

Women In Numismatics (WIN) General Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2017
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

WIN President Charmy Harker called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM. She told those present that WIN is beginning a mentoring program that is available to anyone who wants to mentor or be mentored in a specific area of collecting. She also said that each issue of *Winning Ways* will feature an article about a WIN member. The current officers and board of directors for WIN will remain intact 2017-2019. One vote from the secretary was required, and Cindy Wibker cast the necessary vote. Everyone introduced themselves and told where they are from and what they collect.



Guest speaker and WIN member Mark Lighterman was introduced. Mark is a past president of FUN and CONECA. He is also an author and researcher of Florida Gambling History. Mark began his Powerpoint presentation with photos of different types of casino gambling samples: jetons that were used primarily in European casinos, plaques, and speed checks that are stackable. Less than 1% of the records for chip orders exist, so he depends heavily on newspaper photos and articles to track down and identify chips.

On December 31, 1929, the SS Monte Carlo was a casino ship out of St. Petersburg, and the first in Florida. A man named Charles Freed moved the boat to Miami. It was not profitable, as there was too much illegal land gambling. Mark solved a mystery about chips with "MW" monograms on them by researching some newspaper articles. "MW" was the Monterey Woodcrafters, which also made tabletops for gambling.

Freed's equipment was confiscated and auctioned off to pay his taxes in 1955. It was probably bought by one person on Freed's behalf, as he owned it again one year later in 1956. Charles Freed's brother, Fred, went to Cuba to become a consultant.

Mark's presentation ended with a lively Q&A session and was well received and appreciated by all in attendance. He was then presented a certificate of appreciation by Cindy Wibker. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Wibker

WIN Secretary