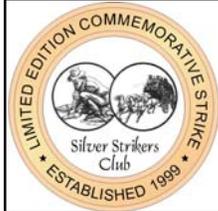


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SILVER STRIKERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue #38

November 2005

President's Remarks, by Pam Martin



SS Machines
98

Casinos with SS
Machines
50

SS Club Members
640

Strikes, Strikes, and more Strikes. Palm's Halloween, Ellis Island's new set of four, Treasure Island's Tangerine and my favorite Plaza's Vegas Vic. We just returned from a Vegas trip and what could be better than playing for all those strikes? How about more strikes that are in the works?

Check out our Website...
www.
silverstrikers
.com
Sign up for our newsletter at:
silverstrikers@
gmail.com

We asked for them and we are going to get them, the new IGT \$200. There is a lot of artwork in for approval and we can expect arrivals soon. The Palms has artwork in for new \$10 strikes and a new \$200, the Plaza has artwork in for a new \$200 and working on creating a new set of \$10's, and the Vegas Club has a new \$200, a set of \$10's and a chaser.

Everyone is excited about the new \$200's and they are unique. These coins are all silver and have the new colorization like the IGT Strike handed out at the forum. The ones that I saw are gorgeous and have a very different look. They have a totally different appeal and maybe the start of a new type of collection.

Inside this issue:

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Time is drawing near for our third annual Silver Strike Tournament. We will be having our trade session on Saturday night and everyone is welcome. I have sent emails to most of the casinos reminding them of our tournament and that a big group of strikers will be in town. I am hoping there will be plenty of strikes to play for during this time, and from the sound of things, I think there will be. If you haven't made your reservations, now is the time. Information can be found on our website at www.silverstrikers.com.

Don't forget our contest for the design of our club Silver Strike ends in December. Get those designs in! Who wouldn't just love having their initials on our club Strike?

Kevin has a great contest going for signing up new members, and I think everyone would love to win one of those coins. I would also like to thank Norm Wu and Bill Cohenour for their article. Norm has once again amazed me with the detail and work he puts into a project.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Silver Strike Slot Tournament and our return to Vegas to play for all those upcoming new strikes.

Keep playing for the Silver !

Club Contact Information

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2nd Vice President	John F. Miller	johnfmiller@att.net
Treasurer	Evelyn Grosklous	ggrosklous@cfl.rr.com
Secretary	Sharon Pamperin	sapamp@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	We have a new editor!!!	To be introduced in Jan. Issue
Pub. & Promo Chair	Gary Heinz	N/A
Grievance Chair	Les Hassel	lhstrikes@cox.net
Hall of Fame/Elections	Jo Reifer	Jo-rick@lycos.com
Historian	Mary Lou Waterbury	marylou51503@peoplepc.com
Webmaster	Jim Moser	strikerofgold@yahoo.com

Silver Strike Membership Update, by Kevin Pyles

Our membership drive is off to a great start! We have added **24** new members to our Club since our membership drive started on August 15th. Our goal this year is to sign up 100 new members. **Participation from all our members is needed to achieve our goal.** We currently have 640 active members in our Club. Let's all get out there and sign up a bunch of new members. This year we will give out awards to the three members that sign up the most new members. See below for the awards.

Here are the guidelines for the membership drive:

- Dates for Drive Qualification: August 15, 2005 to June 15, 2006
- For signing up the **most** new members, the winner will receive a **2004 and a 2005 SS Club Strike**
- For signing up the **2nd most** new members, the winner will receive a **2005 Palms NCV Strike.**
- For signing up the **3rd most** new members, the winner will receive a **2005 IGT NCV Strike.**

In the newsletter, as in the past, we have inserted a Silver Strikers application for you to pass on to a prospective new member. **Make sure to put your name on applications, so we will know you are the sponsor. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!!**



Classified Ads

The catalog that's always updated and only printed when ordered. **"Comprehensive Nevada Silver Strike Reference Guide"** only \$28.85 including postage. **"Illustrated Nevada Errors and Variances"** for \$40.00 including postage. wcohenour@earthlink.net William Cohenour, 11206 Saticoy St., Sun Valley, CA 91352-4728

Full Line of Airtite Capsules and Storage Containers to protect the beauty of your strikes in all denominations. Lowest prices, fastest service guaranteed. Only company to offer wall frames for 1-42 Silver Strikes. **If you collect it, we can FRAME it!!!** 1-800-747-8469, visit the Website: www.tinytreasures.com Tiny Treasures, Inc., PO Box 336089, N. Las Vegas, NV 89033

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Hundreds of strikes are sold at reasonable prices every week!!!
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4th and Last Edition of "Striking Differences" now available. A 48 page booklet on significant Nevada Silver Strikes by Lisa Jung. \$15, plus \$3 for postage & handling; total price, \$18. Email: lisa@lvha.net Also, **\$10 Gold River, Laughlin, NV/Isle of Capri, Biloxi, MS error along with other strikes now available for sale** on Lisa's webpage: <http://chippermel.lvha.net>

Silver Strikes FOR SALE OR TRADE. Visit my NEW Website at <http://2ht2wlk0.tripod.com> or contact me at valeriehoran@frontiernet.net
 You can also write me to request a list of strikes available at:
 Valerie Horan, 2951 Camino Encanto, Bullhead City, AZ 86429.

