



SILVER STRIKERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue # 91 - Winter 2024



Howdy Silver Strikers,

What a great January event! A BIG Thank you to Shaun and Todd for all you do to create such a wonderful time for the members to enjoy! Also a special thanks to the Reservationist and the rest of the hotel staff that make our time at the Four Queens so enjoyable. Finally the Staff supporting the Club activities in the Royal Pavilion room deserves a huge thank you as well! Good times for sure!

With the Slot tournament being this large for the first time the future is looking bright for Silver Strikes at large. I heard good things about the designs for the January release especially having both male and female images! I think the theme was superb.

If you find yourself thinking about ways to improve the club, please send those ideas to one of the club officers. The Silver Striker Club is not the Board of Directors, but the Membership body as a whole! Just do it!

I am putting out the call again for members to consider enrolling into the mentorship program, the next generation of members needs to become involved for the future of the club.

I hope to see each of you again in June on and off of the Strike machines.

Ever Forward,

Jamie Horvatic

Silver Strikers Club

President

SS-1407



Silver Strike Machines 18
Casinos with Silver Strike Machines 4
Silver Strike Club Members 470

Check out our Website
www.silverstrikers.com

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Club Contact Information

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
President	Jamie Horvatic	presidentofsc@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Allan Childers	firstvp@silverstrikers.com
2nd Vice President	Robb McPherson	casinocollector@gmail.com
Treasurer	Carleton Lee	carletonjlee@yahoo.com
Secretary	Lisa McPherson	spinkslisa@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Robb McPherson	casinocollector@gmail.com
Advertising/ Promo Chair	Al Varelas	advertisingPromotions@silverstrikers.com
Club Coin Chair	Warren Schaefer	schaef86@yahoo.com
Club Coin Co-Chair	Jo Riefer	silver.striker41@gmail.com
Grievance Chair	Bill Brooks	GrievanceChair@silverstrikers.com
Hall of Fame/ Strike of Year Chair	Al Varelas	hofssoychair@silverstrikers.com
Club Historian	Mike Hennessey	historian@silverstrikers.com
Nominations/Elections	Jo Riefer	silver.striker41@gmail.com
Club Photographer	Jeff Lyon	GrievanceChair@silverstrikers.com
Webmaster	Jim Quinn	webmaster@silverstrikers.com
Social Director	Carleton Lee	carletonjlee@yahoo.com
Club Ambassador	Paul Cory	AmbassadorSilverStrikersClub@gmail.com

Message from the Editor



What a great start to 2024!! The Silver Strike Tournament is picking up steam. The January tournament sold out in 36 hrs! Along with the tournament, the increased awareness of Silver Strike tokens is also increasing as more and more new people are interested in collecting them. Something else that is increasing is the size of the newsletter, lots of things are happening in the club. One of the things I was always hoping we could do is mend the differences between the CCA and this club. With Jamie and Jim Follis's help I believe they have made this happen. We must keep this mutual agreement going between our clubs so we can help each other continue to prosper and grow in the future.

Once again, if you have any topics or articles for the newsletter, please submit them to me. You don't have to be a writer or artist. I just need the content and I will look after the layout. I can be reached by email at robb4640@outlook.com or by phone 519-577-7206 if you have any comments, concerns, questions or articles.

Happy Striking.

Robb McPherson SS1199

From the Presidents Desk...



Howdy Fellow Silver Strikers!

Well as I start my second term as Club president I find myself thankful for all of the members that have stepped into new positions and back filled vacancies in others positions.

During this trip there were several members that stepped up and helped tremendously with a huge project that needed to be completed. Due to a recent medical issue I experienced I was definitely not at 100% and I am so grateful for each of you that participated in the "mission" on Friday.

Saying a big "**Thank You**" to Shaun, Todd and the 4Q's Staff for another great event is an understatement! The theme for the January Silver Strikes was a big hit!

Once again I extend a big thanks also to all of the Club officers and members who helped out with the "chores" during the event, each of your contributions made the difference and are always welcome and appreciated.

Speaking of "Big Hits" how about all of those Jackpots again, Thanks for all of the members that posted pictures.

So now I want to take a few minutes to touch on a few other items,

We have a new club Secretary Lisa McPherson and Congratulations! Lisa was sworn in via Zoom at the annual meeting. Welcome to the BOD and I look forward to working with you Lisa. Richard Dix will be working with Lisa under the clubs Mentorship program.

While on the subject I want to mention the Mentorship program. This will allow members to learn about any position Elected or Appointed without full responsibility and with the goal of filling in if needed, leading finally to filling a Position full time. The Club needs to start getting the next generation of Silver Strikers involved so they can take over the "Reins" of the Club soon, The Clubs future depends on it!

I ask current members to refer new members to the New Member Information Package on the website for viewing or download, this will hopefully help new members get a head start as well as inform potential members who read it to see what we are all about and join the club.

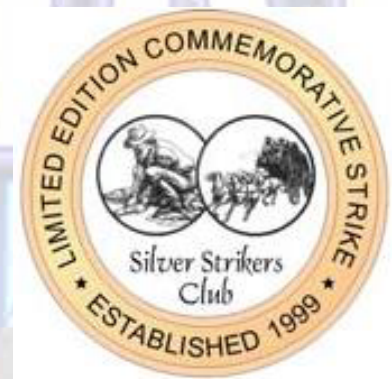
I want to put out the call about expanding the clubs digital footprint, as of today there is the StrikepointBB and the Facebook pages, and these do bring in new people interested in the hobby and new members. Imagining if we were on one or two more platforms? So if there are members that are willing to start up a social media format and moderate it please contact me or one of the club officers.

There will be a change coming to the Club Bylaws regarding the Suspension of the "Club Coin Contest" once the change is approved it will be posted on the website.

Lastly, I ask for your ideas and suggestions for the betterment of the club and if you would like to help out and/or participate in the Mentorship program please contact me at;

president@silverstrikers.com.

Jamie Horvatic
Silver Strikers Club
President
SS-1407



Club Coin Contest going into suspension

Sadly due to several factors the Club Coin contest is suspended. The rules for the contest will remain in the bylaws and there will be a statement added to the bylaws to reflect this suspension. This will allow for reactivation of the contest, if feasible, in the future.

