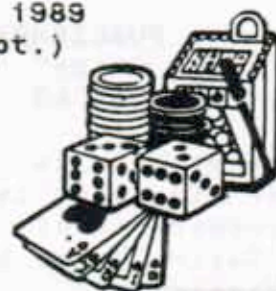


VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3

THIRD QUARTER, 1989
(July, Aug, Sept.)



ATLANTIS CASINO CLOSES

1988-1989
CLUB OFFICERS:

President:

Archie A. Black
P.O. Box 63
Brick, NJ 08723

Treasurer:

Bruce Landau
44 West Gate Rd.
Suffern, NY 10901

Secretary:

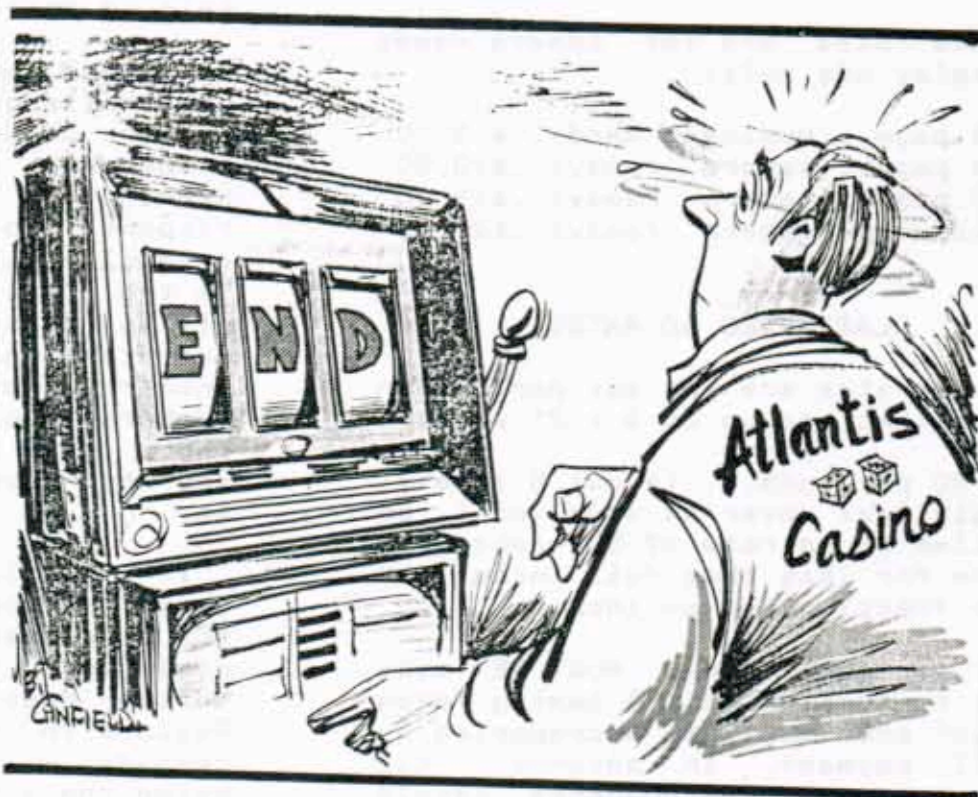
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P.O. Box 1000
Minden, NV 89423

Newsletter Editor:

Archie A. Black
P.O. Box 63
Brick, NJ 08723



FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

RESULTS OF: "NAME THAT NEWSLETTER CONTEST"

"UNTANGLING THE MYSTERY OF GAMING CHECKS"

"THE 26 GAME AND IT'S CHICAGO TOKENS"

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT/DETAILS

NOMINATIONS FOR NEW CLUB OFFICERS

QUARTERLY TOKEN & CHIP AUCTION

"NEW ATLANTIC CITY TOKENS"

"INFORMATION BOOTH"

"NEVADA UPDATE"

NEW MEMBERS

ADS

**CASINO CHIPS & GAMING TOKEN
CLUB NEWSLETTER**

PUBLISHER & EDITOR

"Mr. Chips" Archie A. Black
P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723

Permission to reproduce in whole or in part is granted provided proper credit is given to the "Casino Chips & Gaming Token Club Newsletter"

DISPLAY AD RATES

These rates are for camera ready display ads only:

1/8 page..(business card)..\$ 5.00
1/4 page..(camera ready)..\$10.00
1/2 page..(camera ready)..\$18.00
Full page.(camera ready)..\$25.00

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These rates are for ads per column inch that are up to 3 1/2" wide.

\$3.00 per inch....(about 6 lines).
Additional overrun copy will be billed at a rate of 50 cents per line for less than full inches, or for fractions of an inch.

All ad copy checks MUST BE made out to "Casino Chip & Gaming Token Club" and must be accompanied by full payment, in advance. All newsletter correspondence should be mailed to P.O. Box 63 Brick, New Jersey 08723.

Publisher assumes no responsibility for statements made by advertisers and reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

Unsolicited articles for publication are encouraged and welcomed. However, no assurance is implied that such material will be used or returned to the author. Proper credit for all materials that are published will be acknowledged.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The club continues its steady growth and we are looking forward to our annual meeting in Pittsburgh. Our goal, stated in the last issue of the club newsletter, anticipated reaching 200 members by the A.N.A. convention. It would appear that ambitious goal has been exceeded! In fact, our 200th member, Robert W. Mangels from Adelphi, Maryland holds that honor. Mr. Mangels joined the club during the recently concluded Garden State Numismatic Association convention held in Cherry Hill, NJ in June.

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It's still not too late for those of you who are delinquent, for whatever reason, who have neglected to respond to our earlier dues notice announcements. Failure to respond to this final reminder will result in this issue being the absolute last newsletter you will receive.

An attempt at standardizing chip descriptions has been announced by Howard Herz of High Sierra Numismatics. Howard is the curator of the famous Harvey's collection, probably the largest collection of chips in existence. A marriage of Howdy's descriptions and Borland's Blue Book numbering system would be a tremendous accomplishment and very beneficial to our hobby.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

On behalf of the officers and the membership in good standing, I wish to extend our most cordial welcome to the new members listed below. These folks have joined our unique hobby club for casino chip and gaming token collectors since the last newsletter was published. We hope that you take advantage of all the benefits your club offers and also wish that you thoroughly enjoy your membership privileges.

PERIOD MARCH 30 - JUNE 30, 1989

R-183 JAMES LYNDE
R-184 BYRON BARSTOW
R-185 E. GERI HAYES
R-186 JOHN W. HALEY
R-187 LOREN D. KELLEY
R-188 BILL GUENIN
R-189 DONALD D. PHILLIPS
R-190 NORMA JEAN KING
R-191 LLOYD RIGGLE
R-192 RICHARD BITTERMAN
R-193 DONALD G. SIDARS
R-194 DICK HANSOOM
R-195 ILENE MC NALLY
R-196 SIMON MUNTEAN
R-197 DAVID R. MELLENDORF
R-198 LAWRENCE J. PANG
R-199 FRED R. SERENS
R-200 ROBERT W. MANGELS

COIN WORLD, Wednesday, July 12, 1989

ON THE RISE

CLUBS AND SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS

Over 50 unique groups and societies will be holding court at the ANA's 98th Anniversary Convention. Wooden nickels, coins, copper collectibles, love tokens and casino chips all have their say. Look for your area of specialization and join in.

We have a complete retail list of casino chips and tokens ready for your viewing enjoyment! Send a long S.A.S.E. Our complete token/medal/reference book list (about 100 pages) is available for \$2.00.

Paul A. Cunningham
Box One, Tecumseh, MI 49286

Paul A. Cunningham, Box One, Tecumseh, MI 49286

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to member Don E. Bestle, who has been graciously inserting a CC> club membership application in each of his new customer catalog mailings. Don says that he mails out about 1,000 copies of his (DEB'S) catalogs each year. Many of the new member names that are published in the opposite column are a result of Don's efforts.

LATEST MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

As offered in previous issues of the club newsletter, any member in good standing who wishes to receive an up to date copy of the club's "Membership Directory", including addresses and collecting specialties, may obtain one by sending \$1 to: Casino Chips & Gaming Token Club Directory, P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723. If any member has an address change, a phone number they want listed; or a change in their collecting interests they wish corrected in the Official Membership Directory, please send current information to the Editor at the above address.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

The size of our newsletter would not be possible without the support of the paid ads which pay for most of our expenses. True, your annual dues help a lot towards defraying printing & postage costs and will continue to do so in the future. But the sheer number of pages in recent issues is possible only because of the generous advertising support.

DISPOSING OF DUPES?? (or a collection?)

Why not try a classified ad in the club newsletter for only \$3.00? Or, have you thought of auction listings for only .30 cents per lot (each line)?



VICTORIAN SQUARE: Treasury Club grand opening is March 20.

Treasury Club goes Victorian

Slot and video poker enthusiasts are discovering a wealth of gaming entertainment at the Treasury Club, the newest — and elegant — addition to Victorian Square in Sparks.

Beautifully styled in the charming ambiance of the Victorian era, the casino features the latest in video poker and slot entertainment, an exciting new slot club system, live music and fine dining. Located at 1144 B Street, the Treasury Club opened its doors March 6 and is now primed for a special grand opening celebration March 20, from 2:30 to 7 p.m.