Beware! by Pete Ryan

Your chance to go down in history will soon expire.



Time is running out for your entry in the club strike design contest. We have several entries already, but yours could be the one that gets selected. Your entry must be **received by December 31st, 2005.** Surely with all the "Great



Strikers" out there, we have many who can design next year's club strike. It only takes imagination and putting pencil or Crayolas to paper. If your design is selected, **your** initials will be the first ever on a Silver Strike, and besides you will be helping our club treasury when your design sells out.

If you have not already done so, now is the time to go to work let's make the committee work by overwhelming them with designs!!

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO:
 SILVER STRIKERS CLUB
 c/o Evelyn Grosklous
 3436 Bocage Dr # 305
 Orlando, FL 32812-7598

Silver Strikes Jingle, by Norm Wu

(Sung to the tune of Jingle Bells)

Dashing down the Strip
With a nearly filled up tray
O'er the slots we go
Laughing all the way
Strikes on slot reels spin
Making spirits bright
What fun it'd be to laugh and win
A chaser strike tonight



Oh, Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight
Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight



A red cap I did spy
I thought I'd take a chance
But sadly I had just
One dollar in my pants
The tube was lean but bright
The spinning left some doubt

I prayed that I would win that night
And then I got the shout

Oh, Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight
Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight

Oh, Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight
Silver Strike! Silver Strike!
Silver oh so bright
Oh, how great it'd be if I
Won a chaser strike tonight



Big Welcome to New Members!

<u>New Member</u>	<u>SS #</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>New Member</u>	<u>SS #</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Nead, Dennis	SS-931	Silverstrikers.com	Hansen, Leta	SS-942	Silverstrikers.com
Slack, James	SS-932	Silverstrikers.com	Perez, Becky	SS-943	William Cohenour
Emerson, David	SS-933	Jim Moser	Allen, Richard	SS-944	Silverstrikers.com
Wilson, Robert	SS-934	Ray Ulinski	Erhardt, Richard	SS-945	Mark Erhardt
Wilson, Jerry	SS-934-A	Ray Ulinski	Ciciora, Neal	SS-946	Silverstrikers.com
Matthews, Diane	SS-935	Silverstrikers.com	O'Neal, Gerald	SS-160-A	Janice O'Neal
Kelton, Todd	SS-936	Jim Turnbow	Yarbrough, Lee	SS-947	Silverstrikers.com
Urzen, Mark	SS-937	Silverstrikers.com	Yarbrough, Laura	SS-947-A	Silverstrikers.com
Behm, Kenneth	SS-938	Gary Kenyon	Latkowski, Doug	SS-948	Silverstrikers.com
Barrett, Michael	SS-939	Pam Martin	Holman, Robyn	SS-949	N/A
McElvain, Rod	SS-940	Randy McElvain	Smith, Gary	SS-950	Jamie Martin
Hayes, Sandra	SS-941	Sharon Pamperin	Stetz, Tom	SS-951	Ray Ulinski

Upcoming Gaming/Coin Related Shows

11/12-13/2005	3rd Annual Palms Show	Palms Hotel & Casino
12/3-4/2005	Chip & Token Show	Long Beach Convention Center
1/20-23/2006	Silver Strikers Tourn.	Vegas Club Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
4/29/2006	Casinorama	Masonic Hall - Arcadia, CA
6/28 - 7/1/2006	CCGTCC Convention & Silver Strikers Forums	Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Non-Nevada Strikes, by Christie Gregory

Hello Everyone! Since the last newsletter, we, non-Nevada strike collectors, have received some good news. The Golden Eagle Casino in Horton, Kansas, has started a strike program offering 3 new strikes. Thanks to everyone who posted on the Strike Point for sharing the good news.

This issue will be dedicated to strikes from **New Jersey**. There are quite a few so I'd better get on it. I should have asked Archie to do it since he's the New Jersey guru.

Caesar's Casino started with a set of 11 state seal strikes. The states used are Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia. The next six strikes are a Historical Series which consists of Boston Tea Party, Declaration of Independence, Liberty Bell, Minutemen, Paul Revere and Spirit of 76. The last set of five is a Memorial Series - Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Iwo Jima and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Along with the 22 ten dollar strikes, Caesar's offered three \$20 strikes and six \$40 strikes. The twenties are 1890 Boardwalk, 1890 Gay 90's and 1892 Pier. The forties have two logo variations being gold face and silver face. The three gold faces are Caesar's Head, Roman Coliseum and Chariot and Horses. The three silver faces are Parthenon, Marcus Aurelius and Centurion.

The Claridge Casino has an interesting set of 14 classic cars. They are 1900 Riker Electrical Victoria, 1903 Ford Model "A", 1915 Pierce Arrow, 1925 Six Brougham Studebaker, 1929 Dusenburg, 1931 Rolls Royce, 1940 Ford Coupe, 1941 Packard, 1949 Buick Roadmaster, 1954 Chevrolet Corvette, 1955 Chevrolet Bel-Air, 1957 Chevy Bel-Air Sedan, 1963 Corvette Stingray and 1966 Shelby Mustang.

