

Note: Yesterday Scott posted he was printing out my posts.

If you highlight the entire post and right click you can copy and paste them into a word doc, scans and all.

Once in a word doc some computers will save the scans in jpgs, if you want them as a jpg. Mine won't but Spragg and my room mate can do it on their machines.

Massachusetts

Spent several days in Boston as it was usually a stop on the Fall Foliage poker cruises. If I remember right Spragg got us lost there, same as usual. <g>

Kenny Craig sent me this chip in 2000.

One look at the Mason record and I said "Wow" 12,000 chips, that had to be a big illegal.

JFC Hub



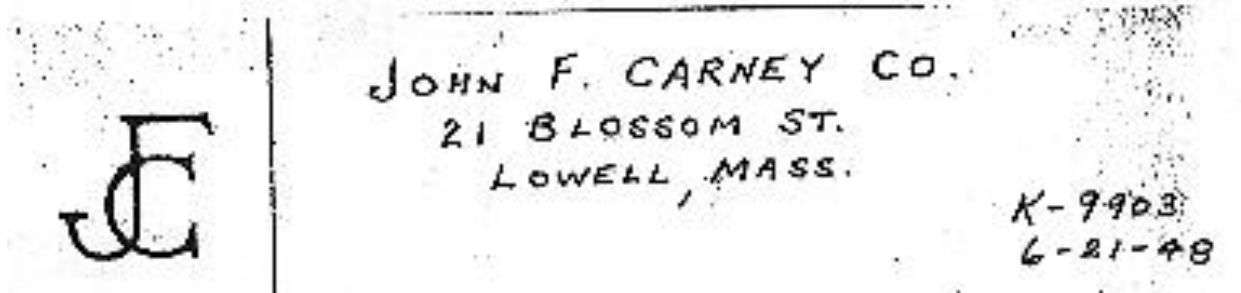
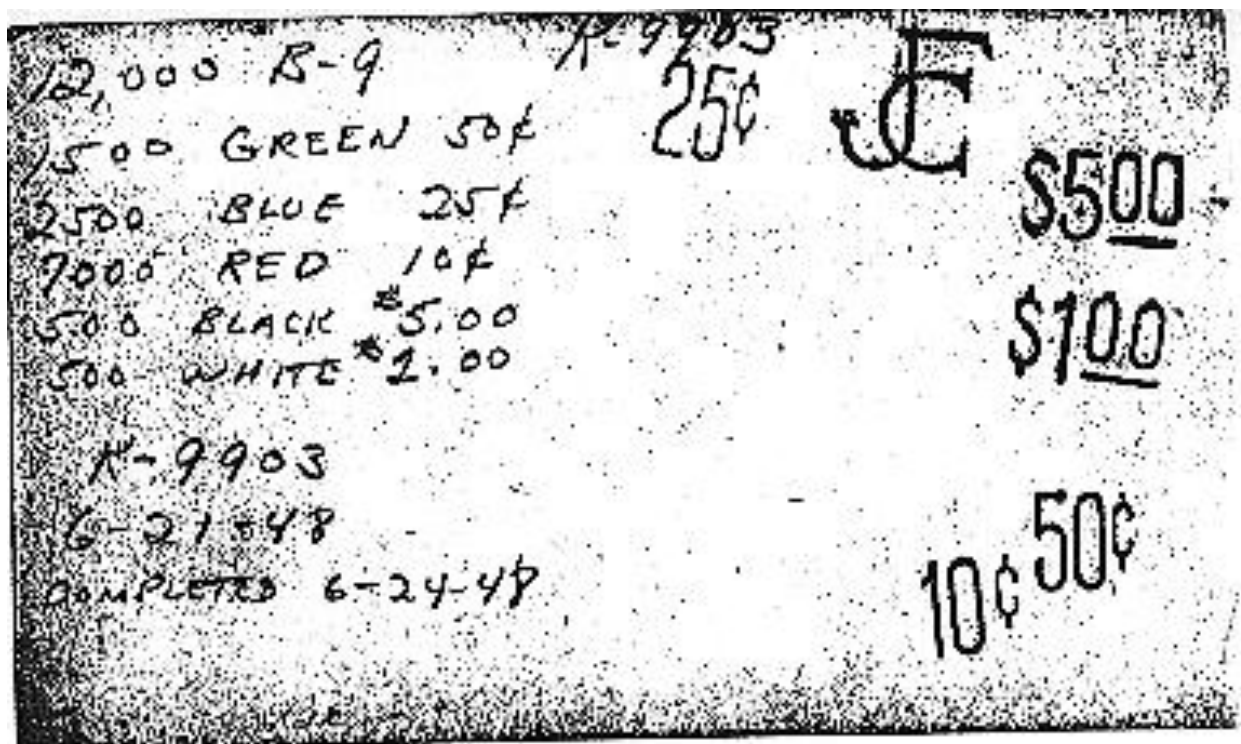
8839

John F Carney Co

21 Blossom St

Lowell, Mass

1948



Over the years I have seen this chip in trader books with several different Illegal club names and a couple different states on the 2X2's.