The Treasury Club also features "The Colossus," Sparks' largest slot machine, which stands a massive 7-foot tall and 10-feet wide. Two handsomely crafted video poker bars grace the casino, one on the main floor and the other on the second floor balcony overlooking the casino. And for slot aficionados in search of super jackpots, the casino features the two exciting statewide progressive slot systems, Quattermania and Megabucks.

Newest state line hotel-casino to have American carnival theme

Ground for the 300-room Primadonna Resort-Casino was broken recently on the east side of I-15 near the Nevada/California state line, 45 miles south of Las Vegas.

The \$36 million project is being built by Primm South Corp., the same company that owns and operates two other state-line properties, Whiskey Pete's and Kactus Kate's.

Centered around a turn-of-the-century American carnival theme, the four-story resort will include a 90-foot ferris wheel, an indoor carousel, and interior murals and animated figures depicting the carnival atmosphere.

"We would like to position the state line as a vacation destination in and of

itself," said Gary Primm, president and chief executive officer of Whiskey Pete's. "By attracting a family oriented clientele, the Primadonna should play a major role in helping us to achieve that objective."

Located directly across the freeway from Whiskey Pete's, the Primadonna Hotel and its 65,000-square-foot casino will employ approximately 1,000 when completed in December. Building plans include an eight-lane bowling center, three restaurants (one which will double as a showroom and buffet facility), and an RV park.

To facilitate consumer traffic between the two hotel-casinos, a mono-rail system connecting the Primadonna with Whiskey Pete's will be built.

Hotel man challenges Trump

First, we had Trump the man. Then, we had Trump the billionaire real estate developer. Then, we had Trump the casino entrepreneur. Then, we had Trump the author.

Now, we have Trump the Game, which is bound to take its place in the annals of board-game history, along with Monopoly, Barbie's Dream Date and Candyland.

But if a certain Las Vegas-based casino magnate and big-time gambler has his way, we soon may have Trump the big-stakes better.

Bob Stupak, head of the Vegas World Hotel Casino, recently ran a full-page letter in a local daily newspaper, proposing a little wager over a round of Trump the Game.

In fact, Stupak has officially bet **Donald Trump** that he can beat him at his own game, for a wager of \$1 million — walking around change to these guys.

Stupak adds this is an unconditional challenge, with "no strings attached."

As such, he's proposed the two sit down and play the game, with the loser handing over the dough.

Stupak is no stranger to high-stakes betting — he wagered \$1 million on the Superbowl.

Meanwhile, there's no word yet on whether Trump has decided to take Stupak up on the offer.

But, regardless of who beats whom, they both stand to win — lots more publicity, that is.

10 years ago

Las Vegas casinos and banks began rationing 1-ke dollars. Gamblers and tourists were taking home increased numbers of the cartwheel after it became known that the coin was doomed. This caused a gaming pinch. The new Anthony mini-dollar was still months from introduction, though production had begun Jan. 9 at the Denver Mint.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Reprinted elsewhere in this issue is a tentative schedule of events for the upcoming annual A.N.A. convention to be held in Pittsburgh, PA on August 9th through the 13th. While many of our club members also collect coins, tokens and/or medals and are planning to be in attendance for the numismatic attractions offered as well, I know that several of you who are not interested in the numismatic offerings, are planning to make the trip to Pittsburgh specifically for our annual meeting to renew old friendships and to make new ones.

You will note that our annual club meeting is scheduled for Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m., in Room South 11, on August 12th at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. I know that many of you are looking forward to meeting some of the many club members you have been corresponding with over the past year or so and many more of you are looking for an opportunity to do some serious informal "horse trading" after the official business portion of our meeting has been concluded. So bring some of your better trading/selling items that you wish to dispose of. We had a fairly large turnout at our annual meeting last year in Cincinnati, when our club was only half the size it is now. With about 200 members at the time of this writing, this year's meeting promises to be a very productive one. New officers will be elected and sworn into office. A new name for the newsletter will be chosen. Door prizes will be awarded and other surprises will be announced.

If you can't make this 1989 Pittsburgh gathering, you can start planning for next year's west coast meeting in Seattle, Washington.

Well, we are experiencing our first "shakeout" of folks who joined the club and either were not serious about collecting casino chips and/or gaming tokens or they were simply curious about what we are all about as a club. In any event, there were quite a few of our first year members who decided for whatever reason, not to renew their dues for 1989/90. It is gratifying to note that for every person who did not renew their dues, 2+ members renewed for 2 years! I guess the old adage "you can't please everyone" applies to our organization as well. The club is financially healthy and is blessed with much talent of individuals who are willing to give of their time, input, and expertise. We can always use more input from the membership regarding your collecting specialties and interesting articles for publication in the newsletter. If you wish to see more published articles on tokens vs. chips, or vice-versa, put together a page or two of your favorite item....or how you obtained it....and I'll publish it eventually. Perhaps not in the very next issue, but I'll use it.

Happy collecting,



Archie A. Black

P.S. Just received a note from Bill Borland announcing that he has extended his "Blue Book" offer (to club members) at the reduced price of \$45 plus \$4.95 for special shipping, handling and insurance. See Bill's paid ads, published elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter.

BUY SELL TRADE



TEGAN, DREW & STEVE
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ATLANTIC CITY NEW ISSUE SERVICE

Are you missing out on new chips and tokens because you are not aware that a casino has come out with a new issue?

If so, this subscription service may be for you.

I've been providing this new issue service for about a dozen folks with whom I have been regularly corresponding for sometime and I am now in a position to offer this personalized service to a few new additional subscribers.

SEND NO MONEY! Simply send me your name and membership number and let me know which Atlantic City casino chips and/or gaming token denominations you wish to receive, automatically, as issued. I will send your requests and bill you at the following rates:

\$2 for all new \$1 chips & tokens
\$3.50 for all new \$2.50 chips
\$7 for all new \$5 chips & tokens
\$30 for new \$25 chips & tokens
PLUS Postage & Insurance

You may cancel your subscription at any time to end my new issue service.

"MR. CHIPS" P.O. BOX 63
BRICK, NEW JERSEY 08723

Retail Chips List Available

All chips priced at or below "Blue Book." Send SASE now if you haven't received one. We buy chips too, especially in quantity lots - send your list please.

Now planned - a definitive index of all American and foreign casino chips. Identify all those mavericks! Projected price - \$2.00; write if interested.

Paul A. Cunningham
Box One
Tecumseh, MI 49286
(517) 423-8951

GAMING In the United States continues to explode at an unprecedented pace. Nevada has 166 casinos, each with an annual gross revenues of \$1 million or more and another 119 smaller gaming joints. Atlantic City has 12 gaming halls, which individually average over \$200 million in gaming "win" each year. Outside the three-mile limit of U.S. jurisdiction, cruise ships offer casino gaming. Horse and dog racing are legal in many states. Bingo is allowed in all but four states. Card rooms are expanding



NEVADA UPDATE

By Janice & Jerry O'Neal (CH-008 & CH-088)

NEWS FROM THE RENO AREA; The Virginian opened in downtown Reno in November 1988 with \$1 tokens and \$5 chips, H&C red 2 pink 2 gray with a red on white scalloped center insert.

At 515 S. Virginia, the old Ponderosa has been re-modeled and re-opened on March 1, 1989 as the world's first 100% non-smoking hotel and casino. Ponderosa's new chips are \$5 H&C red, 2 blue 2 black with black, red and green on a white center insert. They also have a \$1 token.

After undergoing many changes since opening in 1957, including taking over the Silver Spur in 1982, The Horseshoe Club closed its doors on December 13, 1988. As of now it is expected to open again on Memorial Day as Cashall's Horseshoe Club with all new tokens and chips. (\$5 red H&C chip 2 blue and 2 peach inserts with a red, black on white hub center insert)

Harold's Club was closed for a short time to make building repairs and do still more re-modeling. The re-opened on April 1st with the same chips and tokens.

Baldini's Sports Casino (Shy Clown) in Sparks opened December 15, 1988. Slots only...no live gaming...so only \$1 tokens here.

Treasury Club in Sparks opened on March 6, 1989. Again, slots only, no live gaming at this time. \$1 tokens only. We hope that this is not an ugly trend of the future... to have all machines with no live gaming and no new chips for our collections!!

Just learned that Eddie's Fabulous 50's will close on July 31st. Ramada has explained that unlike the L.V. and Laughlin markets, Reno is stagnant and the poor performance of Eddie's is also due to its lack of hotel rooms and adequate parking.

We thank Dean & Jodi from Washoe Antiques in Reno for providing us with the information to share with club members. We've also heard from Michael Knapp that there are several new changes coming to Ogden Street in Vegas. More on that next time. Also heard there are new \$1 & \$5 chips at Pioneer in Laughlin.

Anyone having additional information on new chip & token issues are requested to advise Janice & Jerry O'Neal 50 Dove Ave. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189.