The Hilton Casino offered a set of five \$10 strikes. They are the Assayer, Panner, Pony Express, Stagecoach and Train. They also had a rare set of six \$40 strikes. This set is Eagle in Flight with Flag, Eagle with Crossed Flags, Head of Eagle, Eagle in Flight with Ribbon, Eagle with US Flag and Heraldic Eagle.

The Taj Mahal Casino had six \$10 strikes. These are the same historical series that was offered at Caesar's. They also had seven \$40 strikes which were the Seven Wonders of the World Series - Roman Coliseum, Eiffel Tower, Empire State Building, Great Wall of China, Parthenon, Sphinx and Pyramid and Taj Mahal.

The Grand Casino had 24 \$10 strikes. The first 11 are the same set as Caesar's State Seal Series. The next set of eight is the Hollywood Classic Series - Humphrey Bogart,

(Continued on page 4)

Non-Nevada Strikes Cont'd, by Christie Gregory

(Continued from page 3)

Bette Davis, WC Fields, Clark Gable, Laurel and Hardy, Groucho Marx, Marilyn Monroe and John Wayne. The last five are the Western Collector's Series – Assayer, Panner, Pony Express, Stagecoach and Train. Three \$40 strikes were also offered. These being the 1890 Boardwalk, 1890 Gay 90's and 1892 Pier.

Trop World Casino had ten \$10 strikes. They are the set of five Western Collector's Series and the set of five Memorial Series that Caesar's offered. Three \$40 strikes were in play. These are the Rolling Chair, Life Boat and Steel Pier.

Trump Castle Casino had thirteen \$10 strikes. The first set of eight was the Hollywood Classic Series. The other set of five was a historical airplane series. It consists of Earhart "Electra 10E", Hughes "Spruce Goose", "Spirit of St Louis", Wright Brothers Flyer III and "The Red Baron". The Castle offered eight \$20 strikes which was the State Seal Series. The states used was Mass, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Baltimore, Conn and Delaware. They also had six \$40 strikes. These are the Absecon Lighthouse, AC Boardwalk 1890, Lucy the Elephant, Steel Pier, Diving Horse and 1890 Gay 90's.

Trump Marina Casino had seven \$10 strikes which is a set of classic cars. This set features a 1903 Ford Model "A", 1915 Pierce Arrow, 1929 Dusenburger, 1940 Ford Coupe, 1949 Buick Roadmaster, 1954 Chevrolet Corvette and 1955 Chevrolet Bel-Air. There is documentation of a set of six \$20 strikes believed to be prototypes. Four of the six have turned up. They are America in Space, Apollo 11, Challenger and Mariner 6. Lunar Roving Vehicle and Surveyor are still in hiding. Trump Castle had the same set made but none have been found.

Trump Plaza Casino had twenty seven \$10 strikes. The first set of eight was the Hollywood Classic Series. The next eleven was the State Seal Series. The last eight is Ellis Island, King Kong, World Trade Center, Manhattan, Staten Island Ferry, Brooklyn Bridge, Statue of Liberty and Grand Central Station. The Plaza had three \$20 strikes. These are 1890 Boardwalk, 1890 Gay 90's and 1892 Pier. They also had four forty dollar strikes which are the Gamblers Series – Blackjack, Dice, Royal Flush and Slot Machine.

Harrah's Casino had four \$20 strikes. They are the Regatta, Dolphins, Shearwater and Lighthouse.

Bally's Park Place had a set of four classic cars. This set came in a presentation box and was numbered. They were won by hitting the highest jackpot on certain dollar, fifty cent and quarter machines. The cars used were a 1953 Corvette, a 1957 Bel-Air, a 1957 T-Bird and a 1958 Studebaker. These have a CPM mint mark. All other New Jersey strikes have the GDC mint mark.

That's all folks! Until next time.....Happy Striking!

Silver Striker's Tip of the Month

"The 43mm Volara foam rings (black or white) used for the \$10 Air-tite token holders from JP's Corner are available for \$.05 each and can be inserted into the current clear and red token cases after the three inside prongs have been clipped out. Makes an economical near air-tite and rattle free holder."

- Submitted by Reg Ikebe, CHSS-081

Update from Silver Strike Forum, by John F. Miller

As a follow up to the very successful forum we had during the convention this year, we had a conference call with IGT to get some updates on items that were discussed during that session. The following are some exciting developments and updates we have to pass along.



1. The dollar denomination Silver Strike Machine has been approved for the jurisdictions of Nevada and Native America. IGT is now actively selling this product in those two areas.
2. The dollar denomination Silver Strike Machine will dispense the newly reintroduced \$40 Silver Strike. Expect to see this new product in casinos, arriving as early as December of this year.
3. There is currently artwork in process for four different casinos for the new \$200 Silver Strikes. One of these properties is a Native American Casino in California which is also getting the new dollar denomination machine. The other three are Casinos in the Las Vegas area familiar to Silver Strikers.
4. As of now, all of the \$200 Silver Strikes are of the colorized silver variety. (See the preview artwork on page 13 of this issue.)

We will try to provide periodic updates to the club through the newsletter as we get them from IGT. If you have specific questions you would like us to ask, please send them to silverstrickers@gmail.com and we will ask them during our next update call.

Treasurer's Update, by Evelyn Grosklau

The Silver Striker's Club recently completed an audit of our books. This was an important and necessary first step in order to ensure the accuracy of our treasury and be able to provide a financial update to the membership. We will provide the year-end financial report in the next issue now that this audit is complete. Below is the statement from the auditor.

