



# MINT LUSTER



The Official Publication of the  
OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

**Vol. 41, No. 1**

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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

**A**s I write this we are preparing for the upcoming holiday season. Both my in-laws are coming to Oklahoma for Christmas and we have been working hard to get the house ready for their visit.

In this issue, we have the usual Presidents column as well as the Why We Collect and What We Collect columns and the MECC minutes from their meetings.

In preparing this issue, I got the notice for the ONA Coin show in May for inclusion in our Coin Show Guide. It just seemed like the other day we were at the last show and now we are advertising for the next show. I cant wait until May for this show. I am hoping to finish up another set or two. I am leaning toward the V nickel set but of

course I still would really like to finish my Walking Liberty set.

My son has started collecting Franklin Halves and I wouldn't be surprised if he got a couple for his collection for Christmas this year. My daughter is still working on her Lincoln Cents. I think she enjoys the search more than completion. She is content on just getting one or two at a time where I just had to finish it as soon as I could.

Hope all of you had a great Christmas and your stockings were full of coins!



# Letter from the President



Clifford Cooper - President

**A**nother year is over and it has been a good one for collectors, prices have been down some but demand is up. Collector coins of medium to high grade have moved well over the year, but the precious metals market has been somewhat stagnant in pricing but demand is still up especially for gold. As of this writing the Black Friday Coin Show in Glenpool just finished and it was a very busy show. The weather was nice and the collectors were out to buy coins to fill their collections. It was another great show hosted by Fidelity Coins and Robert Ranford and family. The personal touch they put into the show has helped keep the attendance high and with keeping the dealers happy.

With the winter months here it is time to get out the collections and share with the younger generation to try and build some new interest in the hobby. It was great to see a very young 14 year old dealer setup at the Black Friday Coin Show. He was very knowledge-

able and was seen out buying and trading with other dealers as well as selling to the public. There is a good future for our hobby and it is up to us to try and get the younger generation into it. This dealer was using the Grey sheet, Green sheet and cell phone checking and verifying prices. There were a few younger collectors that attended the show but mainly the older group of collectors like me. Hope the trend starts to lean more in the favor of the younger generation. I do know at the coin shop I get a few younger collectors in and they are doing more research on the internet versus coin shops and show. Hope everyone has a Happy Holiday and New Year.

Thanks for being part of the ONA and happy collecting.

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# Why We Collect

**R**ecently I acquired a collection with two full sets of Walking Liberty Half Dollars. Obviously, the collector who put these sets together loved the series. It rekindled my interest in series.

The 2016 Centennial Coin Program and the recent release of the 2016-W Walking Liberty gold half dollar has everyone more focused on this amazing coin.

For this article I have decided to look at the 1921 Philadelphia issue a Key Date. Most of the early coins in the sets I acquired were well circulated in good to very good grades. The later dates were much better grading very fine to uncirculated. Most of the coins appear to be carefully selected without problems.

The 1921 dated pieces grade good with a lot of wear but problem free. This was one of the first sets I completed many years ago. The 1921 dated coins made at Philadelphia and Denver were the stoppers in terms of cost but I eventually acquired both. My 1921 was better than my 1921D example costing less. Being an



Gary Parsons - Vice President

attractive rare coin, it has always been one of my favorites.

The situation in 1921 was perfect for creating rare coins. Our country was in a recession following a post World War I economic boom. Coin demand was down sharply. Silver Dollar production was picking up to replace the 270 million Silver Dollars melted during war to help our British allies. Therefore production capacity was taken from other denominations.

It is obvious from the mintage, that demand for the 1921 half dollar was not high and only 246,000 were made. Saving half dollars in 1921 was an expensive proposition with average hourly wages at 25 cents. Most entered circulation because collectors couldn't afford a collection. Today we find most examples available to be Good to Very Good. Good-4's are listed in Red Book at \$175 and very fine's get

very expensive at \$775. The 1921 coin ranks second in the series behind the 1921D in the lower grades. It is beautiful even in well circulated condition. If you don't have a set, maybe it's time to consider one before costs go

higher. It's a classic coin from a very unusual period in our history and it's not difficult to complete in the circulated grades.



## OKC COIN CLUB NEWS

By Brian Miller

Our December meeting was held at Golden Corral for our annual Christmas Dinner. We all enjoyed the all you can eat buffet and then proceeded to the dirty Santa gift exchange.

There was a lot of stealing gifts from each other but in the end we

all came home with something fun. My son came home with a new 2017 Red Book and my daughter made it home with a bunch of proof sets and some coins from Australia. Hope all of you have a Merry Christmas.

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.

# Magic Empire Coin Club Minutes

By Tim O'Keefe

The MECC met on July 28, 2016. Most of the discussion centered around setting up for the Tulsa Coin Show in September. Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Keefe was cited in the July issue of "The Numismatist" in reference to the Edward VIII piece he reported to Robert Jacques earlier in the year. And the American Numismatic Association (ANA) sent along a certificate recognizing the MECC for 50 years of continued existence. Drawings were won by S/T O'Keefe and Sherry Perdue.

Show & Tell included Dale Schaffer bringing a collection of Canadian coins, including samples from New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. He also had an example of a jigsaw coin. Sherry Perdue brought a collection of United States proof sets featuring the State quarters. Vice President Ron Lawrence presented a 1982 Chinese 5 yuan piece, a 1964 British Maundy set, and an almost complete set of better grade Walking Liberty half Dollars. Secretary/Treasurer O'Keefe showed a collection of Bermuda coins and currency.

The next meeting of the MECC was held on August 25, 2016. Sherry Perdue found a resource to assist the club with setting up a website, and passed it along to Secretary/Treasurer Tim O'Keefe. The club voted to use some of the checking account funds to cover start up costs. Drawings were won by Chris Harrell and Jearldine Lawrence. Preparation and final plans for the Tulsa Coin Show were put in place.

