



MINT LUSTER



The Official Publication of the
OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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President

Gary Parsons
olegar@cox.net
405/426-9044



Vice President

Chris Harrell - 318/458-8441



Secretary/Treasurer

Tim O'Keefe
union213@aol.com
918/697-8348



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The *Mint Luster* is the official publication of the Oklahoma Numismatic Association. It is published quarterly in July, October, January, and April. The *Mint Luster* is mailed to all current dues paying members of the ONA which includes all ONA lifetime members. This Publication is dedicated to improving the communication among ONA members. To correct any subscription problems, please contact the Secretary as there may be an incorrect address in the ONA database or your dues may have expired.

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EDITOR

Brian Miller
(405) 760-1047
brianmiller3732@att.net

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Editor's Notes



Brian Miller - Editor

I am glad the warmer weather is heading our way after the freezing cold we had in February. I am also glad the OKC Coin Club has resumed our monthly meetings. At our last meeting we learned that the ONA annual coin show will be canceled. I am hoping that we find a smaller venue and put on a smaller show so we can still get together for a coin show. These coin shows are the only ways I have to get the coins that I am needing for my collection.

In this issue, we have the return of the "Why We Collect" column by Gary Parsons and we also have a Treasurer's column by Tim O'Keefe. The usual articles are also included such as the Presidents article and the MECC minutes. I also enjoy the "What We Collect" column from Tim as well. If any of you have an addition or an idea for an article, please submit your articles to me as we are always looking for new content to our newsletter.

Has any of you found the W mintmark quarters? So far we have found two! My wife found one of them in her change cup in her vehicle. She collects the Statehood/America the Beautiful quarters and was looking for the newest quarter and called me about the W mintmark. She said she had never

seen that mintmark before. I then got one in change a couple weeks later.

My mom called me the other day saying she found a quarter with "V75" on the obverse. She wanted to know if that a mintmark. I told her it was a privy mark to honor the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. I then asked her what National Park it was and she said it was American Samoa. I have yet to find one of these yet but I am still looking!

I am hoping we can get this pandemic behind us and we can get together again for a big coin show! I can't wait. Hope to see all of you at a coin show soon!



Letter from the President



Gary Parsons - President

It appears we have got through the winter surge in the Pandemic. Let's hope the improving situation continues. Many of our clubs had to shut down again but are starting to meet again. What a challenge it has been for everyone!

It is my sad duty to report that Shane Cornell passed away in January. He was a dedicated member of the Association and kept things going for many years without a lot of help. He was my friend and I will miss him!

Other members of our family of members, club members, and dealers have contracted the virus but have recovered with lingering side effects you don't want to get! I finished my vaccinations two weeks ago and I encourage everyone to get vaccinated as soon as you can.

Most of you probably know that we had to cancel the Oklahoma City show. All of the big shows are being cancelled because space providers are insisting that CDC guidelines be followed. We can't comply and have anything resembling a normal show. No

one would have a good time, which is my bottom line. Cost considerations would result in a big loss. We have decided to not try to do another big show until the pandemic has passed. We might look at a smaller show in a venue that wouldn't insist on CDC guidelines. The shows that are coming off seem to be well attended and very active.

It is election time! You will find a ballot and envelope inside the Mintluster to mail it back in. Those running are unopposed so it is a necessary formality but we have left space for write-ins. We will count the ballots in early May and announce the new slate of officers in the next MINTLUSTER. They will take office July 1.

It is hard to count the blessings we do have during these difficult times. As for me, I am blessed with my many friends in the Association and the hobby and it has made it easier for me.



Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes

By Tim O'Keefe

Magic Empire Coin Club minutes
January 28, 2021

Call To Order: The January 2021 meeting of the MECC opened at 6:05 PM as President Chris Harrell welcomed the 13 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Old Business:

(1) Reports were that the Glenpool Black Friday Show in November and the January Mustang Show were positive. The Hot Springs, Arkansas Show was in a crowded area that made movement limited.

(2) The Club's exposure on COINTV from the Fall Tulsa Coin Show is paying dividends on Youtube. Our Facebook page has received over 200 visits worldwide since the three videos have aired.

New Business:

(1) Longtime Club member Shane Cornell passed on January 1. Dale Schaffer brought several numismatic items from his estate and presented them to the Club. Discussion led President Harrell

to make a motion, seconded by Dale Schaffer for the two display cases and a zipper cloth cover bag to stay with the Club for future exhibitions. The other items will be put up for auction at the February meeting with the proceeds going towards our charitable year-end donation.

(2) This month's announcement for the MECC meeting was picked up on Facebook by a club out of Joplin, Missouri and shared. We received over 300 hits on the announcement from January 25-28.

