

Robert Eisenstadt found the Frolic's chips back in 2007. He did one heck of a job on the research. I have decided to post his entire research that was also a sales post. As you can see I got an honorable mention. <g>

I have no idea if he still has chips for sale.

I have no idea if he will be upset that I am posting his material. I guess we will find out. <g>

At the time I had no explanation for the odd numbers on the obverse of the chips or the odd denomination of 30 on one chip. Still don't. <g>

No address on the Taylor card is explained below. No name on the card is easy. Joseph "Joey Doves" Aiuppa owned both the Frolic's and Taylor, <g> the lack of a second card for the 20 and 30, same explanation. The Frolic's chips were made after The Kefauver Commission hearings in 1951. All of Taylor's customer lists were subpoenaed by Kefauver and used against the illegal operators. My guess is Taylor learned a lesson in keeping records. <g>

All the big names in the Chicago mob are mentioned in the Frolic's research from Big AL to skimming in Las Vegas to the movie Casino. There is a lot of history associated with The Frolic's.

I was in Las Vegas for the trial of the Argent Corporation, the Teamster's Pension Fund loans, and Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal. It was a "Circus." <g>

The Frolics
4811-4813 Cermak Rd.
Cicero
1958



16346



16402

SEIZE HOODLUM IN SHERIF'S RAID ON CI
Chicago Daily Tribune (1872-1963); Dec 25, 1954; ProQuest
pg. A7

SEIZE HOODLUM IN SHERIF'S RAID ON CICERO CLUB

Joseph Aiuppa, 47, Cicero hoodlum, was arrested by sheriff's police early yesterday in a gambling raid on the Frolics, a night club at 5818 26th st., Cicero. Aiuppa identified himself as the manager.

Chief Thomas O. Brennan and his aids also arrested Larry Rassano, 43, of 2844 Taylor st., who, they said, was abusive, and Ruth Singer, 24, of 1221 N. La Salle st. The woman, the police said, was operating a dice game called "over and under." The three were freed under bond for a hearing Thursday in Bedford Park sheriff's police court.

Aiuppa, part owner of Taylor & Co., a gambling equipment firm at 4848 25th st., Cicero, is under federal indictment for manufacture and distribution of slot machines.

Rare new find -- club chip of 1950's Frolics Club, Cicero, Illinois (a Chicago suburb)

DESCRIPTION: I am pleased to be offering for auction this important, exciting find. Until now, no gambling chips were known to exist from this Mafia (Joseph "Joey Doves" Aiuppa) controlled club. The Frolics was in Cicero, which is a township a mere mile or

two from the heart of Chicago. The Frolics "nightclub" was originally at 5818 26th St. in Cicero. Then it was at the heart of the famous Strip in Cicero -- 4811-4813 Cermak Rd. (22nd St.). For a long time Cicero was known for its "anything goes" sin city gambling and vices. Al Capone had his headquarters in Cicero.

Starting about 1925 Joseph "Joey Doves" Aiuppa was linked to and worked with John Dillinger, Alvin Karpis, John Moore (a/k/a Claude Maddox) and the Al Capone gang. He was an enforcer for that gang and was given the territory of Cicero to run, and rose through the ranks. "Through the years he would buy several more clubs including the Frolics ..." per <http://gangstersinc.tripod.com/Aiuppa.html>. After mob boss Felix Alderiso was convicted, Aiuppa eventually rose to the top of the "Chicago Outfit." In 1986 he was convicted of participating in the skimming of five Las Vegas casinos (the caper involving the Argent Corporation, the Teamster's Pension Fund loan, Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal, etc.). He died in 1997, age 89. You may read a short article about Aiuppa [here](#).

THE PROVENANCE of this chip is assured as follows: It is well documented that the Frolics existed in Cicero and that Aiuppa owned it, and that it catered to the gambling, nightclub and strip club-brothel trade. Aiuppa was part owner of the Chicago gambling supply house, the Taylor Company (at 4848 25th St., Cicero), which also prepared and distributed club and casino chips. The existing shipping/sales records of the Taylor Company (which used the same embossed trademarked/exclusive "T" rim mold design as on the Frolics chips) show that these "chocolate"-colored chips were made and sold through Taylor, as early as May 8, 1958; the card record for the sale shows a sketch of the exact same "Frolics" monogram and numeral 5 hot-stamp design/logo as is on the Frolics chip. (Like many gambling supply houses, the Taylor's T-mold chips were "protected" chips. That means that they advertised that once ordered by one customer, that hot-stamped design could never be used/ordered by someone else on a T-mold chip.) This sales/shipping card did not include the address; but this is consistent with what Gene Trimble told me -- that the lack of an address would mean that the chips were for a Chicago-area club and would therefore be picked up in person, thus an address was not needed. Finally, the person who sold me the chips is a long-time Chicago-area resident who got the chips from his mother, who worked at the Frolics as the hostess for the club, and picked up the cancelled (holed) chips there. He was a very young lad at the time -- he recalls Aiuppa joshing with him at the club!

SHORT WIKIPEDIA BIOGRAPHY OF AIUPPA:

During the 1920's, Aiuppa was a gunman and driver for Outfit boss Al Capone. Aiuppa gradually rose up through the ranks of the Outfit, operating several gambling establishments in Cicero, Illinois. This included book making and underground casinos with secret entrances. Aiuppa would become the perennial number two or three man in the Outfit, working out of the spotlight under leaders such as Sam "Momo" Giancana or Tony Accardo. In June 1975, Aiuppa may have participated in the decision to kill Giancana. Some crime figures claimed that the CIA killed Giancana due to his role in the failed assassination plots against Cuban President Fidel Castro. However, there is no evidence to substantiate those theories. The FBI suspected the Outfit killed Giancana because he refused to share his offshore gambling profits from Mexico. Other Giancana allies (such as Johnny Roselli) were killed around the time of Giancana's death. In 1986, Aiuppa was convicted of skimming profits from Las Vegas casinos and received 28 years in prison. It was rumored that Aiuppa ordered the execution of Tony "The Ant" Spilotro in March

1986 in retaliation for this sentence. Spilotro had been Aiuppa's representative in Las Vegas and Aiuppa supposedly blamed him for his skimming arrest. Spilotro and his brother Michael were found beaten to death and buried in a cornfield only four miles away from a large property owned by Aiuppa near Morocco, Indiana. Aiuppa was released from prison at age 89. On February 22, 1997, Joseph Aiuppa died of natural causes in Las Vegas. In the film *Casino*, actor Pasquale Cajano's character, Remo Gaggi, is loosely based on Aiuppa. The cornfield murders of the Spilotro brothers is also recreated in this film.