



MINT LUSTER



The Official Publication of the
OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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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's Notes



Brian Miller - Editor

We had a great time at the ONA Coin Show here in Oklahoma City in May! I helped out at the front desk for the first several hours on Saturday morning and I couldn't wait to get out there and start looking over all the dealers coins and start picking something out for myself. I looked at a few 1913-S Type 2 Buffalo Nickels, but in the end, I surprised even myself by ending up getting a 1916-S Walking Liberty Half. I will have to get that Buffalo next year.

My son and daughter also came out to the show and my daughter spent all of her money and picked up a real nice 1922-D Lincoln, and even a 1910-S Lincoln. Her cent collection is really starting to look nice.

My son, on the other hand, I had to convince him to lay off this 1914-D Lincoln he found that was in G-6 condition. I told him to wait until he could afford a nicer one and I think he understood me. Instead he purchased several Indian Head Cents and then he said he wanted to start a collection of nice silver coins. He asked me which of the silver coins he could finish easily and I pointed him to the Franklin Half Dollars. He then went and purchased several gem BU Franklins with full bell lines. I told him all of his Franklins

won't be able to be that nice but I think he is now hooked on finishing that set too! It was happy to see him excited to get coins, but I am most happy that I have children I can share my hobby with.

In this issue you will find the standard President's article along with "Why We Collect" by Gary Parsons. We also have the coin club minutes of the Magic Empire Coin Club and "What We Collect" by Tim O'keefe. If any of you would like to write an article or have any ideas of what you would like your newsletter to provide, please email me. I will be happy to include your article in an upcoming issue.

Be sure to check out the coin show guide at the end of this issue and plan to attend a show. They really are a lot of fun!

Hope you enjoy this issue and that you are able to attend a few shows, or come out to a local coin club meeting. Happy Collecting!!

Letter from the President



Clifford Cooper - President

The ONA Oklahoma City show of 2014 is now in the books and was a great success and everyone I talked with had a great time. For me the show was more about the collector coins than the billion type coins. This was great and I hope that it continues in this manner. Several of the customers I have that have been buying on eBay said they would much rather go to a coin show to purchase the coins because they gain so much knowledge from the dealers and get to check out the coins in person before buying.

There is going to be a new coin show this year at Alva on July 19th and July 20th. I'm hoping to make some more contacts in this area for a possible club in the Woodward/Alva area again. This area of the state is really starting to develop and I think it will be a great show. If interested in it please give me a call.

Gold and Silver has really not moved a lot in the last 6 months but that could change come August 14 when the London Fix price of silver is supposed to be stopped. Some think the fix of pricing on gold is coming to the same death shortly after. What this means for Silver and Gold prices is anyone's guess, but I think we are getting ready

for a real roller coaster ride like we have not yet seen. If anyone has that crystal ball to look ahead please let us all know.

I'm glad that there is still old time collections still coming to the market that have sat back in the closet for years. I was recently able to purchase such a collection and added several Seated dollars, Bust type coins, Half Cent and Large Cents to my personnel collection. It was like being a kid again just to go through them and admire the beauty of the older coins. I wonder if 50 years from now that the then collectors will be admiring Susan B Dollars, Ike Dollars, Presidential dollars, and all the State Quarters that are being made with the same feeling I have over Two cent, Three Cent, and just about any older type coins. I really don't know but it does make you stand back and look at things a little differently. I doubt if in 1910 there were many collectors that thought a 1909 S VDB Lincoln Cent would be worth a \$1,000 today.

Thanks for being part of the ONA and happy collecting.



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Why We Collect

As promised last issue, I will discuss the only dollar in the early commemorative coins of the United States, the 1900 Lafayette Memorial Dollar. This coin is a true treasure. You may remember that I have discussed it before in the column. I will discuss some additional details. The business strike mintage was 50,000, however 14,000 were melted in the 1940's, leaving a low net mintage of 36,000. It is believed that about 10 extremely rare proofs was made.