Drawing: Won by President Harrell

Annual Winter Board Meeting

(1) Club officers President Chris Harrell, Vice President Todd Hourihan, and S/T Tim O'Keefe announced their intentions to remain in their posts. There was no opposition and all three were re-elected for another one year term by acclamation.

(2) Board members Mark Kephart and Todd Hourihan were not up for re-election. Ron Lawrence

stated he would like to remain in his position. Keith Morgan advised by phone that he would also like to remain. Shane Cornell's passing left a third vacancy, which John Sayco agreed to fill.

(3) O'Keefe made a motion to make a \$100 donation to Grace Hospice in Shane Cornell's name, seconded by Harrell. O'Keefe had already spoken to Maggie Cornell, and she agreed that this was appropriate.

Auction: President Harrell acted as auctioneer as 11 items sold during the bidding.

Close: Yearly dues were collected from most members present. The next meeting is set for 6PM on Thursday February 25, 2021 at Tulsa FOP Lodge 93, 12512 East 21 Street, Tulsa. An Educational Presentation is on the agenda. Tonight's meeting was closed by

acclamation at 7:28PM.

The February 2021 meeting of Magic Empire was attended by eight members and two guests. Several of the membership was out of town attending the delayed Duncan Coin Show. S/T Tim O'Keefe advised that the Club's information has been updated on the ONA website. The bulk of the meeting was spent on an auction involving numismatic books of Shane Cornell. All but twelve of the books sold. They will be added to the Club's library, which is maintained by Club member Ron Lawrence. We raised \$150 towards the Club's charitable plan for 2021. Drawings for door prizes were won by Gary Harris and Vice President Todd Hourihan. Guest Jack Wolfe, an expert in Oklahoma tokens, brought a collection of counterfeit tokens for the Show & Tell portion of the meeting.



Why We Collect

Many of us older collectors have turned to type collecting after collecting sets when we were younger. The advantages of type collecting are many but one advantage is you can pick a period, like Twentieth Century coinage. A similar and more challenging, but not impossible set would be late 19th Century from 1850 to 1900. This set would include all of the odd denomination coins in our countries history.

These pieces include the half cent, three cent silver and nickel, two cent, twenty cent, and three dollar gold pieces. These are coins with interesting back stories. Even non-collectors find these coins interesting. So you can have a good time rolling them out for your friends and family.

We are all challenged as we age in the hobby to find new ways to collect. The late 19th Century was a period of great change brought on by the discovery of large quantities of gold in California, the Civil War, and the



Gary Parsons

rapid expansion of economy. Hoarding of coins by the public and inability of the government to provide the coinage needed by merchants resulted in great experimentation to come up with coins that would be used in commerce. The result was all of the odd denomination coinage. The half cent was technically a left over from much earlier when it was needed to make change for Spanish Colonial coins that were in circulation. It was still in circulation until demonetized in 1857.

I encourage all of you to take a look at putting a set together. As long as you included circulated examples the sets would not be overly expensive except for the Three Dollar Gold piece, which you could choose to exclude along with the other gold coins. It would be great set!!

IS THIS A GREAT HOBBY OR WHAT!!



**Token Wanted:
The Fair Store
General Mdse
Medford, Oklahoma**

**CONTACT: Joe Foley
bonesdc@aol.com
540-798-3819 cell**

2021 Spring Oklahoma Numismatic Association Treasurer's Report

By Tim O'Keefe

Balance in Checking Account as of March 1, 2021 is \$41,717.24.

Balance in CD as of March 1, 2021 is \$32,000.00.

With the canceling of the Oklahoma City Show we will be sending out table refunds to several dealers. The OKC Fairgrounds has agreed to refund our deposit on the facility.

Please pay your dues this year and if you change addresses, please notify me at TFOK1414@yahoo.com or at ONA PO Box 277 Jenks, OK 74037-0277. The Post Office will not forward Mint Luster.

I just wanted to take a moment to recognize the contributions Shane Cornell has made to the ONA over the years. He was tasked with coordinating and being accountable for all of the ONA finances for many years, as well as dealing with our ten State coin clubs and helping to make the annual Oklahoma City and Tulsa shows a success. He maintained the mailing lists for the Mint

Luster, along with keeping track of all of our dues paying members. Many of us do not know how much time and effort goes into this volunteer position. Shane was also an avid coin collector and set up a dealer table at many of the Oklahoma shows. He will be missed. I will continue to be a good steward of the ONA's money and hope to emulate his work ethic and attention to detail to keep our organization running smooth.

