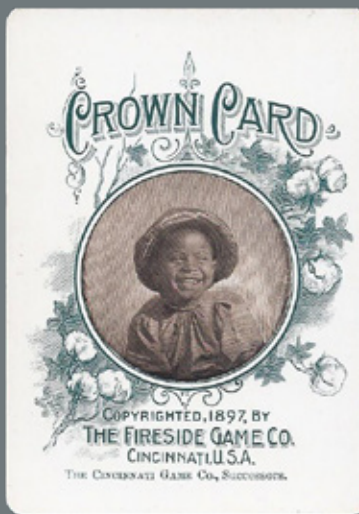


THE NEWSLETTER

OF 52 PLUS JOKER

CLEAR *the* DECKS



THE PLAYING-CARD COLLECTORS CLUB

VOL. XXXIX

MARCH 2025

Nº 1

52 PLUS



JOKER

52 Plus Joker was formed to facilitate :

The collection and trading of antique, vintage and modern collectable playing-cards and related items.
The advancement of knowledge about the history, manufacture and artistic aspect of playing cards,
The continual promotion of fellowship among members with similar interests

The club seeks new members and welcomes them whether they are experts or novices to playing card collecting. As one of the objectives of the Club is to introduce collectors to others with similar interests, we keep an online roster available only to members.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$25/ 45/ 60 for 1/ 2/ 3 years worldwide

Make checks payable to 52 Plus Joker and send to Steve Bowling

12205 Menalto Drive

Los Altos Hills

CA. 94022-4234

USA

Or use Paypal (your dues +\$3) to Steve Bowling

Email: payments@52plusjoker.org

Our bulletin Clear The Decks is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Materials for publication are most welcome and should be sent to the editor Paul Bostock: paul.bostock@gmail.com

Rates for advertisements: payable to Steve above:

¼ page \$32

½ page \$60

full page \$120

There is a 20% discount for four or more ads.

APRIL AUCTION

All the lots presented in this Clear The Decks issue will be auctioned live in an **online auction on April 27th**. We have a wide variety of antique and modern decks, singles and ephemera. Even if you will be attending online, you may want to submit bids to Steve Bowling and we will enter proxy bids on your behalf. Proxy bidders have been very successful in prior auctions. See the Auction Rules page.

WEBSITE www.52plusjoker.org

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COVER (L – R, top row first) See Auction Listing

Lot #22 Monarch Bicycle Deck (Joker)

Lot #43 Anheuser-Busch Deck (Ace)

Lot #84 Trumps Long Cut Deck (Pip)

Lot #71 Vanity Fair Deck (Ace)

Lot #85 Hybris3 Deck Set (Back)

Lot #15 Fireside In Dixie-Land Game (Crown)

INSIDE REAR COVER See Auction Listing

Lot #84 Trumps Long Cut Deck (9 cards)

REAR COVER Lot # 85 Hybris 3 Deck Set

The Knave Reports



Welcome to the first *Clear The Decks* of 2025.

Right now, you have a happy Editor! For this quarter we had a lot of articles in advance and it wouldn't all fit in one magazine. That's partly down to having a dozen or so pages with all the information you need for the up-and-coming auction but in addition there's a good variety of subjects and some in-depth research.

We have all you need to take part in the Club's Online Auction coming on April 27th as part of the Club's exciting online weekend get-together. The Club's auctions are always a great source of high-quality decks, and this time there are many temptations and a great selection of different types.



You'll see there's an article about the official record holder for the world's largest playing card (see p26). Shown above is its creator Rob Hallifax with a full scale mock-up. He is standing in the Barbican Estate in the City of London where your Knave is rumoured to live. If you know anyone who would like to acquire this, it is available and please contact me for Rob's contact details. Before you rush in, it is almost 10 feet tall so it won't fit everywhere. It could be perfect for welcoming guests at a Las Vegas Casino.

I want to mention AI - artificial intelligence. My initial piece used AI to design a single card. Your President, Lee Asher, told me that the subject came up at the Convention and that artists are deeply concerned. A specific objection was that AI is trained on their collective work. I agree, and many applications of AI come down to something similar: getting computers to look at what people do, figuring out how they do it and then doing it without them. It has quickly become very common and very low cost; unchecked it will surely devastate many areas of employment. There are ways to push back aside from difficult, expensive legal disputes: make sure to pay for true originality, creativity and other areas that AI cannot reach.

My thanks to our brilliant contributors: Lee Asher, Steve Bacon, Alex Clays, Dave Seaney, Steve Bowling and the entire Club Auction team.

We would truly value *your* contribution. Tell us about something you enjoy in the world of playing cards and you can't go far wrong...

Your knave and editor: paul.bostock@gmail.com



The International Playing-Card Society was founded in 1972 to bring together people, from the five continents, who have a common interest in the collecting of playing cards and card games, and

TO SHARE RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE

You can join us for as little as £10 per year and enjoy these benefits

A quarterly A4 Full Colour Magazine either mailed or available as a digital version [or both if you pay extra]

Access nearly 50 years of digital back issues to aid your knowledge or assist your research

Conventions and the occasional local meetings arranged – talks, trading and Club Auctions

Fellowship

Club Members discussion board where questions can be asked to the most knowledgeable resource of members available

We have active Facebook Pages where members can post an interesting deck, seek identity of a pack or advise fellow members of card related events in their vicinity.

We are a very friendly Society, members are always willing to help other members

Visit our website at www.i-p-c-s.org



or to join <http://bit.ly/Join-IPCS>

Direct From The Desk Of Your Club President



Being a club member means immersing yourself in a community that celebrates the art and passion of playing cards. Whether you're a collector, designer, historian, or enthusiast, membership gives you exclusive access to extraordinary virtual and live events that feed your love for this timeless craft.

Mark your calendars for April 26th and 27th, 2025, when we'll host a virtual weekend that brings the global playing card community straight to your home. Over two unforgettable days, you'll experience thought-provoking talks, behind-the-scenes insights, show-and-tell sessions, game shows, and the much-anticipated big playing card online auction, where you can score rare and coveted decks. All from the comfort of your computer, and it's free!

Later in the year, from October 1st to 5th, 2025, the collecting continues with our in-person annual convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. This live event is the heart of our community, offering unparalleled experiences like meeting top designers, exploring stunning exhibits, and forming lasting connections with fellow playing card enthusiasts.

As a member, you're more than participating in events, you're part of something bigger: a vibrant, welcoming community where creativity, camaraderie, and inspiration thrive. Join us for both events and make 2025 a year to remember!

Lee Asher
Your Faithful Club President

Direct From The Mouth Of Head of Publicity

WE ARE HOSTING A VIRTUAL WEEKEND!

In April, we are hosting a virtual weekend for people like you who live and breathe playing cards. Just pure, unbridled playing card passion. And it's absolutely FREE.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- **A Zoom gathering of the world's best:** collectors, designers, and historians coming together to share their insights and passions.
- **An inside look at the beauty of playing cards:** From exclusive behind-the-scenes stories to exhibits you can't find anywhere else.
- **Conversations that spark inspiration:** Enjoy lively chats, laugh-out-loud moments, and new connections that will remind you why you're part of this incredible community.

SAVE THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

- **Saturday, April 26th, 2025:** A full day packed with thought-provoking talks, game shows, show & tells, and fascinating stories from the best minds in the card world.
- **Sunday, April 27th, 2025:** The BIG PLAYING CARD ONLINE AUCTION! A chance to finally get your hands on that elusive deck you've always dreamed of, and at prices that will surprise you.

No travel. No stress. Just you, your computer, and a shared love for collecting playing cards!





Our 2024 Club Deck
Designed by Elettra

**Limit 3 decks per member.*

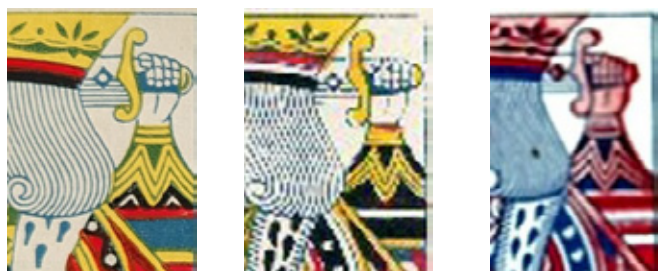
Available now—Visit 52PlusJoker.org to order!

Taking a Closer Look

Dave Seaney

At the 2023 52+Joker Convention, I asked a number of members: “Why do the Queen of Diamonds face opposite directions when comparing East Coast card makers with Western Card makers?” No one could answer- in fact, no one had apparently ever noticed.

When working on the Longley family cards for my website I noticed, for some unknown reason, that there was a symbol on the hilt of the King of Hearts’ sword. Out of curiosity I looked around at other brands just to see if they used a different symbol. As I worked my way through more than thirty card companies and over fifty different brands, I found that most were different. But, I also found that the ones that were the same on different brands were connected to the same card maker in some way. Kind of like a maker’s mark. Take these three different companies for instance....



The left one is from the Telbax Card Company belonging to J. W. Culp. Culp sold his Telbax printing presses to Max B. Sheffer to start Midland Playing Card Company, the picture in the middle. Culp then used the symbol again when he went to Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and started a new company called the Independent Card Corporation shown on the right.

And then these marks led me to realize that someone else had provided the court card designs for Longley’s Paper Fabrique Company in Cincinnati.....



That is John J. Levy’s card on the left and right is Longley’s Paper Fabrique Eagle deck (Levy liked a heavy beard and a double row of curls on his KH.)

After matching the symbols I could match the court cards. All of this got me looking deeper into court cards. After collecting more court card pictures than really needed I narrowed down to double-ended cards between 1860 and 1920 and went to work.

I first came across this often-repeated statement on the internet; **DOUBLE-ENDING: said to have been introduced to avoid giving away the presence of court cards in one's hand. This meant turning the figures of the six courts with right-hand pips: QS, QC, QD, JH, JC, JD.** In most cases this also meant redrawing these (or all) courts, not just reversing the relevant plates (which was probably impossible).

The other method, altering the design to fit the pips, was employed in one court card by revived English company Hunt & Sons and Bancks - though the rest were just turned. In each case the QS has not been turned, but her sceptre has been reduced in size to keep it out of the way of her pip. The clothing and posture of all the queens was considerably revised.

Not true. I discovered there are three basic ways the above mentioned six court cards are turned. I call the alignments “East Coast”, “Western” and “R&M”. My East Coast makers list are the usual suspects like Dougherty, Hart, Cohen, Levy, Perfection etc. By 1855 Dougherty was making double-ended cards and by 1860, double-ended cards, universally used on modern decks, were appearing in a number of decks. The Western makers are the Midwest ones like North American, Kalamazoo, National Card and early Russell & Morgan. My R&M is of course Russell & Morgan plus American Playing Card of Kalamazoo, Card Fabrique, Willis Russell and Kalamazoo Playing Card (after the USPC takeover). There are more, but these are the main ones.

