

Re: Caro & Sklansky

Source: <http://newsgroups.derkeiler.com/Archive/Rec/rec.gambling.poker/2006-08/msg11772.html>

- *From:* "Mac" <mccoy711711@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 29 Aug 2006 23:23:57 -0700
-

LOL. F#####G kiss-ass pokerchump. Get a life (and a real hero). I mean seriously, what kind of a stupid chump hero worships a phony liar and a cheater?

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pokerchimp wrote:

Don't read it, Block Russ. You're proving who the real idiot is by not figuring that out. I'd have to want something from Russ in order to be a kiss ass. I don't want anything from him. I'm allowed to enjoy his posts. I don't need your permission.

On Aug 30 2006 2:01 AM, Jack King wrote:

Talk to me in a year or two after you've read the same post for the 10th time. Kiss ass.

Jack

pokerchimp wrote:

Why, I happen to enjoy his posts. I think he has an interesting historical perspective. I lived in Vegas in the 1980's and dealt to a lot of these players. Keep posting Russ
On Aug 30 2006 1:41 AM, Mac wrote:

It's 2006 Russ. Get a life today.

RussGeorgiev@xxxxxxxx wrote:

Mike Caro and David Sklansky

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I first appeared in Gardena and Vegas in 1968. I was already a great player and cheater catcher. I was 21. I came from Seattle, Washington where they had stopped the tolerance policies they had maintained for years. Card rooms were tolerated there and I had lived in them since I was 17 and acquired phony ID.

When I arrived in Gardena, I had a bankroll of about \$25,000. I went through it within a month, due to getting into games where I didn't know the players and playing horses. However, I knew I was "the one". With a bankroll of

\$200, I started playing \$1-\$2. I rented a place for \$20 a week. The motel was decent and I played for 16 hours a day. A month after playing \$1-\$2, I built my bankroll to enough to go to \$2-\$4. In those days I had all the

discipline in the world. I was a total workhorse. A month after that I had tripled my BR again and was in the \$3-\$6. All this time, I was watching

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and
listening. I had lost \$25,000
earlier, due to inexperience
and not
knowing
the terrain. And I was
cheated or scammed, which
ever you like. I knew
I
was.

A month later I had again
more than tripled my money
and moved to the
\$3-\$6.

Here I played and destroyed
the games, all honestly. I
was now
beginning to
get noticed and was tipping
the floor men and
boardmen. Soon I moved
into
\$5-\$10 and annihilated the
games. A month went by
and I moved up again.

I
was now at the \$10 and \$20
limit, lowball, as the draw
games were too
small.

Here I acquired my first
partner in Gardena. His
name was Maury Cohen.

We
were both young and we had
both been playing for
several months in the
same
games day after day. He was
the only competition I had
in the games. He
was
also a younger guy. I think
about 25.

Maury and I played every
day, day after day, never
booking a loser. In

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fact,
I will tell you one of the
most incredible stories you
may ever hear.
Maury
was a very good lowball
player. He was also a very
lucky lowball
player. In
those days the card rooms
closed at 4 or 5 pm. and
reopened at 9am. In
the
days Maury and I played
partners, Maury never had a
losing day. If he
was
loser 3 buy ins with 5
minutes left before closing,
Maury would pick up
a
pat wheel against a 6-4 with
multiple way action. This
was how lucky he
was.
He was also very good.

After the card rooms would
close, many would want to
continue playing.
We
would go and play
somewhere. It was Bar B Q
city. Our bankrolls got
larger. Within 6 months of
coming to LA, I had played
everyone in LA
heads
up. Minimum buy in
\$10,000. I played them all
honestly, even though
many
tried to cheat. None of them
won. I beat the best LA had
to offer.

I went to Vegas. Here I was
back to playing the games I
was raised on.

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Pot
limit, No limit, 7 card stud,
razz and what ever else. I
was also into
scamming. The main guys
in Vegas at this time were
Sarge Ferris and
"Shoeshine" Nick, who also
had come from Gardena.
Chip, Eric, Bobby,
Danny
and the rest had not yet
reached Vegas.

