



Past Perspectives

It's amazing how one's collecting tastes can change over the years. Some of that is due, no doubt to the ebb and flow of what's 'hot' in the hobby and what's not, but a lot of it, judging from my own case, seems to come with...aging?... More leisure time?...Changing circumstances, anyway.

I can think of several examples. Take Casinos. I remember calling them the 'black sheep' of the hobby back in the 1980s. The hobby was flooded with them, everyone had them, you just keep seeing the same ones over and over again. Then came the decline of domestic matchbook production, plus the advent of the Indian Casinos...and *voilà!* They're hot, and I'm interested again.

Minor Politicals...had no use for them at all. In fact, at one point, I just gave them away, in bulk, to San Tombs, I believe. Then, a little over a year or so ago, I took another look at the category (initially because a significant number were dated, and Dated is my favorite category)...and now I collect them with a vengeance!

And the same has happened with some other categories, as well: Raised Ink and Embossed, for example. I looked at those covers before and wasn't interested. Now, I'm collecting those same covers....and they actually interest me!

Obviously, the covers haven't changed...so it must be *me!* What's changed, though? Standing back and trying to take a look at just what's going on, I probably get hooked by the 'nicer' examples and then finally get snagged by the challenge amassing the 'biggest' collection. In any event, I find that new interests and challenges are always there for the taking in this great hobby...and that's why I'm still here.