I reference the facing of the cards as looking to *your* right or left. Six of the courts are turned like this...

King of Clubs faces to your left; the one exception is the North American Card Company of Chicago.

King of Diamonds faces to your left.

King of Hearts faces to your left; the one exception is the North American Card Company of Chicago.

King of Spades faces to your right.

Queen of Hearts faces to your left, the one exception is Andrew Dougherty’s Triplicate deck.

Jack of Spades faces to your right, the one exception is Russell Playing Card.

The other cards are turned like this by the different makers:

	<u>East Coast</u>	<u>Western</u>	<u>R & M</u>
Jack of Clubs	Left	Right	Right
Jack of Diamonds	Right	Left	Right
Jack of Hearts	Right	Left	Left
Queen of Clubs	Right	Left	Left
Queen of Diamonds	Right	Left	Left
Queen of Spades	Left	Right	Right

The East Coast card makers followed the pattern used by De La Rue from England. Samuel Hart's New York Consolidated Card Company Squeezers (Hochman NY50) would later flip to the Western pattern about 1885.

As you can see R&M was Western except for the Jack of Diamonds. But, I soon discovered that R&M had some surprises for me. My son, the Congress Guy, had just finished a page about court cards on his Congress 606 website which led to a new discovery. When discussing my findings with him we looked at what he posted. We found that R&M/USPC played games with my findings.

R&M was already listed also with my Western card makers because that was the order they first used. This alignment, used by Goodall, was then used by Victor E. Mauger when he was making cards for them in America. And Mauger was the only one on the East Coast using it after he broke ties with Goodall and started printing his own cards. Chronologically it next appeared with R&M whom Mauger claimed he got started making playing cards. R&M even used Mauger's right-hand man Samuel J. Murray to get their playing card business going.

R&M first used one way courts but quickly switched to double-ended. They are listed with my Western card makers because that was the order they first used. But about two years later they flipped the JD. This one of a kind alignment is only seen in two other brands. One was Card Fabrique. This proves that there was a connection between the Longleys and R&M just as the Longley family history indicated.

The other match is with the National Card Company of Indianapolis. This alignment, and court card designs, started about 1883-1884 and ran for about ten years. These years encompass the time just before

R&M took over the National Card Company of Indianapolis. The story often heard is that Samuel J. Murray had a falling out with R&M and left and started National. If so, then why does the marking on the National King of Hearts sword hilt match R&M? And why do the National Card court cards match R&M?



R&M

National

After 1893 R&M flips the Jack of Diamonds back to the right to copy the Western alignment on their cards. Then about 1897 they flip the alignment completely back to match the East Coast card makers. Why? Was this because they became the United States Playing Card Company and most of their interests were on the East Coast?

Several exceptions I found that are of interest were: Willis W. Russell was an East Coast card maker in Milltown, New Jersey, but he had a Western card maker pattern. This was probably because his father was USPC founder A O Russell. Plus, Willis had just left Cincinnati after running USPC's Eggleston Street card factory.

Knickerbocker Playing Cards of Albany, New York was expected to have an East Coast pattern, but they have a Western one. The courts also match R&M when they were using the Western pattern in the latter 1890s which is when the deck was made. Knickerbocker only had a business address in Albany and not a factory.

Then there are the Sterling Card Company (Hochman U37) decks whose alignments are both different and match nobody's. They turned out to actually be made by the American Phototype Company. They printed tax revenue stamps, post cards and children's books. They had no experience with playing cards. The cards were done by electrotype printing that the company was known for.

It is not only the King of Hearts that exposes these connections. Those connections, symbols and more are now on a website at kohdatabase.weebly.com. Come visit the site and send me your comments.



The Past Recaptured: Posthumous Publication (Part 1)

Steven Bacon

“ ... It is better to learn wisdom late, than never to learn it at all.”

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Consider the following set of facts. In or about 1920, an artist designs a deck of cards. The designs are beautiful, but the deck is not published when the artwork is completed. The artist involved dies in 1954. In 1968 the deck is published for the first time, 48 years after its creation and 14 years after the artist's death.

While you are thinking about what this deck might be, it seems to me that two questions logically would arise in relation to it once it has been identified. Why wasn't a deck of cards published in 1920? And then, whatever the answer to the first question, why was the deck brought to life 48 years later in 1968?

One theoretical answer to the first question could be that the project simply ran out of money in 1920. But other explanations are also possible, and, even if that is the correct explanation, it does not explain why someone woke up 48 years later and decided that the world now needed to have a deck that for whatever reason had not seemed feasible or desirable when its artwork was created.

This article is presented in two parts and is concerned with six such decks, including the deck introduced without identification in the first paragraph above. The first part discusses three decks that have what can be described as historical and/or political themes. The second part – presented in a subsequent edition of *Clear the Decks* – will consider three others that have different priorities.

This kind of posthumous publication is actually a more common phenomenon than you might think, and there are more than six that could be mentioned. These six have been chosen because at one time or another I have personally owned all of them, and they are among my favorite decks published since the conclusion of World War II.

All six decks happen to have the following characteristics in common:

- The original designs were designs of playing cards, not general designs later adapted to a playing card format; in some cases the original designs were exhibited when made, but they were not printed at that time in the form of an actual playing card deck.
- Each was published as an actual deck more than 40 years after its designs were created; and,
- Each was published more than 10 years after the death of the artist whose designs were used.

There is no magic to the numbers 40 and 10; the decks simply happen to meet those criteria. However, the goal has been to look at decks that by all rights might never have seen the light of day, and to ask why they were such late bloomers. To the extent that the explanation can be known, it is not the same for each of the decks. But even where an explanation is not possible, I think it is fair to say that each deck was ultimately published because it had something significant or beautiful to communicate.

One introductory caveat. I should disclose in advance that I am not fluent (or even competent) in any foreign language. Since most of the decks discussed here were made outside the English speaking world and were designed by artists for whom English would not have been their native tongue, I have this nagging sense that I am missing relevant research sources in other languages that might provide more information than I have been able to find.

The decks within this Part One are presented chronologically by the year of original design. The discussion is preceded by relevant images of the artist (where possible) and the subject.

We begin with a deck whose designs were created in 1903, and which was published in 2006. Its story is a complicated one and, since the identity of the artist is not known, we lead with a picture of the person whose enthusiasm for the designs appears to have been the moving force behind publication.

1. Grimaud/France Cartes “Jeu de la Verité”, L’ACCART Publisher, Face & Dos Editor, Ltd. Ed. (___/500), c.2006



Jean Verame

Alfred Dreyfus

Artist Name: Unknown
 Year Artwork Completed: 1903
 Year Artist Died: Unknown
 Year Deck Published: 2006
 Subject of Deck: The Dreyfus Affair

[Note: Because the artist is unknown, the image shown above with Dreyfus himself is a photograph of artist and playing card collector Jean Verame, whose efforts resulted in the publication of this deck of cards.]

In or about 2006, L’ACCART, the French playing card collectors club, with assistance from Face & Dos, published a deck of cards titled, “Jeu de la Verité,” in a limited edition of 500 decks; they were printed by Grimaud/France Cartes. The World Web Playing Card Museum website describes the cards as a “reprint,” which may be slightly misleading. This is the only edition or version of these playing cards ever published. They are based upon (and thus “reprint”) illustrations by an anonymous caricaturist that are said to have been made in 1903 as part of a project at the Beaux-Arts de Paris. The cards were made available to those attending the 2006 I.P.C.S. Convention in Issy-les-Moulineaux and to members of L’ACCART.

The underlying illustrations were from the collection of Jean Vérame. Vérame is a well-known artist, born in Belgium but living in France; there are at least two beautiful decks that feature Vérame’s own artwork, one published by Dusserre in 1994, and one by Grimaud in 2000. Vérame has also authored and published several books about playing cards, based upon his exceptional personal collection. The cards published by L’ACCART have reference to the

Dreyfus Affair, the famous dispute that divided all of France in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The cards below are from that deck. Note the portrait of Marianne, symbolising France, as a butcher:



The deck was reviewed in an issue of “The Playing Card,” and the review includes this very helpful information:

“Le jeu de la vérité’ by Face & Dos. This pack of 32 cards is the reproduction of anonymous project, probably from an art school, made more than one century ago in France and which had never been published.

This project has been chosen by the ACCART committee . . . to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the publication of the book ‘Les cartes à jouer du XIVE au XXe siècle’ by Henry René d’Allemagne.

“A booklet explains the historical context. All 32 cards are caricatures around the Dreyfus affair and have been drawn in 1903. Here, the king of carrot is Jaurès the patriot. The other suits are spade, bladder and the republic.”

Since the original illustrations appear to have been the result of a school project – probably at the Beaux Arts in Paris – it is understandable that they might not have been made into a deck for public sale; moreover in 1903 the Dreyfus Affair was still hugely controversial, inspiring strong (sometimes violent) reactions.

Information supplied by L'ACCART indicates that the school project achieved publication more than a century later in 2006 through the efforts of Jean Verame, who owned a set of the original prints. I have been unable to learn whether he proposed and advocated for this selection simply because he admired the artwork, or because the subject was one that he felt should be highlighted in that year.

There does not appear to have been any relationship between the Dreyfus Affair and Henry René d'Allemagne or the publication of his seminal work. However, the year 1906 is frequently cited as the year in which the Dreyfus Affair ended. On July 13, 1906, Dreyfus was reinstated in the army with the rank of artillery major, the rank to which he could reasonably have been expected to have risen had his career not been interrupted by the false charges against him. In this sense, the 100th anniversary of the publication of d'Allemagne's book coincides with the 100th anniversary of the end of the Dreyfus Affair.

2. "Kobe's Tarock" Tarock Cards "The Concentration Camps Narrative" Boris Kobe Designs, c.2000



Boris Kobe



Dachau Concentration Camp
(Memorial Tour)

Artist Name: Boris Kobe
Year Artwork Completed: 1945
Year Artist Died: 1981
Year Deck Published: 2000
Subject of Deck: Dachau Concentration Camp

To understand this brilliant set of cards, a bit of background is necessary. The artwork was done by Boris Kobe (1905-1981) a Slovene painter and architect. The cards chronicle daily life at Allach, a forced labor camp that was part of the Dachau concentration camp system, and they constitute a powerful, scathing, satirical view of that experience. Kobe was interned there in 1945, and it is generally assumed that he created the cards shortly after Allach was liberated.