"To: Silver Strikers Club Officers

I have reviewed the financial records and annual reports of the Silver Strikers Club for the period from July 1, 2003 thru June 30, 2005. I find that all income is accounted for and all expenditures are documented. However, the Nevada Sales Tax Reports had not been timely filed nor the monies owed paid. This has subsequently been rectified. I hereby conclude that all of the income and expense accounts are in order and the financial statements as filed by the Treasurer can be accepted.

Joyce Bishop, Audit Committee "

Special thanks to Joyce Bishop for all her assistance in getting us through this!

If at any time you have questions about the finances of the Silver Strikers Club, please feel free to contact me at: ggrosklau@cfl.rr.com or call me at 407.438.8842.

Updates from Northern Nevada, by Jack Haddock



Harrah's Tahoe and Harvey's are going to put Silver Strike machines back into play in the next few months.

Caesar's Tahoe has removed all silver strikes!

Atlantis Casino has finally introduced their six strike "mermaid" series. Only one machine is in play, and occasionally an old strike falls out – see if they will trade for a new one before you cash it in.

The **Reno Airport** is providing the Christmas presents for the Silver Strikers this year with the introduction of their "endangered species" series. Come December, the Airport will retire all of the existing strikes (including the older series that are in the current red caps). The forthcoming series will include a "500 only" strike in a red cap which will be the Desert Bighorn. The other six are: Lahontan Cutthroat, Bull Trout, Gray Wolf, Desert Tortoise, Amargosa Niterwort, and the Ash Meadows Sunray (see artwork below).



3rd Annual Silver Strikers Slot Tournament

January 20–23, 2006 - \$10,000.00 in Prizes

- Three Nights Stay at the Las Vegas Club Casino Hotel
- Welcome Cocktail Reception
- One Entry, Two Day Tournament Play
- Two Tournament Day Breakfast Vouchers
- Champagne and Cake Awards Presentation
- Special limited edition 1/4 pound silver token with gold trim

ALL THIS FOR \$260.00

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Tournament invitation is non-transferable. Must be 21 years of age to enter. Management reserves all rights. Rules available at Welcome Party. Tournament Entry is Per Person. Prize structure is based on 200 entrants, if less than 200 entrants prize structure may be adjusted accordingly.

"In the Beginning" (Silver Strike Speaking) - by Jack Haddock

In 1992, Anchor Gaming introduced a \$7 "silver strike slot machine" to several casinos in Nevada. The Silver Striker knows that now it is the popular 25 cent slot machine that dispenses a "\$10 prize" which is most popular and collected by many all over the world.

Here is the overview of that original \$7 machine:



Played up to three quarters but had only one pay line.

The display held five - \$7 strikes.

Silver Strike awards were:

- 3 – 1 (picture of strike with "1" in the center) on a line won one \$7 strike – one quarter played
- 3 – 2 (picture of strike with "2" in the center) strikes on a line won two \$7 strikes – two quarters played
- 3 – 3 (picture of strike with "3" in the center) strikes on a line won three \$7 strikes – two quarters played
- 3 – 5 (picture of strike with "5" in the center) strikes on a line won five \$7 strikes – three quarters played
- 3 – 250 (picture of strike with "250" in the center) strikes on a line won two hundred fifty - \$7 strikes – three quarters played

Any mixed coin pictures with center number won the same number of pulls as the number of quarters played.

Yes, the big jackpot was \$1,750 or **two hundred fifty - \$7 strikes**. The reason that

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Sierra Sid's "Peterbuilt" and "Freightliner" strikes are so scarce is that truckers who use that casino won the jackpots and took the silver strikes (because, after all, they were silver) off down the road not yet to be returned. (A side note: Until the NEW machines were introduced, the Reno Airport often paid off their ultimate jackpot in \$10 strikes or, of course, cash). These original \$7 strikes were not in plastic capsules, so they were quite often scratched. This was the first item changed on the silver strike machine – the ability to dispense encapsulated coins. Most who saved the \$7 strikes assumed they were saving an ounce of silver and indeed they almost were. The actual weight of the \$7 strike is closer to .9 ounce, but at today's silver price, they are nearly worth their face value.

The \$7 strikes lasted only a few years and the casinos cheerfully replaced them with the \$10 strike. The \$10 strike was cheaper to make (less silver), easier to handle at the cashiers cage as a denomination, increased the value of the "prize" (encouraging play), and created a more attractive token with the two metals (brass & silver).

The picture is of a faceplate for the original \$7 slot machine that was put in play by Anchor Gaming in 1992. The section is blue glass with silver lettering.

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking, by Norm Wu and Bill Cohenour

Some of you have been avid strike collectors since 1993, when the first Silver Strike machine was installed by Anchor Gaming. Many of you probably collected strikes for years before discovering a club of like-minded folks just as passionate about the shiny tokens as you, or that strikes have their own sub-category on eBay and Jackpot. Others of you only recently discovered this exciting collectible. Was it the flashing lights, rotating cylinders and sounds of "Silver Strike!" from the new IGT machine that got your attention? Or perhaps the crowds of Strikers gathered around the machines at convention time, laughing and playing for clears and red caps into the wee hours of the morning?