GAMBLING HALL & SALOON
131 NORTH 3RD STREET
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101



LUCKY LUCY'S Las Vegas' newest casino.
Opened the same day Lucille Ball died.....
No chips... slots only. Free Drink wooden nickel.

"THE CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING CHIPS"

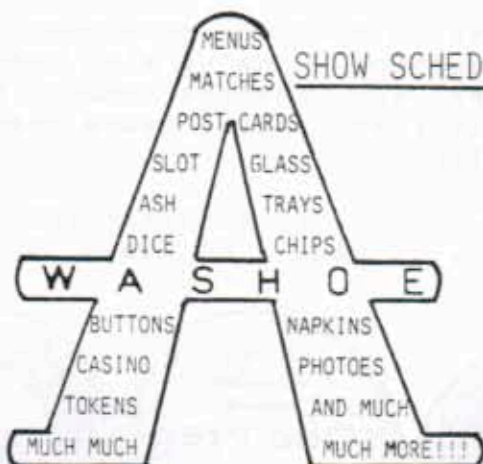
By Michael Knapp (CH-007)



Remember the article about CHIPCO International and its new style of casino chips in the last newsletter? Remember the illustration of the \$5 El San Juan Hotel chip manufactured by CHIPCO and just recently put into play? Well it seems as though the chips are now disappearing!!

The new type of chip was initially put into play at El San Juan in December of 1988, and within one month 5,000 of them had disappeared. Called "chip migration" by the industry, we know the phenomenon as "adding to our collections." Casinos expect chips to be taken out of their establishments as souvenirs, or by customers who simply forget to cash in their last few chips before leaving for the airport. Apparently, however, the unique design of the CHIPCO "Craftsmanship" has lead to increased "migration" from El San Juan in addition to what might normally be expected.

Since the cost of the chip to a casino is substantially below the face value of the chip, every chip which "migrates" means increased revenue for the casino without risk of any kind. The El San Juan experience has given CHIPCO a new way to promote its chips within the industry: their appeal to collectors, souvenir hunters, and as advertising when customers show the chips to their friends back home.



SHOW SCHEDULE:

JULY 15 & 16	Portland, OR
AUGUST 4, 5 & 6	Lake Tahoe, NV
AUGUST 9 thru 13	Pittsburgh, PA
SEPTEMBER 2 & 3	Reno, NV
OCTOBER 1	Berkeley, CA
OCTOBER 7 & 8	San Mateo, CA
OCTOBER 21	Bellflower, CA

ANTIQUES

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ATLANTIS GONE

The Atlantis Casino has been ordered by the NJ Casino Control Commission to close down. Citing Atlantis' inability to maintain adequate cash reserves and its steadily deteriorating financial instability, the NJCC refused to relicense Atlantis past May 23rd and has appointed a conservator to seek a qualified buyer. Donald Trump (who else) has offered to purchase the property for \$63 million and convert it into a non-casino 5 star quality hotel. The casino which never showed a profit since its parent company, (Elsinore) took over from Playboy is located on the south end of the Atlantic City convention hall. Trump Plaza is connected to the north end of the Miss America convention hall. My wife and I will miss Atlantis. We saw many fine shows there and I enjoyed the low minimums on their table games...the lowest in A.C. Brenda took advantage of the .25 tokens drive-in bonuses offered regularly.



RECENT A.C. SLOT TOKEN ISSUES

During the 1989 Memorial Day weekend, Trump Castle released their attractive version of a .999 fine silver slot token with a 14k gold filled center.



A few months earlier, TropWorld issued a \$25 (very ugly in my opinion) pewter token for use in it's new slot machines. It's too bad TropWorld didn't go for a nice silver token to go with their upgraded property renovations. This token just does not fit in with the rest of the classy modifications done at TropWorld.



I just found out in mid-June that Resorts International has also joined the \$25 slot token club. I was told by a slot host that this token, illustrated on the left, was issued on Memorial Day, 1989. This token too (like TropWorlds) is struck in antiqued pewter. Merv Griffin is spending a lot of money sprucing up his recently aquired playland.

MORE LAS VEGAS NEWS

Club member, Walter Dirzulaitis, in response to my "appeal" for errors, or unusual tokens, for publication in the newsletter, forwarded to me a Las Vegas slot machine token with a spelling error on the die. "VON'S, I'm told by Walter, is a supermarket located at 4020 South Rainbow Boulevard in Las Vegas. The spelling (or should I say misspelling) of the word RAINBOW, appears as "RAINBON" on the token. Walter says, "I can't remember ever seeing a word misspelled on a gaming token." He says that he bought a bunch of them and "they are all like this." Well Walter, if VON'S insists on replacement tokens from their minter (Nevada Coin Mart) you may find a 2nd variety token, with the correct spelling, on your next L.V. visit.



Walter also reported that Caesar's Palace has several new \$500 slot machines. The machines take only one .999 silver center with a solid 10k gold outer ring token at a time and will only "drop two tokens." All other jackpots are paid by hand. Walt suggests that perhaps an I.R.S. form is required.....for just two cherries??!!! Top jackpot is \$250,000.... not bad for a 3-reeler.



Other news Walter brought back from his recent Vegas trip was that the "Longhorn Casino" is now (January) open on Boulder Highway, across from Nevada Palace. One dollar tokens and red \$5 CI chips are their contributions to our hobby. Also, the La Mirage is conducting a contest for a new name because when Steve Wynn's new hotel opens in December, IT will be called "The Mirage". Wynn purchased the name from La Mirage for an undisclosed sum of money.



Lastly, from the "Did You Know" department, Walter states that, "all casinos in Britain require you to register 48 hours in advance and then require you to become a "member", but that the Isle of Man is the only casino in the entire U.K. where neither of these requirements exist."

Editor's note: Walter's news article should have been included in the last issue of the club newsletter but was misplaced with the paste-ups.

Our new \$500 chip is... lilac?

Imagine this: You're winning big at Lady Luck ... so big you're starting to bet \$500 a hand at 21. Out rushes the casino manager with our new \$500 chips. You stare at them, but you don't believe what you're seeing.

They're lilac.

Believe it or not, that's the traditional color for \$500 casino chips. Besides, if you're going to bet that big, you have to break out of the red, green and black syndrome (\$5, \$25 and \$100).

So the next time you're betting big, just ask for "The Lilacs." You deserve the best.

LADY LUCK

A slot mechanic told me that if the coins coming out of a machine are warm, the machine is ready to pay out.



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A system of standardizing chip descriptions has been announced by Howard Herz of the Coin Company, formerly High Sierra Numismatics. Howard is the curator of the famous 'Harvey's Collection', probably the largest collection of chips in existence. Please...take the time to read Howard's article and related paid advertisements for his proposed chip description system, in an attempt to get everyone to begin to 'speak the same standard language.'.



MORE NEW A.C. \$25 SLOT TOKENS!

FLASH!! As the deadline for this newsletter issue neared, my wife Brenda and I were on vacation during the week immediately prior to the 4th of July holiday. It would appear that at least three more A.C. casinos have introduced \$25 slot machines in anticipation of the huge holiday crowds that have traditionally made this the biggest weekend of the year in the "Casino City by the Sea".

The Bally's Park Place and Bally's Grand \$25 tokens were both struck by the Jani Mint in .999 fine silver and each weighs 1.25 ounces and are dated 1989. The Caesars \$25 token was manufactured by Green Duck Corp. and is struck in antiqued pewter.



CLASSIFIED ADS

JUST UPDATED MY COMPLETE LIST OF traders from Nevada, A.C. Foreign. Please contact me. Bruce Landau 44 West Gate Road. Suffern, NY 10901.

*****\$
\$1, \$2.50, \$5 ATLANTIC CITY chip sets for sale. \$12.50 per set from the following A.C. casinos; Bally's Bally's Grand, Caesar's, Claridge, Harrah's Marina, Park Place, Resorts International, Sands, Showboat, Tropicana, Trump Castle, Trump Plaza (your choice). "Mr. Chips" P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723. P&I extra.

BOARDWALK REGENCY ATLANTIC CITY 1979 \$1 small size token for sale to the highest bidder. Also available, 300 different chips. Send large SASE for free list. AL ZAIKA P.O. Box 65 Belmawr, NJ 08031-0065.

***** SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION DATES *****

1st Quarter:	Jan, Feb, Mar
Mailing Date:	Jan 15th
2nd Quarter:	Apr, May, Jun
Mailing Date:	Apr 15th
3rd Quarter:	Jul, Aug, Sep
Mailing Date:	Jul 15th
4th Quarter:	Oct, Nov, Dec
Mailing Date:	Oct 15th

NOTE: Advertising deadline is the last day of the month prior to mailing date.

***** ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE *****

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1989
10:00 A.M. ROOM SOUTH 11

DAVID LAWRENCE CONVENTION CENTER
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
FREE ADMISSION



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PUERTO RICO CASINO CHIPS
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PUERTO RICO CASINO BUSINESS IS BOOMING

Our visit showed us that business is booming... the casino industry is doing the best it has in years... the weekend was sold out at the Condado Plaza and this is June, their slowest time of the year... the government had given approval for new slot machines and they were busy.