This attractive coin designed by Chief Mint Engraver, Charles Barber will always be in demand by both commemorative collectors and dollar type collectors. The obverse design shows conjoined heads of George Washington and Revolutionary War General, the Marquis de Lafayette. The reverse depicts an equestrian statue of General Lafayette.

Even though these coins were actually made in 1899, the coin shows the date 1900 as requested by the Lafayette Commission who lobbied Congress for the coin. This coin is our first commemorative dollar and the first



Gary Parsons - Vice President

U.S. coin to depict a U.S. President, George Washington.

This coin will always be expensive, starting at about \$500 in extremely fine to about uncirculated, to many thousands of dollars in the higher uncirculated grades.

Be careful when buying an example, fakes exist and many examples have been improperly cleaned or altered to improve appearance. These examples will never appear in a regular major third party grading service holder. It's best to buy these already certified or only buy from a knowledgeable dealer.

Like most large silver coins this coin can be very attractive in the uncirculated grades. I like them with original colorful toning. Yes, they do exist this way. You may have to look for awhile and pay a premium when you find one, but it will always be a desirable coin to serious collectors.

My primary reference for this article and one I highly recommend for commemorative coin collectors is, *ENCYCLOPEDIA of the COMMEMORATIVE COINS of the UNITED STATES*, by Anthony J. Swiatek, a recent 2012 publication.



IS THIS A GREAT HOBBY OR WHAT!!

The ONA Coin Show in OKC

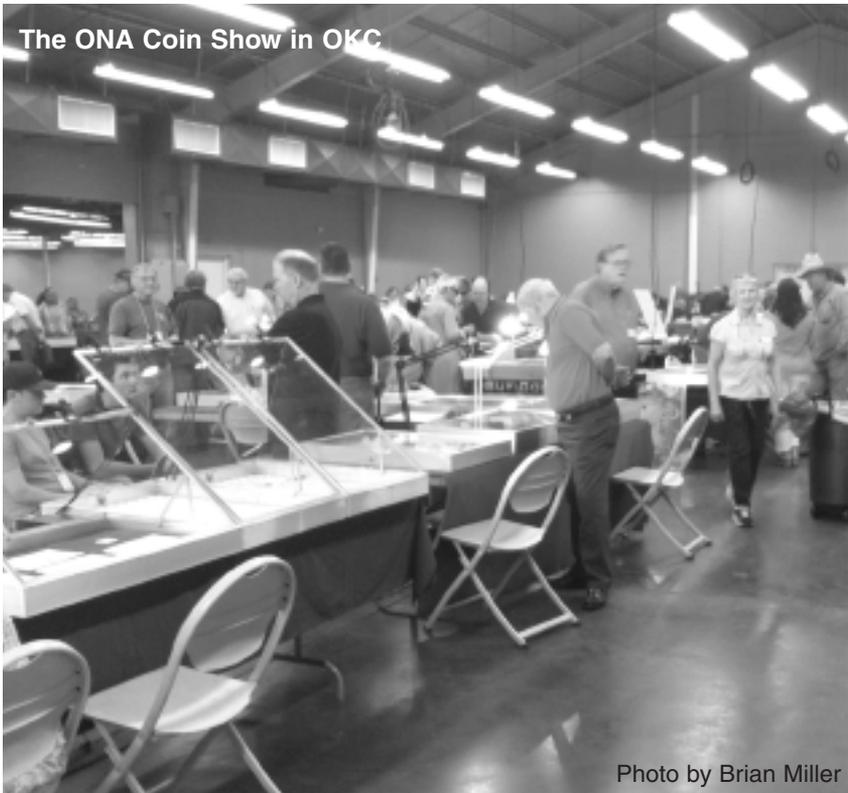


Photo by Brian Miller

What We Collect

By Tim O'Keefe

I most definitely consider myself a 'low-tech' type of person. My generation did not grow up with video games or advanced computers or the digital age. I still have and use a turntable (vinyl still sounds good). I don't need 200 channels to choose from on television, especially when I can find something else worthwhile to do. I only recently upgraded from a flip phone to an i-phone, simply because my old reliable cell finally broke, and the girl at the phone shop was making fun of me without trying to (public humiliation is a fine motivator).

