



MINT LUSTER



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OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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Editor's Notes



Brian Miller - Editor

As I write this article, Christmas is just around the corner. When I was young, Christmas was the best time of year, especially for a young numismatist. Everyone in my family would always give me a coin that I needed to fill my collection. I still have every coin that I ever received at Christmas. I remember Christmas when I was 10 years old and my dad got me a 1931-s. I have since purchased one in better condition, but I still have that 31-s my dad got me.

I have a roll of 1950-d nickels that my grandfather gave me for Christmas probably around the time I was 11 or 12. They are in a plastic roll and in my grandfathers handwriting, across the roll, it says "1950-d, unc. do not open" To this day I haven't opened that roll, but I can peer through the cap and see the uncirculated nickel at the top of the roll.

This year I am getting both my children gifts to encourage their coin collecting hobby. My daughter has shown an interest in Kennedy Halves, so I have got her a Kennedy album and 10 rolls of half dollars from the bank. She will have fun going through the rolls and filling her book. She will be excited as I have planted a couple 1964's and few other silver pieces from 68 and 69 into

the rolls to help her along. I hope she will continue with her enthusiasm of coin collecting.

For my son, who most of you know has better coins than I have, I am limited to what I can get him. All he needs for this Lincolns is the SVDB and knowing him he wants it in ms-60 or better. Since I don't have the money for something like that, I have to look elsewhere for him.

Luckily, he has started a Franklin Half collection, so I have a few options. I could give him some Franklins from my collection, but he is insisting on getting ones only with "full bell lines". Well, I don't have any with full bell lines so I had to purchase a couple Franklins for him for Christmas. And I was sure they had full bell lines for him. They are just common dates but they are in beautiful condition and I am sure he will enjoy them.

Merry Christmas to all of you and I hope to meet you at a coin show in the upcoming year.

Letter from the President



Clifford Cooper - President

Another year is in the books and we have seen a lot of up and down movement in precious metals but the higher end collector market has done very well. The old saying to always buy the highest quality coin you can afford seems to be holding true. I wish I had done that. I think 2016 will be another year that precious metals are on a roller coaster ride and collector coins will do well. It has also been a year where the Oklahoma collecting society lost a few long time collectors and dealers. They are greatly missed and will be thought of often. We just never know how long we have on this earth and need to cherish the

times we have with our fellow dealers and collectors. I know it has made me change the way I do business and think about things on a day to day basis. I know this issue won't get out before the end of the year but I hope you all had a great Christmas and wish you a happy new year.

Thanks for being part of the ONA and happy collecting.



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Why We Collect

A recently acquired half cent from 1797 opened up an interesting story regarding the early days of the U.S. Mint. Half Cents were never made in large numbers. Demand was low even though they had some purchasing power at the time. They were also used to make change for Spanish Reales, that were widely used at the time, and valued at 12 1/2 cents.

The reference for much of the information for this article is the Deluxe Edition, REDBOOK from 2015, 1st Edition, from Whitman Publishing. It's a great new book. Check it out!

According to the reference, the total mintage for half cents in 1797 was only 27,525, making the 1797's rare. The 1796's were even rarer with with an estimated mintage of only 1,390. They quit making half cents in 1798 and didn't make them again until 1800 when the obverse design changed to the Draped Bust.

Therefore the "Liberty Caps" as they are referred to in the hobby are very scarce in all grades and types because survivor rates for



Gary Parsons - Vice President

early coppers are so low. The 1797 half cents were mostly made on imperfect planchets under less than desirable conditions. Finding nice examples is a challenge. Many were made on cut down misstruck large cents and Talbot, Allum, and Lee Cents.

Some survivors show traces of these underlying types. Smooth, nicely made examples are the exception. Three major varieties and two extremely rare varieties are known.

The most common variety is a overdate, with the 1 above the 1 with an estimated 1300 to 1800 survivors in both "thin" and "thick" planchets.

The second major variety is called the "low head, plain edge", with an estimated 400 to 600. My piece is the rarer third major type referred to as the regular head, plain edge with an estimated 300 to 475 survivors. This variety is generally the best made 1797

half cent made from what is considered a perfect die. The very rare varieties are the low head, lettered edge and the low head, gripped edge with total survivors of both types estimated at 87 to 115.

With the numbers so low for all varieties nice, smooth, quality examples are very scarce. They are sought after by type collec-

tors and early copper specialist in large enough numbers to keep prices high.

Let me know if you want to take a look at mine while I'm deciding what to do with it. I've already had several offers. Now I got to decide if I want to keep it.

Is This A Great Hobby or What!



New Members

Daniel Hazelrigg

Elk City

Wayne Hatcher

Duncan, OK

Robert L. Hall

Bella Vista, AR

Northwest AR Coin Club

Bella Vista, AR

Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes

By Tim O'Keefe

MECC Minutes for September 2015 .

