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## Interesting Facts About Poker

By Adel Awwad

Every gambling enthusiast loves a good game of Poker. Conversely, every trivia player loves a good does of trivia. So, for the gambler a set of poker rules, a deck of cards, some poker chips and an place to ante-up will suffice, but what about all of those trivia lovers out there? Guess what, there a ton of fun and interesting facts about poker that trivia enthusiasts are sure to love. Let's take a look at some of these amazing poker facts below.

Did you know that nearly 50 million Americans partake in the game of poker every year? Poker is an incredibly popular game, even more so with its increasing availability on the Internet. Further, poker has grown in leaps in bounds: no longer is it just a Thursday night gathering for avid Poker players, it is also a big time gambling business. Such a fact is proven when statistics indicate that some 70 million standard decks of playing cards are sold every single year!

Another amazing poker fact that you can use to astonish your friends is the fact that President Richard Nixon used a large sum of money that he won in a poker game to fund his first campaign for Congress! That's right, after winning a cool six grand playing poker with his Navy buddies; Nixon won his way into office with his big poker winnings.

Is Richard Nixon the only famous person to be noted to play poker? Of course not! In fact, Groucho Marx earned his name from his poker playing tendencies. Groucho Marx used to wear a grouch bag around his neck all the time. Do you know what was in that grouch bag? You guessed it--his poker money!

Alternatively, we can take a look at John Mantagu, the Earl of Sandwich. Mantagu venerated the game of poker, so much so that he would often engage in hours of gaming and would actually refuse to leave the tables to eat. His solution? He would have someone serve him bread and meat. So, not only do we have the Earl of Sandwich to thank for our noontime meals, we also owe the fascinating game of poker a tribute for the sandwich.

Finally, the origins of poker remain highly debated. Conversely, what there seems to be absolutely no debate about is that poker is here to stay. Poker, possessing both a fascinating history and recreational

appeal will continue to be played both online and in brick-and-mortar casinos everywhere!

Adel Awwad is the webmaster of Online Casinos – Copyright © 2005

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## **The History Of Let It Ride Poker**

### **By Adel Awwad**

Of all the card games being played today, it is undeniable that Poker is one of the most popular, as well as being one of the most famous. People get attracted to the sheer excitement of the game, the thrill of putting one over another player and of course, the big winnings that go along with it.

Because of its popularity, Poker has been adapted into a number of versions and has been regarded as an international card game. It has since evolved from being a simple household or neighborhood game into a professional, high-stakes competition that attracts aficionados from all over the world.

One of the Poker variations that has evolved and has garnered strong following is Let Them Ride Poker. The game, which is loosely based on the popular card game, was developed by the Shuffle Master Gaming Company. The purpose was to increase the sales of their automatic shuffling machines to land-based casinos. It first debuted in Reno, Nevada in 1993.

Let It Ride Poker is based on the Five-Card Stud Poker Game, which gives casino guests the chance to control two out of three bets wagered on an actual Poker game. Players have the option to pull out their bets if they don't like the way their hand develops or "let it ride", as the name of the game indicates, if they want to proceed. Let It Ride Poker is comparable to games like Video Poker, Pai Gow Poker and Caribbean Stud Poker, which are new breeds of games based on the classic game of Poker. However, unlike the usual game, Let It Ride Poker is a single-player game, in the sense that the player competes against the machine and not the banker or other Poker players.

To date, Let It Ride Poker has flourished to become a very interesting and competitive game with a strong following. And why not, when it is patterned after one of the most successful card games of all time?

The game tests a player's intellect and strategy. While luck can win the player a round or two, it is no match to wits and a sheer knack for the game. Let It Ride Poker is a thinking game - each move should be well thought-out before it is enacted. Otherwise, it could make or break the whole game. This is the goal of Let It Ride Poker - to add spice and sizzle to an already electrifying game.

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