



# Elgin



## Coin Club Newsletter

October, 2008

Year 15, Issue 10

### October Meeting

**Meeting:** 7:30pm October 1  
**Trading:** 7:00–7:30pm  
**Location:** VFW Post 1307  
 1601 Weld Road  
 Elgin, IL

### Prizes

**Member:** 2008 Bald Eagle 50c.  
 1927-S 25c.  
 1980 Canadian Silver  
 \$

**YN:** 1892-P 25c.

**Raffle:** 1971-S 1c  
 1856 Half Dime  
 1918-P 5c.  
 1921-P 5c.  
 1926-D 25c.  
 1928-D 25c.  
 1928-S 25c.  
 1929-D 25c.  
 1979-D \$1

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

### ECC Meeting 605

<b>Opened:</b> 7:30	<b>Closed:</b> 9:00
<b>Members:</b> 15	<b>YNs:</b> 1
<b>Guests:</b> 3	<b>50/50:</b> \$568.00
<b>Beginning:</b> \$1,260.20	<b>Income:</b> \$124.50
<b>Expenses:</b> \$87.00	<b>Current balance:</b> \$1,297.70

### October program

**This month's program will be a White Elephant auction. There are no buyers or sellers fees. Bring in some coins and currency you wish to donate. All proceeds go to the club.**

### September minutes

**Eagle called the meeting to order at 7:30. The Secretaries and Treasurers reports were read and accepted as published. Old and new business was discussed and show and tells were given. The month's program was a Members auction. The meeting adjourned at 9:00.**

9/27/08

## Secretary's Report

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

## Treasurer's report

**Balance: \$1,260.20**

**The report was accepted as published in September's newsletter.**

## Old Business

### Fantasy coin contest

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

## New Business

**Raffle tickets are available. Dee Jim D. at the meeting.**

## Prizes

We had our customary raffle and membership drawings. The raffle winners were Joe P., Mary, Rob A., Jim D., Dave C., Rob V., Al M., Rob A., Mary and Tim.

**Member: None**

Roger B. would have won had he been there.

**YN: Tim**

**50/50: Lucky**

The meeting closed around 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by Jim D.

## Board Meeting

On September 10, Eagle, Doug, Don, Shea, Tim, Jim C. and Jim D. met to discuss club business and select prizes for the October meeting.

## Shows

- **October 5** — Lemont Coin Expo, Lesnieski Center, 127<sup>th</sup> & Lemont Rd., Lemont, IL
  - **October 12** — West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
  - **October 19** — NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
  - **October 26** — 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. brought in a Bermanian horse cart token and a Five billion dollar note from Zimbabwe.

Don C. showed several fancy serial number notes.

Eagle brought in several \$100 bills from the 1950's including two star notes.

Tim T. showed a check he received from the state of Illinois he received after searching cashdash.net.

Rob A. brought in a 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln Cent.

## Editorial

It's Showtime. October, a time when Baseball winds down, Football is in full swing and Basketball and Hockey are just starting. Leaves turn from green to red and orange before falling to the ground. October also brings the annual Elgin coin club coin show. Again this year we will have a raffle, youth auction and door prizes. We need your help to make this year's show a success. Volunteers are needed to help set up the tables, sit at the front desk, greet visitors and run the youth auction. Speaking of the youth auction, we need donations of coins, currency and supplies for the kids. All donations are greatly appreciated. One good thing this year is the week of the show is also the Bears bye week so attendance should be better.

The 2008 club elections. After you cast your vote in next month's election for your favorite candidate consider running for one of the club offices up for grabs in December. This year the offices are Vice President and Treasurer. Duties of the V.P. include running the meeting in the absence of the President, overseeing raffle ticket sales and running the youth auction. Duties of the Treasurer include keeping the books, collecting dues and paying club expenses. A benefit of being a club officer is your annual dues are waived while in office.

Half Dollar search. A couple of months ago Don C. gave me some rolls of Kennedy half-dollars he obtained in Wisconsin. Four of the rolls were hand wrapped and two were machine wrapped. When I opened the rolls I tracked all the date/mintmark combinations. Out of this sample of 120 coins, I found 30 different dates and mintmarks. Eighteen from Denver and twelve from Philadelphia. Most coins were minted between 1971 and 1976 with the most common ones being 1976-D, 1873-D, 1972-D and 1971-D. No coins dated 2001 or later were found. Two 40% silver coins were found, 1966 and 1968-D. Grades of the coins ranged from VG to AU. Since half dollars do not circulate in this area as they do in Wisconsin seeing a heavily circulated half is very unusual.

## Coin of the month

### 1809 Half Cent

This month's coin of the month is the 1809 half cent. The half cent is the smallest denomination coin the United States has produced. The coin began in 1793 but by the end of the war of 1812, it had lost much of its purchasing power. When the series ended in 1857, the coin was practically useless. Most collectors only collect this coin as a type but some attempt to complete a full set despite some very low mintages. During the peak of production, most mintages were in the 200,000 to 600,000 range. In the 1850's mintages dropped to about 50,000 per year. This brings me to this month's coin, the 1809 issue. I chose this coin for two reasons, first reason is next year it turns 200 years old and second it is the highest mintage of all the half cents. A mintage of 1.15 million may seem tiny by today's standards, but in 1809 it was considered huge. People criticized the coin design by John Reich at the time calling liberty "Reich's fat mistress".

Around the portrait is the word Liberty and the date. The reverse features a wreath with the denomination half cent inside. Under the wreath is a fraction 1/200 and around the wreath is United States of America. The coin is pure copper and weighs 5.44 grams and is 23.5 mm in diameter (about the size of a quarter). Every half cent was struck in Philadelphia. Values for the coin from the PCGS price guide are VG-\$52, Fine-\$69, VF-\$100, XF-\$175, MS60-\$750 and MS65-\$6,500. NGC has graded one coin MS66.

Just a short note from the president  
Well maybe not that short this time

Well last month's meeting really went well with the member auction. Thanks to Rob for your help as auctioneer.

We also had guests at the auction that brought coins and now want to become members. This week there was a big show in Tinley Park it went really well. As for me I bought too much, but then again it's never too much, LOL. I did see Don D. there, I'm not sure if he saw me, LOL. If you did not attend the meeting, we now have raffle tickets for our show on October 26, so come and get 'em. Roger B. was chosen as the winner of the membership prize but he was not there. You could have won two good prizes but you have to be there to win. Our 50/50 winner of \$32.50 was Steve F.

I am looking to put a showcase or two in our club show. Articles from the Elgin coin club, past pictures, coins or anything that has to do with the club since 1957. So if you have anything you could donate the use of (but not to keep) anything that pertains to the club over the years please let me know ASAP. Thanks. Our next meeting will be on October 1<sup>st</sup>, hope to see you there. We will have a White Elephant auction. If you would like to write an article for the newsletter (don't be shy now) please do so and give it to Jim D. or myself. If you have any coins to buy, sell or trade please bring them to the next meeting.

Eagle McMahon  
E. C. C. President

Don't forget

Coin show October 26<sup>th</sup>

Bring all sold raffle tickets there.

## Coin Club

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

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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](http://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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