

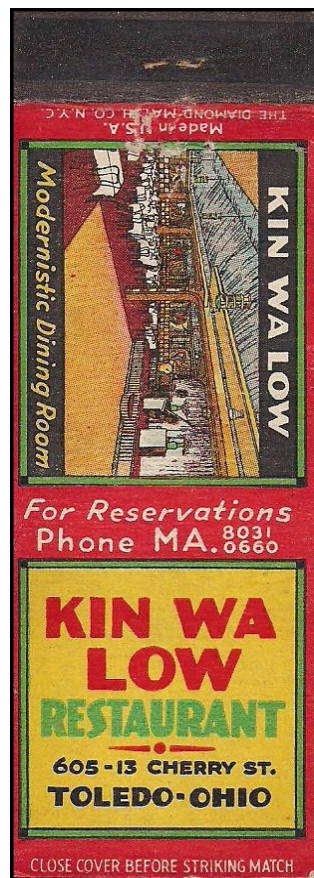
	<h1>BULLETIN</h1>		
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Chinese Restaurants

by
Mike Prero

Chinese Restaurants! A huge category, a riot of colors, wonderful variety, beautiful art (sometimes), spinoff conjunctive categories, a repository for some of the hobby's great old treasures! ...Sound good? It's all true!

This category has so much to offer, it's difficult to know where to begin. Well, let's start with what is a



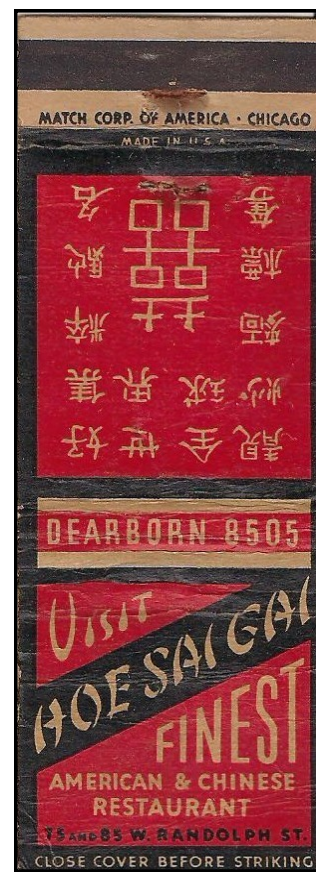
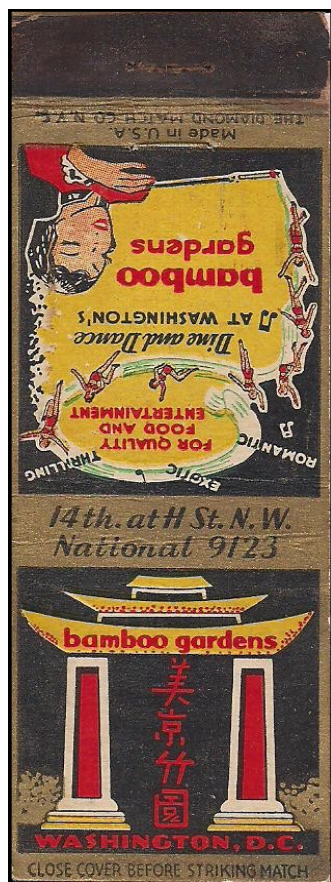
Chinese Restaurant in the first place. There is probably more than one definition among collectors, but for discussion purposes I'll just give you mine, since I am a collector in this category, myself. If the cover specifies Chinese entries, I count it as a Chinese Restaurant. Someone else might be more of a purist and only count the cover if it says 'Chinese Restaurant' or if the business name is obviously Chinese. For my own collection, I don't require either of those. If it says that the restaurant serves Chinese dishes, I count it.

As you may well imagine, this is a large category. There are Chinese Restaurants everywhere, and, historically, many have not only put out *a* cover, but multiple covers, including series and sets. James Mettler, WA, reported having 14,358 Chinese Restaurants in his collection as of November 2000, and that was some 13 years ago. I'm guessing that there must be at least well over 20,000 today, perhaps even significantly more.

The variety of covers, here, is staggering, as you might imagine. There are fancies (Uniglos, Cameos, Filigrees, and the like), Oldies (Crowns, DQ's, wide-striker Match Corp. and Maryland Match Co., Foil-ites, Woodies, etc.), all sizes (from 10's to Giants), die-cuts, and lots of conjunctives (I started my Dragon, Great Wall, and Confucius collections from initially collecting Chinese Restaurants).