My regular job entails a lot of technical computer work, and by the end of the day, that is the last thing I want to deal with on my off time. That alone is a draw to coin collecting. I can pull out a notebook full of 2X2's and peruse items from another country or another era, and those items were actually there. Without leaving my home, I can travel to different places, and even time travel. Who may have handled a particular piece? How did it end up in Oklahoma? What was going on

in the world at the time this item was created?

This got me to thinking about what a coin collection really is. What makes up a collection? Is the person who has only one valuable coin to his or her possession not a collector? I read recently about a man in Ohio who had trash cans full of pennies he had collected since the early 1970s, and cashed them in. He was by definition a collector. I recall the movie, "Throw Momma From The Train". Danny DeVito's character had a coin collection he was proud of. It was a pile of coins he had obtained while at a fair with his dad from his childhood. None were of any significant value, but they meant the world to him. He was by definition a collector.

A few years back, a co-worker of mine lost his father. While cleaning out the father's house, he came across an amazing hoard of coins, including an almost complete set of Morgan dollars. Through pure happenstance, my friend became an instant collector. There was no technical know-

how involved, no entrance exam, no fees, and no application requirement. A person can collect only one type of coin, or a myriad of currencies. All are considered collectors. That's the beauty of our hobby. There is so much out there and so many ways to collect, that anyone can start. You don't need to read a book (though it helps), you don't need to join a club (though that's always encouraged), and you don't need a lot of experience.

The membership of Tulsa's Magic Empire Coin Club represents this diversity in collecting. We have people who collect a myriad of coins and notes—from American Colonials to silver German coins to US gold pieces to business and transportation tokens to proof sets to

ancients, to name but a few. We have seasoned collectors, veteran coin dealers, and novices to the hobby all at the same place. We share knowledge, stories, and personal information on several levels. All of this leads to lively discussions at our monthly meetings. And that face-to-face interaction is vital to our continued growth and success. Our sessions are a social event that you cannot get from being on-line. And the common theme is coin collecting.

I have had more fun (and fun is a goal of having a hobby) visiting coin shops around the country and going to coin shows around the region than anything else I've done in recent years. I've met new people, learned interesting things, and discovered items that I never knew

IT'S DUES TIME

Enclosed are dues envelopes for you to submit your dues. If your mailing label does not say Dues Paid thru 06/2015, or later, you are due.

existed. While the internet is good for some shopping and research, I would much rather spend my time in a coin shop or read a numismatic periodical away from a computer screen. This makes the hobby more tangible and real for me. Collecting for me is a form of escapism. We all need a break from the daily

grind of the world, and coins and currency fulfill that need for me. And its 'low- tech'. Everyone is qualified. As always, find something you like and collect the heck out of it.



2nd Annual McAlester Coin Show

*October 10 and 11,
Friday 12-5, Saturday 9-6
SE Oklahoma Expo Center*

4500 West Hwy 270

Free Admission to Public

Contact: Gary Parsons

Phone: 405-426-9044

OKC COIN CLUB

NEWS

By Brian Miller

Our April meeting consisted of our semi-annual coin auction. There were several tables of coins up for auction and with a full room of bidders, the bidding action was hot.

I was able to pick up a V-nickel that I needed to upgrade and my son picked up a few Indian Head Cents he needed. My daughter also wanted to attend and she was there as well and picked up a few wheat cents that she has

started to collect. We all had a great time, and I think my daughter has started to get that coin collecting spark and she couldn't wait to attend the coin show in May.

The May meeting consisted of a trivia game hosted by Rodney after our usual show and tell. Rodney provided a great time for a lot of fun and laughs and it was a blast hearing all the guesses and correct answers.

