



Elgin



Coin Club Newsletter

april 2005

Year 12, Issue 4

December Meeting

Meeting: 7:30pm april 6
Trading: 7:00-7:30pm
Location: VFW Post 1307
 1601 Weld Road
 Elgin, IL

Prizes

Member: 1943-P HALF DOLLAR
YN: 1998 Off-center Nickel
Raffle: 1879-P MORGAN DOLLAR
 1873 3 CENT NICKLE
 1900-P HALF DOLLAR
 1913-D HALF DOLLAR
 1968 MEXICAN OLYMPIC 25 PESO
 BOSTON MASSACRE MEDAL
 JEFFERSON IOWA MEDAL
 BUSH AND GORBACHEV MEDAL
 MODERN WOODSMAN MEDAL

Not a member?
Come anyway and join the fun!
Give your spouse a break and bring your children to the club.

ECC Meeting 565

Opened: 7:35	Closed: 9:00
Members: 26	YNs: 0
Guests: 2	
Beginning: \$222.35	Income: \$128.00
Expenses: \$134.90	Current balance: \$215.45

APRIL PROGRAM

The slide show scheduled for last month will definitely be shown this month. The slide set from the ANA is on the modern minting process.

MARCH Minutes

Doug called the meeting to order at 7:35 and after the treasurers and secretaries reports were accepted we went straight into the program. The program shown was a video from the club archives on grading U.S. coins obtained from the ANA. After the program raffle tickets were sold. The meeting was adjourned about 9:00.

Secretary's Report

Accepted as printed in march's newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Balance: \$222.38
 The Treasure report was accepted.

Old Business

This year's fantasy coin contest has begun. Current standings will be given at the april meeting.

New Business

Raffle tickets for the upcoming club show are being printed and will be distributed in the next month or so.

Prizes

We had our customary raffle and membership drawings. The raffle winners were Rich, Jim D., Marty, Bob V., Keith, Greg and Robert L.

Member: Rick W.

YN: none

The meeting closed around 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by Jim D.

Board Meeting

On March 9 Doug, Don, Jim D., Frank, Rich and Mike M. met at Don's house to conduct club business.

Submitted by Jim D. secretary

Shows

- **april 3**— Lemont Coin Expo, Lesnieski Center, 127th & Lemont Rd., Lemont, IL
- **april 10**— West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
- **april 17**— NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
- **april 17**— D'Atri Auctions, Double Tree Guest Suites, 2111 Butterfield

Rd., Downers Grove, IL.
April 22-24, C.I.C.F. 30th. Anniversary show. Holiday Inn O'Hare 5440 N River Rd. Rosemont, IL
Oct 30 Elgin coin club annual coin show. Vfw post 1307, 1601 weld rd., Elgin IL

SHOW AND TELL

Rich brought in a lincoln cent that was heated to a point where the inner zinc portion melted but the outer copper layer remained intact. The motion of the molten core caused a distortion on the obverse design giving lincoln a large lump on the top of his head. He also brought in a pricing wheel for lincoln cents and buffalo nickles from 1958.

Marty brought in a lincoln cent with a silver like coloring of an unknown composition.

Bob v. brought in a New Zeland coin from 1764.

Al M. brought in a 1936 half dollar with a diebreak resembling a D mint mark.

Steve H. Brought in a 2.5 cent token to the Empire hotel in Peoria.

EDITORIAL

Oh, 2005 coins where art thou? As of this writing in mid march I have yet to see a single 2005 dated coin in circulation. I have seen some quarters at shows but none in everyday use. Usually I see some ba mid jan to early feb. If any member has seen any of this years coins in change let us know at the meeting. At the march board meeting we were visited by the clubs past president Mike M. It was good to see him again and he is looking well. After taking care of club business Mike told us what he was up to durring the last couple of years. Durring that time he has made severat trips to europe and asia and even found time to get

married. If you want to read more about Mikes adventures go to his website, worksandwords.com. He also keeps the clubs webpage at this site although I'm going to have to bug him about updating the info once in a while.