And, although we automatically think of domestic covers when we think of Chinese Restaurants, let's not forget that there are Chinese restaurants in probably every country of the world...even China! (Is a restaurant in China counted as a Chinese Restaurant?). Canada has lots of such issues, but I have qualifying covers from Germany, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand, and other international locations.

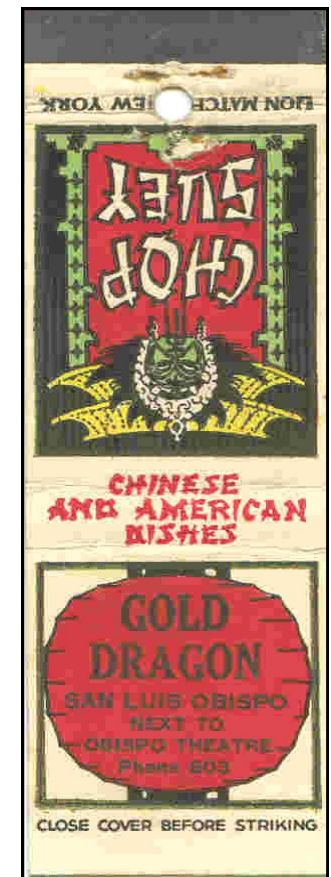
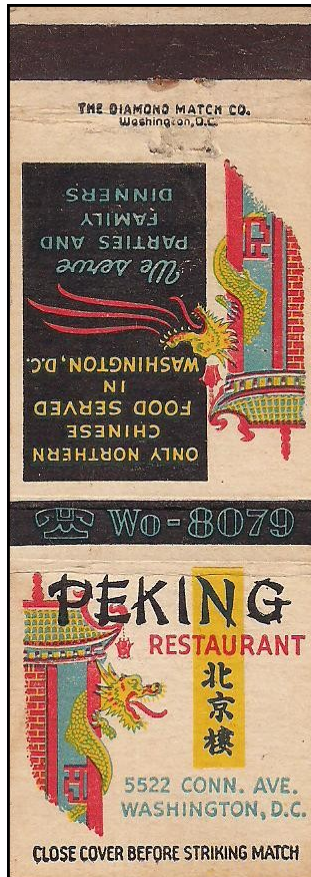
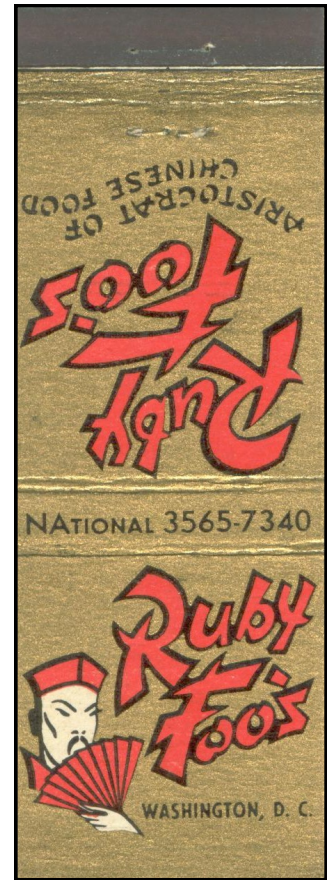
Art? Oh, my! Ask anyone about great matchcover art, and he'll invariably cite those beautiful Crown Chinese Restaurant covers as an example. But, as I've endeavored to show here, there are lots of non-



Crown covers in this category that have great artwork, as well.

Of course, most covers, here, are probably what you would call 'run-of-the-mill', but I think there's a significantly higher percentage of nicer art in this category as compared to most others. They're certainly eye-catching and eye-pleasing!

As covers go, Chinese Restaurants are certainly readily available—from traders, auctions, etc. If you're thinking of starting a collection, or expanding the one you already have, I have lots of Chinese Restaurant covers to trade!



Prioritizing Your Covers

If you only collect in one category, you can skip this article and go right to the next page, but, if you're like me and collect in multiple categories, prioritizing becomes essential...and often gut-wrenching.

'Prioritizing' means deciding in what order of importance your categories go when you obtain a cover that could possibly go into two or even more categories at the same time. For example, one of your traders sends you a Crown Chinese Restaurant cover with a Dragon on it, and it's from a small town in Nebraska...a town that you don't as yet have in your Towns collection. Where's it going to go? In your Crown collection, your Chinese Restaurant collection, your Dragon collection, or your Towns collection? HmMMMM! Agony!