President John Sands opened the September meeting of the MECC at 7:05 PM, welcoming the nine members and one guest in attendance. Drawings for door prizes were won by Vice President Ron Lawrence, Sherrie Perdue, Brian O'Keefe, and President Sands. Brian O'Keefe announced that he was leaving the club, as he is moving to Missouri in the coming days.

The Tulsa Coin Show, held September 12-13 at the Tulsa Elks Lodge, appeared to be quite successful. While not overly busy, there was a steady stream of people into the event during both days. There were no security issues, and none of the dealers brought up any problems. Shane Cornell could not attend tonight's meeting, so we have not heard the financial outcome yet. Club members were instrumental in setting up the weekend and keeping the show moving.

Sherrie Perdue supplied Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Keefe

with a draft of the new club logo. He is going to proceed with the wooden nickel project and the web site start up.

The Club is looking to move the venue for the December Holiday Dinner. Discussion will continue at the October meeting.

ONA Vice President Gary Parsons is hosting the McAlester Coin Show on October 16 & 17. The membership was encouraged to attend.

Show & Tell: Brian O'Keefe brought a few Canadian Dollar coins. Steve Langgin brought a 1950-S Washington quarter, asking for assistance in identifying it as a double mint mark. Sherrie Perdue brought 2013 & 2014 United States Proof sets. President Sands had book containing a set of Eisenhower Dollars. Vice President Lawrence presented a book of Canadian coins and token dating back to the early 1800s. Secretary, Treasurer O'Keefe showed a collection of pre-1965 Australian coins and currency. Louise Sands had a set of US Territorial

Quarters from 2009, which she presented to Brian O'Keefe as a parting gift for his service to the club.

Magic Empire Coin Club minutes October 22, 2015.

The October 2015 meeting of the MECC was opened at 7pm by President John Sands who welcomed the eight members in attendance. President Sands asked for a reading of the September 2015 minutes. The minutes were read by Secretary, Treasurer Tim O'Keefe. There was a motion by Chris Harrell to accept the minutes as written, with a second by Louise Sands. President Sands then asked for the Telephone Report. Jearldine Lawrence stated that she was able to contact everyone. Drawings were won by Vice President Ron Lawrence and S/T O'Keefe.

Old Business: (1) S/T O'Keefe made contact with the Old Wooden Nickel Company in Texas.

(2) Holiday dinner: President Sands suggested a new venue for the holiday dinner to cut down on the wait time for a table. He suggested Delta Café at 41st& Garnett, as they may also have a private room. S/T O'Keefe said he would look into it.

(3) Shane Cornell presented the club with a \$500 check from the Oklahoma Numismatic Association for hosting the Tulsa Coin Show in September. S/T O'Keefe will have it deposited within the week. Cornell discussed raising the prices of the tables next year from \$125 to \$150.

New Business: The club was encouraged to attend the Glenpool Black Friday Coin Show during Thanksgiving weekend.

Educational Presentation: Chris Harrell set up a computer presentation on PGS Grading, which included a 48 minute film on the subject.

Show & Tell: VP Ron Lawrence showed a 1935 Belgian 50 franc piece, a Mexican 8 reales War Of Independence coin, and two Denmarkspecies dalors dated 1839 and 1848.

Chris Harrell showed a collection of Franklin half dollars.

President Sands presented some World War II tokens and military scrip.

S/T O'Keefe presented a collection of coins and currency from the Falkland islands.

Close: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next meeting of the MECC will be held at 7PM on Thursday November 19. Extended Show & Tell will be on the agenda. Tonight's meeting was closed by acclamation at 8PM
Magic Empire Coin Club minutes for November 19, 2015.

The November 2015 meeting of the MECC was opened up at 7:06 Pm as President John Sands welcomed the seven members and one guest in attendance.

Refreshments for the night were provided by President Sands, Louie Sands, and Sherrie Perdue. Drawings were won by Charles Meyers, Vice President Ron Lawrence, and Sherrie Perdue.

Old Business: S/T O'Keefe advised that the wooden nickel project was almost complete. The drawing was forwarded to the company in Austin, Texas. Payment was made, and delivery should be in mid-December. Once the company returns the proofs, progress on the website can begin.

Reservations have been made for Friday December 4, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the Delta café at 41st& Garnett for the clubs holiday dinner.

S/T O'Keefe has updated the format of the club bylaws, and will distribute them at the January

2016 business meeting.

Show & Tell: President Sands showed a Panamanian 2 ? cent piece from 1904 known as a "Panamanian Pill". He also showed some bills of the Confederacy.

Keith Morgan had a Canadian token "Split the plow, success to fisheries".

Vice President Ron Lawrence had a collection of Mexican coins.