Permission had just recently been granted for gaming tournaments and the Condado Plaza had their first baccarat tourney... it was well attended and brought good players from Venezuela.

The casinos have spread their marketing efforts to South and Central America and they have reaped major benefits from these areas.

The Williams Hospitality Group, owners and operators of the Condado Plaza and the Island's five star hotel, the El San Juan, have just settled on the former Conquistador property, near Fajardo, and they have formed a partnership with a Japanese company to build a major destination resort on that site... they have also purchased a small island off the coast and will operate a shuttle to their property.

The El San Juan has expanded their casino and will build a new tower in addition to another large swimming pool and other amenities... they have added a few more restaurants and expect to be at 85% capacity for the month.

The Japanese company has purchased four thousand acres of land adjacent to Guajataca, within a few miles of Quebradillas, the town where we coached many years ago... they expect to build three large hotels with major casinos... there is a move toward in-island expansion and they have selected some beautiful sites for future projects.

A New Deal

Sam Levinson tells about going into Lindy's for a late-night snack and being approached by a new waiter.

"Where's my regular waiter?" Sam asked.

"Your regular waiter ain't your regular waiter any



THE INFORMATION BOOTH

Edited by Michael Knapp (CH-007)

If one thing has become apparent since we began this column, it is that there are a lot of unknown chips out there! If you can identify a chip shown in this column, or can answer a question the panel can't, please don't be bashful - send your answers to Michael Knapp, 5410 Banbury Drive, Worthington, OH 43235. Remember, if someone has sent in a UFC (Unidentified Flying Chip) for information, chances are that there are other members who have the same chip and who are waiting for the answer. Please share what you know!

Questions still unanswered from previous issues: 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15.

New questions, and some answers:

Q. 16: This chip is from a cruise ship casino, but how can I tell which one?

A. 16: We can narrow the field for you, but we can't give you a definitive answer, because there is none! Most cruise lines lease their on-board casinos to experienced operators who specialize in conducting shipboard casinos. One of the largest such casino operators is Atlantic Maritime Services, headquartered in Springfield, Mass. Atlantic Maritime uses the same chips in all on-board casinos it runs, so this chip could have been used on any of the following ships:

Bermuda Star Line: Bermuda Star, Queen of Bermuda, Vera Cruz
Crown Cruise Line: Crown Del Mar, Viking Princess
Discovery Cruises: Discovery I
Dive & Sail Holiday: Aquanaut Ambassador



Europa Cruise Line: Europa Star, Europa Sun
Holland American Line: Nieuw Amsterdam, Noordam, Rotterdam, Westerdam
Premier Cruise Line: Starship Atlantic, Starship Majestic,
Starship Oceanic
Princess Cruise Line: Dawn Princess, Fair Princess, Fairstar,
Sky Princess
Regent Cruise Line: Regent Sea, Regent Star, Regent Sun
Royal Cruise Line: Crown Odyssey, Golden Odyssey
Sea Escape: Scandanavian Saga, Scandanavian Sky, Scandanavian Sun,
Scandanavian Star
Sun Lines: Stella Solaris
Tropical Cruise Line: Southern Elegance

The best way to identify cruise line chips (Atlantic Maritime isn't the only operator who runs more than one line's casinos) is to ask the person who obtained it for you.

Q. 17: What do the following casino token mint marks mean?

- (a)  (b)  (c) LM (d) NCM (e)  (f) 

A. 17: As with coins, mint marks identify the manufacturer of the token. These are: (a) Franklin Mint, (b) Green Duck, (c) Letcher Mint, (d) Nevada Coin Mart, (e) Jani Mint, (f) Silver State Mint.

Q. 18: I have read that what is now Harrah's Lake Tahoe used to be George's Gateway Club became Harveys. Which is correct?

A. 18: The confusion probably stems from the fact that William F. Harrah at one time owned all the property you mention. Let's take one at a time. George's Gateway Club, the first casino at Lake Tahoe, was built by George Cannon. In 1955 it was purchased by Bill Harrah for \$500,000. Harrah cleaned it up a bit and re-named it The Lake Club. Four years later, the property was purchased by Harvey Gross for \$5 Million (not a bad investment for Mr. Harrah!). Harvey Gross built it into the present day Harvey's which, by the way, boasts the first high-rise hotel at Lake Tahoe (1963).

Meanwhile, across the street from George's Gateway Club, Nathan "Tonopah Nick" Abelman built the Stateline Country Club, and sold it in 1944 to Nick and Eddie Sahati, gamblers from Reno. Next door to Stateline Country Club, the Nevada Club, another casino, was built in 1946.

In 1958, three years after he had purchased George's Gateway Club, Bill Harrah bought both Stateline Country Club and the Nevada Club. He merged the two under the name South Shore Room. In 1973, Harrah opened his hotel and remodelled and enlarged casino where the South Shore Room had been, and Harrah's was then directly across the street from Harvey's. The South Shore Room still survives, in a sense: it's the name of the showroom at Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Rumor has it that Holiday Corp., current owners of all the Harrah's properties, have put Harrah's Lake Tahoe on the block. Asking Price? \$450,000,000.

Q. 19-25: These are new chip questions we have answers or partial answers to:

A. 19: "R.D. Casino," from a dealing school for Atlantic City hopefuls, in Margate, N.J.



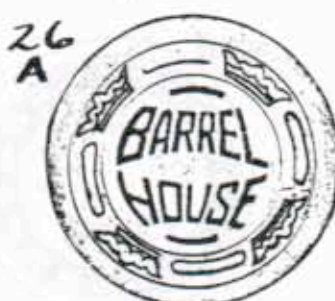


A. 20: Hotel Elwell (1946-1965) was located at First and Carson Streets, downtown Las Vegas. From 1965-1968 it was the Pioneer Hotel (different from the Pioneer Club on Fremont Street), then became the Golden Hotel. In 1984 the Golden Hotel burned down, and the site is now the Golden Nugget parking garage.

A. 21: The Maumee Club was a "private club" run by Detroit's Purple Gang in Maumee, Ohio, a suburb of Toledo, in the 1930's and 1940's.

A. 22: Sy Redd's Tower Club was in Jean, Nevada, near the California border west of Las Vegas, and was located near the present Kactus Kate's.

A. 23: Reno Country Club on Plumas Road; built around 1931, burned down in 1938. Now the Washoe County Golf Course.



A. 24: Pace Bros: Stockton, California.

A. 25: Elk Horn: Manitoba, Canada or Susanville, Calif.

Does anyone have a definitive answer?

Q. 26: Could these be from the Barrel House listed in the Blue Book for Fallon, Nevada?

Q. 27-48: Help Needed! These are panel stumpers, but we know of several members who have these chips. If you know anything about them, please let us know. Thanks to our panel members for their input for this issue, and to Al Zaika (CH-055) for his help as well.



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39A



39B



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The "26" Game And It's Chicago Tokens

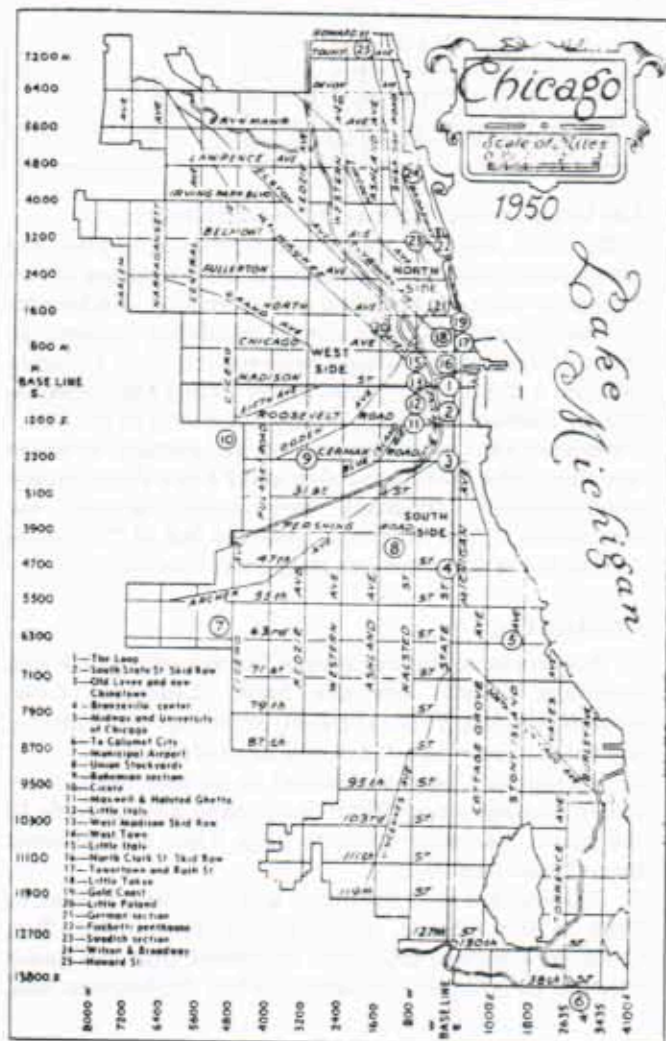
by Fred Zinkann

Agostino's, The Airdrome, Joe Bigley's, the Bil-is Club Tavern, The Blue Eagle, Brady's Leclair Pub, Brevoort's Crystal Tap, The Chatter Box, The Cloverbar, Club Detour, Colosimo's, The Cuck-oo Frolics, Danny's Blue Ribbon Bar, Fogarty's Bomb Shelter, The Gladhouse, The Grand Terrace Cafe, The Hide Away Tap, Math Iglor's Casino, The Ivanhoe, The Lyric Bar, The Majestic Buffet, Mac's

Rendezvous, The Maplewood Inn, The Mayfair Grill, Nappo Gardens, The New Silver Moon, Old King Cole Inn, The Pow Wow Cafe, The Riviera, The Showboat, The Skyline Lounge, The Somerset Lodge, The Tally-Ho, Tip Top Tap, The Varsity, The Wagon Wheel Inn, The Yacht Club, The Yankee Doodle Tap, The Zebra Lounge: Chicago watering holes all, where your *aqua vitae* might cost you anything from \$2.00 for a martini to 10¢ for a beer in the 1930s, 40s, and 50s. What these nightclubs and dives had in common, however, was not only alcoholic. They also had a game that everyone knew was illegal — and that everyone played. The "26" game.