Well, the agonizing disappears (although not necessarily the frustration) when you've already mentally set up a prioritized list of your categories. *This* category gets precedence over all the rest, then *this* one, *that* one, and so on. For example, my own top 10...

So, if I were to get in a Dated, Christmas, Military cover, it would go into my Dated collection. If I were lucky enough to find a dupe, the dupe would go into my Christmas collection, and so forth.

- Dated
- Navy Ships
- Duncan Hines
- Christmas
- Oldies
- Military
- Towns
- Fraternals
- Girlies
- Fancies

I currently have over 270 categories, so prioritizing is a must! And it's just not the several top categories that are important in the process. It's the bottom, as well. At the very bottom of my priority list is Zip Codes. So, if I don't need that cover in any of my other categories, I check the Zip Code to see if I need it in that collection. *That's the great thing about collecting in many different categories—There's a good chance you can use that cover somewhere! With this process, you wouldn't think I'd be getting anywhere in my Zip collection, but I have 4,500+, and it's steadily growing!*

Is it an Oldie, Dated, Lodging, or Famous Place?

Now, I should mention a process that *negates* prioritizing. If you were to list each of your covers electronically on a database, spreadsheet, etc., noting all the categories each cover falls into. Then, technically at least, by searching for "DA" (Dated), for example, you could pull up a list of all the covers you have that are dated. And when you searched for "XM" (Christmas), you could pull up all your Christmas covers, even the dated ones. Thus, you could get away with only having that one, multi-conjunctive cover, but you're showing it as being in *all* the conjunctive collections.

I don't use that system because you really don't *have* that cover in all those conjunctive collections. You're merely showing which collections that cover could possibly go in, which, to my way of thinking, is not even close to the same thing.

If you're calculating how many covers you have in each of your categories, for example, you can't count that conjunctive several times. And, when it comes time to sell your collections, that one cover is only going to be able to go into *one* collection.

Still, depending on what your goals are, it's an option.



Tales of the Texas Navy

Perhaps I'm a hopeless romantic, but there's something about the sight of a Tall Ship that stirs the imagination. Paging through covers with nostalgic and heady drawings of the great old Tall Ships, I can feel the crashing of the waves against the bow, the breeze in my face, and the smell of the ocean. "Hard to port! Man the guns! Look lively there!"

...*That* could have been a Texan speaking, and that could have been a Texas ship. How many people today, I wonder, realize that at one time Texas actually did have its very own navy? Two, in fact!

The Republic of Texas initially put together a modest little navy consisting of four small warships, most of which were sloops. These were all eventually destroyed by storms or enemy action between 1835 and 1837. The second navy, under the brilliant leadership of Commodore Edwin Moore, was made up of eight ships, and those lasted from 1838 until 1843.

Those twelve ships left behind a remarkable record, especially considering the short time frame they operated within. The early ships harassed Santa Ana's supply line, capturing several merchant ships and sending their cargo of arms and supplies to General Sam Houston and greatly contributing to his victory at the Battle of San Jacinto.

Notable, for example, was Texas's *Zavala*. The *Zavala* started out life as the *Charleston*, a 569 ton side-wheel steamer with a length of 201 feet and a 24-foot beam, propelled by two walking-beam engines fired by two boilers and a smaller auxiliary. She was built in Philadelphia in 1836. A fast ship for her day, she could make 16 knots.

After being battered, but miraculously surviving, a huge storm in 1837, the *Charleston* was purchased by the Republic of Texas in the following year and renamed *Zavala*, in honor of the first Vice President of the Republic. She had her deckhouses removed and replaced with an open gun deck, mounting four twelve-pounder medium cannon and one long nine-pounder. Her cargo holds were converted to crew's quarters.

Predating any self-propelled vessels built by the U.S. Navy, *Zavala* thus became the first armed warship in North America. She was commissioned just in time. Mexico had proclaimed a blockade of Texas ports, and an invasion of Texas was expected. At the same time, there was a revolt of rebels in the Yucatan Peninsula against Santa Ana. Texas sent its new fleet to help the rebels and thereby draw the Mexican Navy away from the Texas coast. On June 24, 1840, the *Zavala*, accompanied by Commodore Moore's flagship, the sloop-of-war *Austin*, and three armed schooners, slipped out of Galveston Bay and headed for the rebels.