With the costs of production more than doubling and possibly tripling, having a very limited number of members submitting designs and the sales of the coins waning these past few years are reason enough to suspend the contest. Not to mention that both Jo Reifer and Jeff Bitzer (the heart of the program) have announced this will be their last year doing the contest, so with no viable replacements for them to conduct the contest the path forward to continue the contest would be extremely difficult at best. Therefore the decision was made to suspend the contest at this time.

The contest is ending on a high note during the 25th anniversary celebration year with a 1oz coin being produced for the membership.

The club members owe a big thank you to Jeff Bitzer and Jo Reifer for taking care of the contest for all these years. Their efforts and talents have provided the opportunity to members to support the club through coin sales.

Please thank them personally next time you have the chance.

A BIG *Thank you* to you both Jo and Jeff!

2024 CLUB COIN CONTEST WINNER

I want to thank all who participated in the Coin Contest
Those that made drawing, those that were judges and those that
voted.

It was a hard choice since all were very good.

A special thanks to the **First place winner**.

This coin will be minted and is our 2024 Club Coin Designed by
Paul Cory



A special thanks also to all the runner up designs. Many great designs were submitted making it a
tough choice. Here is the final order of runner up designs.



2nd Place Al Varelas



3rd Place Ed Secord



4th Place Warren Schaefer



5th Place Greg Boone



6th Place James Horvatic

Membership Report

By Alan Childers



As of Dec 31, 2023 our membership is at 470. We had 47 new members join from July 1 to end of 2023.

All membership questions and issues can be addressed by email to membership@silverstrikers.com or by mail to:

Silver Strikers Club, c/o Membership Officer, 2620 N Constance Ave, Fresno, CA 93722.

New members from July 2023 - Dec. 2023:

Thank you to all the new members who have joined the Club:

Earl Adams	Angelo Arredondo	Linda Arredondo	Doug Balduini
Michelle Bell	Joseph Bellomy	Hal Benson	Mark Block
Misty Blount	Cheryl Bucci	James Bucci	Paul Burkel
George Clemens	Victoria Clemens	Margaret Coleman	Gary Clayburg
Brandon Davey	Michael Deblasi	Beth Dodson	Aren Fataei
Glen Howard	George Ingalls	Quinton Kamm	George Kanath
Michelle Kane	Bruce C. Kroeber Sr.	Bruce C. Kroeber Jr.	Claudia Kroeber
Mathew Landry	Melissa Landry	Seth Leach	Deron Lingo
Annette Manning	Maverick Matthews	Tana McQuaid	William G Muray
Ronald P Orth	Indu Parikh	Kandi Powell	Ryan Roberts
Bryan Scheminer	Alan Schuyler	Kim Steve	William Wagner
Leah Ware	Maria Yee	Tommy Yee	

Allan Childers SS-0356
1st VP & Membership Officer

Donations Wanted

The Silver Strikers Club is asking Club members for donations for two of our fund raisers, the Raffle and the Auction. Can you help out the Club? Do you have a few extra items in good condition that would be a candidate for the fund raisers?

For the Raffle - Silver strikes of all denominations.

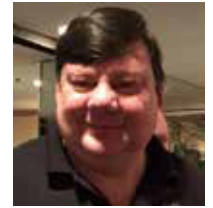
For the Auction - Casino/Gaming related items including Silver Strikes.

Please send an email to carletonjlee@yahoo.com with a description or photo, and any stipulations, of the donated item(s) you can bring with you to the June tournament at the Four Queens.

Your Generosity is Greatly appreciated!

Place Your Ad Here! Advertise in the Silver Strikers Club Newsletter COST of the Ads: 2 lines of type \$1, plus \$.50 each additional line for 2 issues, \$5 per 1/2 page for 2 issues, \$10 per 1 page for 2 issues DEADLINE for ads in the next newsletter is January 25, 2024. Send your Ad via Email to Robb McPherson editor@silverstrikers.com Mail Payment for the Ad to Carleton Lee, P.O. Box 777, Dundee, OR. 97115 Ad will be published in the issue following receipt of payment. Classified Ads

Treasurers/Social Director's Report by Carleton Lee - SS-1592



Hello Fellow Silver Strikers

January's Winter Tournament was a lot of fun and great success for the Clubs fundraising efforts. On Saturday January 27th throughout the day, we sold shirts, Club coins, and raffle tickets to raise money for the Club. That evening we also had a reception celebrating our 25th Anniversary. We sold raffle tickets up until it was time for the drawings. We had two different raffles, a 50/25/25 cash raffle, and a prize raffle. For the prize raffle the Club purchased a few Silver Strikes, however most off the items raffled off were donated by fellow Club members. Thank You to all who donated items.

We also held an auction with items donated by fellow Club members. On behalf of the Silver Strikers Club, I would like to thank the Club Members who donated items for this auction. This is a great way for the Club to generate funds without spending money. If you have a Silver Strike or other silver or casino related item, you would like to donate to the Club for a future fundraising event please let one of the Board members know. It saves the Club money on purchasing items.

Now for the Numbers:

Shirt Sales, we sold 2 Polo, and 20 T-shirts raising \$372.

We had a few Club Coins left from previous years that we sold raising \$315.

Cash Raffle 50/25/25, The Club sold 909 tickets for this raffle which was a record for this Raffle. Generating \$453 for the Club and two Club members winning \$228 each.

Prize Raffle, we raffled off some awesome prizes and ended up selling a record smashing \$1505 in tickets.

Auction, there were eight great items donated by Club members that raised a grand total of \$790 for the Club.

We also received cash donations totaling \$14.

Total funds raised \$3449.

These events were a great success for the Club, and I am looking forward to doing it again in June. If anyone is interested in helping sell raffle tickets in June please contact me, Thanks.

Thank You everyone for supporting the Silver Strikers Club.

Carleton Lee SS-1592
Treasurer/Social Director.