The Ace of Hearts contains a circular "logo" that reads "PRINTED BY KOBE BORIS NO. 142841 KZ ALLACH." It is my understanding that Kobe personally printed the original set of these cards, which apparently is featured at the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia. The number given – "NO. 142841" – was Kobe's concentration camp number.

The next thing to know is what cards comprise the cards of a Slovenian Tarock deck. It is a Cego type tarock deck, and at John MacLeod's Pagat website, he describes its features:

"The Tarok pack has 54 cards; it is essentially the same as the pack used for Tarock in Austria, and for Taroky in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. There are 8 cards in each of the four suits Clubs, Spades, Hearts and Diamonds, plus 22 trumps (taroks). The highest tarok, the Škis (pronounced shkiss), looks rather like a Joker. The second highest trump (XXI) is called the Mond and the lowest trump (I) is called the Pagat. The black suits rank from highest to lowest: King, Queen, Knight, Jack, 10, 9, 8, 7. The red suits rank from highest to lowest: King, Queen, Knight, Jack 1, 2, 3, 4.

"Identification of the cards. The taroks all have large roman numerals except for the škis. In the four suits, the king has a crown, the queen is female, the knight rides a horse, and the jack is the other picture card. The numeral cards are identified by counting the spots on them (there is no corner index)."

What few written materials are available relating to the Kobe Tarock deck assert that the original had all 54 cards, as described by McLeod, except that the black suits had Aces instead of 10s. However, when the Kobe Tarock was actually published in deck form in the year 2000, and became available for purchase by the public, it had only 42 cards.

It had the unnumbered Škis (“Fool”) card, the other 21 trumps, and 5 cards in each suit: the Ace and the 4 court cards. Moreover, the primary source for information about this tarock set is the booklet that accompanied the cards, and it unambiguously states that the original had 54 cards, differing only from a standard Cego tarock deck by the substitution of Aces for the black 10s.

It is a complete mystery to me why the actual playing card decks from the year 2000 would be left intentionally incomplete, but, if written sources relating to the original are to be believed, they were. And, not to put too fine a point on it, I have never seen a photo or picture of any other pip card in any of the materials that discuss this deck, in its original form or as later published; the pictures are limited to Aces, court cards, the Škis card, and the 21 trumps – the 42 that are in the public version.

Whatever the history, and assuming cards are omitted, the substitution of Aces for 10s is proof that the deck was never intended to be used for a game, and Kobe’s artwork is incredibly powerful. It should be noted that the trumps, Škis card and court cards of the suits are all double ended and that the two ends, while similar, are not mirror images of themselves.

Set forth below are eight cards from the deck, starting with the Ace of Hearts that announces the deck, followed by the Škis card, three other trump cards and three court cards:



After the war and his internment, Kobe went on to have a successful career as an architect. He is perhaps best known today for his restorative work in connection with Ljubljana Castle, shown below:



There is no evidence that he did further artistic work in relation to his internment at Dachau, and I have not seen anything to suggest that an attempt was made to publish his concentration camp designs during his lifetime. Perhaps the entire subject was too painful to contemplate, for him and/or society at large, and publication was only feasible after the passage of a considerable amount of time.

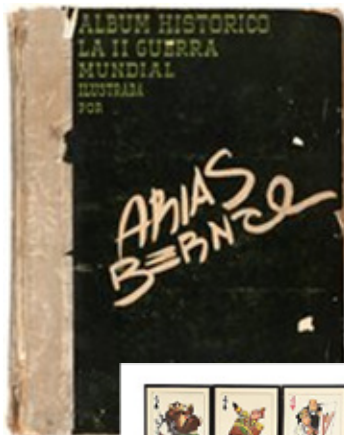
The set of cards here discussed originated in the year 2000. Decks were provided courtesy of the Slovenian delegation at the “Stockholm International Forum Conference on the Holocaust” held that year, which resulted in the Stockholm Declaration of the Holocaust, a Declaration which is considered a milestone in international support for combating racism, anti-semitism, ethnic hatred and ignorance of history.

3. Bill Schroeder “In der Fuehrer’s Face” Playing Cards, Antonio Arias Bernal Designs, c.2002

Artist Name: Antonio Arias Bernal
 Year Artwork Completed: 1945
 Year Artist Died: 1960
 Year Deck Published: 2002
 Subject of Deck: WWII and Allied Victory



One of my favorite American decks of the past 100 years, this terrific project began in 1945 with the preparation of 56 prints – all in the form of playing cards – by Mexico’s premier caricaturist of that time, Antonio Arias Bernal. The prints were each 16¼” by 12¼”, and ultimately they would become an actual deck of cards through the efforts of Bill Schroeder more than 50 years later. Shown below is a set of the original prints with a folder of the type that contained them:



Described by Bill Schroeder as the “56 Lost Propaganda Posters of WWII,” the prints were commissioned by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to be used in South America to persuade those countries to join the Allied war effort. However, soon after Bernal began his work, some six South American countries declared their support for the Allied forces, and the need for the posters was diminished; moreover, at or about the same time, peace was declared, and so the entire project became unnecessary. However, Bernal had been paid and dutifully saw the project through to completion, preparing an undetermined number of portfolios of the 56 prints that he had been paid to prepare. They were distributed to selected libraries and colleges across the United States, with a few finding their way into private hands.

The Bernal prints were virtually unknown until a set surfaced at a playing card auction that Schroeder attended some 50 years later. Schroeder decided that the prints should be published as a standard playing card deck and proceeded to work toward its publication. In addition to the cards themselves, Schroeder published an explanatory book to accompany them. It contains a comment on each illustration by artist Bernal with a further comment by Schroeder.

The deck contains 56 designs capturing the designs of the prints – one for each of 52 suited cards, plus one for each of three Jokers, plus a design for the backs that was also an original Bernal design. [Schroeder notes that the second and third Jokers were created because Bernal was not completely satisfied with the first one he created.] The name of the deck and accompanying book – “In der Fuehrer’s Face” – was coined by Schroeder, and is based upon a Spike Jones song of the same name that appeared in a Disney animated short, ultimately also given the same name.

The cards trace a history of WWII and its principal actors, beginning with the Ace of Diamonds (Hitler as young man), proceeding chronologically through the Diamond suit, and then through the remaining suits – Ace through King in the Clubs, Hearts and Spades, in that order. The King of Spades shows Hirohito crawling on his hands and knees away from the rubble of Hiroshima after the first Atomic bomb. Shown below are eight cards from the deck, two from each suit, that attempt to convey some sense of the chronological order observed in the deck:



According to several sources, Schroeder printed 400 decks of these cards. In the years that I have been collecting playing cards, one of the greatest regrets that I have is that I did not buy a few of these decks when Bill was engaged in selling them. At that time, I simply was not in the market for "current" decks, although they were very affordable. Today, a deck of these cards commands a hefty price, as well it should, and in my view the deck is likely to increase in value dramatically as time goes by. Bernal's name has become synonymous with these terrific designs.

In a future edition of Clear the Decks, we will take a look at three other decks of cards published decades after they were designed and years after their respective artists had passed away, including the deck that is described in the first full paragraph of this article.



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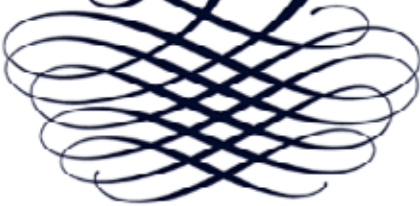
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The Worshipful Company Cards 2024 - 25: The Life Guards from Charles II to Charles III

Paul Bostock with the Master, David Bole

The Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards is one of the one hundred or so trade guilds of the City of London. It was incorporated by royal charter, granted by Charles I in 1628. Since 1882, each new Master has presented a set of 'installation' cards to members of the Company and from 1888 the Master appears on the Ace of Spades.

This year, the annual Installation cards celebrate the Life Guards regiment from the reign of Charles II to the reign of Charles III. Many of the court cards are from the watercolours of Richard Simkin (1850-1926) who was employed by the War Office to illustrate the *Army and Navy Gazette* and to design recruitment posters. Over 50 years, he produced thousands of detailed watercolours depicting the uniforms, regiments and British Army campaigns. Other images are from the Household Cavalry Museum collection, comprising the work of various artists and historical artefacts.



THE MASTER

Graduating from The Royal Military School of Music Kneller Hall, David Bole became a State Musician in the Household Cavalry performing with The Band of Her Majesty's Life Guards as Principal Euphonium Player and Vocal Tenor Soloist. In 1978 he was selected as a State Trumpeter for the Royal Household and has played for the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle during State Banquets, Investitures, Presentations, Garden Parties, State Visits, Royal Weddings, Garter Ceremonies at St George's Chapel Windsor, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, Trooping the Colour and more.

He has set up a music project in Surrey for children and young adults with disabilities which he still runs today, working with over 140 pupils every week.



THE LIFE GUARDS

The Life Guards were formed by Charles II. A royal bodyguard was formed in Holland from around eighty Royalists in exile with the King. In March 1660, the King appointed three Troops of Horse Guards, which formed the first Royal Escort, escorting him from the Kent coast to London. A fourth 'Scottish' or 'Scots Troop' was formed in 1661.

Both regiments fought with distinction at Waterloo, forming the front line of the Household Brigade. This famous charge against the French Cuirassiers at the height of the battle saved the British centre from being overrun.

During World War I, the two Life Guard regiments again formed into a composite regiment, deploying to France and Belgium in August 1914. They were in action immediately as part of the 'Old Contemptible' army that slowed the German advance. By November, it was evident that more regiments were required: the Life Guards reverted to individual regiments to increase their strength in numbers.

Throughout the four-year war, the Life Guards reservists formed into an infantry battalion, The Household Battalion, and also formed three battalions of Guards Machine Gun Regiments.

At the end of the war, each reverted to their parent cavalry regiments and in 1922, options for change and defence cuts saw the 1st and 2nd Life Guards come together as one regiment, simplified in 1928 to 'The Life Guards'.

During World War II, the Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards formed the 1st and 2nd Household Cavalry Regiments. 1HCR initially deployed on horses to Palestine before converting to armoured vehicles. They fought in North Africa and up through Italy into Europe. 2HCR were held in the UK until 1944, entering the fight shortly after D-Day and fighting through Europe like their sister regiment until the war's end.

After the war, The Life Guards retained armoured vehicles and also went back to ceremonial King's Life Guard duty at Horse Guards. The regiment was ordered to 'earn its keep' and has been involved in Egypt, Aden, Oman, Hong Kong, Cyprus, Germany, Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Iraq 1990, Bosnia, Iraq 2003 and Afghanistan.