It sort of got lost in the shuffle and I forgot about it. When I created a new format for my chip program a month or so ago, so I could sort by states for these posts, it jumped out at me again.

Once again I got the urge to know. Thank you to a "Special Friend" of the hobby.

Read below and decide for yourselves if the club members that had them listed with illegal club names were:

"Pinheads" or "Patriots" from Massachusetts. <g>

The chips were delivered to the John F. Carney Company of Lowell, MA which was located at 21 Blossom St.

The company was run by John Francis Carney who also resided at 21 Blossom (died 1966, age 58).

Carney's father John F. Carney, Sr. (died 1944) also had resided at the address where he had operated John F Carney and Son. The Carney's were involved in the carnival, amusement and concessionaire business.

The chips were ordered 21 June 1948. That year, Carney had been given the responsibility of running Lowell's 75th annual 4th of July celebration on the South Common of Lowell--an event which was projected to draw near 500,000 people over five days. My guess is that he ordered them to be used during this event.

Here's a couple of ads from 1948 about the event which mention Carney:

Lowell Sun--11 June 1948:

EXPOSITION SPACE

Available... Now Being Sold in

Gigantic Exposition Structure 125x300 Feet

75th Annual 4th of July

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION (July 1 to July 5)

South Common, Lowell, Mass.

Combined Auspices of the American Legion, No. 87 and 40-8 Club

Home, Industrial, Appliances, Radio Exhibits Solicited

APPROPRIATE AND SUITABLE FOR:

Business Equipment
All Advertising Purposes
Agricultural Instruments
Television and Radio
Automobile Displays
Manufacturers Products
Electrical Appliances
Household Furniture

Insulation Displays
Interior Decorators
Various Demonstrations
Restaurant Equipment
Building Materials
Air Conditioning
Sporting Goods

Style Shows
New Inventions
Food Freezers
Glass Products
Oil Burners
Paint Exhibits
Heat Equipment

← **12,380 Sq. Ft. Available As Shown on Floor Plan**

Spaces indicated as (A)	1040 sq. ft.	Spaces indicated as (D)	600 sq. ft.
Spaces indicated as (B)	1000 sq. ft.	Spaces indicated as (E)	560 sq. ft.
Spaces indicated as (C)	720 sq. ft.	Spaces indicated as (F)	360 sq. ft.
Spaces indicated as (G)	250 sq. ft.		

The largest structure on the grounds will house the Exposition feature.
It will be located at the busiest corner of the main midway.

For Further Information and Full Particulars Contact

JOHN F. CARNEY COMPANY

21 Blossom St., Lowell Dial Lowell 3-4840, 3-4982, 3-3495

Biggest Show Ever

The outstanding show of the year, as everyone in Lowell and the Merrimack Valley knows, is the Fourth of July Celebration on the South Common in Lowell. This year's show has in store the greatest, most extended and enlarged program ever to take place, not only in Lowell but in this part of the country.

The man behind the task of giving Lowell its greatest show is John F. Carney. He has been given the assignment by American Legion Post 87 and the 40-8 club. It is his unalterable idea to give Lowell not only the largest show it has ever had but, to make it the highest grade entertainment available anywhere in the country. Mr. Carney, this year, is the sole proprietor of the event. It is his single responsibility and he is leaving no effort unsearched, to make sure that every one of the half million visitors to the South Common will agree with him, when the affair is over, that his work was well done.

From the moment this Community Celebration opens on Thursday afternoon when the children of every orphan home in the city will be guests of Mr. Carney — with free access to every amusement... until the closing Monday night with the most scintillating display of fireworks... there will be a program each day jam-packed with entertainment and educational exhibits.

There will be beauty contests, style shows, vaudeville, headliners; a gigantic air attack is contemplated, with planes swirling, diving and putting on a great show. A 10 mile marathon race will lead to a finish mark on the common; free Packard cars; \$1000 fireworks display nightly; fire and drum corps competitions.

A combination home-beautiful, industrial exposition and sportsmen's show will be staged in a 300 x 125 foot huge exhibition structure.

Mr. Carney is shopping for national headline entertainers and is hustling by plane from city to city, booking talent. He is seeking such personalities as Lowell Thomas to describe things over the air.