Probably the most elaborate of all bar-dice games, the "26" had its own tables, check sheets, girl attendants — and tokens, tokens that helped keep the game and the tavern owners going. Many Chicago tokens from three decades were minted for the very purpose of "26" game use and the businesses of origin were not shy about advertising their names and addresses: "the action is here!" many of the pieces seem to say. And to many Chicagoans the game did not seem to be heavy or serious gambling, so widespread was it; the fact that "26" paid off only in tokens, to stimulate bar business, made it appear an even more innocent game for big casinos as well as little saloons.¹ And with law enforcement agents looking the other way, the game could keep on rolling for years, and did.

"26" went this way. A player got ten dice in a leather cup; he could choose any number from one to six to play for, like chuck-a-luck at a church bazaar. In thirteen throws of those ten dice he had to make his number 26 times or more. If he chose the number four, for example, it would be necessary for him to





throw 26 fours in his thirteen throws, a total of 130 chances to get them. He paid 25¢ hard cash in an attempt to win \$1.00 in tokens for his 26 winners. If he threw 33 or more, he got a \$2.00 win. If he threw his number four only 11 times or less, he also won a dollar. A total of 13, unlucky 13, got a 50¢ payoff.¹

Usually the game was played on a simple 3 ft. x 2 ft. green felt-topped table and controlled by a pretty female attendant who marked the dice count, paid off the winners in tokens, and got fairly well paid (she could average \$50.00 a week plus commissions in 1950) just for being around.

The token payoffs came most often in the 25¢ and \$1.00 pieces to insure a quick visit to the bar for usage; other denominations — 5¢, 10¢, and 50¢ pieces — were available at the bar to make change for lower priced drinks: a bottle of beer was 10-15¢, a shot of whiskey, 15¢ or two for 25¢. So actual token exchange must have been quite active, though the tokens of this era show little wear. Some were payable in drinks only, some in food and drinks, some in the good old standby "trade." The elaborate, large dollar tokens of the more prosperous nightclubs often had images or logos and were sometimes numbered for better accounting (see the Halsted Casino piece, with its heraldic arms and #131). The 38mm Trade Winds white metal check is typical, as is the Rose Bowl maverick in brass.

The city-wide addresses on these tokens certainly show how prevalent the play had become by the late 1950s. From the Far North (The Baritz on Sheridan Road at Irving Park) to the Far South (The Wooden Shoe Cafe on Stony Island) to the West (The Miller Steak House on Western) to the very heart of the loop (The Brown Derby, on Monroe and Wabash), the game covered the entire city.² Even with police and populace acceptance of the "26," however, the businesses were discreet about the gambling aspects of their activities; many tokens mention they are from "grills," "cafes," "lounges," and "restaurants." But these markets found their best use as poker chips, a la



Las Vegas, rather than as trade stimulators.

By 1960, the "26" game and its places of play had pretty much cast their fates to the wind because of two things — police corruption and television. Kickbacks to law officers allowing illegal gambling became so disruptive and alarmingly widespread that Orlando Wilson, a tough Commissioner of Police appointed by Mayor Richard J. Daley, finally put a stop to the "26." Television kept nightclubbers and bar patrons at home watching *The Untouchables* and *I Love Lucy*; home entertainment replaced large-scale tavern entertainment. And the thirty year old fad of "26" dice-rolling in smokey bars lost its glamor forever.

Footnotes

1. According to Illinois laws of the era, the game was definitely illegal. See the book, *Chicago: Confidential!* (New York, 1950) by Mortimer and Lait, for a good expose of the game and its practitioners.
2. Variations, too complicated to go into here, were called Hooligan and Bing. Both gave poorer odds to the player, but were faster to play. They also allowed more house cheating.
3. Bill Williges says the game was definitely played in Iowa in the thirties, especially in Sioux City. Ben Odesser, Chicago collector, mentions that the game enjoyed its greatest popularity after Prohibition was



repealed in 1933. The game was played for cash in some of the taverns of Moline and Rock Island, Illinois, on the Mississippi River. Many thanks to Robert D. Leonard, Jr. and Don Valenziano, Jr. for their help on this article.



Cash out of the casinos

By Bill Borland (CH-032)

The way to the future is to take the cash out of the casinos. It's an opinion slowly being echoed by more and more people in the industry, who are beginning to think there are better ways to handle betting. The change will, in the beginning, affect only slot machines, as two Las Vegas companies and one New York company are devising slot systems that allow a credit card, rather than tokens or coins, to be inserted.

Cashless slots are based on the use of computers and a specially coded card that a customer receives from the cashier's cage. When the card is put in the machine, it displays the amount of money in the customer's account. For example, if the customer has \$100 in his account, and he inserts his card into a machine, the \$100 will be displayed. Win or lose your account will be credited or drawn down until you cash out or run out of money.

The credit card machines will virtually eliminate coin jams, slugs, foreign coins, and "stringing a coin," a practice used to cheat the machine by attaching a

string to a coin and putting it into the coin slot and then drawing it back out.

Every employee who has access to the computer must program in his specially coded badge number, which can be traced. This means that security wouldn't be much of a problem, cashless slots might also result in the elimination of certain jobs, such as change girls and security personnel.

The industry's point of view is cashless slots would provide a "tremendous" accounting system. The system also would leave a traceable audit trail behind the player, thus virtually eliminating the laundering of money. It's difficult to find a casino executive who will say anything negative about cashless slots. *Needless to say, the Internal Revenue Service is all for it.* First the Gaming Control Board must put the machines and their computer systems through a barrage of tests to test their feasibility. Then comes the actual board approval of the games.

And, then long gone will be the coins, tokens, and needless to say, the excitement of the game.

TIPS ON TIPPING AT YOUR HOTEL

In response to letters asking us for guidelines on how much to tip for the various services in Las Vegas, the following are suggestions gleaned from a survey of hotel personnel. All agree, however, that a tip is a reward for good service, not a fixed requirement, and the suggested amounts are based upon traditional practice by guests.

Bell Captains and Bellmen. While it pretty much depends on the size of the baggage load handled for you, it's conventional to tip around five dollars if you have several bags. Also, remember that the bell captain and his staff can perform many other services for you, such as arrangements for shows, travel, car, etc., so slipping the desk \$5 ensures that you'll be well accommodated.

Showroom Maitre d's. Much depends on which show. At the bigger "name" shows and spectaculars, you might tip from \$5 to \$20 for desired seating. At many other shows, the range of \$5 is conventional. Higher ranges are purely optional.

Restaurant & Room Service. Waiters and waitresses in Las Vegas usually are tipped the same as in any city, 15% or slightly more, depending on how you enjoyed the service.

Cocktail Waitresses & Bartenders. As anywhere, a dollar a round for two people, \$2 for four and a little more for larger rounds, your judgment being your guide.

Dealers & Slot People. At the tables, players usually tip by placing a small bet from time to time for the dealers, depending on how luck and their service is treating you. Tipping keno runners and slot people usually comes from good service by the runners and change people, plus your run of luck, of course.

Valet Parking & Maids. Here, a tip of \$1 to the car attendant is in order, and, as in other countries, leaving the maid a tip upon departure (a dollar per day, usually) is appreciated.

"A CHIPS & TOKENS DISPLAY"

By Dr. Irwin E. Gross R-130

When I started collecting casino chips and tokens, I was undecided on how to display them. Rather than put them in a coin collecting type book, I wanted them where I could see them every day.

I finally evolved the following system, which is easy to make and allows you to rearrange or add to your collection very simply.

I use aluminum sectional frames. They come in pairs and you buy two sets, the size depending on the dimensions that you want. At the same time, have them cut a piece of foam board in the size that the sectional frames will make.

I bought felt at a sewing supply store. I use black since all tokens and most chips contrast well against it (I did make a small frame using green felt for my poker chips).

Cut the felt approximately two inches longer in each dimension and glue it to the foam board with white glue. After the glue dries, trim the felt to the size of the board with a sharp knife or scissors. You then assemble the frame and insert the felt covered board.

