Guide to the Slot Machine Collection, 1910-1983

Overview of Collection:

Title: Slot Machine Collection
Dates: 1910-1983
Quantity: 4.5 linear ft.
Accession #: 2010.001
Collection #: 850062
Summary: The Slot Machine Collection spans 1910-1983 and includes audio recorded interviews, slide show presentations, research notes, photographs, and other source material relating to the history and impact of the slot machine industry in Charles County, Maryland.
Repository: Southern Maryland Studies Center
College of Southern Maryland
8730 Mitchell Rd., P.O. Box 910
La Plata, MD 20646-0910
Phone: (301) 934-7626, ext. 7110
E-Mail: SMSC@csmd.edu
Web: http://www.csmd.edu/Library/SMSC
Languages: Materials in English.
Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research.
Preferred Citation: Courtesy, Southern Maryland Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland, Slot Machine Collection

Subjects:
Charles County (Md.) -- History, Local.
Gambling -- Economic aspects -- Maryland.
Gambling industry -- Law and legislation.
Slot machines -- History.
Southern Maryland.

Creators:
Shaffer, Susan.
Various.

Inventory Compiled by Tiffany Thompson, October 15, 2004.
Historical Note:
Between 1910 and 1968, slot machines were an integral part of the local economy for Charles County, Maryland. In 1949, gambling had been eradicated by most jurisdictions throughout the United States, while Charles County voted to license and legalize slot machines in the area. For several decades, this industry brought economic growth and tourism to the region, as well as a wave of political, economic, and local opposition. In response to growing criticism surrounding the gambling industry, slot machines were outlawed from the state of Maryland in 1968 by Governor Millard Tawes.

Scope and Content:
The Slot Machine Collection spans 1910-1983 and includes audio recorded interviews, slide show presentations, research notes, photographs, and other source material relating to the history and impact of the slot machine industry in Charles County, Maryland.

Container List:

Box 1
1. Charles County: Replaying the Slot Machine #2, master narration: Mrs. Levin (audio recording tape)
2. Charles County: Replaying the Slot Machine #1, master narration: Mrs. Levin (audio recording tape)
3. Charles County: Replaying the Slot Machine Era, original (audio recording tape)
4. Jennifer Bellan interview, 3/22/81, Henry Wallace Co. Drugs & Charles Theater (2 interview tapes)
5. Bob Stasch – CCCC Pre-taping, 5/19/80 (90 min tape)
6. One tape – Side A: John T. Parran talking about Marvin Coster’s artifacts, Side B: Music (90 min tape)
7. Blue Slide case containing 5 slides pertaining to slot machines.
8. Unidentified audio tape
9. Vickie Mini interviewing Wallace S. Barnes, 3/19/78, Stumble Inn (90 min tape)
10. Misc. Slides, Aqualand and Slot Machines
11. The Sun Magazine, 6/30/68, article on Slot Machines
12. Plastic negative holder w/ 2 negative strips
13. 4 flyers “Replay The One-Armed Bandit: Reminisce With History” at the CCCC on September 24 (slide presentation funded by The Maryland Committee for the Humanities)
14. Misc. newspaper articles pertaining to slot machines.
15. Pamphlet: “An Honest Look At Gambling” by Alvin J.T. Zumbrun a Gift of Mr. Carl Hampton
16. Sat. Post, 9/7/1957 (xerox copies)
17. Script for Replaying the Slot Machines Presentation

Box 2
1. Info on Project
2. Legal Info
3. 2 copies of interview of Judge James C. Mitchell conducted by Susan Shaffer
4. Articles concerning slot machines
5. Unlabeled folder
6. Assorted letters, private collections, Governor’s papers
7. Box file: List of Machines & Distributors
8. Box file: photo
9. Box file: photo
10. Box file: photo
13. Project Director’s Narrative

**Box 3**
1. Slides in brown binder pertaining to slot machines
2. Unidentified photograph
3. 5 oral history interview transcript cover sheets
4. Oral History Interview of Rev. Harold A. Milstead, 2/22/83 (copy, Md GV 1311 .S5 M55)
5. Oral History log book containing how long each interview lasted.
6. 9 brown envelopes, each containing an oral history interview.

**Box 4**
1. Charles County: Replaying the Slot Machine Era, MCH Audience Questionnaires (completed)
2. Grant – financial Info
3. Grant Posters
4. Misc. items (loose papers)
5. Martha Washington Motel and Restaurant
6. Photo of Maryland Independent article, “Seeks Referendum”
7. 301 Restaurant, La Plata
8. Lexington Park
9. Slot Machine w/ Ivy
10. Buddy Garner’s Place
11. Don Owens 301 Ranch
12. Roscoe Odle
13. Shopping Center in Waldorf
14. Susan Shaffer at Buddy Sprague’s/ Slot Machines
15. Andrew L. Gunn, Susan Shaffer (photocopies)
16. Slot Machine Winner
17. Misc. Photos