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 01/20/24
 Accrual Basis

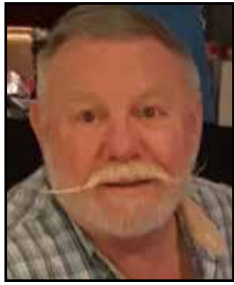
Silver Strikers Club
Profit & Loss
 January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
Income	
Cash Donations	80.00
Income	
Auction	2,135.00
Coin Sales	7,640.00
Dues Membership	6,615.00
Interest	1.92
Raffles	3,140.00
Shirt Sales	883.00
Total Income	20,414.92
Total Income	20,494.92
Gross Profit	20,494.92
Expense	
Coin contest	524.11
Coin Production Cost	1,136.54
Office Supplies	736.70
Pay Pal Fees	443.37
Postage	510.24
Raffle Items	1,280.00
Shirts Cost	485.59
State of Nevada	
Easy Mail	50.00
Sales Tax	69.93
Total State of Nevada	119.93
Storage	809.00
Tax Return	75.00
Tournament Expenses	
Food Jan	1,306.12
Food Jun	1,287.76
Miscellaneous	56.74
Total Tournament Expenses	2,650.62
Uber	40.00
Total Expense	8,811.10
Net Income	11,683.82

3:48 PM
 01/20/24
 Accrual Basis

Silver Strikers Club
Balance Sheet
 As of December 31, 2023

	Dec 31, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Chase Cheking	12,821.32
Chase Savings	20,231.77
Pay Pal	404.64
Petty Cash	101.30
Total Checking/Savings	33,559.03
Total Current Assets	33,559.03
TOTAL ASSETS	33,559.03
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	20,699.08
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,176.13
Net Income	11,683.82
Total Equity	33,559.03
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	33,559.03



Webmaster Brief

(July. 1, 2023 - Dec. 31, 2023)

By Jim Quinn

Over the past six months we have added the following to the club website:

New Strikes – 53

New Tokens – 11

Boxed sets – 8

Holograms – 0

Silver Bars – 1

Silver Striker Club - 1

Tournament - 1

Current news – 10

Various items added to the club archives.

Fun facts – All Catalogs:

Number of casinos– 485

Total pages – 1167

Total images – 6170

Total more images – 6687

Images needed - 477

Follow changes to the club website using an RSS reader. Every time a change is made to the club website (except typo's and minor corrections) the RSS feed is updated.

Here's a couple of links that describe RSS feeds.

<http://www.whatisrss.com/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSS>

Here's what the RSS feed icon looks like for the silver strikers website



The most common color used is:



However, the RSS feed icon can be any color.

RSS feed depends upon which browser you use, below are some links for the different browsers:

Internet Explorer - <http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/how-to-add-and-view-rss-feeds-in-internet-explorer.html>

Firefox - <http://www.top-windows-tutorials.com/rss-in-firefox/>

Chrome – in the browser click on Customize and Control Google Chrome icon, select more tools and click on Extensions. You may then search for RSS reader and other extensions.

Another way to track website changes is to use one of free programs at: <http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/detect-website-change-notification/> or Google tracking website changes for additional options.

Also I do not manage thestrikepoint board it is administered by a CC>CC member; you can go to the bottom of the page and click the link to send a trouble ticket to them.

Jim Quinn

Silver Striker Club Webmaster

Bill Cohenour's
Comprehensive
Nevada Silver Strike
Reference Catalog
\$30.00 + Shipping

Warren Schaefer SS-185
schae86@yahoo.com

Bill Cohenour's
Comprehensive
North America
(Non Nevada)
Reference Catalog
\$30.00 + Shipping



THE 20TH ANNUAL SILVER STRIKE TOURNAMENT JAN. 26 - 28, 2024



The 20th Annual Silver Strike Tournament turned to be another great event. Shaun increased the tournament to 196 spots and it was still sold out with a couple days of the announcement!! Once again continuing to be sold out!! When the official announcement is made make sure you call right then. Shaun and Todd keep making these tournaments exciting for all and the word keeps on spreading. Be sure to make your reservations early as every tournament is selling out earlier now.

Official Notice for June 2024 From Shaun Webster

DUE TO THE SIZE OF THE TOURNAMENT AND THE ROOM NEEDED TO ACCOMMODATE EVERYONE,

THE WELCOME RECEPTION AND AWARDS CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE LONGHORN ROOM AT BINION'S.

TO DO THIS WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE DATES OF THE TOURNAMENT,

THE NEW DATES ARE JUNE 7 - 9/2024

I AM SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE

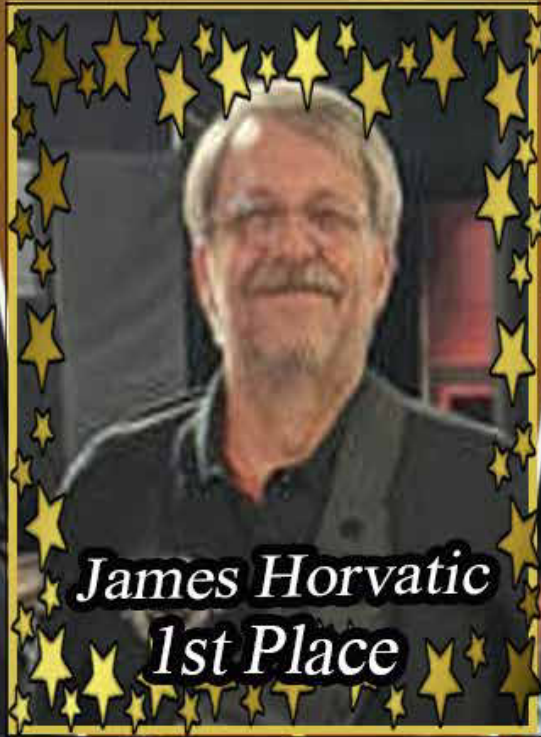
Folks, this is Teresa, one of Four Queens employees that looks after the reservations for our tournaments. The Silver Striker Club owes a big Thank You to Teresa and her fellow employees. While many you may get frustrated when you can't get through on the phone to get registered, these ladies are doing their best to help everyone. You have to understand that when Shaun makes the announcement that registration is open there is a huge volume of calls coming in all at once. They can only work through them as fast and efficiently as they can.