The chips are held on the board with map pins. I first tried double-stick tape but found that the chips kept falling off.

Map pins are short, large headed pins which come in different colors. They can be purchased at a stationary or art supply store.

I use black for chips and silver for tokens. I have found that three pins are enough for chips; two at the bottom and one at the top. Since tokens are heavier, I use four pins.



I've made caption labels with a label maker and use a map pin at either end since the labels do not adhere well to the felt.

Picture wire is then attached to the back with the attachment supplied with the frames. It can be hung as a work of art in your home or office where it can be admired each day.

I have found that this system is a simple project and makes it very easy to add to, or rearrange your collection.



"IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT"

World-Wide Casino Exchange has established an "International Numbering System to identify ALL Casino Chips". Every Chip that has been manufactured is assigned a permanent identification number.
"These I.C.I.N. numbers will never change."

"I. C. I. N."

"INTERNATIONAL CHIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBER"

This ICIN numbering system will simplify and standardize the frustrating job of identifying Casino Chips. In the past most dealers have just pulled numbers out of the air to list their chips. We too have been guilty of this. But, that all changed with the "Blue Book of Casino Chips." The ICIN numbers are already in use in the "Blue Book". These numbers have already set the standard. And, they will remain in effect indefinitely.

Definitions of the ICIN numbers that appear in the "Blue Book of Casino Chips" are as follows:

Letters in front of the identification numbers indicate the location, *i.e.*

The 1st alphabetical listing in the "Blue Book" (Section 1-a, page 1) is #NC-1000. The NC stands for a Nevada Chip and its permanent identification number is #1000 (*.50¢ Aladdin Hotel Chip*)

The Listing includes a Complete Description of the Chip, Denomination, Color, Mould Design, Plus the History and Facts about the Casino, the Location and the Rarity of the Chip. (*It even includes colorful stories of the good Ole' days.*)

"DEFINITIONS"

NC = NEVADA CHIP

AC = ATLANTIC CITY Chip

CC = CALIFORNIA CHIP

MC = MISCELLANEOUS CHIP

RC = ROULETTE CHIP

GS = GAMBLING SHIP Chip

FA = FOREIGN Chip AMERICAN Style

FE = FOREIGN Chip EUROPEAN Style

Start using the ICIN numbers NOW when referring to a specific chip so that we can all speak the same language in the future.

A personal Thank You to those of you that have supported "The Blue Book" and a "special" Thank You to all the collectors that have contributed with their "In Put". You have helped us make the "Blue Book" the most complete documentation of its kind, and it will serve us all faithfully for years to come.
(*If you have any suggestions for the ICIN numbering system we would appreciate hearing from you.*)

Collectively, Bill Borland

WORLD-WIDE CASINO EXCHANGE
P.O. BOX 14827 * LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114-4827
TEL: (702) 734-6089

(See letters from Collectors on the other-side of this page.)

"BLUE BOOK of CASINO CHIPS" "TESTIMONIALS"

Super Job on your "Blue Book of Casino Chips". **Archie Black, New Jersey.**

The "Blue Book" is great, well worth the wait, it answers so many questions I've had about chips from the past. I'm looking forward to the update sections already. **Ray Sieverling, California.**

Your "Blue Book of Casino Chips" is terrific. The historical content alone is worth the price of the book. The Binder Format is a great idea for updating the publication. The numerous domestic and foreign casinos make it a prime reference source. **Marshall Fey, Liberty Belle Saloon, Nevada.**

Your "Blue Book of Casino Chips" is fantastic. It was a tremendous undertaking to research and classify the hundreds of Chips. It has already given me many enjoyable hours of perusing and checking my collection against the book. I know that all collectors, present and in the future, will appreciate the effort that you made and for your devotion to our hobby. **Dr. Allan Myers, Kentucky.**

I have received my copy of the Blue Book and am stunned. It is a very impressive piece of work, I can fully understand the amount of work that this sort of book must have required. Just the little amount of research I have tried to do for the chips in my collection has managed to frustrate me beyond control a few times. Thank you for this wonderful book. **Paul Zindel, California.**

A great job you did on the first edition of "The Blue Book of Casino Chips". We are quite satisfied with the results. **Janice & Jerry O'Neal, Michigan.**

I received the Blue Book of Casino Chips yesterday, and immediately found it well worth the wait. I found the book to be exactly what I had hoped it would be. The history of the chips and the casinos they came from, makes collecting them that much more interesting. Having my own business I know that when something is done wrong you never hear the end of it, but when something is done exceptionally well nothing is ever said. This is just a little note to say thank you and that all of your work is appreciated. Thanks again for writing a book that I know I will use and *show-off* many times in the future. **Larry Spiegel, Pennsylvania.**

An incredible job! I liked most of all it's easy usage, that should be standard in this difficult series. **Efrain Archilla-Diez, Puerto Rico.**

Fantastic! **Rick Meyers, California.**

I think your "Blue Book" is great, what a super effort. **Jim Munding, California.**

Just a note to let you know how much I'm enjoying the Blue Book. **Dan Dopudja, California**

I miss the "Newsletter", but the Blue Book is great. Learning a lot from it. **Raymond Pearson, New York.**

I was truly impressed with your undertaking and the Quality of the Blue Book. **Stanley Griff, New Jersey**

Just go ahead and charge my Account on all future issues of the "Blue Book". **David Cuthbertson, Michigan.**

The "Blue Book" is just about perfect, thanks for the effort in putting it together, a great job. **Paul Abrahams, Calif.**

Bill, under Canada in Section 5 you have Cash Casinos Located in Edmonton, Alberta. They are actually located in Calgary, Alberta. **Barry Pritchard, Canada.** *(Thank you Barry, that's the kind of input we need from collectors)*

Researching and Cross-Checking in the Blue Book is half the fun of Chip Collecting. I'm glad to send you as much update information as I can to keep the Blue Book as complete as possible. It's the only work of its kind, and I hope other serious collectors will do the same. **Michael Knapp, Ohio**

Amazing, everything I needed to know about American Chips. **Marc-Andre Reynckens, Belgium.**

A great contribution to our State. **Special Collections Dept. University of Nevada Las Vegas.**

I sure enjoy my "Blue Book" of Casino Chips. I know how much work it took, to come up with that. It's great for us Dealers and Collectors. **Don (Deb's) Bestle, California.**

Our list offers chips from around the world but primarily from the United States. Numbering is assigned by World-Wide Casino Exchange's "Official Blue Book of Casino Chips." **Paul Cunningham, Michigan.**

UNTANGLING THE MYSTERY OF GAMING CHECKS

by Howard W. Herz
C.C.G.T.C.C. Historian

Several years ago I was confronted with a rather monumental project. As the curator of Harvey's Resort Hotel's collections of gaming checks and gaming tokens I had the responsibility of keeping track of their collections. As a collector this job was interesting, but to meet the needs of their accounting department, I was asked to give a descriptive listing of each check and chip in the collection. I gave some thought to this challenge and realized that an adequate description would be quite detailed and there were no "standard" ways to describe a check in the literature of numismatics. To satisfy their needs, I began a search to find a way to describe a gaming chip. My first lesson was from one of Harvey's pit bosses who quite arrogantly told me that I should quite properly call any "chip" with a value a "check". After this stern admonition he of course turned around and called the "cage" and ordered a rack of "\$100 Chips" for Craps-6! So much for consistency in the industry. Having begun my search for information at Harvey's, several wise "gamers" sent me off to see the Paulson Company. Paulson was most interested in my quest and offered their knowledge of terminology and standard industry practices. I was gaining on the mystery of checks and chips when Dale Seymour published his landmark work on chips. His work illustrated for me the difference between "generic" chips and "private" checks. I began to see that for years a number of companies had offered a variety of "poker chips" to the public and that these were distinctly different as a group from the gaming checks and wheel chips that were used in private clubs. The first difference was that "private" checks and chips had a far greater consideration for security than the regularly available "poker chips". Most of the "generic" designs were copied between the manufacturers. Almost none of the "checks" designs were copied. Further research led me to realize that from about 1890 to 1938 there was only one major manufacturer of gaming checks. This fact eliminated a great amount of research. From 1938 to about 1970 there were only about 3 major manufacturers and a large number of distributors. One of the major considerations for this was the large security responsibility that existed with anyone who manufactured checks. They were essentially manufacturing "money" in an "industry" that had a very low tolerance for counterfeiting. Having found the manufacturers and the distributors I researched their catalogs and began to see a pattern. Alas, there was hope for finding a common thread and solving the mystery of "gaming checks". The fact that most of the checks were made by a single manufacturer accounted for the similarity in styles with only subtle differences. Now the problem was to define the differences that the distributors created for their own protection - the molds. I returned to Harvey's collection and began to document the molds, inlay shapes and insert types in the collection. As a pattern began to emerge, the story of "gaming checks" also began to have a sense of order.

