

My sister in law found "Wicked Newport" at a flea market in Burlington, KY. Of course she grabbed it and sent it to me. It tells the story of Newport from 1775 when James and Hubbard Taylor platted the site and incorporated it in 1795.

To date, I have only read about half of it but decided to recommend it to all collectors of Northern Kentucky Illegal chips and memorabilia.

You might be surprised at the author's conclusions on why Newport became the original "Sin City." The city was perfectly situated for what it was to become. I tend to agree with him.

The author credits Club members Ed Hertel's site and Jeff Lauderman's dice book. It also quotes my Arrowhead Inn articles, "per Trimble." I think I remember emails with the author. Several have emailed me since the publishing of the articles back in the late 1990's. They were in several different magazines. If you have not read them, click here.

<http://www.marlowcasinochips.com/links/genetrimble/genetrimble.htm>

The Arrowhead was the forerunner for the N, Kentucky "Carpet Joints."

Per the author:

Newport was one of the first "Open Cities," due to an alliance between two of the most powerful crime families in the US, Moe Dalitz of the Cleveland Four, and Meyer Lansky out of New York. The alliance would be applied to a number of cities across the US including Las Vegas. This alliance was made during prohibition and long before "The Era Of The Illegals." The alliance was made with Moe Dalitz's theory of "Enough For All."

When question by Senator Estes Kefauver Dalitz replied. "If you people wouldn't have drunk it, I wouldn't have bootlegged it." <g>

It also chronicles the story of George Remus, "King Of The Bootleggers." Many of you may have never heard on Remus. My friend Danny Nason, rest in peace Danny, told me many stories about him as they were friends. Remus was not involved with gambling but his bootlegging blueprint for Newport set the stage and was applied to create the "Era Of The Illegals."

Remus made by some estimates 70 million during prohibition. How much is that today? <g>

Short explanation:

Feds finally busted him. George's wife had an affair with the head Federal agent that did the busting. They looted his fortune while George served time. George was upset! He killed the wife in front of 100 people. He acted as his own attorney. He plead not guilty "By Reason of Insanity," the first time that defense was ever used. He won and was found innocent. <g>

It also chronicles the takeover of the city by the "State Guard," the forerunner of the Kentucky National guard in 1921 and why nothing changed. IMO, the more things changed the more they stayed the same. The people of Newport wanted what they had! <g>

If you care about the history of your chips:

IMO, get the book and read it. <g>