2024 January Tournament



**William
Lange
2nd Place**



**James Horvatic
1st Place**



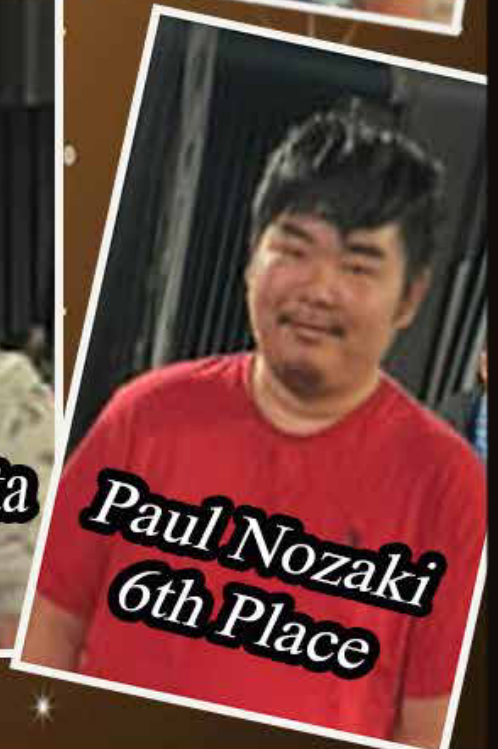
**Lori Wentz
3rd Place**



**Scott Horton
4th Place**

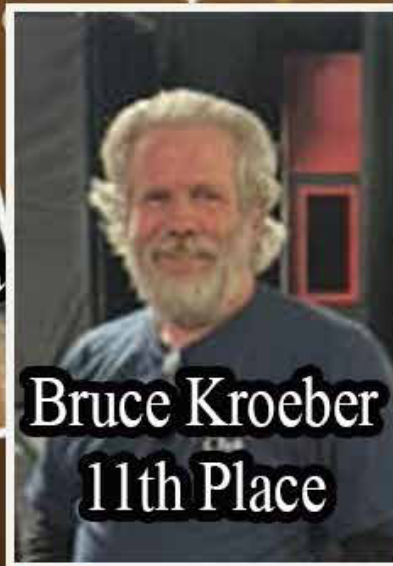
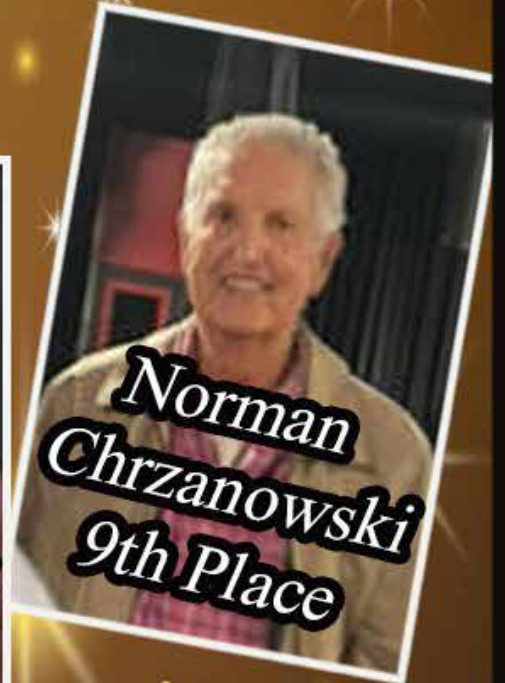
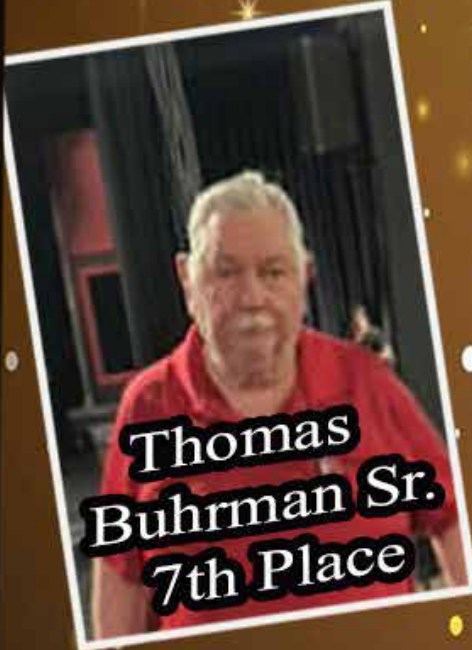


**Dean Cugliotta
5th Place**

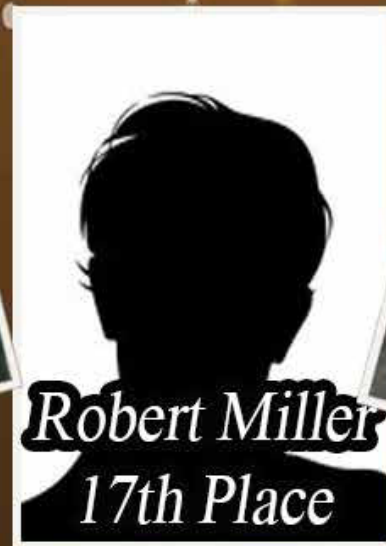
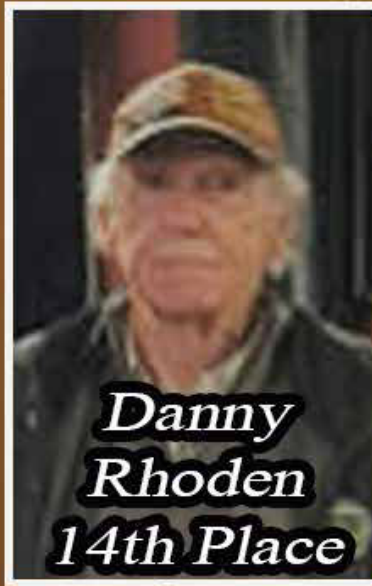
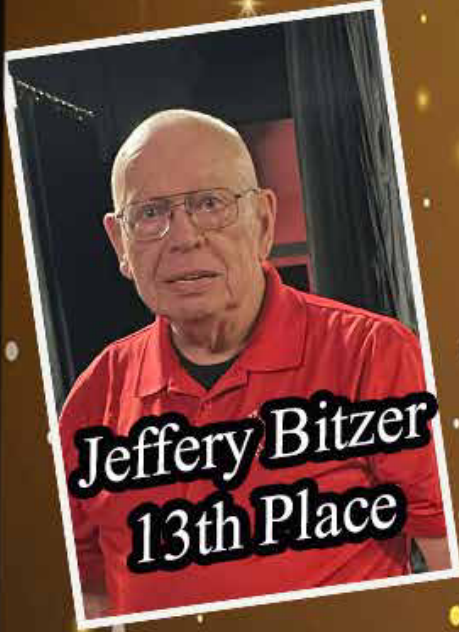


