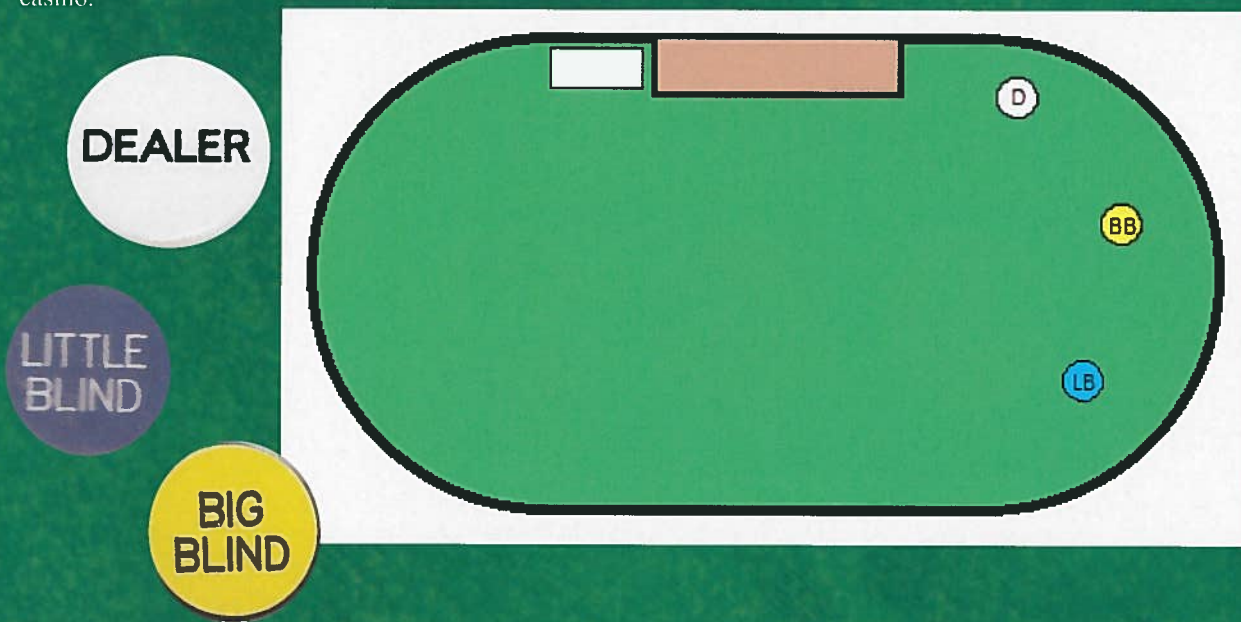


# Buttons - Poker

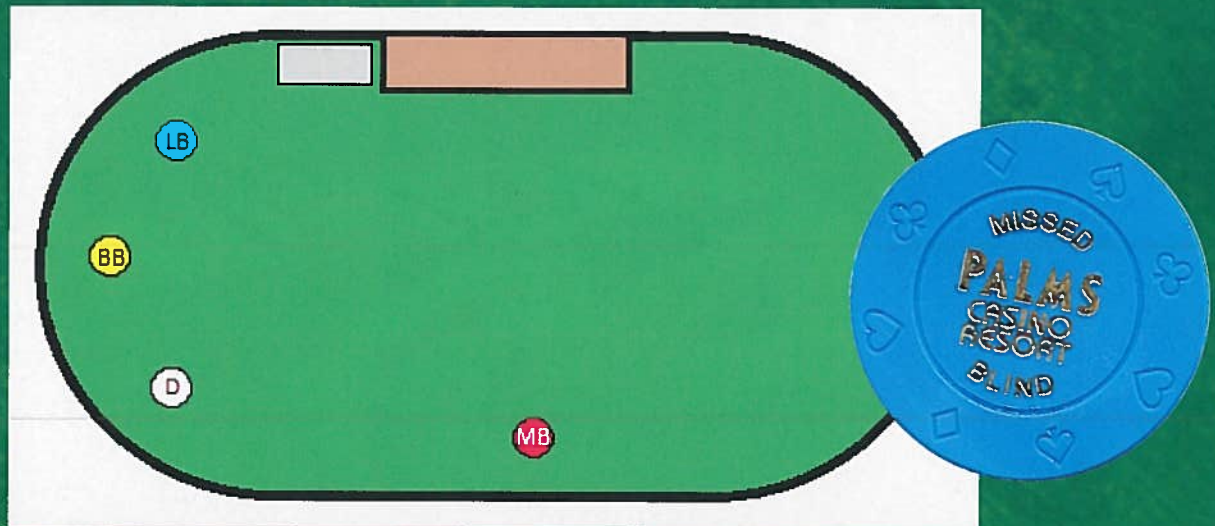
The game of poker, when played in a casino, might use several different buttons depending on the game. If you play poker at home or a friend's house you probably only use one button (dealer), at the most three if you are teaching a new person how to play.

All poker games use a DEALER button or buck. Dealer buttons are usually white with plain text but they can be colored or imprinted with images/logos. At a casino the dealer button is positioned in front of the player who would be dealing for few reasons – the casino is supplying a dealer but “the deal” still needs to rotate plus be tracked, to inform a new/returning player or when moving a player from one table to another in a tournament (so she does not get an extra blind or miss a blind) are just a few. The dealer and blinds rotate clockwise around the table.

If you are playing a home game, teaching somebody how to play or learning at a dealer school you might use BLIND buttons to demonstrate how the blinds rotate around the table ahead of the dealer. I have never seen these buttons used during live gaming at a casino.



In a cash game a player might step away from the table for a break. She could be away when it is her turn to pay the blinds. In that case the casino's dealer would place a Missed Blinds button at her location (red circle). Depending on the casino any of these buttons could be used. When she returns she can play the next hand if she pays the missed blinds or she can wait until the blinds “come around” to her again. In either case the button is returned when the blinds are paid. If she is playing in a tournament the blinds would be taken on her turn even if she is not there and no button would be necessary.





# SEAT STATUS

Buttons can be used to indicate the status of a player at a particular seat. These would be placed on the table in front of that player location.

Seat Change – at a cash game when the table is full a player may request a seat change when the next person leaves the game.

1st or 2nd Seat Change – used when more than one person requests a seat change at a cash game. I have also seen 3rd Seat Change buttons. Poker tournaments do not allow seat changes.



Player Returning – a player has stepped away from the table and will be returning.

Reserved – saved for a particular player.

Absent – indicates a missing tournament player



Plug – as explained by CC&GTCC member James McFadden:

1. (n) A chip, a stack of chips, or a token of some sort (sometimes labeled “hold”) set down by the house at any empty position to indicate that no one may sit there. The house may place a plug because a player has asked to hold his seat while he goes to get more cash, or because it wants to keep the seating arrangements balanced. For example, two draw tables have seven players each. The house may place a plug at each empty position so no one can move to the other game and leave one table with only six seats while the other is full. The floorman who puts a chip plug at an empty spot may not tell the players at the table that those chips do not represent a real player, leading some to wrongly think that the seat has been sold and someone will soon come to play those chips.

2. (v) To place a plug; often followed by the seat designation. A floorman may say to the house dealer, “Plug the No. 2 seat, dealer.”





# GAME VARIATION

Poker has many variations and some casinos will offer players different games. To make certain any disputes can be resolved when looking at a video recording, the variation of poker being played must be included. Casinos in Nevada and the Mohegan Sun in Connecticut use large laminated plaques (usually black with white lettering) that are attached to the table (grey rectangle) which indicate the variation of poker being played, min/max bets and the rake.

You are most likely to see buttons in H.O.R.S.E. games where 5 different poker variations are played. The button is put out for each game currently being played. Games will change every 30 minutes. One of the buttons would be placed on the table for all to see (purple circle).



From Wikipedia - H.O.R.S.E. is a form of poker commonly played at the high stakes tables of casinos. It consists of rounds of play cycling among:

- Texas Hold 'em
- Omaha hi-low split-eight or better
- Razz
- Seven card Stud
- Seven card stud hi-low split-Eight or better

H.O.R.S.E. is a limit game, including hold 'em. However, in some tournament situations (such as the 2006 World Series of Poker event), the final table is no-limit hold 'em.

C.H.O.R.S.E adds Chowaha or Crazy Pineapple to the mix. This is convenient at such team events as BARGE\*, when it helps to have as many flop games as stud games. C.H.O.R.S.E.L adds lowball.

\*BARGE, the Big August Rec. Gambling Excursion, is a yearly convention held in Las Vegas during the first weekend of August. It consists of a series of tournaments both of poker and other gambling games, as well as a banquet and a host of informal social and gambling activities organized by attendees.





# POT STATUS / POT WINNER

The Cap button would be used to indicate that the pot has reached the maximum allowed by the casino or state law.



A Free Collection or Reduced Rake button is put on the table when there is a game with no rake. Usually a 3 or 4 handed game that is just starting. 4th or 5th player sits down the button is pulled.



A Jackpot button would be placed about the center of the table if some hit a jackpot. No Jackpot if nobody hit a jackpot (usually cash games with a special high-hand prize).



High & Low buttons would be used to indicate the winning hands in Omaha High/Low. These would be placed on the table in front of the winning player(s).



Kill, 1/2 Kill, No Kill and Leg Up are all used in games that have a "kill" - a way to increase the minimum bets when a player wins 2 hands or more in a row.

KILL = (Gene Trimble) If you are playing 4 & 8 hold-em with a Kill or 1/2 Kill and a player wins 2 hands in a row, the next hand would be 8 & 16, if 1/2 Kill it would be 6 & 12.



LEG UP = (Dan Jensen) The buttons we had when I dealt were turned to "Leg Up" when you won the first pot, and then to Kill on the Second. Kept confusion down for the highly intoxicated.



Dan's explanation makes sense to me because the Leg Up button shown has Kill on the other side, red w/ white letters.

CC&GTCC member Joel B explains how the ACTION button is used in California: A bet that must be posted, in a seven-card stud high-low game, by the winner of a scoop pot above a certain size, signifying a full bet (a blind raise, in other words), rather than just a call of the original forced bet. Any player who acts before the action button can only call the bring-in. The holder of the action button essentially raises blind, and then, when it gets back to those who have only so far called the opening bet, they can either call or raise. For example, if the low card normally must bet \$1 in a \$5-\$10 game, and there is an action button out, anyone who calls the \$1 is committing to bet \$5 later. No one would call the \$1 without intending at least to call the blind raise by the action button. Whether the action button acts in turn, or after everyone else has acted, depends on the card room.



I have seen 2 other buttons used only in tournaments plus one used in both cash games and tournaments.

Bounty is given to a player he knocks another player out of the game. The player might turn in the bounty button for a cash prize or the buttons might be counted at the end of the tournament to see which player scored more knockouts - usually given a cash prize. Re-Buy is given to a player who has been knocked out of the game but pays another entry fee. I have seen these buttons given to a player at the cashier, he then hands it to the casino dealer when he sits down to receive chips.

All-In is placed in front of a player who has wagered all of her chips. I have seen it used in both tournaments and cash games.





# ??? MYSTERY/UNKNOWN ???

There are buttons (from carnival/pit games?) that even with help I could not find out how they are used in casinos.

My list of unknowns included these:

- Bet
- Bluff
- Call
- Check
- Courtesy Time
- Diamond Bonus
- Drop
- Final Card
- First Hand Bonus
- Fold
- Hold
- No Bet
- Out
- Over
- Triple Bonus



This button is the most confusing. It has a CLUBS suit image with a CROWN plus the words OUT on one side and TEXTURED on the other.



The only thing similar that I can find is the logo for the Commerce Casino in Commerce, CA.



If you know how these buttons are used in a casino table game please let me know.



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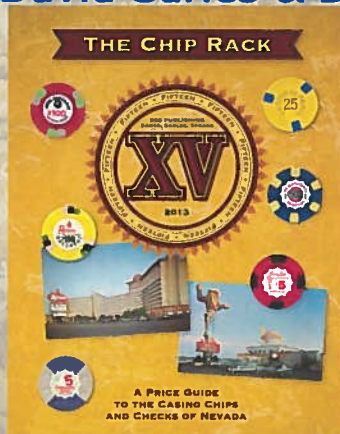
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# SSS Publishing

(Jay Sands, David Sarles & David Spragg)



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# What Can I Collect?

## SPOTLIGHT



## Silver Strikes

In each issue we 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 Bill Metten SS-668 shares his Silver Strike story and a brief history of the fascinating hobby.



## Happiness is Collecting Silver Strikes

When my wife Nancy and I visited Las Vegas in 2002 we were not looking for a hobby. However, a most unusual hobby found us in a Silver Strike slot machine at Bally's Casino.

The machine seduced us with its promise of winning attractive silver tokens in clear plastic capsules (similar to a chip airtight) with patriotic themes like "America Will Never Forget September 11, 2001" and "Tribute to America's Everyday Working Heroes". During our trip we encountered more Silver Strike machines at Bellagio, Four Queens, Golden Nugget and the Golden Gate.

After winning more Silver Strikes we felt like kids in a candy store. We wanted to look for more Silver Strike machines. "How many more are there?" we wondered. We did not know that others had walked in our shoes and were also smitten by these unique tokens since their introduction in 1992 by casinos in the Reno/Tahoe area. We were also unaware that a small group of enthusiastic Silver Strike collectors had previously decided to form a Silver Strikers Club.

### A Club is Born

On July 17, 1999 at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, members of the nonprofit Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club (CC&GTCC) met with some Silver Strike collectors. After a short discussion, a motion was made and approved to create a Silver Strikers Chapter under the umbrella of the CC&GTCC. Interim officers were appointed. A small group of Silver Strike collectors were in attendance at that meeting. By August 15 there were 147 Charter Members of the new Silver Strikes Club. The club was off and running! Members elected their first official slate of officers.

A newsletter was published to keep members up to date on new releases, casino closings and new strike machine locations. Articles were written about strike errors, millennium strikes and many other aspects of Silver Strike collecting.

The Silver Strikers Club has since incorporated as a non-profit organization and is no longer affiliated with the CC&GTCC. The Silver Strikers Club still endeavors to maintain a friendly affiliation with the CC&GTCC. There are members that belong to both clubs. In addition, The Chip Board & The Strike Board are both part of the Museum of Gaming History (MOGH) on-line world.

We have our annual meeting in June and the Four Queens Casino hosts two tournaments every year when the Club also has trade sessions.