Along those lines, the transition of information hit a speed bump or two as I took over the position. Shane began to get sick in early October. While he did cash several dues checks that came in late, he did not have a chance to enter exactly who those checks were from. Over the Christmas holiday several of you received a note from me asking if you had paid dues for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. No slight was intended for those who paid. I simply did not have the information as the deposit slips only have amounts, not names. I am learning more and

more each day and figuring how to read his spreadsheets, so I ask for some patience while I get a handle on this responsibility. I take this job seriously and want to see the ONA continue to thrive and flourish as we move forward. Also, if you change addresses during the year, please notify me as the US Post Office is loathe to

forward mail. Brian Miller does an outstanding job of getting Mint Luster out and we do not want you to miss out on any information concerning our hobby. Take care and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

New Members: Mark Kephart
 Brian O'Keefe

New Life Members: Magic Empire Coin Club LM-264



What We Collect

I think that mint marks fascinate most collectors. Currently, the United States Mint has us checking our daily change for that elusive West Point mint mark on the latest National Park Quarter series. Everyone in the know wants that prized “W”.

Growing up in the 60s and 70s, I was always on the prowl for the “S” mark from San Francisco coins, which were especially rare to find on the East Coast. Long time collectors know that Philadelphia and Denver produce the bulk of circulating coins in this country. Philadelphia has been producing coins since the 1790s, and until the early 1980s, they are identified by the lack of a “P” mint mark. The only exception to this occurred 1942-1945 when the alloy for Jefferson nickels was changed to partially silver and a large “P” mint mark appears on the reverse over the dome of Monticello. Denver is of course indicated by the “D” mint mark, but did you know that is not the only mint to use that par-



By Tim O'Keefe

ticular letter? The Dahlonega, Georgia Mint operated from 1838 to 1861, and produced only gold coins utilizing the “D” identifier. Denver took over the mint mark when it opened in 1906. Other mints that operated in the 1800s were Charlotte, North Carolina (“C”), also producing only gold coins from 1838 to 1861, Carson City, Nevada (the coveted “CC” mint mark) which operated 1870 to 1893 producing mostly silver coins, and the New Orleans, Louisiana (“O”) which had two operating runs, the first 1838 to 1861, and the second being 1879 to 1909.

Mint marks are not unique to our country. In Great Britain, The Royal Mint in London has created the bulk of English coinage, but was also in competition over the years with the Heaton Mint (“H”) and the King’s Norton Mint (“KN”), both located in Birmingham, England. You can type-collect the large English pennies of 1918 and 1919, as all three mints are represented that

year (those without the mint mark are from the Royal Mint). The saying: "The sun never set on the British Empire" also applied to their mints. Because the Empire was so vast, it was practical to have other operations in place to produce money. Commonwealth countries utilized mints in Calcutta ("c"), Bombay ("b"), and Lahore ("L"), India, and in Pretoria, South Africa ("SA") to provide ample daily coinage to the realm. Hard currency for East Africa, Hong Kong (British Trade Dollars), Australia, British Malaya, Cameroon, and the Straits Settlements came from these presses. The Royal Mint in Llantrisant, Wales has occasionally provided coins to New Zealand. Likewise, the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa, Canada has made coins for Jamaica, Fiji, and New Zealand.

So does the United States accept outsource work for other countries? The answer is absolutely yes. In addition to "making money", the mint is in the profit making business. During World War II, our government took over minting money for both Australia and Fiji through both the Denver and San Francisco facilities. You can find very affordable pieces of 1942 to 1944 showcasing the "D" and "S" mint marks on Australian silver three pence, six pence, shillings, and

florins. Likewise, the "S" is on silver six pence, shillings, and florins of the same period in Fiji.

As part of the spoils of the Spanish American War, the US was given control over the Philippine Islands in 1899. United States Administration extended to 1936, and the island had Commonwealth status until after World War II. As such, the Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco Mints were tasked with providing coins from 1903 to 1919. All three mints produced circulating specimens in 1944 and 1945. (The Manila Mint ("m") made the bulk of circulating coins in other years). The Philadelphia coins hold no mint mark. All of these are low cost items, so assembling a collection will not break your pocket book.

The Franklin Mint in Wawa, Pennsylvania, was known for putting out commemorative and specialty coins, but they also had several foreign contracts. This facility has created coins for the British Virgin Islands, the Cook Islands, the Solomon Islands, the Philippines, Bermuda, and the Bahamas, to name a few. Most of their production was between 1975 and 1985. The company no longer produces coins.

The Waterbury Mint, located in Western Connecticut, made coin planchets for foreign coins that



were then sold to the US Mint for production. Waterbury was known as "The Brass Center of the World". The Scovill Manufacturing Company owned the facility. Most notably, the company produced coins for Haiti just after 1900. The business also provided minimal coinage to Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Germany, Mexico, and India. The Waterbury Mint was short lived, and went out of business in the early 1900s.