**Paul Nozaki
6th Place**

2024 January Tournament



2024 January Tournament



2024 January Tournament



Board Member Emeritus

During the January annual meeting I was given the honor and privilege of presenting the award of Board Member Emeritus. This award went to Mr. Jeff Bitzer. When I became the "Rookie" Board Member Jeff was my Mentor and provided me with great knowledge, leadership, and friendship. For this reason, I am very grateful to have this honor. Jeff has provided a great service to the Silver Strikers Club over the years, and the next time you see him make sure you say "Thank You Mr. Jeff Bitzer"



**Silver Strikers Club
Board Member Emeritus
Presented To
Jeff Bitzer**



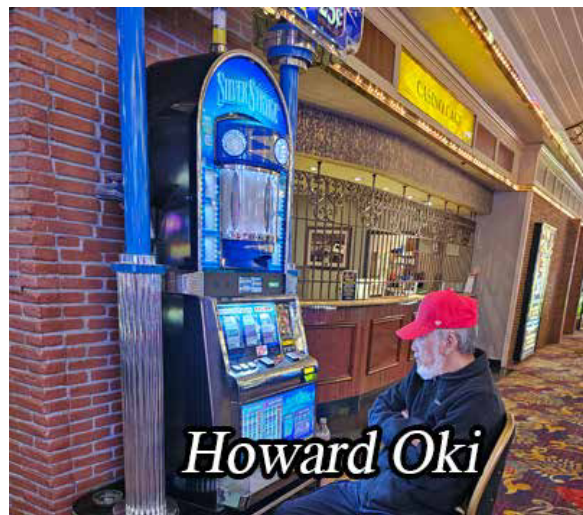
"For your Outstanding Service and Leadership to the Silver Strikers Club, the Board of Directors wish to acknowledge you with this honor and title, 1999 - 2024"

Congratulations Jeff, you earned it.

Carleton Lee SS-1592
Treasurer/Social Director



Random Tournament pics by Jeff Lyon - Club Photographer



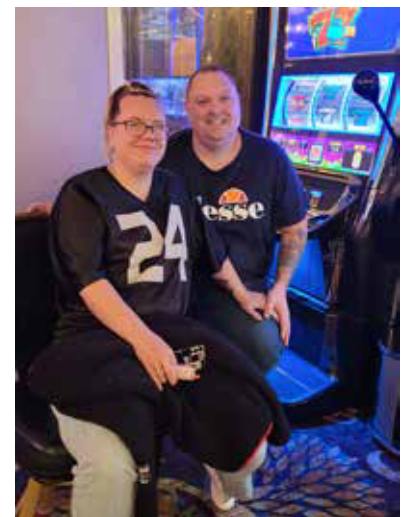
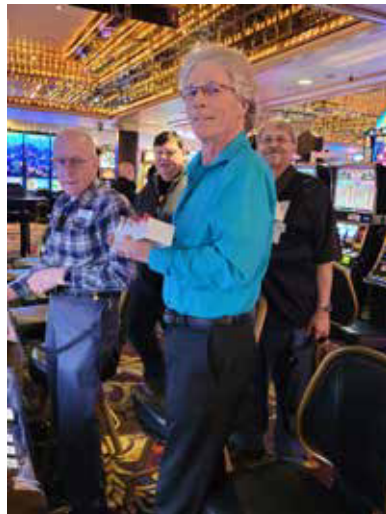
Trade Session

This is only a small sampling of the Saturday morning trade session
Many trades were made.

Dinner in the Canyon Room



Michelle (Meesh) Gaunce
Nice Win



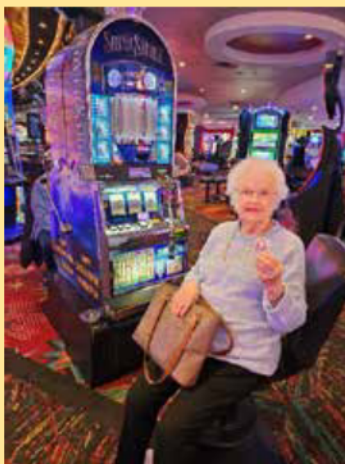
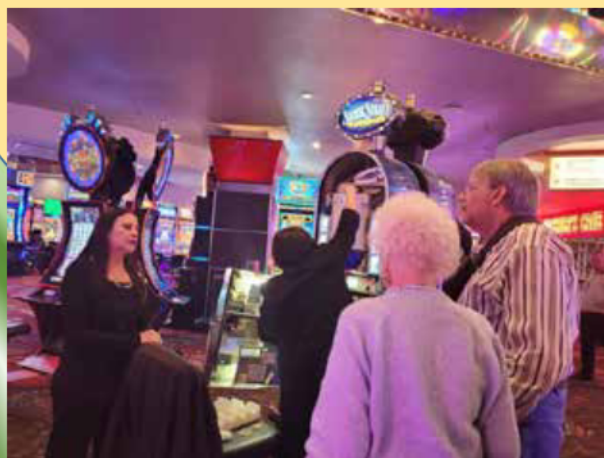
Gingers coming out party held at the Plaza Hotel and Casino



Wow, how cool was it to have a new release at the Plaza during the January event!

Several members went down to the Plaza to await the release of the new Silver strike featuring "Ginger" who graces the "Carousel Bar" in front of the Plaza.

The first one out went to none other than Mary Lou and by the smile on her face I know she was thrilled to add this new Strike to her collection.



10 Question Interview with Shaun Webster Slot Director Four Queens Hotel and Casino

Tell me how you first got involved with the gaming industry?

I moved here in 1978 to be a Bartender at a place called Jubilations but that fell thru as they wanted me to be a Bar Back and I had been there and done that. My next choices were Valet or Slot Tech. I took the Apprentice slot tech position at the Stardust.

What might anyone be surprised to know about you?

I did not like speaking in front of large groups

What has surprised you most about Silver Strikers at large?

How nice and friendly all of you are. Also as a large group you all get along and help everyone, plus you guys make me laugh a lot.

What do you find most challenging about running the Silver Strike program at the Four Queens?

Coming up with a design, that everyone will enjoy.

What would you say are some of the strongest aspects of the Four Queens Silver Strike program?