Secretary/Treasurer O'Keefe showed a short collection of coins and currency from the Isle Of Man.

The next meeting of the MECC will be on January 21, 2016, and this will be the yearly business meeting.

Addendum: The holiday dinner was held on December 4, and was attended by 11 people. It was a great night of fellowship, numismatic story telling, and good food.

ONA NEWS

By Gary Parsons

Two(2) of our special friends and dealers, Steve Anderson from Allen, Texas and Eddie Sise from Bartlesville have passed since the last MINTLUSTER. Both were big supporters of ONA and rarely missed an Oklahoma Show. We send our sincerest condolences to their families and will remember them in our prayers. They will be greatly missed by all of us! Both died at shows doing what they loved! If I could be so Lucky!

Deadline is fast approaching for the ONA Scholarship applications for the ANA Summer Seminar in 2016. If interested you need to get yours to me! Please call me with questions at 405 426 9044.

The Oklahoma City Spring ONA show is filling up. Dealers that plan to set up need to get their applications to me ASAP to insure Table(s). If you need an application, please call me.



What We Collect

By Tim O'Keefe

The topic of my last column covered completing a collection. How far one can go with a collection depends on several factors—how much one has to spend, what is available, where is it available, and is it affordable? And that brings me to my latest passion, national bank notes.

As I have mentioned before, I began my quest for nationals at the Tulsa Coin Show in 2011. I started with absolutely no knowledge of the field, and the past few years have been a learning experience. I have talked to dealers, attended coin shows, read books, and surfed the internet in search of more information on the subject. As I continue to learn, I realize that I have barely begun to scratch the surface of the topic, as information on nationals is vast and can become somewhat complicated.

I decided early on that I would concentrate on the 1929 Series of nationals. I like both of the small note series (1929 Type I and Type II). National notes began to be issued in the early 1860s, and

between then and 1934, there were approximately 14,500 issuing banks. No matter how intense my OCD may be, getting a note from each of those banks would be an impossible task. So I limited myself to the 1929 Series, which cut the number of issuing institutions down to around 7000 (banks failed, banks were reorganized, banks went into receivership). However, 7000 is still a daunting (and unrealistic) number.

So then I began looking at places of origin. Notes were issued in the United States along with its territories and districts. However, Puerto Rico only had one bank, there are no available notes, and those are large size.

The Alaskan territory had three banks which issued small size notes, but the most affordable one I could locate started at about \$17,000. I want to have fun with my collection, but I also like to eat and have a place to live.

Hawaii had one small-size issuing charter. I have one, so my Hawaii collection is complete

(whoo-hoo!). I have been able to obtain six Washington, D.C. notes.

That led me to ponder collecting all of the state capitals. I then discovered that Annapolis, Tallahassee, and Carson City, did not have any banks that survived to 1929. (Arg!) My next idea was to try and collect a note from a particular state, trying to get one from each issuing small size charter.

Being from Connecticut, I did start on the Charter Oak State series. There are 57 issuing banks. I have been able to get samples from 30 of them. However, the prices have soared for the remaining items, and their availability has greatly diminished. (Dang it!) So then I decided to try Rhode Island. With only 12 small size charters, I hoped for more success. I was able to get notes from each of the seven Providence charters and the two Newport charters. However, Ashaway, Slatersville, and Warwick have eluded my sight, my grasp, and my pocketbook (Sigh!).

I hate to admit defeat, so it was time to refocus again. This time, I decided to get at least one Type I note from each of the 48 states. (Alaska and Hawaii were US territories until 1959). Checking coin shops, coin shows, and a

bevy of Internet dealers, this seemed to be my best course of action. From there, a national (pun intended) scavenger hunt began.

My thought was to get a note from the first charter for each state. That started out well. I was able to get #1 (Philadelphia, PA), #2 (New Haven, CT), and #3 (Youngstown, OH). However, #6 and #7 were from long-defunct banks in New York and Illinois. Besides, the #1 Philadelphia piece was actually from Charter #2731, which re-took Charter #1 in 1902, as it wasn't being used. The same for Charter #2 (from Charter #2682 in 1909) and #3 (from Charter #2693, also in 1909), so they are not actually true low numbers (Alas!).

It was time to recalibrate again. This time I aimed at getting a Type I from each state, with no particular order or reason. Reason wasn't working, so what the heck.

Some states were extremely easy. If you see a New York City Charter #2370 \$5 out there listed as "rare", be advised that they printed 999,999 of them. (It's only 'rare' if you don't have one). Ohio and Pennsylvania had literally hundreds of national banks, so finding affordable, quality notes was not much of a challenge. South Carolina posed the

problem of finding notes in decent shape. I have four now, and they average from Fair to About Good. Delaware was tough, as there are only 16 issuing charters. I have a certified piece from Milford, and two Wilmington notes from different banks that are VG.

