CASINO CHIP AND TOKEN NEWS

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FOR MEMBERS OF THE CASINO CHIPS AND GAMING TOKENS COLLECTORS CLUB

A MEMBER CLUB OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2

SPRING ISSUE, 1992 (APR, MAY, JUNE)

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(Photo by Bob Gaarder)

According to club member Bob Gaarder all of the building facades in Cripple Creek must remain in their original state in order to preserve the historical status when doing a restoration project on an existing building.

Pictured above is the shored up front of a building which will eventually open up as "MADAM JUNE'S" after reconstruction is complete. Note the concrete block work being erected as the building's new walls. Photo was taken in November, 1991.

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CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS
C. C. & G. T. C. C. NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHER & EDITOR
"Mr. Chips" ARCHIE A. BLACK
P. O. BOX 63 BRICK, NJ 08723

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SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION DATES

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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**

NOTICE: Advertising deadline is the **20th** of the month prior to mailing date. Please allow 3-4 weeks delivery for 3rd class mail.

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FUTURE A.N.A. CONVENTIONS

OFFICIAL ANNUAL CLUB MEETINGS:
(AUGUST)

1992	ORLANDO, FLORIDA
1993	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
1994	DETROIT, MICHIGAN
1995	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
1996	DENVER, COLORADO
1997	NEW YORK, NEW YORK
1998	PORTLAND, OREGON

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SEE COVER STORY AND PHOTO ON FRONT PAGE OF NEW MADAM JUNE'S IN CRIPPLE CREEK, COLORADO

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(January, February, March, 1992)

R-694	RICH HARTZOG
R-695	JUDY MATHERNE
R-696	JOHN MAINELLI
R-697	ROBERT E. AMBROSE
R-698	RONALD W. BAILEY
R-699	JOE AKSAMIT
R-700	LOU RITTER
R-701	RICHARD GONTAREK
R-702	GREG JOHNSON
R-703	JOHN R. GARDNER
R-704	TED BURDICK
R-705	JOHN BOW
R-706	PAMELA V. SMITH
R-707	WILLARD NEUMANN
R-708	JACK WEINGARTEN
R-709	LARRY JONES
R-710	JOHN CHOWANEC
R-711	MARY C. DE SANTIS
R-712	FRED COHEN
R-713	J. A. WARDLEY
R-714	DENNIS MOWREY
R-715	CHRISTOPHER ANDREWS
R-716	CALVIN D. SHORTER
R-717	JAY WRIGGINS
R-718	VERNON J. WONDERS
R-719	JULIEANN ROSSI
R-720	DALE N. BOWER
R-721	AL SIMONE
R-722	JAMES M. BELLIGAN
R-723	JAMES D. GARDNER
R-724	CARLOS A.G. PASCOAL
R-725	POLLY A. MATTSON
R-726	MITCHELL BOCK
R-727	DAVID GIBSON
R-728	JONATHAN CLARK
R-729	CHARLES BROWN
R-730	NICHOLAS CARNUCCIO
R-731	JAMES LOHRIUS
R-732	DENNIS CORPUS
R-733	RAY PACIFIC
R-734	MARISSA PANIGROSSO
R-735	GARY NICHOLS
R-736	TERRY FINLEY
R-737	RICHARD PISEGNA
R-738	JOHN HALEY
R-739	MICHAEL KUPPENBENDER
R-740	JACK NYE
R-741	GREG MOORE
R-742	MONTE SCHUFF
R-743	LIONEL MATTOS
R-744	BOB OSBORN
R-745	TED LUCE
R-746	JOSEPH E. SHANNON

F.U.N. CONVENTION MEETING REPORT

By Mark Lighterman CH-006

Our meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with fifteen CC&GTCC members in attendance and a reporter from Numismatic News. POLL ABBOTT, Florida United Numismatists Treasurer and CC&GTCC member, welcomed everybody to the 1992 F.U.N. show as we went around the room introducing ourselves and telling everyone what we collect. In attendance were three club member/dealers present at the meeting who had bourse tables at the show. They included PAUL CUNNINGHAM, HENRY GARRETT, and BOB MATTHEWS. One club member present was from Puerto Rico; all the rest were from the state of Florida.

We first spoke about the scarcity of casino chips from Cuba and I showed photos of the three Cuba chips that turned up at the last ANA convention in Chicago. We next discussed a new casino that opened up in Miami on the Miccosukee reservation. The new casino offers only BINGO, BINGO, BINGO! Traditional Bingo, Table or French Bingo and Bingo slots. One member reported that the table Bingo uses hot stamped chips with the word BINGO on one side and the word Miccosukee on the other. There was also talk of an Indian casino opening in Tampa (no news yet). Mentioned also was that river boat style gambling may start off the east coast of Florida and in the Gulf of Mexico.

Around 10:45 we adjourned and split up to do our "horse-trading". I explained to the NUMISMATIC NEWS reporter what we collect. At 11:00 a.m. I returned to my table on the bourse floor, but not before distributing 18 of our club souvenir woods that were made to commemorate our CC&GTCC meeting at the 1992 F.U.N. Convention.

A highlight of the show was seeing a collection of plaques from the Vichy Casino of the following denominations; 1,000,000; 100,000; 50,000; 10,000; 5,000; 500. These are as large as the plaques from Monte Carlo.

The meeting went very well and all were advised that our annual club meeting in August, during the ANA National Convention at Orlando, will be even larger.

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CHIP AND TOKEN COLLECTORS TO MEET IN JUNE AT CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY

O.K. all of you northeasterners..... mark your calendars. If you missed our annual meeting at Chicago last August, and if you think that you can't stand the Florida heat during our 1992 annual meeting in Orlando this coming August, you'll have an excellent opportunity to meet with many of your fellow "Yankee" collectors on Saturday, June 27th, at the Cherry Hill Hyatt.

A meeting room will be made available to CC&GTCC at 2:00 p.m. during the combined shows of the Garden State Numismatic Association convention and the New Jersey Token and Medal show; both shows being held simultaneously at the Cherry Hill Hyatt on Route 70. Cherry Hill is only 15 minutes away from Philadelphia and about one hour 15 minutes west of Atlantic City. Why not make a weekend out of it? There is plenty of historical attractions to see and do in the "City of Brotherly Love".... not to mention all of the excitement in "Sodom and Gomorrah By The Sea" in the other direction for you gaming enthusiasts.

CLUB ISSUES 1992 F.U.N. WOOD

Illustrated below is our second souvenir club wooden dollar that was distributed at the F.U.N.'92 CC&GTCC meeting this past January. This was our second meeting held in conjunction with the Florida United Numismatists convention. They are now available to our members who were not in attendance from Club V.P. Janice O'Neal. See ordering information published elsewhere. Most members order two woods so that they can show both sides in their albums.

The New Jersey Token and Medal Show

Cherry Hill Hyatt, Cherry Hill , NJ

Hwy. 70 — Across from race track

GENERAL EXONUMIA & LOTSA

CASINO CHIPS AND TOKENS!

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FREE ADMISSION

FOR INFORMATION:
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CLUB MEMBERSHIP PIN AVAILABLE

Just in from the manufacturer and now available to the membership, is an attractive 1 1/2" colorful cloisonne pin identifying those wearing it as a member of CC&GTCC.

Price is just $4 each and may be ordered from V.P. O'Neal. You'll be proud to wear this club pin on your cap or jacket lapel during your visits to shows, meetings and swap meets. Only 100 were made so it's first come first served.

MEMBER SUGGESTS MEMBERSHIP WOOD

Club member, TONI HEISEY wrote to V.P. O'Neal suggesting that "it would be a novel idea to provide each member with a membership card made up like a FUN chip." "All chips should have the club logo, but would have a different number (membership number) on each one. Charge each member an additional amount to pay for the cost of the unique membership card. We could carry them in our pockets for good luck. I'd like to be the first one to get such a membership card", concluded member HEISEY.

Well Tony, here you are. Who says we don't pay attention to what our members have to say?

If any other members would like to have their own lucky club wooden dollar with their CC&GTCC membership number printed on them, they too are now available from V.P. O'Neal for just .75 cents each, plus postage.

NO BULL!

'CAVEAT EMPTOR'
(LET THE BUYER BEWARE)

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CLUB OFFICERS
By Archie A. Black

A disturbing practice, becoming more prevalent in our hobby, is the ever increasing presence of "replica souvenir chips" being manufactured by major chip manufacturers in a different mold or center inlay "for use in key chains and belt buckles" and then being distributed as genuine casino chips by dealers throughout their networks. Many of you have seen them and you have written to me or to other club officers about it. There are some well meaning folks out there who should know better, but who are intentionally misrepresenting some of the chips they are offering for sale. I am sounding the alarm LOUD AND CLEAR for all to hear.

As President of this organization, I will not be a party to the outright hoax that is being perpetuated on our 600+ membership. If this unethical practice continues, it will contribute to the death of this hobby that so many people have come to love and enjoy. Do you really think that when the collector finds out that he/she has been duped by purchasing bogus chips at inflated prices that he/she is going to risk getting burned again; and again; and again? Bogus chips are not worth the $30, $40, $50 each that are being asked for them. The quick profit for the dealer who engages in selling them is shortsighted in the long run.... and the person(s) who are involved in the ordering and manufacturing of them may bring on some "outside" inquiries.

You see, there happens to be federal legislation called the "HOBBY PROTECTION ACT" that the American Numismatic Association (A.N.A.) was very instrumental in having passed several years ago. It is my belief that this act may have been violated in the case of some high denomination chips, (with designs that were not in use at the time some of these casinos were open) and with other bogus chips that have surfaced in recent months.

This hobby relies upon and needs the dealer network now in place that supplies us with the chips we collect..... especially the older obsolete issues. I'm seeking your help in getting rid of a potential problem through a voluntary "cease and desist" action on the part of those responsible in the spread of these fakes throughout our hobby. I also call upon our west coast friends from W.C.C. to join us in our efforts.

"CAVEAT EMPTOR" is a message to the consumer/members who are buying this junk. All of the elected officers of CC&GTCC are unanimously in complete agreement that steps must be taken to attempt to curtail the sale of much of this bogus material. As a beginning, I've instructed our Advertising Manager, Charles Rodgers, (who also agrees with the club officers position) not to accept any future ads which offer for sale the chips (and others) that are illustrated in Secretary Knapp's excellent article beginning on page 12. I urge everyone to read Michael's article thoroughly..... and then go back and read it again. I can tell you in advance that there will be a "CC&GTCC CODE OF ETHICS" proposal that will be introduced for adoption at our annual meeting in Orlando this August. More to follow..... stay tuned!

(Presidents Report continued next page)

On a much happier note, I was very pleased to receive my personal copy of the long awaited KNAPP, MYERS, WEELDEN, invaluable hobby reference work; "THE GAMING TABLE"... A CHIP, CHECK AND TOKEN COLLECTORS GUIDE. This 180+ page book (about the size of a small regional telephone directory) is professionally bound and typeset. If you ever wanted to know where that obscure chip or token in your collection originated, here is your first source of information to look it up. This edition is filled with thousands of casino names, worldwide; their actual addresses of locations when they were in operation if known; and the year they opened and/or closed. If you are looking for pretty pictures, forget it! This ain't it. But for example; if you're not sure of those two monogramed initials, or block letters/numbers on your unidentified chip, this is a great start for possiblilities.

The book starts out in Part One, listing in alphabetical order, all of the known casinos, clubs, card parlors, and slots-only houses in the world. Part Two lists many, many unattributed casinos that the authors are seeking additional indentification and assistance from readers for a planned future update. Part Three is cross referenced to Part One by country, state, and city. I strongly recommend this major reference publication (more than 7,000 entries) to all serious chip and token collectors to add to their own personal library of reference material.

LAS VEGAS HISTORY BOOKLETS STILL AVAILABLE

Member Jim Gellette's photographic history booklets on El Rancho Vegas and Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn are still available, as are very limited numbers of booklets on the Flamingo Hotel and the Thunderbird. Each eight-page booklet is full of rarely-seen photographs of the early history of the hotels that made Las Vegas what it is today. Jim's captions provide an inside look at the hotels, their owners, and the activities that made them a unique part of the history of Nevada gaming and of our collecting hobby.

Jim's booklets, which he has donated to the club so that all proceeds go to our treasury, have proved so popular that complete sets have been sold out! The Last Frontier booklets are gone, and Jim tells us that they will not be reprinted.

If you haven't sent for your booklets yet, better do so quickly, before the rest are gone as well!

Copies are $3 each, or four for $10 while they last.

To get your booklets, please send a check, payable to CC&GTCC, to club secretary Michael Knapp, 5410 Banbury Drive, Worthington, Ohio 43235.

Letters *to the* Editor

Dear Archie:

"It has occured to me that you and your club members could assist me in my chip design work in at least two ways. First, in order to further my own "chip education" as much as possible, I want to know of any books that are devoted to chip, token and coin design, its history, or other related topics. Secondly, I'd appreciate any suggestions, comments or criticisms from you or club members regarding any chip designs out on the tables (CHIPCO or "otherwise") that could help us design more beautiful, readable, playable and practical chips. I would also be happy to offer any information I can to club members regarding CHIPCO issues.... questions can be addresed to me at any time. All input would be welcomed and should be addressed to my attention at CHIPCO."

Jonathan Clark CHIPCO Art Director P.O. Box 1495 Windham, ME 04062

To the Editor of the "Casino Chip & Token News":

"I'm going to refrain from submitting travel articles to the club paper. Lack of recognition at the annual meeting, and again on page 20 of Volume 5, Issue 1, I'm convinced that my "hokey" style of writing, sense of humor, and personal experiences of travel tips, are no longer in keeping with the editorial policies. I appreciate having 15 of the submitted 20 articles printed over the past 18 months, and wish continued success of the "Casino Chip & Token News."

Arthur Sanderson R-171

(Editor's Note: I've extended my personally written apologies to Mr. Sanderson for the lack of recognition due him on my part. I never felt that his articles were "hokey" and I always enjoyed reading them as much as anyone. I'm sorry that Mr. Sanderson felt his contributions were not appreciated. They most certainly were and I've asked him to continue.)

Do you have anything on your mind that is bothering you..... a complaint perhaps..... or even a compliment or two? Do you have a suggestion or an opinion that you would like to see published for feedback from other members? If so, you are encouraged to write to: "DEAR EDITOR" P.O. Box 63 Brick, NJ 08723. I will try to get in as many letters as possible that are constructive and in good taste (in my opinion). Please keep your comments brief and to the point.

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A.C. NEW ISSUES SERVICE

I am now accepting additional subscribers to my popular Atlantic City new issues service. Dozens of CC&GTCC members are already benefitting from this unique method of obtaining new chips and tokens from Atlantic City, in the best possible condition, as they are released by the casinos.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

SEND NO MONEY!! Simply send me your name, your address, and club membership # on a post card with the denominations of chips and or tokens you would like to receive. Each time an A.C. casino releases a new issue I will automatically send you the brand new tokens and chips you've requested and I will bill you accordingly. Your cost for this service is as follows:

$1 chips or tokens ..... $3.00 @
$2.50 chips ..... $4.00 @
$5 chips or tokens ..... $7.00 @
$10 tokens .....$15.00 @
$25 chips or tokens .....$30.00 @

Plus, reimburse my actual P&I cost when you send your check.

* THE NEW TROPWORLD $1 & $5 TOKENS ARE NOW IN STOCK.

Current circulated chips presently in use are also available at slightly lower prices. Roulette chips, when available are $3 @.