Management want to grow the program. It's also a plus when other departments want to know when you guys are going to return. Everyone has such a good time when you are here.

What do you think will change about the Four Queens Silver Strike program over the next five years?

I'm hoping nothing but more fun

If you could change one thing about Silver Strikes, what would it be?

Being able to get more machines and parts for the Silver Strike Machines

What's the best/worst thing to happen since the Four Queens Strike program started?

The Best thing has been meeting all the Strikers

I do not have a worst

What's your philosophy on what could/should be done to make the Four Queens Strike program even more exciting?

I do not have what you would call a philosophy. I fly by the seat of my pants. I am always open to new ideas and listen to what the strikers are looking for. If it is beneficial and doable for both we will look at it. Thinking outside the Box

Tell me about someone who has influenced your decision to have a Silver Strike program?

Bill Jolly came to me about putting on our first Silver Strike Tournament.

Bill and Sue Cohenour were a great influence with the program and the \$40 Machine.

And all of you on designs and layouts.

Silver Strike Machine History

The following is a brief history from the newsletters available in the “Archives” on the SSC website. You can view the full versions using the issue number shown here when looking them up.

The intent here is to share with the membership what has transpired in the past and where we are today regarding the Silver Strike machines that are a part of the Clubs history and our long standing positive relationship with the CCA/MoGH over many years.

ISSUE #51.1 SILVER STRIKERS CLUB NEWSLETTER PAGE 5

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE CLUB'S SILVER STRIKE SLOT MACHINE?

By Pam Martin & Bill Brooks

Let us start out by saying "THE CLUB NEVER HAD A SILVER STRIKE SLOT MACHINE!"


Let's go back to 2005... Club member Dennis Finn was working on a number of projects for the club, getting permission to use the "Celebrating 100 Years Welcome to Las Vegas Sign" design as our club coin (Clear Channel Corp owned the design), permission to keep the plaster cast used by the engraver to make the die for the club strike (to be donated by Global Minting), the art work, and a working Silver Strike machine (to be donated by IGT). The art work, plaster cast and a strike machine were to be donated to the club for display in the CCGT&CC museum. In order to comply with all the requirements of owning a slot machine and a place to put it, it was decided that all of these items should be donated directly to CCGT&CC. In addition to the items already mentioned Treasure Island donated a \$200 Treasure Island Strike to CCGT&CC as that strike was "Strike of the Year" for that year. Club member Gerald Sacco planted the seeds at Treasure Island to get the donation.

All of the items were donated to CCGT&CC at the opening banquet for the 2005 CCGT&CC convention. The donations were the highlight of the convention that year. Special thanks go to IGT, Treasure Island, Global Minting (no longer in business), Dennis Finn and Gerald Sacco. A lot of work went into making all of this happen. All of the items are in the possession of CCGT&CC and will make a very nice display in the Silver Strike section of the CCGT&CC museum.

If we failed to mention someone else who may have been involved please accept our apologies.

In case you were wondering, now you know.

Registration Table at the Convention
Archie Black - CCGTCC Founding Member
Dollie Ramsey - Registration Volunteer
Brenda Black - Registration Chairman



Museum of Gaming History *by Mike Skelton*

Reprinted with permission from the Summer 2008 Issue of Casino Chip and Token News

www.museumofgaminghistory.org



A Clear Mission

The mission of the Museum of Gaming History is to preserve collections, artifacts and archives for the purpose of educating the public through exhibitions, programs and information.

Expanding a Tradition

Founded by The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc., a not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to gaming history since 1988, the Museum provides a physical location in which to increase established success.

Exploring a Diverse Past

Gaming has held a place in traditional and popular culture for centuries worldwide. When motivations, style and technology change, gaming is adapted to serve the needs and desires of people. Artists represent it, writers discuss it, and destinations are built around it. Gaming can be simultaneously celebrated or criticized, leisurely or addictive, legal or illegal. Learning multiple perspectives helps us understand what drives people to invest time and money in and around gaming. Preserving artifacts provides tangible references to study and enjoy. Engaging in public dialogue about such cultural traditions enables us to think critically about our past, present and future.

Providing International Access

The Museum of Gaming History is unique to the world, just as its location — Las Vegas, Nevada. Nowhere else can we compare the multiple aspects of gaming across cultures and time while experiencing modern gaming in its grandest scale. This multi-faceted destination is readily accessible to an international audience of students, scholars, collectors, artists, entertainers, gaming industry employees, tourists and the general public alike.

Ensuring a Vital Future

The Museum seeks to act on its mission and foster international impact for generations to come. A facility will provide collection, archive, exhibition, retail and event space, as well as a state-of-the-art research environment, enabling members and visitors to interact in multiple ways. An endowment will fund permanent professional staff positions, build a research collection, provide the latest technology, and broaden the museum's impact in multiple arenas. To fulfill this vision, we invite those who embrace the values of historic preservation and contemporary models for learning to partner with us in ensuring a vital future for the Museum of Gaming History.

Collection Description

Expanding a Tradition

Founded by The Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc., a not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to gaming history since 1988, the Museum will build on an established passion for collecting artifacts.

The Role of Collections

Museum collections are an important means of advancing the mission and serving the public. They provide tangible references to exhibit and study. The Museum will acquire artifacts legally, ethically and strategically within the parameters of its Collection Policy. Effective stewardship through proper storage, management and care will ensure that the public will have access to original pieces and information for generations to come.

Uses for the Collection

The artifacts collected by the Museum will be available for research, publications, exhibitions and public programs in the facility in Las Vegas. In addition, a digital record and online database of the collection will allow visitors virtual access from around the world.

Also NOT donated but sold at face value —\$10 each — 17 already mounted Silver Strikes in the SS Machine and 1 jewelry box.

Mountain Gaming agreed to donate the SS machine & other items. But the SS Club would have to pick up the donated items or pay for their packing & shipping to Las Vegas from Denver, Colorado. So, after arranging a day & time for us to meet in Denver, I arranged to rent & pick up a 4 X 8 covered U-Haul trailer in Denver. Then loaded up my car and headed for Denver to pick up the SS machine & other SS items. Then on to Las Vegas to leave the all the SS related items in the MOGH warehouse.