The fleet began patrolling up and down the Yucatan coast, and it soon became apparent that the strategy was working. No Mexican invasion army was headed for Texas, and the ports were left open. Although *Zavala* never fought a battle with an enemy ship during the mission, she proved invaluable for a bold expedition that Commodore Moore carried out in the fall of 1840. *Zavala* towed Moore's flagship and the armed sloop *San Bernard* ninety miles up the San Juan Batista River to the provincial capital of Tabasco, which was under Mexican control. With his ships' guns pointed at the city, Commodore Moore and a small shore party boldly marched into the center of the town square and shouted for the town's leaders. With the entire city as hostage, Moore extorted \$25,000 in silver from the mayor and promptly left!

In early February of 1841, the fleet returned to Galveston for repairs and provisions. *continued on p.7*



An American Tour: 68



New York's *Fort William Henry*

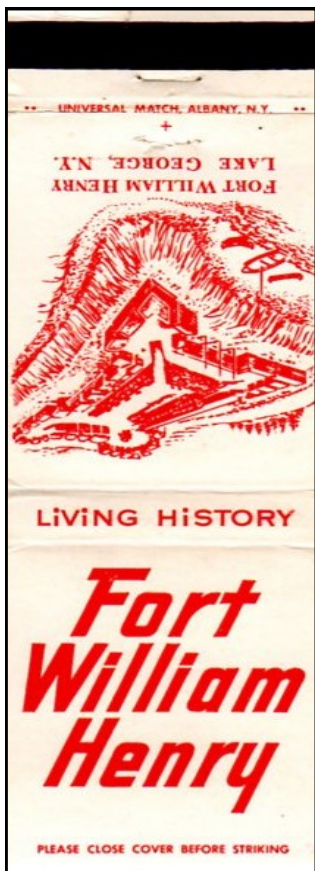
Fort William Henry was a British fort at the southern end of Lake George in the province of New York. It is best known as the site of notorious atrocities committed by Indians against the surrendered British and provincial troops following a successful French siege in 1757, an event which is the focus of James Fenimore Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans*, first published in January 1826.

The fort's construction was ordered by Sir William Johnson in September 1755, during the French and Indian War, as a staging ground for attacks against the French fort at Crown Point called Fort St. Frédéric. It was part of a chain of British and French forts along the important inland waterway from New York City to Montreal, and occupied a key forward location on the frontier between New York and New France.

It was named both for Prince William, the Duke of Cumberland, the younger son of King George II, and Prince William Henry, Duke of Gloucester, a grandson of King George II and a younger brother of the future King George III.

Following the 1757 siege, the French destroyed the fort and withdrew. While other forts were built nearby in later years, the site of Fort William Henry lay abandoned, and formed part of the landscape for tourism in the 19th century.

In the 1950s, interest in the history of the site revived, and a replica of the fort was constructed, which now serves as a living museum and a popular tourist attraction in the village of Lake George. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_William_Henry]



New Members

976. John Dockendorf, 448 Meadow Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011-1227

Collects: Public Transportation, Busses, Streetcars, SF Cable Cars, Trams, Monorails

Reinstated

832. Pete Aji, 235 Catawba River Rd., Myrtle Beach, FL 29588

Collects: General (F-S only), F-L Diners, Candy/Gum, Comic book characters, Soda

Ads

WANT TO BUY: Matchcovers with the manumark: Kentucky Match Co, Henderson, Ky or could have Kentucky Match Co, Evansville, Ind. Also looking for: The matchcover- Radio Attractions Inc presents Sax Rohmers The Shadow of Fu Manchu. Who has one or two? Lloyd Spivey, 1203 Charlotte Ln., Hartford, KY 42347 (270-298-1159) wkloradio@yahoo.com

BANKS! I've got tons to trade for your 20-strike Hotel/Motel/Restaurant covers. Mike Prero, 12659 Eckard Way, Auburn, CA 95603 rmsed@matchpro.org

FANCIES! I'll trade mine for your Xmas, Girlies, Dated, Recommended by Duncan Hines, Lion 30-STICK, Trucking, Military, Fraternal, and more. Mike Prero, 12659 Eckard Way, Auburn, CA 95603

rmsed@matchpro.org

Trans Canada Swapfest

The dates are Thursday, May 9th - Saturday, May 11th, 2013. The location is the Radisson Hotel, 2690 King Street East, Kitchener, ON, CAN (519) 894-9500. The hotel has easy on/off access to Highway #8 which links directly with Highway 401. The room rate is \$99.99 per night with free underground parking. Smoking rooms are available as are pet friendly rooms. There is a choice of three restaurants in the immediate vicinity and a large mall is a 5 minute drive from the hotel.