A good way to phrase the big show is to say that "never has this section of the world seen the magnitude of the entertainment that people of the Merrimack Valley have in store for them for the big Fourth of July celebration and Merrimack Valley Exposition."

Get ready for it. It's positively something - great to look forward to.

SHOWS & CONCESSIONS WANTED!
TEN-IN-ONE AND OTHERS **(NO EXCLUSIVES)**
 ABSOLUTELY NO GRIFT OR GYPSIES, PLEASE!

5 BIG DAYS & NITES
THURSDAY, JULY 1ST THRU MONDAY, JULY 5TH
75th ANNUAL LOWELL 4th of JULY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
 (ON THE SOUTH COMMON)

★ Fife and Drum Corps Competitions	Combined Auspices of THE AMERICAN LEGION Lowell Post No. 87 and 40 & 8 Club	This was a BIG date last year — it will be BIGGER THIS YEAR! There's plenty of employment, plenty of prosperity, plenty of money in Lowell.
★ Marathon Runs		
★ Free Packards		
★ \$1,000 Fireworks Show Nitely		

WRITE, WIRE OR 'PHONE FOR SPACE NOW AS DEMAND IS TERRIFIC!
 Entire Promotion Under Exclusive Management of
JOHN F. CARNEY
 LOWELL, MASS.

21 BLOSSOM ST. LOWELL 2-9782

Is it possible Carney got into illegal gambling after the 1948 exposition? Anything is possible.

"No Grift or Gypsies, Please!" in the ad, does not sound like he wanted to be around illegal clubs.

IMO, more than likely used in some of the booths.

Example: Win 20 chips or a certain \$ amount and get a Teddy Bear.

Anyone got a Teddy Bear with a tag on it saying?

"Massachusetts 75th annual 4th of July celebration"

Carney and Son ran bingo in Lowell for several years.

This was prior to the chips being ordered.

Lowell Sun--3feb1940:

MAYOR LIFTS BINGO BAN

East Ends May Resume Thursday Night

Ashe Bows to "Wishes
of People;" Against
Practice Himself

Cries of "Bingo," stifled for the past two weeks, will once again resound through the halls of Lowell.

The ban on the game, which spotlighted national attention on this city, when a picture magazine depicted it in operation in the Memorial Auditorium, was lifted today by Mayor Ashe.

Resume Thursday

The first opportunity that thousands of so-called "Bingomaniacs" will have to play the game again locally will come next Thursday night, when a permit will be issued to the East End club for the resumption of their mammoth games in the Memorial Auditorium.

The news of the lifting of the ban is expected to be received with many and varied repercussions and a wave of criticism will probably arise from the mayor's decision.

At city hall today, the mayor gave a three-fold reason for the lifting of the ban on the game:

"In the first place, the staging of

Continued on Page Ten

East Ends May Resume Thursday Night

Continued From Front Page
weekly games in the auditorium means a revenue of \$6500 to the city in rentals plus \$35 a week to pay for the services of six regular policemen assigned to duty there," he said.

"The people of Lowell, to a good extent, evidently want the opportunity to play the game because I have been informed that since the ban, bus-loads of local persons are weekly going out of town. In addition, there is a state law which governs the game and other communities allow its operation and there is no reason why the city should not realize from the practice," he added.

The mayor explained that he personally was not in favor of the game but in view of the fact that so many others were, he deemed it advisable to allow its return when all the factors were pointed out to him.

All Affected

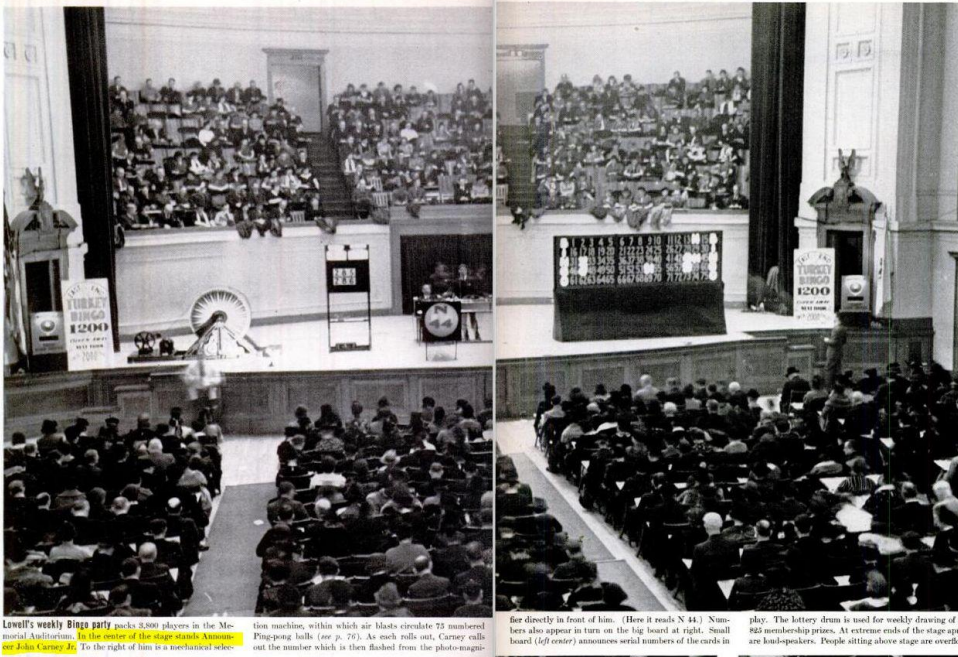
All clubs, which operated games here previous to the ban, will be allowed to resume operations, he said, and there will be no discrimination against any organization as long as they comply with the law.

