

If you are not interested in the history of our chips, it is time to hit the back button. *vbg* This is a long one that I felt I had to limit to 18 scans. Plenty more scans could have been added.

OK, it is time for me to give my "Best Guess" on where the Lake Tahoe, Stateline Country Club \$1 chips were confiscated in an Illinois illegal club raid in 1957. *vbg*

We know in fact from Taylor records and Captain Brantley's raid notes that Joe Dodd bought chips and dice returned to Taylor from a Mississippi illegal.

We know in fact from Taylor records and Captain Brantley's raid notes that Joe Dodd bought chips from Taylor, made in 1948 for and never delivered to a Louisville, KY illegal. Joe bought them between 1948 and 1953.

Below we will narrow it down to 3 possible clubs where the SCC \$1 chips were confiscated. IMO, Joe Dodd bought an overrun or a returned lot of SCC \$1 chips from Taylor and used them at The Colony Club in McClure, IL. I think the evidence is very strong for my decision. Captain Brantley documented almost all of his confiscated chips. The SCC's were an exception.

Enough of that:

This is the third in a series of mid and southern Illinois "illegal Of The Day" posts. I am calling this series of posts "Raiders Of The Lost Illegal's" in honor of Captain Elza Brantley and the troopers that served with him.

"Raiders Of the Lost Illegal's" Part 3

The grandson of Captain Elza Brantley sent me 150 scans of raid pictures, notes on the raids, newspaper articles, official documents, and confiscated chips from 500 (300 in one month) raids on Illinois illegal's, conducted by his grandfather. Some of the chips we have never seen. Also raids on clubs we have never heard of.

Elza Brantley 1913-1999

Graduated from the first class at the Illinois State Police Academy.

1955-1960 Captain in Command Battery #6 Illinois State Police-District #13 East Saint Louis- 27 counties - 105 Troopers.

Actual chips confiscated in 1957 raid on Joe Dodd's Colony Club in McClure, IL.



Colony1

Taylor record for chocolate Harp mold chip below. Taylor bought out Ryan Speed Checks and their stock of the Slant S mold. There are several Taylor cards where they shipped the Slant S molds but none for the 50¢ yellow above. My guess is, the 50¢ was bought from Ryan.

Name Joe Dadd Address 40 Colony Club Town McClure State Ill

Per _____

SPECIAL MONOGRAM

J.D. \$5.00 J.D.

Amount	Color	Initials Both Sides	Style Type	Initials One Side	Other Side	Style Type	Monogram Color	Date Shipped
600	Choc.		block	J.D.	\$5.00	block	gold	3-13-43

Colony2

From our "Friend Of The Hobby."

You said that the trooper's grandson said the SCC chips were taken in a raid in 1957 at a place in the East Cape Girardeau area. (per Captain Brantley's notes) Here's an article from August 4th 1957 in which trooper Elza Brantley leads raids on four places, three in the East Cape Girardeau area: Purple Grackle, Colony Club and Thunderbird.

All three places have chips confiscated, so I guess it's possible this could be when the CSS chips were taken.

Policemen Seize Gambling Devices In Illinois Raid

CAIRO, Ill., Aug. 3 (AP)—Eleven state policemen in plain clothes and armed with search warrants raided four night clubs in Alexander County simultaneously last night and seized gambling equipment.

Capt. Elza Brantley, who led the raids, said no persons were in game rooms of the four clubs when the raids were made but that operators of the places would be charged Monday with possession of gambling devices.

Among clubs raided were the El Patio in Cairo and the Purple Grackle, the Thunderbird and the Colony Clubs near McClure, Ill., across the Mississippi from Cape Girardeau, Mo. Only a set of bump board railing for a dice table was found at the El Patio, the state police said.

At the Colony the police seized a dice table, roulette wheel, chips and six slot machines, Brantley said. At the Thunderbird police seized a blackjack table, a dice table, roulette wheel and chips and cards, he said. The Purple Grackle yielded a dice table, chips, dice and croupier stick, he added.


The gambling raids were the first in Alexander County since last March when the El Patio and the Thunderbird were raided.

Brantley said the gambling equipment was turned over to the Alexander County sheriff and that it would be up to the County Court to order it destroyed.