Checks were created in the late 1800's to provide a simple and consistent medium of exchange in gambling. Their most natural design was to follow the circular shape of coins, most prominently the Silver Dollar. With silver dollars in almost constant use in the United States at the time their size was roughly equivalent. For convenience, all denominations of checks were usually made in the same size for ease of handling and storage. As long as the silver dollar circulated freely in the West, most of the gaming checks were of other denominations. During the period from about 1890 to 1931, private checks would often have the name of the Club or individual, but rarely would they have a denomination, as that would constitute prima-faci evidence of gambling in a "raid". When Nevada legalized gaming in 1931, gaming checks changed. With

legalized gaming, checks could be a source of advertising. By providing a wide variety of colors and designs, a distributor could protect his customer from having "foreign" checks run into their game. The first checks in the early 1930's have a certain similarity in design. As gaming spread in Nevada, new methods of telling checks apart had to be devised. The next improvement was the development of a different colored insert in the edge of a check. This provided a simple device for differentiating checks in a stack. Following the introduction of inserts, different shapes of inlays were used. For more than 40 years, the standard "clay" checks dominated the market. When the Bud Jones Company introduced their plastic injection molded checks, they were the first part of a wave of technology that would slowly change the industry. Initially, the new checks were not well received. If for no other reason, superstition and the idea of "keeping the luck going" by not changing dominated the thinking of the gaming industry. Technology however would have the last word. The wave of technology that provided new ideas also created the need for greater protection from problems of counterfeiting and cheating. During the early 1980's and up to the present time we are experiencing numerous changes in the gaming check technology with the future indicating such items as "smart checks" and other possibilities that will certainly change the industry.

Throughout my research on gaming checks one of the most evident characteristics that checks have reflected is the mystique of gambling. In the public sense, gambling has for most of its history in the United States been either morally forbidden or legislated as illegal. These two forms of prohibition have been reflected by the gaming checks. The words "633 / \$1 / CLUB" are enough to advertise the quasi-legal gambling that could be found at 633 York Street, Newport Kentucky, but fell short of blatant advertising. Checks with initials, but no values kept the games "just friendly" in the eyes of the law in many a state. Non-Nevada gaming checks with a full name, value, and address suggest a certain public attitude when traced to a state where gaming was illegal.

Having traveled a certain distance into the mystery of gaming checks I have one nice thing to report, there is still an intriguing mystery there! Given the consistency that gaming checks have had in the past we have several keys to unlock some of the remaining mysteries for collectors. One of the biggest remaining mysteries is how many checks were made and of course for who and when. This is the essence of the mystery that continues to interest me. As time goes on, the older gamblers are falling prey to time and their knowledge is quickly slipping away from the historians. Most of the history of gambling that is told by the gaming checks will be written from the research of collectors. As our hobby grows, I think that we will continue to find it a source of mysteries and interest.

Howard W. Herz
C.C.G.T.C.C. Historian

A SUGGESTION FOR STANDARD DESCRIPTIONS FOR GAMING CHECKS & CHIPS

During the last meeting of the C.C.G.T.C.C. at the 1988 A.N.A. convention in Cincinnati, a recommendation was made that the Club should set some standards for collectors in the hobby. The basis for this suggestion was to avoid confusion as the hobby grows by setting some standard methods of description for gaming checks and chips. This would give the collector a common "language" to converse with each other and would reflect the traditions of the gaming industry that developed the checks and chips.

In support of this goal, *The Coin Company* (formerly High Sierra Numismatics) would like to recommend their standards as described in "Harvey's Guide to Collecting Gaming Checks and Chips". This publication was researched and written in 1984 to provide a systematic way of cataloging the collection owned by Harvey's Resort Hotel. The research for this book was conducted within the gaming industry and tried to reflect the standards used by the industry to describe checks and chips. We also tried to approach the descriptions from the point of view of a new collector, who, without prior knowledge, would probably use his intuition and common sense.

For the consideration of collectors in the hobby, some of the background to our research might be of interest. We began our research by contacting the major manufacturers of checks and interviewing individuals in the gaming industry to determine the terminology used by the industry. The various manufacturers gave us their standards of description. After analyzing the various descriptions we were given, we chose the most common or most reasonable descriptions we could find. One of the most frequently asked questions by collectors has been why did we choose the mold names? Most of the mold names are the ones that the manufacturers used and are descriptive of the design on the chips. Many collectors will refer to the "T.R. King mold" or the "H.C. Edwards mold". We chose not to do this for several reasons. First, the name of the distributor of the checks who owned the mold is not common knowledge outside of the gaming industry and the design on the mold does not always indicate a connection to the distributor. Second, in several instances, a "private" mold has become a "open" mold, thus being used by several distributors. We chose the design name used by the distributor or the name that would most likely describe the design. The choice of descriptions for inserts and inlay shapes comes from the Paulson Company who seemed to reflect a common terminology in the industry.

Our book was written in 1984, at a time when the technology of check manufacturing was in a state of change. In recommending our "standards" we realize that today's checks will require new standards of description. To accommodate this situation, we would recommend that the Club continue to develop descriptive standards for gaming checks as the manufacturing processes change.

In making this recommendation, we are not advocating any special type of "numbering" system, rather the system that collector's would use to describe the "physical" properties of any particular check & chip.

We have included with this edition of the Newsletter a "Quick Reference" guide that lists some of our descriptive terms. We ask that each member take a moment and give these terms some consideration. Please give the Club your comments on this proposal.

It is our belief that by suggesting these guidelines, the hobby will grow in an orderly fashion. These guidelines would not be "enforced" but rather suggested to standardize terminology and descriptions. We are asking that the you, the collectors, give this some thought. Please give the Club your ideas and help the Club to be of benefit to the hobby.

Thank You for Your Consideration of this Proposal!

**Howard (Howdy) W. Herz - Owner
The Coin Company
P.O. Box 1000
Minden, Nevada 89423
(702) 782-5678**

See us at the A.N.A. Tables 252 & 254

"LONG LIVE THE DOLLAR SLOT TOKEN"

By Arthur J. Sanderson R-171

I'm so excited about my new hobby that I just have to tell someone, and everyone.

My coin collection went on the shelf when the only way to continue was shelling out at the coin store. My stamp collection met the same fate quite awhile back, when I was making weekly trips to the Post Office to keep up with the new issues.

After considerable thought and with no help from anywhere... I wondered what the gaming casinos were using in lieu of the long gone metal dollar.

One sure way to find out. "Delta was ready", and with a room at the Imperial Palace (Las Vegas) the wife and I hit the casino. I questioned the first man we saw playing the dollar slot machine. He very patiently explained to the "Rubes" that each casino has their own silver dollar size metal token with the name, logo, sometimes date, etc. Then in the machine it went, along with a couple of others. Amid the screaming, screeching and ringing of bells, I knew he had hit a jackpot. Realizing that he would insist on sharing his good fortune ...we scurried into the crowd in search of a change booth, and the entry into a new collecting field...THE DOLLAR SLOT TOKEN.

Since then, I've obtained an alphabetical list of licensed slot operators in the state of Nevada...from which I listed the names and addresses by town.

With the list, and a Nevada road map, I plan a trip of flying to a selected location, renting a car, and traveling a loop to cover as many slot spots as possible in a given number of days.

Since the first of the year, we've been to the Bahamas, Atlantic City twice, and Las Vegas twice...with more trips planned to cover North Nevada. I've collected over 240 different tokens...which I file like silver dollars. (2x2 coin holders, with name, date, and mint-mark inserted in 20 packet plastic pages in a loose leaf binder) One man overhearing my conversation with a "change girl" asked if I nailed 'em to a board.

I know this hobby is going to last. New casinos are being built like crazy.....I couldn't believe what I saw in Las Vegas and Laughlin. And now, other states are going to get into the act. "LONG LIVE THE DOLLAR SLOT".

P.S. "You published the number of club members in each state in the last issue of the newsletter. There are 3 others (members) in Georgia and more in surrounding states, but I don't know who or where. If there isn't room to print all their names and addresses...how about printing mine? Maybe they'll get in touch." 2701 Hwy 3 South Hampton, GA 30228.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A club directory is available from the Editor for \$1.00 listing all members addresses and their membership number. Addresses and telephone numbers have been withheld of those members only, who have expressed a desire not to have such info. included in the directory.

