



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Chat with Casino History Experts at Casino Collectibles Show

*Meet & Greet Gaming Education Series feature of annual collectors' club expo.*

**LAS VEGAS (May 27, 2025)** — Visitors to the [Casino Collectibles Association](#)'s 32nd annual Casino Chip and Collectibles Show in Vegas will have a unique opportunity to meet, greet, sign autographs and take selfies with five prominent figures who were eyewitnesses to gaming history. Here are the celebrities who will headline the club's informal *Celebrity Meet & Greet Gaming Education Series* at the World's Largest Casino Chip and Collectibles exhibition, which runs Thursday thru Saturday, June 12-14, 2025, at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas:



### **Michael Clifford, Director of Casino Operations at Caesars**

**Entertainment.** Thirty years ago, he was a dealer, and today he oversees the Table Game operations at Caesars Palace and Cromwell. His gaming experience is impressive, both nationally and internationally. He spent nearly a decade in Macau SAR as Vice President of Table Games at MGM Macau and later as Senior Vice President – Casino Operations of Wynn Palace. Prior to joining Caesars Entertainment, he held senior gaming management positions at Resorts World and Fontainebleau, and a stint as Vice President of

International Marketing at MGM Resorts International. Meet and talk with Michael Clifford Thursday, June 12 at 11 a.m.

**Dr. David G. Schwartz, UNLV Casino History Professor.** From a dusty desert to the pinnacle of American gambling, casinos were the driving force that grew Las Vegas from a local curiosity to a national obsession to a global destination. Casinos put Las Vegas on the map, and no one knows the story better than Professor Schwartz. So well, in fact, he recently published *Something for Your Money*, a history of casinos in Las Vegas. He will greet those attending on Thursday, June 12 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.





**Matt Savage, Executive Tour Director of the World Poker Tour.** There's a reason most poker tournaments go smoothly, and his name is Matt Savage. In 2001 he instigated a forum of poker tournament directors to tackle a serious problem that was plaguing the industry—inconsistent rules. Out of that meeting the Tournament Directors Assoc. (TDA) was formed, which created the worldwide standard for the tournament rules

now used in most major tournaments including the World Poker Tour (WPT) and the World Series of Poker (WSOP). Bring your poker tournament questions and meet and talk with Matt Savage on Friday, June 13 at 9 a.m.

**Pam Ashlund, the “Queen of Swizzle”.** A passionate collector, she is the founder of the Swizzle Stick Collectors Club (SSCC), whose mission is to celebrate and preserve the humble swizzle stick as both a collectible and an art form. She loves to share her fascination with these simple yet iconic connections to the past, and the importance of the swizzle stick as a casino souvenir. She will greet attendees on Friday, June 13 at 11 a.m.



**Dustin Marks, Blackjack Cheater.** 38 years ago, he dealt blackjack and cheated the casinos out of millions of dollars—and never got caught. The casino consultant and book author will display how he ripped-off casinos in the days before shuffling machines and card shoes. Marks will perform his successful blackjack swindling moves, undetectable sleight of hand actions and share his stranger-than-truth stories at two demonstrations on Saturday June 14 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.



The *Celebrity Meet & Greet Gaming Education Series* is the personification of the Casino Collectibles Association's objective to foster the preservation and education of gaming history. Each gaming celebrity has volunteered their time to greet, meet and mingle with show attendees, answer their questions and satisfy their curiosity about the personality's unique role in the shaping of the gaming industry we know today.

### **About the Show**

The Casino Collectibles Association's 32nd annual show runs June 12 -14, 2025. It is a must-see event for anybody who is fascinated by gaming history. The show features the greatest single-location collection of the iconic artifacts and mementos that bring casino history, and memories, to life. Many are symbols of past gaming grandeur that are gone or becoming rare; souvenirs from when the casinos wanted customers to pocket their branded keepsakes as reminders of a memorable experience. Things like gaming chips of all denominations, gaming tokens, dice, slot cards, playing cards, matchbooks, ashtrays, menus, dinnerware, swizzle sticks, casino photos, post cards, signs, table felt – just about anything a casino could put its name on. Over 50 worldwide dealers will be on hand to offer attendees the unique opportunity to examine, buy, sell, or trade casino collectibles.

Concurrent to the Show, as part of the Casino Collectibles Association's educational endeavors, the club hosts four educational seminars which are offered to the public free of charge. A live auction of hundreds of casino chips and other casino memorabilia is also offered at no charge to show attendees. These bonus activities are held in adjacent meeting rooms at the South Point Hotel and Casino. A complete show schedule is available at <https://www.ccgtec.com/documents/1371/2025-Convention-Schedule>

The exposition is the annual educational effort of the Casino Collectibles Association, a non-profit club with hundreds of members who passionately share the hobby of collecting and preserving the past. Show hours are June 12, 10 AM – 5 PM (admission \$10), June 13, 9 AM – Noon (admission \$5), and admission is free from Noon to 4 PM June 13 and from 9 AM until 4 PM on June 14. Admission is free every day for First Responders, Active Military and Casino Employees with appropriate ID.

###



Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)



Download photos of the five *Celebrity Meet & Greet Gaming Education Series* celebrities at

<https://ccgtcc.com/uploads/event/42/2025-Meet-Greet-VIPs>

Download high resolution photos of the world's largest casino chip and collectables show at

<https://ccgtcc.com/uploads/event/18/CCA-Convention-Photos-for-Media-Use>

## ABOUT THE CASINO COLLECTIBLES ASSOCIATION

The [Casino Collectables Association](#), (CCA) is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) club devoted to the fast-growing hobby of collecting casino memorabilia and preserving gaming history. The club is a resource for information and history of gaming artifacts and annually hosts the world's largest casino collectibles show – this year June 12 -14 at the South Point Casino in Las Vegas. For more information, visit the club's recently updated website at [www.ccgccc.com](http://www.ccgccc.com).

An educational project of the CCA, the [Museum of Gaming History](#) (MoGH) comprises an expanding series of fascinating casino memorabilia kiosk exhibits in Las Vegas located within The El Cortez and Plaza casinos, the Mob and National Atomic Testing museums, and Spinettis Gaming Supplies. It is also the home of the [ChipGuide](#), the world's largest online catalog of casino chips and collectibles, currently featuring over 334,000 collectible items from 32,000 casinos worldwide. MoGH plans are underway to expand public access to the club's treasure trove of casino history.

*Editor's note: The Casino Collectibles Association is the dba of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club.*

## MEDIA CONTACT:

Brad Smith, PR Director for CCA and MoGH

740-244-7445

[brad@theMoGH.org](mailto:brad@theMoGH.org)