



Elgin



Coin Club Newsletter

February 2012

COLLEGIUM NUMISMA

Year 19, Issue 2

February Meeting

Meeting: 7:30pm February 1
Trading: 7:00-7:30pm
Location: VFW Post 1307
 1601 Weld Road
 Elgin, IL

Prizes

Member: 1949-D 50c.
YN: 2010-P \$1 Lincoln
Raffle: 1912-D 1c.
 1032-D 1c.
 1933-P 1c.
 1960-P 1c. LD
 1883-P 5c. N/C
 1969-S 50c.
 1970-D 50c.
 1982-S 50c.
 1979-S \$1 Proof
 1980-S \$1 UNC
 2000-D \$1
 1920 1c.
 Newfoundland

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

ECC Meeting 645

Opened: 7:30	Closed: 9:00
Members: 19	YNs: 1
Guests: 0	50/50:
\$1,820.05	
Beginning: \$4,001.68	Income: \$346.00
Expenses:	\$883.28 Current
balance: \$3,464.40	

February program

This month's program will be a presentation on cameo proof coins. Just a reminder to everyone to pay your dues. Starting this year, the dues are \$15.

January minutes

Harold, standing in for **Eagle** called the meeting to order at 7:30. The Treasurers and Secretaries reports were read and accepted. Old and new business was discussed. The program was an extended show and tell session. The meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Secretary's Report

The members in attendance accepted the secretary's report as published in the January newsletter.

Treasurer's report

Balance: \$4,001.68

The members in attendance accepted the treasurer's report as published in the January newsletter.

Old Business

Dave S. presented more information to the club on making a group submission to one of the grading services. Based on his research the club decided to use NGC. Anyone interested in participating must have his or her coins and fees submitted at the March meeting.

New Business

None

Prizes

Winners of the monthly raffle were **Al, Al, Leif, Vonelle, Lucky, Jim D., Al, Don D., Vonelle, Leif, Alex and Alex.**

Member: **Harold**

Eagle would have won had he been here.

YN: **Luke**

50/50: **Leif \$14.00.**

Submitted by **Jim D.**

Board Meeting

On January **11**, **Harold, Tim, Doug and Jim D.** met to discuss club business for the February meeting. There are **12** raffle prizes and **1** member's prize. This month two prizes are silver coins.

Local coin shows

- **February 5** — Lemont Coin Expo, Lithuanian world center, 14911 E. 127th, Lemont, IL
- New coin show, Park Inn Radisson, 1725 E. Algonquin Rd., Schaumburg, IL
- **February 12** — West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL
- **February 19** - NOISE Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd (2 blocks E. of IL 53), Itasca, IL.
- **February 26** — D'Atri Auctions, Double Tree Guest Suites, 2111 Butterfield Rd., Downers Grove, IL.
- **April 29** — Elgin coin club Spring coin show. VFW post 1307, 1601 weld rd., Elgin, IL

Show and tell

Jim D passed out a handout showing Japanese coin since WWII and information on how to identify and date the coins.

Don D. presented a preview of his latest world coin news article. He showed 13 coins with a common theme. The coins were 1475 Austria kreuzer, 1550 Hungary denar, 1558 Scotland 1 ½ d. 1610 Poland 3 groschen, 1649 Riga under Sweden solidus, 1732 Freiburg Im Briesgau 2 kreuzer, 1808 Westphalia 1/24 tahler, 1827 United Nassau 3 kreuzer, 1833 Honduras 2 reals, 1834 Chile un peso, 1854 Bolivia 4 soles, 1865 Bolivia ½ melgarejo and 1650 Riga under Sweden solidus. The common theme they are probably all counterfeit.

Harold talked about recent roll search results in which he found a Franklin Half, 2 1964 Kennedy halves, a 40% silver half and some Eisenhower dollars.

Tim T. showed a wooden flat from the Highland, II centennial of 1937 he found in an attic in Arkansas. He also showed a 1909-S Lincoln cent.

Mac brought in some pieces of advertising designed to resemble currency and an Alaska statehood medal.

Editorial

Million dollar babies. At this years FUN show, two U.S. coins joined the million dollar club. The first is a 1793 chain cent with periods also known as the Sheldon-4 variety. This coin sold for \$1,380,000. Also at the show an 1829 \$5 gold again sold for \$1.38 million. Other million dollar coins sold there were a 1907 \$10 for \$2.185 million and a 1913 Liberty nickel for \$3.74 million. This goes to show that even in this tough economy quality merchandise is always in demand.