'MR. CHIPS'
P.O. BOX 63 BRICK, NJ 08723

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CHIP "QUOTE OF THE YEAR"

"Whether you are a casino operator, or a player, or a hobbyist; the idea is the same..... collect as many chips as you can."

BYRON LIGGETT:

(Volume 1, #10 issue of "COLORADO GAMBLER")

CALL FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS

(Deadline; June 1, 1992)

It is that time of year that the club offers to the membership the opportunity to select officers for the next term (1992-1993). If you know of someone desiring to serve as an officer of CC&GTCC, now is your chance to place that member's name in nomination for one of the four elected positions.

All members in good standing are eligible for nomination for the office of President, VicePresident Secretary and Treasurer. A candidate for any office must receive a minimum of three nominations in order to get on the election ballot; which will be inserted in the next issue of "CASINO CHIP & TOKEN NEWS". The newly elected officers will be installed at our annual A.N.A. convention meeting at Orlando this August.

Robert Maisch has once again agreed to serve as the club's Election Chairman and all nominations should be forwarded to him. Robert's address is: P.O. Box 360 Blackwood, NJ 08012.

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DECEASED

We deeply regret reporting on the passing of one of our club members RICHARD C. OGDEN, JR. He was a Charter Member (CH-090). Our condolences are extended to his family.

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YOUR AD HERE?
(Next Deadline; JUNE 20th)

OVER 600 COLLECTORS WILL READ THIS ADVERTISEMENT!

SEND AD COPY AND $5 CHECK FOR UP TO SIX LINES TO: C.T. RODGERS, ADVERTISING MANAGER. P.O. BOX 4572 LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90711.

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CHIP FAKES, REPRODUCTIONS, FACSIMILIES, AND COPIES: HOW CAN YOU AVOID BEING TAKEN?

Michael Knapp, CH-007

How can you tell if the chips you buy are legitimate? What is a "legitimate" chip, really? How do you avoid overpaying for a chip which isn't legitimate?

Along with the rapid growth of the casino chip and token collecting hobby, and with the seemingly proportionate rise in chip and token prices, it appears that there are a number of chips on the market (although the problem has so far avoided the token part of the hobby) which are of questionable origin. Some chips are more obviously questionable than others, yet some dealers seem to price them at the same level as they would authenticated casino chips.

While this article will not supply the final answer to the issue, we hope to be able to provide some information and guidelines for determining whether chips are legitimate.

WHAT IS A "LEGITIMATE" CASINO CHIP?

First, of course, is the initial question, what do we mean when we talk about "legitimate" casino chips? Not necessarily, as we will see, an easy answer. Collectors usually collect casino chips because they are representative of chips actually used in given casinos. We would probably all agree that chips are "legitimate" if actually used in the casino whose name appears on their faces. Actual use is, however, a relative term. Consider, for example, the Silver Star Casino, which was open in Las Vegas for a period of only a few months in 1984. There are other similar examples. Chips from the Silver Star, although actually "used," will certainly not appear to be worn to the same degree as will chips from other casinos whose chips were on the tables for a much longer period of time.

And what about chips which were part of backup sets, which were stored in the casino's vault, but were not placed into play before the casino closed or changed ownership and name? Most collectors would agree that backup set chips, made for, delivered to, and stored at the casinos for which they were intended, are "legitimate" even though never actually put into play. Backup sets are ordered by some casinos to protect against the financial ruin possible if counterfeit chips are brought into play by cheaters. If a particular style of chip is suspected of having been counterfeited, it is a relatively easy matter for the casino to remove current chips from play and substitute the backup set, which will)of necessity) vary from the current chips in design, color, or both.

Rumor has it that this was the reason for the sudden disappearance several years ago, of the first issue Bally's Park Place $1 chip—the one with the dark brown edge inserts. After having been in use for several years, the chips were suddenly removed from the tables, and the second issue (light brown, or ochre edge inserts) chips replaced them. It is clear that the first issue chips were not destroyed, because several years later they reappeared on the tables, and the second issues were removed.

Only the $1 chips at Bally's Park Place were affected by this switch. The entire set

of backup chips was not placed in play; only those which were suspected of having been copied. Many casinos have had backup sets of chips; many have not. But few collectors would argue that chips from such backup sets are not "legitimate."

Actual use, therefore, is a nebulous and inadequate criterion for determining the "legitimacy" of a casino chip. Many of us have in our collections which we know were never used in a casino. Consider for example, the Jockey Club chips, made for a casino in Las Vegas which never actually opened. The owners of the Jockey Club were denied their casino license after they had outfitted and stocked the casino, and the chips were among the items sold for far below face value as salvage. Similar incidents occurred with respect to the DeVille Casino and the Kings Crown (which then became the Aladdin), also both in Las Vegas.

Those chips, although they never saw actual table use, are also "legitimate," but in a different way. They were ordered for use in a casino, delivered to the casino, and were stored by the owners for a period of time before they were disposed of. Are they worth the same amount as chips from casinos which actually operated at the same time? Perhaps not, but they are "legitimate" chips nevertheless.

HOW CAN WE TELL WHETHER CHIPS ARE "LEGITIMATE"?

How are we to know, then, whether chips offered for sale are "legitimate" or not? As collectors, we must often rely on the good faith of the chip and token dealers from whom we purchase items for our collections. Honest dealers do not represent chips to be from specific casinos unless they know that their representations are true. Dealers are not necessarily more knowledgeable than the collectors to whom they sell, however. They sometimes rely on what they are told by the person from whom they purchase their stock. An honest dealer, when asked about the origin of a chip, will either provide an answer based upon actual knowledge, or will indicate that he is not sure of the origin of the chip, but has heard that it may have been used at a certain casino.

Dealers who intentionally or recklessly misrepresent the nature or origin of chips, however, are no different from automobile dealers who misrepresent the amount of mileage on a used car, or represent a 1989 car as a 1990 model. Both are dishonest. Unfortuately, the rapidly growing interest in casino chips has resulted in some dealers' relaxation of their ethical standards. How can collectors avoid being taken?

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES

Perhaps some specific examples of "fake" chips being passed off as legitimate casino chips will help our discussion. Below are illustrations of several different kinds of chips which have recently been called into question. Before you read each of the sections below, ask yourself whether you can tell which chips are "legitimate." First, it might be helpful if we discussed how we came by the information in this article.

Late in February, we wrote to the three manufacturers of the chips pictured above: The Bud Jones Company, T. R. King & Co., Inc., and Paul-Son Dice & Card, Inc. The letters were written on behalf of the club, and indicated that we sought responses for this article. Of the three manufacturers, only Paul-Son would not respond. (That, by the way, is consistent with our past experiences: Paul-Son has not responded to several other inquiries on behalf of the club over the past several years.)

Because Paul-Son would not respond, therefore, the question of the legitimacy of some of their chips remains a mystery. Illustrations 1 and 2 on the following page are chips made by Paul-Son as props for motion pictures. They are not, and never were, casino

chips. Number 1 was made for the James Bond movie, *Licence to Kill*, and have later been reproduced by Paul-Son for sale over the counter to those who want casino-type chips for home use. Our understanding is that the retail price of these chips is $50 per box (50¢ each), and that they can be purchased at Paul-Son's facility in Las Vegas.

Similarly, Illustration 2 is a motion picture prop, made for the movie *Blind Fury*, starring Rutger Hauer. The history of these chips is a bit different, though. The chips were originally made for the Hotel Nevada in Ely, Nevada. When *Blind Fury* was being filmed in Reno, the producers went to Washoe Antiques to obtain chips to use in the movie. Washoe provided the Hotel Nevada chips, and the producers had self-adhesive labels printed to place over the center inserts for use in the motion picture. The SS stands for Silver State Casino, where some of the movie's action occurs. Paul-Son was not involved in the transaction.

Illustration 3 is a chip made by Paul-Son for sale over the counter for home use. Although it has been used in the television show *Hearts Are Wild* (see "The Information Booth" in this issue), the chips were not made specifically as stage props. Nor were they made for a California card club which never opened, although that representation has apparently been made by some chip dealers.

Are these types of chips legitimate? Yes, they are—as movie props, or as home-use chips, but not as casino chips. What are they worth? That's for each collector to decide for himself. They are clearly not casino chips.

Paul-Son's refusal to respond to our inquiry also makes a definitive answer about Illustration 4 impossible. Illustration 5 is a legitimate chip from the 20th Century casino in Las Vegas. The hotel was open only from 1977 to 1978. Illustration 4, however, has clearly never been used. Not only are the chips of this set different colors than those known to have been used in the casino, but the center inserts are also clearly different, and the rims are different as well: number 5 has a house rim, and number 4 is hat and cane. Were the chips part of a backup set, as some dealers have represented? Perhaps so, but unless Paul-Son is willing to tell us, we can never be sure. If they were from a backup set, why would they

suddenly surface 14 years after the 20th Century closed? And why would the center inserts be different from the originals, as well as the main chip colors? Those are questions which each collector should ask himself before investing in these chips.

Illustrations 6 and 7 both indicate that they are from the Silver Bird Hotel (1976-1982), in Las Vegas. Only number 6 actually is a legitimate chip from that casino, however. Number 7 is a "reproduction," which The Bud Jones Company made for a dealer upon the representation that the chips would be resold to gift shops after insertion in key chains, belt buckles, and money clips, for example. At the time, no thought was given to other possible misuses of the chips, especially since the Silver Bird had been closed for several years. As Mr. Jones told us, "My lack of interest or experience in any form of collecting, beyond family photos, has made me somewhat naive about the hobby." The Bud Jones Company has made reproductions of a few other chips from time to time as well.

The representation by a dealer that these high value Silver Bird chips are legitimate, or the failure to disclose their true nature, is an example of dishonest dealing.

With the Silver Bird chips, however, there are some distinguishing features which should provide some clues to the alert collector. The original Silver Bird chips were manufactured with the incuse (sunken) dice and cards rim design. The reproduction chips have different rims, on which dice and four suits appear to have been printed. The Silver Bird closed before the type of rim used in Illustration 7 was being made by Bud Jones. Another distinguishing feature is the coin inlay itself. All original Silver Bird chips contained a coin inlay which is "brushed," or "swirled" to produce a satin-like effect, rather than the polished, shiny coin inlay of the reproductions. Coin inlays currently produced by Bud Jones are of the polished variety, and indicate later manufacture.

Finally, although not always a reliable indicator of legitimacy, the recently-surfaced chips are all high values, and none appears ever to have been used in a casino. That these criteria are not always indicators of counterfeits is evident from Illustration 8, a similar chip which purports to have been made for the Castaways. In fact, according to Mr. Jones, this $1,000 Castaways Sports Book chip is legitimate. They were made for the Castaways by The Bud Jones Company, and were not reproduced at any time. Although the coin inlay and the rim design are both of the more modern variety, the Castaways remained open for five years longer than the Silver Bird, and were manufactured after the change in design by Bud Jones.

The last two chips, 9 and 10, illustrate yet another problem in determining "legitimacy." As pointed out earlier, the Kings Crown never opened its casino. Originally called the Tally-Ho

Inn, which was designed as a Strip hotel without a casino, the building was purchased and renamed the Kings Crown in 1964. As with the Jockey Club, casino equipment, including chips, was purchased while the licensing process was still under way. The owners did not receive their Nevada gaming license, and the hotel was sold and opened under the name Milton Prell's Aladdin in 1964.

As with similar situations, original Kings Crown chips have found their way into the collectors' market. Most collectors accept these chips as legitimate, even though they were never actually used in a casino. Illustration 9 is that chip. Number 10, on the other hand, is of recent manufacture, and is a reproduction chip. According to Dennis O'Neill, President of T. R. King & Co. in Los Angeles, these chips were made to meet the demand for a casino-quality chip for home use. They are sold for $90 per box (90¢ each) at T. R. King's facility.

Mr. O'Neill indicates that colors and center insert shapes were changed to prevent confusion with the original chips made for the Kings Crown in Las Vegas. The original chips, for example (except for the $1 chip, which had no edge inserts), were made with scallop ($5), hub ($25 and $100) and wheel ($100) shaped center inserts. All center inserts on the reproduction chips are plain, round inserts. Similarly, some of the edge insert colors have been changed as well. (Some have not: the edge inserts in both $5 chips illustrated are blue.)

Although these differences are apparent when the reproduction chips are laid next to the originals, collectors not fortunate enough to have the originals in their collections would not be able to tell the difference between the two. Again, dealers representing the new chips as authentic are being dishonest or at the least, extremely careless.

PROTECTING YOURSELF

How can we as collectors guard against paying authentic-chip prices for fake casino chips? Essentially, there is nothing we can do to avoid being taken by dealers or other collectors who don't mind misrepresenting chips and tokens to make money or to make a trade. There are some general rules, though, that might help. Bud Jones offers this advice:

> Chances are, but not necessarily, authentic chips will have a used soiled appearance and have rounded rather than sharp edges. The stainless steel coins will be duller on the older original chips. The sudden appearance of a new edition of older chips should arouse suspicion.

Another thing we need to do is to know the people with whom we deal. Second, find out whether there is a return privilege on the items you buy or trade for. Most reputable dealers will offer such privileges, as will most collectors who trade chips and tokens. If the problem persists, the provisions of the Federal Hobby Protection Act (see below) may have to be invoked as well.

Ultimately, the responsibility lies with chip and token dealers to avoid misrepresenting the chips and tokens they sell. Much of the responsibility for the misrepresentation of the Silver Bird chips, for example, lies with the person who ordered the reproductions from Bud Jones, and who then sold some unmounted chips to other

dealers. There can be little doubt that the dealer knew exactly what he was doing: trying to cash in on the popularity of casino chips with fake chips which he had ordered for himself for other purposes.

THE FEDERAL HOBBY PROTECTION ACT

In 1973, Congress passed what is known as the Hobby Protection Act (47 USCA §2101 *et. seq.*). The statute requires that every "imitation numismatic item" must be plainly and permanently marked "COPY." Numismatic items are defined to include tokens and medals, and an "imitation numismatic item" is a "reproduction, copy or counterfeit."

Under the Act, the Federal Trade Commission has the authority to enforce the penalties against violators, as do private citizens, who may bring suit as well. The FTC regulations under the Act appear at 16 CFR §304 *et. seq.* The regulations set forth requirements for the size of the label in relation to the diameter of the numismatic item.

Should the problem of reproduction casino chips become more widespread, the FTC might well consider taking action on the basis of complaints from collectors or dealers.

A HAPPY (PARTIALLY) ENDING

As with some stories, there is a happy ending to this one, although it will be of little comfort to those collectors who have been duped into buying the high value Silver Bird chips. As a result of our discussions, Mr. Jones has told us that "Because of the revelation of the 'straying' souvenir chip problem . . . our policy now, and in the future, is to destroy the coin dies made obsolete by the closing of a casino." There will be no more reproduction chips from The Bud Jones Company!

WASHOE ANTIQUES SHOW SCHEDULE

1992 SHOW SCHEDULE

RENO, NV. COIN SHOW, BALLY'S	APR 11 - 12
POMONA, CA. GREAT WESTERN SHOW, LOS ANGELES CO. FAIR GROUNDS	MAY 1 - 3
SAN MATEO ANTIQUE REVIVAL, SAN MATEO FAIR GROUNDS	MAY 23 - 24
LAS VEGAS, NV. WESTERN NATIONAL COLLECTOR'S SHOW, UNION PLAZA	MAY 29 - 31
PORTLAND, OR. ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, EXPO CENTER	JUL 11 - 12
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, COW PALACE	AUG 29 - 30
SAN MATEO ANTIQUE REVIVAL, SAN MATEO FAIR GROUNDS	SEP 5 - 6
BELLFLOWER, CA. CASINO COLLECTIBLES VI, MASONIC HALL	OCT 24
LAS VEGAS, NV. WESTERN NATIONAL COLLECTOR'S SHOW, CASHMAN FIELD	NOV 21 - 22

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Bugsy' Siegel's Flamingo a high flier in hotel circles

y RANDY KRAFT
avel Writer

The Flamingo Hotel, built in as Vegas by mobster Benjamin Bugsy" Siegel, now is the sec-nd-largest modern resort hotel a the world.