*2014 Silver Strike Tournament*



*\$200 and \$300 Silver Strikes*

### Rising to New Heights

The first Silver Strike Tournament was held in December, 2001 at O'Shea's Casino in Las Vegas. Each of the 150 players received a special Silver Strike commemorating the "World's First Silver Strike Tournament." The top 50 players received a gold plated Leprechaun Silver Strike.

The period 2002-2008 was an exciting "Golden Era" for Silver Strike collecting. Many new strikes were released throughout Nevada. The hobby's appeal blossomed! It was all about the chase for new strikes, trading with club members for strikes you needed and building your collection, recalling those exciting times and circumstances surrounding your special strike conquests and making new strike-minded friends around a Silver Strike machine. Several Las Vegas casinos also showed their strong support for the hobby during that period by sponsoring Silver Strike tournaments.



*The first three "Hall of Fame Strikes"*

*\$10 Rockettes (Flamingo)*

*\$40 ship (Treasure Island)*

*\$200 Cleopatra (Caesar's Tahoe).*



## Decline and Rebirth

Silver Strike collecting experienced an unexpected and disappointing setback in 2007 when International Gaming Technology (IGT) terminated its Silver Strike business, ceasing the sale and servicing of its machines. When IGT exited the future of Silver Strike collecting looked bleak. One casino after another removed their machines and the Club's membership declined.

Sunshine Mint, based in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, purchased the rights to the Silver Strike program from IGT and opened a Las Vegas facility to provide strikes to casinos. The mint and the Four Queens Casino worked together to save the hobby from rapidly rising silver prices by creating "clad" (reduced silver content) \$10 Silver Strikes and \$300 strikes. With both companies stepping forward the Silver Strike program was saved for collectors.

The Four Queens casino began its Silver Strike program in 1996 and has issued more than 150 different strikes and releases numerous \$10 strikes and several \$300 strikes each year. Thanks to the support of the Four Queens' casino management and the leadership of its slot director the Silver Strike programs at several casinos continue to offer Silver Strikes and two new casinos have joined the program. Today there are 6 Nevada casinos with Silver Strikes besides the Four Queens – Mirage, Venetian, Palazzo, El Cortez, Sam's Town and Delta Saloon. The fact that no one is presently making new Silver Strike machines is adversely affecting the expansion of the hobby.

## So Much to Collect

Although \$10 and \$300 Silver Strikes are the only new tokens today many different denominations were created in the past. Denominations include \$7, \$20, \$28, \$40 and \$200. Some Silver Strikes have a brass ring around a silver token while others look like a regular slot token or a large coin.

There are variations other than those in clear plastic capsules. Some strikes have blue or red capsules. A blue capsule contains colorized images and you will find that a red capsule contains strikes with more desirable .999 silver centers instead of clad centers.

So, whether you are a slot player who loves the thrill of gaming, like to buy silver or just like to collect shiny coins/tokens give Silver Strikes a try. You will not be alone!

\* \* \* \*

Looking back on the day that Nancy and I won our first Silver Strike, we didn't realize it at the time, that we were collecting a lot more than silver tokens. We were collecting many wonderful friends from all over the world. These enduring friendships far exceed the value of our Silver Strike collection!

## Design a Strike Contest

Each year a coin design contest is held and open to all Club members. A panel of judges select the best six designs and the membership votes for what they think will make the best strike. The winning strike design is made by the mint and available for sale to members.

The strike on the "spotlight" cover page is from 2010 contest winner Jamie Martin and it is the Silver Strikers Club logo. The colorized strike pictured below is the 2014 winner designed by Ralph Fajardo.



*Silver Strike slot machine*



## Interested in joining the Silver Strikers Club?

Contact Jo Riefer at [membership@silverstrikers.com](mailto:membership@silverstrikers.com). Applications are available at [www.silverstrikers.com](http://www.silverstrikers.com). You can also check out [www.thestrikepoint.com](http://www.thestrikepoint.com) or stop by the Four Queens Hotel and Casino and pick up a "Collect Silver Strikes" brochure which includes a membership application.

Thanks, Bill!

Thank you for sharing your story and your knowledge about Silver Strikes and the Silver Strikers Club.

I also want to thank Jo Reifer (CHSS-33) and Bill Cohenour (SS-277) for sharing the silver strike scans from their personal collections.

## 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](mailto:erik24@cox.net)



# In Memoriam, C.T. Rodgers

“CT,” Chuck or Charlie has been a collector of one thing or another for the past 50+ years, from pop bottle caps early on, and then stamps, coins, paper money; to odd and curious items from around the world. CT had bought and sold and traded stock certificates and bonds from around the world. He liked Disney Money so much that he published a catalog on that specialized material several years ago. He started his mail order business (C.T. Coins) in 1954 when he was only 13 years old!

CT found his way to Las Vegas in the early 1960’s, and there he found new items to offer in his mail order catalogs casino chips and gaming tokens. Charlie became Charter Member #033 out of the first 100 people to join the fledging organization that we know today as CC&GTCC. Charlie says that two years after the club was officially formed, during the 1990 ANA convention in Seattle, he proposed that we have a annual chip & token award of the year. The following year, in



1991 at the ANA convention in Chicago, CT was appointed as Advertising Manager of the CC&GTCC club magazine: a position that Charles has held ever since. He was a staunch contributor to the institution of ANA’s new exclusive exhibit category for casino items, which used to be relegated to a miscellaneous category.

Charlie has received several exhibitor awards for the chip displays he has set up at the ANA conventions over the past few years. He has also been honored on several occasions by CC&GTCC as the Top Recruiter for signing up new club members and has also taken part in a number of educational panel discussions at the club’s annual conventions. Charlie has had a bourse table at every one of the CC&GTCC conventions and has sponsored and co-sponsored several privately-run commercial chip shows in California and Nevada.

CT Passed away in Las Vegas in October.

I have known CT Rodgers for over 22 years and he was always such an upbeat and energetic guy - always willing to help if you had a question or needed some advise. I enjoyed talking to him about chips and coins and life in general. He was a very wise and interesting man.

Shown below is our annual picture from the June 2014 Convention of the Dealers that have had a table for all 21 Conventions 1993 - 2014 - CT is in the front row on the left. The “Gang of Six” has lost one of their own. I will never forget the fun we had getting together each year at the Convention and



sharing stories, etc. It was sometimes a struggle but always fun to gather the six guys together for our annual picture. Everyone was

always very busy and running around, but we always managed to pull it together some how and I am very glad we did!!!

CT joins many of my other chipper friends who have passed on over the years. CT may be gone from this life but the good memories I have of him will live on.

Rest in peace my friend.

Jerry Birl

*These dealers have had a table at every CC&GTCC Convention since 1993. Clockwise from top left, Walter Dirzulaitis, Jerry Birl, Steve Passalacqua, Eric Rosenblum, Esq, Henry Garrett and CT Rodgers.*



# Club Merchandise

**Convention Chips** – \$5.00 each  
 Set of 9 (including 2014) – \$30.00  
 Years Available –  
 2001, 04, 07, 08, 09, 2010, 11, 12,  
 13, 14



**CC&GTCC  
 25th Anniversary Chip** – \$5.00



**Poker/Blackjack  
 Tournament Sets** – \$15.00  
 (2 or more sets \$12.00 each)  
 Years Available –  
 2004, 06, 07, 09, 10, 11, 12,  
 13, 14



**2014 Silver/Bronze Convention Medal Sets** – \$60.00



(Silver front and bronze back shown)

Common back design →



**2014 Convention Pin** – \$5.00 each  
 Prior year pins  
 1997 - 2013 - \$3.00 each  
  
 Set of all 18 pins  
 (2014 included) - \$30.00



**Convention Bronze Medals**  
 \$8.00 each/2 or more \$5.00 each

(Years available-1993, 1996—2009)

**CC&GTCC Member Pin** – \$5.00



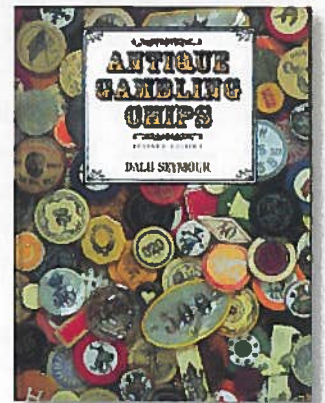
**CC&GTCC Playing Cards** – \$1.00/deck

**CC&GTCC Totes** – \$5.00

**Casino Chip & Token News Back Issues** – \$3.00 ea.  
 1993-2011

(Not all issues available. Shipping cost varies depending  
 on quantity ordered — email request before ordering)

**Dale Seymour's  
 "Antique Gambling Chips"**  
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**CC&GTCC Polo Shirt – \$25.00**

Colors-Red, Navy, Black, Cream, Grey

Sizes Sm to XXL

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



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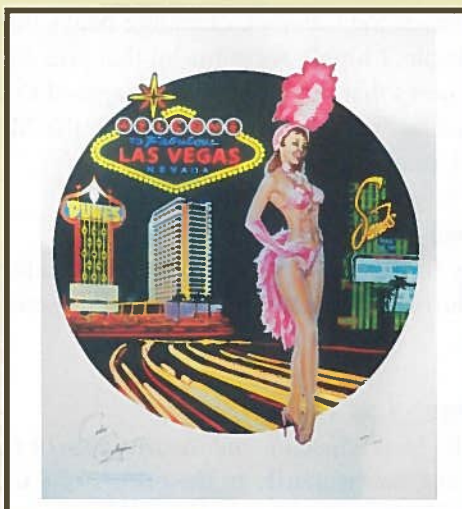


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***For more club apparel check out the ‘On-line Club Shop’ on the website [www.ccgccc.com](http://www.ccgccc.com).***



# Musings from the MoGH

## 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](http://www.museumofgaminghistory.org).

### **Exhibit at the El Cortez (Downtown - Las Vegas)**

Neal Silverman reported in the last issue of the Casino Collectible News how the first mobile display at the El Cortez came about. If you haven't yet read his article, I highly recommend that you do to see what all of the excitement is about. We have recently received more exciting news that the El Cortez has agreed to keep the tribute to Jackie Gaughan exhibit in place until **June 2016**. This exhibit extension hopefully will provide the MoGH with even more leverage for getting other displays and exhibits into additional venues around town.

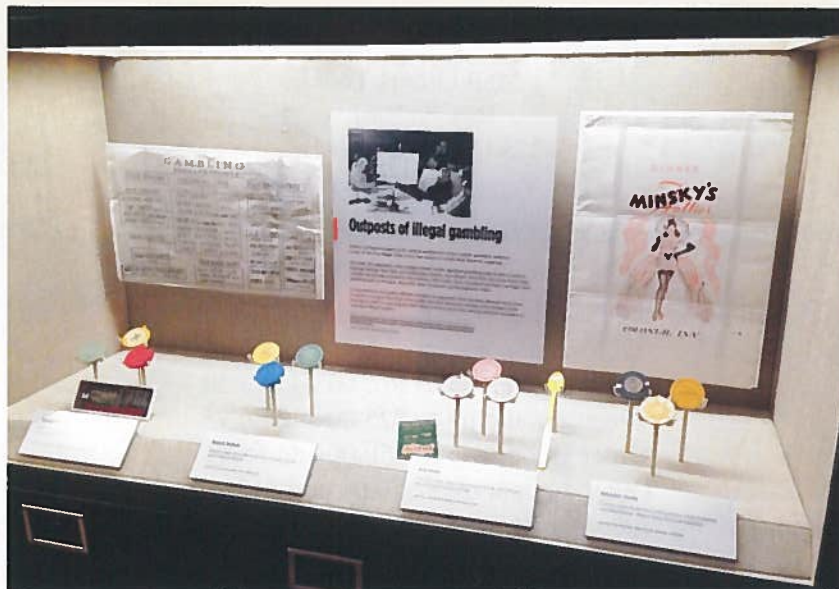
### **Display at the Neon Museum (Downtown - Las Vegas)**

We are starting to make some headway for getting into the Neon Museum lobby area. The executive director has stated that they are looking to provide a couple of shelves for our displays. Discussions will continue over the next several months.

### **Displays at the Mob Museum (Downtown - Las Vegas)**

With a mutual collaboration between the Mob Museum and the Museum of Gaming History the two exhibits opened on schedule on June 17, 2014. It was a success due primarily to the efforts of CC&GTCC members who generously shared their collections for these 5-year long MoGH displays.

There is a display of some of the Meyer Lansky illegal gambling clubs located on the 3rd Floor Evidence Room and a display of Bugsy Siegel's Flamingo Hotel located on the 2nd Floor Open City.



*3rd Floor Evidence Room - Mob Museum*





# RARE EARLY TO MID-20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY CASINO CHIPS, PHOTOS & MEMORABILIA

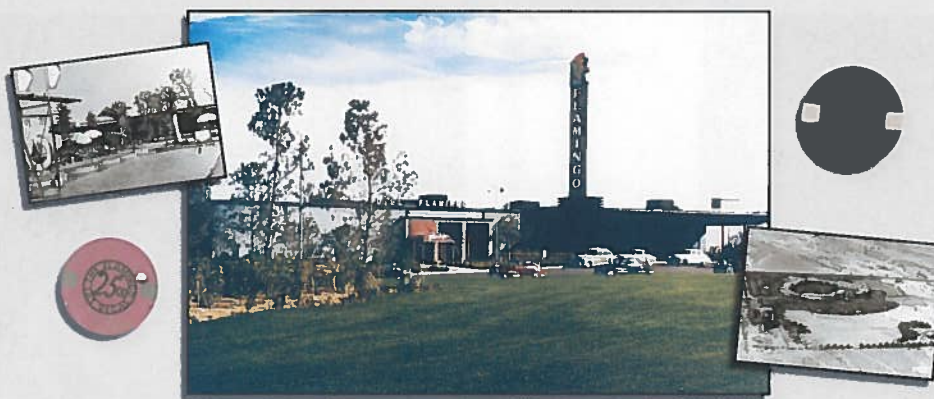
Two new displays now open

Experience Bugsy Siegel's Flamingo Hotel through artifacts dating from the casino's opening in 1946.

This display is found in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Open City.

Imagine living in a time when legendary illegal gambling clubs flourished across America before Las Vegas emerged as the nation's undisputed casino capital.

This display is found in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Evidence Room.



The new displays are presented through partnerships with the Museum of Gaming History and The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club and open simultaneously with a display at the El Cortez featuring casino chips and other objects from the many downtown casinos once operated by the late Jackie Gaughan.