The OKC Coin Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at St. Lukes United Methodist Church at 222 NW 15th Street in Oklahoma City.

NEW MEMBERS

Kent M. Bacon
James W. Clevenger
Christina G. Wheeland

Kiefer
Mountain Home, AR
Wichita, KS

Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes

By Tim O'Keefe

The March 2014 meeting of the Magic Empire Coin Club opened up at 7:03PM as President Ron Hass welcomed 14 members. Member Shane Cornell stated that the Enid Coin Show was a success for the Friday and Saturday portion. With a forecast of inclement weather, the Sunday venue was cancelled.

Club door prizes went to Vice President Ron Lawrence and members Louise Sands and Shane Cornell. Refreshments were provided by Louise and John Sands.

This month featured expanded Show & Tell. Shane Cornell brought issues of several periodicals that he subscribes to, including The TAMS journal and Coin World. He explained that there are numerous sources and magazines available for all sorts of collecting. Brian O'Keefe showed a 1990 US Proof Set. President Hass passed around several Mardi Gras tokens, while Mary Hass had some Alcoholic Anonymous tokens. Vice President Lawrence had a few pages of silver coins from German states. John Sands presented some Okmulgee

Depression script that was good for trade in the 1930s. Secretary Tim O'Keefe brought his collection of 1929 national bank notes, while Charles Meyers brought two 1902 large size national bank notes from Texas. Mr. Meyers also brought a 1907 legal tender note and a 1935-A silver certificate that was a specimen note. This led to a spirited round table discussion in reference to buying items on-line from auction houses and from established dealers.

Steve Langgin and Tim O'Keefe both brought coins for the inaugural swap meet. Langgin brought several US coins, while O'Keefe brought several British Commonwealth pieces. Discussion and the swap meet extended the meeting past 8PM.

Our next meeting was scheduled for 7PM Thursday April 24, 2014 at Yale Avenue Christian Church, 3616 South Yale. The public is always welcome.

Magic Empire Coin Club minutes April 24, 2014 : President Ron Hass opened the April meeting by greeting the nine members present, including his grandson

Easton Hass. Prize drawings went to members John Sands, Charles Meyers, and President Hass. Old Business included Vice President Ron Lawrence presenting an inventory of books in the club library, an update on the purchase of a Whitman book on Colonial coins for club use, and acknowledgement to Mint Luster for allowing the club news to be printed. The only New Business was to advise the club of the Oklahoma Coin Show May 3-4.

Louise Sands had the bi-monthly Educational Presentation. Her topic was "What Is Money?" She talked about Spade Money, which was used in China 770 BC to 221 BC. This was metal cast money, sometimes called 'pants money' because of the shape. Bronze Knife money was used in Northern China in the 7th century BC. Notgeld currency (literally 'not money') was used in Germany starting around 1914. Porcelain money was used as gaming counters in Thailand in the 1760s. Used cartridges were used as currency in Nepal. Stamps were used in everyday commerce in the United States during and after the Civil War, and again in Germany after World War I. Beads were used in Africa and in colonial North America. She also talked about other substitute money items used around the world over the ages.

Show & Tell: John Sands showed four Civil War tokens. Brian O'Keefe presented a 2003 US Proof Set. Ron Lawrence showed his collection of silver Indian rupees, dating 1835 to 1947. The silver content decreased over the years, starting out at 90% and finally ending with none in the final years of issue. Guest Caron McKeon presented a very worn Eisenhower dollar and a similarly toned 1976 piece. Tim O'Keefe showed a series of police coins, including some Tulsa Police challenge coins, a flattened Lincoln penny with a Policeman's prayer, and a 1997 Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Commemorative coin.

After some lengthy and lively discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17. The next meeting was set for 7PM on Thursday May 22 at Yale Avenue Christian Church, 3600 South Yale Avenue.

