

Alaska is beautiful. I've done 13 poker cruises to Alaska and never got tired of the scenery, the animals, or the glaciers. I can not believe the receding of the glaciers since our 1st cruise in 1994.

I keep thinking I've seen everything until I see something else. It was very strange to look out the window at 2:00AM and it was still daylight.

One of my lady dealers caught the biggest salmon they had seen in Ketchikan in 20 years, and caught it 40 feet off the bow of the cruise ship. Back before we switched to NCL and their free style cruising, we did over 300 days on Holland America cruise lines. My whole crew was seated together in the dining room. At least once on each cruise, one of them would point out the window and yell "Whale." The entire dining room would empty to our side. It was a fun time.



Alaska has never had legal gambling but no one was watching.

They used a lot of trade tokens in the early years.

I have never done much research on their chips so will show a few of what I have.

First a cruise picture.

Red Onion

Skagway

The current Madam was a Super Sport. I am pretty sure I saw the ghost of the Madam that still roams the joint from its heydays. The Red Onion has a long and spooky history.



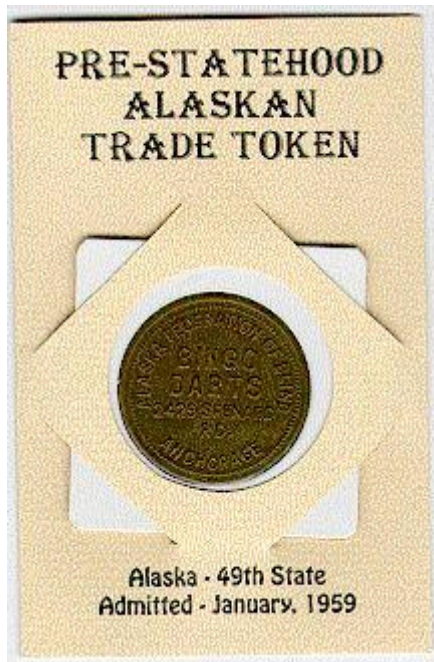
17013 images

On to the real Alaskan stuff.

Trade tokens were banned in 1959 when Alaska became a state.

Bingo Darts 50¢

Anchorage

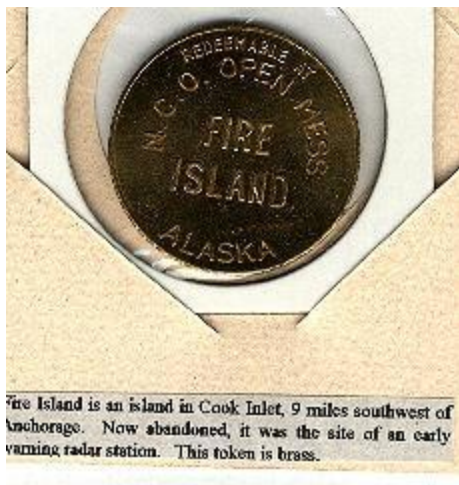


3418

Fire Island NCO Open Mess 50c

Early warning radar station

Fire Island



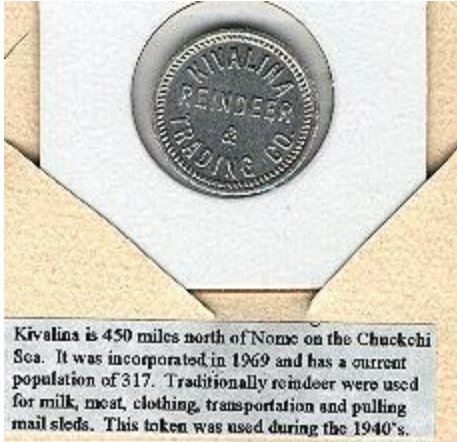
Fire Island is an island in Cook Inlet, 9 miles southwest of Anchorage. Now abandoned, it was the site of an early warning radar station. This token is brass.

8667

Kivalina Reindeer Trading Co 5¢

Kivalina, Alaska

1940's



8666

Chips

Juneau Country Club

Juneau



Ernie's Bar

Sitka, Alaska

Ernie Carter opened in 1947

Chip delivered in 1957



11224b

Symposium Bar

Anchorage, Alaska

1949



9165

Saw Tooth Club

Saw Tooth, Alaska

Opened in the 1930's



8141