



# 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

**T**his issue is the first issue of the new year and as I typed in the new date for the front cover, it didn't seem right typing "2015". It is hard to believe we have another new year upon us. It is also hard to believe that this will be my 17th issue I have done for the ONA. Putting out four issues per year, I am now beginning my 5th year as editor. I can't believe it has been that long.

This issue is back to our regular size as I have included the "What We Collect" column this time. We have our usual President's column and Gary Parson's "Why We Collect" contribution as well as the usual "Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes". I am always looking for articles from the members so if any of you have an idea for an article, please submit your article and any pictures (as separate attachments) to me via email. I will be sure to include it in an upcoming issue.

We had our Oklahoma City Coin Club Christmas Dinner the other night and I brought along my whole family for an evening of fun. My wife enjoyed the food at the Golden Corral and the company of the other members, but my two children loved the "dirty Santa" part of the evening. I had purchased two gifts for the exchange so both of my kids

could participate in the Dirty Santa. They both really enjoyed the party and both came home with something for their collections.

I am once again looking forward to the ONA Spring Coin Show coming up in May. I enjoy working the front desk for a couple of hours on Saturday and then spending the rest of the afternoon looking over the coins in the show. By the time the next issue comes out, the show will be just around the corner and I am sure Gary Parsons will have some further information for us in the next issue.

As I write this, Christmas is just a couple weeks away and I hope all of you included coins in some way in some of your presents for your loved ones. I always purchase a new Red Book for someone and I always find out what specific coins they may need and I look for a coin or two to give as gifts. Maybe a subscription to a numismatic periodical is in the works this year?

Happy collecting and Merry Xmas!

# Letter from the President



Clifford Cooper - President

I hope you all have had a great holiday season and I wish you all a happy new year. The precious metals market was mostly flat in 2014 and I think 2015 will see a move up in this market although there is a lot of volatility. The last few coin shows I have been at have been a lot slower than previous years with mainly demand seen for higher grade collector coins.

The internet sales are taking a large piece of the pie now and I think we will see less attendance at shows overall but the ones that do come will be more serious about buying coins and not just looking. Even Facebook is taking a bigger piece of the market. We should probably take this into account on how many shows we have in the future.

The coin show I normally sponsor in August in Enid is being cancelled at this time and we will play a wait and see what happens to the markets before looking at another show. There have also been shows added in Weatherford,

Glenpool, McAlester and Duncan over the last 3 years that provide plenty of shows to go to here in Oklahoma. The Annual Enid Coin Club show will be February 27 to Mar 1st 2015 at the same location as previous years and is the most attended show of the Enid Shows, showing very strong collector interest from NW Oklahoma and Kansas.

One of the highlights in Oklahoma for 2014 was the passing of the no sales tax law for precious metals which was greatly welcomed by me and many others. A big thank you goes to all involved in helping push this bill through for passage.

Thanks for being part of the ONA and happy collecting.

Dirty Santa at the OKC Xmas Party



Photo by Austin Miller

# ON A SPRING COIN SHOW

COMING MAY 2-3

*See Coin Show Guide on page 16  
for more information.*

# Why We Collect



This will be my last article for awhile about Early Commemorative Coins of the United States.

We will take a brief look at two more "Key Dates" to the series; the 1935 Hudson, New York Sesquicentennial and the Old Spanish Trail. Both are low mintage issues made for dubious reasons. By 1935, everyone seemed to be trying to get in on the Commemorative Coin Act. Five (5) new Commemorative coins came out that year and three (3) earlier types were still being made.

Besides the Hudson and Spanish Trail, the Connecticut, California - Pacific Expo, and Arkansas Centennial were new issues. The Oregon Trail, Boone, and Texas Centennial were still being made. Because the Hudson and Spanish Trail had a more limited market, only 10,000 business strikes and a few proofs were made of each. Therefore these are expensive coins with choice mint state examples selling for over \$1000. The Spanish Trail is slightly higher.



Gary Parsons - Vice President

The Hudson shows Henry Hudson's flagship, the famous HALF MOON, on the obverse and Chester Beach's rendition of the the Hudson City seal, Neptune riding on the back of a whale, on the reverse.

