

# **“MR. CHIPS” NEW ISSUES SERVICE**

**ATLANTIC CITY**  
**e-NEWSLETTER**

**DECEMBER, 2001**



**“BUDDY”**

## **Only Dog Owners Would Understand**

Late Sunday night, November 16<sup>th</sup>, Brenda and I were forced to make a very difficult heart-wrenching decision. Our 12 year-old Shetland Sheepdog, “Buddy” had to be put to sleep after suffering a terrible bout with stomach cancer in which he was literally starving to death. Buddy provided the Black family with many years of joy and happiness and was a great traveling companion for Brenda and me as we made our weekly trek down the Garden State Parkway every weekend for the past six years to spend getaway time at our condo in Atlantic City. He was a superb pet and playmate and swimming pool companion for our three grandchildren; two of whom live with us and our 31 year old daughter Nancy. Buddy provided our family with abundant love and affection ... and we responded to Buddy in kind. He never asked for anything, yet was always ready to give unconditional affection, loyalty and devotion to all of us. He was treated like just another member of

the family and we will miss him tremendously. He was not a show dog ... just a pet, but he truly was my best “buddy”... ever.

## **TROPICANA’S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CHIP**

Two days after Trump Marina issued the final three chips in their restaurant series, Tropicana issued their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary chip without any advance notification on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Most of the usual “in-the-know” chippers were caught completely off-guard with this surprise chip release, not finding out about it until the very morning on the day the chip was to be issued at noon. Plans and schedules had to be modified, changed, or aborted in order to get to Atlantic City before this 1000 chip issue was completely sold-out.

Brenda, Buddy and I were in Atlantic City by 5:00 p.m. and we were limited to a rigidly enforced ten chips per person purchase. We got our first stack of 20 chips and returned after 8 p.m. when the shift changed to pick up

**“WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN, YOU CAN BET MR. CHIPS WILL BE THERE TO PICK THEM UP!”**

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20 more chips between the two of us. After watching the 11 o'clock news, it was back to Trop where we were able to catch the pit boss and table dealer out to dinner and secured another stack of 20, plus we were able to convince a couple of players to purchase ten chips each for us. In addition, our next-door neighbor and his wife had visited Tropicana during the afternoon and each got ten chips. After tipping off a couple of chip collecting friends of ours from Smithville about the release, they were able to double-dip twice. Once more they came through for me as they did with the Trump Marina releases.. Finally, just after the 4:00 a.m. Saturday morning shift change, I visited Trop again and the same two roulette players I met at midnight were still playing and with their help, I was able to secure an adequate supply of chips for my customers. I even bumped into Bruce Connick, a chip collector who was playing roulette at 4:00 a.m. and he didn't even know that a new chip had been released at that very table.

During the A.C. Chapter Meeting the following day on Sunday, I was told there were still chips available on the roulette table at Tropicana. I only

mention this story, because there are other stories that abound about how easy it is to get LE's from Tropicana. Those stories are also accurate, because many chippers only need ten chips or less for themselves and their friends. The end result is that everybody got what they wanted ... and that's good,; except that some of us had to make a little bit more of a special effort than others.

**2001 Edition of Black's  
A.C. Catalog still available!**

At this point in time I don't see myself coming out with a 2002 Edition of my Atlantic City Catalog. Sales of the 2001 version have not been up to par, so I've decided to skip a year. Fact is, I was originally going to skip issuing a 2001 Edition, but was convinced by several chippers to go ahead with it.

As most of you know, these annual catalogs are not mass-produced, but are completely assembled, front and back covers laminated, and spirally bound by myself after giving the actual printing of the pages job to a local Quickie Print outlet here in Wall, NJ. Only 250

copies were produced this year and almost half of them currently remain unsold. I believe the drop in catalog sales has to do with the fact that I have published most of the information appearing in the catalogs on my popularly visited website at [www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/home.htm](http://www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/home.htm)

In this 8 ½" x 11" format, spiral bound, heavy-duty laminated covers, 140 pages ...22 of which are in full-color on glossy page stock, are illustrations of every known Atlantic City chip and token issued ....up to the \$100 denomination. All of the current \$500 and several \$1000 current denomination chips are also illustrated for the first time.

A comprehensive section on Silver Strikes is also included as are all the Fun Nite paper and Fun Nite chips; Tournament chips; shoe chips; and several illegal A.C. chips in play prior to legalized gambling are illustrated, as well as new chip discoveries since the previous catalog issue was published.