A thieving thief at the ANA museum. On January 12, 2012 **Wyatt E. Yeager** pled guilty to stealing over 300 coins from the ANA museum and selling them for

almost \$1 million. He worked for the ANA from January to March 2007 when he suddenly quit. After he quit he went on a tour of auction houses and shows around the world selling his contraband. Among the coins stolen were a 1795 capped bust \$5, an 1836 Gobrecht pattern dollar, an 1856 flying eagle cent, an 1877 cent in proof, a bar cent and a 1907 high relief \$20 St. Gaudens. By pleading guilty he faces up to 10 years in prison, 3 years supervised release, restitution, forfeiture and a \$100,000 special assessment. Anyone who purchased one of these coins or any of the hundreds stolen from the ANA is encouraged to return them, as it is illegal to possess items stolen from a cultural institution.

ECC 50th fall coin show pin is ready. To commemorate the clubs 50th fall coin show the club ordered pins made using the Elgin half as the main theme. The idea for the pin came from **Harold** who borrowed the idea from a similar pin made by the Hillside coin club. Each paid member will receive one pin free and extra pins will be sold for \$5 each. The pins came out nice and will make a nice addition to anyone's collection.



Photo courtesy of Google

Medal of the month

1971 Chicago fire centennial

This month's medal of the month is the 1971 Chicago fire centennial. On October 8, 1871 just after 9 p.m., legend states **Catherine O'Leary's** cow kicked over a lantern starting the great fire. Fueled by southwest winds and an abundance of wooden buildings, the fire spread as far north as Fullerton Ave. By the time rains came and put out the fire a day and a half later, over 4 square miles of the city was destroyed. Despite the massive destruction only about 300 people died. Years after the event, a newspaper reporter confessed to making up the cow story in order to sell papers. The true cause of the fire is still unknown but some of the prime suspects are **Daniel "Peg leg" Sullivan**, some gamblers in a dice game and even a meteorite. In 1970, the Chicago Historical Society commissioned **Trygve Rovelstad** to design a medal for the fire's 100th anniversary. The obverse shows a then and now scene of Chicago. The foreground shows the fire destroying the First Presbyterian church and the Chicago Historical Society. The Water tower, one of the few buildings to survive in the fire zone is shown standing tall. Behind the fire are several well-known modern

Chicago landmarks. Seen are the Hancock building, Marina towers, the First National Bank building and Lake point tower. Above the scene is Chicago Fire Centennial, 1871, 1971 and four 6 pointed stars. Below on a ribbon is Chicago Historical Society, **T. A. Rovelstad** 1970. The stars taken from the flag of Chicago represent the Fort Dearborn massacre, the fire, the Columbian exposition and the Century of progress. The reverse shows the seal of the city of Chicago surrounded by 21 stars. On the seal is written City of Chicago, Incorporated 4th March, 1837 and the Latin motto *urbs in horto*, the city in a garden.

The medals were struck by the Medallic art co. of New York in two metals and sizes. The large silver and bronze medals measure 63 mm. The silver weighs 135.5 grams or 4.36 troy ounces of .999 pure and the bronze weighs 126.9 grams. The small medals are 38mm (silver dollar size). The silver weighs 27.5 grams or .9 troy oz and the bronze weighs 24 grams. When offered for sale in 1971 the silver medals cost \$35 for the large and \$6 for the small. The bronzes cost \$10 and \$1. At the time, sales were not great and a coin dealer bought out most of the overstock. Its possible a large number were melted in 1980 when silver was near \$50. The melt value then would have been \$218 and \$45. Today the four coin set is worth between \$200 and \$225.

Numismatic Jeopardy

\$400 The name of his pet charity made the dime an obvious choice in 1945 when a grieving nation said put him on a coin.
\$800 The Buffalo head nickel was also called this type, John Big Tree modeled for it.

\$1200 Before the 5 cent was nickel, it was silver and was logically called this fractional name.

\$1600 On the 2006 nickel this building looks basically the same as it always did though the dome is a little sharper.

\$2000 The winged liberty dime bore the bundle of sticks that gave its name to this liberty hating political system.

Coin collecting is more fun when you attend a meeting. Buy, sell or trade. Meet with friends or make new friends. There is always something interesting happening at the Elgin coin club.

Answers

\$200 F. D. Roosevelt

\$400 Indian nickel

\$800 Half dime

\$1200 Monticello

\$2000 Facism

Coin Club

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

P.O. Box 561
South Elgin, IL 60177
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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. 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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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.

2012 coin show dates

April 29

October 28