It also is part of the Hilton Ho-el chain.

Siegel's dream to build the ho-el is a subject of the critically cclaimed motion picture "Bug-y," starring Warren Beatty and nnette Bening.

The Flamingo was not the irst hotel in Las Vegas, but it ertainly brought national atten-ion to the Nevada city, said Don Knepp of the Las Vegas News Bureau, adding, "Bugsy was not he founder of Las Vegas. But he brought the mystique of the mob here."

Knepp said Las Vegas was around long before Bugsy Siegel came to town. It was founded in 1905, as a train stop between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. "It is the largest city founded in the 20th century," he said.

Knepp said the Flamingo was the third major hotel on what would become the Las Vegas Strip, but the first that departed from a Western heritage theme. It was very plush for its day, modeled after modern resort ho-tels in Miami. Many considered it one of the world's most luxuri-ous resorts.

"It was the first destination resort," claimed Flamingo Hilton spokesman Ward Farrell. "You'd come to Las Vegas to stay at this place."

According to the Las Vegas Sun, the hotel was either named after Virginia Hill, Siegel's long-time sweetheart, or for the fla-mingos that inhabit the lake at Hialeah race track in Hialeah, Fla.

When constructed, the Fla-mingo was seven or eight miles from downtown Las Vegas. "At the time we were out in the mid-le of nowhere," said Farrell. "Now we're at one of the best corners in town."

The hotel cost $6 million to build, $5 million over budget, ac-cording to Hilton. The mob bank-rolled the project. Farrell said the hotel still was not completed when it opened in December 1946.

Siegel was killed by an un-known gunman in June 1947, six months after the Flamingo's opening. One theory is that he was murdered by mob partners who were tired of sinking so much money into the Flamingo, which they considered a losing proposition.

Farrell expects publicity gen-erated by the movie will bring in-creased business to the hotel. He noted the Flamingo still was not doing well when Siegel was mur-dered. "But after he died, people wanted to see the place he built."

After Hilton bought the place in 1971, the chain spent "several hundred million dollars renovat-ing the property and raising its five towers." The hotel has a ca-sino, a showroom, a lounge and eight restaurants.

Although it has been remod-eled and refurbished, Farrell said Siegel's suite is still in the origi-nal section of the 45-year-old ho-tel. "It's got a listed rack rate of $400 a night," he said, "but it's usually 'comped' [given free] to high rollers and large tour opera-tors." He's been told the bar and hutch in the suite are original.

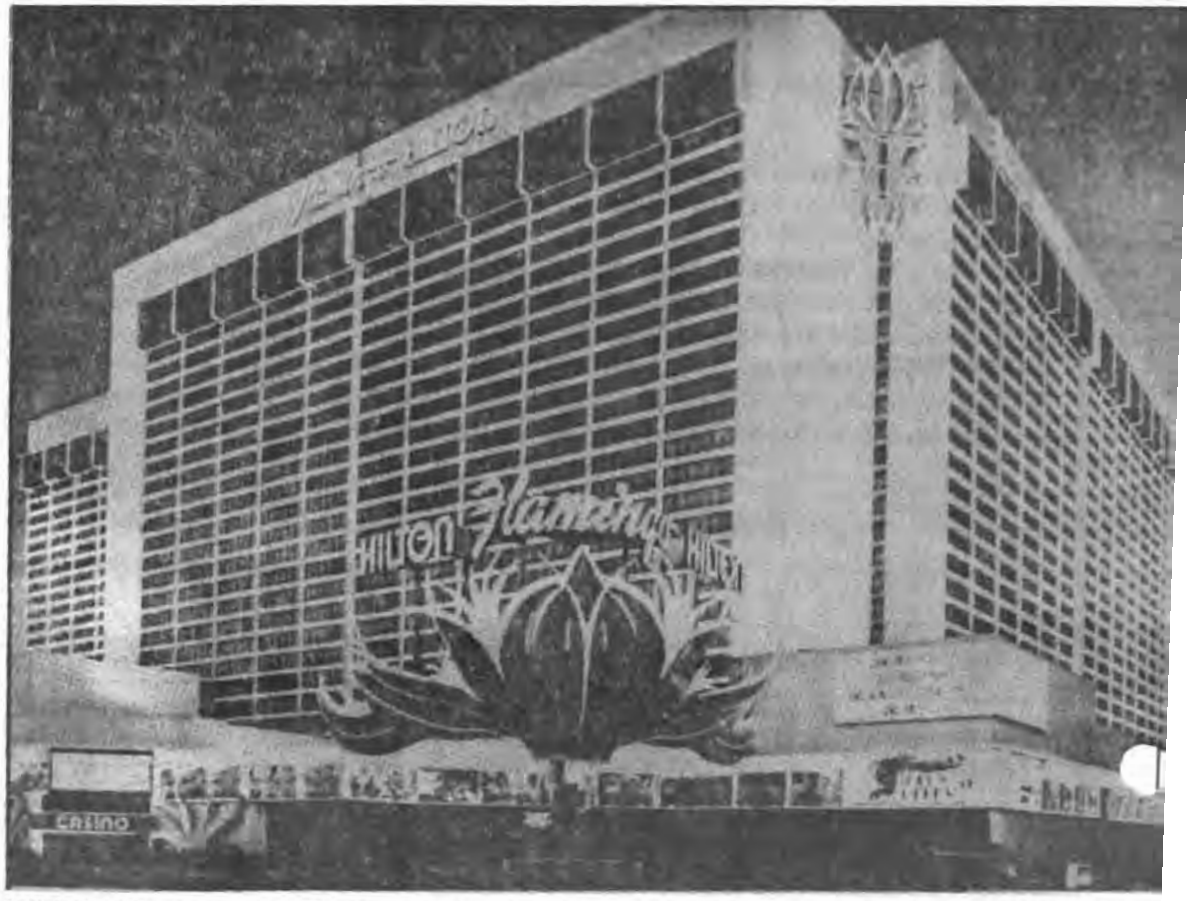
Although he said Siegel's orig-inal four-story, 105-room hotel is still part of the Flamingo, this is a much different place: 28 stories with 3,530 rooms and suites. Rates at the Flamingo begin at $59 a night. For a $150 two-night rate, two people get free show tickets, dinners in two different restaurants, admission to a health spa and two drinks. Other packages are available.

Today Las Vegas claims to be the nation's fastest-growing met-ropolitan area. More than 20 mil-lion people visit the gambling mecca every year. It has 76,828 hotel and motel rooms, including nine of the world's 10 largest h tels. (Largest is the Excalibur, which has 4,032 rooms.)

For more about the Flaming call 1-800-732-2111.

For brochures about L Vegas, call 702-733-2471.

Benjamin 'Bugsy' Siegel



With 3,530 rooms, the Flamingo today is a far cry from the colorful mobster's 105-room re

1991 CHIP & TOKEN OF THE YEAR CONTEST

OFFICIAL NOMINEES

Well the nominations are all in..... a few of which had to be voided in the tokens category. Folks, a set of seven tokens is not a token. Some members nominated three token sets, which in effect is nominating up to 21 tokens, when the rules allowed for only three tokens. Interestingly, no sets of chips were nominated in a similar fashion.

Also, disqualified was the popular ($5) Teller House. I'm told that this token is only available for sale at the gift shop, as a souvenir, as Teller House has NO $5 slot machines and the token has no denomination on it, nor does it say it is redeemable! I'm sure I'll get alot of flack on this one, but someone had to make the final decision.

At any rate, listed below in alphabetical order, are the chips and tokens that have each received the minimum of three nominations. Please review the nominees carefully and select your choices by filling out the enclosed ballot and mailing it back before the deadline. Make sure that you list your choices in the order preferred as to FIRST, SECOND, THIRD. Each First Place vote will get five points, a Second Place will receive three points and each Third Place vote will be worth two points. It is possible in the event that several different 1st place nominees are selected; a consistent 2nd Place candidate may receive the top honors if it receives the highest number of total points.

CHIPS:

$5	ANNIE OAKLEY'S	CENTRAL CITY, CO		CHIPCO
$5	BALLY'S	RENO	AIR RACES	CHIPCO
$5	BALLY'S	RENO	HOT AUGUST NIGHTS	CHIPCO
$5	BLACKJACK CAFE	SEATTLE, WASH	CARDS	CHIPCO
$25	CAESARS PALACE	LAS VEGAS	25th ANNIVERSARY	CHIPCO
$1	GOLD MINE	BLACKHAWK, CO		CHIPCO
$5	HARVEY'S	LAKE TAHOE	LOG CABIN	CHIPCO
$5	MAIN STREET STATION	LAS VEGAS		CHIPCO
$1	SILVER SLIPPER	CENTRAL CITY, CO	SLIPPER	CHIPCO
.50	TELLER HOUSE	CENTRAL CITY, CO	"FACE"	CHIPCO
$1	TELLER HOUSE	CENTRAL CITY, CO	"FACE"	CHIPCO

TOKENS:

$1	ANNIE OAKLEY'S	CENTRAL CITY, COLO.
$25	CAESAR'S PALACE	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
$1	CATTLE BARON	HENDERSON, NEVADA
$1	MAIN STREET STATION	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
$1	MEADOWS LOUNGE	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
$5	SANTA FE	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
$5	SKYLINE CASINO	HENDERSON, NEVADA
$1	TROPWORLD (LUCY)	ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

There you have it. Enjoy your hobby to the max by participating in club sponsored activities. VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! DEADLINE... MAY 30th!

(see illustrations next two pages)

AND THE NOMINEES ARE ILLUSTRATED

CHIPS

ANNIE OAKLEY'S

BALLY'S
AIR RACES

BALLY'S
HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

BLACK JACK
CAFE

CAESARS
PALACE

GOLD MINE

HARVEY'S

SILVER
SLIPPER

obverse

reverse

MAIN STREET STATION

TELLER HOUSE

.50 $1

TOKENS

obverse

reverse

SANTA FE

obverse

reverse

SKYLINE

(tokens illustrations continued on next page)

TOKENS ILLUSTRATIONS CONTINUED

obverse

reverse

CAESARS PALACE

obverse

reverse

ANNIE OAKLEY'S

obverse

reverse

CATTLE BARON

obverse

reverse

MAIN STREET STATION

obverse

reverse

MEADOWS LOUNGE

obverse

reverse

TROPWORLD

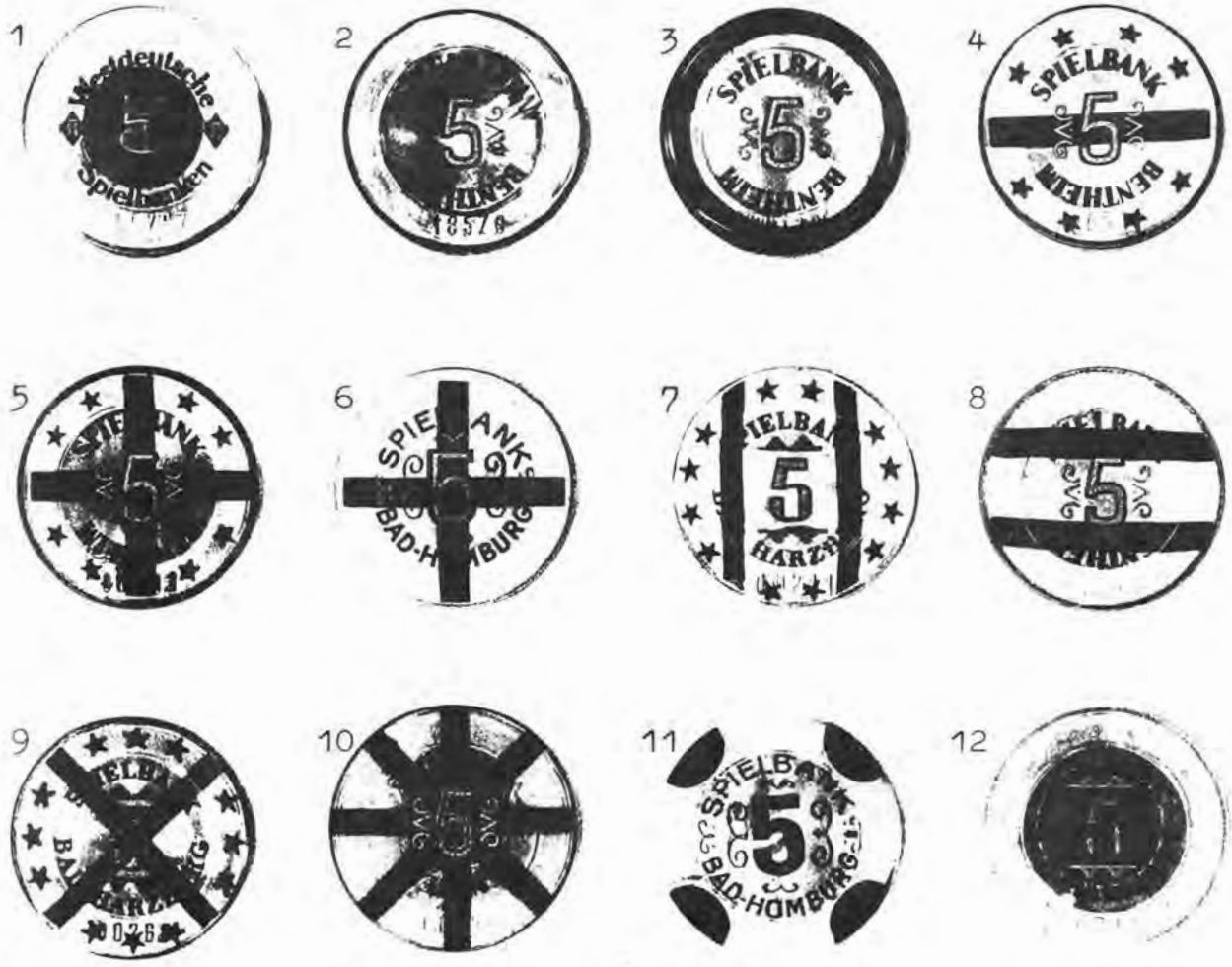
MARKED ACRYLIC CASINO CHECKS IN EUROPE

Reginald A. W. Kelpe, R-565

Roulette is a much more popular game in Europe than it is in the United States. The primary reason, aside from the ease with which the game is played, is the fact that the European, or French, roulette wheel is far more favorable for the player than is the U.S. wheel. In Europe, only one 0, the "house" number which wins all bets for the house, appears on the roulette wheel. In the U.S., there is also a 00 on the wheel, greatly increasing the odds in favor of the house.

At the roulette tables in the 35 casinos in Germany, for example, there are often crowds of players sitting or standing around the wheels, simultaneously placing their bets. This results in stacks of identical checks on the tables, each belonging to different players. Unlike the U.S. game, in which each player is given his own color chip with no denomination, but with a different color or number than all other players, European casinos use the same chips for roulette as they do for all other games in the casino.

