

Silver Striker



Newsletter

Peter Van der Kar, editor

Issue 4 - March 2000

President's Remarks

We recently had six inches of snow dropped on us. Since this is only our second snow storm, we aren't complaining. This is the kind of weather in which you want to get out your silver strikes and start getting the lists up-to-date, work on new trades and get in touch with good buddies!

We are still making little accomplishments along the way to Convention 2000. I want to thank Dennis Finn for making up a great club brochure. If you wish some copies, please E-mail me or Dennis(dmfinn@pe.net). These are excellent to hand out to people who are playing the strike machines and who have expressed an interest. Ed Mann and Ray Moritz have already been distributing some of the copies.

I am working on a silver strike display for the convention and it is turning out to be a little bit more involved than what I had first envisioned. Still it is a worthwhile endeavor and I hope that others of you out there are also working on one. If you are, be sure to get your application in now!

We have several orders for the Convention 2000 T-shirts. These are excellent quality tees priced at only \$15 each. They are 100% cotton and are navy with silver lettering, for Silver Strikers, of course! The front has the logo and "I'm a Silver Strike Collector." On the back is the logo and Convention 2000.

I want to thank all of you who write me and comment on the column and the newsletter, and on silver strikes in general. I will always try to answer you unless you use a nom de plume. I think if you feel strongly about any subject, you should sign your real name, as 99.9% people do.

May we never lose sight of what this hobby means to most of the members. We must be vigilant in making sure that these machines will be around for a long time. This requires that we treat slot managers and other casino personnel with respect and courtesy, as we expect to be treated ourselves.

Your President,
Mary Lou Waterbury

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of 12/31/99.....	\$ 1,206.82
Income	
Dues.....	<u>90.00</u>
Total Income	90.00
Expenses	
Postage.....	67.22
Supplies.....	14.83
Copies.....	<u>77.72</u>
Total Expenses	159.77
Balance as of 02/29/00.....	\$ 1,137.05

Treasurer,
Evelyn D. Grosklous

Notes from Ray Moritz

I made a quick trip to Blackhawk Colorado in January and found that two casinos still have silver strikes. The Canyon Club and Colorado Central Station. I would like to encourage our members to please share any information about the casinos that you have visited that still have silver strikes. You can forward the information to either the editor of this newsletter or me.

Ray Moritz, First Vice President

Your Newsletter

To all of you who have called our attention to typos and errors we thank you. To all of you who have *not* called out attention to these errors we also thank you. Putting this newsletter together is a cooperative effort and is done in Los Angeles and Reno and occassionally things slip by. We appreciate all of the support we have gotten and will continue to improve and once again ask for your contributions and experiences to include in future issues.

Order Form for T-Shirt for Convention 2000

Name _____ Address _____

Size: M L XL XXL Price: \$15 Quantity _____ Payment _____

Send Payment and form to:

Evelyn D. Grosklous, 3436 Bocage Drive, Apt. 305 Orlando, FL 32812-7598

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE!

(Jack Haddock)

In an effort to bring you as much information on silver strikes as possible in this newsletter, I have written articles where I have not identified myself. This is not to be the policy of the newsletter and I apologize and will see that it happens no more. The articles provided by me in last issue were: "Auction Results", "CC>CC Convention 2000", "The Millennium Series" and "Who's Hobby is this? This is supplemental material which I put in at the last minute - Peter and I have decided to call it "Jack's junk."

VARIETIES AND MINT MARKS PRODUCE BIG PRICES

(Jack Haddock)

San Remo in Las Vegas had the .999 silver shows up on the rim - \$300 plus

Bellagio in Las Vegas had the Chinese New Year strike has the Chinese letters backwards - \$35

Gold Coast in Las Vegas had an estimated 250 sets made with the "S" mint mark before they went to the millennium series - settling in \$100 range

Eldorado in Reno had art work which depicted a walk way coming out of the side of the building (it's on the wrong side). Two mint marks were made: "GDC" and "G". They were in play just long enough to get the millennium building in play. The "G" mint is the harder by far to find - \$40 and \$100 respectively.