**Box 5**
2. *MarketPlace*, “Pictorial History: 100 Years of Slot Machines” Oct. 1979 (photocopy)
3. Colonial Beach
4. Owners & Operators
5. Population statics & other
6. Southern Maryland Planning Committee: *Fact Sheet*
8. Editorial – WAVA #20-63, 19 February 1963
10. *Gambling & Gambling Devices*  J.P. Quinn  1912
11. *Protection* Joseph E. Meyer, 1908
12. Slot Machine Sign
13. Articles in general Gambling
14. Move Slots
15. *Times Crescent* 1948 articles
16. 1949 *Times Crescent*
18. *Chesapeake Life* 1983 articles
19. *Southern Maryland Times* 1949
20. “Gambling in the Cradle” by Sisson, 7 Jan 1961
22. Southern Maryland Novelty Company comments
23. Attorney General’s Conference on Organized Crime
24. Bibliography – Gambling

**Box 6**
1. Legislation
2. Gambling – Criminal influence article
3. Amusement Devices Application, Charles County
4. Colonial Beach, 1982 *Post*
5. after 1963
7. “Democrat or Republican” Advertisement *Charles County Leaf*, 3 November 1960
8. Sample Ballot, 21 June 1949
9. Hume, David 1915-1972
10. Gambling – Psychology article
11. Newspaper Articles 1970’s
12. Newspaper Articles 1969
13. Newspaper Articles 1968
14. Census Data
15. materials requiring further investigation
16. Fairview Beach
17. empty folder
18. unlabeled folder
19. Legislation 1937 Harry W. Nice, Governor
20. Legislation 1943
21. Legislation 1947
22. Legislation 1949
23. Legislation 1951
24. Legislation 1958
25. Legislation 1959
26. Legislation 1963
27. Legislation 1981
29. Slot Machine Study Committee [Report] 1963
   Maryland
31. “An Honest Look at Gambling” by Zumbrun
32. Maryland Gambling Study Commission Hearing 1967 (missing)
33. A Report to Legislative Council by Charles County Delegation  5 November 1963
34. Fact Sheet on Southern Maryland  February 1965
35. Index cards
36. Xerox copy of “Protection”
37. Legislation/ Slot Machines
38. “Expanded Probe Ordered On Slots Bribery Charge”  Evening Star  5 March 1968
39. “Slots Interests Ask Reprieve”  Evening Star  7 March 1968
40. “Slot Payoff in Merchandise Ruled Illegal in Maryland”  Evening Star  7 December 1968
41. 1968 “Final Day” (missing)
42. Script

Box 7 (Oversized box)
1. The Westmoreland News, April 7, 1983
2. The Washington Post, Travel section, “Atlantic City”  September 19, 1982
3. The Times-Crescent, July 8, 1949 & 5/13/49 (photocopy)
4. The Times-Crescent, April 29, 1949 (photocopy)
5. The Times-Crescent, May 20, 1949
6. The Saturday Evening Post, September 7, 1957 (Front Page) (photocopy) (4 copies)
7. The Saturday Evening Post, September 7, 1957 (Table of Contents) (photocopy)
8. On The Go in Southern Maryland, January 15, 1982
9. The St. Mary’s Beacon, May 14, 1982 (4 copies)
10. The Times-Crescent, May 5, 1982 (4 copies)
11. The Times-Crescent, March 10, 1982 (3 copies)
12. The Maryland Independent, February 26, 1982 (4 copies)
13. Maryland Humanities, Fall 1982
16. The Friday Report (14 issues)
17. 2 letters from Susan Shaffer, September 10, 1982
18. The Record, Feb. 1982
19. Letter from Susan Shaffer, August 2, 1982
22. The Record, May 1982
23. Letter from Susan Shaffer, September 1982
24. The Times-Crescent, 17 February 1982 (3 copies)
25. Maryland Independent, September 22, 1982
26. The Times-Crescent, September 22, 1982
27. On The Go in Southern Maryland, September 24, 1982
28. The Beacon, September 17, 1982

Inventory Compiled by Tiffany Thompson, October 15, 2004.
29. *SWAP*, Some Words About Preservation, the newsletter of the Maryland Historical Trust  March 1982
30. Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region Newsletter, Spring 1982
31. *Mills* 1913 Catalogue (photocopy)

**Box 8**
1. Pictorial History: 100 Years of Slot Machines, v. 1
2. Pictorial History: 100 Years of Slot Machines, v. 2
3. Pictorial History: 100 Years of Slot Machines, v. 3
4. Pictorial History: 100 Years of Slot Machines, v. 4
5. Mills 1913 Catalogue

**Box 9**
1. Tan Binder: containing notes written by Susan Shaffer from 1954-1955 on different newspaper articles about slot machines.
2. Red Binder – Governors: Lane, McKeldin, Tawes/Hume Legislation; Calvert County, Kefauver/Virginia pier/boats.
5. Blue Binder – Literature
6. Tan Binder – Charles County

**Box 10**
1. Tan Binder: containing notes written by Susan Shaffer from 1949-1952 on different newspaper articles about gambling and slot machines.
3. Audio Cassette Tape of Don Owens interviewed by Susan Shaffer (copy) 5/26/82
4. Oral history – transcript of interview w/ Dennis Connor & Tape 1
5. Shaffer Thesis