Colony3

You mentioned that JJJ T-mold chips, originally ordered for De Soto County, MS, were taken at the Colony Club and that they must have been resold after they were returned to Taylor.

My note: Per Captain Brantley's raid notes the JJJ T molds were confiscated at the Colony Club in a 1957 raid. Note on Taylor card shows they were returned to Taylor.

NAME JOHN EICHHORN		SPECIAL MONOGRAM						
Address 4615 Hwy. #51, south								
Town Memphis State Tenn.								
Per								
Amount	Color	Initials Both Sides	Style Type	Initials One Side	Other Side	Style Type	Monogram Color	Date Shipped
2114	White	JJJ	(4 black inlays)		extra heavy			5/24/56
2116	Orange	JJJ	(4 lite blue)		"	"	5/24/56
807	Dk. Blue	JJJ	(4 orange inlays)			"	"	5/24/56
2017	Red (L)	JJJ						12-18/56
808	Purple	"						"
2020	White	"						"

Colony4

Actual JJJ chip and dice confiscated in 1957 raid at the Colony Club.



Colony5

The guy who opened the Colony Club in 1939 and ran it until 1958 was named Joe Dodd. He appears to have purchased returned Taylor chips before. These Colony Club chips were originally ordered by a G. W. Hutchinson of Louisville, KY but end up at Dodd's Colony Club.

Name William Taylor Colony Club SPECIAL MONOGRAM
 Address 925 Phillips Ave
 Town MacClure State Illinois
 Per T. Dodd (Joe Dodd) Colony Club

Amount	Color	Initials Both Sides	Style Type	Initials One Side	Other Side	Style Type	Monogram Color	Date Shipped
1060	Black	Colony Club	Spec				Gold	5-29-48
1260	Orange	"	"				Blue	5-29-48

Colony6

My note: I don't know when Taylor sold the Colony Club chips made in 1948 to Joe Dodd but here is a reorder sent to Joe in 1953.

NAME Joe Dodd SPECIAL MONOGRAM
 Address c/o Colony Club
 Town MacClure State Illinois \$500 \$100 Colony Club
 Per _____

Amount	Color	Initials Both Sides	Style Type	Initials One Side	Other Side	Style Type	Monogram Color	Date Shipped
2222	Dk. Blue			1.00	(Colony Club)		Burr Gold	11/12/53
707	Chocolate			5.00	(Spec. "US")		Gold	11/12/53

Colony7

My note: Actual Colony Club T mold, Cord mold, and Diamond mold confiscated in raid. T mold is from the 1953 order. Looks like many of the old distributors got in on Joe's action. *vbg* Cord mold O'Neil, Chicago-Diamond mold Jack Todd, Kansas City.



Colony8

So there's definitely a precedent for the Colony Club to get chips not originally ordered for the club--which could suggest the use of the SCC chips there.

My note: Actual SCC T mold chip taken in raid. 250 of these were confiscated by State Trooper Elza Brantley in 1957. At this time we cannot say 100% they were taken at the Colony Club, BUT there is good evidence. *vbg* We know Joe Dodd saved a few bucks whenever possible by buying returned and

undelivered chips from Taylor and more than likely other distributors. I believe the SCC chips were an overrun from 1956 order, just sitting around waiting for Joe Dodd to call. *vbg*



Colony9

Amount	Color	Initials Both Sides	Style Type	Initials One Side	Other Side	Style Type	Monogram Color	Date Shipped
10,065	Orange	Spec	with	Same	Green Inlays		(5.00)	
3,038	Black	"	"	Side	yellow	"	(25.00)	
505	Light Blue	"	Plain				(0)	
1031	White	Crest or Seal	Get work	(100.00)			2/1/54 per Burt Records	
5019	Green	Spec with	Same	Orange	Inlays		(1.00)	3-15-56
504	Light Blue	"	"	Same	Red Inlays		(.50)	3-15-56
Delivered ATTN Sam Murray								Open - 6/1/53 - 9/1/56 Per Fuller

Colony10

The SCC green \$1 T molds shipped to Sam Murray in Lake Tahoe 3/15/56. Mason Co also shipped 5000 blue-3 white \$1 hubs ATTN Sam Murray along with other colors and denoms 3 months later in June 1956. 8,000 \$1 chips 2 different colors. Sounds like the hubs were a new rack. Did the SCC obsolete the T molds after 3 months?