Doyle was there, so were
Puggy and Slim. There were
many of these guys.

But
the big guys at this time
were Sarge and Shoeshine.
The rest were penny
ante
compared to them. Soon I
was playing with the "so
called legends" haha.
I
had just destroyed LA and
was now coming to take on
Vegas.

However, Vegas had a
different format. They had
center dealers. And in
the
big games, many center
dealers were card
mechanics. This is all on the
GCA CHEATING TAPES.

Soon I was playing with
these guys. Guess what, all I
learned was they
were
just like the rest, except they
had a "gold plating". We
were all
cheats. I
hadn't started out this way,

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but I never ran into anyone
who would give
you
a fair chance. However, I
was more than capable.
Young and egotistical,
I
knew I, "was the best".

Soon I was playing the
guys. Cold decks came in
and I went to the rest
rooms, just as the cards
reached me, I said "deal me
out", thus ruining
the
cold decks. Vegas was a
tough place to play honestly
or even play.

However, my reputation
grew. Soon I was called and
I brought "young
teams"
of scammers to Vegas to
beat the big boys. I did a
very good job. In my

opinion, Puggy Pearson was
the best of the lot. If they
couldn't cheat
me,
they couldn't win. They
didn't cheat me, and they
didn't win. However,
I
cheated them. This will be
told in another story.

At this time in Gardena,
since I was playing
everyday, I noticed the
players. Mike Caro was one
of them. At this stage in his
career, I was
a 100
and he was a 1. He played
draw poker at this time.

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Average limit was
about
\$5-\$10. It was hard to miss
him as he had a look about
him, kind of
like
David Sklansky, hippie.
Mike Caro was just a small
time player at this
time,
but I noticed all the regulars.

We go forward about 7
years. I was now one of the
most seasoned
"veterans".
I was the overall best.
Scammer, Player, and
cheater catcher. And I had
the
bankroll to back up
anything.

About 1970 I had run into
Ray Zee in Lake Tahoe on
my way to Seattle
for
Christmas. Ray had earned a
reputation as I had. This
would be the
first of
many meetings. Ray would
cheat casino poker with
dealers flashing him
the flop, turn and river. Ray
would sit in the corner seat
and certain
dealers would flash the
cards to Ray.
Later, he'd move onto
Oregon and cheat poker and
blackjack games. Ray
Zee and I traveled
much of the same territory
in those days, the Pacific
Northwest.

To shorten the story, I was

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very well known at this time
and had
received the
road name of Seattle Russ in
Portland Oregon. I was
virtually a
lawnmower in
all games I went to. I had
broken up with my wife in
1970 and she had
broken
my heart. I went north for a
while to recuperate.

I was in Seattle and the
Northwest for a few years
where I won
everything
including the kitchen sink.
Back to Gardena and Vegas.
Here I was
really
back home. My former
friends in management had
all gained higher
positions,
including the most lucrative
casino, the Horseshoe in
Gardena.

However, let me tell you
one thing. the limits in
Gardena were small
compared to Vegas. Until
the 70's the highest you
could play was \$20
limit.
very big at that time
especially when there was
no limit to the raises.
A
dozen raises or more wasn't
uncommon in those days.

About 1976 they raised the
limit to \$60 –\$120 if I
recall, or maybe
\$100–\$200. The games in

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Vegas were much larger. I was everywhere, watching and listening, trying to make a dollar.

At about the early seventies, David Sklansky came to my attention. At that time he and Mike Caro had a similar hippie look. They were still very low on the poker food chain at that time. However I had to notice them as they were in the casinos every day.

Now David I would see in the Rainbow club, playing draw poker. He played about \$15-\$30 or \$20-\$40. he didn't play much lowball if any, and he didn't play very high in Gardena. Now here comes Vegas. The main rooms in those days were the Dunes, Stardust and even the Sahara. Here David was always playing \$75-\$150, or \$150-\$300 stud or razz, with all the cheats that I had encountered years earlier. An old Gardena player, who happened to be a card mechanic, on duty at the Dunes for a weekly rate of \$1500 had told me to not play. This is a well

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known card mechanic that I
won't mention since
he
is retired and about 80 years
old. He was also a loyal
friend. He was
one of
the guys that first told me
about the "camera in the
Dunes".