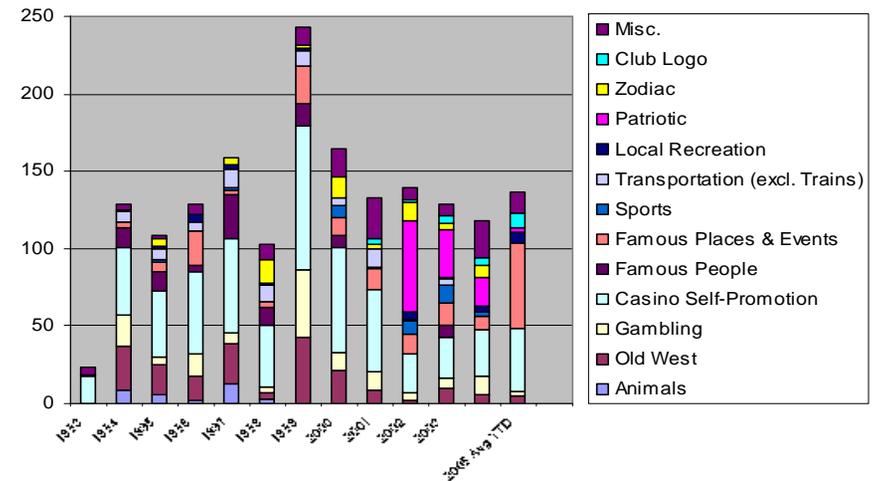
Whatever your experience, you probably have some perspectives on how Silver Strike collecting has changed over the years. Almost certainly, you'll be interested in what the future may hold for this wonderful hobby. Fortunately, over the last dozen years, a good amount of data has been collected – about which casinos offer strikes, what new issues are approved and put into play, how resale prices vary at auction and even about the growth of the collector base...if you know where to look. In this article, we'll try to codify and analyze some of that historical data so that you can develop your own predictions about how Silver Strike collecting will evolve. And we'll even provide some suggestions on what casinos can do to foster growth of our little community of Strikers. Growth which should provide them with nice profits in the long term.

A lot has transpired in this hobby over the last dozen years – not all of it good from a collector's perspective. There used to be machines in Atlantic City, at Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun in Connecticut, and at many other Indian and Caribbean casinos. Almost all of these are gone. Several of the mints that manufactured strikes have closed – Continental Coin (CC), Casino Tokens (CT) and Green Duck Corporation (GDC). Others were acquired or simply stopped minting strikes. Anchor Gaming was acquired by IGT in December 2001 and for years following, Silver Strike machines were pulled as they became increasingly diffi-

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking

founders, shows, mascots, etc.) has naturally always been a big category, and Patriotic was big following 9/11, Famous Places & Events has become the single largest category. This category includes the multitude of Hoover Dam, Hawaiian Island and Las Vegas sign strikes.

NV \$10 Silver Strikes Issued by Theme



Ah, but casinos are in this to make money, you might counter. Changing hold ratios and increasing the number and variety of designs costs them money. How do we, as collectors, get casinos to look at this from a long-term perspective?

One idea is to develop a publicly accessible casino strike review system. At a glance, one can see ratings of casinos vs. each other along a number of different dimensions – perceived average cost of winning a strike (this is a bit tricky, as we all know machines seem to have hot and cold spells and our perception can be heavily influenced by our luck on the last visit), variety and beauty of designs, knowledge and friendliness of staff, and so on. Maybe even give a Club award for the most Striker-friendly casino each year, one that can be used in the casino's own marketing. Such high ratings will attract more players. And this in turn will help us build an even larger base of strike collectors.

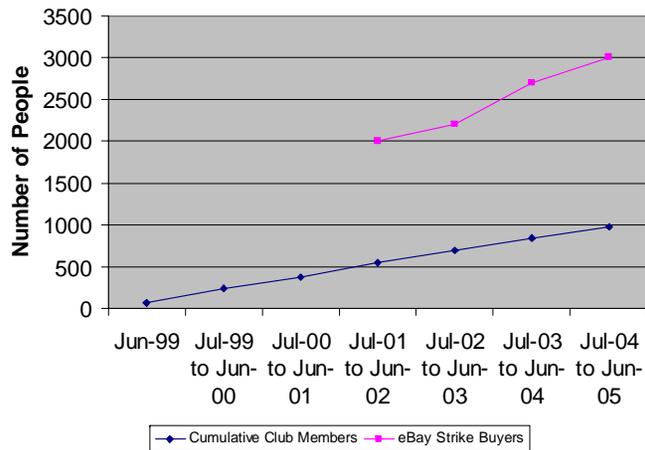
We are optimistic about the future of Silver Strike collecting. With their new machine, IGT is developing interest from casinos – even those that have never had Silver Strikes before like Ellis Island in Las Vegas and Golden Eagle in Horton, Kansas. The Club members do a great job of sharing news about when and where the latest issues are available. We hope that some sort of member rating system will encourage casinos to compete on the basis of Striker-friendliness. And eBay, Jackpot Auctions, our Club online catalog and the various reference guides provide the infrastructure for a strong resale market, helping to fill holes in all of our collections. Indeed, we expect that the number of collectors will continue to increase nicely.