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*Poster displayed on the 3rd floor of the Mob Museum*



We continue to work on determining what other displays that the MoGH can display within the Mob Museum. One of the ideas being kicked around is an exhibit recognizing imploded Strip casinos. Hopefully we will have more to report on this and other ideas in the next issue.

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

The development of the new MoGH website has again been met with more delays, but we are targeting sometime during the winter break to make some progress. The new website is meant to provide an experience that would be similar to visiting a real “brick and mortar” museum building.

### **MoGH and ChipGuide Websites**

Both the MoGH and ChipGuide websites were moved to a new server this previous May/June. Please let us know if you experience any issues.

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](http://www.museumofgaminghistory.org)) currently listed on the right side under “Contact”. Please be sure to visit the MoGH website often!!



*2nd Floor Open City – Mob Museum*

Mike Quinlivan – Chairman



*Mike Quinlivan and Geoff Schumacher (Mob Museum Director of Content) at unveiling of exhibits at 10:00am, June 17, 2014.*



# AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION NEWS

By Archie A. Black HLM-001 / CC&GTCC/ANA Club Rep

## Attendance announced for 2014 World's Fair of Money

The American Numismatic Association had 12,642 people attend its signature summer event, the 2014 Chicago World's Fair of Money<sup>SM</sup>, held Aug. 5-9 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois.

The ANA announced the launch of its new website at the show during a Money Talks presentation on Tuesday, Aug. 5. A silent auction held at the annual ANA Banquet raised more than \$18,918 for the Robert Lecce Advanced Scholarship Program. A bourse of 575 table-holders is a new World's Fair of Money record. The high attendance numbers were driven by the U.S. Mint's new product launch, the dual-dated Kennedy gold commemorative coin.

ANA President Walter A. Ostromski distributed his personal calling card poker chip made for the convention with the sage advice; *"Good judgment comes from experience; and experience ... well, that comes from poor judgment."*

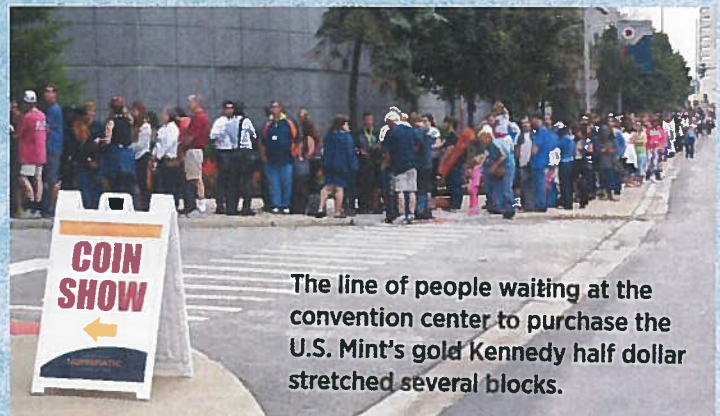


## Launch of the new website

The website project was approved by a board vote at the 2013 World's Fair of Money in Chicago. The ANA Technology Advisory Committee, headed by ANA Life Member James Reinders, worked with the ANA staff to launch the project in less than a year. Reinders led the Money Talks presentation on the launch. New website features include a blogging platform open to all members, forums, private messaging, and the new My Collections feature, which allows members to catalog

their own collections and share it with other members or keep it private to themselves. "This website is not a substitute for any other ANA activity; it is a vital connection for the ANA and its members to the world," Reinders said. "The website is our face to millions who have never visited an ANA show, seminar or club meeting. Building new community is important for our future — the website also opens new doors for sharing among members. I invite everyone to log on and share something and discuss topics online."

There were 260 members and five coin clubs that celebrated 25-year anniversaries with the ANA this year. Nineteen members were recognized for reaching their 50-year milestones, and eight members were recognized as 60-year members. The Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society was honored for 100 years of membership.



## ANA Membership Totals

As of September, 2014 ANA membership totaled 25,898. Of that number includes 5,420 Life Members and 437 ANA member clubs.

*Happy Hunting, Archie*



# RAMPART CASINO CELEBRATES 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



## RAMPART / CASINO AT THE RESORT AT SUMMERLIN



*Rampart Casino's General Manager Michael Gaughan, Jr. Kicks off 15-Year Celebration by cutting the custom made cake.*

Rampart Casino executives, loyal players and guests commemorated the casino's 15-year anniversary with a champagne and cake-cutting ceremony on Friday, Oct. 10. Bubbly flowed and guests applauded as General Manager Michael Gaughan, Jr. led the group in a toast to the milestone.

This year, Rampart Casino commemorates its 15-year anniversary with its "15 Years of Fun" campaign. Guests can take part in the celebration through the casino's \$100,000 15th Anniversary Giveaway in addition to its \$20,000 Red Zone to Riches Pro Football Challenge, hot seat drawings, free slot tournaments, weekly blackjack tournaments and more.

2014 marks the luxurious Rampart Casino's 15-year anniversary, in conjunction with JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa. The casino has added hundreds of the industry's latest slots, a new state-of-the-art Bingo Room and more. The elegant 50,000 square foot casino, offers over 1,200 slot machines, two dozen gaming tables and a Race & Sports Book. Rampart Casino's Resort Rewards club program offers exclusive resort benefits and rewards based on play, such as dining, spa and golf discounts, plus complimentary room nights at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa.





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23rd Annual Convention

June 24th - 27th, 2015

SouthPoint Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas.



# The Member's Corner

## Joe Pavlik – LM-5967-135

By Jerry Vergatos LM 8093-241

Welcome to Member's Corner! In an effort for everyone in our club to get to know some of our members, I have chosen for this issue someone who I'm sure is quite familiar to all of us. His fascinating pictures and comments truly make him unique. When perusing either the club website or the chipboard, one cannot help but see a posting by this club member and I would venture to say his postings are something of a must see. Whether you know him or not, you cannot help but look at what he has posted. His voyeuristic nature is addicting. I was very curious myself before having met him at the last convention. Once you get to talk to him he's very personable and interesting. The thing that I love the most about our club in the four years that I've been a member is that we have such a diverse group of people. I believe that makes for a great club. Where would we be if we were all the same? To date this person is one of the most interesting members that I have met. So without further delay I present to you, Joe the national creeper Pavlik!

Jerry: Joe, tell me how you got the name Joe the national creeper Pavlik?

**Joe: The name creeper was given to me by the guys I worked with in Chicago because I went to Thailand so much. National is a name I gave to myself when I wanted the local club (SNCC) to change the fall show name to the fall national but the powers to be said no.**

Jerry: Tell me about your personal life. Are you married, kids?

**Joe: I'm not married and I have no children but I'm very happy. I have a girlfriend in Thailand named Pim. I'm retired from the Office of Emergency Management and Communications from the City of Chicago. I had one day shy of 35 years on the job.**

Jerry: What kind of casino memorabilia do you collect?

**Joe: I collect slot glass, casino table layouts, dice, and of course, casino chips.**

Jerry: Tell me Joe, what would be your favorite saying?

**Joe: "What comes around goes around."**

Jerry: Where do you currently reside?

**Joe: Currently I live in Las Vegas, Nevada. Most of my life was spent in Chicago until about three years ago when I moved to Las Vegas.**

Jerry: Based on the pictures that you have posted on the club website and the chipboard, it looks like you are well traveled. Tell us where you have been and where you're planning to go.

**Joe: I love to travel with my girlfriend in Thailand. I've been there almost 60 times. I also love mainland China. Europe is also very interesting. I've been to most of the major cities.**



Jerry: what other interests or hobbies do you have?

**Joe: I love taking pictures of fires or fire photography. I like riding with the fire department taking pictures.**

Jerry: What got you into the club?

**Joe: I was drawn to the club by the color and designs of different casino chips.**

Jerry: Joe, give me your top 10 observations about our club.

**Joe:**

**#10 - Pay your dues before your card expires!**

**#9 - Attend a convention at Southpoint.**

**#8 - Volunteer at the convention at Southpoint.**

**#7 - Attend the seminars at the convention, but be there early before the free coffee runs out.**

**#6 - Never trust a collector with a briefcase.**

**#5 - Watch out for the story at the convention. (That's the only one I know of)**

**#4 - Always say hello to Archie and Brenda Black at the registration desk at the convention.**

**#3 - I want to learn more about the hobby.**

**#2 - I love meeting new people.**

**#1 - HAVE FUN!!!**

**Joe's' Final Words:**

**It's fun living here in Las Vegas and being part of this great hobby. I'm always getting calls on buying collectibles. I must have at least 50 parking lot deals since I've lived here. Remember have fun. That's what it's all about.**

I wish to thank Joe for allowing me to interview him for the second edition of this column. I love doing this as I get to talk to some very interesting people and Joe is high on that list. I hope everyone gets to read this and will come away knowing something more about this very interesting person in our club. I can hardly wait to see his next posting and what he comes up with. If you would like to reach Joe you can contact him on the club website or the chipboard. I'm sure you will find him quite engaging. His email address is [chgojoes@yahoo.com](mailto:chgojoes@yahoo.com).









# MHOON LANDING



**ONE SMALL STEP  
FOR TUNICA COUNTY**

---

**MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WERE MADE AND  
THEN LOST. IT WENT FROM BOOM TO BUST,  
FROM A MEMORY TO OBLIVION.**

---

By Todd Barrett #5068-91



**W**hile working on the 2015 Casino Collectibles Calendar earlier this year, a decision was made to feature a single casino for each month. For the month of August, it was decided to use a casino from Tunica, Mississippi. Steve Bedo reached out to our club Treasurer John Zoesch, to obtain images of collectibles from a casino of his choice from Tunica. He sent us several great scans of collectibles from the Splash Casino in Tunica. The header came out great and I needed to write a descriptor for the header as we do for each featured month in the calendar.

As I'm sure most do when you need to research something, I sat down at my computer and typed in Splash Casino, Tunica, MS. The first return was a Wikipedia page for "Mhoon Landing, Mississippi." Mhoon Landing? I had never heard of this before, it looked like a misspelling on Wikipedia. What caught my attention more though, was the second entry - "The Abandoned Casinos of Mhoon Landing." Now my interest was really piqued. I clicked on the second link to see what it contained.

The images that scrolled by on this blog written by photographer Heather Ingram were amazing. Broken glass, toppled slot machines, destroyed gaming tables. Graffiti covered walls, weeds overtaking parking lots and entry ways, boats listing on their sides. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. How did this happen to this area? It looked like some sort of war ravaged third world country. Heather's blog gave me some clues as to what happened at Mhoon Landing, but I wanted to learn more.

## SUGAR DITCH ALLEY

In Tunica County, Mississippi, Mhoon Landing is located on the Mississippi river in the northwest corner of the state. Founded in 1859, the name comes from the founder Feyton Mhoon, a settler who every night would place a lantern in a lighthouse for river boats to see. Mhoon Landing is a small area in Tunica County, and Tunica County has been historically one of the most impoverished places in the United States.

In 1985 a specific section in Tunica County was brought into the spotlight by the Reverend Jesse Jackson and the TV show "60 Minutes." An area known as "Sugar Ditch Alley" was a series of shacks, without electricity, and most without running water, located along an open sewer ditch. Jackson called it "America's Ethiopia." The harsh spotlight that Jackson shown upon Sugar Ditch along with a scathing expose by "60 Minutes" caused the local lawmakers to take action.

## SPLASH DOWN!

One of the solutions that lawmakers came up with was to open

the county to casinos and their gaming revenue. The hope was for jobs and tax money to fix the ills of Tunica. So in 1990, State lawmakers made casino gambling legal for Mississippi counties that lie along the Gulf Coast and on major waterways, such as the Mississippi River. On October 19, 1992, Splash Casino, the first casino in Tunica County, was opened at Mhoon Landing by brothers Rick and Ron Schilling. Splash was merely a casino placed on top of a barge, and not really a riverboat by any stretch of the imagination. In fact, it started out life as a nightclub that was once moored in Cincinnati, before the Schilling brothers spent \$22 million dollars converting it into The Splash.



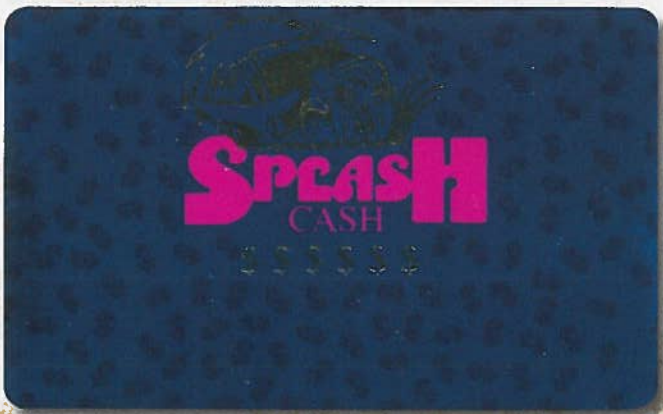


It was the only legal game in town. Mississippians have always been well versed in the games of craps and blackjack, but until Splash, the games were played in illegal backrooms of nightclubs. So the Schilling brothers were betting on the fact that Tunica residents would welcome the chance at a legal and straight game. Plus, there was a wealth of job applicants who were very familiar with the basics of most games of chance.

Opening night was a torrential downpour, but the players came out in droves. There was a canopy put in place to protect the players as they lined up to pay their \$10 admission fee. The canopy blew away at one point, but the players stayed in queue desperate to get on the boat. Splash had employed eight workers to take the admission fees, but they couldn't keep up with the crowds. The boat was at capacity, and Splash was making so much money that they couldn't even count it.



Herbie O'Mell, was a casino insider that helped the Schilling brothers get Splash opened up. He told John Branston in a May 2010 interview in the "Memphis Flyer," "We had the cash in laundry bags all over the cage, and the gaming commission shut us down for 72 hours. It took us that long with money counters to count the money so we could open back up." During its first month of business about 80,000 people paid the \$10 cover charge to board the 1,800 person capacity casino.



But it wasn't only the Schilling brothers who were cashing in because of Splash: Tunica County received \$1.00 of every admission fee, and eight-tenths of 1 percent of the gross casino

revenues. In the first 11 days, the county netted \$40,000 from the boarding fees alone; and Splash employed over 1,000 people, most from Tunica county. Things were sailing along at Mhoon Landing and Splash proved that there was potential in Tunica County.

