

# in Table 100 Lines

# **Coin Club Newsletter**

April, 2008 Year 15, Issue 4

## **April Meeting**

Meeting: 7:30pm April 2 Trading: 7:00–7:30pm Location: VFW Post 1307

1601 Weld Road

Elgin, IL

#### **Prizes**

**Member:** 1868 3c.

YN: Space Shuttle Medal

**Raffle:** 1912-D 5c.

1925-P 5c. 1930-P 5c.

1938-D 5c. Buffalo

1909-D 10c. 1926-D 10c. 1909-D 25c. 1941-D 25c. 1985-S 25c. 1971-S \$1

Not a member?

Come anyway and join the fun!

Give your spouse a break and bring your children to the club.

#### **ECC Meeting 599**

**Opened:**7:30 **Closed** 9:00

Members: 22 YNs: 0

 Guests: 5
 Beginning: \$820.70

 Income: \$190.00
 Expenses: \$90.00

 Current Balance: \$920.70
 50/50: \$250.00

# April program

This month's program will be a combination Pizza party to celebrate out 600<sup>th</sup> meeting and a white elephant auction.

March Minutes
Eagle called the meeting to
order at 7:30. The Secretaries and
Treasurers reports were accepted
as published. Old and new business
was discussed and show and tells
were given. We then went into the
month's program, which was a
member's auction. After the
program, raffle tickets were sold
and winners selected. The meeting
adjourned about 9:00 pm.

April, 2008

#### Secretary's Report

The members in attendance accepted the report as printed in March's newsletter.

## Treasurer's report

Balance: \$820.70
The members in attendance accepted the report as published in March's newsletter.

Old Business Fliers for the spring show are available.

New Business
The fantasy coin contest will resume this year. Anyone wishing to participate in the contest should see Jim D.

#### **Prizes**

We had our customary raffle and membership drawings. The raffle winners were Mary, Jerry R., Bob V., Eric, Joe P., Guy M., Mary, Bob V., Mary and Mary.

**Member: Lucky** 

YN: None

The meeting closed around 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by Jim D.

Board Meeting
The Board meeting was held on
March 12 a Don's house. Don,
Eagle, John R., Jim D. and
Shea met to discuss club

# business and select prizes for the April meeting.

#### **Shows**

- **April 6** Lemont Coin Expo, Lesnieski Center, 127<sup>th</sup> & Lemont Rd., Lemont, IL
- April 13 West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
- **April 20** NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
- April 13 D'Atri Auctions, Double Tree Guest Suites, 2111 Butterfield Rd., Downers Grove, IL.
- Oct 26 Elgin coin club annual coin show. VFW post 1307, 1601 weld rd., Elgin, IL

Show and tell

John B. showed some coins from Australia.

Tim T. showed a James Madison dollar struck with a partially grease filled die.

Eagle brought in the new Bald Eagle Gold and Silver commems.

Guy M. showed an NGC graded ms70 one-ounce Gold Eagle bullion coin.

#### **Editorial**

Banking assistance needed. For the past several months, Shea and Don have explored the options of opening a checking account for the club. So far, those efforts have been in vain. We are asking any member with banking or non-profit organization laws come forward and assist the club. If you do not have such knowledge yourself can you recommend someone who does? Until such time

the club opens a checking account, the club must operate on a cash only basis.

What programs would you like to see? Each year the club has five months where the programs are pre determined. We have four auctions and a holiday dinner. This leaves seven months where programs need to be decided. As much as we try to anticipate the desires of the club, we need your feedback to determine what programs are of the most interest to the club. Would you like to see more slide/video shows, lectures by either a club member or guest or group activities like grading or trading sessions? Let the officers know your preferences and we will try to present programs the club will enjoy.

The yellow mark means its real, or does it? During the course of business at my job, I have noticed more and more large denomination bills (50's and 100's) with yellow streaks made by currency testing pens. These pens leave a clear yellow mark if the paper is good and turn dark brown or black if the paper is bad. This test is only good if you perform the test yourself. If you see a bill with a yellow mark, a counterfeiter could have made it himself using a yellow highlighter. In addition, a couple of years ago several counterfeit bills were made by bleaching the ink off a small denomination and reprinting a large denomination on the good paper.