CARROUSEL FOR SLOT MACHINE HISTORY PROGRAM – Index to “Replaying The Slot Machine Era”

**Tray 1**
1. Credit – Humanities
2. Slot Machines
3. Charles Co. & Title
4. Cast/Credits
5. Cast/Credits
6. Cast/Credits
7. Cast/Credits
8. Slot Machine
9. Slot Machine
10. Slot Machine
11. Horseman sign
12. Slot machine & title
13. Riverboat – CHAS MacALASTER
14. Wharves & Piers
15. Slot Machine Player
16. Horse race
17. Mt. Republican
18. Cards & poker chips
19. Slot machine
20. Riverboat – ST JOHNS
21. Players
22. Sen. Paul J. Bailey
23. CHAS Mac ALASTER
24. Slot Machine
25. Slot Machine
26. Marshall Hall
27. Old hotel
28. Mrs. Chappalear
29. Cabin-on-a-Corner
30. Cabin-on-a-Corner, Bryans Road
31. Gas Station, Indian Head
32. Curley’s Tavern, Waldorf
33. Beer - 10¢
34. Slot Machine
35. Richard Long
36. Slot Machine
37. Slot Machine
38. Slot Machine
39. Richard Long
40. County barn scene
41. Slot machines
42. Slot machines
43. Charles County Courthouse
44. 1968 license
45. Calvary Methodist Church, Waldorf
46. Rev. Howard A. Milstead
47. Times Crescent Office
48. Political Cartoon
49. Political Cartoon – ‘Mr. X’
50. Slot machine
51. Cartoon
52. 2 men in front of slot machine
53. State Capitol, Annapolis
54. Slot machine  
55. Rev. Milstead  
56. Gov. William Preston Lane, Jr.  
57. Slot machine  
58. Political cartoon – ‘John Q’  
59. Ballot  
60. Slot machine

**Tray 2**
1. Blank, (advance)
2. Charles Co. Courthouse
3. Dollar bills
4. Potomac River Coast
5. Map highlighting Charles Co.
6. Potomac River
7. Colonial Beach Pier
8. Colonial Beach
9. Slot machine
10. Little Reno
11. Little Reno
12. Little Reno
13. Colonial Beach parade
14. Colonial Beach parade
15. Colonial Beach parade
16. Pink Champagne (plane)
17. Pink Champagne (plane)
18. Slot machine
19. Slot machine
20. Little Reno
21. Hurricane Hazel, Colonial Beach
22. Hurricane Hazel, Colonial Beach
23. Little Reno
24. Hurricane Hazel
25. Hurricane Hazel
26. Hurricane Hazel, Benedict
27. Desert Inn sign
28. FREESTONE
29. FREESTONE
30. FREESTONE
31. FREESTONE
32. DC Capitol Bldg.
33. Gov. McKeldin
34. Newspaper article
35. FREESTONE
36. Bar scene – FREESTONE
37. Capitol Building, Annapolis
38. Road sign
39. Motel
40. Restaurant
41. Slot machine
42. Newspaper
43. Slot machine players
44. Food buffet
45. Slot machine players
46. Food buffet
47. Slot machines with players
48. Stardust Inn sign
49. Smitty’s Steak House sign
50. 301 Ranch sign
51. Horseshoe Club sign
52. Crystal Door ad
53. Parking lot – Marshall Hall
54. Newspaper ad – Marshall Hall
55. Marshall Hall roller coaster
56. Newspaper ad – Marshall Hall
57. Parking Lot – Marshall Hall
58. Pier at Chappalear’s
59. Blue Haven
60. Slot machine
61. Slot machine
62. Aqualand
63. Aqualand layout
64. Aqualand Shoe
65. Ferry barge at Potomac River Bridge
66. Ferry barge at Potomac River Bridge
67. Trick Car
68. Trick Car
69. Superstitions, tricks, etc. (missing)
70. Superstitions, tricks, etc.
71. Slot machine player
72. Tools to cheat
73. Slot machine players
74. Slot machine (missing)
75. Slot machine
76. Slot machine (missing)
77. Slot machine
78. Slot machine
79. Slot machine
80. Slot machine
81. Wigwam sign
82. Wigwam players
83. Richard Long
84. Changer maker
85. 2 men by machine
86. Methodist Church
87. Rev. Andrew Gunn
88. Rev. Andrew Gunn & Susan Shaffer
89. Rev. Andrew Gunn & Susan Shaffer
90. Stardust Inn sign
91. Desert Inn sign
92. Washington Post cartoon
93. Times Crescent Bldg.
94. Cartoon
95. Cartoon
96. Sleazy Magazine
97. Sleazy Magazine
98. Sleazy Magazine
99. Sleazy Magazine
100. Sleazy Magazine
101. Sleazy Magazine
102. Sleazy Magazine
103. David Hume
104. Gov. McKeldin
105. David Hume
106. Capitol, Annapolis
107. Newspaper headlines
108. Newspaper headlines
109. Slot machine
110. Moving slots out
111. Moving slots out
112. Moving slots out
113. Moving slots out
114. Special Thanks
115. Further information