The 1990 deployment to Iraq was the last as 'The Life Guards', as further defence cuts forced a union with

the Blues and Royals in 1992 to become the Household Cavalry Regiment. Each regiment retains its own identity within both the armoured and ceremonial regiments.

Dress Uniform

Today, The Life Guards are distinguished by their red tunics with white horsehair plumes on their helmets. They also wear a metal cuirass consisting of a front and back plate. The Life Guards' also wear their chin strap below their lower lip, unlike the Blues & Royals who wear theirs under their chin. The Trumpeters of The Life Guards have red horsehair plumes whereas The Life Guards Farriers have black plumes and dark blue tunics.

Music

From the outset, music played an important role in regimental life. It is recorded that as early as 1660, the regiment was preceded by its own mounted kettledrummer and four trumpeters.

By 1822, the regiment had a band of twenty musicians consisting primarily of trumpeters but also French horns and hautbois (oboes).

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In 1831, King William IV presented both the 1st and 2nd Life Guards with a pair of silver kettledrums which still feature in the Monarch's Birthday Parade every year.

Whilst the musicians are drawn from The Corps of Army Music, the State Trumpeters remain under the direct command of the Royal Household. Both the distinctive red (Life Guards) and blue (Blues and Royals) tunics are worn by the Household Cavalry Band when on parade.

In the presence of either senior royalty or the Lord Mayor of London, the band wears distinctive gold coats and blue jockey caps (State Dress). State Dress is the oldest continuously worn uniform in the Army; it was purchased in 1660 by Sir Richard Browne, the Lord Mayor of London, expressly for the restoration of King Charles II following his almost decade-long exile on the continent.

King Charles III's Coronation

During King Charles III's Coronation, The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals played an indispensable role by escorting the newly crowned king in the Coronation Coach from Buckingham Palace and along The Mall, with the State Trumpeters also drawn from their ranks playing at the Coronation Service in Westminster Abbey. Together, their exceptional horsemanship and musicianship epitomise the ceremonial excellence of the British monarchy.

The cards were designed by Stacey Jay Kelly of Squiddleink.com and printed by Cartamundi. The official installation cards are a double set with the blue and red backs shown at the beginning of this article. The Worshipful Company wanted to move away from plastic card boxes, and the set is completed with a new cardboard presentation box.

THE KINGS

- ♠ Mounted Sentry 2024
- ♦ Farrier Full Dress 1914
- ♣ Officer Full Dress 1914
- ♥ Kettledrummer 1901

THE QUEENS

- ♠ Dummer State Dress 1936
- ♦ Trumpeter State Dress 1751
- ♣ Officer Mounted 1685
- ♥ Trumpeter Full Dress 1852

THE JACKS

- ♠ 2nd Life Guards 1751
- ♦ 1st Life Guards 1808
- ♣ Officer Full Dress 1836
- ♥ Officer Service Dress 1815

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52 + JOKER MEMBERS RECEIVE NEXT TIER PRICING: J52NTP

Hats ahead!

Alex Clays

For more than three centuries my hometown, Lokeren (Belgium) has been a capital of the hat making and fur cutting industry. By the 18th century, Lokeren was strongly industrialised and the hatters were top of the bill producing expensive felt hats made of rabbit, hare or beaver fur.

In the 19th century these hats even became a renowned export, going to many countries in Europe as well as to America. However, the American Civil War led to an economic crisis that reached Europe too and meant the start of the decline of the hat industry at Lokeren. The last hat company closed by 1876.

But what did *not* disappear was the preparative processing industry and the workmanship to work up the skins for fur cutting, basic for felt. Hence hat companies from all over the world called upon the knowhow of our Belgian companies buying rabbit and hare fur for the production of their felt hats.

In 1912 my grandfather, Leon Clays, started to work for the London Passavant Co as they needed a supervising manager at Lokeren. After the first world war he became an Associate and by 1928 a new and innovative plant was build. Ever after it was known as the most modern fur cutting firm Passavant & Co ceased production in 2012, being the last fur cutting firm at Lokeren to close down.



Shown here is a 'jubileum plate' depicting a rabbit and both the weapon shields of London and Lokeren.



Shown is a playing card issued c1935 by Ets Epouse Jacobs, another fur cutting firm at Lokeren.

Our local museum pays a lot of attention to this industry that put Lokeren on the world map.

Domestic rabbit skins mainly came from Belgium, France and some other European countries, such as Germany and Czechia. Wild rabbit skins were imported from England, Scotland and Australia. Skins were removed from the animal carcass straight away, turned inside-out and stretched for drying. Once dry and flat, they were sold to a skin merchant for later auction or sale to fur processors and hat makers.



I am pleased to show these Australian advertising playing cards of J. Kennon & Sons, buyers of rabbit skins at Melbourne. What a great Joker it is!

Hare skins came not only from Germany and middle European countries, but from Argentina too! The most expensive however, were Dakota snow hare skins, known for their thick winter fur, but requiring a lot of expertise to handle as these skins have a very thin and fragile leather base.

Some American and Australian hatters had their own fur cutting plants, 'but if they where in need of European domestic rabbit furs, or Hare furs (both south American and European), they preferred, due to transport cost, to buy furs at Lokeren instead of importing the whole skins..

Fur cutting and hat making was a very labour intensive industry. The John B Stetson company, well-known for their iconic cowboy hats, produced an industrial film, promoting its process and product. <https://www.filmpreservation.org/preserved-films/screening-room/birth-of-a-hat-ca-1920>

The John B. Stetson Company was established in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1865. The Philadelphia factory, incorporated in 1891, produced dress hats for both women and men. Employing over 5,000 workers in various departments, the company turned out more hats than any other during the early 20th century. To find out more about Stetson, have a look at a 2015 Youtube: [Stetson: Made in America for 150 Years](#)



The next playing card is one issued by the Barclay Hat Co from Cleveland Ohio. There is not much info to be found, but the Cleveland Press Collection shows a 1947 photo of Barclay hatters at work, as does this playing card.



I must mention Dobbs Hats! This is a New-York hat maker that started in 1908 and has been a world leader in dress hats for over a century.



Here we see playing cards advertising Lundstrom Stetson Hats.

The Lundstrom hat company was established in 1884 in San Francisco. However, I do not know if they were producing Stetson hats under license, or did they only sell Stetson hats as a retailer?

Another California based Company is the Dorfman Hat & Cap Co, founded in 1921. They are one of the oldest and largest hat distributors to date. Among the larger traditional Philadelphia hat makers at the turn of the 20th century – all dwarfed by Stetson – were Frank Schoble & Company in North Philadelphia.

In the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, a hat was an indispensable item in every man's wardrobe. As a nice felt hat was not cheap, it was well worth some maintenance. Hence you could even consult a "Hat Doctor".



I can't pass by the Canadian Biltmore Hat company based in Guelph Ontario. This is of interest because I was able to visit the company (they were customers of my family's firm) but also they sponsored a Junior A Hockey team: the Guelph Biltmore Mad Hatters (does that name sound familiar?!). Launched in 1947, the team won the Memorial Cup in 1952 and throughout the 1950s the 'Bilts' kept the company name in the public eye as a junior affiliate of the NHL's New York Rangers. The company also built on the tradition of the 'hat trick' by awarding a new Biltmore hat to any player who scored three goals in a game. The team name was changed to Royals in 1960. Biltmore also made hats for the military and for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.



"The mad hatter" became a national expression thanks to Alice in Wonderland.

The "Mad Hatter" refers to the mercury poisoning that hit many workers who were still brush-rubbing the skins by hand with a mercury-nitrate solution, used to improve the felting process. This sometimes affected the brain and led to mental health problems. The Stetson movie proves this process was still common in the 1920s. Later it was done mechanically and with ventilation in order to absorb the poisonous damp. Finally other chemical solutions were used.



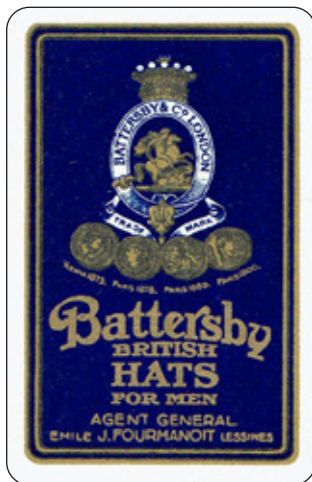
Next is a playing card from Mossant, a famous brand of hat manufactured in France and well-known in the United States for most of the twentieth century. The company was founded by Charles Mossant in the nineteenth century, and by 1929 more than 2,000 hats a day were being produced. Half of them were directly shipped to the U.S.! The company's felt hat production ceased entirely in 1953.



If you talk about fashion, you must mention Italy. Hat companies such as Panizza (founded in 1879), Barbisio (1862) and of course Borsalino (1857) are iconic and known all over the world. Pictures above. There even was a 'Borsalino' movie: a 1970 French gang-

ster film by Jacques Deray and starring Jean-Paul Belmondo, Alain Delon and Catherine Rouvel.

I also want to show a couple of playing cards issued by the Battersby & Co Hat manufactory of Stockport, England (founded 1895). In 1966, Battersby merged with four other felt hat manufacturers, Christy & Co Ltd and T & W Lees Ltd, both of Stockport, and J. Moores & Sons Ltd, and Joseph Wilson & Sons Ltd, both of Denton, to form Associated British Hat Manufacturers, leaving Christy's and Wilson's (at Denton) as the last two factories in production.



After a gradual decline, hat production at Associated British Hat Manufacturers eventually ceased in 1997. The factory was used as the first Hat Works museum before the exhibitions were moved to the newly renovated Wellington Mill in the centre of Stockport in 2000 (*this all relates to the Battersby pictures above*).

Germany had some famous hat companies too: Mayser in Ulm and Rockel in Alsfeld might be best known. However I don't know if they ever had advertising on playing cards.

To finish our journey we switch to Australia. I have to mention Akubra Hats and the Fayrefield Hat Co. Akubra manufactured hats since 1876. On occasion of his visit to Australia King Charles III was presented a handcrafted Akubra hat. The company is associated with bush hats made of rabbit fur felt with wide brims that are worn in rural Australia. The term "Akubra" is sometimes used to refer to any hat of this kind.

During World War I the company manufactured slouch hats for the Australian army. Slouch hats made of rabbit fur were found to be more hard wearing than the hats made from woolen felt.

Since then it has continued supplying slouch hats to the Australian armed forces with an estimated over two million produced by 2016. In the 1950s, the Akubra Company expanded its range when it won the license to produce Stetson hats in Australia.



King Charles, showing his Akubra hat

The Fayrefield Hat Co., based in Melbourne, made not only military slouch hats but Fedora-type hats for civilians too. I can show you some advertising playing cards, but I was not able to find much history of this firm. The Eltham District Historical Society Inc mentions that Fayrefield had a hat factory in Sherbourne Road Etham, Victoria.