Harrah's in Reno is in the process of removing their machines. The Babe Ruths are gone and one "Genie on the Lamp" machine remains. Just prior to the decision to eliminate, a small order of "G" mint "lamp" strikes appeared. They definitely are not plentiful but are won out of the machine from time to time - \$25

Stockmans in Elko had a short run of "GDC" mint strikes before the current "S" mint was issued. These disappeared in less than a month. - \$50

Four Queens in Las Vegas removed their machines within weeks of putting their millennium strikes in play. Each of the four designs brings about \$75

DID YOU HEAR?

(Jack Haddock)

Sierra Sids in Sparks put four strikes in play and around mid year will put the other 3 designs in play. Obverse designs are the same as last year but they have a cool millennium logo reverse.

Fitzgeralds in Reno "has temporarily put strikes back in play" - temporary is one year.

Sierra Sids has a new 1 pound silver display coin. It utilizes their Y2K logo on one side. It has NO redeemable face value.

Reno Flamingo planning on two more strikes this year.

Eldorado will have a limited number of millennium \$200 silver strikes available in their gift shop.

NEW FROM LAS VEGAS!



MILLENNIUM
SERIES GROWS



BELLAGIO
REMOVES ERROR STRIKE.
Chinese letters are backwards



Silver Strikers
membership hits
190



Commentary on "Whose Hobby is This?"

While it is true that Anchor Gaming's customer is the casino, many of the casino customers are collectors. And though strike collectors are generally not "big whales", nor may even comprise the majority of those that play their strike machines (where did the figure of 5% come from?), the casinos should realize that, besides tourists, collectors are an important customer base. Why else would an explosion of new strikes be issued in the last year? Astute businessmen do not consider one customer more important than another.

I do not know who it was who created such an issue about trading strikes at certain casinos. I do know that the result was some casinos have posted signs that no trading is allowed. I found the "no trading" policy to be more common now as evidenced in my most recent strike collecting trip to Las Vegas, even in those casinos that were previously very cooperative in trading. As a result, some collectors would be reluctant to return to those casinos. Most collectors are polite when they ask a cashier to trade; they are merely asking to trade for a different design in the series or for a new issue as displayed at the top of the strike machine if only old issues are coming out. Most casino cashiers are very accommodating (a small tip doesn't hurt, either). Most collectors do not ask or expect cashiers to search through racks and racks of strikes to look for a specific strike. It is unfortunate that those people who have done so are now making it difficult for the rest of us.

Casinos have realized for many years now the importance of the chip collector by the many chips that are available for purchase. Knowing their large profits on all the chips that "walk" by collectors is all the incentive the casino needs to keep on producing chips for every holiday and to cater to their important chip collector clients, in addition to their gambling customers. Are we strikers any different?

I welcome your comments about my opinions.....Lisa Jung, CHSS-102
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Perseverance Pays Off

A couple of years ago we were traveling through Minnesota trying to hit as many casinos with silver strikes that we could find. We finally arrived at Black Bear in Carlton, Minnesota. I wanted a set of their four strikes, but was afraid I would have to settle for just one after putting \$80 in the machine and only getting one strike. I put in another \$20 hoping to get at least one more. By the time the credits ran out, I had three which gave me four for \$100, averaging \$25 per coin. I thought I would try for the set and ended up putting in \$40 more which gained me six additional strikes. So my total was ten coins for \$140 or \$14 per strike. Glad I stuck with it, but I am sad to say that Black Bear no longer has strikes

Clayton Waterbury, CHSS-088

"What's it Worth??"

"What's it worth?" It seems that some club members cannot hold a conversation without interjecting this at the end of every other sentence. Although we are becoming a rare breed and maybe almost extinct, there are still those of us that collect for the fun of collecting. "What it worth?" is not even in our vocabulary.

If I have a \$10 strike or chip and it is "WORTH" \$50, and if you have a \$10 strike or chip that I need and you are willing to trade \$10 for \$10, great. And if you can then sell that piece for \$50 and be very happy with your profit of \$40 "worth", well I am just as happy with my new piece that I have added to my collection.

So, "what's it worth?" I could care less as long as I can add something new to my collection. And I have news; we collectors will still be around when those only concerned with "worth" are long gone, deciding it just isn't "WORTH" it!!

Janice O'Neal, SS-160



PART OF 3 NEW DESIGNS
TO BE RELEASED BY RENO HILTON



FLAMINGO HILTON
YEAR OF THE DRAGON
SHORT ISSUE?



Y2K LOGO FOR SIERRA SID'S
SAME 7 OBVERSES AS IN 1999