

# GAMEROOM

Your Guide to the Ultimate Home Game Room

April 2009 Volume 21, Number 4

www.gameroom.com \$5.95

## Meet the MiniMAME

A redemption machine is  
converted...and redeemed?



**Pachinko Smart Cards**  
No more tokens, ever!

**George Gomez**  
Before pinball, the vids...

## Back Alley Creations Website Ready for Action



Matt Riesterer of Back Alley Creations wrote in to tell us that his brand new website is now up and running. In case you're not familiar with them, they've been creating a really cool line of interesting pinball toys and custom pinballs for those of you looking to trick out your machine of choice.

They combine art and sculpture into some really fun add-on items that are all really unique.

From the press release:

*"I now have a "What's New" section and an "In the Works" section. On these pages you will be able to see what I am in the middle of working on and what has just been added to the site. For example I am in the process of making 3-D web side rails for Spider-Man, custom CSI lock down bar and side rails, and Glow in the dark radioactive green hardware for The Simpson's....The Pinball add ons have been greatly expanded as well. ... I work on so many other things that I can only say that my company focuses on "All" things custom. So if there is anything you are looking for, send me an e-mail and I'll see what I can do for you. Thanks to all of my loyal customers and everyone else for hanging in there as I have gotten this site up and going. I will still continue to send out a monthly e-mail about what I am up to and what's new on the site."*

To see more, and get in touch with Matt, be sure to visit the newly relaunched site right here— [www.backalleycreations.com](http://www.backalleycreations.com)

## Amazon.com Opens Online Game Download Store



For those of you looking to truly try before you buy as in the days of shareware, your prayers have been answered. Amazon.com

has just launched this brand new service giving you access to over 600 games instantly to try out and possibly purchase at no more than \$9.99 per title.

Considering the economy, this seems like the perfect time to launch something of this magnitude and price point. The games skew heavily toward "casual games" (think Nintendo Wii); but there does appear to be some strategy and action games as well.

Considering the price point, this appears to be a great opportunity to try out dozens of games and possibly add a gem or two to your PC.

From the press release—

*"How do I buy Games & Software Downloads from Amazon.com?— Simply find a Game or Software Download title in our Video Game store... the Amazon Games & Software Downloader is required for all digital game and software download purchases. After placing your order, you will need to download and install the Amazon Games & Software Downloader before you can download and install the game or software you purchased...When the Amazon Games & Software Downloader saves the install files for your game or software to your computer, it saves them to a folder you specify in the Downloader application at the time of download."*

Sign up over at Amazon.com right here— <http://tinyurl.com/d39msp>

## Ice Invaders



Well, we had Tetris ice cubes recently featured here in the news, so it's only fair that I give these Ice Invaders their due as well. Sent in by loyal GameRoom reader "MissionControl" comes these fun Space Invader shaped ice cubes.

Let me paint the picture for you—lights

turned down low, you have soft music playing in the background with your date eagerly awaiting the delicious alcoholic beverage you're preparing at your game room bar. You prep your drinks on the rocks with these sweet ice cubes and she swoons at the sight of them tinkling the sides of your glass.

Bliss indeed.

Pick up your set there for about \$10 bucks— <http://www.ohgizmo.com/2009/02/03/ice-invaders/>

## GameStop... Cool?



Well, maybe not, but there's no arguing that this new line of gaming related features some really fun designs sure to please any retro gamer.

Some of the items include T-shirts, jackets, hats, belt buckles, and much more, all of which feature classic Nintendo graphics in really bold interesting patterns. I've seen these in the stores and I have to say, unlike many of the low quality gaming related T's I've seen over the years, these are top quality and will definitely last through years of retro gaming sessions.

Check out the full line at your local GameStop, or just head on over to their website to purchase your favorites right here:

<http://tinyurl.com/buae7s>

## Home Built Juke

I've followed this project over at Arcadecontrols.com for a few months now and I was really impressed with the final product and thought you would enjoy checking it out as well.

The project was created and really well documented by "Mountain" over at the forums there, and he's done a really wonderful job in creating what almost looks like a commercial machine.