The Saturday Banquet will be buffet style and will feature Roast Beef in a Jack Daniels BBQ sauce, Turkey with gravy, Penne Primavera, Greek Salad, etc. The cost will be \$30 per person as the club will be subsidizing the meal by paying the tax and gratuity. We are planning on a full schedule which will include a Pizza Party, Bingo, Trivia with the Van Tols, Freebie and Dealer Tables, Cigar Box Trading, Show and Tell and 2 auctions. *[Note: remember, the \$\$ quoted here are Canadian]*

Dorothy Williams

Long time member Dorothy Williams, SD #251, passed away on February 13th. She did

have many friends within the hobby, and we will all miss her.

Our condolences to Dorothy's family. Our sympathy goes out to one and all.

Tales of the Texas Navy...con't

On the way home, Zavala was so badly damaged in a five-day storm that she was laid up and allowed to deteriorate. Newly elected President Sam Houston was unwilling to spend any further money on the Texas Navy. She was stripped and abandoned. In time, she became a rotting hulk at the upper end of the harbor's mud flats, settling deeper into the marsh until only the tops of her boilers and one or two of her smokestacks remained in view.

What was once the finest and most technically advanced ship in the Republic of Texas Navy, had, by 1870, completely disappeared under the shifting Galveston shoreline. One hundred sixteen years later, noted author Clive Cussler located the remains of the Zavala under a Galveston parking lot. *[From Clive Cussler's The Sea Hunters]*

...And, no....there are no covers!

AMCAL 2013 Auction Bid Info

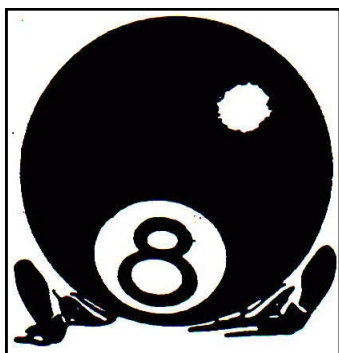
The bid information is in the Registration Packet located on the AMCAL 2013 page.

Direct link: >>>>

Happy Birthday!

Barbieri, David.....	4-2
Samuels, Mike.....	4-4
Bitter, Kathy.....	4-6
Potter, Russell.....	4-7
Fouquet, Doug.....	4-6
Cosentini, George.....	4-12
Scott, Bill.....	4-12
Moore, Loren.....	4-16
Corrales, Greg.....	4-19
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Turrini, Michael.....	4-23
Bouchard, Denis.....	4-24
Marquette, Don.....	4-29
Gigantino, Bill.....	4-30
Hayes, William.....	5-7
Conner, Bob.....	5-15
Harpster, James.....	5-28

<http://www.matchcovercollector.com/mc/Bid%20Sheet.pdf>



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Remember When They Said That The Computer Would Mean The End of Paper?

I do! I remember the predictions that all these mico-mini electronic files would make the use of paper as obsolete as the chariot. That was almost 30 years ago, and I've recently

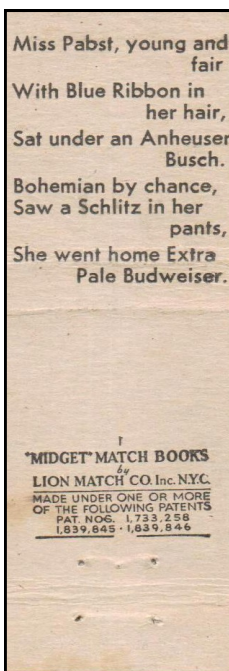
heard students are using more paper than ever, and I've certainly not noticed any noticeable decline in my own paper usage, except in the area of mail.

On the radio this morning, they were reporting that the greatest storage area of data is... DNA! *Did you know that one inch of DNA can hold the equivalent of 1 million CDs?! How am I going to mail DNA? And whose DNA am I going to be using?*

For every step forward we take in paper reduction, we seem to be taking two steps backward. Look at the paper clubs are saving in e-mailing bulletins..but look at the 17,000 pages that make up Obama-care!

April's Smile

Thanks to Mike
Schwimmer, MA, for
this one



....April Auction

Ohhhh! Lots of good items...as usual. We've got quality; we've got old; we've got interesting!

<http://matchcover.org/sierra>

And, don't forget...we will again have free postage for six of our members who are successful in the club auction.

COMING UP



May: "2013 AMCAL Report"

Jun: "Historical Characters"

Jul: "Literary Characters"

SIERRA-DIABLO...we're the hottest club in the hobby!

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