Here is some of the statistics related to the trip to get the SS machine & other SS items:

- 6 motel nights on the road (this does not include 3 nights in Las Vegas)
- 243 gallons of gas burned - not including gas burned in Las Vegas,
- from my carport back to my carport 4031.4 miles driven (includes about 150 miles in Las Vegas and short side trip to Cripple Creek (stayed about 2 hours)
- hours on the road estimated 62

I WANT TO SINCERELY THANK THESE SS CLUB MEMBERS who voluntarily generously donated to me some expense money to help to cover the expenses to get the SS machine & SS items to Las Vegas from Denver, Colorado.

Judy & Don Barton
Pam & Jamie Martin
Bill & Linda Jollie
Bill & Sue Cohencour
Jeff Bitzer
Jimmy Mahan
Pete & Carole Ryan

Thanks to all the above once more
Dan from Louisiana



Dear Dan,
This letter is to inform all the interested persons and involved organizations that Mountain Gaming Distributors located in Denver, Colorado, has donated or sold on March 18, 2009 the casino items listed below to the Silver Strikers Club for placement in the Museum of Gaming History located in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Casino items donated to the Silver Strikers Club

- 1 - Sigma silver strike machine
Serial Number - 031001968
- 5 - jewelry boxes from no longer in play old type silver strike machines
- 3 - plastic signs for silver strike machines displays
- 2 - glass old type silver strike machine face plate displays
- 1 - old type silver strike machine payout face plate

Casino items sold to the Silver Strikers Club

Mountain Gaming Distributors also sold at the \$10 face value to the Silver Strikers Club 18 \$10 silver strike coins, already mounted in the jewelry box at the top of the Sigma silver strike machine and in one of the donated jewelry boxes.

It was agreed by us to donate or sell the casino items but with the understanding that the Silver Strikers Club would be responsible for the packing and shipping of the donated & sold casino items to Las Vegas, Nevada. I met with you on March 18, 2009 at our warehouse in Denver, Colorado and gave you the above mentioned items.

You were informed before the donation and it was agreed that certain internal parts from the donated Sigma silver strike machine were to be kept by Mountain Gaming Distributors as repair parts for a silver strike machine of the same type.

Sincerely,

Ken Simon, President

2333 E Ohio Ave, DENVER, COLORADO 80209 (303) 394-2001

The return of the Silver Strike slot machines from the CCA/MoGH To the Silver Strikers Club.

This all started as a request shortly after I was sworn in as SSC President from a long serving board member who asked me to take on two tasks, both being very important to them and the SSC members. The first was to locate and recover the misplaced SSC documents. The second was to ask The CCA/MoGH leadership for the return of the donated Silver Strike machines.

I am happy to report that not only has the Club paperwork been located and returned to the SSC it is being kept in a Fire/Water proof lock box in our club storage unit. This would not have been possible if not for the concerted efforts of Jim Follis.

As of now the Silver Strike machines and some other small associated parts as well have been returned to the SSC and moved from the MoGH storage facility to the SSC storage unit. The move transpired on the morning of Friday the 26th of January with the help of several SSC members. Please note that this transfer would not have been possible if not for the help of Jim Follis and the CCA/MoGH leadership.

The Move

- ▶ The move team consisted of Mary Lou Waterbury, Judy Lukacs, Carleton Lee, Andy and Sandy Thomas, Richard Dix, Gloria Fuentes, Freddy Patterson, Wayne Nishiura and myself with Jim Follis meeting us at the MoGH storage facility.

The assembled move team met in the lobby of the Four Queens before departure and two groups left in different directions eventually to meet up at the CCA/MoGH storage facility. Once there the truck was positioned and everyone started helping to complete the tasks needed to effect the loading and documentation of the move.



- ▶ Each and everyone involved was very helpful and the moving and loading of the two machines was completed in less time than was allotted for the task.



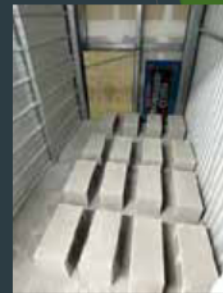
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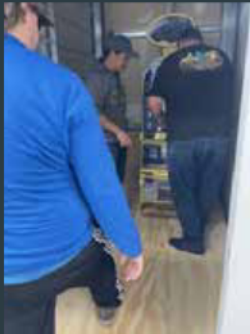
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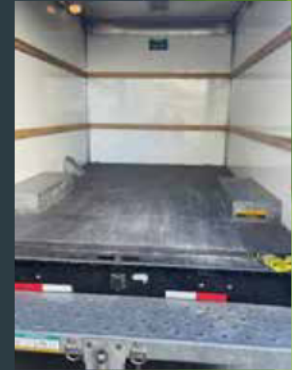
The platform



Moving the Machines



Finishing up



What's next?

- ▶ The plan is to have the machines refurbished to “Display” quality in the hopes that any needed cleaning and minor repairs can be accomplished and the lights can be made operational as there are no “Working” parts in these machines.
- ▶ It is intended to have these placed out on Buy/Sell/Trade Saturday for display once a year during the January/Annual Club meeting alongside of the framed Club coin displays, when feasible.
- ▶ Also at sometime in the near future to display them at a CCA event in their educational section for the duration of the 3 day event.
- ▶ Plans, costs, and any progress will be updated in the newsletter when they occur.

HALL OF
FAME

Silver Strike

The first slot offering a "bonus" created a new culture

by Frank Legato

Many people think the era of the bonus round in slot machines began with "Wheel of Fortune," but it really began with silver. As in silver coins—collectible silver coins that came out of the hopper of an otherwise normal slot machine and ended up changing the slot business forever.

The genesis of the slot machine bonus event—the phenomenon of playing a slot game that offered something other than spinning reels—began with a machine originally called "Cash and Coins." It would make its stamp on slot history, though, as "Silver Strike."

It all started with a slot-machine route operator. Those are the companies that operate the slots located outside of casinos in Nevada. The operator, called Anchor Games, was looking for new games to offer on its route of 629 slot machines, in 45 locations—mainly grocery stores—in the Las Vegas metropolitan area. In 1994, after getting an infusion of cash through a public offering, Anchor bought a company called Global Gaming Products, which had a curious kind of slot machine.

The game had coin symbols representing a normal jackpot, but it also had a special jackpot. When you lined up the designated reel combination, custom-designed, collectible silver tokens would fall out of the coin hopper and land in the customer's tray.