A new "History of Atlantic City" article by Steve Piccolo has been introduced in this latest issue of "Black's Catalog". An updated price

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guide for this 2001 Edition is also included in the \$32.50 price.

**BOX** You may place your order directly with the author at P.O. 63 Brick, NJ 08723-0063. Please add \$3.50 for U.S. Priority postage.

*“Buy The Book Before The Chip”*

### **RESORTS RE-ORDERS THEIR \$25 RACK CHIPS**

It was announced during the A.C. Chapter Meeting on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at Resorts that there was a bank of brand new condition \$25 chips put into play downstairs. What’s more, it was discovered that there are now FOUR variations of the same chip. This chip now has flat top center inserts in light brown and dark brown lettering and pointed top center inserts in dark brown and light brown lettering. I now have them in stock at the regular \$30@ price for those of you who like to collect the variations.

### **CC CAE-5tt AUCTION FOR AC CHIPPERS**



CC CAE-5tt

Here is a tough holographic chip that very few Atlantic City chip collectors have in their collections. It has been listed in previous issues of my catalog as CC CAE-5tt (Righteous Brothers) and has an estimated value of \$100 in my price guide.

At the time that estimate was published, there were only two of these hologram chips known that had been brought to my attention. One chip was purchased at one of Tom Plau’s Ocean City chip shows a few years ago. Another specimen was offered for sale in Bob Mera’s huge auction where it brought \$100. I now have four of

these chips in my possession that were discovered at a flea market and are now available for sale to the highest bidder. Since these four additional specimens have been discovered, I don’t think this chip will bring a \$100 bid, but it will be interesting to see how much it does go for among this very small group of specialized competitive A.C. collectors. Be advised that all four available specimens are notched... as were the previously mentioned two specimens.

A unique feature of this chip is that it is recessed where the hologram area is inserted. Those of you who are familiar with the CHIPCO product will know that CHIPCO’s have a smooth surface across the face from edge to edge. I will post the four successful bids, and bidders, in the January e-News.

**Deadline for bids is December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Email your bids to me at [ablack2@optonline.net](mailto:ablack2@optonline.net) Would make a nice Christmas present for a few lucky chippers!

**DON'T FORGET TO SEND  
ME YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS  
OR ADDRESS CHANGE**

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## **NEW SLOT TOKENS!!**

Surprise... surprise! Just as I was putting this issue of the newsletter to bed I received a phone call from John Bollinger in Maryland asking if I had heard of any new tokens in town. When I told him I had not ... he proceeded to let me know of three new ones he found recently that I had no knowledge of. Thanks for the heads-up John!

Trump Plaza \$100a WM mint  
Showboat \$100a RWM mint  
Showboat \$1b RWM mint

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
EVERYONE!!**

## **2002 A.C. CHAPTER MEETINGS**

Chapter President Dick Brach has announced the Chapter meeting dates for the year 2002. It would appear that the club will be remaining at Resorts on the following Sundays;

January 20  
March 3  
May 5  
July 14  
September 22  
November 17

It would appear that our Annual post-holiday party will take place following the January, 20<sup>th</sup> meeting .... but the location remains in question right now. Cast your choice on the A.C. website.

**CLUB'S 2002  
CONVENTION DATES  
ANNOUNCED (Repeat)**

The 10th Annual International Convention of the Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club will be

returning once again to Tropicana Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Convention Chairman, George Conrad has announced that the next convention will be held from June 5<sup>th</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Hope to see many A.C. Subscribers in attendance. Would strongly suggest that you notify your employers early and make your flight arrangements early.

**HAVE YOU VISTED MY  
A.C. WEBSITE LATELY?**

[www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/home.htm](http://www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/home.htm)

If you are reading this newsletter online ... you can simply click on the above link and it will take you directly to the site.

**TAJ MAHAL \$100  
CASBAH CHIP**

I see that the current asking price on this chip in some circles is fast approaching the \$175 mark as more collectors begin to expand their wants

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to include the higher denominations. This will put upward pressures on past high denomination chips that currently reside in individual collections. Not too many dealers can afford to stock \$25 and \$100 denomination LE chips in any large quantities. I believe they are the sleeping giants of the future as not too many LE \$25's and \$100 were produced to begin with.

Sorry, I have none left for sale!



**IMPORTANT  
REMINDER!**

**Past invoices must be paid in full before additional mailings will be made. I don't require any up-front money, so this is a pay-as-you-go honor system.**