



Elgin



Coin Club Newsletter

September, 2008

Year 15, Issue 9

September Meeting

Meeting: 7:30pm September 3
Trading: 7:00–7:30pm
Location: VFW Post 1307
 1601 Weld Road
 Elgin, IL

Prizes

Member: 2008 Bald Eagle 50c.
 1927-S 25c.
YN: 1986-S S.O.L. 50c.
Raffle: 1935-S 5c.
 1935-P 5c.
 1926-S 25c.
 1944-S 5c.
 1930-P 25c.
 1986-S S. O. L 50c.
 1986-S S. O. L. 50c.
 2 Indian Cent pins
 2 Indian 5c. pins

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

ECC Meeting 604

Opened: 7:30	Closed: 9:00
Members: 21	YNs: 0
Guests: 1	50/50: \$568.00
Beginning: \$1,210.70	Income: \$141.50
Expenses: \$92.00	Current balance: \$1,260.20

September program

This month's program will be a member's auction. There are no buyers or sellers fees. Bring in some coins and currency you wish to sell.

August minutes

Eagle called the meeting to order at 7:30. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were accepted as published. Old and new business was discussed and show and tells were given. We then went into the program that was to be a video on Flying eagle and Indian cents. Due to technical problems we showed a video on Bust half dollars. The meeting adjourned about 9:00 pm.

Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's report

Balance: \$1,210.70

The report was accepted as published in August's newsletter.

Old Business

Fantasy coin contest

- 1. John R. 28,900**
- 2. Marty K. 26,000**
- 3. Jim D. 25,750**
- 4. Jim M. 25,550**
- 5. Arnie G. 25,000**

New Business

None

Prizes

We had our customary raffle and membership drawings. The raffle winners were Lucky, Kay Kay, Mary, Rob S., Kay Kay, Guy H., John B., Bob S and Marty.

Member: None

Jim C. would have won had he been there.

YN: None

50/50: John B.

The meeting closed around 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by Jim D.

Board Meeting

On August 13, Eagle, Doug, Don, Shea, Tim and Jim met to discuss club business and select prizes for the September meeting.

Shows

- **September 7** — Lemont Coin Expo, Lesnieski Center, 127th & Lemont Rd., Lemont, IL
- **September 14** — West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
- **September 21** – NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
- **Sept 28** — 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

Jim D. showed his Jefferson nickel proof registry set, a hobo nickel, a Zamunda five-pound movie prop coin from "Coming to America" and a print of the reverse of the \$5 educational series from 1896.

Don D brought in a 1921 centennial medal from Peru.

Don C. showed a printing plate for a \$5 Valley bank of Maryland series 2, plate 93 dated 1856 obtained at a Eau Claire, WI coin club meeting. Also an early 1960's coin and stamp guide.

Eagle showed fractional Buffalo gold coins of 1/4 and 1/10 ounce in original mint packaging.

Editorial

Coin show raffle tickets. We now have raffle tickets available to members to sell. The costs of the tickets are still \$1 each or 6 for \$5. This year's prizes as mentioned in last month's newsletter are a \$5 gold coin, a proof silver eagle and one ounce silver coins of England, Australia, Canada and Mexico. We believe the inclusion of these beautiful coins will stimulate interest and sales of raffle tickets. Please help the club by taking and selling a pack or two. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

The numismatic road less traveled. Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, and sorry I could not travel both. Those words by Robert Frost echo the sentiment of myself and other collectors trying to decide what to collect. Do I collect a set by date and mintmark or do I include proofs and varieties? If so, what varieties? Do I collect by type? Do I collect what is currently popular or go for an unpopular series that is currently undervalued? In my case the answer is in the following verse. Two roads diverged in a wood and I took the road less traveled by. And that made all the difference. Sicily's historic coasts. About a year ago former club president Mike Metras published a book on his month long journey on the island of Sicily. For over 3,000 years Sicily was a crossroad of ancient civilizations. Mike's compelling prose and photos bring the sights, sounds and even smells of the island to life. From Ancient temples to modern marketplaces his travel is described in great detail. Each chapter begins with a coin of the area he is currently visiting. My favorite chapter is the one of Syracuse where Mike comes upon a museum of coins containing hundreds of silver and gold coins. The cases he viewed contain some of the highest grade and most beautiful examples of Greek, Sicilian, Roman and Byzantine coins known. Unfortunately photographing the coins was not permitted and all we have is Mike's descriptions. I highly recommend this book and I could go on describing the contents but I have a sudden urge to go out for some gelato.

[From Mike, also your web host: You can preview and purchase the book at

www.WorksAndWords.com/sicilybook.htm.]

Coin of the month

1846 Half Dime

This month's coin of the month is the 1846 half dime, part of the Seated Liberty series of 1837-1873. The coin was designed by Christian Gobrecht and measures 15.9mm and weighs 1.3 grams of 90% silver. The mintage of this coin is a mere 27,000 pieces making it one of the key coins of the series.

The E-Gobrecht newsletter rates the coin as the number one coin in the entire Seated Liberty series. They state due to the coins small size it is relatively unpopular and undervalued compared to the other Seated Liberty coins. Most coins extant are lower grade and pieces grading over very fine are very scarce. Both PCGS and NGC have certified a total of three mint state coins with the finest a mint state 63. Values for this coin according to the PCGS price guide are Good \$550, Fine \$1,000, Extra Fine \$4,000, About Uncirculated \$7,500, Mint State 60 \$12,000 and Mint State 63 \$22,000. In 2006 an AU55 coin sold in a Heritage auction for \$6,325 and on August 10 2008 a damaged coin with a hole once worn on a charm bracelet sold for \$15.00

A short note from the president

Thanks to all that made it to our August meeting. We were to have a program on Flying Eagle and Indian Cents, but had a problem with the DVD so we had one on Capped Bust half dollars. It was a very informative DVD.

I talked to Kevin Foley at the Schaumburg Show. We could get a club table at no charge but we would have to have someone from our club there to man the table. So if anyone is interested in manning a table I will get more info.

Our membership coin of the month will be a rollover since the member (Jim C.) was not there to receive it. If you are not there the coin will roll over to the next month. We used to do this at past meetings years ago. So plan to attend the next meeting you never know you

just might be the next winner.
See you at the next meeting September 3rd.
Remember if you have any coins to buy, sell or trade bring them with you to the next meeting.
Also if you would like to write an article for the newsletter just send it to Jim D. or myself and we will put it in the next letter.

Eagle McMahon
E. C. C. President

Ten coins that can bring tears to a coin collector.

10. A hobo nickel carved in a 1916/16 double die.
9. An elongated cent rolled on a 1914-D
8. A 1932-D quarter pounded into a coin ring.
7. An 1880 Flowing hair Stella with one side ground down and engraved as a love token.
6. A pair of 1856 Flying Eagle cents made into cuff links.
5. A 1916-S half dollar made into a pocket watch.
4. A pair of 1942/1 Winged Liberty dimes cut out to make earrings.
3. A two headed magicians coin made from a pair of 1921 Peace Dollars.
2. An 1846 Half Dime holed and placed on a charm bracelet.
1. An 1893-S Morgan dollar hollowed out to make a smugglers box.

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 — 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

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 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, South Elgin, IL 60177 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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