## TWO'S A PARTY!

On September 18, 1993 The Lady Luck opened its doors at Mhoon Landing. Andrew Tompkins, founder of the Lady Luck Hotel & Casino in downtown Las Vegas, wanted to expand locally, but found property in Las Vegas and Laughlin too expensive. So he followed the business model of the Splash Casino, and opened his own casino on a barge. It cost Tompkins \$29 million dollars for the Tunica Lady Luck, and it seemed like a sure thing considering the millions that the Schilling brothers had already pulled out of the





# DOUBLE DOWN



The front and back of a laminated paper "V.I.P." Pass used to circumvent the lines to get onto the boat as well as the \$10.00 admission charge.

Even though Harrah's to the north was clearly a threat to the casinos of Mhoon Landing, momentum is a difficult thing to stop. And on December 6th of 1993, The President Casino and Bally's both opened their doors for business in Mhoon Landing. It was the first time two casinos opened on the same day in the same county in Mississippi.

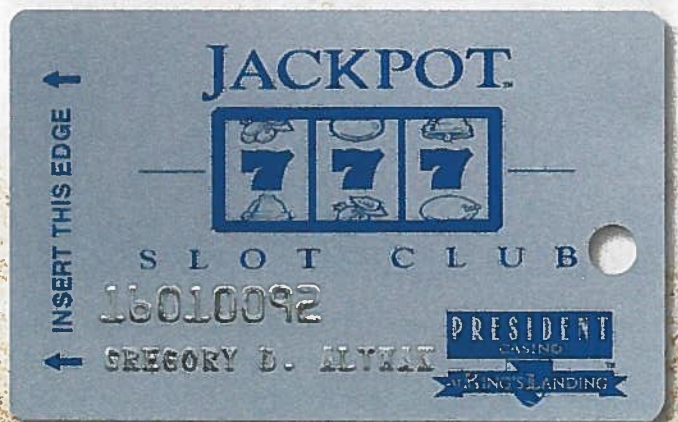
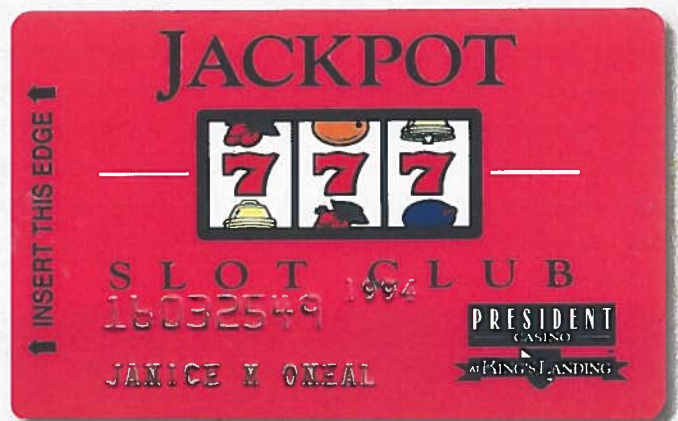
The President Casino was a joint venture between Jackpot Enterprises Inc. – a Las Vegas based company that mainly ran slot route operations in several states – and President Casinos, Inc., a riverboat casino operator. Jackpot Enterprises Inc. also ran the Nugget Casino in Reno, The Owl Club in Battle Mountain, and The Debbie Reynolds Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The deal was that Jackpot owned the site at Mhoon Landing, and President Casinos Inc. would provide the boat and the casino. Presidents Casino Inc. had opened a boat in Biloxi, MS a year earlier, which was doing well. In addition to the boats in Mhoon Landing and Biloxi, President Casinos Inc. operated boats in Davenport, IA and St. Louis, MO. They were seasoned casino operators and it seemed like a good match.

The President was a 292-foot vessel that could accommodate approximately 1,000 passengers and contained 30 gaming tables and 600 slot machines. The group also opened a floating restaurant complex, The Riverboat Restaurant, with another 40 table games and 750 gaming machines right along side the President Casino

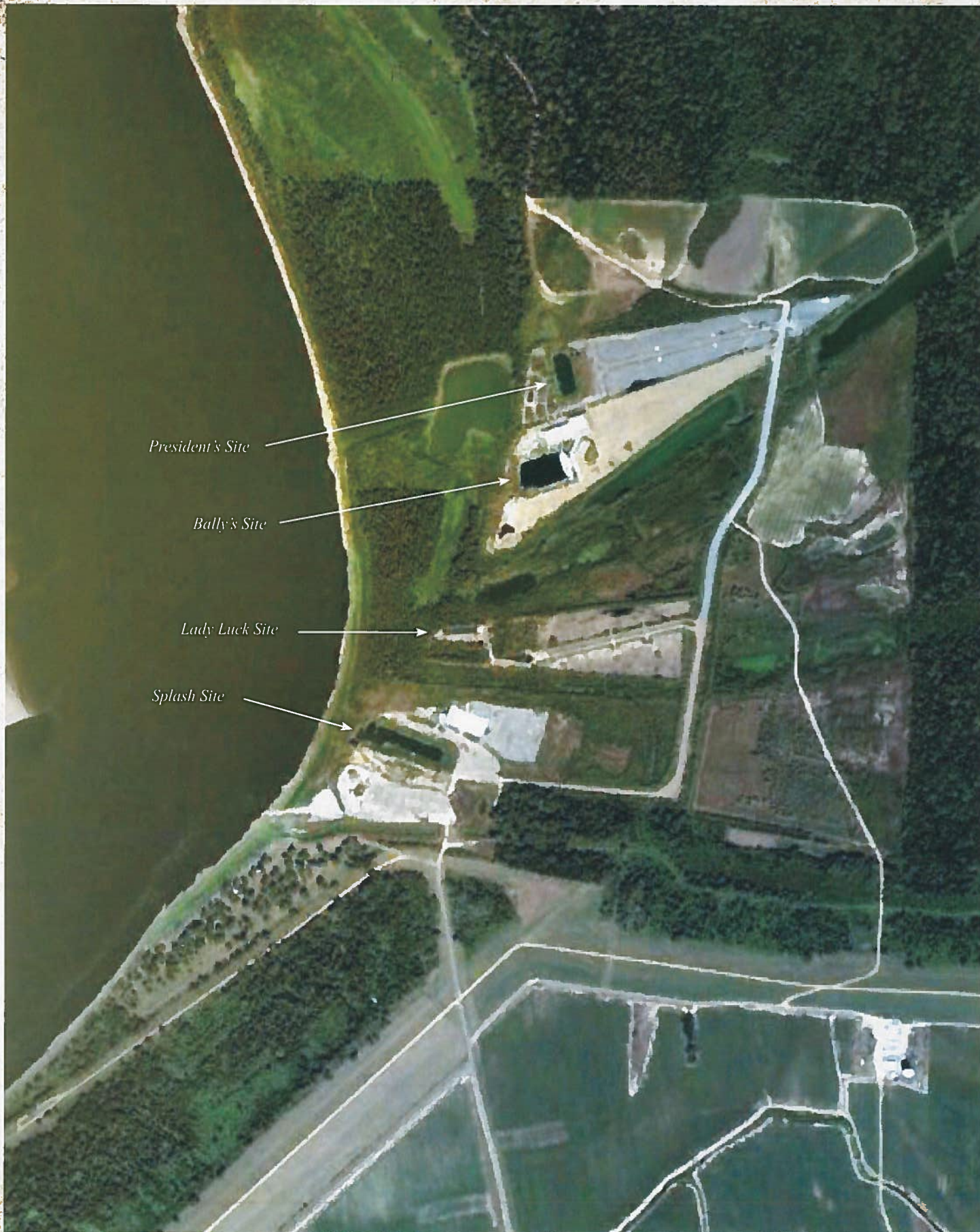
area in only 11 months. Many gaming experts considered that the pool of players would be split in half and the lines would subside with the opening of the Lady Luck. But in fact, there were now huge lines in front of both the Splash and the Lady Luck.

While profits were rolling into both the Lady Luck and Splash in Mhoon Landing, there was an ominous sign on the horizon. On November 25th of 1993 Harrah's Entertainment opened its first Harrah's casino in Mississippi. It was still in Tunica County, but 10 miles north of Mhoon Landing in a town called Robinsonville, MS. More importantly, it was 10 miles closer to the 1.2 million people of Memphis, TN. In 1993, Tennessee was one of the few states in the union that had no form of gambling – no casinos, no racetracks, not even a lottery.

Being banked by the millions from Harrah's Entertainment, Harrah's was a bigger casino, in a better location and with better amenities. While it looked like a traditional land based casino, technically, it was still a floating barge thanks to a small inlet built to channel water from the nearby Mississippi, surrounding the casino and thus creating a "casino in a bathtub." Also, Harrah's did not charge an admission fee. The same day that Harrah's opened its doors for business was the same day that Splash Casino and the Lady Luck stopped charging admission to their casinos.







*Aerial photo of the Mhoon Landing site. Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*





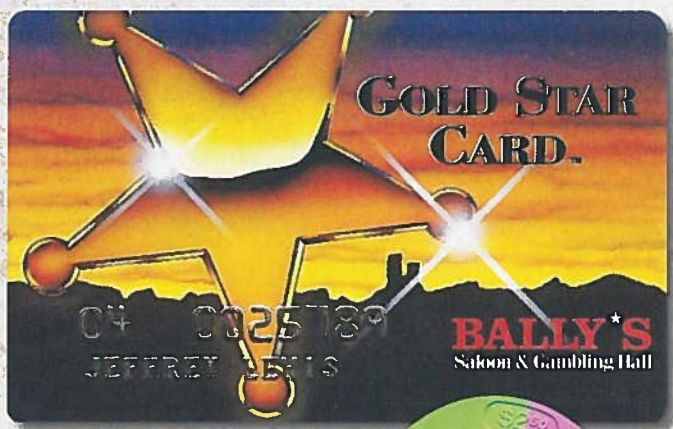
boat. They complex spite of the fact hundred yards Mhoon Landing site:

decided to call their "King's Landing" in that it was only a few north of the main

Bally Entertainment Corporation was one of the first major land-based casino corporations to enter the riverboat arena. At the time, Bally's operated casinos in Las Vegas, NV and Atlantic City, NJ, and after seeing the initial success of the Tunica and Biloxi casinos, they decided to enter the market as well. Bally's went the same route as the other three boats in Mhoon Landing – a barge with a casino planted on top.

While the four boats were operating in Mhoon Landing, bigger plans were in the works just a few miles north in Robinsonville, MS. Along with the previously mentioned Harrah's Casino, developers were building larger casinos with hotels, restaurants, nightclubs and showrooms similar to large land based casinos. These casinos had an obvious edge over the Mhoon Landing type boats. In 1994, the building boom hit in Robinsonville: in February, the Southern Belle went up; in May, Treasure Bay and Sam's Town had their grand opening; in June Fitzgerald's opened; and in August the Tunica Roadhouse, the Hollywood Casino and Circus Circus all open their doors for business. These casinos severely cut into the Mhoon Landings pool of gamblers. The single lane roads to the smaller Mhoon Landing site caused traffic jams that were legendary. And if its gamblers could circumvent that problem by stopping at the large and more accessible casinos in Robinsonville, the choice was an obvious one.

## LET THE DOMINOS FALL



The pressure was immense on the Mhoon Landing casinos, and the President was the first to fold. After opening on December 6th, 1993, it was shuttered just seven months later in July of 1994. Through a series of bad investments and business decisions, a huge one being the Mhoon Landing project, Jackpot Enterprises Inc. went from a \$6.5 million in net income in 1993, to a \$4.6 million loss in 1994.

The Lady Luck was next. On April 24th, 1994 – after just seven months of operation – the Lady Luck floated out of Mhoon Landing, literally. It raised its anchor on the barge and strangely enough floated a few miles south down the Mississippi river to the town of Lula, MS.



Although it was getting farther away from the metropolis of Memphis, The Lady Luck, which was enlarged and rebranded as The Lady Luck Rhythm & Blues, did well in its new location. They floated in another barge and added an entertainment pavilion. A hotel was later added to the complex, and a bridge that crossed the Mississippi river was key to getting players from Arkansas.

With as bad as they were beaten up at the Mhoon Landing location, Tompkins, the founder of the Lady Luck Hotel & Casino,





*Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*

knew the potential in Tunica. And even though the barge from the Mhoon Landing site was already in place in Tula, MS, Tompkins started construction of a hotel and casino to be called the Lady Luck Olympia in Robinsonville. In late 1994 the hotel was opened, but financial strains put the casino on hold. Tompkins was sure that the Robinsonville location was a good one, but he need help getting the casino opened.

Bally's Entertainment Corp. to the rescue! On the 9th of February 1995, Bally's entered into an agreement with the Lady Luck Gaming Corporation to operate a joint venture casino hotel. In the agreement, Bally's would float its barge up the Mississippi to the Robinsonville location of the hotel that the Lady Luck constructed but was in need of a casino. Bally's would take general control of the location and the Lady Luck Corporation would become a "minority interest" in the project. On February 9, 1995, Bally's closed their casino in Mhoon Landing, and on April 1, 1995, the barge chugged up the Mississippi toward Robinsonville.

After refurbishment, the casino and hotel was opened as Bally's Mississippi in Robinsonville on December 18, 1995.

## ONE TIN SOLDIER

With the closing of Bally's, the Splash casino was once again alone on Mhoon Landing. There was hope that once again being the only casino on Mhoon Landing, the Splash would be able to survive. But the competition of the larger casinos of Robinsonville proved to be too much. Even after the Splash saw its three millionth visitor on September 5, 1994, it was forced to close its doors just eight months later on May 24, 1995.

While Splash paved the way for the casinos in Tunica County, it actually doomed itself by showing that "dockside riverboats" could work as barges floating in a lagoon next to, rather than in,



the river. Once the engineering was accomplished, it was just a matter of building canals to sloughs farther and farther from the main river. Developers perfected the “casino in a bathtub” method so well that patrons rarely even notice that there was water around the casino.

Robinsonville has since changed its name to Tunica Resorts, MS, and currently has eight casinos in operation. It turned out to be the ideal location for casinos as opposed to the Mhoon Landing location. It has very few businesses other than the casinos, and at one time generated the third largest gambling revenues in the nation, after Las Vegas, NV and Atlantic City, NJ. In January 1992, Tunica County had an unemployment rate of 26.2 percent. As of November 2001, it was 3.4 percent. It has risen again to 13 percent with the downturn in the economy. Mississippi casinos generated \$320 million in revenue for the state in 2001, which has been reduced to \$263 million in 2013.