In 1955 the site was owned by Rupert V. Kirsch and this is the name anecdotally associated with the hat factory, where the well-known brand of Fayrefield Hats were manufactured. There is some belief that this was built about the time of the Second World War and that hats for the armed forces were made there. I hope you enjoyed this trip down memory lane!

Alex Clays Catalogue of Playing Cards in Cigarette Inserts/ Cigarette Cards: Addenda



J. Wix & Sons London UK
53 miniature p.c.
by Kensitas cigarettes coupons
a. Blue scroll b. Red scroll
1938 **AC168**



J. Wix & Sons London UK
53 miniature p.c.
by Kensitas cigarettes coupons
a. Revenge b. Victory
1938 **AC169**



Maspero Freres Cairo Egypt
(BAT subsidiary)
52 playing cards 4.5 x 6.8 cm
ca1925
AC170

Maspero produced tailored/handmade cigarettes, they were BAT's first subsidiary, established in 1905, in the heavily tobacco using Egyptian market dominated by water pipe use in the long established North African café culture.

Alex Clays Catalogue of Playing Cards in Cigarette Inserts/ Cigarette Cards: Errata



Murai Brothers Tobacco Kyoto
Japan
Hanafuda playing cards pc inset
Gold framed Blue back ca 1897
3.5 x 5.5cm **AC101**



D. Ritchie & Co Montreal Canada
52 Beauties playing cards inset
1888 Hoch ICA-10a
(other back and faces)-Blue back
AC124



Star Tobacco Co Bombay India
52 Beauties playing cards inset
Take me up cigarettes 1898
AC132



Star Tobacco Co Bombay India
52 Indian Natives Characters
Playing card inset 1898
AC133

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EXTREME PLAYING CARDS Part Two The world's biggest playing card

Paul Bostock reports...

In *Clear the Decks* of Quarter 3 2024, we announced a set of playing cards that had been accredited as the world's smallest. By way of a reminder - and because they provide an amazing contrast with the new card, here is a lego minifigure holding a hand of cards, each measuring just 5.0 mm by 3.6 mm.

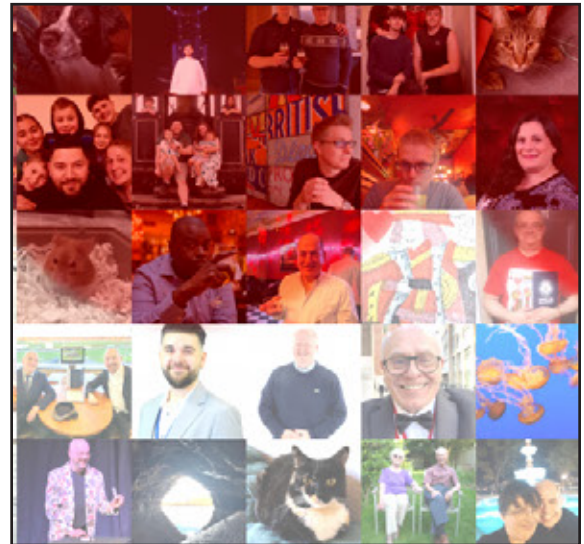


Rob Hallifax, the maker of those cards, has now been recognised as the maker of the world's largest playing card. This is "playing card" singular, a deck was out of the question because 52 of these would be well and truly unwieldy. The official size is recorded as 2.02 m x 3.00 m or 6'7" x 9'10". The card is pictured with Rob and his certificate at the record verification.



What does it even mean to make a card like this? There were two separate aspects, the design and the manufacture: The design (below) was another very clever idea from Rob, as he decided to make what we might call a pixel-collage, because the King's image is

assembled from a series of pixels in a standard way. Each of those pixels contains a photograph rather than a uniform patch of colour. You can probably see that the pixels shown below make up part of a heart suit sign. It's clever because it enabled the project to get funded through Kickstarter: contributors were invited to send their photographs to make the final image, and they could also get a digital copy of the card.



Detail of the world's largest card showing that it is made up from photographs sent by supporters.

The remaining part is the physical manufacture. The card was UV printed in full-colour and double-sided with a back, with high resolution printing at 600dpi. The printing process is shown below, where you can appreciate the sheer size! The image was printed onto silk paper at 200 gsm and this was mounted onto 10mm Foamex board and CNC-knife finished to final size and shape. All in a day's work for Rob Hallifax, now the proud holder of two world records. And because you must have wondered: 330,000 of the small ones would fit onto one of the big ones.



LIVE ONLINE AUCTION April 27, 2025, 3PM Eastern Time

NOTE - ALL AUCTION LOTS IN CTD AND ALSO REPRODUCED IN COLOR ON THE WEBSITE

Each page is listed on the Auction Home Page, can be viewed through a browser and be downloaded using Adobe Acrobat or Reader, so that you can study the lots in full color at your convenience. Additional photos may be available on request.

This auction will be held live ONLINE. If you may not be able to attend, or are worried about internet connection, you may email your bids. You will receive acknowledgment of bids received. **If you do not receive a response it is because we did not receive your bids - in which case contact us by email or phone.** If you send your bids by US mail, please call a few days before the deadline to be sure they arrived. Finally, we accept telephone bids up to 48 hours ahead of the auction start time.

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GENERAL INFORMATION - 52 PLUS JOKER is a nonprofit organization and offers Auctions to enhance the collections of its members, help members dispose of their collections and raise funds to help sustain its operations. **Only 52 PLUS JOKER members** may bid on the auction items. The closing date for mail bids to be received is **6:00pm CST on Thursday APRIL 24, 2024**. If you have any questions about lots in the Auction or about the rules, you may call or write Lee Asher or Steve Bowling prior to April 27. Steve or another auction team member will also send additional photos on request.

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Please bid using the following increments:

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\$300 to \$1000 - \$25 increments

\$1000 + - \$50 increments

Bids not on increment will automatically be rounded down to the proper increment.

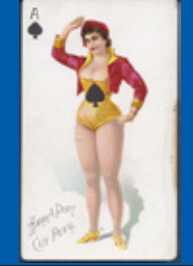




















All email bids will be personally acknowledged. In order to avoid any conflict of interest, Steve, Lee Asher and Auctioneer Larry Herold will have bid before any other bids are received. If an auction lot did not receive a mail bid, Steve, Lee and Auctioneer will be permitted to bid during the live auction event.

The club will provide Proxies to represent mail and phone bidders, advising Auctioneer of bids as the auction proceeds. **All winning mail bids in excess of the next highest bid, or minimum bid if there are no other bids, will be reduced to the next increment level above the highest bid, or the minimum bid.** In no case will bidders be notified the number or amounts of competing bids. There will be no price reduction or further offering of auction lots after the closing if the minimum bid is not met.

PAYMENT & SHIPPING - **WAIT TO BE NOTIFIED** of your winning bids and amount due. Invoices are due upon receipt and must be paid in U.S. currency. **CHECKS ARE PREFERRED vs. Paypal.** Foreign payments can be made by check only if it is in U.S. dollars and the check specifically states it is cleared through a named U.S. bank. International Money Orders in U.S. dollars also OK. International bidders may use PayPal by directing the payment to payments@52plusjoker.org, adding 4% to the total invoice to cover PayPal charges. If payments are not received within 20 days from the Auction's closing date, those lots will be returned to the consignor. If items received are not as specified in the Auction listing, you should contact Steve Bowling within a week of receipt to arrange for a refund or price adjustment. U.S. shipments will be made by US Post Office. Foreign shipments will, in most cases, be sent by First Class Airmail. Buyer may elect to add insurance at his/her expense. The Club will invoice you at approximate cost for the shipping charges plus a \$3 handling charge for each package. Please note that international postage rates have increased to approximately \$20/\$30 for 1 or 2 decks respectively **and Buyers are responsible for customs duties applicable in his/her country.**

We have endeavored to describe all lots carefully so that members can be comfortable when placing their bids that they will receive items in at least as good condition as described. Any lots that are not as described can be returned for refund. Remember all lots are pictured in color on the auction webpage. For each deck listed we have indicated the lot number, its date of manufacture, maker, country of origin, number of cards, condition, condition of the box (if applicable, with OB1 being mint or near mint, OB2 being average with some use or wear and OB3 indicating considerable wear and quite possibly some damage), minimum bid, reference if found and a short description. Most references are to specific listings in the Dawson Hochman Encyclopedia. **NOTE: "Mint Sealed" refers to the deck, box may have been opened. "As Issued" means nothing has been opened.**





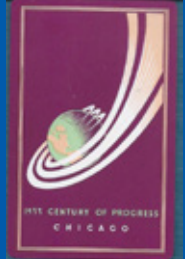


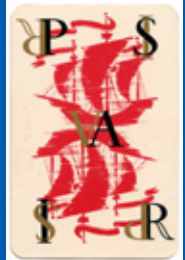






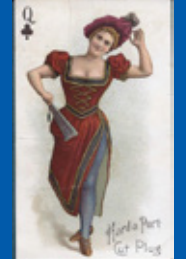
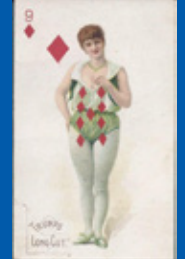



Lot 1	The Chamber of 52 Cards Deck	2006	UK	
52+2J As Issued OB1	Peter Wood published this deck as tribute to the rock band Genesis. Only 500 were printed. The card images are based on the band's music, shows, albums and lyrics. The pips are hidden in the images on each card.			
Peter Wood			Minimum 50	
Lot 2	Movie Souvenir Deck	1916	USA	
52+J EX OB2	Featuring the "53 most prominent stars in filmdom" with a chariot race back and Charlie Chaplin Joker. Nice gold edges.			
M.J. Moriarty	SE7		Minimum 40	
Lot 3	Dougherty Cruiser No. 96 Deck	1905	USA	
52+J VG- Wrong OB3	Dougherty Cruiser brand was issued to honor US Navy, featuring a battleship on AS and sailor on the Joker. Cards have edge soil and corner wear; corner off 2D and several have light corner crease, notably 10S and 6S. Box is scraped on one side; deck is not gold edge.			
A. Dougherty	AD34a		Minimum 35	
Lot 4	Wood Printing Block	1910-1930s	Unknown	
VG/EX	Wood block with metal plate on top. The size of the 5D pips and indices suggests 1910-1930 period. Very unusual to find these old printing blocks.			
Unknown			Minimum 45	
Lot 5	15 Worshipful Single Cards	1900-1935	UK	
15 VG/EX	15 different attractive singles from the wonderful series of decks issued annually by WCMPC. Two cards are the same but with a different color border. Years noted in photos. 13 cards EX, 2 cards have corner crease as noted.			
Worshipful Makers of Playing Cards			Minimum 50	
Lot 6	Queen Victoria Jubilee Deck	1897	UK	
52+Ad EX Partial Wrap	Beautiful Goodall deck honoring Queen Victoria. Non-standard courts feature royalty going back to 1216 with Henry VIII. Deck is in EX+ condition with sparkling gold edges. It includes the attractive front panel of the wrapper and a Goodall advertising booklet.			
Chas. Goodall & Sons	Fournier UK 338		Minimum 100	
Lot 7	T. Norporth Baseball Game Deck	1917	USA	
48+Ump +EC+Rules NM OB1-	Scarce baseball card game designed by Theodore Norporth. Great condition; includes a Rules card, score card example and an Umpire card (equivalent of a Joker). Don't miss this one.			
USPC			Minimum 150	