Because there is a need to distinguish the chips being used by each player, specially marked checks can help to avoid confusion and disputes about payoffs. Examples of such chips appear below. Numbers 1 and 2 are generally used regular checks with different basic



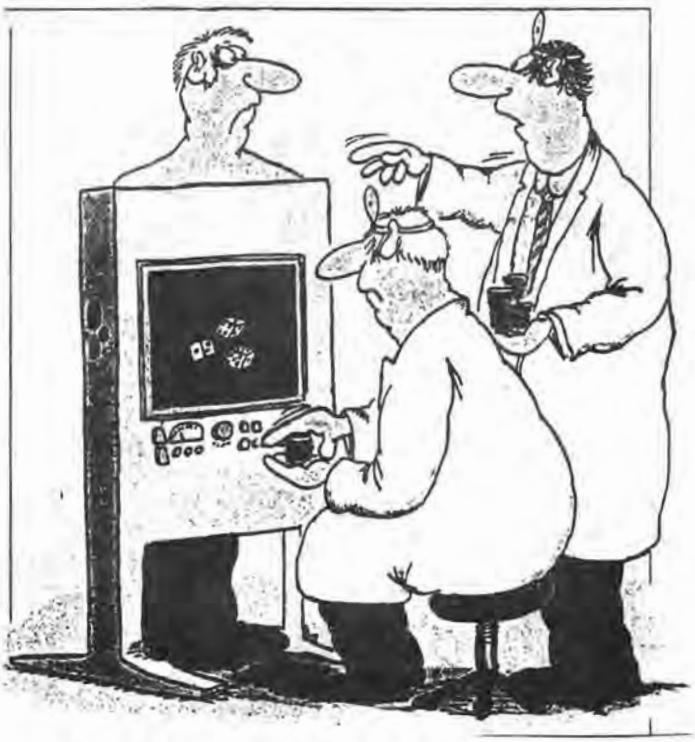
colors for each denomination. Number 3 is a marked chip with a color ring on the rim, for instance, black, green or pink. Number 4 through 10 are examples of other types of distinguishing markings, which differ both in shape and in color.

Illustration number 11 shows another form of special marking, this one similar to the edge inserts in American-style chips. The four half-inch round edge inserts are molded into the chip body, as they are with American chips, and are usually in contrasting colors. Finally, illustration 12 shows another form of special marking. In the other forms of chips shown here, the center of the chip ("lunette") is of the same material as the rest of the chip body—usually a spiraled translucent solid color. Number 12, however, shows that a center insert of a different color has been molded into the chip, distinguishing it from others of the same denomination without the additional markings shown in 1-11.

These extra markings enable easy identification of the individual player's bets on the crowded roulette layout. Upon special request, a player at one table at a time is allowed to use his individual set of specially-marked chips. Although all chips illustrated above are 5 DM denominations, a set of chips in all denominations will be marked with the same special marking. Introduction of the specially-marked chips to the game is rather ceremoniously handled by the casino personnel.

Once the special chips have been provided for a player, other players may also request a set of specially-marked checks for play, but each is handled separately, in turn, and with similar ceremony.

Each casino has relatively few sets of such specially-marked checks, often between 4 and 10 sets. They are, therefore, reluctant to part with them. As each player using specially-marked checks leaves the table, the chips are accounted for and stored in the casino's safe until their next use. In fact, some sets of checks with special markings also contain invisible metallic inserts which will sound an alarm if taken from the gaming room!



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CHIPCO NEW ISSUES

By Archie A. Black, Editor

Here we go again! It seems to me, in my travels to various shows and in conversations with chip dealers and collectors, CHIPCO issues are overtaking the hobby! Dealers can't keep these chips in stock for very long due to widespread collector demand. Some issues are very limited, or were used for only a very short period of time, or were used for a specific purpose.

Sprinkled throughout this issue of our club magazine you will find many illustrations of the latest CHIPCO designs that are accompanied to a particular article that was submitted for publication. Due to space limitations, I've tried not to duplicate illustrations that have appeared in previous issues. Most of the Nevada CHIPCOS for example are illustrated in Janice's "NEVADA UPDATE" article. The ones I have selected to illustrate here are of foreign and cruise ship CHIPCOs and some new issues that may have not "hit the tables yet" or specimens that most of us don't get to see very often.

Our thanks again to CHIPCO International Ltd. for making these new designs available for publication for our membership's enjoyment.

CRUISE SHIPS

CALIFORNIA

AUSTRALIA

(continued next page)

NEW CHIPCO'S FROM COLORADO

AND SOME NEW ONES FROM NEVADA

MORE CHIPCOS, CONTINUED

'GAMBLING ON A ROLL IN COLORADO'

By Bob Gaarder R-304

Now that the dust has settled from the opening months of legalized gambling, it is time for a short look back at what has happened and a look ahead at what is to come.

First of all, gambling has been extremely successful in Colorado.... it has exceeded all expectations. It is a popular way to generate tax revenues. Apparently, it will save some of the old mining towns from becoming ghost towns. As a result, there are petition drives underway to clear the way for legalized betting in thirty five additional communities and in sixteen airports! There is also a move underway to allow gambling on the Ute Mountain and Southern Ute reservations in the southwest corner of the state. On the other hand, there is considerable opposition to further gambling expansion in Colorado. Neighboring state, Wyoming, has a drive underway which if successful would provide a ballot proposal for local option to begin $25 limit blackjack, poker and slot machines.

Meanwhile, heavy construction and demolition continues in all three of Colorado's gambling communities. So much demolition is occuring in fact, that someone remarked that 90% of the historic buildings are being hauled to the local dump! An example of this is Cripple Creek's "MADAM JUNE'S". This brick building, originally erected in 1896 and once the home of the American Legion in Cripple Creek, has been completely demolished except for the well weathered brick front which had to be supported by large wooden timbers to comply with Cripple's historical preservation ordinance covering building exteriors.

Also in Cripple Creek, "THE RED LANTERN INN" will be completely demolished to make room for a $15 million dollar hotel and casino. THE RED LANTERN apparently had no historical significance worth preserving.

In Central City, construction continues at a frantic pace. "THE GLORY HOLE", a five story building which has been a local saloon for many years, is about ready to open and should be a prominent casino. The "SILVER SLIPPER" opened on November 13th and introduced an eye dazzler of a $5 CHIPCO. The "FAMOUS BONANZA" opened a comfortable casino on Main Street in January, 1992. They offer card games and slots.

In Blackhawk, the smallest of the three gambling towns, is also bustling. The "BLACKHAWK STATION" which has been a 5 & 25 cent slots only casino, closed on January 20th to make room for a $12 million dollar casino on this site. BLACKHAWK STATION was a gasoline station and a grocery store before gambling. They will temporarily move up the street during construction to "CROOKS PALACE", which is Colorado's oldest saloon. New additions in Blackhawk are the "ROHLING INN", slots and cards, and the "MAIN STREET" which opened on New Year's Eve. The MAIN STREET by the way, has an outstanding $5 CHIPCO.

The bottom line..... this certainly has been a bonanza for collectors of gambling memorabilia!!

CREDIT CHIPS.... WHAT ARE THEY? WHERE ARE THEY?

By Eric S. Rosenblum, Esq. R-173

"Pssst! Psssst! Wanna loan?"
"Maybe. What are the terms?"
"One to three months?"
"O.K. How much can I get?"
"$5,000 $10,000 $25,000"
"How high is the interest?"
"Interest? No interest. This money is free! Want the loan?"
"You bet I do!"
"Yes, that's the whole idea."
"What is?"
"Bet."

This conversation never really occurred, but it represents the casino credit policy at almost every major casino in the United States. Establish a line of credit, sit down at a table and ask for a marker, which is actually a draft check drawn on your home bank account. You sign the marker and the dealer gives you that amount in chips. Play for awhile, then cash in your chips at the cage. The money is yours to use. You have to pay it back, of course..... but not that day, or even that week our maybe even that month!

(In most casinos the cage will ask a player cashing in $1,000 or more in chips if they have any markers, but if the player says "no", the casino does not ask for identification to verify that. In New Jersey, the rule is that you "must" pay off your marker. Of course, no one knows who you are, nor they care, so it is still voluntary.)

Different Nevada casino have different marker payment policies. The individual casinos are allowed to set their own credit policies. Almost all of them will deposit the marker through your home bank account within one to three months. The Desert Inn will wait up to six months.

New Jersey is a little different, because the Casino Control Commmission regulates everything. Markers up to $1,500 are held for one week before being deposited. $1,500 and over are held for two weeks. Regardless of the state or the length of time the marker is held before deposit, if you choose not to redeem your marker at the cage you have an interest-free loan from the casino.

What does all of this interesting little story have to do with chip collectors? I thought that you would never ask!

Many Carribean casinos have decided that they do not want you to use their money to shop downtown for duty-free liquor and jewelry. Five years ago, in a chip collecting jaunt through the Caribbean, I stopped into the San Juan Quality Royale Hotel (now the Clarion). The chip racks on each table had two completely different sets of chips; one to the left, one to the right. I had seen this in Santo Domingo, where one set is in dollars and the other set in Dominican pesos. But this was Puerto Rico. They only use dollars!

The blackjack dealer explained that the chips on the left were "credit chips." Huh? When a player signs a marker at the table the player is given "credit chips". At the end of play, the player cannot "cash"

them in at the cage. They must be used to pay off, or reduce the amount of, the marker.

If the player takes out a $5,000 marker and turns in $4,000 in credit chips at the cage, they exchange the $5,000 marker for a $1,000 marker. The player has no cash from the casino unless he wins and the credit chips exceed the marker amount. Then you get real money.

The Quality Royale absolutely refused to sell me any credit chips. I had to wait an hour until a player took out a marker. I gave the player a $100 bill for twenty $5 credit chips., The pit boss was furious and called the manager's office, but I was gone before they finished their conversation.

I also found credit chips in use at the El San Juan, although they have since discontinued the use of them. Since that trip five years ago, I have found credit chips used in the Dominican Republic, Aruba, and Curacao. Credit chips are growing more and more popular, as more Caribbean casinos do not want to bankroll your vacation.

These chips are extremely difficult to get. I have never found a casino willing to sell credit chips to a collector. They all say that their internal accounting does not allow for it. I have explained that one of their players could take credit chips out of the casino and lose them on the beach. Their accounting has to allow fo that. Nothing has worked.

The only way I've found to get credit chips is to wait until a credit player takes out a marker, then buy some chips from him. Or, of course, open your own line of credit, as I was forced to do on my last trip to Aruba. The Palm Beach Hotel & Casino had credit chips. What they didn't have were customers. The place was almost empty. The manager refused to sell me any credit chips, and told me that no one in the hotel that week had a credit line.

"O.K." I said, "let's open a line of credit." The next morning he faxed my application to his office in Miami and by that evening I had a line of credit, and naturally, the credit chips that I wanted. After playing a while, I "cashed in" and paid cash for my "losses", which were the chips in my pocket.

Since I had asked about buying credit chips, the manager was suspicious and counted the credit chips I cashed in against the total in the rack on the table on which I had played. He was upset that some were missing and demanded them back. I told him (what else?) that I must have lost them on the beach. He was not about to harass an American tourist (unlike the Dominican Republic..... but that's different story).

Some casinos change their credit chips from time to time, just by telling their dealers and cage personnel that a new chip will be deemed a "credit chip". Sonesta Hotel in Aruba, which has named their casino the Crystal Casino, has given up that flexibility by imprinting "CREDIT" right on the chip itself. To this date it is the only chip I have ever seen marked as a permanent "credit chip".

CASINO CREDIT CHIPS, CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

I have included photostats of all the credit chips that I have ever seen. Living in New York makes chip collecting more difficult, since new Nevada chips are not obtainable at a moments notice. However, the Caribbean is a lot closer to us, and frequent business, as well as pleasure trips, bring some interesting stories.

If the Caribbean is of interest to club members, let me know. Future articles can include some Puerto Rican casino histories, negotiating with the Netherlands Antilles government for obsolete chips, sneaking throught Antiquan Customs, and refusing demands by armed Dominican Republic militia to return chips to the casinos.

ARUBA

REGULAR

CREDIT

REGULAR

CREDIT

CURACAO

REGULAR

CREDIT

REGULAR

CREDIT

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

REGULAR

OMNI CASINO is in the Santo Domingo Sheraton Hotel

Brown Inserts

CREDIT

Purple Inserts

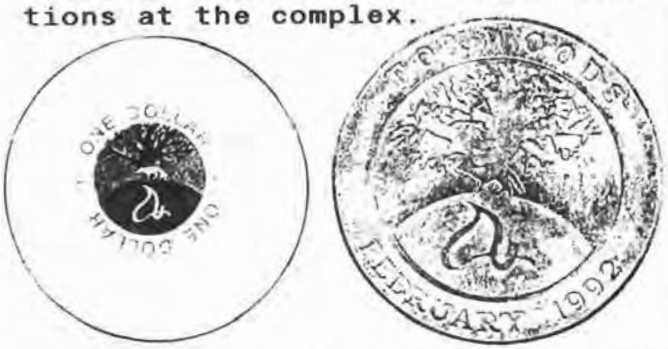
CREDIT

Black Inserts

CONNECTICUT ENTERS CASINO BUSINESS

The only legal gambling casino on the East Coast outside of A.C. opened on February 15th in Ledyard, Connecticut. Located on the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Reservation, home for a 150 member tribe, the newest casino is called, "Foxwoods High Stakes Bingo and Casino". It is a 2 1/2 hour drive from New York and is located near Mystic Seaport. According to a story in the New York Daily News, the facility cost $58 million to build, however "there are no hotel suites, neon signs, discos, car giveaways, wall mirrors, loud bands, topless dancers, gift shops, scantily clad waitresses, health clubs, indoor pools or raquet ball courts ..... or slot machines." But what Foxwood has that Atlantic City does not have is POKER! In fact, it has the largest casino poker room in the United States..... and they don't have to pay any taxes on their gaming revenue. Table minimums are only $1 & $2.

The casino, open round the clock and expecting 8,000 visitors a day, has 173 gaming tables; 49 of them for poker alone. However there are no overnight accommodations at the complex.



Above on the left is the unimpressive new $1 Foxwood chip. A fox on a hill in front of a tree = "Foxwood". A more impressive token (right) was given out to employees according to club member JIM WHITTAKER. A nickel or silver colored one to workers, a bronze or gold color one to supervisors. I don't know what the other side looks like. Note date; "February 1992"

CREDIT CHIPS, CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

PUERTO RICO

REGULAR

Red

CREDIT

Blue

REGULAR

Gray Inserts

CREDIT

White/Yellow Inserts

THE INFORMATION BOOTH

Michael Knapp

Unfortunately, there has been relatively little response to the publication in the last issue of all previously unidentified chips and tokens from past Information Booth columns. We urge any member who can provide information about any of the UFC's from this column to write to us so that other members may learn the origins and history behind the illustrated chips. If you recognize a chip, please share your information with other members by writing to Michael Knapp, 5410 Banbury Drive, Worthington, OH 43235.

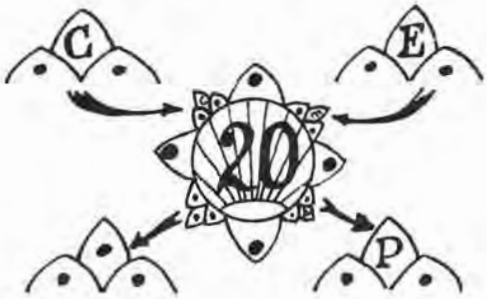
We did receive several responses, as we have in the past, suggesting that UFC's 61, 62 are from Monte Carlo. In the past we have written back on an individual basis to those members, but apparently the misconception is sufficiently widespread that it might pay to deal with the issue in the column.