Starting in this issue ad's have been suspended. If anyone wants to continue running an ad in this newsletter and webpage contact either myself or Don C. The cost of an ad is \$50 in cash or \$80 retail in merchandise.

Finally a correction in the last issue the coin quiz answer should have been the gold \$2.50 and \$5.00 of the 1850's. Thanks to Marty for pointing that out.

COIN OF THE MONTH

\$4.00 STELLA Patterns

Stella! More than a character in a Tennessee Williams play the stella was a failed gold coin proposed in the late 1870's. According to Breen the denomination was brought about in a failed attempt to reconcile the 'Rivalry' between gold and silver and create a trade coin to be used in Europe to compete with the ducat and similar gold coins.

There are two varieties of stellas. The first shows liberty with shoulder length flowing hair as designed by Charles E. Barber. The second one designed by George T. Morgan depicts liberty with coiled hair wrapped on top of her head. Circleing the portrait on both varieties is the metallic composition of the coins in grams.

The composition of the coin consists of 6 grams gold, .3 grams silver and .7 grams copper. The reverses of both coins are identical. The center device is a 5 pointed star with the legend one stella and 400 cents. Written around the edge of the coin is united states of america, four dol., e pluribus unum and doe est gloria. This gives the stella the unusual feature of having it's denomination written three different ways.

Being technically patterns all stellas are rare. The most common variety is the 1879 flowing hair variety. Various sources list the mintage anywhere from 400 to 600 pieces with 425 being the generally accepted total. The other

three varieties are generally believed to have mintages between 10 and 25 pieces. All stellas were struck in proof condition at the Philadelphia mint and most were given to politicians in Washington. When collectors at the time discovered they couldn't obtain the coins from the mint they soon found out that several dozen specimens were being worn as jewelry by ladies managing brothels in Washington that were frequented by the members of congress who received the coins in the first place. To this day those coins can be identified by the repair marks caused by the removal of loops or other means of mounting.

THIS MONTH'S COIN QUIZ

MATCH THE MINT CITY TO THE APPROPRIATE NUMBER. EXTRA CREDIT FOR IDENTIFYING WHAT THAT NUMBER REPRESENTS.

- | | |
|------------------|--------|
| 1. PHILADELPHIA | A. 415 |
| 2. DENVER | B. 215 |
| 3. SAN FRANCISCO | C. 706 |
| 4. NEW ORLEANS | D. 704 |
| 5. DAHLONEGA | E. 303 |
| 6. CHARLOTTE | F. 504 |

ANSWERS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

coin quiz answers 1-b, 2-e, 3-a, 4-f, 5-c, 6-d. the numbers are the telephone area codes to those cities.



Elgin Coin Club

A.N.A. 28457
C.S.N.S. R6906

P.O. Box 561
South Elgin, IL 60177
ecc@worksandwords.com

I.N.A. 1299

President — Doug Nelson
Vice President — Steve Hardman

Treasurer — Don Cerny
Secretary — Jim Davis

Regular Meeting: First Wednesday
VFW Post 1307
1601 Weld Road
Elgin, IL

7:30pm
708-888-9809

Visitors are always welcome. Weld Road is a frontage road between McLean and Randall Roads just south of US 20 on the south side of Elgin.

Board Meeting: We have a board meeting about two weeks after the regular meeting. We get together at one of the officer's or board member's houses or at a location otherwise determined by the officers. This is an *open* meeting. Members are welcome to all board meetings. If you want to attend, contact an officer for the time of and directions to the meeting place.

Internet: The club has a home page on the internet at www.worksandwords.com. You can view the monthly newsletter there about three or four days after it is sent out to the members.

Club Dues: Membership dues in the Elgin Coin Club, payable by the end of February each year, are:

- \$10 full member
- \$5 junior member (YNs) under 18
- \$15 family membership (all adults and children in the family)

Newsletter editor: Jim Davis. Contact me at P.O. Box 561, elgin, IL 60552-0314 or at the above email address.

Submit all items for publication to the editor or any officer at any club meeting or send them to the above address. If you compose on a computer, please include an electronic copy of the item. That really helps.

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