## SPLASH BACK!

Just when it seemed destined that Mhoon Landing would be forever abandoned, Alpha Hospitality Corporation, a holding

company for various gaming subsidiaries, purchased the SS Nantucket, (later renamed the SS Naushon) which had been serving as the Cotton Club casino in Greenville, MS. In October of 1995, Alpha moved the boat from Greenville to Bayou Caddy and renamed it Jubilation. It was branded with a Roaring Twenties theme and opened again in December of 1995.

But the jubilation did not last long, as the boat was shut down in July of 1996 by the Mississippi Gaming Commission due to insufficient working capital. The boat sat dormant at the Bayou Caddy location until 1999 when Casino Ventures purchased it with plans of refurbishing it and relocating it to the Bally’s slip at Mhoon Landing. Casino Ventures applied to the Mississippi Gaming Commission and actually managed to get the boat to Mhoon Landing in December of 2000. But by 2003, they were still seeking financing for the project when they learned from the Mississippi Gaming Commission that the site approval for the project was expiring.

After a flood of the Mississippi River in 2011, the Jubilation was left laying on its side. It was eventually completely dismantled and hauled away.



*The Splash Back boat in place at the abandoned Bally's slip. Photo courtesy of Heather K. Ingram.*



# GHOST LANDING

The time for casinos at Mhoon Landing was extremely compressed. In a matter of just three years, four casinos were opened and then forced to close or relocate. Millions of dollars were made and then lost. It went from boom to bust, from a memory to oblivion. All that is left at the site is the main office building from Splash, and a few structures from the Lady Luck and Bally's.

The photos of the abandoned sites at Mhoon Landing are provided by photographer Heather Ingram. Her blog was the inspiration for this article and can be found at [www.convozine.com/fujoshi/16425](http://www.convozine.com/fujoshi/16425). She wrote in her blog, "I visited this spot many times over the years until a permanent gate was put up at the main entrance to the area in 2009. It's a strange and eerie spot but I'm strangely drawn to it and loved going there."

Thanks to John Zoesch and Robert Baker for the use of their scans of casino memorabilia in this article.

Thanks to Heather Ingram for her photos. You can see more of her work at <https://500px.com/fujoshi>



*An aerial shot of the Splash Back boat in place at the abandoned Bally's slip. Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*





*Photos courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*





*Cash Boxes. Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*



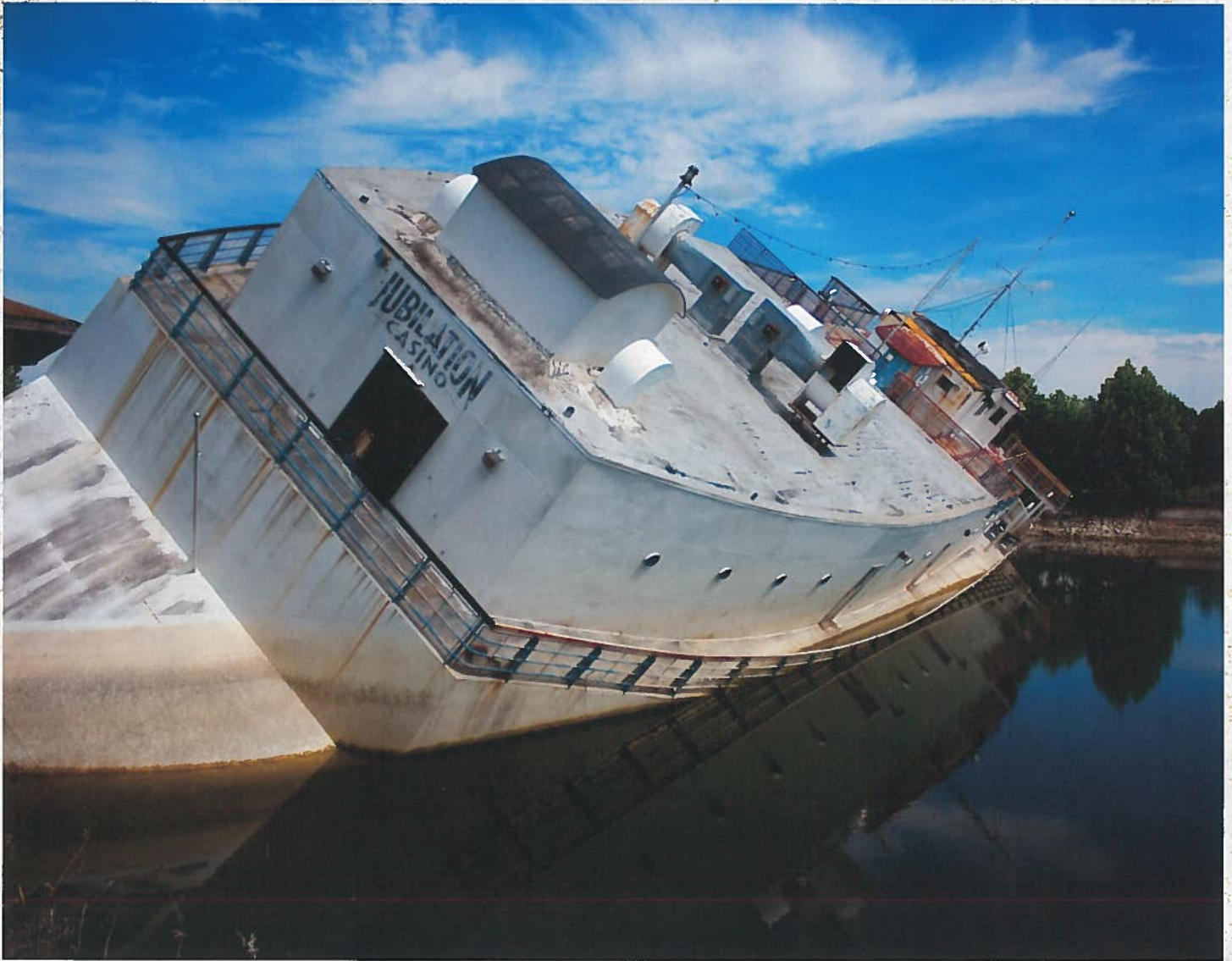


*The abandoned entrance to Splash in 2011. Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*

## SEE YOU AT “SPLASHBAR XI” 2015

**Brian “Mr. Splashbar” Cashman**  
**LM-1121-157MA CCCC-06**





*The proposed Splash Back boat the Jubilation after a flood in 2011. Photo courtesy of Heather V. Ingram.*

Heather's blog was written in early 2011. Later in the year they was a flood that effected most casinos along the Mississippi river. She posted the following updates on her blog...

Addition - August 16, 2011

I went back down to the casinos today. A few things had changed. Stuff had been moved around and such. But the biggest change

was with the ship at the Bally's site. We recently suffered a historic flood with the Mississippi River and the affect on the ship was amazing. It is now on its side. An even sadder end for the great Naushon.

Addition - June 3, 2012

The Naushon has now been completely dismantled.



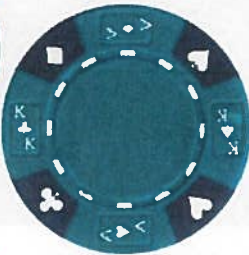
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# CC&GTCC RAFFLE

The CC&GTCC will be conducting another raffle at the June 2015 convention at the South Point Hotel, Spa & Casino in Las Vegas. We are looking for all types of donations of items to be included as part of the raffle—chips, dice, slot cards, strikes, tokens, postcards, matchbooks, ashtrays, swizzle sticks—ANY type of casino memorabilia that is in good condition that you'd like to have in YOUR collection. Thanks to the GREAT participation in the past from our wonderful club members in the way of ticket & raffle item donations,

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



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CC&GTCC President  
PO 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!!



# The Olson-Brothers' Great Harold's Club Caper!



Reprinted with permission  
From the blog "stopfrackingaround"  
by Stephan Kimbel Olson



Cruising through the Nevada desert marks a good moment for me to tell one of the truly great stories of the cross-country bike ride my dad and uncle did in 1961 – 16 and 12 years old. It's a story of two young and very brave boys who knew how to set a goal and execute it with precision – while mostly winging it. A true fly by the seat of your pants-story.

Essentially since the beginning of the trip, in Frederick, Maryland, they'd seen roadside billboards advertising a place named Harold's Club in Reno, Nevada. Harold's Club was a casino that had made itself renowned all around the world by putting these billboards up not only in America but in many other countries too. It was also well-known because it was in fact the world's biggest gambling casino. It had seven floors of gambling all connected by escalators, which were rare in 1961. The club's famous slogan was "Harold's Club or Bust!". The two brothers were – from the very beginning – on route 40, a road that went from their house to Reno and onwards to San Francisco. Some of the signs they saw



whole purpose of the trip had been to come see his casino and that he should therefore let them inside to see it. The clerk told the young boys that these were some very smart people they were dealing with, and that they simply would not fall for such a lie.

"We'll see about that!" the boys chirped as they left the store.

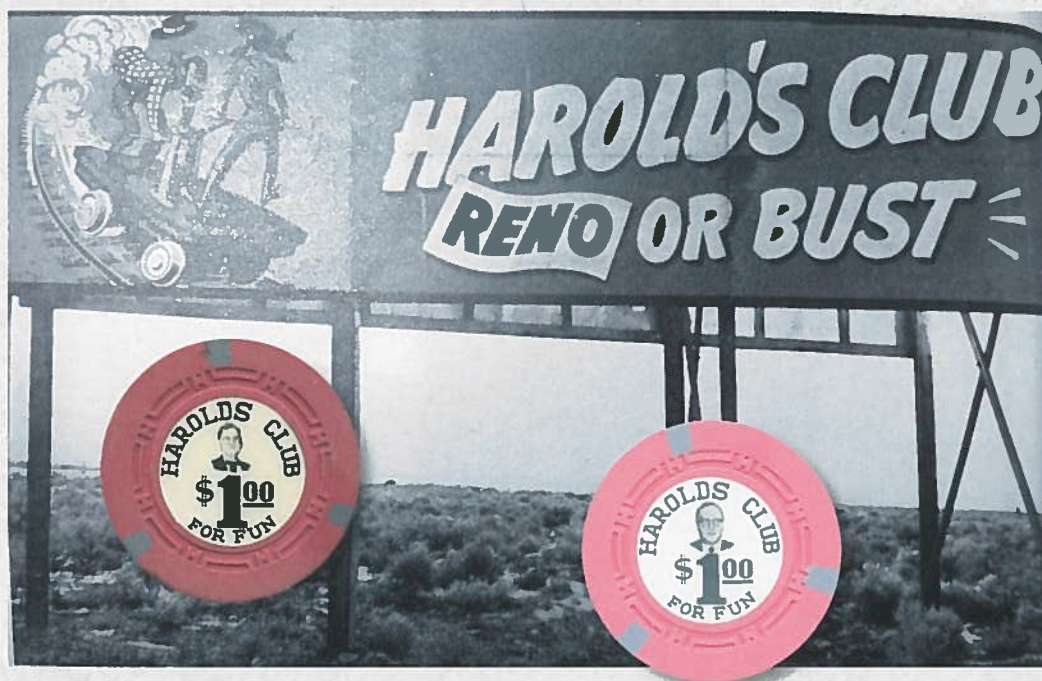
A few blocks away from the casino they sat down on the sidewalk and carefully made their sign. "Harold's Club, Reno or Bust. Maryland to California" Yes, that would do the trick. In an attempt to make the sign look as if it had actually made the trip across the United States, they then rubbed the piece of cardboard against the ground and wrinkled it up a little bit before they fastened it to Eric's bike and rolled towards the casino.

Outside, they were greeted by the floor manager who asked the boys what she could do for them.

They explained that they had just biked across the country to get to this very place, and that they would like to speak to Harold.

"Harold is out of town on a business trip I'm afraid. His son, Harold Jr. is the one in charge right now."

"That's OK, any Harold will



would therefore also inform the travelers of the actual distance to the casino. They started out roughly 3000 miles away and quickly made their way towards Nevada. The advertising worked its magic on the boys who were soon wanting to get into the big club.

After a few weeks of riding – now only a few days away from Reno – the brothers had formed a plan. As soon as they rolled into town, they went to what was called a nickel and dime-store – the dollar store of the day – to purchase a box of crayons and to ask for an old cardboard box. The woman in the store got curious and asked the boys what they were going to use the materials for. Not afraid to tell the truth, the boys explained to her that they were going to make a sign reading "Harold's Club, Reno or Bust. Maryland to California" and tell the great Harold himself that the

do fine!" the boys exclaimed.