Officials of the newly public company, now called Anchor Gaming, wanted to make a big splash with their first home-grown product to be distributed at their own slot locations. But first, a few changes would be made.

The young company certainly had the personnel to make those changes—and to do them right. The original Anchor Gaming inherited a collection of game designers and marketers who would later become icons of the industry—including T.J. Matthews, who is now chairman and chief executive officer of International Game Technology, and legendary names like Randy Adams,

who would go on to be the leading force in the creation of Anchor's famous bonus wheel, the basis for Bally's "Wheel of Gold," IGT's "Wheel of Fortune" and countless other games.

The "Cash and Coins" game, soon to be renamed "Silver Strike," would be Adams' first

project at Anchor. He would make it count, according to Jim Coleman and Heidi Gifford, who were in charge of selling the new slot to casinos. (Coleman, now IGT product marketing manager, was in charge of Anchor's Northern Nevada sales; Gifford, now IGT's MegaJackpots sales rep for Las Vegas, was in charge of sales in the southern part of the state.)

"The original version was on an IGT game, and the silver coins were \$7 tokens, which was odd," says Coleman. "It made them very unique." Originally, the tokens would be stored in the same hopper as the coins in the slot machines, and would, says Coleman, become tarnished by the time they were awarded as bonus prizes.

Adams got together with his marketing and sales staff and completely changed the packaging of the game and its main prize. He designed a special dual-hopper cabinet—one for the regular coins, one for the silver tokens. For the tokens themselves, he solved the tarnish problem by placing each one in a plastic capsule. The tokens would be delivered to casinos in special racks, as opposed to the small boxes originally used to transport them.

The slot itself was re-designed on a platform from the for-

**THE ORIGINAL
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COLLECTION OF
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AND MARKETERS
WHO WOULD LATER
BECOME ICONS OF
THE INDUSTRY.**



**THE GAME DEMONSTRATED—
NOT ONLY TO ANCHOR
GAMING, BUT TO THE
INDUSTRY AT LARGE—
THAT SLOT PLAYERS WERE
READY FOR SOMETHING
BEYOND THE SPINNING REEL.**

mer Sigma Game, and the pay schedule was manipulated. The reel symbols were coin amounts, some backed by the image of the collectible coins. Match the coins, and win the bonus. One other ahead-of-its-time feature occurred when three non-matching coins landed on the payline: You got a free spin.

Along with the physical changes came a deal that ultimately would entice casino after casino to add the slots. "The important aspect of the marketing program was that the slot machine was offered free of charge to the casino," says Gifford. "All they had to do was pay for the tokens themselves."

They would, of course, pay a wholesale price for the tokens, but the players, through their wagers, were actually paying the equivalent of a retail price for the tokens awarded as prizes—which were changed from \$7 to \$10 tokens. And, though they could have put the tokens back in the machine as additional wagers, they were almost always taken home—in the parlance of the collectible token and gaming chip business, they "walked," which means pure profit for the casino.

"With the packaging, Randy's idea to make these tokens with fine silver and decorative brass created the walk factor," says Coleman. "They were so unique that between 80 percent and 90 percent of them 'walked.' They were not cashed in. That was the whole success of the game."

"They took them home as souvenirs, since the casino name was on the back," adds Gifford. "The customers then came back and played again for more tokens."

For the slot industry, though, the significance of Silver Strike went way beyond the idea of collecting silver tokens. The game demonstrated—not only to Anchor Gaming, but to the industry at large—that slot players were ready for something beyond the spinning reel.

Silver Strike launched a trend to offer something other than the traditional slot experience. The immediate popularity of the game (thanks to the marketing, it was an overnight sensation) opened the eyes of slot manufacturers to the fact

that it was time to give the players something more than bland spinning reels.

Within the subsequent two years, slots like Anchor's own "Pinball" slot (an IGT game with a pinball machine as a bonus), "Totem Pole" (an IGT reel-spinner with two additional sets of reels), the famous wheel on Bally's "Wheel of Gold," and the ultimate partnership with IGT that would result in "Wheel of Fortune," would usher in a new era in the realm of the slot machine.

No longer were spinning reels enough. Games now had to offer something different to the player. And, things would never be the same.

RIDING THE WAVE

By the time IGT acquired Anchor Gaming in 2001, Silver Strike had become something of a cult hit. The game was placed back on an IGT base slot, complete with a showcase cabinet that displayed the tokens available as prizes. The base pay schedules are those of popular IGT games, with the token-winning combination added.

While there are still a few Silver Strike games out on casino floors, Gifford says the price of silver has caused IGT to officially discontinue production of the famous game.

Its following, though, is still going strong. Coleman says the unique design of each of the groups of tokens made them all the more desirable to collectors. "Heidi and I became token designers, and we kind of created a cult," Coleman says.

Gifford adds that the community of "Silver Strikers" is huge, even today. "We actually put books together on the token series, which made the players play the games with different designs so they could put their collections together."

The group holds a convention every year in Las Vegas to swap and buy tokens from the game. There's a website (www.silverstrickers.com) dedicated to keeping the group alive, even as the slot machine that spawned the craze is dying out.

But more significant for the history of the slot machine is the *other* craze initiated by Silver Strike. After its introduction, slot makers began striving to offer a special bonus event in addition to the simple spinning of the reels.

That craze has never left us. The Silver Strike legacy is, quite literally, sterling. ●



By the time IGT acquired Anchor Gaming in 2001, Silver Strike had become something of a cult hit.

Silver Strikers Club Membership Application



New Member: _____ Membership Renewal: _____

Name: _____

Spouse name (if also applying for membership): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____ Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

(Email address is required for members residing outside of the U.S.)

For a Renewal, your Silver Strikers Club Number: _____

May we publish the above information in the Club Roster? Yes No

Indicate your preference for receiving the Club newsletter:

Email (Free) No newsletter

I have enclosed dues as follows:

Annual membership	(\$15)	_____
Spouse membership	(\$15)	_____
Club Roster	(\$10)	_____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Complete and mail with payment to: Silver Strikers Club
c/o Membership Officer
2620 N Constance Ave
Fresno, CA 92722-8764

You may also submit form via email to: membership@silverstrikers.com

This application is also available on the Club website, with a link to PayPal to pay dues.

Check out our website at: www.silverstrikers.com