UFC's **61 and 62** are **definitely not** from Monte Carlo, despite the fact that when these chips and plaques surfaced a few years ago, most dealers believed that they were from Monaco. The chips are clearly European in origin, but none of the features of these chips correspond with known Monte Carlo chips. In fact, the chips themselves indicate that they are not from Monte Carlo. How do we know? A bit of detective work is required, and we thought that members would be interested in how to go about determining the origin of unknown chips.

We are fortunate when dealing with the chips and tokens of Monte Carlo, to have an excellent reference work on the subject—something which we do not usually have in this hobby. In June and July, 1986, Thomas C. Day published two articles in *The Numismatist*, the journal of the American Numismatic Association, entitled "Casino Tokens of Monte Carlo." Those articles have been reprinted by the ANA in a booklet, and are currently available. In addition to clear photographs and precise measurements and descriptions of all known types of chips, plaques and tokens from the casinos in Monaco, Mr. Day has provided an interesting narrative history of gaming in the famous venue. Mr. Day's research was painstaking and complete, and when the articles were reprinted in booklet form, he included an Addendum which pictures a few pieces which he had not originally been able to find.

UFC's **61 and 62** do not appear in the Day works. They are old enough that if their origin had been Monaco, Day certainly would have found and listed them. Furthermore, virtually all Monte Carlo chips bear the initials SBM or the entire legend, Societe des Bains de Mer. SBM was organized by Francois Blanc, and in 1863 was awarded the gambling concession for Monte Carlo. Although Blanc himself died in 1877, SBM has the concession to this day.

The chips we are concerned with do not have the initials SBM on them, nor do they bear the full name of Societe des Bains de Mer. Instead, three other initials appear on the chips. Because they were difficult to see in the illustrations previously published in this column, we have reproduced to the right a drawing of the center portion of the filigreed center insert (which we believe to be sterling silver) in each of these chips and plaques. Examining the chips with a magnifying glass clearly reveals the three initials shown here: C E P.



No known chip or token from Monte Carlo bears the initials CEP. Where can chips with the initials CEP come from? There are two sources to which collectors can refer in searching for foreign chip and token origins: Bill Borland's *Blue Book of Casino Chips and Tokens*, published in 1988, and the new book written by Allan Myers, Ernest Wheelden and the author of this column, called *The Gaming Table*. The only entry which offers a possibility in either book is the Casino Elysee Palace, in Vichy, France, which closed long ago. It's listed in *The Gaming Table*. The fact that the casino was French, the fact that it no longer

exists, and the appearance of the chips and plaques themselves, all seem to confirm that the Casino Elysee Palace is not only a possibility, but a probability.

Until a better explanation is provided, this columnist is convinced that UFC's 61 and 62 originated with the Casino Elysee Palace in the late 19th or early 20th Century, in Vichy, France. The evidence is clear that they are not from Monte Carlo, despite the belief of some dealers—who most likely are merely repeating what they were told when they acquired the chips.

We hope that this long explanation has not bored our readers, but rather indicates how they can try to determine information about chips and tokens their own collections. Some reference books are required, along with a bit of careful examination. The moral of this story: if what you see conflicts with what you've been told, do your own research!

Now for some answers (and a couple of corrections) to other previously published UFC's.

227 - We stand corrected. We misidentified this TC chip as Tahoe Colonial, when in fact it was used at the Tonopah Club, in Tonopah, Nevada.

391 - More information. As indicated in the last column, these "Pyramid Casino" chips were made by Paul-Son to sell over the counter for home use. They were not made for a California card room which never opened, as some have suggested. However, if you've seen the new television program "Hearts Are Wild," which is filmed at Caesars Palace, you may have noticed these chips being used on tables in closeup shots. Apparently the producers bought supplies of both the Pyramid Casino chips and the Casino de Isthmus City chips (the originals of which were in fact made for the James Bond movie "Licence to Kill," but which are now available over the counter at Paul-Son for 50¢ each), and are using both types of chips in closeup table shots. One week the Pyramid chips will be in use, the next week the Bond chips may be used. Neither chip was made specifically for use in the program, however.

Some of the following answers are "educated guesses," but all seem to make some sense. If you can confirm any of this information, please write to us so we may follow up in a future issue.

26A and 26B - There were Barrel House casinos in both Las Vegas (1934-1938) and in Fallon, Nevada (1935-1952). Can anyone confirm whether one or both of these chips is from either casino?

34 and 37 - There was a Texas Club in Searchlight, NV from 1931-1934. Are these chips from that casino?

36 - The Silks was a card room in Emoryville, CA.

39A and 39B - There was a Colonial Club in Stateline (South Lake Tahoe) from 1949-1954. Are either of these chips from there?

63 - There have been several International Sporting Clubs in Europe. One was in Monaco, another on the island of Mallorca, for example. Can anyone give us an idea of where this molded plastic chip may have originated? We tend to believe that it is not from Monte Carlo, because it is not listed in the exhaustive monograph published by Day in the ANA magazine, *The Numismatist*.

67 - This token, which says DOLLAR on one side and CASSE on the other, is most likely a trade token rather than a casino token. Casse is German for cash register.

77 - The Avalon was a card room in Emoryville, CA.

85 - There were Lucky Clubs in Reno (1931-1944), Henderson (1962-1973) and Searchlight, NV. There were probably others. But where is this chip from?

86 - Two possibilities for this "Louie" chip: Louie's Place (opened in 1948, now closed), and Louie's (1961-1966), both in Eureka, NV. Is this chip from either location?

110 and 401 - Both of these chips say Fire Side. There was a Fireside Inn in Ely, NV in the 1970's, but that was one word. It is not uncommon for the printing on chips to make two words out of what should be one word, so both of these chips are candidates for the Ely club. Can anyone confirm?

117 - This chip says only "Dixie Club." There was a Dixie Bar in Henderson (1944-1964), and a Dixie's Club in Reno (1949-1954). Any matches?

131 - There was a Riverboat casino in Stateline (South Lake Tahoe) for a short time in 1970. This is possibly a chip from that club.

137 - This chip says "N Club B." It might be from the Nevada Bank Club in Fallon (1966-1967) but we think that the style of the chip makes that unlikely. Generally, this type of inlaid center chip with no rim design is an older chip than the 1960's.

139 - Joe's Club. There's now a Joe's Bar in Hawthorne, which may not be the origin of this chip.

However, one of our members who's seen the place says that the sign on the outside of the bar looks identical to the center insert of this chip! Sounds plausible to us!

156 - This chip says only "Pismo," but is likely from a card room in Pismo Beach, CA.

163 - KCC is from the Kansas City Club, a businessmens club in—of all places—Kansas City, Missouri!

164 and 165 - These chips, although different styles, both say "Casino Club." We've heard from more than one member that they come from Las Vegas. Can anyone supply more information about a "Casino Club" in Las Vegas, and whether these chips are from that club? What about the "Casino Club" cardrooms in Stockton, Redding, and Woodland, CA?

177 - The New Pioneer Club, as we suggested when this chip was originally published, was located in downtown Las Vegas from 1965-1968.

201 - Yes, this "Casino LVD" chip is from the Dominican Republic, but what casino? And what is the significance of the old radio microphone on the chip?

209 - Alviso Club was a card room in Alviso, CA.

221 - Club 14-0 is believed to have been a card room in San Diego, CA.

222 - Similarly, this Newport Club chip has been named as a candidate for a card room in Newport Beach, CA. Our information, though, indicates that there have never been card rooms in Newport Beach. Can one of our Left Coast members confirm this for us?

267 - PDSA has been one of those puzzle chips which no one knows about for sure. It's been suggested that it might have been a dealer's school at the Sundance Hotel in Las Vegas. Can someone confirm this?

290 - Paul Cummins Roaring 20's was a dinner club on La Cienega Boulevard in Los Angeles in the 1950's. There was no gambling there, and this chip is a drink token. The club later became the Millionaire's Club. There was also a Paul Cummins Roaring 20's in Seattle, which used a similar chip.

323 - Barn Club. Could be the Barn Club in Reno (1941-44).

324 - Aurora Club was a card room in Stockton, CA.

327 - There was a Joker Club in North Las Vegas (1973-1980), but what do the initials MB on the reverse stand for?

330 - There was a Players Club on the fledgling Las Vegas strip form 1945-1949. Could this chip be from that club?

336 - The Starlite Club is reputed to have been an illegal club in the Chicago area in the 1940's. Does anyone have any more information about it?

338 - There was a Ritz Bar with a gaming license in Elko in 1954. A possibility.

365 - This chip, which shows a World War II era bomber on one side, was used at the American Legion Hall in Simi Valley, CA.

392 - There are two sets of possibilities for this chip, which has diecut silver center inlays. It was used either at the Crystal Saloon in Virginia City and the Crystal Bar in Carson City, or in the Old Capital Saloon in Virginia City and the Capital Bar in Carson City! Can anyone give us the final word?

396 - There was a Club Tonga in Hawthorne, NV, from 1956-1959. The name is unusual enough that we're tempted to believe that the chip came from that club.

402 - Several members have suggested that this "Good Luck" chip was used at Harold's Club in Reno. That accounts for the "HC" on the obverse, but what about the "HG" initials on the reverse? More help needed here!

Again, we ask that anyone who has reliable information about these or any other UFC's (Unidentified Flying Chips) appearing in the Information Booth, drop a note to your faithful columnist so we can help all members identify the chips in their collections.

Now for some new UFC's! As in the past, each chip is numbered for reference, and a "$" indicates that the chip has a denomination on the reverse side. Chips which are not indicated as having denominations are usually identical on both sides, unless we illustrate both an obverse and a reverse.

Finally, we introduce a new feature with this issue. Called "The Spotlight," the purpose of the feature is to single out the chips of a particular casino in each column, and to provide more information about it than merely identifying the chips. As with The Spotlight in this issue, for example, sometimes we will be asking about other chips from the same casino, of which our members might be aware. On other occasions, we will try to publish photos of old casinos to help fill out collectors' knowledge about a particular casino. As with

the rest of The Information Booth, The Spotlight is **your** feature. If you have suggestions for chips or casinos that might be featured in future issues, please let us know. A word to those of you who have sent chips or photocopies for identification in The Information Booth. We *will* publish what you have sent. We cannot always use all the material on hand in each issue, due to space limitations, so we try to publish a representative sampling in each column. Eventually, however, all UFC's you have sent us will be published.

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405 - Bill's Golden Horseshoe is a cardroom in Clovis, CA. Although not visible in this illustration, "Bill's" is hotstamped over "Dee's Clovis." Apparently, Bill's is the successor to Dee's, also located in Clovis.

406 - Snowbank Jack's is a cardroom in Merced, CA.

407 - Jimmie's Casino Club was located at 123 1/2 Douglas Alley in the early days of Reno. Open in 1925, before statewide legalized gambling (1931), Jimmie's Casino Club closed in 1931.

408 - Launceston Casino is part of the Launceston Federal Hotel in Tasmania, Australia.

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409 - Low-stakes gambling was authorized in Deadwood, SD in 1989, but gambling in Deadwood dates back to the last century. Gold Bar was one of those illegal gambling spots in Deadwood, which began operating in the 1930's.

410 - It was suggested that this chip was from Las Vegas. Not likely. There actually has never been a Fremont Club in Las Vegas. More likely, it's from the Fremont Club card room in Nipomo, CA.

411 - This chip is from the Sierra Liquor Store in Bishop, CA, which apparently also had a card room.

412 - Here's one for those of you who thought you knew a lot about Las Vegas. We can't find any reference to a "Palmetto Hotel Casino" in Las Vegas in our regular sources. Any ideas?

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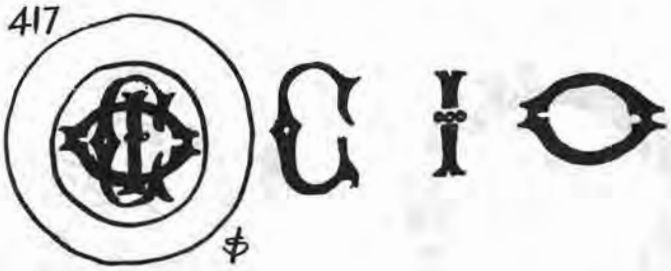
UFC **417** is a European molded plastic chip, with interlocking initials molded into the surface of one side. We've reproduced the initials separately to the side of the illustrated chip, to make them easier to read.

417



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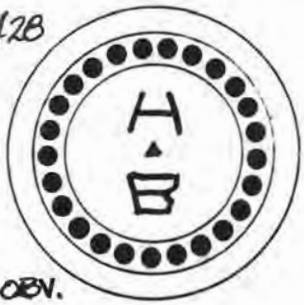

OBV.

REV.

429

430

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433

OBV.

REV.

THE SPOTLIGHT

The first subject for The Spotlight is the Club Bingo, which was located at 23 East Fremont Street, in downtown Las Vegas, from 1962 to the early 1980's. The downtown club was not the only Club Bingo in Las Vegas. Years earlier, there was a Club Bingo on what was to become the Las Vegas Strip. Located where the Sahara Hotel would eventually be built, the "other" Club Bingo operated from 1947 to 1951. The chips illustrated below, however, are from the downtown club.

Collectors have relatively little other information about the club, though. Although the club was licensed, according to Fuller's *Nevada Gaming Establishments*, for both slots and for 21 (no indication that it was licensed for bingo!), there are only a couple of chips generally known from the club. The hotstamped 12 1/2¢ chip, we can assume, was used to pay off blackjacks at a 25¢ minimum game. The center insert chip, on the other hand, bears no denomination at all. Since the club did not have a roulette game, is it possible that it used chips without denominations, with colors representing different denominations? And why is it that collectors generally have seen only three colors of these chips: the 12 1/2¢ being a dark green, a blue hotstamped chip with no denomination, and a dark red chip with the center insert. Are there others out there?

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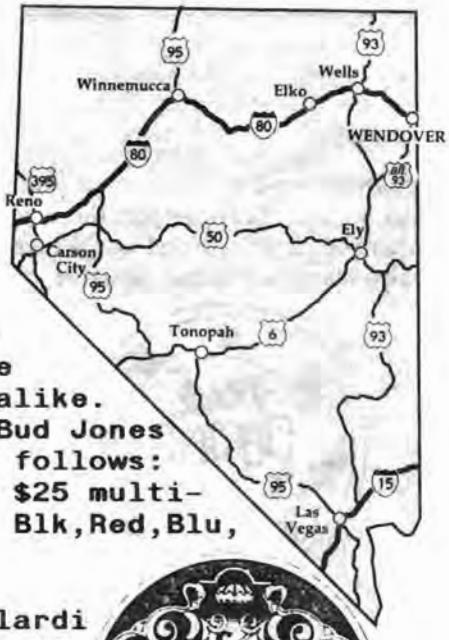
Thanks to the following members for their input for this column: Al Bernstein, Archie Black, Dick Blum, Hank Boss, Robert Eisenstadt, Gary Gustafson, Gene Grossblatt, Bob Mera, Allan Myers, Janice O'Neal, Steve Passalacqua, and Ralph Strandwold.

'NEVADA UPDATE'

By Janice O'Neal, Club Historian, CH-008



Well people, here we go again! Better get your running shoes on, as there are many new ones out there to go after!