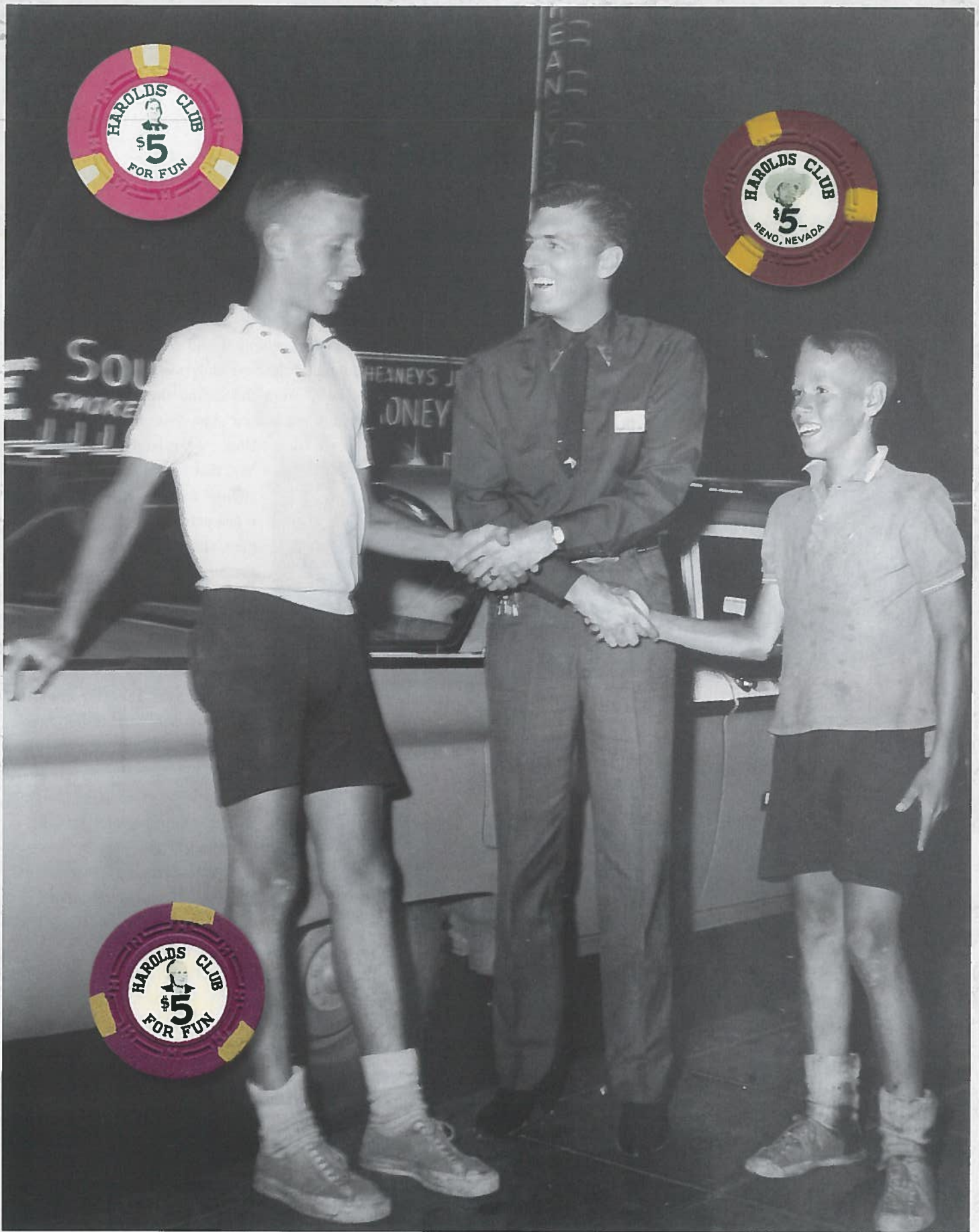
The floor manager called for Harold Jr., and soon enough he came walking out of the casino lobby. He was a very well dressed man, clad in what was surely a tailored suit and groomed to perfection. A sort of playboy of the wild west.

He listened to the two brothers tell him their story, and when they fell silent he, now smiling, said:

"Well come on in boys, you must be hungry!"

"Oh yes, we are!" Eric and Nils said excitedly as they led their dirty bikes inside the luxurious casino lobby. They had done it. The two kids had just tricked this multi-millionaire business-man into letting them inside his casino – a place otherwise reserved by law for those over 21 years of age.





*Eric Olson (left) and younger brother Nils (right) meet with Harold Smith Jr.*





Before going to the dining room, they had to figure out a place to leave their bicycles. Harold Jr. took them to the Gun Club – a room with hundred – if not thousands – of rifles and guns hanging on the walls.

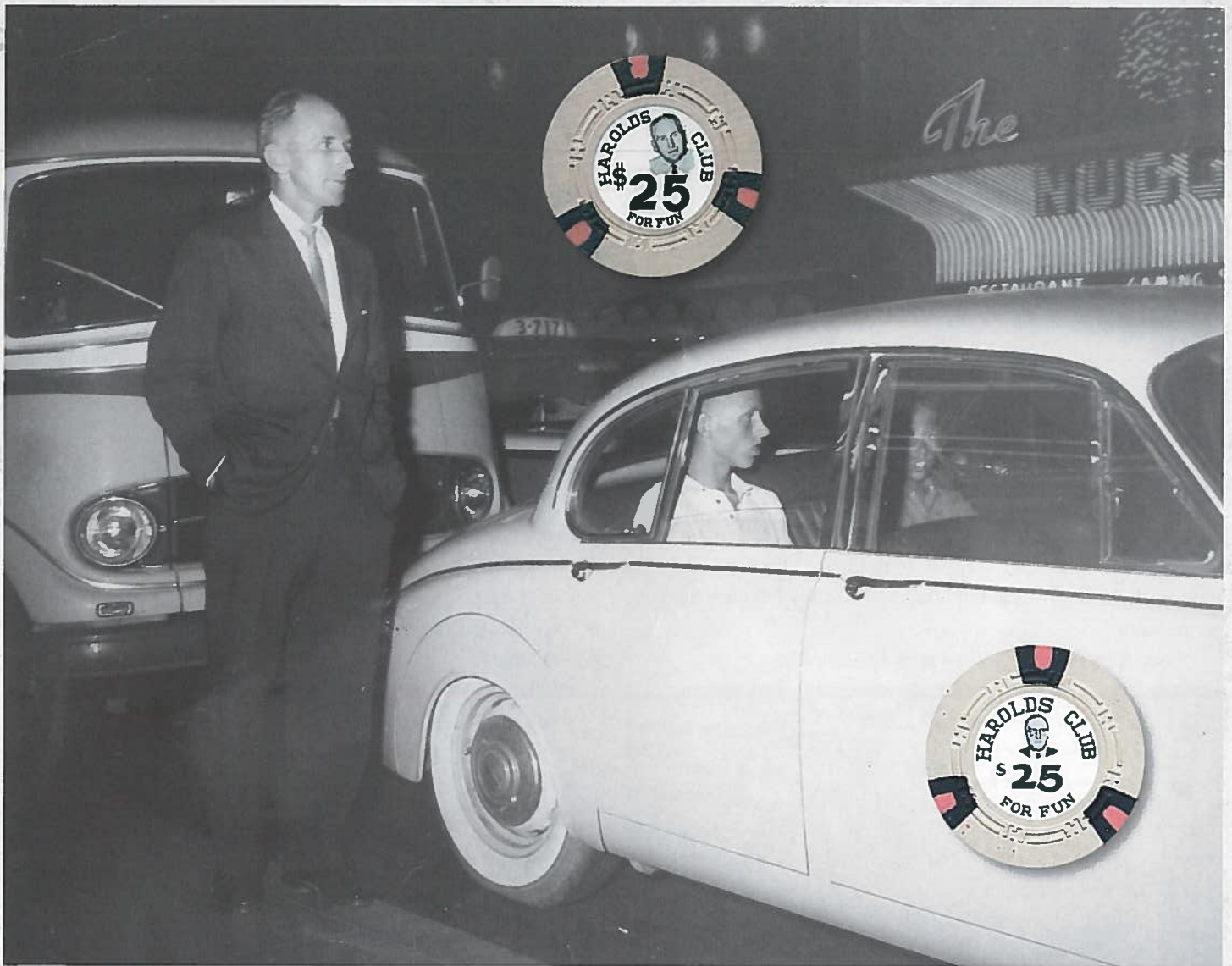
Walking into the top floor dining room, Harold Jr. told the brothers that they could help themselves to anything on the menu – free of charge. Upon being handed a menu, Eric, the older brother, quickly located the most expensive item – a filet mignon – and ordered that.

“They’ll be safe in here,” he said, again smiling.

“A flaming what?!” his brother tweeted from across the table. They both ended up ordering the same thing.







After dinner and dessert, Harold Jr. realized that the two boys must be tired. He made a call for one of the hotel's Jaguars to come pick the brothers up and drive them to the Harold's Club Pony Express Lodge – the hotel part of the casino.

They ended up staying for a whole week free of charge. During this week they were treated to new clothes, tickets to the famous Can-Can Review and a helicopter ride around Reno. Harold Jr., seeing the great promotional value in the boys' story, also set up several interviews with local newspapers to get the word out that two kids had traveled cross country to come to his casino. The fact that the whole town eventually found out about the story worried the boys a little. They knew that there was one person in Reno who knew that they were fraudsters – and they didn't want her to start talking. They needn't have worried though as the week went smoothly – and before they knew it their Reno adventure was over.

On the last day of their stay, Harold Jr. asked them whether they'd like a tour of Disney Land in California.

"Yes we would sir!" they replied.

"I'll make a phone call to my friend Walt and see what we can

work out."

Walt Disney turned out to be out of town that week. My father still talks about that as one of the great tragedies of his life – being denied a tour of Disney World by Walt Disney himself.

Harold's Club finally closed its doors on March 31st, 1995. Four years later Harrah's purchased the building and razed it to instead create an open plaza.

Definitely one of the greatest stories I've ever been told – one I think needs to end up in a movie of some sort. The pressure is on me to re-create this sort of madness. I've got one state left to go crazy unless I want to be known as the "calm" Olson for the rest of my life.

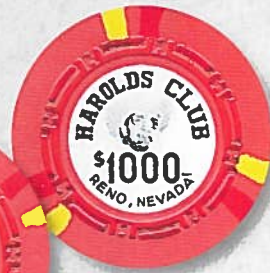
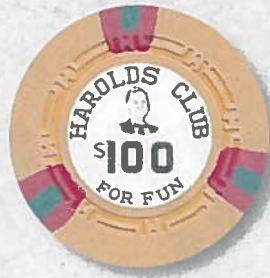
Better get working on that.

by Stephan Kimbel Olson

From the blog "stopfrackingaround"

<http://stopfrackingaround.wordpress.com/2012/08/16/the-olson-brothers-great-harolds-club-adventure/>





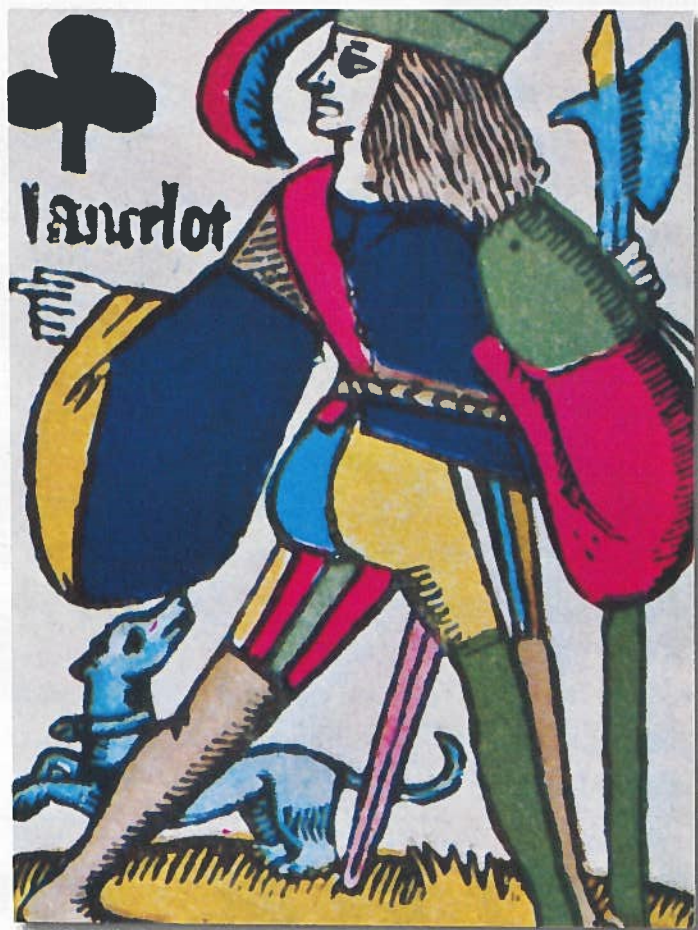
# HAROLDS CLUB

## *OR BUST*

### RENO, NEVADA



# Playing Cards



## Some Facts, Some Fiction

By Thelma Winnie  
Photos by Don Wolter

Reprinted from *Nevada Magazine*  
Summer 1969.

*Above- A playing card from a deck made in Provence about 1440. These are the earliest known printed cards.*



The West is not the only place where people have tried to come to terms with Lady Luck by playing with cards, and ours is not the only age that has seen men's spirits soar or deadly gloom set in—all at the turn of a card. Cards have existed in almost every country for at least the past 600 years, though they have not looked as they do today. In fact, we would probably not recognize a deck used earlier than about 1870.

Today's player may try his luck at the twenty-one table of a Nevada casino or may simply "get together with the boys" for a friendly game. But wherever he plays — in Reno, London or Pago Pago — he expects to be dealt spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs. What would happen if someone dealt him the vizier of swords, the king of fish, a shell or two and perhaps the vizier of lions is hard to say. He would probably think he was in the wrong house on the wrong night and certainly in the wrong game!

Transport this same player back in time, however, to a place half way around the world — say to India 300 year ago — and those are exactly the suit signs he would have held, and to add to his confusion, the cards would not have been rectangular in shape as he's used to — they'd have been round. Or, if he had sat in on a game in Italy, the cards might have been rectangular in shape but the corners would have been dead square, not rounded as they are now; there would have been no such thing as a joker; the face cards would have full-length figures on them instead of 'today's reversible images, there would have been no indices on the corners and the deck would number not 52, but as many as 97 cards.

A mighty confusing game it would have been, but not nearly as perplexing as the dozens of theories concerning where or when cards originated. There are almost as many theories as there are varieties of decks. Some say the idea came from the designs found on the walls of Egyptian temples. Some believe they came from China where gaming has always been pursued. Some say the Moors brought them into Spain, or that the gypsies brought them to Europe. This last theory leaves room for doubt because the gypsies did not appear in Western Europe until well after playing cards were established. But a good argument in favor of the theory involves the statement in an old chronicle that the gypsies arrived in Germany in 1416 and carried with them "cianos" (the Italian

name for cards). This would indicate that cards were known in Italy before any recorded date. The gypsies used them as fortune telling devices and referred to them as "tarok" decks. (The name was later changed by the French to "tarot").

Then there's the Chinese dictionary which states that cards were invented there during the reign of Seun-Ho in 1120 A.D. "for the amusement of his concubines." Experts argue that this theory is unsound because Chinese "cards" bear little or no resemblance to those of western cultures.

England claims their existence on the British Isles as early as the middle of the 13th century, but again a question is raised. Perhaps the British are actually referring to the game of chess in which certain similarities to card playing are found. As originated in India, chess was a four-sided game. Some of the experts claim that this game was later translated into a kind of card game made up of four colors. There are Hindu cards which have eight suits (four high and four low) which can be compared to a four-"suited" chess game, and since various Indian chessmen were flat instead of figural and had pictures engraved at their tops, it is possible that cards developed from these early flat chess pieces.

To add one last note of mystery to the subject is the quotation from an old book of accounts which refers to the "purchase of a pack of cards in 1379 by Johanna...of Luxemburg." This would suggest that cards were known in the Netherlands at an early date.