To avoid any problems you should use the alternate methods of checking currency to determine if it is good or not. Some methods are checking that the watermark portrait matches, inspecting the color shifting ink, looking for the imbedded thread and micro printing and feeling for the coarse texture if intaglio printing.

#### Coin of the month

#### Two cent pieces

Born from the coin shortage of the Civil War the Two cent piece was one of the shortest-lived denominations in U.S. history. Struck for ten years from 1864 to 1873 the coin was popular when first released but fell out of favor once the war ended. The coin came into existence as part of the law that changed the composition of the cent form copper-nickel

alloy to a bronze alloy. The two cent piece is 23 mm in diameter and weighs 6.22 grams, exactly twice the weight of the cent. Designed by James Longacre this coin is the first to feature the motto "in god we trust." The idea for adding a motto mentioning a supreme being was the idea of Rev. Mark R. Watkinson of Ridleyville, PA. The Reverend felt the inclusion of such motto would raise the spirits of the people depressed by the war. Rev. Watkinson did not actually coin the phrase "in god we trust" that phrase was derived from the motto of Brown University, which is "IN DEO SPERAMUS." That translates into "in god we hope." Variations of this motto were discussed including the motto "god our trust" before finally deciding on the motto as it appears today. The new motto became popular and was included in new coins as they were designed. By 1908, despite objections from President Roosevelt, the motto became mandatory on all silver and gold coins and in 1955 mandatory on all coins. The Indian head nickel holds the distinction of being the last coin not to have this motto.

The obverse design of the two cent piece is similar to the shield nickel with the exception of the motto placed on a ribbon above the shield in place of a cross. The motto has a tendency to wear off quickly like the dates of the Indian nickel and standing liberty quarter. Also on the obverse is a pair of arrows and olive branches.

The reverse of the coin has a large number 2 above the word cents surrounded by stalks of grain, either wheat or rice, surrounded by the words united states of America.

Collecting the two cent piece is best suited to intermediate to advanced collectors. The complete set consists of 13 coins, 12 if you exclude the 1867 double die. There are four major varieties in the series. They are the 1864 large and small motto and the 1873 open and closed 3. The shape of the inside of the D in god determines the large and small mottos. The large motto has a tall inner portion while the small motto is more rounded. The open and closed 3 is easily determined. Grading this coin is tricky. The main grading area is the motto

and how many words of the motto can be read. Secondary grading areas are the leaves and lines in the shield. Values for a 12 coin set are in MS60 \$13,000, MS 63 \$15,000 and MS65 \$42,000.

Proof coins generally fall in the \$2,000 to \$4,000 range with the 1873 varieties going for \$3,500 to \$6,000 and the 1864 small motto proof being the major rarity of the series at \$75,000.

Just a short note from the president

This month seemed to be a good showing for members, guests, and yn's. Welcome to our new guests.

Our member auction went well. We raised \$42.00 more for our 50/50. Our next meeting program will be the white elephant, so bring in coins and stuff to sell for the club.

April we are going to have a pizza party, so come hungry. Don't forget; if you have any coins to buy and sell or trade bring them in any month for members to see.

Hope to see you at our next meeting. E.C.C. President Eagle McMahon

Don't forget our next club coin show on April 27, 2008. See ya there.

#### **Elgin Coin Club**

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

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

President — Eagle McMahon Vice President — Steve Hardman Treasurer----Shea Finnegan
Secretary —Jim Davis

Regular Meeting:

First Wednesday VFW Post 1307 1601 Weld Road Elgin, IL 7:30pm

I.N.A. 1299

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 Floin

**Board Meeting:** We have a board meeting about two weeks after the regular meeting. We get together at one of the officer 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. Box561, 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.

This Newsletter is the informal mouthpiece of the Elgin Coin Club. This Newsletter and its contents are copyrighted but you may use anything herein (accept as noted below) for non-commercial use as long as you give credit to the Elgin Coin Club Newsletter. This blanket permission does not extend to articles specifically marked as copyrighted by the author of the article. In the latter case, you must get explicit written permission from the author either directly or through the Newsletter to use that material.

To get back copies of the Elgin Coin Club *Newsletter* ask the secretary at the meeting, send a letter to the club post office box, or send an email. You can also print them from the internet.