'NAME THAT NEWSLETTER CONTEST'

"CHIP NEWS"	JIM REYNOLDS	CH-005
"THE GAMING COLLECTIBLES NEWS"	FRED FRANCIS	CH-012
"THE GAMBLING COLLECTIBLES COLLECTORS QUARTERLY"	FRED FRANCIS	CH-012
"CHIPS AHOY"	FRED FRANCIS	CH-012
"CHIPS AHOY"	ROBERT EISENSTADT	R-159
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"THE THREE C'S"	H.N. ELSTON	CH-023
(CRAPS, CHIPS & CHANCE)		
"GAMING INFORMATION NEWSLETTER"	H.N. ELSTON	CH-023
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"CHIPS 'N TOKENS"	ARCHIE A. BLACK	CH-001
"THE GREEN FELT"	MICHAEL KNAPP	CH-007
"THE HARD WAY"	MICHAEL KNAPP	CH-007
"THE HAT & CANE"	MICHAEL KNAPP	CH-007
"THE INLAY"	MICHAEL KNAPP	CH-007
"THE CASHIER'S CAGE"	MICHAEL KNAPP	CH-007
"CHIPALANCHE"	BRENDA BLACK	CH-069
"CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK"	BRENDA BLACK	CH-069
"AMERICAN GAMING COLLECTIBLES ASSOCIATION"	MICHAEL HURLEY	CH-094
"CHIPENS" (CHIP and tokens)	HENRY H. BESSLER	R-160
"CHIP AND TOKEN NEWS"	ROBERT MATTHEWS	CH-091
"GAMCO NEWS" (Gaming Money Collectors)	STANLEY GRIFF	R-176
"CASINO CHIP & GAMING TOKEN"	DONALD J. BUTZ	R-099
"CASINO CHIP & TOKEN CLUB QUARTERLY"	DR. ALLEN MYERS	CH-027
"CASINO C.A.T. COLLECTORS QUARTERLY"	DR. ALLEN MYERS	CH-027
"CASINO C.A.T. CLUB NEWSLETTER"	DR. ALLEN MYERS	CH-027
"CASINO MONEY NEWSLETTER"	ARCHIE A. BLACK	CH-001
"GAMING MONEY NEWSLETTER"	ARCHIE A. BLACK	CH-001
"GAMING CHIP & TOKEN GAZETTE"	AL ZAIKA	CH-005
"CHIP AND TOKEN CHATTER"	AL ZAIKA	CH-005
"ANTE UP"	AL ZAIKA	CH-005
"IN THE CHIPS"	BRUCE LANDAU	CH-002
"CHIPWORTHY"	BRUCE LANDAU	CH-002
"TOKENWORLD"	BRUCE LANDAU	CH-002
"XOMANIA"	BRUCE LANDAU	CH-002
"CHIP & TOKEN NEWS"	BRUCE LANDAU	CH-002

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TOKEN AND CHIP AUCTION

Well, many of you have requested a mail bid auction. Now is a good opportunity to get rid of some of your unwanted dupes. Keep in mind however, that common current chips and tokens, which most collectors already have, will not bring the same level of bidding interests that obsolete or scarcer issues will.

THE FOLLOWING RULES WILL APPLY:

Each member in good standing will be entitled to submit on paper up to 55 lots for publication in each quarterly issue of the club's newsletter.

Consignor's name and address will appear above or below his/her grouping of lots. All bids will be sent directly to the consignor by the bidder....not to any club officer.

A commission for listing each lot in the newsletter will be paid to the club treasury at the time the listing is submitted at a rate of 30 cents per lot (one line per lot.....maximum 55 lots). No other commissions will apply.

All lot descriptions will be made by the consignor as accurately as space will allow.

Consignor may offer lots with a reserve, or minimum bid designated (MB).

Actual postage and insurance costs will be borne by the successful bidder.

Any lot may be returned for a full refund if not as described in listing.

All disputes are to be settled amicably between buyer and seller. Unethical dealings may result in expulsion from the club if warranted, after review of no less than 3 appointed members who will serve on a grievance committee.

Colors will be abbreviated with the following 3 letter code: BLU=Blue, BLK=Black, BRN=Brown, PNK=Pink, PUR=Purple, GRY=Gray, GRN=Green, WHT=White, IVY=Ivory, RED=Red, YEL=Yellow, FUS=Fuscia, ORG=Orange.

Some of the more common manufacturer's molds will be noted by the following codes: H&C=Hat & Cane, SmCrn=Small Crown, LgCrn=Large Crown, SmMaze, LgMaze, ZIG-ZAG, HsHdRt=Horse Head Right, HsHdLt=Horse Head Left, -H-, T, DIASQ=Diamonds & Squares, D&C=Dice & Cards, BJ=Bud Jones Coin Inlay, LLL, XXX, DIA=Diamonds, RECT=Rectangle, NEV=Nevada on rim, HOUSE=Casino Name on Rim,

Inserts apply to the colored inserts in the rim (if any). Two or more inserts will be separated by /. Example: "BLU/RED/WHT Inserts".

Center linen inlays will be identified as "C.I." Center Metal or Coin Inlays will be designated "M.I." Chips without inlays are usually embossed in gold or silver letters/denominations and need not be mentioned, at your option. "EMB"=Embossed. Worn chips must be so noted, new chips must have crisp, sharp edges.

Incentive chips must be identified as such with the following abbreviations: FP=Free Play, NCV=No Cash Value, FN=Fun Nite, NN=Non-Negotiable, GFFD=Good For Free Drink, TGO=Table Games Only, ROU=Roulette, MC=Manufacturers Cancelled (holed, cut-outs, defaced, etc.), PLAS=Plastic,

TOKEN AND CHIP AUCTION

NOTE: PLEASE SEND ALL BIDS DIRECTLY TO CONSIGNOR...NOT TO CLUB!

1.	Jockey Club (L.V.) Set of 6 (Includes two \$500 chips)	M.B. \$25.00
2.	Smith's North Shore Club \$100 chip	M.B. \$ 7.00
3.	Carson Nugget \$5 orange chip + \$25 green chip	M.B. \$15.00
4.	10 Assorted Nevada Free Plays	M.B. \$10.00
5.	Valley School of Gaming Set of 4 (.25, \$1, \$5, \$25)	M.B. \$10.00
6.	Casino Du Liban (Lebanon) 500LL	M.B. \$25.00
7.	Bally's Grand (A.C.) \$5 Token	M.B. \$ 6.00
8.	25 Assorted Nevada chips (my choice)	M.B. \$45.00
9.	Castaways (L.V.) \$100 (black/3-red/3-beige)	M.B. \$20.00
10.	Palace Card Room Missoula, MT .25, \$1	M.B. \$ 6.00

BRUCE LANDAU 44 WEST GATE RD. SUFFERN, NY 10901

1.	\$1 Token 1982 Exchange Club (Beatty NV)	Unc.	M.B. \$4.00
2.	\$1 Tokens 1987 Depot (Fallon)/1985 Dinis Lucky Club (Yerrington)		\$5.00
3.	\$1 Tokens Model T (Winnemucca)/1983 Sturgeon's (Lovelock)	M.B.	\$5.00
4.	\$1 Tokens Ascuaga's Nugget (Sparks) 1984 Mint (Sparks)	M.B.	\$4.00
5.	\$1 Tokens Boomtown (Verdi) Model T (Winnemucca)	M.B.	\$5.00
6.	\$1 Token 1979 Winners Hotel Casino (Winnemucca)	M.B.	\$3.00
7.	\$1 Tokens 1980 The Gem (Reno) Airport Plaza (Reno)	M.B.	\$5.00
8.	\$1 Tokens 1987 Depot, 1983 Sturgeon's, 1988 Dinis Lucky Club	MB	\$8.00
9.	\$1 Token 1979 Cactus Pete's -Jackpot	M.B.	\$3.00
10.	\$1 Token 1987 Showboat - Atlantic City	M.B.	\$2.00
11.	\$1 Tokens 1981 Caesar's Palace (Caesar), Caesar's Palace (Chariot)		\$4.00
12.	\$1 Tokens 1988 Hotel Nevada, 1985 Rainbow Vegas	M.B.	\$5.00
13.	\$1 Tokens (L.V.) 1987 Dunes, 1979 Maxim	M.B.	\$5.00
14.	\$1 Tokens (L.V.) 1989 Hilton, 1987 Flamingo Hilton	M.B.	\$4.00
15.	\$1 Tokens (L.V.) Bourbon Street, Nevada Palace, Bally's	M.B.	\$6.00
16.	\$1 Token (L.V.) Golden Nugget (old) 1987 Tropicana	M.B.	\$5.00
17.	\$1 Chips (A.C.) Tropicana (Obsolete & New) White, 4 pnk,	M.B.	\$6.00
18.	\$5 Chip The Brighton (A.C.) Fun Nite Red	M.B.	\$4.00
19.	Harrah's (A.C.) Fun Nite \$1 Tan + \$5 Red	M.B.	\$5.00
20.	Harrah's Trump Plaza (A.C.) Fun Nite \$1 White + \$5 Red	M.B.	\$5.00
21.	Cards Sierra Sid's 76 Truck Stop Factory Sealed Blue	M.B.	\$3.00
22.	Cards Ascuaga's Nugget (Sparks) Blue	M.B.	\$2.00
23.	Cards Horseshu (Jackpot) Blue	M.B.	\$2.00
24.	Cards John's Tahoe Nugget Red	M.B.	\$1.00
25.	Cards Boomtown (Verdi)	M.B.	\$1.00
26.	Matchcovers 10 casinos - my choice	M.B.	\$2.50
27.	Matchcovers 5 casinos - my choice	M.B.	\$2.00
28.	Dice Stockman's Fallon Red unused	M.B.	\$3.00
29.	Dice Cactus Pete's Jackpot Red used	M.B.	\$2.00
30.	Dice Boomtown Verdi Red used	M.B.	\$2.00
31.	Dice Bill's Lake Tahoe 1 red, 1 blue Holed	M.B.	\$1.50
32.	Dice Ascuaga's Nugget Sparks Red used	M.B.	\$2.00

GEORGE PILLA

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