BJ chip rack confiscated in 1957 with 250 SCC \$1 chips in it.



colony11

Generic chips taken in 1957 raid on the Colony Club. You can see them in the above scan in the rack,



Colony12

Generic chips taken in 1957 raid on the Colony Club. You can see them in the above scan in the rack.



Colony13

From Captain Brantley's notes.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF MY DUTIES 1955-1960 AS CAPTAIN IN COMMAND OF BATT. #6 ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DISTRICTS, DISTRICT #13 DUQUOIN, DISTRICT #11 E.ST. LOUIS THE SOUTHERN 27 COUNTIES IN ILLINOIS , STARTING SOUTH OF SPRINGFIELD TO CAIRO ON SOUTH, WEST TO ST. LOUIS, EAST TO SHAWNEETOWN, ILL. (The E.St. Louis District headquarters then was in the Department of Transportation Building at French Village, on State Route 50) I had 105 Troopers.

The Captain then was responsible for not only traffic but for controlling gambling and prostitution in those 27 counties, there was no little F.B.I. D.C.I. (Dept. of Criminal Investigation) in the State Police at that time. The Frank "Buster" Wortman, hoodlu, gangster, syndicate operations were prevalent in several counties Madison and St.Clair counties in the E.St.Louis District took three days or nights of my time each week making gambling or prostitution raids, Club Prevue, Corona Club, Ranch House, Long's Tavern, Red Roster, etc. were some of the Clubs I raided. plus several Houses of Ill Fame on Collinsville Avenue which seperated St. Clair and Madison Counties, these raids were made mostly without search warrants, search warrants were almost impossible to obtain as the States Attorney's and Sheriff's were usually paid off by the gamblers, Justice of Peace also were afraid to issue search warrants on account of threats by the gamblers. I also had to spend lots of time on gambling and prostitution in District #13 DuQuoin, mainly in Alexander, Pulaski, Williamson, and Johnson Counties. we raided five night Clubs in Alexander County 90 straight nights, three times a night with search warrants that I made using only one Trooper at each Night Club - Purple Club - Colony Club - Buddy Buddy Lounge - Club 51 -

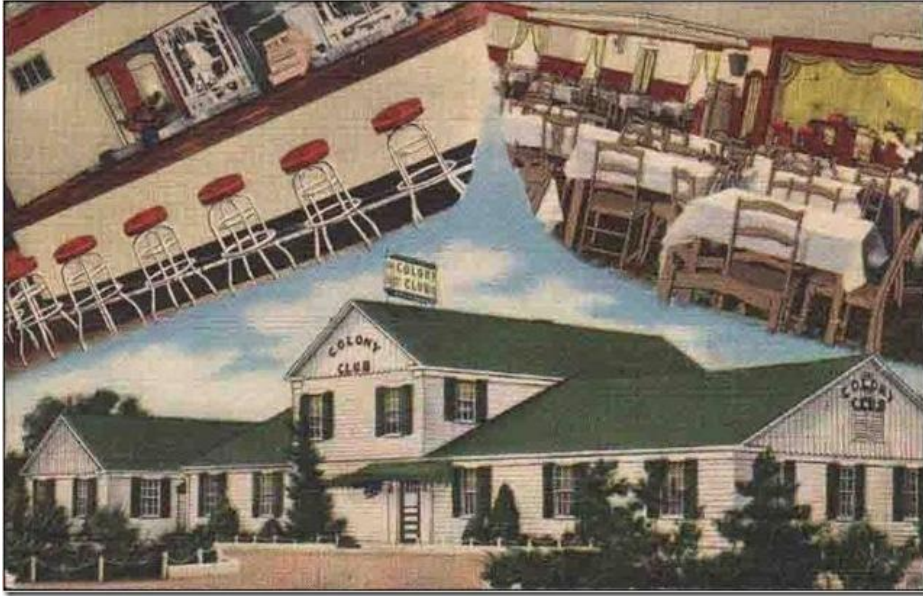
I also made the largest "Policy Game " raid in Fireworks Station, E.St. Louis District which was taking in \$200,00 per week and the Club Prevue, Corona Club raid was the biggest Midwest Gambling Raid with 52 patrons gambling and "Buster Wortman" at the Club when we

Colony14

2nd paragraph last sentence. The Colony Club was raided 90 straight nights 3 times a night. Today that would be harassment. *vbg*. Most of these raids were one uniformed officer walking through every room in the club. These raids are described in another of Captain Brantley's notes.