Perhaps the most fun has been enlisting the help of dealers and friends to assist me in my quest. Richard McPheeters and Steve Langgin at Tulsa Coin have been most helpful in letting me know when new notes come into the shop. Eddie Sise of Bartlesville was able to track down a South Dakota piece for me. Doug and Cindy West of Missouri had a certified Idaho note that I was able to win a bid on. Paul Rogers on ebay made me a super deal on a Billings, Montana note when I told him what I was doing. Bill Litt in California had two affordable New Mexico pieces. Horwedel's in Indiana has a fantastic inventory right at the cusp of my price range.

All was going fairly well until it came to Nevada and Arizona. Both states have few charters and even fewer notes on the market. Just about every Nevada note I've seen is certified and is in the four digit range (some five and six). This past spring, I found a suitable note from Reno advertised by the 'broken cc' in

Nevada, and popped on it. Being so close to completion, I felt it was justified. I had never paid that much for a numismatic item before, and probably never will again.

From there, it was to Arizona. Bill Litt had a Phoenix note advertised on his site for a reasonable price. However, when I contacted him, he had just consigned the note to an auction. That brought me back to ebay, where I located a Tuscon piece that was not certified and a bit more expensive, but it did show up in the Don C Kelly List and in the National Bank Note Census (two of the best references out there). I made the purchase and completed my set. (Whew!)

I still continue to collect nationals, though now it's for curiosities and neat notes. I have half of the State capitals represented, over a dozen "first charters", and a bevy of Connecticut notes. The journey has been fun, and the people I have met have been fantastic. And I still thank Bob Jasperson of Illinois for sparking my interest in the subject. As always, find something you like and collect the heck out of it.

OKC COIN CLUB

NEWS

By Brian Miller

At our October meeting, we held another auction. The evening was filled with active bidding and big sales. At the end of the night, a lot of us went home with new coins to add to our collection, some of us went home with some extra cash, and our coin club made a little extra money for hosting the auction. It was a lot of fun and I can't wait until the next auction.

Our December meeting was our annual Christmas Dinner held at Golden Corral Restaurant. We had a room reserved for us and

we packed in there pretty good. We all enjoyed some good food and then the real fun began. The club held a dirty santa and after we all picked numbers representing the order we will play, we began to open presents and stealing presents from other members who had a present we really wanted. At the end of the night, my son came home with a silver eagle, and my daughter came home with several mint sets. They were very excited about their gifts and can't wait until next year's dirty santa.

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.

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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 - Robert Gholston
Secretary - Kim Pepe
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 - John Sands
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 Wednesday of each month
- 630pm
Chateau of Lawton
6302 SW Lee Blvd.
President - Sam Feeback
Vice Pres - James White
Secretary - Lisa Kay Ewing
Treasurer - Erwin Wheeler
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 - Erwin Wheeler
Vice Pres - Robert Meyer
Secretary - Sam Feedback
Treasurer - Dan Fletcher
(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 -
6:30pm
Muskogee Library
8th & Okmulgee
President - Mike McClendon
Vice Pres - Sam Carter
Secretary/Treas. - Robin Holloway
PO Box 2521
Muskogee, OK. 74402



COIN SHOW GUIDE

Enid Coin Club's Annual Coin, Token & Paper Money Show

March 11-13, 2016,
Fri. 12 - 6, Sat. 9 -5,
Sun 9 -3; Garfield County
Fairgrounds, Pavilion Bldg., 111
West Purdue,
Enid, OK; for info contact
Frederick
Pepe at 580 747 8661 or 580 233-
2500 or email at
dirmorgan@aol.com.

ONA OKC Show

May 6 - May 8, 2016,
Fri. 1 - 6PM,
Sat. 9 - 5PM, & Sun. 9 - 3PM,
Oklahoma State Fair Grounds;
Hobbies, Arts
& Crafts Bldg. for info
contact Gary Parsons at
405-426-9044 or olegar@cox.net.

Stephens County Coin Club

47th Annual Coin Show

Free Admission to the Public

Stephens County Fairgrounds
1618 S. 13th Street
Duncan, Ok. 73533
February 12th, 13th, & 14th
Friday, Noon - 6:00pm
Saturday, 9:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

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Home: (580) 252-3818
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Wichita Falls Coin & Stamp Show

Wichita Falls Coin Club

April 22 & 23, 2016
Fri. 1:00-6:00 p.m. &
Sat. 9:00 a.m.- 5.00 p.m.
Multi-Purpose Event Center
(MPEC)
1005 5th St. Wichita Falls, TX
only 20 miles south of Oklahoma.
contact: Connolly O'Brien
(940) 631-0817
P.O. Box 3751
Wichita Falls, TX 76301-0751



**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**