First, biggest news, CHIPCO's have come..... and gone at Desert Inn on December 27th. MGM Desert Inn dropped the "MGM" and again became known as "DESERT INN" issuing a very colorful set of CHIPCO $1 thru $10,000 chips. The chips had many multiple colors, causing confusion for players and dealers alike. By January 28th all but the $1 were replaced with Bud Jones decal center chips. The original CHIPCO's were as follows: $1 Yel Brn Wht; $5 multi Wht Gry w/tennis racquet; $25 multi-Grn w/Golf Course. The new BJ $5 is Red 3 Spt Wht Blk,Red,Blu, Wht decal center.

Casino Royale opened at the old NOB HILL by Tom Elardi (son of Frontier owner, Margaret Elardi) on January 1st with a $5 CHIPCO. Colors are Blu, Blk, Yel, Red. SPORT OF KINGS will not open as they have encountered licensing difficulties. More negotiations will follow.

Anne Meyers (Queen Of Hearts Hotel) has purchased the NEVADA HOTEL from Jackie Gaughan. The chips remain the same. New tokens will be out soon. FRANKLIN BROS. CASINO on E. Freemont has added two blackjack tables and now has a $5 H&C Red, 4Yel/Brn H.S. chip. Be careful on this one. They don't seem at all happy about having chips "walk".

There is a new "WIN CARDS" promotion at the DUNES with a Lang 8 clover brite Pnk/Wht H.S. chip. A paper coupon gets a green dealers "Tip Chip" at the table, but they won't let any of those go out.

Another one has been slipped in on us! The FLAMINGO HILTON last set reads "Las Vegas" on CI. New set reads, "Las Vegas, NV". Colors are the same. It has been verified that the new unicorn rim chips (SILVER CITY L.V. and CARSON NUGGET, CC) are being issued by CHIPCO.

Another .25 chip. This time at FOUR QUEENS... H&C DkBrn, H.S. TROPICANA has all new House mold ... red 3 prp; Blk, Red, Gld Wht CI. Seems to be the same design as TROPICANA Atlantic City.

The Baseball Card Shop in Las Vegas, "SPORTS CARD CONNECTION" has a $1 promotional CHIPCO; Blu, Blk, Tan, Wht. Also has a H&C Grn 3/pch H.S. SKYLINE, Henderson has a new $5 chip; H&C Red 3/gry, Red, Wht CI. All $1 chips have been discontinued in favor of tokens. SAM'S TOWN GOLD RIVER in Laughlin is now known as "GOLD RIVER". $1 H&C LtBlu, 2/pch 2 LtRed, Gld, Red, Blk Wht CI. $5 H&C Red 3 LtGrn/Tan, Gld, Red, Blk Wht CI. At this time tokens remain the same.

(continued next page)

It has been learned that the New Years CHIPCO at EDGEWATER, Laughlin was never put on the tables. They were all drilled for key chains and given out on Fun Book coupons. They were completely gone is such a short time, that no collectors to our knowledge were able to get one. We all had better scout flea markets and garage sales in our home areas this summer for this one!

And still more CHIPCOs: $5 BALLY'S Reno New Years Eve 1992 (another one a year in advance?) Blk, Yel, Blu, Red w/Riverboat on a river scene. CLARION HOTEL Reno 1991 Collectors Series multi-color w/waterfall. HORSESHOE CLUB Reno New Years 1992 Yel, Blk, Gry, Red. SILVER CLUB Sparks 1992 Third Anniversary Multi-color Red. Others pictured in last issue: ELDORADO Reno New Years 1991 $5; BOOMTOWN Verdi 25th Anniversary $25; CARSON VALLEY INN Collector Edition 1992 $5; and TOPAZ LODGE Topaz Lake 1992 Fishing Derby $5.

And then there are LV tokens, tokens, tokens! DESERT INN $1 & $5 1992 CT. CASINO ROYALE $1 1992 CT type I (small date) type II (large date). SHOWBOAT $5 (1991) LM Brass. BALLY'S $5 (1991) NCM brass. Both were put in play during December 1991. McCARRAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT $1 1992 CT (No dollar sign). SHOWBOAT has issued a token that is a re-strike of the 1988 LM token. The only difference is that all lines are just a little flatter and a little broader. FLASH! Just issued; a new set of five $5 tokens at TROPICANA. Each one has a different design; "The Island Of Las Vegas", "Angel Fish", "Bird Of Paradise", "Blue Macaw", and "Kalanui; God Of Money". All are dated 1991 and they do not have a mint mark.

There are previously unreported tokens for; CIRCUS CIRCUS LV $1 1991 NCM and at RALEY'S (Reno area) (1991) CT United Coin. Newly reported, old variety; GOLD COAST LV 1987 type I (large NCM) and type II (small NCM) with some differences in the building logo. A second 1990 gold color promotional CAESARS PALACE LV $1 token has been found dated 1990 reverse w/JM obverse mint mark right side rim. The earlier issue was 1990 USM. Also, CAESARS PALACE now has a $10 slot token in play.

And then there are all the BAR TOKENS!! (I warned you last issue what was coming!) All of the following are from Las Vegas: KILROY'S; C.D.'S LOUNGE; GOODTIMES BAR & GRILL; LOOSE CABOSSE SALOON at 3175 E. Tropicana; LOOSE CABOOSE SALOON at 3685 S. Rainbow; HANGAR 47 (was MAIN GATE); CATTLEMAN'S STEAKHOUSE; BOSTON GRILL & BAR; BILLY'S WEST (dated 1989 CT reverse); BOODLES LOUNGE; LAKE MEAD LOUNGE; WILDFIRE (was POLO PUB); HOB NOB; MARTY'S BAR & GRILL; BUNKHOUSE SALOON; CHEZ PLACE BAR & GRILL; FREE THROW; JOSHUA'S PUB; M.G.'S BACKROADS; ONE EYED JACKS; BULLY'S (same token both locations); SAN FRANCISCO BAY (restaurant); REBEL PUB & GRUB (was INN ZONE)/UNIVERSITY) at 1131 E. Tropicana. It was discovered that the address on the original INN ZONE/UNIV

(See separate pages of token illustrations)

ERSITY is 4634 W. Maryland Pkwy. That address was incorrect from the beginning and no one ever noticed it before.

<u>CLOSED ARE:</u> MISS LUCY'S; CARL'S GARAGE (re-opened as DEW DROP-IN, no token); LANDORAY LOUNGE (to re-open as (R-BAR); and TOON'S SALOON (to re-open as ZUBIE'S SALOON)

A second HUDDLE LOUNGE has been found. There are now Type I (small CT) and Type II (large CT). New store tokens are as follows: RAINBOW DRUG, Sun City; and ALBERTSONS (found only at Summerlin store so far). If you would like addresses for the above BARS (including all bars from the beginning) please send $2 to; JANICE O'NEAL 1836 FISK ROAD HOWELL, MICHIGAN 48843.

<u>IN OTHER PLACES:</u> The CHIPCO "Dealers Tip Chip" has been found on PRINCESS LINES cruise to Mexico. It is being used in blackjack tournaments as a marker to designate which player is dealt to first as the play moves! DISCOVERY CRUISES has a $1 CHIPCO; Red, Blk, Grn, Org, Wht. $5 is still H&C Red, CI.

CONNECTICUT: The much talked about FOXWOODS CASINO is now open at Ledyard. They have <u>NO</u> slot machines, so no tokens here! Chips are all H&C; $1 Wht.. Blu, Blk, Wht CI; $2.50 Pnk 2 DkPnk/2Pup.... Blu,Blk, Wht CI; $5 Red 3 Blu/Brn... Blu, Blk, Wht CI. There is no actual "name" on these chips. The picture on the CI is of a "FOX" and a "TREE" designating "FOXWOODS".

SOUTH DAKOTA: A new Indian casino has just opened at Lower Brule called THE GOLDEN BUFFALO. There will be a $1 & $5 chip and a $1 token.

RIVERBOATS: PRESIDENT now has a $1 chip, H&C Wht 2 Tan 2 MRN.. Blk, Red, Wht CI; DUBUQUE CASINO BELLE also has a $1 H&C white chip w/2 pnk 2 blu.... Red, Blu, Blk, Wht CI and a $5 CHIPCO New Years, Blu, DkYel, Mrn.

CALIFORNIA: BARONA .50 H&C DkOrg H.S.; $1 H&C Grn 4 blk Red, Brn, Wht CI; $5 H&C Yel 3 Mrn/Brn.. Red, Brn Wht CI; BICYCLE CLUB $1 BJ Blu 4 Wht, Blu, Blk, Wht decal center. DIAMOND SYL'S $1 CHIPCO, Yel, Wht, Red, Blk; $5 CHIPCO Yel, Wht Blk Red. VIEJAS VALLEY, all are H&C with Blk, Gld, Wht CI.... $1 DkBlu 3 Pnk/LtBlu/Pnk, $2 Yel 3 LtGrn/Pch/LtGrn, $5 Red, 3 Yel/Crm/Wht.

WASHINGTON: VITO'S, Auburn $1 CHIPCO Brn,Blk,Yel.... $5 CHIPCO Brn, Blk,Red. NEW PHOENIX LeCenter $1 CHIPCO Yel, Red,Wht,Blk... $5 CHIPCO Yel,Red,Grn... $10 CHIPCO Yel, Red,Blu,Wht. CASH & CO Wenatchee $1 & $5 CHIPCOS.

MICHIGAN: LEELANAU SANDS Peshawbestown (Grand Traverse) $1 HrsHdsRt DkBlu.. Brn,Red,Blk,Wht CI, $5 HrsHdsRt DkRed 2 Bge... Brn,Red,Blk Wht CI... also a .50 antique brass token 1991 CT used on "21" tables in place of a

(continued next page)

.50 chip to pay out blackjacks. CHIP-IN CASINO Harris (Hannahville) chips and colors same as before. Wording on reverse in a different area. Also, a neat $5 Free Play Chip. Lang Pln Lav 3 off Wht H.S. given for over night stay in motel. Dollar slots come to Michigan!! Tokens are CHIP-IN CASINO (1991) NCM copper. KEWADIN CASINO (St. Ignace) (1991) NCM copper. SAGINAW CASINO (Mt. Pleasant) (1991) NCM silver color.

COLORADO: BLACKHAWK; MAIN STREET GAMING $5 CHIPCO, $1 tokens. ROHLING INN $5 Chip, $1 token. PROSPECTOR (poker only... no slots) $1 & $5 CHIPCO. CROOK'S PALACE and LUCKY STAR slots only $1 tokens. CENTRAL CITY; SILVER SLIPPER added a $1 CHIPCO. LONGBRANCH SALOON added a $1 chip. BONANZA CASINO $5 chip and $1 token. GLORY HOLE has a $1 & $5 CHIPCO and a $1 token. NITRO CLUB has a $5 chip and $1 token. CRIPPLE CREEK; THE TURF CLUB has $1 & $5 CHIPCOS and a $1 token. THE ORE HOUSE has $1 & $5 CHIPCOS. LOOSE CABOOSE also has $1 & $5 CHIPCOS and WILD BILL'S PUB has $1 & $5 H&C chips.

With all of this, everyone should be kept very busy until it's time for another issue of "CHIP & TOKEN MAGAZINE". I would like to personally thank every member who has contributed to this column. Without you, it would not exist.

Until next time, as always..... JANICE O'NEAL

(continued next page)

TOKENS, TOKENS, AND MORE TOKENS!

NEVADA UPDATE, CONTINUED

McCarran Airport

Desert Inn

Casino Royale (sm dt)

(lg dt)

Free Throw

Chez Place Bar/Grill

Bunkhouse

Bully's

San Fancisco Bay

One Eyed Jack's

M.G.'s Backroads

Joshua's Pub

Rebel Pub & Grub

Ralley's

Rainbow Drug-Sun City

Albertsons (Summerl

Bella Union Dwd S.D.

The Glory Hole

Good Times

Kilroy's

AND STILL MORE TOKENS!

C.D.'s Lounge

Hangar 47

Loose Caboose Saloon

3175 Tropicana

3685 S. Rainbow

Cattleman's Steak House

Hobnob

Billy's West

Marty's Bar/Grill

Boston Grill & Bar

Wildfire

Boodle's Lounge

Lake Mead Lounge

Bally's

Desert Inn

Showboat

Chip-In Casino

ATLANTIC CITY

CHIPCO ARRIVES IN A.C.!!

In late December 1991, just past the deadline for Vol 5, #1, and too late for publication, CAESARS A.C. released this attractive $100 CHIPCO issue. Hopefully this is the beginning of more CHIPCOs to arrive in A.C.

The previous $100 CAESARS chip was illustrated on page 7 of Volume 4, #4 and it made its appearance in September '91. Four months is not a long time in the life of a casino chip.... making the earlier issue truly a scarce one.

On January 15th, during our weekly trek to "Las Vegas By The Sea", I discovered a "new" $10 slot token that I'm told by a Caesars slot attendant was put into play "sometime during the summer". Once again my A.C. spies let me down. Months went by before it was known to this editor!

A few weeks earlier, on December 10th, BALLY'S GRAND had changed all of its roulette chips to a brand new style not seen before in A.C. These sets of numbered chips (1through 10) are currently on the tables at B.G.

5 PIECE TROPWORLD TOKEN SET

The long awaited TropWorld tokens have finally made their appearance. They were originally distributed by invitation only to Trop's "preferred customers" housed in a blue plush custom printed box in mid- to late December. There are five different designs to the set, which are illustrated below.

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TRUMP PLAZA ISSUES NEW $1 TOKEN

On the day before FRIDAY THE 13th (March) and just in time for the upcoming St. Patty's Day celebrations, Trump Plaza released a new $1 slot token. All of the previously issued $1 tokens were pulled from the casino floor and this unimpressive new design has replaced all of them.

TROPWORLD A.C. ISSUES $5 TOKENS

Illustrated elsewhere are the five designs of the new $1 tokens issued by TROPWORLD. An unexpected set of $5 tokens were released about a month later. Four of the five $5 designs are identical to the one dollar series. The only execption being the diving horse. This attractive five piece $5 token set includes a design depicting the Steel Pier instead of the famous diving horse. The previously mentioned other four $1 designs are repeated on the $5.

NEVADA CLASSICS

Throw that State out of the Union!! . . . . . Gaming is immoral ....unless you live in NEVADA.... and then you might have a different opinion of that bill your governor just signed into law....

On the 12th of January, 1932, the United States Playing Card Co. produced 2,000 chips to the order of A. Carlisle & Co. in Reno, Nevada. It was more than just the ordinary order - it was a political statement of the way Nevadans felt about their new "industry". Without a doubt, these "chips" are one of the classic Nevada gaming chips - a political statement for the rest of the nation to see.

Actual Size

compliments of *The* Coin Company

'DEADWOOD DEALINGS'

By Janice O'Neal CH-008 and Ed Nelson R-429

New BELLA UNION chips are $1 H&C wht 3 pnk/grn/blu with a blk, red, wht CI. The $5 chips are H&C red 3 grn with a blu, red wht CI.

GOLDBERGS $1 CHIPCO has been released (see related story published elsewhere). No word on the $10 CHIPCO yet.

SAM'S PLACE Restaurant at Super 8 Motel is now being called LUCKY 8 GAMING. Still slots only with Good-time Novelty tokens. Super 9 Motel was purchased by the same owners as HICKOK HOUSE.

CALAMITY JANES re-opened on March 2nd as "FRENCH QUARTER". They are using GOLD DUST chips and tokens.