Lot 8	Hard a Port Tobacco Insert Deck	1890	USA			
52+J VG/EX Partial Box	<p>Complete advertising deck for Hard a Port tobacco in its original mailing box (partial) with tax stamps. Rare to find these boxes. Cards have lightly rounded corners and some stains; AS has crease and edge staining, Joker has edge nick and scrape at top. See photos.</p>					
Moore & Calvi 119 Minimum 210						
Lot 9	2008 Club Deck Rain Forest Animals	2008	China			
52+2J Mint Sealed OB1	<p>Graphic arts student Emily Yuenkel created the 2008 Club Deck for the convention in Las Vegas. The deck inside the tuck case is sealed in cello. A card inside says only 300 decks were produced, this is No.184.</p>					
52 Plus Joker Minimum 25						
Lot 10	USPC Bee Tech Art Deck	2002	USA			
52+2J+2EC As Issued OB1	<p>This Bee deck is the only deck ever produced by USPC with its cube logo on the back. USPC produced them to test printing equipment it was installing at its Norwood plant. The faces are casino-style jumbo index "Tech Art."</p>					
USPC Minimum 25						
Lot 11	French Card Tricks Book	1904	USA			
VG/EX	<p>32 pages. Nice magic book from early 1900s with 32 different card tricks. Solid binding, light corner wear and light soil spots on cover.</p>					
The Mutual Book Co. Minimum 10						
Lot 12	Dougherty Excelsior Single Cards	1864	USA			
27 G/VG No Box	<p>Old singles group that includes all the courts and Aces from an early Dougherty Excelsior Euchre deck. No box. Cards have varying degrees of soil and stains; see photos.</p>					
A. Dougherty AD5 Minimum 25						
Lot 13	Sacred History Game Cards	1790	France			
40 G/VG Partial Box	<p>40 of 48 cards from French Biblical history card game from 1790. Card 2 is Adam & Eve, card 48 is Herod. Each card has different graphic at the top followed by extensive text. Cards have edge wear and light soil; backs are blank. Housed in bottom of original case.</p>					
Jouy, Vanackere, Lille Fournier FR 90 Minimum 20						
Lot 14	S. Hart George & Martha Euchre Deck	1866	USA			
32 G/VG No Box	<p>This was a luxury deck for the period with a beautiful multi-colored AS. Courts were newly designed, see photos. Cards have soil and corner wear: corner off JS. No Box. Tough to find these early Samuel Hart decks.</p>					
Samuel Hart & Co. NY32 Minimum 120						

Lot 15	Fireside Game In Dixie-Land No. 1118	1897	USA	
48+ Crown +2Blk+ Inst EX+ OB2-	Wonderful pictures and portraits of African Americans living and working in the South in the late 1800s. See the beautiful Crown card on front cover. Card back features an alligator. Includes two blank cards; instructions on inside box lid. Photos by L.D. Baldwin.			
	The Fireside Game Co. (USPC)		Minimum 300	
Lot 16	USPC Rock Island Souvenir Deck	1910	USA	
52+ J+Map VG/ EX OB3 Panel	Rock Island is one of the tougher railroad Souvenir decks to find. Complete with map card. Cards have very worn gold edges; slipcase box has inner box but only the front panel from the outer box.			
	USPC	SR25	Minimum 80	
Lot 17	Marilyn Monroe Deck	1956	Hong Kong	
52+ J NM OB2	Great near mint deck featuring this iconic actress. Cards are bridge size. Box has a little scuffing at the seams.			
	Unknown		Minimum 20	
Lot 18	Willis Square Corner Deck	1870	England	
32 G/ VG No Box	A square corner bezique deck featuring a scarce early Ace and very nice courts. It comes from a lesser-known UK maker. Deck has soil from use			
	Willis & Co.		Minimum 45	
Lot 19	Dougherty Philadelphia Club Deck	1930	USA	
52+ J Mint Sealed OB1	Perfect mint sealed deck for The Philadelphia Club. This club was founded in 1834 for members to play cards; it is the oldest city club in the U.S.			
	A. Dougherty		Minimum 100	
Lot 20	Waterproof Playing Cards Deck	1878	USA	
52+ J VG+ OB3	Round playing cards were not very popular - and these were certainly not waterproof! So not easy to find. Some cards have light stains; deck has 2 KS, no KC.			
	The Waterproof Playing Card Co.	O15	Minimum 30	
Lot 21	NPCC Composers Set of 7 Decks	2019-21	Ukraine	
52+ 2J x7 As Issued OB1 x7	Composers Luxury Box set of 7 individually numbered decks (Beethoven, Mozart, Bach, Chopin, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, & Schubert). Each 1st edition deck has an embossed tuck decorated with gold metallic cold foil. Beautiful box with magnetic closure.			
	NPCC Noir Arts		Minimum 100	






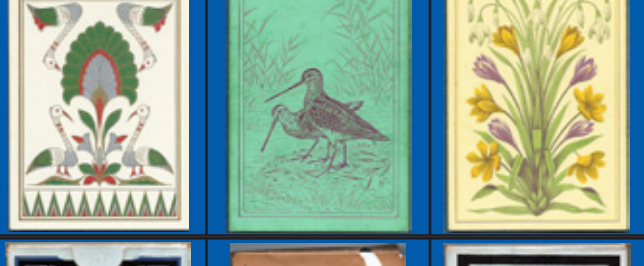

Lot 22	Monarch Bicycle Advertising Deck	1895	USA	
52+J+Ad G/VG OB1	Early advertising deck for Monarch Bicycle with special Aces & great Joker (see front cover) and ad card. Red lion back is rare. Faded & swollen from wear & dirt, 2S has torn corner.			
USPC	A12	Minimum 200		
Lot 23	20 Airline Decks	1950-1980	USA	
52+J x20 VG to MS OB / Cello	Nice lot of 20 Airline decks, most from airlines no longer flying. We have never seen a TAT deck (Transcontinental Air Transport). Twelve decks still mint sealed, see photos.			
Brown & Bigelow / USPC			Minimum 45	
Lot 24	Zippo Lighter Deck Combo	2009	USA	
52+2J+2Ad As Issued OB1	A unique combo of a Zippo lighter and a red Bicycle 808 Rider Back deck with similar designs. The deck, which bears the Zippo name, has 2 Zippo Jokers and 2 ad cards. The set is held in a plastic case.			
Zippo & USPC			Minimum 50	
Lot 25	Western Stars Deck	1960	USA	
52 EX No Box	Deck includes many movie and TV cowboy stars of the 1950s: Clint Walker, Gene Barry, Dick Powell, Robert Culp, James Arness, Roy Rogers, Chuck Connors, Glenn Ford, Randolph Scott, Johnny Mack Brown, Richard Boone. Missing the 12 jokers, no box.			
Unknown	SE32	Minimum 20		
Lot 26	Bailey, Banks and Biddle Whist Deck	1910	USA	
52+J EX+ OB2	Very nice private brand deck made for the large Philadelphia jeweler and stationer. Deck is in great condition with bright gold edges. Box has a split seam.			
American Playing Card Co.	L75	Minimum 30		
Lot 27	USPC Bicycle Mechanical Score Card	1893	USA	
EX	Mechanical trade card with score-keeping wheels issued by the U. S. Printing Co., the name used by USPC after Russell & Morgan Ptg. Co. Playing cards were only issued under this name from 1891-1894. Card has small light wrinkle at top.			
United States Printing Co.			Minimum 25	
Lot 28	Cabinet Progressive Euchre Deck	1888	USA	
36+J+Inst EX OB1	The Cabinet brand was introduced with this progressive euchre deck; full 52 card decks came later. Complete with 4 counters (USPC promotion on backs) and instructions, all in excellent condition. Back name is Cupid, also used in the #303 Army Navy brand.			
Russell & Morgan Ptg. Co.	US12	Minimum 100		



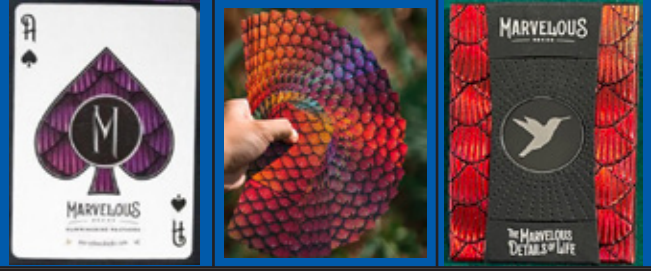
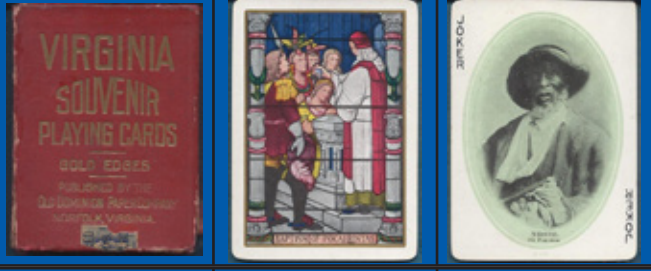
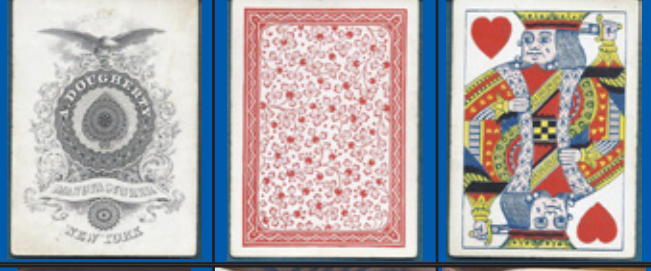