I have noticed that this coin is difficult to find with a full strike. The sails on the ship usually lack detail in the rigging and the motto "Ed Decus et Pretium Recti" (Both the honor and the reward of the righteous) usually appears softly struck. For this reason, most examples you will see will be MS-63 or MS-64. If you can afford it, look for a well struck MS-65. They will cost about \$1750.

The Old Spanish Trail Commemorative Program was put together by L.W. Hoffecker, a famous numismatist from El Paso, Texas, who later was elected President of the American Numismatic Association. The

coin was designed by Hoffecker. It shows the head of a cow on the obverse, which was the last name in Spanish of Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, an explorer, who supposedly took the route shown on the reverse of the coin from Florida to El Paso, Texas.

This was not the case, since records show that he sailed along the Gulf coast. Beauty is often in the eye of the beholder, but I like this coin for it's simplicity and attractive look. Examples are usually found well struck and with attractive luster. Even though expensive in Gem grades (about \$1800), examples in this grade are available and should hold their value and possibly appreciate in the future.

Counterfeits of both coins exist with many doctored examples with problems are in the marketplace. You should only buy examples encapsulated by the major grading services to ensure

getting a genuine and properly graded example.

The Early Commemorative Series has a fascinating history, with many attractive designed coins by the preeminent Sculptors and Engravers of the day. A silver type set includes 51 types which presents a significant challenge for the advanced collector, but pleasing examples of favorite types can be very inexpensive. This series is presently undervalued. So it's probably a good time to pick up some nice examples.

Many of the facts used in this article came from, Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States, by Anthony J. Swiatek, a 2012 publication. I highly recommend that you acquire this well written and researched reference before starting a Commemorative Coin Collection.

Is This A Great Hobby or What!



# Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes

By Tim O'Keefe

The August 2014 meeting of the MECC was opened up by President Ron Hass at 7:06 PM as he greeted 11 members and two guests.

Old Business: 1) Brian O'Keefe and Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Keefe both attended the Enid Coin Show in early August. The show was well-attended. Tim O'Keefe found a 1929 Series national bank note from Miami, OK which he purchased. 2) The Tulsa Coin Show is September 5-7 at the Elks Lodge, 5335 South Harvard Avenue. The membership was encouraged to attend and volunteer. The Elks will be selling hamburgers for lunch during the Saturday venue.

New Business: Guest Gary Parsons of the Oklahoma Numismatic Association brought a few boxes of items to donate to the club. These included several books on coins, and several empty PGSC boxes. These were well-received by the membership, and the club thanked him for his generosity. Mr. Parsons also said that the ONA is on solid

financial ground.

Drawings: With extra prizes to give away and a full house, there were four drawings, won by Sherrie Perdue, Ron Hass, Ron Lawrence, and Fred Caudle.

Educational Presentation: President Hass gave the educational presentation, as his wife and fellow member Mary Hass was unable to attend. President Hass gave a brief history of Hessian coins and how many of the German states rented out their mercenary armies to raise capital and keep their individual areas financially solvent. These armies were used around the world, and included infantry, cavalry, grenadiers, jaegers, and an officer corps. The armies had to be paid in German thalers. President Hass passed around a 1769 pfennig and a 1765 2/3 thaler as examples of coins used to pay the armies.

Show & Tell: As the educational presentation ran long, Show & Tell was tabled until the September 2014 meeting. Gary Parsons did have a counterfeit 1986 US Eagle which he passed

around as an educational device of what to be on the lookout for when purchasing such coins.

The September meeting of the MECC opened up at 7:08 PM with President Ron Hass welcoming 12 members and one guest. Drawings were won by Jearldine Lawrence, John Sands, Steve Langgin, and Vice president Ron Lawrence.

Discussion centered on the success of this year's Tulsa Coin Show. The show was well-attended, and remained open well into the Sunday afternoon portion of the event, with people still coming through the doors past noon. Many of the dealers commented on the quality of security provided, and there were no police incidents reported. Sales were fairly steady. Member Shane Cornell presented the club with a check from the Oklahoma Numismatic Association. The club membership assisted working the door, getting registration cards filled out and promoting membership in the MECC. Tulsa Elks Lodge 946 did an outstanding job in assisting with the event, setting up tables and extension cords on Friday, providing a paid lunch on Saturday (great hamburgers), and helping with tear-down and clean up on Sunday. Next year's event will be held the weekend of September 11 and 12, the week following the NTCA National

Token Show & Coin Show (September 5 & 6) to be held at the Biltmore Hotel in Oklahoma City.