Credits: Historical Nevada Strike data taken from Bill Cohenour's Nevada Silver Strike Reference Catalog, analysis by Norm Wu. Club membership data provided by Kevin Pyles, Membership Officer. eBay Silver Strike buyer data provided by Kathryn Kane, eBay Casino Collectibles Manager.

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking

(Continued from page 9)

Identifiable Silver Strike Collectors



Future Hope and Suggestions

With the roll-out of the newly designed, highly visible IGT strike machines, the ease of filling holes in one's collection using auction sites, and the improving economy, we expect that interest in Silver Strike collecting will continue to increase.

What more can casinos do to nurture this community? First, they can make sure that strike collecting is not a prohibitively expensive hobby. This goes well beyond that mysterious and confidential machine hold ratio which has been the subject of recent speculation on Strike-Point. It has a lot to do with the way strikes are loaded into the cylinders on the machine, especially for multi-strike sets. It is one thing to play for red cap chasers, spaced few and far between. One can assess and re-assess whether it is worth the time and money it takes to try to win the next chaser. It is much more frustrating to play on a single machine for hours, only to discover that intentional or unintentional fill practices have created a *de facto* chaser within a set of clears. Combine that with the long "dry spells" that the multi-line machines have and many a collector will be discouraged from trying to build a complete collection. However, this is gambling, and some will say, "In a regular slot machine, you never know when you are going to hit a jackpot. Why should Silver Strike chasers be any different?"

Second, casinos should offer many new issues each year, with interesting new designs. How quickly do we lose interest in playing machines which have the same old design or a very minor variation of an existing design? The most striker-friendly casinos get really creative and offer much more than the standard restaurant or famous landmark design – the current Palms Halloween designs are a good example of creativity. Kudos to Debby Meister, the artist, and to the Palms for commissioning her on the designs.

If you've had the feeling that there is less variety in strike designs, you're not mistaken. We grouped all \$10 Nevada strikes issued to date into category themes.

It's interesting to note that while Casino Self-Promotion (restaurants and bars, casino/hotel,

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking

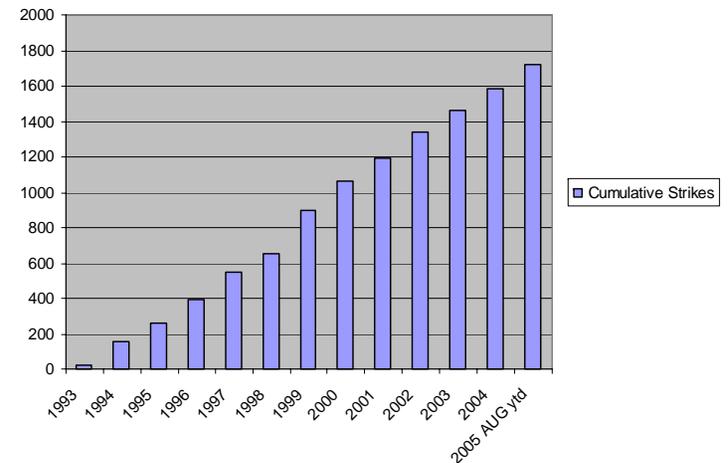
cult to maintain. Spare parts were hard to come by, and many casinos became disenchanted with the constant hopper jams in an environment fast moving towards fewer slot floor technicians. And \$2, \$3, \$5, \$7, \$12, \$20, \$28 and \$200 gaming tokens have come and gone.

Although the \$200 strike is expected to make a comeback, the mainstay of the collector has been and may always be the \$10 strike. And the mainstay of the \$10 strike has been Nevada casinos, many of which have stuck with the program through good times and bad. Because of the availability of Gaming Commission approval lists and a multitude of strike catalogs, plus strong collector demand, the most comprehensive information exists for Nevada strikes. We will therefore base our analysis of historical trends on \$10 Nevada strikes.

A Solid Starting Base

Critical to the health of any category of collectible is a strong supply of new issues to maintain collector interest, and a growing number of collectors. As of August 2005, there were at least 1,717 different \$10 Nevada strikes, including errors and variations (though not including less than 180 degree die rotations). This number has increased by over a hundred new issues every year after 1993.

Cumulative Nevada \$10 Strikes



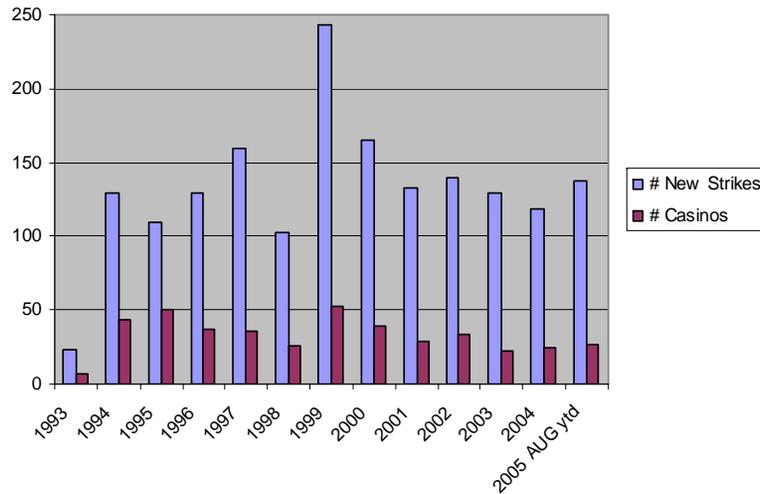
The total number of \$10 Nevada strikes is still small enough to be manageable, but large enough that completing a collection is a non-trivial exercise. Indeed, it is unlikely that any single collector has every one of these strikes as a few of them are exceptionally rare.