There have been some changes over the past year in Deadwood you may or may not be aware of that might be of some interest. The following are all the items that have become obsolete: BELLA UNION old $1 & $5 chips and the $1 token are gone. CALAMITY JANES has closed; $1 & $5 chips and $1 token gone. CAPONES is closed; $5 chip gone. CARRIE NATIONS tables have been removed; $1, $5, $25 chips and $1 token gone. DEADWOOD LIVERY token also gone. Tokens used at CARRIE NATIONS & DEADWOOD LIVERY are all COUSIN JACKS. DEADWOOD DICKS had their tables removed & all $1, $5 chips are gone. DEADWOOD GULCH SALOON has removed their tables as well, with $1, $5 chips gone. DEADWOOD JUNCTION never did open. $1, $5, & $25 chips and $1 tokens were available but are now gone. The tables at EAGLES CLUB have been removed resulting in their $1 & $5 chips gone. HICKOK HOUSE tables removed... $1 & $5 chips gone. JACKPOT CHARLIES tables are removed, $1 & $5 chips gone. (GREEN DOOR had tables using JACKPOT CHARLIES chips, those are also gone). NUGGET is closed, $1, $5 & $25 chips and $1 token gone. PEACOCK CLUB had their tables removed resulting in the loss of their $1 & $5 chips. PATTY THOMPSONS has closed... $5 chip and $1 token gone. POKER ALICE is closed.... $1 & $5 chip + $1 token gone. 76 RESTAURANT tables were removed... $1 & $5 chips gone. WILD BILL BAR $1 chip is "discontinued". WINDFLOWER closed, $5 chip, $1 token gone.

As of March 5th, there were a total of 65 places in Deadwood to gamble. 65 have slots, 31 have blackjack and 19 have poker. For collectors, there are presently (42) $1 chips, (54) $5 chips, (11) $25's and (1) $100. Tokens are as follows: (46) $1, and (1) $5.

A very big "THANK YOU" to ED NELSON for taking the time to gather all of the above information to keep you on top of the happenings in South Dakota. If you care to write to him, send letters to 128 Williams Street Deadwood, SD 57732. If you are requesting additional information, or if you expect a reply, enclose a courtesy S.A.S.E. (self addressed stamped envelope).

MORE ON SPECIAL MARKINGS

"I have just read the newsletter (Volume 5, #1) from cover to cover, one article came to mind on special markings on chips."

I dug out the old black light hidden in the dusty corner of my garage and checked my small but growing collection. I thought it would be neat to see what other members have come with too. I really enjoy the newsletter, keep up the good work."

Michael Petty R-575

LOCATION	ESTABLISHMENT	VALUE	MARKINGS
Las Vegas	Aladdin	$1	H&C (Orange)
Las Vegas	Bally's	$1	Inserts
Las Vegas	Caesars Palace	$5	H&C (Orange)
Las Vegas	Circus Circus	$1	Hair on Clown (Yel-Grn
			Ball of Clown Hat "
			Inserts (Orange)
Las Vegas	Dunes	$1	H&C (Orange)
			Body of Chip (White)
Las Vegas	El Cortez	$1	" " " "
Las Vegas	Fitzgeralds	$1	"$1" (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Flamingo Hilton	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Golden Nugget	$1	Body (White)
Las Vegas	Golden Nugget	$5	Body (Orange)
Las Vegas	Holiday CAsino (new)	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Mirage	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Mirage	$5	H&C (Yellow-Green)
			Body (Orange)
Las Vegas	O'Sheas	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Rio	$1	8 lines of "MARCOR"
			in Inlay (Yellow-Grn)
Las Vegas	Riviera	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Las Vegas	Sam's Town	$1	Inserts
Las Vegas	Sahara	$1	Inserts
Las Vegas	Sundance	$1	Inserts
Las Vegas	Sundance	$5	Inserts
Las Vegas	Tropicana (new)	$1	H&C
Las Vegas	Union Plaza	.25	Body (Peach)
Laughlin	Flamingo Hilton	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
			Inserts (Green)
Laughlin	Golden Nugget	$1	10 lines of GNL
			(Yellow-Green)
			Body (White)
Laughlin	Pioneer	$1	"$1" (Yellow)
			Logo "P" Hats
Reno	Bally's	$1	Inserts
Reno	Club Cal-Neva	$5	Inserts
Deadwood	Calamity Janes	$1	H&C (Yellow)
Deadwood	Cousin Jacks	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Deadwood	Dakota Territory	$1	H&C " "
Deadwood	Nugget	$1	H&C " "
Deadwood	Peacock Club	$1	H&C " "
Deadwood	Saloon No. 10	$1	Inserts
Deadwood	Wild Bill Bar	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)
Vancouver BC	Great Canadian	$1	H&C (Yellow-Green)

'THE STORY OF THE PENNY CHIP'

By Janice O'Neal CH-008

In 1990, tucked away off the highway in a small wooden building on the edge of town at Carson City, Nevada, Gary Gustafson (R-514) found ARTICHOKE JOES. In progress was a seven card stud game. Buy-In was only two dollars, for which Gary received ten .10 cent chips; fifteen .o5 cent chips; and twenty five .01 cent chips (you read it right..... penny chips!) Limit was two raises or .20 cents!

Upon returning the following year, Gary again visited ARTICHOKE JOES, but alas all of the .01, .05, and .10 cent chips had been replaced by new .50 cent and $1 chips. I'm sure he will always remember playing poker for a penny in 1990!

The chips are all of the H&C mold. the .01 cent is orange with 4 brown inserts and is hot stamped. The .05 cent is lime green with 4 purple inserts H.S. The .10 cent is bright pink with 4 gold inserts. The .25 cent is dark salmon. The .50 cent is beige. The $1 is blue with 4 yellow inserts and has a center inlay. The $5 is red with 4 purple inserts and has a black, red, yellow center inlay.

We sure would like to know if Artichoke Joes is still in Carson City. Drop us a line.

Thank you Gary for sharing your experience with us and telling us about the penny chips!

SPRING OPENINGS

Black Hawk Station - Black Hawk
Elk Creek Gaming - Cripple Creek
Golden Eagle - Cripple Creek
Independence Hotel Casino- Cripple Creek
Madame June's - Cripple Creek

OPENING SOON

Claim Jumper - Black Hawk (Mar. 1)
Diamond Lil's - Cripple Creek (Mar.)
Glory Hole - Central City (Feb. 25)
Lucky Star - Black Hawk (any day)

R I V E R B O A T C A S I N O I T E M S

W I L C O X E N T E R P R I S E S
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OPERATING RIVERBOAT CASINOS

Diamond Lady	Bettendorf, IA
Emerald Lady	Keokuk, IA
President	Davenport, IA
Debuque Casino Belle	Debuque, IA
Mississippi Belle II	Clinton, IA
Alton Belle	Alton, IL
PAR-A-DICE	Peoria, IL
Casino Rock Island	Rock Island, IL

SCHEDULED OPENINGS

5/1/92	Galena Eagle	East Debuque, IL
6/15/92	Empress River Casino	Shanahon, IL
Fall 92		Natchez, MS
Dec 92	City of Lights I & II	Aurora, IL
Jan 93		Joliet, IL

NEW CHIPS & TOKENS

President	$1 Chip		
Debuque Casino Belle	$1 Chip		
Debuque Casino Belle	$5 Chip	CHIPCO	New Year 1992
Casino Rock Island	.25, $1 & $5 Tokens		
MISSISSIPPI BELLE II $1 CHIP	.50, $1, $5, $25, $100, $500 Chips		

Complete price list and more information on the Riverboats is available on request. We are committed to having all available chips and tokens in stock as well as cards, dice and other Casino items. We have the latest information on the new boats and will be on one of the first public cruises on each new boat. We invite standing orders. The following prices are typical:

25 cent tokens	$0.50
50 cent tokens	$1.00
$1 chips or tokens	$2.50
$2.50 chips	$5.00
$5 chips or tokens	$7.50
New Boat Newsletter (available soon after opening)	$3.00
Script - $20 money size	$3.00
Card Decks	$3.00
Shipping and Handling	$3.00

ONCE AROUND THE WEST: NORTHWESTERN MONTANA

By Steve Goodrich R-306

Hello friends. I had many favorable replies to my short article regarding gambling in Montana last year. Several people remarked that they wanted to know more, so I will go into a little more detail concerning this fascinating state. Now that summer is approaching, some of you may want to consider a trip to this beautiful area of the world. Therefore I will attempt to detail the chips available in the northwestern part of the state and the places where they can be found.

First, a brief overview of the games available in Montana. Poker and live keno (yes, live keno) have been legal in Montana for several years. They have met with mixed success (as would be expected in a state with an overall population of fewer than 800,000 hardy soles). In 1989 a law was passed legalizing video poker and keno machines, which have since become a phenomenal success. "Casinos" have sprouted all over the state, even in the smallest towns. Supposedly, these machines have also given a boost to the live poker games as they introduce more people to the game. Even though much of the state has fallen on hard times as of late, the gaming industry is still doing well.

More recently, 1991 was going to be the year that blackjack was legalized ("21 in '91" was the cry). There was a substantial effort in the state to sanction the game, much in the same way Deadwood, South Dakota and the Colorado mining towns authorized it, although in this case it was to be a statewide occurrence. The state legislature, however, turned down the request. Many of the lawmakers concluded that it would simply be too much trouble. They felt the state was too large to sufficiently regulate and that Montanans already had enough gaming available, so the proposal was defeated last summer. This proposition would have left us, the chip collectors, with a wealth of chips as with Deadwood (and me, one of the sole collectors in this extensive region, with the pleasure/nightmare of trying to visit and catalogue each locale since I try to keep abreast of such things). However, even without blackjack, there are still many locations throughout the state that render chips. I have yet to uncover any dollar poker or keno machines (quarters seem to be as high as they go), so that leaves token collectors out in the cold for now (sorry folks).

Most of these "casinos" are very small, but they are usually very nice places and the employees tend to be exceptionally friendly. The catch is, you have to play poker (and be able to find a game) to have access to the chips. There are several locations throughout the state where they spread live poker games, though they are fewer and further between than the clubs which offer only video machines. Keep in mind that these games are unreliable and often do not occur when (or where) they are supposed to. In addition, openings and closings are common in this business. Several of the casinos listed here may no longer exist, and others may have opened that I do not know about. To that extent, I always appreciate any information regarding new casinos, or places that I may have overlooked along the way.

(continued next page)

What follows is a city-by-city listing of the casinos/card rooms where chips have actually be found in northwestern Montana (the most populous area of the state). Though I have made every attempt to keep my information current, please note that because of the volatile nature of the business there is no guarantee that any of these places remain in operation (although some of these clubs have been around for several decades). The listing roughly encompasses that part of the state which lies north of Interstate 90 and west of Interstate 15. I have included illustrations of the most interesting and collectible chips.

If you have any additional information, I would definitely be grateful for your input. You can direct any questions or comments to me at: P.O. Box 3162 Moscow, ID 83843.

Browning (just outside Glacier National Park)
- Montana Casino

Great Falls (second largest city in Montana)
- Heritage Inn
- Hi-Ho (closed)
- Nevada Sam's (what's in a name!)
- Playground
- Prospector
- R & R

Helena (the state capital)
- Dragon's Lair (closed 1991)
- Gold Bar
- Gold Nugget
- Modern West (closed)

Kalispell (near Flathead Lake)
- Cattlemans Club
- Cavanaughs (closed 1991)
- Gold Nugget
- Log Cabin
- Pancho Magoos

Missoula (home to the University of Montana)
- Flippers
- Oxford
- Palace
- Silvertip

Shelby (last sizeable town on I-15 before the Canadian border)
- Mint

Whitefish (popular with Canadians as poker is illegal in Alberta)
- Bull Pen
- Four Seasons
- Remington
- Stump Town

(continued next page)

MC

NEVADA
SAM'S
25¢
GREAT FALLS, MT

PLAY GROUND
BAR

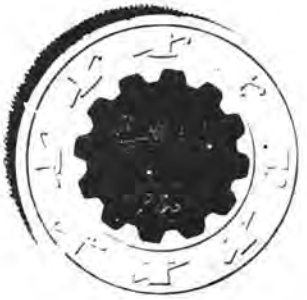
PROSPECTOR CASINO
$1
GREAT FALLS, MT

AGR

GOLD
NUGGET
CASINO

MODERN WEST
BAR
HELENA, MONT

CC



KALISPELL,
MT

KALISPELL, MT

FLIPPER'S CASINO
MISSOULA
MT

OXFORD
MISSOULA, MONT

PALACE CARD ROOM
25¢
MISSOULA, MONT

SILVERTIP
50¢
CASINO

MINT

WANTED; DEAD OR ALIVE

By Gene Grossblatt R-298 800-333-1656

A sheriff tacks a wanted poster to his wall and comtemplates the capture of the outlaw. He may risk his life in a way that many would not understand. An art collector daydreams of a Monet. In another place, a young man makes plans to obtain a Mickey Mantle rookie card. Such is the passion of the casino chip collector.

Casino chip collecting is a relatively new hobby. As of yet, the Picassos and DiMaggios of chip collecting have not been defined.

This column will highlight what I consider to be the most coveted chips in the world.

Every casino, card club and gambling hall has a $5 chip, so it seems appropriate to feature $5 chips in this first article.

The El Rancho Vegas CREST and SEAL chip with a floral rim is a most desireable chip. El Rancho Vegas opened on June 21, 1944 and the intial management remained intact until January 8, 1947. Apparently my featured chip was not the first $5 chip used in the casino, but was in all probability the second edition hitting the tables, circa 1945 or 1946. This chip is featured in a 1946 catalouge by George and Company which was formerly an eastern chip manufacturer but is no longer in business. Pictured is a copy of their ad in that catalog, from HARVEY'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING GAMING CHECKS AND CHIPS, pp B-15; reprinted with permission from High Sierra Numismatics, Minden Nevada.

George and Company **Old Catalogs**

CLUB ROOM EQUIPMENT – CATALOG 74

CREST and SEAL
Deluxe Checks

Truly, the "Cadillac" of the check line, our Crest & Seal, Non-Duplicate Checks are the finest made.

A celluloid disk is inlaid in the center of each check and a monogram or intricate design is printed on each inlay. The check pictured is but one of thousands of designs that could be developed for those desiring printed reproductions in their checks, or letters, numerals, photographs etc. which will portray any of the characteristics of their club that they wish carried out in the design of their checks.

All of the features of our popular floral design checks are incorporated in these Crest & Seal Checks. They are extra heavy, square edge and come in 12 colors. RED - WHITE - BLUE - YELLOW - GREEN - CHOCOLATE - ORANGE - BLACK - PINK - LAVENDER - GRAY - PURPLE.

Minimum Order of 1000 checks is required.

I have seen a specimen of this illustrated chip on the previous page in Harvey's Lake Tahoe collection. The color of the chip is yellow. The artwork in the center is the same which appears in a set of chips for the El Rancho Vegas from a mold with twenty five squares fabricated by Mason & Co. of Newark, NJ. This latter chip was on the tables in 1959. As far as I know, no private collector has this George & Company chip. It would be quite exciting to hear of anyone who has or knows someone in possession of this prize. Any information along these lines would be greatly appreciated.

Our club President and Editor, Archie Black has previously featured my second selected chip on the front page of his first newsletter (Volume 1, Issue 1). As there is no way to improve his description, a reprint follows.

$5 "BACCARAT" CHIP
Red... 3 White/Peach/Blue Inserts
RESORTS INTERNATIONAL
ATLANTIC CITY'S FIRST CASINO
OPENED MAY, 1978

"This scarce chip illustrated above is very seldom found in **ANY** condition!! This writer knows of less that 6 specimens in collections of the most serious collectors I have corresponded with.... and I've never seen one offered for sale." "Issued only 10 (now going on 14) years ago; evidently not too many were saved by collectors. In fact, in 1978 there were probably not too many A.C. casino chip collectors period!!"