The membership was encouraged to attend the Second Annual McAlester Coin Show to be held in McAlester, OK on October 10 and 11. The show is sponsored by ONA Vice President Gary Parsons.

The club began plans for the annual holiday dinner. This year's get together will be moved to the Red Lobster at 6800 South Memorial Drive, Tulsa, OK. Tentative date is December 12, 2014 at 6:30 PM.

Expanded Show & Tell was on this month's agenda. Steve Langgin brought a Washington quarter that had double mint marks and a 1924-S Buffalo nickel. This led to a spirited discussion about grading services and different opinions about a coin's condition. Brian O'Keefe brought a 2014 United States mint set. John Sands brought a 2011 US Army 50 cent commemorative. Charles Meyers presented a circa 527-565 AD Byzantine folis. Sherrie Perdue brought five Sunoco car tokens, a Santa Claus button, and a black arrow head. Vice President Ron Lawrence brought some older Dutch coins, including two pieces from the Spanish Netherlands (1500s), and

two from the Austrian Netherlands (1700s).

Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Keefe presented a book of various United State bills, including examples of fractional currency, a few 'horse blanket' pieces, a collection of \$1s from the 1960s, a few silver certificates, and some 1934 Series \$5s and \$10s.

The October 2014 meeting of the Magic Empire Coin Club was opened at 7:07 PM with 11 members in attendance.

None of the membership was able to attend the McAlester show in early October. The Glenpool "Black Friday" Show is set for November 28 and 29.

The Coin Clubs holiday dinner is still on track for 6:30 PM Friday December 12 at the Red Lobster at 6800 S Memorial Drive, Tulsa. The club will pay for member's dinners only. Guests are welcome.

Prize Drawings: In order of pick, prizes were won by Brian O'Keefe, John Sands, Mary Hass, and Sherrie Perdue.

Educational Presentation: John Sands gave a talk on United States fractional currency. It was issued starting in the Civil war due to an extreme coinage shortage brought on by hoarding by the general public, with various

denominations being printed 1862-1876. A complete set would entail 149 different bills. There is probably less than \$2 million outstanding, making the bills rather rare. John discussed the many varieties, explained some of the specimen issues, and passed around some examples that he has from his collection.

Show & Tell: Vice President Lawrence showed an 1897 Philippines peso, a Peruvian 8 reales piece (1807JP), an 1833A Greek 5 drachma piece, a 1949 Chinese dollar, and an 1840 Central American Republic 8 reales piece. President Hass presented his 1783 Nova Constellatio coin, and a French Colonial 1755 double sou. Brian O'Keefe passed around two Ike dollar pieces. Tim O'Keefe showed his updated US national note collection. Shane Cornell discussed the 2014 US Mint issue concave baseball memorial coin, and passed around a Charleston Air Force Base military token.

Find Of The Month: Mary Hass came across a worn 1892 Liberty nickel.

The November 2014 meeting of the MECC was opened at 7:08. Vice President Ron Lawrence filled in for President Ron Hass, who was out stalking (or being stalked by) Bambi in the Missouri wilderness. He welcomed the

eight members in attendance.

The club's holiday dinner is still set for Friday December 12 at the Tulsa Red Lobster at 6800 South Memorial Drive. Secretary Tim O'Keefe contacted the restaurant. They do not take reservations, but said to call the week of the event, and they would try to accommodate the club.

Tim O'Keefe presented a criminal alert on Mark White Miller of Montrose, Colorado. This was put out by Coin Week. The subject has been frequenting coin shows across the country, and has been linked to several coin related thefts. He has been banned from attending ANY coin show in the United States, as set forth in his sentence for the next five years. The Baltimore Police Department would appreciate any reports of him showing up at our numismatic events in Oklahoma.

The club membership was encouraged to attend the Glenpool Black Friday Coin Show being held November 28-29.

