



# Elgin



# Coin Club Newsletter

March 2011

COLLEGIUM NUMISMA

Year 18, Issue 3

## March Meeting

**Meeting:** 7:30pm March 2  
**Trading:** 7:00-7:30pm  
**Location:** VFW Post 1307  
 1601 Weld Road  
 Elgin, IL

## Prizes

**Member:** 1858-O 50 c.  
 1944-P 50 c.  
**YN:** Westward journey 5c. set  
**Raffle:** 5c. 1883 N/C unc  
 1913-P T1 f-vf  
 1913-P T2 f-vf  
 1936-P unc  
 1977-S  
 10 c. 1941-P unc  
 1941-S circ  
 1945-P unc  
 50 c. 1964 Proof  
 1919 French 50 ctme.  
 \$1 2003-S Sacagawea

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

## ECC Meeting 634

<b>Opened:</b> 7:30	<b>Closed:</b> 9:00
<b>Members:</b> 0	<b>YNs:</b> 0
<b>Guests:</b> 0	<b>50/50:</b> \$1,409.55
<b>Beginning:</b> \$3,673.15	<b>Income:</b> \$105.00
<b>Expenses:</b> \$868.62	<b>Current balance:</b> \$2,909.53

## March program

**This month's program will be a Member's auction. Bring some items you wish to sell and money to buy. Don't forget to bring some show and tells.**

## February minutes

**Due to the massive snowstorm, the February meeting was cancelled. Prizes and raffle items will be carried forward to the March meeting.**

## Secretary's Report

**Because of the cancelation of the February meeting, there was no secretary's report.**

## Treasurer's report

**Balance: \$3,673.15**

**As with the secretary's report, there was no treasurer's report for February. Just a reminder to those who have not paid, your annual dues are due.**

## Old Business

**None**

## New Business

**None**

## Prizes

**There was no raffle in February.**

**Member: None**

**YN: None**

**50/50: None**

Submitted by Jim D.

## Board Meeting

On February 9, Eagle and Jim D. met to discuss club business for the March meeting. There are 11 raffle prizes and 2 members' prizes. This month we chose fewer prizes of better quality.

## Shows

- **March 6** — Lemont Coin Expo, Lithuanian world center, 14911 E. 127th, Lemont, IL
- **March 13** — West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
- **March 20** – NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
- **March 27** — D'Atri Auctions, Double Tree Guest Suites, 2111 Butterfield Rd., Downers Grove, IL.  
May 1, 2011 Elgin coin club spring coin show. VFW post 1307, 1601 weld rd., Elgin, IL

Show and tell

None

Editorial

Oh, the weather outside is frightful. On February 1, 2011, one of the worst storms in recent history dumped over two feet of snow on Elgin. Because of that storm, we were forced to cancel the February meeting. A few days after the storm, we tried to reschedule the meeting but the VFW didn't have a date or time we could use. The Board decided to not make up the meeting and carry over the prizes to the March meeting. At that meeting, we will also distribute raffle tickets for the spring coin show. We will also ask volunteers to help make the new tokens and help on the day of the show. The National Collectors mint strikes again. The newest "commemorative" issued by the NCM centers on the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. This medal is struck in three pieces. The base piece is a scene of New York City struck in copper and plated with 14 milligrams of 24-karat gold. The other two pieces are plated in .999 silver and are shaped like the twin towers

and the USS New York. This ship was partially made with steel salvaged from ground zero. The two silver pieces are shaped so they can be placed in the base to form a three dimensional scene of the ship sailing past the twin towers. The reverse shows the insignia of the Department of Justice/FBI and the mottos we will never forget and justice will prevail. The NCM claims the gold and silver were recovered from the World Trade Center. This is possible since many gold and silver eagles were certified by PCGS as recovery pieces. From just one gold and silver one ounce coin the NCM can make over 2,200 pieces. At \$1,375 gold and \$30 silver each of these “commemoratives” contain about 63 cents of precious metal. The NCM sells them for \$29.95 plus S+H. Don't Bogart that coin. The mint just released the design for the reverse of the 2011 Sacagawea dollar. The new design shows Plymouth Governor John Carver offering a tobacco peace pipe to Supreme Sachem Ousumequin Massasoit, at least I hope it's tobacco. The pipe was smoked to complete the singing of the first formal peace treaty between Native Americans and European settlers in 1621. This coin is the third in an ongoing series honoring Native Americans. I believe this coin along with all the other dollar coins will see limited circulation until the government wakes up and discontinues printing dollar bills like most other large nations have. Also, it's strange to see a coin indirectly promoting smoking with all the legislation trying to get people to quit.



Photo courtesy of google

## Coins of the Month

### 1848 CAL. \$2 ½ Gold

This month's coin of the month is the 1848 \$2.50 gold with the CAL. Counter stamp. The story of this coin began on January 24, 1848 when James Marshall discovered gold in the American river near Sutter's Mill. As word spread hordes of men came to California to stake their claim and make their fortune. In December of that year, California Military Governor Col. R. B. Mason sent about 230 ounces of gold to the Philadelphia mint. The gold was to be used to first strike medals for Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott. All remaining gold was to be used to strike quarter eagles. To differentiate these coins from other quarter eagles, the mint punched CAL. on the reverse just above the eagles head. All three letters were struck with a single punch because all genuine pieces are identically punched with letters equally spaced. The coin was also punched while resting on the obverse die since there is no flattening on the obverse opposite the punch area. If anything there is more detail there due to forced metal flow. This is also a way to detect faked coins since coins flattened when punched outside the die. Another diagnostic is the period is square shaped. From the remaining gold

after the medals were struck, the mint coined 1,389 quarter eagles. Although it is not the rarest in the series the notoriety of the stamp makes the coin very popular. Some collectors consider this coin the nation's first commemorative. As such, the coin commands very high prices. Prices range from \$21,000 in good to \$195,000 in MS65. The finest known example, graded MS68 star by NGC sold for \$402,000 in 2005.

#### JUST A SHORT NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

WELL AS WE WERE ALL SNOWED IN FEB 2<sup>ND</sup>,  
E.C.C. DID NOT HAVE A MEETING THIS LAST  
MONTH.

WE (THE CLUB) NEEDS HELP IN SELLING  
TICKETS FOR OUR SPRING COIN SHOW, AS  
WELL AS HELP WITH DRILLING THE TOKENS FOR  
THE SHOW. GET IN TOUCH WITH TIM T. OR  
MYSELF... PLEASE HELP YOUR CLUB TO HAVE A  
BETTER SHOW !!!

OUR NEXT MEETING, WE WILL HAVE OUR  
MEMBER AUCTION SO BRING YOUR COINS IN  
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SELL..  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE A TABLE AT OUR COIN  
SHOW IN MAY YOU NEED TO CONTACT DON C.  
OR MYSELF ASAP, TABLES ARE LIMITED !!  
THANKS

AS OF 2-15-2011 GOLD IS \$1,373.90  
SILVER AT \$30.80

IF YOU ANY COINS TO BUY, SELL, OR TRADE  
BRING THEM INTO THE NEXT MEETING, (IF WE  
DON'T GET SNOWED OUT AGAIN) !!! MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>  
2011

E.C.C PRESIDENT  
EAGLE MCMAHON

## 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** — Harold Eckardt

**Treasurer** — Tim Tvrdik  
**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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