"By type, this chip represents the only $5 Atlantic City "Baccarat" designation, as all other A.C. "Baccarat" chips are of the yellow $20 denominations. Manufactured by Paulsons, bearing their distinctive hat & cane trademark moulded into the outter rim, this chip is part of the "first issue" of the Resorts International series."

The third featured chip is a Flamingo $5 chip. It was the chip that was on the tables when the casino opened on December 26, 1946. It is referred to as the "Bugsy Siegel" chip. The chip is die cut metal (brass) inlay with two mustard inserts. My understanding is that there are approximately two dozen of these in the hands of collectors. The current pricing on this chip is in the neighborhood of $100. It is anticipated that the price will rise due to the Bugsy Siegel connection.

(Editor's Note: It would be interesting to find out just how many of the chips featured in this article are "out there". If you own a specimen, please contact me or Gene Grossblatt so we can get a truer accounting of number known.

THE STORY ON GOLDBERG'S CHIPCO ERRORS

By Ed Nelson R-429

In late December, the new one dollar CHIPCO's were put into play at Goldberg's, in Deadwood S.D. Another nice looking CHIPCO issue for the collector I thought. Immediately, I began to send them out to customers and to friends that I knew would want them. I also sent some in small quantitiies to a couple of dealer friends.

I received a letter back from Mel Jung (Mel's wife Lisa is the one who gets the credit for having the eagle eye) requesting that he be sent more Goldberg CHIPCO's; ones that did not have "SODA FOUNTAIN" on them. I wrote back to tell Mel that ALL the chips had "SODA FOUNTAIN" on one side and "BIG JAKE'S" on the other.

Well old Mel writes back and tells me that he has the only Goldberg chip that has "BIG JAKE'S" on both sides. Naturally this prompted a search, with the hunters being myself.. and the owner of Goldberg's. What we found was quite interesting.

The intitial order on these chips was three thousand and they are used only on the poker tables. All of the error chips now referred to as type II and type III came out of the same box, which was still in the vault. I had been allowed to purchase chips from this box and that is how we arrived at the count. At this time, the count on these chips stands at fifty. Sixteen of these are still in Goldberg's vault and will remain there. Twenty eight are in the hands of five of our club members and the other six are "out there" among the rest of our members.

To the best of my knowledge, this is the first error chip put out by CHIPCO that has had actual casino use. If anyone has any information to the contrary, please let me know. If you have any questions regarding these chips, simply drop me a line and I will try to answer them. This seems to have created an interesting aspect to the hobby for the collectors of CHIPCOS. Is this a rare chip? I think so. Will they be expensive? I think so!

Again, my thanks to Lisa Jung for discovering this facinating new error. For the time being, I will refer to these chips in the following manner: Type I is the regular issue with "BIG JAKE'S" on one side and "SODA FOUNTAIN" on the other. Type II is the chip with "BIG JAKE'S" on both sides, and type III has "SODA FOUNTAIN" on both sides.

One last comment. Yes, we did search every chip that Goldberg's has in their possession. The cage, the poker trays, the drop boxes and the vault. Kind of hard on the eyes, especially when you only have one to begin with.

Happy chip hunting..... Ed Nelson

(Editor's Note: See "Ode To Goldberg's CHIPCO next page)

AN ODE TO GOLDBERG'S CHIPCOS

By Ed Nelson R-429

Twas just before Xmas in old Deadwood town
And a new CHIPCO chip was soon to abound
Three thousand in number, a beautiful sight
How were we to know that some were not right

Into the mail to collectors they go
West to the sunshine and east to the snow
The orders were filled and the chips did depart
Even some of the wrong ones so dear to my heart

Then came a letter, from Mel way out west
At first I thought he had sent it in jest
Send me twenty more Goldberg's his letter plied
The ones that have "Big Jakes" on both sides

I smiled as I read it, this letter so strange
Old Mel had surely on smarts been shortchanged
I sent him more chips and no time did I bide
And said they all had "Big Jakes" on only one side

But Mel was persistant and set up a holler
Said he had a Goldberg's CHIPCO worth ten thousand dollar
I tried to be calm and to take it in stride
But his Goldberg's chip had "Big Jakes" on both sides

So the hunt did commence and we looked through them all
Goldberg's owner and I were having a ball
All three thousand chips were searched with much care
Looking for "errors" we hoped would be there

And when we did find them they were still under locks
All the "error" CHIPCO chips were in the same box
We found some with "Big Jakes" printed on each side
And some where "Big Jakes" did not even abide

Yes, some had "Soda Fountain" as plain as could be
On both sides of the CHIPCO for collectors to see
And so as for types we had three in hand
An unusual happening for the great CHIPCO brand

Out of three thousand CHIPCOS, fifty we found
That's all that there are and no more are around
Fourty-four we account for in an uneven mix
So among you collectors are the other rare six

So look at them closely and check either side
For in your collection a rare CHIPCO may hide
I'm being quite honest as this deal is so nifty
ARE YOU ONE OF THE SIX WHO HAS ONE OF THE FIFTY?

Type II Chip
"BIG JAKE'S"
Both sides

To be sold to highest bidder (one only) Proceeds to club

SEND YOUR BIDS TO:

"BIG JAKE'S BID"
C/O CC&GTCC
P.O. BOX 63
BRICK, NJ 08723

AN OFFER FROM ED & MEL

Dear Archie: "Enclosed is a type II Goldberg CHIPCO which you will understand more after you read the article. The chip is donated by Mel Jung and myself and we would like to have it offered in a mail bid with all of the proceeds going to the club. We suggest a minimum bid of $35. These chips are rare Archie, and I don't believe that there will be any for sale for sometime to come. There are 19 pieces in the hands of the collectors and maybe one of them may sell. The rest belong to Goldbergs and myself. I know that Goldbergs will not sell so that leaves me."

(Thanks for your generous donation Ed & Mike. As they announced at the start of the Indianapolis 500, "Ladies and Gentlemen; start your bidding!")

'CRUISING FOR CHIPS'

By Arlene Grossblatt R-666

Early Christmas Eve morning, Gene and I flew to San Juan to join the Royal Princess on a very exciting cruise through the Panama Canal.

One of our favorite stops was at Curacao, a colorful Dutch Island off the coast of Venezuela. There is a legend that the Dutch used to paint all their houses white. In 1830 there was a governor, who believed that the glare from the homes caused him to have headaches. He gave the residents three weeks to re-paint their homes red, ochre and blue. Even today, these three colors remain very prominent.

We had planned to go to as many casinos as were open in Curacao during the time we were in port, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most casinos in the Caribbean are only open in the evenings.

The Otroband Hotel and Casino seemed to appear out of nowhere as we were walking from the ship to the town of Willemstad. Otroband means, "the other side".

We stopped in at 10:00 a.m. and learned that the casino was to open at 11:30 a.m., but that was for slots only. So we came back a third time for table games. We were able to get the most extensive assortment of chips because they dealt in both U.S. dollar denominations and Dutch guilders. The exchange rate is approximately 55 cents on the dollar.

We crossed the Pontoon Bridge to Willemstad. The bridge opens to let the ships through. When it is open, a free ferry boat transports people across the inlets.

In downtown Willemstad, we found that the Curacao Plaza had changed to the Van Der Valk Plaza Hotel. The cost of our chips had suddenly increased because Gene could not get "lucky" at blackjack.

Later in the day we toured the island by cab. We stopped at five different casinos. After a drive of twenty five minutes to the Holland Hotel, we found that the casino was not open to play yet. We spoke to someone in management who gave us some souvenir key chains. Gene explained his interest in chips and he offered to send us some as souvenirs. He did not want any money for them. However, so far, we've not received anything.

The Curacao Caribbean Hotel and Casino had the most beautiful hotel grounds. We were disappointed that they were putting up folding tables in between the gaming tables to play bingo! The gaming tables would not be open until later that afternoon. We were very fortunate to find a casino manager who agreed to sell us some chips. He disappeared down some steep stairs. We were very pleased when he eventually returned with our chips, which actually say "Hotel Concorde Curacao".

Then on we went to the Las Palmas for a quick stop because they only had a small slot casino.

Next stop on our "chip trip" was the Holiday Beach Hotel and Casino. "Antillean Casino Corp" was printed on the chips. They had bright colors with a metal insert.

Our final stop was the Princess Beach Hotel and Casino. The one dollar chips were from a previous casino, the "Princess Isles". The five dollar chip however, had the correct name.

We had relied on information from the "Casinos Of The World" book. We found many discrepancies regarding opening times from our various sources.

We returned to our ship via the Queen Juliana Bridge, the tallest in the Caribbean. We had a great time sightseeing, as we did what we love so dearly; chip collecting!

Artichoke Joe's Sets the Standard

By Byron Liggett

Artichoke Joe's, in San Bruno, Calif., one of the largest, most successful and sophisticated card club operations in the ountry, recently took another major step toward setting the standard for service and security. The club purchased 250,000 high-tech, bar-coded, customized chips and installed a fully integrated line of automated-chip handling equipment. The system is given high marks by general manager Joe Willson.

The bar-coded Pro-Tech Series™ Chips and equipment are products of Chipco International, of Windham, Maine. Applying space-age technology, the company revolutionized the chip manufacturing process, overcoming the limitations of the traditional clay chip. Now, a casino or card room can have chips tailored to any design or color combination desired, and the chips are more durable and secure than anything previously available. Invisible bar-codes, which are electronically "read" but do not disturb the design, graphics or feel of the chips, make counterfeiting all but impossible. Denominations can even be placed along the edges of each chip.

"The chips are great. They look good, clean well and the customers like them," Willson says. "The automatic chip washer works wonders," he says. "Keeping the chips clean enhances their distinctive appearance and also helps to distinguish Artichoke Joe's."

Willson is equally pleased with the equipment. "We have a completely integrated system, the most secure in the business, and it's functioning very well," he says pridefully.

Describing the system, Willson tells how the high-tech scanner checks the security guard's badge number against the drop box, table and game code card each time it is pulled. The Pro-Sorter ™ counts, validates and sorts the invisibly bar-coded chips. It is also tied into the office's financial management and auditing software so table revenues can be assessed immediately.

The Pro-Tech Cashier™ completes the Chipco system. It looks much like a bank automated teller machine (ATM). When chips are placed in it, they are scanned, validated and counted. If the player agrees with the total displayed, he pushes a button and is paid in cash. "It's a real labor saver," the general manager points out.

Augmenting the high-tech Chipco system is an equally thorough network of cameras, video tape and well-trained, experienced gaming personnel. "Artichoke Joe's is a long-established, well-regarded, family-owned business. Its proprietors understand that security provides protection for both the business and the customer," Willson explains.

The San Bruno club has the reputation as a progressive leader in the highly competitive card room business. "Artichoke Joe's has often been a standard setter," says Tom Bowling, director of the California Card Club Association.

Although the club is a longtime California landmark, it has continued to stay ahead in the industry through its progressive management and operation. Its recent investment in the new high-tech chips and equipment by Chipco is just the latest example. "Security," Willson says, "from customer through count, is a sure bet at Artichoke Joe's."

Editors Note: The following article which originally appeared in **"GAMING TECHNOLOGIES MAGAZINE"** is reprinted with permission from the author. Mr. Liggett is a professional gaming writer and consultant and is a strong booster of our hobby activities

'U.S. MILITARY BASE CHIPS'

By H.N. 'Fat Cat' Elston

Many collectors have a favorite series of chips to collect. Some only collect chips from Nevada; California; Colorado; Atlantic City; Montana; Riverboats; Ships; Foreign; etc. Some only collect center inlays, no hot stamps, a few just like the metal inserts. Some are specializing in CHIPCO issues only, while others are into ivories, mother of pearl, etc.

Mr. Elston, of Windham, Maine has a small collection of military chips he thought would be of interest to our membership. While the following is not a very comprehensive listing of such chips, it is a rather nice assortment of AFB (Air Force Base) chips that I'm certain many of you have others that you might like to bring to Mr. Elston's attention. He may be contacted at P.O. Box 1147 Windham, ME 04062-1147. Tell him you saw "his" article in "Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Magazine".

ALBROOK-HOWARD (AB)
CANAL ZONE
Yellow w/Gold Letters

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE
NON COMMISSION OFFICERS OPEN MESS
Blue w/Gold Letters both sides
NEVADA (also known in maroon)

LORING (AFB)
MAINE
Green w/Gold Letters

LORING (AFB)
MAINE
Salmon w/Gold Letters

(continued next page)

Mc GUIRE (AFB)
NEW JERSEY
Purple w/Gold Letters

Mc GUIRE (AFB)
NEW JERSEY
Orange w/Gold Letters

Mc GUIRE (AFB)
Red w/Gold Letters

Type I
Reverse

Type II
Reverse

(Note: The above three chips have plain flat edges... no edge moulds)

NORTON AIR FORCE BASE
CALIFORNIA
White w/Gold Letters
obverse/reverse same both sides

NORTON AIR FORCE BASE
CALIFORNIA
Dk Blue w/Gold Letters
obverse/reverse same both sides

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128 WILLIAMS
DEADWOOD, S.D. 57732

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LAKEWOOD, CALIF. 90711

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3. ATLANTIS	$2.50 CHIP	$7.50
4. ATLANTIS	$5.00 CHIP	$12.00
5. HILTON	$1.00 CHIP	$10.00
6. TROPICANA	$1.00 CHIP 1ST ISSUE	$6.00
7. TROPICANA	$1.00 CHIP 2ND ISSUE	$6.00
8. GOLDEN NUGGET	$1.00 CHIP 2ND ISSUE	$8.00
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10 .BROADWALK REGENCY	$1.00 CHIP 2ND ISSUE	$5.00
11. RESORTS INT'L	$1.00 CHIP 2ND ISSUE	$5.00
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7. ZIMBA'S CASINO (RENO) 10¢	$7.00
8. BAL TABARIN (LAKE TAHOE) BLACK / 3 PURPLE $1 CHIP	$10.00
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6...CRYSTAL BAY CLUB	CRYSTAL BAY	MT	AU	18 - 25
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8...HAROLD'S CLUB (A FUN)	RENO	PE	AU	50 - 75
9...HAROLD'S CLUB (H FUN)	RENO	PE	AU	50 - 75
10..HARVEY'S RESORT (COPPER)	STATELINE	MT	XF	10 - 20
11..HONEST JOHN'S	LAS VEGAS	PE	UNC	8 - 12
12..HORSE SHU CLUB	JACKPOT	O	UNC	25 - 30
13..JOE MACKIE'S STAR	WINNEMUCCA	MT	AU	28 - 35
14..JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET	SPARKS	MT	XF	30 - 40
15..NEV. CLUB - NEV. LODGE	RENO & CB	MT	F	15 - 20
16..RIVERSIDE HOTEL OVERSTAMPED "JB" IN 1979	RENO	FM	EX	8 - 12
17..SAHARA TAHOE	STATELINE	MT	AU	25 - 35
18..STOCKMAN'S MOTOR HOTEL	ELKO	O	AU	40 - 50
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21..1969 KIETH'S MODEL T	WINNEMUCCA	MM	BU	25 - 32
22..1969 HARVEY'S 25th ANN	STATELINE	FM	UNC	10 - 15
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25..1989 PONDEROSA .999 SILVER	RENO	LM	PR	35 - 45
26..1966 FRANKLIN MINT PROOF LIKE SET (72 PCS)		FM	PL	325 -375
27..48 DIFFERENT CIRC $1.00 TOKENS IN A DANSCO ALBUM				96 -150

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