Prize drawings: Won by Brian O'Keefe, John Sands, Ron Lawrence, and Charles Meyers.

Expanded Show & Tell: Member Sherrie Perdue supplied some delicious snacks while we presented coins and shared stories

and facts. Brian O'Keefe presented several different types of Eisenhower dollars. Sherrie Perdue showed two showcase books of US Presidential dollars and Eisenhower dollars. Star showed a one aura piece from Iceland, a 1 grosz coin from Poland, and a Mexican peso. John Sands presented a Saudi Arabian 11 riyal note, a collection of silver Jefferson nickels from World War II (1942-1945), and a collection of Lincoln Memorial cents (1959-present).

Charles Meyers presented a British possession rupee from Tripura in Northern India dated 1930. Ron Lawrence showed a certified 1937 Canadian fifty cent piece and a 1953 British proof set. Tim O'Keefe presented a collection of Seychelles coins, a British possession in the Indian Ocean.

The MECC yearly business meeting will be held during the regularly scheduled January meeting. A brief board meeting was held during the November meeting to decide on costs of program prizes. As we now do only 5 educational programs a year, Vice President Lawrence proposed that the presenters be given a choice of silver dollars to choose from. He was approved to purchase five suitable coins for the year.

# What We Collect

By Tim O'Keefe

**M**y parents are very educated people, and when they got me started in coin collecting in 1968, they not only gave me a cross section of coins, but also a 'how to' book. My folks felt that if I was going to get into a hobby, then I should have some general knowledge about what I was getting into.

They presented me with a paperback titled "Know About Coin Collecting" by James G. Pappas. It was printed in 1965 and cost the staggering sum of one dollar. I am guessing that it was today's equivalent of "Coin Collecting For Dummies". I still have the book in my sparse numismatic library. Well, it is more like a single shelf than a library, but it serves its purpose. The paperback is 96 pages long, and talks about how to get started, grading, United States coins, world coins, paper money, mint errors, dealers, auctions, and speculating. 'Speculating' did not have much meaning to my 9 year old self, but I poured over the book like it was a Bible.

As I started accumulating coins, mostly gleaned from my Hartford Times paper route, I realized I needed some kind of a list. That led me to purchase my first RS Yeoman book. I bought a 1970 Blue Book, which opened up more doors for me. I learned what US coins were out there, what was affordable, and what would never be affordable.

I bought the book from D&M Coins. This was a small shop in the basement of the Woolworth's in Norwich, Connecticut. The shop owner kept odd hours, and was not always open after school during the week. He was very patient with me at the counter, along with my meager budget. I did buy a set of 1920 Mercury dimes from him (P-D-S) in VG for the grand total of 90 cents. He had all three coins in a single three holed 2x2, and to this day, I have not removed them from the folder. However, the Blue Book has been lost to the ages.

Over the next several years, I gave my collection moderate to occasional attention, before getting serious about the hobby

again in 1996. I went as far as was financially possible with my Morgan dollars, and branched out to British Commonwealth.

For about 6 years, I went about searching for coins based on luck and what was available. (I am also a junk-box junkie). One day in 2003, Tom Dixon at Don's Coins in Tulsa finally got tired of me pestering him about mintages and types and available countries, so he sold me a used 'Catalog of World Coins' by Chester L. Krause and Clifford Mishler.

All Tom did was light a fire under me. I have lived out of that book for the past 11 years. It is dog-eared and full of yellow highlights, and I shuffle through it at least once a week, if not more. The book helped me figure out that I could get all of the Canadian cents 1900-1912. It gave me a road map to Irish coins. Except for the 1937 and 1943 half crown, and the 1943 crown, I have been able to obtain the "LSD" set 1928-1969. The book has also kept me from buying counterfeits on ebay.

My next big collecting foray has been national bank notes. As I began my current adventure, I wanted more information. I surfed the internet looking for appropriate books on the subject. The Friedberg family appears to

have the market cornered on paper money knowledge, so I set about looking for one of their publications.

I ordered a used copy from ebay, "Paper Money Of The United States" by Arthur L. Friedberg and Ira S. Friedberg based on the original work of Robert Friedberg. (I figured, the more Friedbergs, the better). This book has a vast array of numismatic facts and figures, but it was not quite what I was looking for. However, a glossary near the back has a complete state-by-state listing of all national banks (Alphabetical by State, numerical by bank number). That information alone made the purchase worth it.