The United States has also created coins for Guatemala, Netherlands-Antilles, Peru, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Ecuador, to name just a few. And in an interesting turnaround, the Native American dollars that have had such a poor circulation run in our country are used constantly in every day change in Ecuador.

It is fair to say that our country has touched the entire world when it comes to spreading numismatics. Minting coins is

not as xenophobic as one might believe. The next time you are in a coin shop or at a coin show, check out the foreign collections and see if you can find some “Ds” or “Ss”. And find something you like and collect the heck out of it

Sources: The Official Red Book: A Guide Book To United States Coins, RS Yeoman, edited by Kenneth Bressett.

Standard Catalog Of World Coins, Chester Krause and Clifford Mishler, edited by Colin R Bruce II.



ONA COIN CLUBS

All ONA member clubs may have their information listed at no charge. Send any changes or corrections to the Mint Luster Editor.

OKC Coin Club

ONA Life Member 40
Meets 1st Tuesday monthly at 7pm
St. Lukes Methodist Church
222 NW 15th St
President - Terry Gust
Vice Pres - Brian Miller
Secretary - Tyler Tyson
Treasurer - John Ogilbee
Historian - Allan Ramsey
Box 21022
OKC, OK. 73156-1022

Border Town Coin Club

ONA LM-234
Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month
Bancorp South - East Branch
7000 Rogers Ave
Fort Smith, AR
President - Phil Rosar
Vice Pres - Richard Bartlett
Sec/Treas - Dale White
PO Box 931
Fort Smith, AR. 72902
479-783-5881

Enid Coin Club

ONA Life Member 67
Meets 1st Tuesday monthly at 7pm
Oklahoma Highway Patrol Station
5725 W Owen K Garriott Rd.
President - Frederick Pepe
Vice Pres - Larry Bennett
Secretary - Kim Pepe
PO Box 1901
Enid, OK 73701

Indian Territory Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday each month -
6:30pm
Taco Bobs, S. Main, McAlester
President - Steve DeFrango
Vice Pres - Dale Ennis
Sec/Treas - Gary Parsons
1232 S Main St.
McAlester, OK. 74501
(918) 423-9044

Magic Empire Coin Club

ONA Life Member CC 241
Meets monthly on 4th Thursday at
6pm.
12512 East 21 Street,
FOP Lodge 93 in Tulsa
President - Chris Harrell
Vice Pres - Todd Hourihan
Sec/Treas - Todd Hourihan
PO Box 580055
Tulsa, OK. 74158
918-697-8348

Comanche County Coin Club

ONA Life Member 14
Meets 1st Monday of each month
6pm.
622 C Avenue, Lawton
President - Jon Wozniak
Vice Pres - Glenn Stebleton
Secretary - Lisa K. Ewing
Treasurer - Erwin Wheeler
130 S. Hillside Rd, Apache, OK.
73006
580-583-0873

Stephens County Coin Club

ONA Life Member 17
Meets 4th Monday of each month -
6:30pm
Red River Technology Center
3300 W Bois D'Arc, Duncan, OK.
President - Erwin Wheeler
Vice Pres - Robert Meyer
Secretary - Sam Feedback
Treasurer - Dan Fletcher
(580)470-8799
Box 635
Duncan, OK. 73533

Indian Capitol Coin Club

ONA Member CC 185
Meets 3rd Monday of each month -
6:30pm
Muskogee Library
8th & Okmulgee
President - Mike McClendon
Vice Pres - Sam Carter
Secretary/Treas. - Robin Holloway
PO Box 2521
Muskogee, OK. 74402

Custer County Coin Club

Meets 3rd Monday of each month -
7:00pm
217 N. Illinois ST. (in the back)
Weatherford, OK 73096
President - Trent Boesen
Vice President - David Tautfest
Sec/Treasurer - Kim Arganbright
405-222-8718

Northwest Arkansas Coin Club

Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month -
6PM; Embassy Suites Hotel,
Rogers, AR. at Exit 83.
President - Ed Wheeler
Secretary - Mark Yarbrough, Jr.
Treasurer - Steve Weeks
479-621-3277
PO Box 5751
Bella Vista, AR 72714



COIN SHOW GUIDE

ENID COIN CLUB

44th Annual Coin, Token and
Paper Money Show

March 12, 13 & 14

Garfield County Fairgrounds

Hoover Building

318 E. Oxford St. Enid, OK

Free Admission

Contact Fred Pepe

(580) 747-8661,

DLRMORGN@AOL.COM





**Do you have an idea for an article
for the Mint Luster?**

**Email your article to Brian Miller
at brianmiller3732@att.net**

**Any pictures, please send as sepa-
rate attachments!**

**I will put your article in an
upcoming issue!**

**Oklahoma Numismatic Association
PO Box 277
Jenks, OK. 74037-0277**