The first permit will be issued to the East End club, which for the past several years has been operating the largest bingo games in this section of the state, under the supervision of John Carney and Son, local promoter.

Mayor Ashe banned the playing of the game here several weeks ago immediately following the publication of pictures in Life magazine, which showed the game in operation at the Auditorium.

Several protests against the unfavorable publicity the city received was forwarded to the editors of the magazine by local officials and Mayor Ashe was commended in many quarters for the stand he took in banishing the game out of the city.

Here's the *Life* article from the 15Jan1940 issue which led to the bingo ban--Carney, Jr. calling the #s in the pic:



Lowell's weekly Bingo party packs 3,800 players in the Memorial Auditorium. In the center of the stage stands a mechanical selection machine, within which air blasts circulate 75 numbered

Ping-pong balls (see p. 75). As each mill out, Carney calls out the number which is then flashed from the photo-magic

for directly in front of him. (Here it reads N 44.) Numbers also appear in turn on the big board at right. Small board (left center) announces serial numbers of the cards in

play. The lottery drum is used for weekly drawing of its \$25 membership prizes. At extreme ends of the stage apron are loud-speakers. People sitting above stage are overflown.

Life goes to a Bingo Game

In Lowell 3,800 fans play weekly

Fifteen years ago when Americans went mah-jongg-mad, they were eight centuries behind the Chinese. Today millions of Americans spend millions of hours each week playing an even older game. Bingo has flourished in every country on earth, in one form or another, since Egypt's empire. Under the name "Bingo," a variation appeared at U. S. carnivals over 60 years ago. The current variety, akin to "Lotto," became popular seven years ago, has been America's No. 1 indoor sport since 1930. This week LIFE goes to a Bingo game at Lowell, Mass., held not in a club, church or cinema theater (chief strongholds of Bingo) but in Lowell's million-dollar Corinthian-columned Memorial Auditorium (below, far left). Every Thursday night for two years this big weekly game has lured more than 3,000 Bingomaniacs—merchants, mothers, money-hungry mill hands and reliefers—many from neighboring Massachusetts and New Hampshire towns.

Lowell is a natural Bingopolis. Named for Francis Cabot Lowell, it was America's first company town. In the 1830's its mill hands worked 14 hours a day for \$2.25-\$4 a week, slept in highly moral company dormitories, ate in company dining rooms, returned to dust in company graves. Lowell boomed for a century. Today depression and the migration of mills have halved its working population. But working or jobless, its Irish, French and Yankee optimists weekly supply the dimes that swell Thursday-night Bingo stakes to \$2,000 and more.

Each pays 40¢ admission, for this receives a card with 24 playing spaces and a faithful of markers. To increase his chances, he may buy extra cards for 30¢-75¢. One by one, as the announcer calls out numbers, he covers corresponding numbers on his cards. If the numbers are arranged on any one of his cards in such a way that five markers fall in a straight line, up, down or diagonally, he cries "Bingo" and collects a prize. Usually several players tie and divide the pot between them. Lowell prize money ranges from \$25 to \$100.

Since commercialized Bingo is illegal, Lowell's game is "sponsored" by the East End Club, a philanthropic group otherwise dedicated to Christmas and Thanksgiving charities, summer outings and fireworks on July 4.

Got these in 2009. No research as yet.

JACK J. EASTMAN
289 NANTASKET AVE
NANTASKET BEACH, MA

1935
MONO JJE BOTH SIDES IN GOLD



Not positive about this one. Never looked into it.

Got it in 1999 from Michael Richter.

I put the name to it but did not record where I got the name. 1999 was a long time ago.

Commonwealth Club

Worcester Mass.



6592