Now being a scammer, I
was always in Vegas at least
2 days a week.

Whenever

I saw David Sklansky in
Vegas, he was playing
\$75-\$150 or higher.

Whenever I

saw him in Gardena, he was
always playing \$15-\$20
draw poker in honest
games. I was already a
veteran and knew most of
the cheats. Most played
in their

own backyard, but I was a
rebel. I was also young.

What would you say

the

odds of David sklansky
always playing \$75-\$150
and higher stud in
Vegas, and

only playing \$15-\$30 draw
in Gardena. Playing at least
10 times lower

and in

honest games as opposed to
games that contained 75%
cheats in Vegas.

Seeing this for several years
really stunk. In Vegas David
played at
least

\$75-\$150, usually higher.

In Gardena, David played
\$15-\$30. Make your

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own
assumptions. In those days,
not many cheats left their
yard. I was
special,
since I was young. When
Tony Spilatro entered the
scene, I decided it
was in
my best interest to stay out
of the games, since I do not
take orders
well.
Besides, I had the best
casino in LA, and I had the
management.

Now back to Mike Caro.
Mike mentions he always
played the biggest or
near
the biggest games. This is
true in one respect, and a lie
in another.
Mike
usually played at the
Rainbow Club in the biggest
draw game. His main
adversaries at that time were
Bob Matsavara and David
"the Arm", who
always
cheated him in those games
also. However, the games
were 8 handed and
Mike
overcame several of these
guys and did beat these
games honestly.
However,
the biggest games in the
Rainbow at this time
couldn't have been higher
than
\$40-\$80, if that. And it was
draw, thus making it far
smaller than
lowball.

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The biggest games in draw poker were at the Horseshoe. This was a pretty honest game by any standards. The games was \$100-\$200 raise blind draw poker, anything opens. Mike was rarely if ever seen in these games.

When he ventured from the Rainbow Club it was to play lowball against all the cheats and scammers. I was the leader. The head or whatever you care to call me. I was also anonymous. My role was the rich kid who would raise whenever anyone picked up a pat 6 or better. I was in control of the management. I made

payouts to about everyone. In fact, it made the front pages of the LA TIMES in articles dated Dec 5,6, 7, 1982. I was mentioned by name as well as the people who cheated Mike Caro.

In fact, a manager of the Rainbow Club, where Mike Caro was a regular, was quoted as saying "if we barred the cheaters and scammers, we would have to close down". This is very close to the quote. He was fired the next day, I

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think.

Until the early 80's Mike Caro and David Sklansky were very small fish.

You may consider me a small fish, but you couldn't be further from the truth.

For would a "small fish" have the power to get all these "icons" you consider in poker, to answer my posts. All you have to do is to look to see

who answers my posts.

David Sklansky has basically negotiated for a retraction from me, which I would not give. Your "who's who" in poker

has done everything to discredit me. However, I am better know in the "top circles" than these guys.

You just don't know. This is not ignorance, it is

just lack of knowledge. For you have to remember, cheats and scammers were

brought up to want anonymity. Money was what they wanted. Since they want

publicity, I have decided to give them publicity.

What are the odds that David Sklansky would play \$15-\$30 draw in Gardena for years and when in Vegas would play at least

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\$75-\$150 stud or razz with
the
cheats I came to Vegas to
beat. Plus, he played in
Tony "the ant"
Spilatro's
days. I watched all this as I
was there. I know everyone
personally,
even
Doyle [though he may have
forgotten], whom I have had
few words with.
The
rest are my peers and I wish
they would open their
mouths on RGP as
Doyle
did. Because I have shut
everyone up, with one basic
thing, LOGIC. They

simply can't answer the
questions with the
credibility like I can.

Russ Georgiev

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