Lot 29	2021 Club Deck (Stockholm17)	2021	USA			
52+2J As Issued OB1	This mint sealed deck is #16 of 999 and was designed by Lorenzo Gaggiotti (Stockholm 17). He has won club awards multiple times. This deck sold out almost immediately, requiring the club to produce another 500 un-numbered decks.					
Expert Playing Card Company		Minimum 150				
Lot 30	USPC Stage Playing Cards #65x	1908	USA			
52+J NM OB2	This deck features one star on each of the 53 cards and sparkling gold edges. Side borders of the oval photos show different floral arrangements for each suit. QH is Julia Marlowe who was also featured on a Congress back. Box has wear on the edges and seams.					
USPC	SE5	Minimum 60				
Lot 31	Fireside In The White House No. 1115	1896	USA			
40+Ad+Inst VG/EX OB3-	This Fireside game features the first 20 U.S. Presidents, highlighting major events on the B cards. BONUS: the extra card advertises In Dixie Land (lot #15). Instructions are in top lid of box; box is well worn with missing side panels.					
The Fireside Game Co. (USPC)		Minimum 25				
Lot 32	Metastasis Repro Deck	2010	UK			
52+TC+ Bklt Mint OB1	A beautiful English Playing Card Society reproduction of a colorful transformation deck published by S. and J. Fuller in 1811 (Field #5). Complete with booklet in wrapper, mint.					
English Playing Card Society		Minimum 25				
Lot 33	Liberty Bell Joker	1895	USA			
J+EC Mint	Nice mint Joker from Standard Playing Card Co. Liberty Bell deck. This lot also includes the mint Liberty Bell information card from the deck. We don't see this brand very often.					
Standard Playing Card Co.		SU4	Minimum 25			
Lot 34	8 Playing Card Postcards	1910	USA, Germany			
8 Cards VG to EX	From two series of postcards from early 1900s. Four from the B.B. London series, No. E47, four from Ullman. Three are clean and unused, two unused but with some writing. Cards have edge and corner wear, light corner creases and soil.					
Ullman Mfg., B.B. London		Minimum 20				
Lot 35	Ye Witches Fortune Telling Cards	1896	USA			
52+J+Bklt EX OB3	Part of USPC's Fashion Series No. 1 Fancy Faces line, this pack is also considered a partial transformation deck (T12). Each card has different cartoon-style sketch. Instruction booklet describes readings. Box is well worn but has protected the deck well.					
USPC	FT9	Minimum 110				


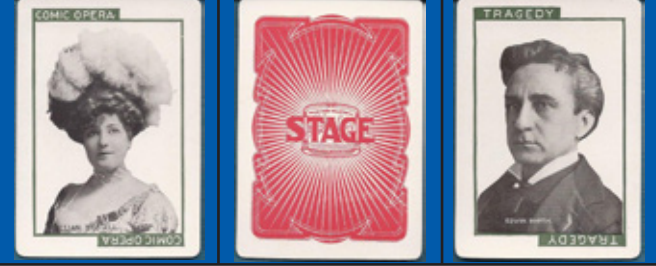


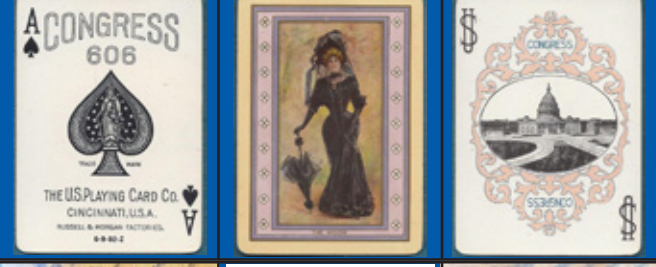

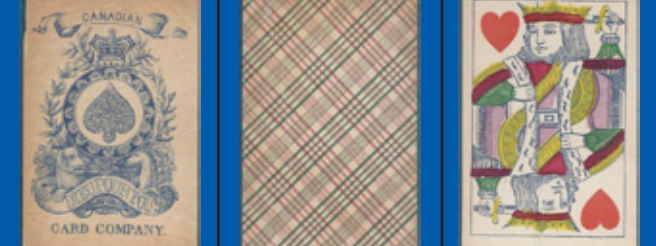
Lot 36	Bicycle Singles Deck	1890-1920	USA			
52+J VG/EX No Box	<p>Complete hand-assembled deck, each card is a different back design or color. It includes 35 designs (3 are plate changes) and the original Rider back with symmetry error. No New Fan or Racer #2; AS is Sprocket #1, Joker is Lantern #2.</p>					
USPC	US8 - US8c	Minimum 240				
Lot 37	8 World's Fair Decks	1934-1964	USA			
52+J x8 EX to MS OB	<p>Eight nice decks from the Chicago and New York World's Fairs in the 1930s and in NY in 1964: 1 SX26, 1 SX27, 4 SX28, 1 SX33, 1 SX35. Two decks are mint sealed; photos show Jokers with backs for other 6.</p>					
Western, Arrco	SX26-SX35	Minimum 40				
Lot 38	Goddesses of Olympus Deck	1960	France			
52+J EX- PB3	<p>Each card features a black-and-white photograph of a nude woman, accompanied by a proverb. The proverb is displayed in French on the left side and in English on the right. In broken original plastic box.</p>					
Philibert	Fournier FR #412	Minimum 20				
Lot 39	The Empire Card Company Deck	1880	USA			
52 VG No Box	<p>This is the only deck from this early small maker that we have seen. Empire was almost certainly related to the Union Playing Card Co. A rare one in very clean condition. No Joker or box.</p>					
The Empire Card Co.	L45	Minimum 50				
Lot 40	ANMA US Armed Forces Deck	1941	USA			
52+J+Rank EX OB2	<p>World War II deck honoring the Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force. The Commander in Chief card is the Joker. The rank card is badly creased, otherwise the cards are EX.</p>					
ANMA Card Co.	W35	Minimum 20				
Lot 41	7 Hard a Port Tobacco Insert Singles	1890s	USA			
Good, 1 EX	<p>7 colorful tobacco insert singles, 6 Hard a Port (3 I13, 3I15a) and 1 Trumps Long Cut (I20). The three I15a cards have creases, the three I13 cards are in better condition, the I20 is EX.</p>					
Moore & Calvi Tobacco Co.	I13,I15a,I20	Minimum 25				
Lot 42	2010 Club Deck (New Orleans Repro)	2010	China			
52+2J As Issued OB1	<p>Only 200 of these scenic reproduction decks were printed for the 2010 club convention in New Orleans. The original deck was from c1900. The cards are sealed inside the tuck case. One memento card included.</p>					
52 Plus Joker	Minimum 25					

Lot 43	Anheuser-Busch Deck	1899	USA			
52+J VG OB3 in MB	Spanish American War deck with Colonel Theodore Roosevelt on the Jack of Spades. See AS on front cover. Comes in original Anheuser Busch's Malt-Nutrine mailing box with 3 two cent stamps on it. Rare to have the original mailing box.					
Gray Lithograph Co.		W15	Minimum 50			
Lot 44	Congress Woody Woodpecker DD Set	1970s	USA			
52+2J x2 As Issued OB1 x2	USPC-made Congress brand Woody Woodpecker red-blue bridge set, unopened in a light blue Congress double deck box. Woody artist was Walter Lantz. 1970s vintage.					
USPC		Minimum 30				
Lot 45	USPC Pan Am Expo Booklet	1901	USA			
12 Pages NM	USPC exhibited at the 1901 Pan Am Exposition and created this advertising booklet that was probably used to solicit dealers. The booklet consists of 12 foldout panels: Queen of Hearts rhymes on 7, ads on 5. Great condition.					
USPC		Minimum 20				
Lot 46	China Zodiac 12-Deck Set	2024	USA			
52+2J x12 As Issued OB1 x12	Several Zodiac-inspired sets have been printed but none as elegant as this one, held in a custom wooden case for a beautiful display. The decks were inspired by the murals in the Mogao Grottoes of Dunhuang and designed in China.					
USPC		Minimum 100				
Lot 47	Canadian Sports Junior Hockey Deck	1900	Canada			
52+J EX No Box	Nice Patience-sized deck featuring Canada's national sport. Excellent condition with notations on the corner of the back of AS and on corner and border of the back of joker.					
Union Card & Paper Co.		CDN6	Minimum 30			
Lot 48	Coin Cards Game Deck	1924	USA			
52+4Ad +Bklt Mint OB1	Includes booklet describing how to play various games. There are 4 different colored suits featuring coins. Cards have sparkling gold edges and slipcase box is also perfect.					
The Coins Card Co.		Minimum 50				
Lot 49	B. Dondorf's Four Continents Deck	1870	Germany			
52 VG+ No Box	Beautiful Luxus deck of 52 cards. Clubs show discovery of America, Hearts are Asia, Diamonds are Europe and Spades are Africa.					
B. Dondorf		Fournier DE #181	Minimum 75			

Lot 50	The Grand Mackinac Hotel Deck	1900	USA			
52 Good OB3-	<p>This special deck promotes the famous Mackinac Hotel resort on Lake Michigan, owned by the Planters Hotel Co. of St. Louis. It has advertising on all Aces, twos, fours and sixes. Missing the joker and condition is only good with stains; box is rough. Very rare.</p>					
USPC	AA2	Minimum 130				
Lot 51	12 Narrow Railroad Decks	See Bollhagen	USA			
52+J x12 VG to MS OB / Cello	<p>Twelve different railroad decks. Algoma Central, Southern RR (2) and Union Pacific (1 of 2) are MS. See photos showing Ace, Joker, etc. Chessie has blank card, no joker. CMSTP RR Hiawatha deck is in Olympian box.</p>					
Brown & Bigelow / USPC	Bollhagen Various	Minimum 60				
Lot 52	Blueblood Redux Playing Cards	2014	USA			
52+2J As Issued OB1	<p>Created by UUSI, the deck has all original artwork, including two cards that form a diptych. Embossed tuck box.</p>					
UUSI	Minimum 35					
Lot 53	Bicycle Kansas City Club Deck	1930s	USA			
52+2J NM OB1-	<p>This may be the earliest example of USPC using its Bicycle brand and Rider back for a private label deck. The Kansas City club was founded in 1882, closed in 2015. This deck was likely issued in the 1930s; box has a partial tax stamp.</p>					
USPC	Minimum 20					
Lot 54	DeLand's Automatic Deck	1918	USA			
52+J+Bklt +Locator EX+ OB3	<p>Complete Deland deck that allows user to know every card rank and suit based on intricate back design. Cards are shaved to enhance the ease of identification. Deck, instructions and special 'Card Locator' all in great shape; box has split seams and tear at top.</p>					
S.S. Adams Co.	N2	Minimum 30				
Lot 55	3 Lawson Baseball Single Cards	1884	USA			
VG to EX	<p>Fabulous back design on these cards from a Lawson baseball game deck. Cards have light soil; back of Wild Throw has light stain at 2nd base.</p>					
Lawson	Minimum 30					
Lot 56	Dougherty Triplicate Kitten Deck	1878	USA			
52 Good+ No Box	<p>Beautiful early Triplicate kitten back deck. These colorful animal backs in Dougherty's Triplicate series are very popular with collectors. This deck has soil, small paper scrapes and fading of back color. No Joker, no box.</p>					
A. Dougherty	AD11	Minimum 110				