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 - Blake Gibb
Secretary - Shane Gray
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 - Myles Yoes
Secretary - Ronald Forshee
813 W Maine
Enid, OK. 73701

Indian Territory Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday each month -
6:30pm
Angels Diner, 1402 S. George Nigh
Expressway, McAlester
President - HL Dollens
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 4th Thursday monthly at
7pm.
Yale Avenue Christian Church
3616 S. Yale
President - Ron Hass
Vice Pres - Ron Lawrence
Sec/Treas - Tim O'Keefe
PO Box 580055
Tulsa, OK. 74158

Comanche County Coin Club

ONA Life Member 14
Meets 1st Thursday of each month -
7pm
Lawton Public Library Room 2
President - Sam Feeback
Vice Pres - Ed McGill
Secretary - Patrick Payne
Treasurer - Larry E. Campbell
PO Box 6555, Lawton, OK. 73506

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 - JT Whatley
Vice Pres - Erwin Wheeler
Secretary - Joy Woods
Treasurer - Ed McGill
(580)470-8799
Box 635
Duncan, OK. 73533

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

Indian Capitol Coin Club

ONA Member CC 185
Meets 3rd Monday of each month -
7:00pm
Kiwanis Senior Citizens Center
119 Spaulding Blvd.
Muskogee, OK. 74403
President - Mike McClendon
Vice Pres - Sam Carter
Secretary/Treas. - Robin Holloway
1500 W. Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK. 74401



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Remembering Keith Boltz

By Gary Parsons

It is my unpleasant duty to report the passing of our friend and a mainstay in the hobby in Northwest Oklahoma, Keith Boltz of Covington. Keith was a Merchant Token collector primarily and contributed greatly to that segment of the hobby. He was a contributing editor to *Oklahoma Exonumia*, *A Catalog of Money Substitutes*, which has become the standard reference nationally on Oklahoma trade tokens. A mainstay in the Enid Coin Club for the last eleven years, he most recently

was serving as Vice President. Keith has hosted the Oklahoma Token Get Together in Covington for several years prior to the Enid Coin Show. Token collectors look forward to this annual gathering. Keith was an active member of the Covington Historical Society. He will be missed greatly by many! We send our kindest regards and condolences to Cindie, Keith's wife, and offer our help and support in this difficult time.



**OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION
FALL COIN SHOW**

Hosted by the Magic Empire Coin Club

SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2014

Come and buy or sell

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Shane Cornell

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918-629-0208

email: smcornell@cox.net

COIN SHOW GUIDE

Alva Coin Show

July 19 and 20
Woods County Fairgrounds
The Women's Bldg.
43258 Harper Rd., Alva, OK
Contact: CC Coins at
580-233-0007

Enid's Fall Coin Show

August 1-3,
Friday 12-6, Saturday 9-5,
Sunday 9-3
Garfield Fairgrounds
Pavillion Building
111 West Purdue, Enid, OK.
FREE Parking & Admission
Sponsored by Enid Coin Club.
For Dealer Tables and other
information, contact Clifford
Cooper
phone: 580 233-0007 or
580 478-5709,
email: cccoins@att.net

ONA Fall Show

Sponsored by the Magic Empire
Coin Club
Sept 6-7
Sat 9-5, Sun 9-2
Tulsa Elks Lodge
5335 S Harvard
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Contact Shane Cornell
phone: 918-629-0208
email: smcornell@cox.net

Duncan's First Annual Coin Show

September 12 and 13
Fri Noon - 6pm
Saturday 9-5pm
Stephen's County Fairgrounds
1618 S. 13th Street
Duncan, OK.
Free admission to public
Gold, Currency, Coins, Silver,
Stamps, Tokens, Jewelry, Supplies
Contact: Ed McGill
Phone: 580-252-3818
or 580-475-4570

2nd Annual McAlester Coin Show

October 10 and 11,
Friday 12-5, Saturday 9-6
SE Oklahoma Expo Center
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Free Admission to Public
Contact: Gary Parsons
Phone: 405-426-9044



**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**