Another state trooper Don, was with Elza Brantley on the raids is over 90 and his memory is a little foggy. He relayed this story to me. In 1968 he traveled to Las Vegas with his daughter. They went to a strip casino to see a show. While standing in line a casino employee came up to him and told him he was working in an East Cape Girardeau casino when a raid happened. He remembered Don as one of the troopers raiding the joint. They had a good laugh and the casino employee comped the best seats in the show for him. Don does not remember his name. This could very well be the connection to the SCC chips. Could this have been Sam Murray? *vbg* OK, that might be a stretch. *vbg*

Here's a postcard:



Colony15

A pic of the place on fire in 1959:

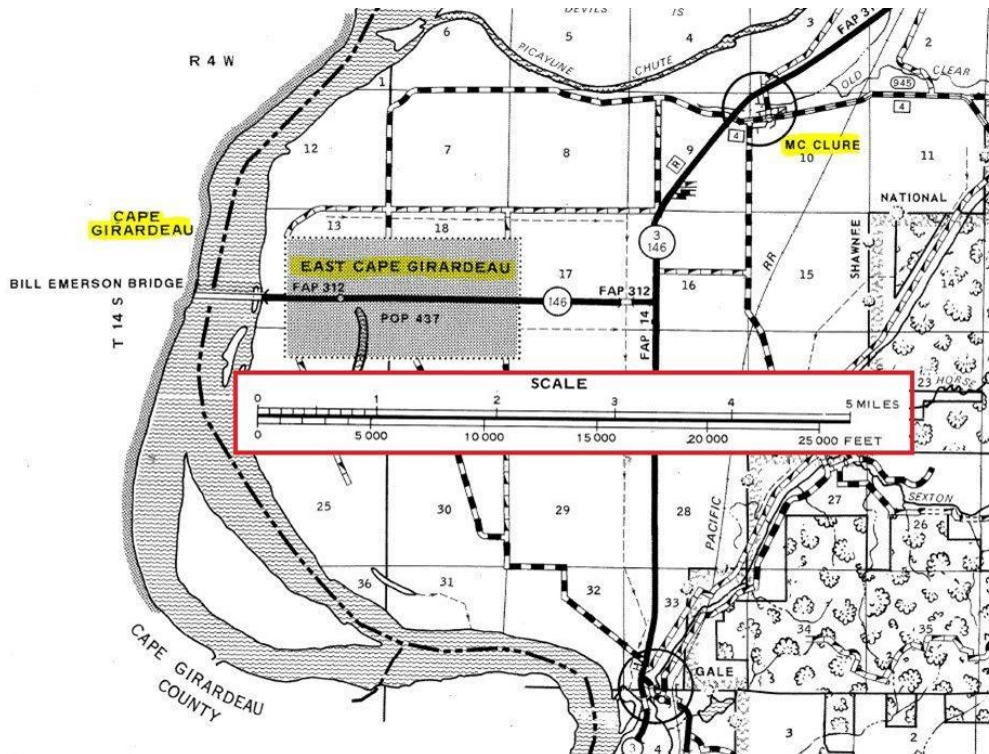


Colony16



Colony17

Here's a map showing Cape Girardeau, MO and East Cape Girardeau & McClure, IL; the Colony Club was located at the intersection of Highway 146 and Highway 3:



Colony18

OK gang, what do you think? Did I make my case for the Stateline Country Club chips usage at the Colony Club? Or did I over reach? I would like to see or hear your comments.

There are still several articles to go in the "Raiders Of The Lost Illegal's" series including The Thunderbird, The Turf Club, Club Prevue, and the 200 Club/The Annex. Captain Brantley's relentless 5 year assault on Illinois illegal Clubs will be well documented when we are done. *vbg* IMO he was the Estes Kefauver of Southern Illinois. *vbg*