Lot 57	Flor De Franklin Cigars Deck	1912	USA	
52+J+Ad NM OB1-	Great advertising deck for Flor de Franklin cigars with ad card for Judge Day cigars. Special to find old advertising decks in such nice condition.			
Hull, Grummond & Co.	AB1	Minimum 160		
Lot 58	Columbian Expo Souvenir Deck	1893	USA	
52+J EX OB3 Panels	Beautiful souvenir deck from the 1893 Columbian World's Fair. Each card has a different scene from the fair. Box is incomplete but has the main panels.			
G.W. Clark	SX6	Minimum 55		
Lot 59	Bunny With A Tool Belt Deck	2013	USA	
52+2J+2EC Mint OB1	Created by Hillary Pfeifer, the deck features an array of hand-sculpted animals and birds to spark the imagination in telling a story. Two bonus cards form a diptych of a butterfly. The deck has been opened but is unused.			
USPC		Minimum 25		
Lot 60	Jeu Louis XV Paris Whist Deck	1895	France	
52 Mint OB2	Beautiful whist deck with sparkling gold edges. Very nice courts. Box has a lightly split seam.			
B. P. Grimaud	Fournier FR 325	Minimum 50		
Lot 61	Lum Smith's Political Euchre Deck	1880	USA	
52 Good No Box	Historic political deck. Hearts and Diamonds are Democratic, Spades and Clubs, Republican. Each card has state/territory population, governor, electoral votes and actual 1880 vote count. Cards have soil and stains, some faded. No Joker, no box.			
L. Lum Smith	P20	Minimum 100		
Lot 62	9 Square Corner Singles	1880s	England	
VG/EX	9 card lot of attractive square corner singles from England, c1880s. No indices, one court (KS) with purple and yellow floral back design.			
		Minimum 20		
Lot 63	Hanzel Blue Spade No-Revoke Deck	1923	USA	
52+J Mint Sealed OB1	One in a series of no-revoke decks that also include Golden Diamond, Green Club and Sweetheart. Very hard to find in mint-sealed condition!			
S.F. Hanzel Card Company	NR6	Minimum 80		

Lot 64	2014 Club Deck (Silver Edition)	2014	USA	
52+2J As Issued OB1	Much in demand original designer club deck, silver edition, #16 of 500, mint-sealed. Box is signed by designer and fellow club member, Jackson Robinson.			
Expert Playing Card Company			Minimum 100	
Lot 65	National Boston Series A Deck	1896	USA	
52+J NM OB3	We seldom see Boston brand decks and this is in great condition. Joker features Palmer Cox Brownies. Box also very attractive but is missing the end flap of the outer slipcase box.			
National Card Co.	NU12a		Minimum 40	
Lot 66	Hummingbird Feathers 3-Deck Set	2021	Belgium	
52+2J+2EC As Issued OB1 X3	Marvelous Decks produced this stunning set of three decks, with sculpted embossing and multiple holographic foils on the tucks while the cards feature a flood of holographic foil feathers on the backs. Set includes a carat case.			
Cartamundi			Minimum 50	
Lot 67	Virginia Souvenir Deck	1906	USA	
52+J NM OB2	This is one of the tougher Souvenir decks to find. The cards are a duplicate of Jamestown Expo SX23 cards and have sparkling gold edges. The box has split seams.			
USPC	S81		Minimum 80	
Lot 68	Dougherty Excelsior Euchre Deck	1872	USA	
32 VG- No Box	We love these old Dougherty Excelsior decks and their courts. Cards have some soil but no creases or structural damage.			
A. Dougherty	AD7		Minimum 40	
Lot 69	USPC Duplicate Whist Book	1901	USA	
95 Pages EX	Eleventh edition with 79 pages on whist plus 16 pages of ads in the back, 7 pages in color. Brands promoted include Bicycle, Congress (lacquer and wide backs in color) and Mystic. The rare Chameleon back is pictured. Great piece of USPC ephemera.			
USPC			Minimum 35	
Lot 70	16 Coca-Cola Decks	1939-1980s	USA	
52+J x16 VG to MS OB / Cello	Nice group of 16 Coca-Cola advertising decks. Includes 2 Spotter decks and 2 Wheat decks (Blue MS); 6 are mint sealed. One of the Spotter decks is in a different box. 12 decks have 2 Jokers; no Joker in Circus, Air Force and Spotters. See photos for all decks.			
Brown & Bigelow / USPC	AB4, A16		Minimum 100	

Lot 71	Vanity Fair Transformation Deck	1895	USA	
52+J VG Period Case	USPC's first full transformation deck. Courts have comical expressions; JC has face in a sling. Great AS (see cover) and Joker. Cards have light edge wear and soil; two with crease. Housed in period case with clasp. A must for USPC collections.			
USPC	T11	Minimum 160		
Lot 72	Stage Game	1904	USA	
66+2Ad +Inst NM OB1-	This game has 66 cards including photos of 7 stars in 7 categories: Drama, Tragedy, Grand Opera, Comic Opera, Comedy, Vaudeville and Farce. It has detailed instructions and all cards and box are in great shape.			
C.M. Clark Publishing Co.	Minimum 30			
Lot 73	2 Reproductions of 1670 Decks	1967	USA	
52+Title x2 Mint	Two limited edition reproductions of historical 1670s decks: Meal Tub Plot Playing Cards (#97 of 275) and Winstanley Geographical Cards (#24 of 275). Card stock is thin, not meant for play; cards are unused. Originals are in WCMPC library.			
Virginia Wayland	Minimum 20			
Lot 74	53 Vargas Girls Deck	1953	USA	
52+2J NM OB1	Popular pin-up deck featuring 53 reprints of beautiful women by Alberto Vargas. The 2nd Joker gives a brief history of the artist, famous for his "Esquire Girls".			
Brown & Bigelow	N35	Minimum 55		
Lot 75	Congress The Widow Deck	1909	USA	
52+J VG/EX OB3	Very attractive wide Congress deck, The Widow. Cards have light edge soil but the gold edges are still bright, 90%. The 5D has light stain; box is well worn with soil and fading.			
USPC	US6g	Minimum 30		
Lot 76	Art Deco Card Suits Silver Spoon Set	1922	UK	
4 Spoons EX OB2	Beautiful sterling silver spoon set. Each spoon has WJH with lion UK silver mark of maker William J. Holmes, Birmingham. Solid original case has velvet inside, EX condition; outside has scuffs, clasp still perfect.			
William J. Holmes	Minimum 75			
Lot 77	Canadian Card Co. Deck	1885	Belgium	
52 NM No Box	This deck was discovered after the printing of the Dawson Hochman Encyclopedia in 2000. Believed to be made in Belgium for the Canadian Card Co. Deck looks unused but has some dark shading on some backs as well as on the AS; AS has edge scrape at top left.			
Canadian Card Co.	CDN42	Minimum 65		

Lot 78	Hausermann Aluminum Playing Cards	1925 Austria			
52+J VG PB3	Aluminum Spielkarten with nice Art Deco courts and your chance to own a deck made of actual aluminum. Some cards have some scraping (common) but deck lies flat. In plastic box. Great deck to show to your friends.				
Allen Kulturstaaten ANG Segeth 128f Minimum 125					
Lot 79	Great Southwest Souvenir Deck	1910 USA			
52+J+Map +Bklt NM OB2	Beautiful deck depicting Native Americans, their life and culture. It has sparkling gold edges. Fred Harvey booklet has writing by original owner who rode the train; writing also on the card on box back.				
Fred Harvey S27 Minimum 60					
Lot 80	Topsy Turvy World Tarot Repro Deck	1982 Germany			
78+Bklt As Issued OB1	A book in German and summarized in English describes this as like a deck from the mid 18th century combining the Marseille tarock with French suits.				
Edition Leipzig, Muller of Berlin Minimum 20					
Lot 81	Finissime Whist Dante Deck	1923 Austria			
52+J NM OB2	Beautiful wide whist deck with special Aces and courts and sparkling gold edges. There are 3 backs in this series, Beatrice, Cherub and Dante. The Joker comes from another Dante deck with a lighter background. Box has wear at the seams.				
Piatnik Fournier DE 115 Minimum 25					
Lot 82	Home Run Deck	1922 USA			
52+J+Bk EX Wrong OB1-	This deck was clearly inspired by the Dodgers, Brooklyn being the home of the Pyramid Playing Card Co. Deck is in great shape with bright gold edges, rare for this small maker. The box was originally for another Pyramid deck but still a nice box.				
Pyramid Playing Card Co. PY4 Minimum 25					
Lot 83	Royal National Patriotic Cards	1905 UK			
52+Info VG PB3	National cards represent England, America, France and Germany. Nice description on the plastic box and this is the 5th edition; missing the Joker.				
David Kimberley & Sons Minimum 50					
Lot 84	Trumps Long Cut Tobacco Insert Deck	1890 USA			
52+J VG- to EX No Box	Rare tobacco insert cards. Beautiful women of their day. Some cards have creases and paper loss on the backs as if the cards were mounted.				
Moore & Calvi Tobacco Co. I12 Minimum 400					

LOT #84 - Trumps Long Cut Tobacco Insert Deck



LOT #85 - Thirdway Industries Hybris 3-Deck Boxed Set

ORIGIN: Italy

MAKER: Thirdway Industries

YEAR: 2023

CONDITION: As Issued x 3 OB1 x 3

OPENING PRICE: \$150

Giovanni Meroni's 3-Deck Hybris set is a masterpiece of design and storytelling. The limited-edition collection includes the *Harmony*, *Cataclysm*, and *Vengeance* decks, each numbered and housed in a stunning ebony Carat Case. Such a set exudes sophistication and is crafted to appeal to serious collectors and art enthusiasts alike. The case's design is functional and striking, featuring a special slot on the box cover for a custom coin with the set.

Currently available for \$799 on the Thirdway Industries website, this lot has a low opening bid so it gets into the hands of someone who values craftsmanship, storytelling, and rarity. Without a doubt, this Hybris set offers a collection of playing cards and a beautiful piece of functional art. Images courtesy of Thirdway Industries. See front cover for back design.