Regardless of how they came into being, they have always fascinated and amused us, and despite all their pretenses at piety, the people of the Middle Ages were among the most avid enthusiasts. In fact, in 1397 the city fathers of Paris must have thought games in general were posing a threat to the peace or moral decency of the population, because they passed a law which absolutely forbade

the playing of "tennis, dice, bowls, nine-pins and cards on working days..."

Throughout the 15th century they suffered even more vicious attacks from the clergy, but they were not to be done in. In 1509 a clever Franciscan friar named Thomas Murner thought of a way to satisfy the urge to play with cards and still get by the censors. He published an "exposition in logic" in the form of a deck of cards which proved to be so popular that soon dozens of new decks were in circulation, not for gaming but for purposes of instruction. They were known as "sciential cards." The



*Hindu deck with suit signs: vizier of swords, king of fish, ten of shells and vizier of lions.*





*Italian minchiate deck, circa 1675. The first three cards show playing sides, the fourth the fourth the back side. On the third card the figure is a female pope.*

idea was adapted in modern times when the earliest advertising cards “taught” consumers which products to buy. Manufacturers published them in the shapes and materials of their products, such as a deck of tin cards to represent cans of beer.

Earlier decks were not so easily mass-produced or so readily available to the multitudes. Originally they were all hand-painted which meant that, although artists may not have charged exorbitant fees (depending on their local reputations), cards were nevertheless outside the reach of average workingmen’s pocketbooks. Cards were therefore only seen in the salons of the upper classes. How then did they come into general use?

To learn the answer one would have to trace the entire history of printing, from the earliest efforts by the Chinese at block printing to the migration to the west of textile printing from Egypt, China and India. Traveling across the seas and deserts, ideas behind the techniques of “printing” reached Italy and Germany where some bright young artisans in all likelihood said to themselves, “If one can print on textiles, why not print the images of the saints and kings onto other materials?...” As the demand for cards increased it became more economical to print suit signs rather than to paint them by hand and card playing grew in popularity.

As cards traveled with their owners from place to place, each country developed its own suit signs. The most beautiful hand-drawn subjects appeared in Germany where they favored hearts,

bells, leaves and acorns. Sometimes the Germans produced whole series of animated subjects such as ducks, falcons, flowers or birds. In Italy they preferred cups, coins, swords and batons; in Spain and Latin America the Italian signs were used but they drew them differently. The baton, for example, was drawn as a lethal club-type of weapon.

Most countries featured designs on the playing side only, but not the innovative Italians. They put not one but two pieces of paper together, making the back side slightly larger. The oversized back edges were then overlapped to the front and formed a border around the playing side. Early back designs were not very imaginative. Most of them consisted of stars, crescents, dots or marbled effects, but they did lead to today’s common back patterns and ultimately to photographs.

Our 52-card deck developed from two deck types, both of which were originally the gypsies’ fortune telling cards, and both consisted of many more than 52 cards. The first and oldest of these was the tarot deck which had 78 cards of four Italian suit signs. The deck included four face cards to each suit, a king, queen, cavalier (or knight) and a valet (or jack). There were also 10 spot cards in each suit and 21 *atouts* (or trumps from the French “*triomphe*”).

The second deck was the minchiate which was even larger. It had 97 cards of such unusual suits as the signs of the zodiac, the four elements and the four virtues. About the only place in



the world where the minchiate deck ever achieved popularity, however, was in the city of Florence where it was widely used until as recently as this century.

Cards have not only amused, confused, fascinated and frustrated us over the centuries — they have also played a role in the making of history. Soldiers have carried them into battle and adventurers have taken them along on great expeditions to far-flung corners of the globe. When Columbus sailed for the New World his sailors played with cards to amuse themselves during the long and boring voyage. But when things started going badly and it looked like land would never be sighted, they flamed the cards for their mounting misfortunes and threw them overboard in a fit of superstitious fear. The minute land was under their feet again, they made new cards out of the leaves of native trees.

During the Napoleonic Wars prisoners occupied their months of confinement by making cards out of the leftover bones of their dinners. They cleaned the bones by burying them for a time and then unearthed them, cut small slivers from the bones and decorated them with etched or, when dye was available, painted suit signs.

Cards have even figured in religion and politics and have been used much the same as any written word to express an opinion pro or con. In 1930 the Russians produced a deck designed to satirize the four great religions. Characters from each religion were depicted in grotesque and uncomplimentary poses. One modern

political deck sneered at Adenauer and his cabinet. Unfortunately for collectors, the deck is not available today because the entire issue was confiscated on a technicality. It seems the maker forgot to pay the customary tax on his production, a tax he should not have overlooked since it had been levied on cards since the days of James I in the early 1600's.

When it comes to collecting, those who may want to pick up an old deck as a game room novelty should be warned that several foreign countries are producing cards today which look very much like the real thing. The unwary could be duped into paying too much. The paper they're printed on is distressed, full-length figures are shown, the corners are squared and the familiar indices are missing. All the marks of an old deck are there and it would take a real expert to tell the difference. The warning is doubly impressive when the cost of a genuine antique deck is considered, for they range in price as high as one would expect to pay for a fine painting or a piece of rare porcelain. Not long ago a *single* card from an Italian tarot deck was offered for sale at \$5,500, and a similar card sold some time earlier for \$3,000.

Cards have been important to all races and classes of people since the days of deep antiquity. To the Egyptians and Arabs they held a religious significance. To the Chinese they represented a good way to keep the ladies quiet. To the gypsies who wandered the face of Europe they held the power to predict the future. Cards enjoyed their day in the courts of great monarchs, and they meant



*Tarot deck with French suit signs made in Munich, late 18th century, Suits include clubs, spades, the fool and the twenty-one of atouts.*





*Spanish deck, circa 1817.*



*A variation of the Italian suit signs used in Trappola decks, 19th century: cups, swords, batons and coins (shown here as flowers with faces on them).*



a source of income to the struggling artists of the Middle Ages. They have gone into battle and accompanied those who first set foot on uncharted new continents. They have rotted, along with their owners, in the wretchedness of forgotten dungeons. They have bally-hoed the high and the mighty in religion and politics, and they have taught small children their grammar.

Cards are still very much a part of our lives, not just here in Nevada, but throughout the world, and though they are no longer as beautifully decorated as they once were, and though the suit signs no longer conjure dreams of distant lands or mysterious forces, they still provide much pleasure during our leisure hours and there's still a surge or excitement when we hold the right hand.



*Russian anti-religious deck, circa 1930.*





*Deck, dominos and box, all made from animal bones by French prisoners in England.*



*From a deck of French grotesque cards, with from two to six faces on each card.*



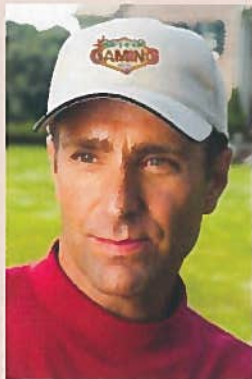
# Museum of Gaming History

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



*Dedicated to the preservation and education of Gaming History*

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



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

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



## **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](http://museumofgaminghistory.org)**



# The 2015 CC&GTCC Convention

GREETINGS from the 2015 CC&GTCC Annual Convention Co-Chairs! The theme for our June 24-27, 2015 Convention is **“LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!”** Once again, the Convention will be at the South Point Hotel and Casino and we hope all of our CC&GTCC members will be able to come this year and “be on the roll” with us!

We offer many thanks and all best wishes to Corni and Mike Quinlivan for a wonderful 2014 convention and we know we have some big shoes to fill. Following in the laudable tradition of the Quinlivans and all those Convention Chairs who came before them (back to Archie Black and Michael Knapp who started all this in 1993 and all those in between), we will be working to make this year’s Convention fun and enjoyable for all who come.

We thank all of the Committee Chairs who will be working with their volunteers to bring the membership another successful Convention. Many of our Chairs are returning and some are new this year, but all have the same mission in mind – to make the 2015 Convention memorable and exciting for all attendees. We are proud to announce the Committee Chairs for the 2015 Convention as follows:

**Pre-Registration**, George Dmitrevsky  
**On-site Registration/Badge Pick-up**, Brenda Black  
**Set-Up/Tear Down**, Steve Palumbo and Alan Schuyler  
**Volunteer Coordinator**, Belinda Hixon  
**Graphics**, Todd Barrett  
**Convention Program**, Allan Anderson  
**Promotions and Property Director**, Roy Nelson  
**Advertising**, Cale Guthmiller  
**Bruce Landau Memorial Auction**,  
David Spragg and Jay Sands  
**Auctioneer**, Tyrus Mulkey  
**Black Jack and Poker Tournaments**, Jerry Vergatos  
**Banquet Master of Ceremonies**, Wayne Thompson  
**Banquet Speaker and Speaker Host**, Jim Kruse  
**Banquet Raffle**, Dolly and John Ramsey  
**Banquet Decorations**, Sharrol Haglund  
**Photographers**, Quintin Kamm, Dick Covington  
and Mark Lighterman  
**“OTY” Chairman**, Jim Follis  
**Exhibits**, Casey Focazio-Follis  
**Youth Program**, Debbie and Dave Harber  
**Hall of Fame**, Jim Steffner

We need volunteers for many jobs including: loading and unloading the merchandise truck before and after the show; helping with set-up and tear-down; working at the promotions, membership and Museum of Gaming History tables; and, helping the Treasurer after the Auction with bidders’ lots. With the exception of the first day when shifts may be longer, shifts are

usually two hours each and no special training is necessary – just bring your enthusiasm and sense of responsibility! If you have any questions about any of these jobs, or want to get your preferences in early, please contact Belinda Hixon at TXBel711@aol.com.

As in years past, we have arranged discounted room rates for our members and our room block is guaranteed until May 20, 2015. Be sure to reserve your rooms early – you won’t want to miss out on the discounted rates (\$66 for Sunday thru Thursday; \$99 for Friday and Saturday). All rooms must be reserved on an individual basis. Guests may call the South Point Reservations Department toll-free at 866/791-7626. Guests must identify themselves as being with *Casino Chip & Gaming Collectors – 2015 Convention* to get the special group rate. To make a reservation online, the South Point has given us a link to use which will take you immediately to the reservations site and to our group number, which is CAS0619, and that is already on the site page for your convenience. Here is the link:

<https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=11548&Chain=6903&arrive=6/19/2015&depart=6/20/2015&adult=1&child=0&group=CAS0619>

As a member of our group, the \$14 resort fee will be waived and Wi-Fi will be complimentary in your guest room. The South Point also operates a free shuttle to the Town Center Mall and a shuttle (with a nominal fee) to various locations on the Strip.

We have sent out contracts to past dealers but if you or anyone you know is interested in being a dealer, please call us (702/255-6999) or send an email to us at: sheldon655@hotmail.com. All dealers and table helpers must be members of the CC&GTCC and all items to be offered for sale must be casino-related collectible materials.

We will have more Convention information in the next magazine. In the meantime, please save the dates and plan on coming to the Convention (come early; stay later) and be with us to **LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!**

Best wishes!  
Sheldon and Christine Smith - Convention Co-Chairs

P.S. If anyone wants to reach the Club’s Publicity/Advertising Chairman, please email Cale Guthmiller at [publicity@ccgtcc.com](mailto:publicity@ccgtcc.com).





# Message from the Auction Chairs

The 2015 Bruce Landau Memorial Auction will once again be held during the convention, at the South Point Hotel & Casino, on Thursday 25th June 2015.

The auction is a major source of club revenue and we would really like to see a continuing increase in the number of items donated. They do not have to be of significant value and we are always willing to combine donated items together. Please remember that a donated item selling for \$20 gives the club the same income as a consigned item selling for \$100.

As before, there are no constraints on either the number of consignors or the number of lots they can consign, but that is subject to the terms listed below. We will be contacting all consignors from last year directly in due course but there is no need to wait for us to do so if you are ready to consign now.

The auction will again comprise approximately 200 lots (including donated lots), of which a small number of the donated lots (20) will be sold by silent auction in advance and on the first day of the convention. Bulky lots have caused us a problem in the past, in terms of the preparation of the auction & catalog, cost of return of unsold items, and the additional cost of shipping sold items. Consequently, we ask that consignors submit as many suitable single chip lots as possible, and we will only consider larger lots on their individual merit. If anyone has anything at all that they wish to donate, then in view of the fact the club gets the full proceeds, and there is a guaranteed sale, we will be more flexible over what will be accepted but reserve the right to combine donated lots together if appropriate. The club makes considerably more money from donated lots than the consignments, and being that is the purpose of the auction, we strongly urge anyone who is willing to donate chips to do so.

The purpose of introducing minimum bids in the past was twofold - firstly to try and improve the overall quality of auction lots and secondly to speed up the live auction itself. We appreciate that we are not in a sellers market at present and it is getting harder to secure the same quality of lots in the past. Therefore, bidding on ALL donated lots will start at just \$5. While we will retain the minimum bid of \$50 or above on any consigned item that the consignor insists on at the time of our acceptance for auction, we also reserve the right to start other items lower, and the auctioneer will have discretion to reduce opening bids in the case of there being no bids. Reserves may still be set for lots valued at \$500 and

up. All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged and will be available to view in full on the club website or via email.

You may consign lots (subject to the standard 10% sellers commission, which will be waived in the event of a consignor buying back a lot – 10% buyers premium is still payable) and/or you can donate lots where the club retains the proceeds. This year several club members graciously donated some valuable lots which helped make the auction a great success and I would hope to see the same response again.

There will be no printed consignment form. Instead, we invite would be consignors to contact us (preferably by email) to determine suitability of lots. Please DO NOT SEND ANYTHING without contacting us first.

We will be at the Las Vegas Superbowl Chip show in early February, and can collect auction lots from vendors there. Those consignors attending the show that do not have email, please have any lots ready for us. If you are not attending the show and have lots to donate or consign, please don't wait to contact us, the earlier the better.

We plan to have the auction catalog available approximately six weeks in advance (i.e. mid May). It will also be made available on-line for anyone wishing to view, download or print as soon as it is completed. Consequently, the latest date that anyone can contact us to consign lots will be February 19th, 2015.

Please use [auction@ccgtcc.com](mailto:auction@ccgtcc.com) to contact us. If you need to contact us by snail mail, please write to:

David Spragg  
840 S Rancho Dr #4314  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
or  
Jay Sands  
5371 Carmento Drive  
Oak Park, CA 91377.