Looking in greater detail, there appears to be a steady flow of new issues ranging from 109 to 165 issued by at least 22 casinos each year, except for 1999. In that year, a whopping 243 new \$10 strikes were issued in Nevada by 52 different casinos. Coincidentally, that's the year our Club was founded.

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking

What caused the spike in 1999? A few guesses. Perhaps it was the strong economy. Money flowed readily in those days, driving both gaming and resale prices. Maybe it was the forma-

Nevada Casinos Issuing New Strikes



tion of our Club and the recognition by the casinos that there was a serious collector base out there. Or maybe it was the impending sale of Anchor Gaming and their desire to drive revenues hard. Whatever the reason, it was a great, albeit expensive, year for Silver Strike collectors.

Impact of Economy

After the economy peaked in early 2000, the number of casinos offering new issues, the number of new issues, and resale prices all declined somewhat. Today, older commons are routinely selling for \$10-12 (though brand new issues seem to be holding at \$15-18). Bill's guide tracks actual auction prices by year (July through June each year). To get a sense for how the prices of scarce strikes have changed, we looked at two categories. First are the strikes that routinely sell for over \$150. These are the most rare, including strikes such as the Flamingo Rockettes, Circus Circus Grand Slam Canyon Error or Plaza 2 for 1. The other group includes those that routinely sell for \$75 to \$150. This includes strikes like the Bellagio Chinese New Year, Golden Nugget Tarzans and both I Love NY NY strikes. We only looked at strikes in which there were at least two completed auctions in each of the last three years. We took the midpoint of the low and high auction prices and indexed the prices to the first year that such prices were tracked, 2002-2003. There were ten strikes in the first group and thirteen in the second.

Not surprisingly, prices declined in each group. In the more expensive strike group, average prices declined almost 20% over the three-year period. In the other group, prices declined by just under 10%. These declines may have been due to the worsening economy, or to the

Board Meeting Highlights, 10/2/05, by Sharon Pamperin

There was a lengthy discussion on the newsletter content covering topics including the following:

- Listing all silver strike machines which are now in play.
- Upcoming shows
- "Silver Striker's Tournament" at the Las Vegas Club in January.
- Christie Gregory has agreed to continue writing her articles on the Non-Nevada Strikes.
- Silver Strike selling prices from E-bay and Jackpot Auctions results. (We still need a volunteer to handle this task)
- Additional club information to be posted on our website.

Remaining inventory of past club silver strikes and some IGT coins will either be put in the 2006 Auction, sold, or held and used as promotional items to be given to casino managers or slot managers. All monies to be deposited to our treasury.

A committee has been formed to create a brochure with information about the Silver Strikers Club, IGT and the Silver Striker program. These brochures will be used by IGT and the Club for promotional use.

Club will provide "beverages only" at both the Silver Striker's Tournament and the Silver Striker's Convention.

Preview of the New \$200 Strikes on the Way!



Proposed Only!