Not satisfied with just this book, I went about looking for more printed works. Knowing that Don C Kelly is a pre-eminent expert on the subject, I googled his name. I found Mr. Kelly, his web site, his internet store, and his book, "National Bank Notes".

That was the start of an on-going relationship that continues to this day. I bought the sixth edition of his book, and have been purchasing notes on a regular basis from him over the past few years. He is a wonderful man to deal with and has reasonable prices. His book lists all the national banks and gives statistics on the differ-

ent types of notes that were issued 1863 to 1934. I don't make a note purchase without first referencing his book.

Numismatics is an extensive and fascinating hobby. There is a ton of information out there, and the more you have, the better deci-

sions you can make when deciding what to buy or what direction to take. My advice is to always buy the book. And remember, find something you like and collect the heck out of it.



## Membership Information

Shane Cornell, Secretary / Treasurer

When the ONA was formed the fiscal year was set to be July 1 to June 30. Hence it is why the dues are due on July 1st. This was done to correspond to the ONA convention which has been on the first weekend in May since the beginning. This allows for the election of officers and other business to be completed before the end of the year. Dues are \$10 per year. People who join the ONA, not on the calendar date, are given full consideration as to

the actual date. For example, if someone joins in January, they would be credited with an extra six months free. Pro rating isn't done. People who are existing members are expected to pay from the July first date. The Mint Luster label indicates when you are paid to. You may pay for more than one year at a time. I hope this will explain things a bit. If you have further questions, just send me an email at [smcornell@cox.net](mailto:smcornell@cox.net).

# OKC COIN CLUB

## NEWS

By Brian Miller

Our December meeting was held at the Golden Corral on NW Expressway in Oklahoma City. This was our annual Christmas Dinner and we held the usual dirty Santa after our all-you-can-eat dinner. There were some really nice gifts for the taking this year. Some of the dirty Santa gifts were proof sets, a brand new Red Book, some coins containing an ounce of silver, and even some coin folders with some coins placed in the folder to give you a head start on your collection.

There were also some non-numismatic gifts as well. There

were fish cookie jars, blankets, and even wine bottle holders. All of us in attendance had a great time and the food was really great as well.

Be sure to check the photos of the Oklahoma City Coin Club Christmas Dinner on page 3 of this publication. You can make plans to meet us at the next Christmas Dinner next year or possibly you can even meet with us at our next regularly scheduled club meeting.

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.

**SCHAFFER'S**  
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Tulsa, OK 74136  
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# 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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**Eddie Sise  
918-214-6799**

**Email: GESISE@CABLEONE.NET**

1/15

# COIN SHOW GUIDE

## **Cowtown Coin Show**

Dec. 19-21

Fri: 2-6pm, Sat: 9-5, Sun: 9-3

Forest Hill Civic and  
Convention Center

6901 Wichita St, Forest Hill, TX.

Contact: Gary Andrews at  
817-444-4813

or apctexas@aol.com

## **ONA Spring Show**

May 2-3

Sat: 9-5, Sun: 9-3

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds  
Hobbies, Arts and Crafts Bldg.

North May Avenue in OKC.

Contact: Gary Parsons at  
405-426-9044

or olegar@cox.net

## **Stephens County Coin Club 46th Annual Coin Show**

February 13-14,

Friday 12-6, Saturday 9-5

Free Admission to public

Stephens County Fairgrounds

1618 S. 13th Street in Duncan

Contact: Ed McGill

Phone: 580-252-3818 or

580-475-4570 (cell)

## **Enid's Spring Coin - Token and Collectables Show**

February 27 - March 1,

Friday 12-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3

Garfield County Fairgrounds

Pavilion Building,

111 West Purdue

Enid, OK.

FREE Admission

For dealer tables and other infor-  
mation, contact CC Coins,

Clifford Cooper

Email: ccoins@att.net

580-233-0007 or 580-478-5709





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

**Email your article to Brian Miller  
at [brianmiller3732@att.net](mailto: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**