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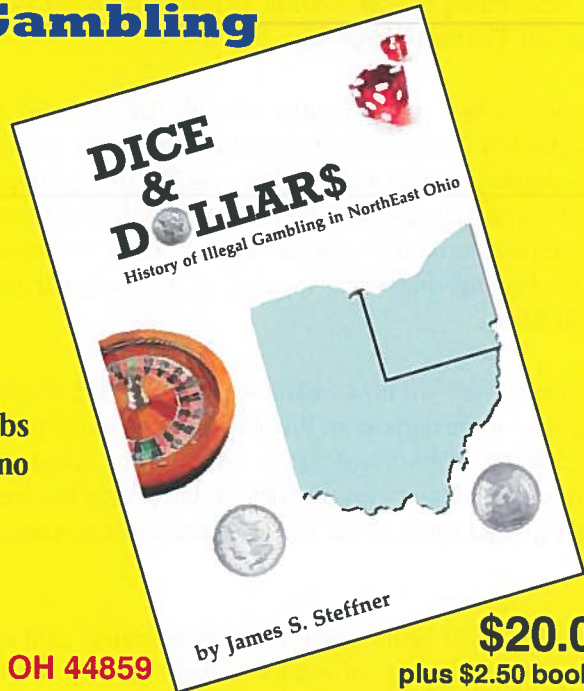
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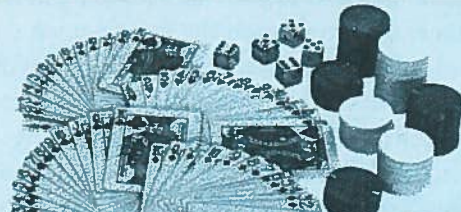
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# Casino Collectible News



## Website

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

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winter 2011 >

- Bill Horrah's Centennial
- Play
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- The Bridge
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All Archives

Paul G. Articles

As Time Goes By I

As Time Goes By 2

The Moulin Rouge

A West Side Story

LV Strip The Early Years

Fremont Street

Steve Fischer Articles

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### welcome to the casino collectible news



2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011  
 First Place  
 2006, 2010  
 Second Place  
 2002  
 Third Place

Outstanding Specialty Numismatic Publication  
 American Numismatic Association

Welcome to the Casino Collectible News magazine website, formerly the Casino Chip and Token News magazine - a quarterly publication of The Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. On this site you will find featured stories from current and past issues. Older articles, including the original newsletters, are being uploaded on a weekly basis and can be found in the archives section.

If you are interested in submitting an article for publication, please send an e-mail to: [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net). To advertise, send an e-mail to [adesign@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adesign@sbcglobal.net).

### casino chip and gaming token collectors club, inc.



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

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



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



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# The 2014 OTY Awards Contest Opens Shortly!

## *That's right! It's time to Nominate!*

Inside this issue of the award winning Casino Collectibles News you will find an **Official Nomination Form** for the 2014 OTY Awards. Every Club member is encouraged to take a little time and reflect back on the fabulous array of chips, tokens strikes and cards issues by casinos worldwide during the calendar year of 2013. If any of them stand out in your mind, or take center-place in your collection, then perhaps you might want to recognize them by nominating them as a candidate for the OTY Awards.

Only as a CC&GTCC member are you entitled to participate in the Club's annual Chip of the Year (COTY), Token of the Year (TOTY), Silver Strike of the Year (SSOTY) and Slot Card/Room Key of the Year (CKOTY) competitions, aka: The OTY's!

The 2013 Awards will be marking the Club's 25th year of COTY and TOTY competitions, our 15th year of the SSOTY competition and our 13th year for CKOTY honors. I am both honored and pleased to be serving as the COTY, TOTY, SSOTY and CKOTY Awards Competitions Chairman, along with my son, Casey, the Assistant OTY Chairman.

The rules for this year's competitions are pretty much the same as last year, and for our newer members (a very big Welcome to our newcomers) and as a refresher for our seasoned participants, I will go over the requirements once again.

Between January 1, 2014 and February 1, 2015 the Assistant OTY Chairman will be accepting nominations from any and all Club members in good standing. **As a reminder to all Regular members, please be sure to make a copy (or copies) of the nomination form for the Associate Member(s) tied to your membership number, so that they too can participate.**

Completed, original nomination forms were designed to be folded, taped (stapling is acceptable, but the Post Office prefers tape), affixed with 1st Class postage (.49 cents) and then mailed. Providing that the insert is printed correctly the mailing address will be pre-printed on the reverse of the form. However, completed forms (original forms or copies) may be sent in an envelope to the address that appears of the back of an original form. That address is also re-printed below for your convenience. As we did last year we will accept nominations via email to OTY@CCGTCC.com . However, if you take advantage of this method, you must format your submission into the same headings as the Nomination Form **AND** you must include all of your nominations at one time. Please do not make piece-meal submissions. If you do, then the most current submission form will replace, in total, any previously submitted form. Emailed submissions must be

sent prior to midnight (PST) January 31, 2015.

Judging will be open to any and all CC&GTCC, Inc. members in good standing. The March-April-May issue of the Club's Award winning magazine may include a full-color presentation of all the Nominees, along with a mail-in ballot. These ballots must be returned via the postal system and must be postmarked on or before a date to-be-determined and announced later. However, voting may also be conducted via email, the details of which will be announced later on the Club's website: [www.ccgcc.com](http://www.ccgcc.com)..

The fine print:

All nominee candidates must have been issued, for use, for the first time, during the calendar year of 2014. Various members of the CC&GTCC may be called upon to verify this criteria for chips and tokens. The Officers of the Silver Striker's Club shall be called upon to verify this criteria for Silver Strikes. The Officers of the Slot Card and Room Key Club shall be called upon to verify this criteria for slot cards/room keys.

**Chip of the Year eligibility criteria:** A chip must be issued by a casino. It must also serve a gaming purpose.

**Token of the Year eligibility criteria:** A token is one that is intended to be inserted into a slot machine for play. Excluded are coins (money), currency and tickets. The emphasis is on slot machine play.

**Silver Strike of the Year eligibility criteria:** Simply stated, an eligible Silver Strike is a bi-metal coin made in follow-on to the Silver Strike Program of IGT. This includes \$300 strikes.

**Slot Card/Room Key of the Year eligibility criteria:**

Slot Cards must be issued by a casino and are intended to track player action at a slot machine.

Room Keys must be issued by an affiliated hotel/casino establishment. The key (looking like a plastic credit card) must be used to open a guest room.

Casey and I look forward to receiving your nominations shortly. We may be contacted via email: OTY@CCGTCC.com . Lastly, for those who are Internet connected, be sure to visit the Un-Official OTY Viewing Sites, where you can view many of the potential 2014 OTY candidates. There are four locations to visit:

<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2014?dir=COTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2014?dir=TOTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2014?dir=SSOTY>  
<http://www.thechipgallery.com/gallery2014?dir=CKOTY>

Jim Follis  
OTY Awards Competition Chairman



# Morongo Unveils Collectible 10th Anniversary Chips

*To mark its first decade in December, the Morongo Casino, Resort & Spa will issue beautifully designed commemorative chips.*

In honor of its 10th anniversary celebration this December, the Morongo Casino, Resort & Spa has commissioned three beautifully designed commemorative casino chips.

Emblazoned with an image of the Morongo Casino tower rising in the night sky against a spray of colorful fireworks, the custom chips are expected to hit the gaming tables in the first week of November.

They will be available in three denominations: a fire-red \$5 chip, a \$25 emerald green chip and a limited-edition midnight black \$100 chip. Each chip also notes the casino's 10th anniversary and years of operation.

“These special collector chips are absolutely gorgeous,” Morongo Chief Operating Officer John James said. “Chip aficionados are going to love the artwork and color schemes.”

Morongo's collectible commemorative chips were designed by GPI, one of the world's top suppliers of gaming currency and equipment. GPI's chip pedigree dates back to the early 1970s when the Bud Jones Co., which later merged with two other gaming suppliers to form GPI, began manufacturing what quickly became one of the most popular American styles of chips, which were used in European, Far East Asian and South African casinos.



The 4-Diamond Morongo Casino, Resort & Spa is located along the 10 Freeway near Palm Springs, Calif. Owned and operated by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the Morongo Casino, Resort & Spa offers the hottest slots and an array of table and high-limit gaming at one of the largest tribal gaming centers in the United States. The towering 27-story resort features five top-rated restaurants, a stunning swimming pool with private cabanas, a world-class spa, popular nightclub, legendary live entertainment and, nearby, the 36-hole championship Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon.

For more information, visit [morongocasinoresort.com](http://morongocasinoresort.com).





# CHIP CLIPS



Hall of Fame club member Phil Jensen started collecting casino collectibles back in 1969. While living in Vegas he often picked up chips from local casinos, but also enjoyed many road trips to the far reaches of Nevada. These are the stories of some of his favorite chips.

## FRONTIER CLUB RENO, NV



Pick Hobson owned the Frontier Club on Virginia Street as well as its predecessor, Pick's Club. When he sold out to Harrah's in 1956 he bought the Overland Hotel on Center and Commercial Row. He stored a lot of stuff from the Frontier at the Overland. I remember the old slot machines stacked up at the entrance to a tunnel that ran the length of Commercial Row when I worked there from 1969 to 1973.



Pick had a nephew who he was trying to break into the gambling business. I remember trying to teach him to deal craps. He also worked in Keno. I know he got into some of the Frontier chips and sold them to various people - they were around for a while. I got mine from various sources.



## VAL'S RENO, NV



Val's closed in 1967 according to Fuller. I got these chips from my faithful source Frank Rosa in Carson City. Frank opened Consolidated Coin and he carried a lot of neat stuff.

By the time I got to Val's in 1969 the 21 tables had been removed and the place was called Seven Seas Pizza Parlor. I was only in it a few times and I remember the outside of the building was painted in foot wide red and white vertical stripes and later torn down. It was close to where the fire station on 2nd street is today.

## FRISCO CLUB RENO, NV



The Frisco Club chips were always some of my favorites. I don't remember where I got any of them - only that it took me several years to assemble the set. Probably from antique stores and coin dealers - and that they were all in very nice condition - the place

only was open for a little more than a year. The place was also the The Northern Club, The Barn Club and The Bonanza Club.

## SILVER DOLLAR, HARLEY'S RENO, NV



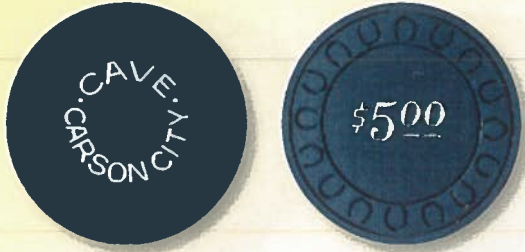
By the time I started collecting, Harley's name was no longer associated with the Silver Dollar. The place was owned by Lincoln "Fitzy" Fitzgerald and he used chips marked "CC" on all the tables (these of course, were from the Chesterfield Club

in Detroit) which I didn't know at the time. I also remember that he used \$20.00 chips on the crap table which nobody else bid. A dealer said they were good for "Horn" bets. I used to go in there all the time to play the old Jennings slot machines.

Anyway, there were a few of these chips floating around Reno later on. I don't remember where I got mine.



## THE CAVE CARSON CITY, NV



The Cave was a small club located on Stewart Street close to the Capital. I was only in it once or twice and it was before I began collecting chips, probably 1966 or 1967. I remember there being just one 21 table and some slots. I didn't get the chips until later. I think they turned up at Frank Rosa's Consolidated Coin Shop in Carson City. The thing that struck me about The Cave was that it appeared to be in a converted residence, not a building that was meant to be a casino.

## TRAVELODGE HOTEL CARSON CITY, NV



This place was just down the street from the Ormsby House and opened around the time the Ormsby House closed. It was just a matter of buying into the 21 game to get the chips. The place later became the Mother Lode and is now called Carson Station.

## TREASURE CHEST CARSON CITY, NV

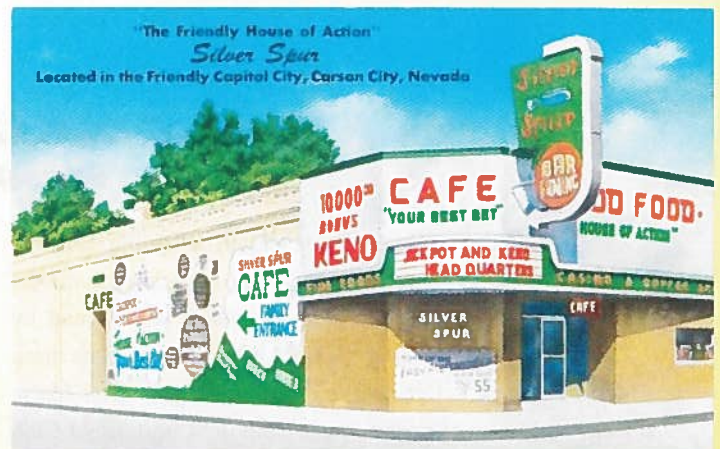


The Treasure Chest was the forerunner of today's Horeshoe Club. It didn't last too long, but I remember my friend Jack Scoles, owner of the Silver Spur giving me the \$25.00 chip from here. He may have had something to do with the Treasure Chest, but I'm not sure.

## SILVER SPUR CARSON CITY, NV



I used to spend a lot of time at the Silver Spur. It was a neat old place with a very unusual curved bar, and it was owned by Jack Scoles. He was a great guy and he gave me a lot of stuff, including several boxes of obsolete Diamond Mold \$1.00 Chips. I remember going upstairs and rummaging through a lot of stuff. I got handfuls of drink tokens and slot premium points.





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# CC&GTCC Mentoring Program

## Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

## The Program

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

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

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

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

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

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



# 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&GTCC Claims Form

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

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

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

The process will work as follows:

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

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

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

## Reward Fund

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

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

The Club will pay a reward as follows:

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

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

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

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



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

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## Reference Center

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

**Casino 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&GTCC members who have volunteered to answer your questions.
- [Chip Conditions](#) - an official list of CC&GTCC sanctioned terminology used to describe chip condition.
- [Glossary](#) - an extensive list of the terminology used in our hobby - a "Chiptionary", if you will.
- [Chip FAQ](#) - a huge list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding our hobby.
- [Chipology 101](#) - a great intro-to-chipping seminar presented at the national convention.
- [Cleaning Chips](#) - a good primer on cleaning casino chips.
- [Mold Designs](#) - Robert Eisenstadt's mold design project.
  
- [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&GTCC web site offers valuable information on chip collecting, whether you're new to the hobby or have been collecting for years.

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

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

<http://www.ccgccc.com>



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