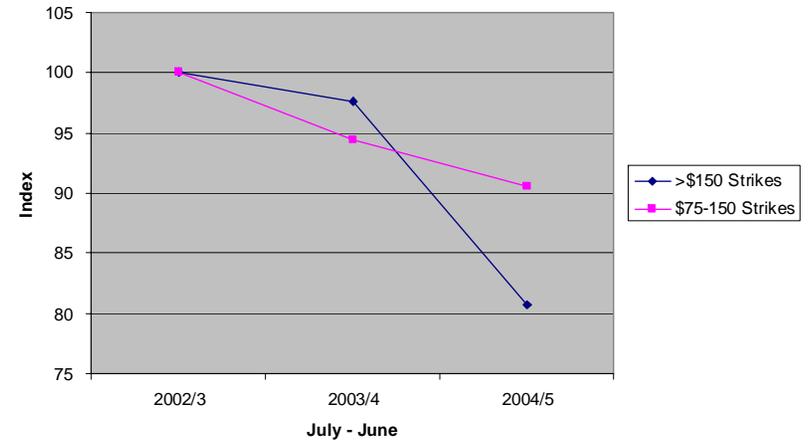
Locations of Silver Strike Machines

Casino	City	State	Qty.
Atlantis Casino Resort	Reno	Nevada	1
Barbary Coast Hotel and Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Bellagio	Las Vegas	Nevada	4
Bill's Lake Tahoe Casino	Stateline	Nevada	2
Boardwalk Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Buffalo Bills Resort & Casino	Primm	Nevada	2
Caesars Palace	Las Vegas	Nevada	3
California Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Casablanca Resort & Casino	Mesquite	Nevada	2
Circus Circus Hotel Casino LV	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Delta Saloon	Virginia City	Nevada	1
El Cortez	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Eldorado Hotel & Casino	Reno	Nevada	2
Ellis Island Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Fitzgeralds Casino Hotel Reno	Reno	Nevada	1
Fitzgeralds Las Vegas	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Flamingo Laughlin	Laughlin	Nevada	1
Fortune Bay Bingo & Casino	Tower	Minnesota	1
Four Queens Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Gold Coast Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Golden Eagle Casino	Horton	Kansas	1
Golden Nugget (LV)	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Hard Rock Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Harrah's Casino Hotel Reno	Reno	Nevada	2
Hotel San Remo LV Casino Resort	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Imperial Palace	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Lac Courte Oreilles Casino	Hayward	Wisconsin	1
Las Vegas Club Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
MGM Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	5
Mirage	Las Vegas	Nevada	5
Monte Carlo Resort & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
Mr. B's Casino - Mill City	Imlay	Nevada	1
New Frontier Hotel Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	1
New York New York	Las Vegas	Nevada	4
Orleans Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Palms Casino Resort	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Peppermill Hotel Casino Reno	Reno	Nevada	1
Plaza Hotel and Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Primm Valley Resort & Casino	Primm	Nevada	2
Red Garter Casino	West Wendover	Nevada	1
Reno Hilton Resort	Reno	Nevada	3
Reno Tahoe Airport	Reno	Nevada	3
Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Sands Regency	Reno	Nevada	1
Sierra 76 Auto Truck Plaza	Sparks	Nevada	2
Silver Legacy Resort Reno	Reno	Nevada	2
Silverton Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Slots A Fun	Las Vegas	Nevada	2
Stardust Resort and Casino	Las Vegas	Nevada	4
St. Croix Casino & Hotel	Turtle Lake	Wisconsin	1
Treasure Island (LV)	Las Vegas	Nevada	2

Past, Present and Future of Silver Striking

ease of finding scarce strikes based on the emergence of eBay and Jackpot as major sales venues (although one could argue that these web sites also increase the number of potential buyers for any strike, thus maintaining upward pressure on prices). Or perhaps the availability of historical auction price ranges has now driven buyers towards the low end of each range, putting downward pressure on average prices.

Decline in \$10 NV Strike Resale Prices (2002/3=100)



Identifiable Collectors Growing

It is not clear how the number of collectors has changed throughout this period. On the one hand, declining prices make it more affordable to build a collection. On the other hand, some would-be collectors may not wish to invest during difficult times. It is clear, however, that the number of *identifiable* collectors grew significantly in the post-bubble years.

Our active Club membership stands at over 600 collectors today. Cumulative membership (which includes those who no longer pay dues) was 974 as of June. Not all collectors know about our Club, of course. Most of us have met our share of casual collectors at the machines and told them about Silver Strikers.

Another way to look at growing interest in strikes is to look at the number of unique eBay users buying each year in the strike sub-category. Kathryn Kane, Manager of eBay's Casino Collectibles category, kindly provided us with that data for 2002 through the first eight months of 2005. The number of people buying strikes on eBay has grown nicely. In 2002, there were 2,000 users. This number grew by 10% in 2003 and 23% in 2004, when the total was 2,700 users. As of August, there were already 2,500 users buying strikes. Kathryn expects that the final number for 2005 will build over 2004 with the busy holiday season. We've put a placeholder in at 3,000 in the graph below, but it could be more or less. Please note that the eBay numbers are based on calendar years while the Club membership numbers are July through June each year.

(Continued on page 14)

Recent Releases



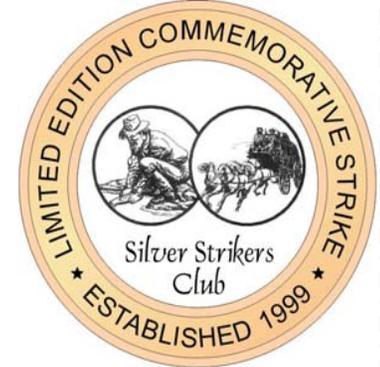
Recent Auction Results, by Robert Miller

Item	Description	Final Bid
\$7	Sierra Sid's Freightliner Trucks	\$ 141.35
\$10	Pioneer Laughlin Error - Billy the Kid	\$ 260.00
\$10	Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas - Rockettes	\$ 622.90
\$10	Sam's Town / Fremont Error Stagecoach	\$ 405.99
\$10	Sahara RARE ERROR 50th Anniv. with wrong logo	\$ 229.49
\$10	Silver City Puffless Pete - Gold Panner	\$ 165.07
\$10	Circus Circus - Clown Error	\$ 152.49
\$10	Tamarack Junction - 3rd Anniversary 2001-2004	\$ 89.88
\$40	El Cortez Spanish Galleon	\$ 109.50
\$200	O'Sheas Leprechaun	\$ 380.99
\$200	Mirage - Danny Gans	\$ 317.00

Complete the application below and send to :

Silver Strikers

c/o Kevin Pyles
 517 Howard Drive
 Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-1136



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # _____ - _____ - _____ E-Mail _____

Collecting Interests:

___ All ___ \$7 ___ \$10 ___ \$20 ___ \$40 ___ \$200
 ___ All ___ Nevada ___ Colorado Other _____

Publish the above information in the Club Roster? ___ Yes ___ No

I have enclosed my annual dues for:

___ Annual Membership \$10.00
 ___ New Member Processing Fee \$ 5.00
 ___ Optional Spouse Associate Membership \$10.00
 ___ Additional Roster \$ 8.00
 Total Enclosed\$ _____

Spouse's Name _____

Membership Sponsored By: _____

Check out our website @ www.silverstrikers.com