Show & Tell led Charles Meyers to bring a 1911 Italian 5 lire piece featuring Victor Emmanuel III. Vice President Ron Lawrence presented a series of Maria Theresa thalers from Austria, including a 174 ? thaler, a 1759 1/32 thaler, and a 1771 thaler. Keith Morgan showed a Spanish medallion from Barcelona. Shane Cornell featured some British Condor tokens, including one from Shropshire dated 1792 and Norwich dated 1798, along with a British trade token. Dale Schaffer showed the Canadian 1992 Provincial Quarter Dollar set and the 1999 Millenium Quarter Dollar set.

At the September 22, 2016 meeting of the MECC, Dale Schaffer announced that the Tulsa Coin Show was a success. We had our best Saturday attendance ever. There were no complaints from the dealers, and everyone seemed to have a good time. Mr. Schaffer presented a check from the Oklahoma Numismatic Association (ONA) to club for their assistance with the event. In turn, the club thanked Mr. Schaffer for his energy and enthusiasm over the past few months. Drawings were won by Keith Morgan and Jearldine Lawrence.

The meeting featured open discussion on increasing club membership. The Magic Empire Coin Club Facebook page has been getting increased hits over the past month. S/T O'Keefe is in the process of setting up a new computer, and will address creating a website as soon as possible. Chris Harrell suggested getting presentation material from the ANA and bringing in guest speakers. Dale Schaffer said that we might begin a monthly auction or coin swap. We also discussed changing our venue to a local eatery so that we can include a meal with our monthly get together. The club did agree to start with an auction for the October meeting. Show & Tell was tabled due to the length of the discussion.

The October 2016 meeting of the Magic Empire Coin Club was attended by 11 members. Drawings were won by members Chris Harrell and Tim O'Keefe.

The McAlester Coin Show was successful. Chris Harrell set up a table there, and Keith Morgan and Tim O'Keefe both attended. O'Keefe won one of the raffle prizes. Host Gary Parsons reported that the Tulsa Show in September was one of the top shows in the State this year.

The club held its first coin auction. Keith Morgan took on the role of auction master with zeal. Members spent about 45 minutes bidding and buying various coins and currency. The club decided to put a 2% buyer's fee on all items bought. The club made \$6 on the night for the 20 items that exchanged hands. We discussed setting up the next auction before the meeting so all of the members could see what was on the auction block, and to allow members to make side deals for items they wanted. We may move downstairs to the church coffee shop to allow more room to view the items.

With the auction taking up a good bit of time, the Educational Presentation, along with Show & Tell, were tabled for the month. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The November 2016 meeting of the MECC was held on the third Thursday of the month so as not to intrude on the Thanksgiving holidays. We had an abbreviated meeting as most of the membership was unable to attend. Chris Harrell had business cards for the club printed up, which he handed out for the membership to distribute. The membership was encouraged to attend the Black Friday Coin Show in Glenpool during Thanksgiving weekend. Drawings were won by John Sands and Chris Harrell. In lieu of the auction, members sold coins to each other. Most of the meeting was spent trading numismatic stories. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The Magic Empire Coin Club does not meet in December. We will have our holiday dinner at the Delta Café near 4100 South Garnett Road in Tulsa at 6PM on Friday December 2, 2016. The public is welcome to attend. Our next scheduled meeting will be at 7PM on Thursday January 26, 2017 at Yale Avenue Christian Church, 3616 South Yale Avenue. This will be our annual business meeting. Club officers will be determined and yearly membership dues (\$10) are due at this time.

## ***NEW MEMBERS***

**DAVID W. HOLYBEE, ARDMORE, OK.**

**Stephens County Coin Club  
48<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show**

**\*Free Admission to the Public\***

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# What We Collect

By Tim O'Keefe

**I** have a pretty diversified collection of coins, currency, and tokens that span from around the globe. I have items that I have specifically searched for to obtain, I have items that were gifts, and I have others that I just came across and thought were interesting or cool. One specific area of numismatics I have sought is the coins of the Straits Settlements. What originally sparked my curiosity was their use of square-shaped cents in 1919, 1920, and 1926, and a related half cent 1932. The coins are relatively inexpensive and easy to obtain.

The Straits Settlements were located in Southeast Asia and were a group of British territories. This fell in with my passion for British Commonwealth countries and governments. They were formed from four settlements in the area, which included Malacca, Dinding, Penang, and Singapore. There were several other smaller islands included in this grouping. The coinage from this region was limited and varied. The famous British East India Company maintained the

area from 1825 to 1858. In 1845, The Company issued coins in the denominations of ½ cent, ¼ cent and 1 cent featuring the visage of Queen Victoria on the obverse. I have been able to obtain specimens of all three. In 1858, the British India Government took over rule, which lasted until 1867. The only coins issued were in 1862, again in denominations of ½ cent, ¼ cent, and 1 cent. I have not been able to track down a ½ cent, but I have examples of the other two. The reverse of the coins just state "India Straits 1862."

In 1867, the region became a British colony, and remained so until 1939. One interesting tidbit is that instead of using the established and traditional English pound system, the American decimal system was employed for denominations. The first coins were put out in 1871. Pieces of 5 cents, 10 cents, and 20 cents were issued in .8000 silver. Copper coins followed in 1872, with ½ cents, ¼ cents, and 1 cent pieces being minted. The cents were made of the large variety, about the size of a half dollar. Most

were created at mints in Heaton (H) and Soho (W). There are also some Bombay, India issues. And as is usual with British colonies, they were not always issued for circulation in consecutive years, but were minted as deemed necessary. One really needs a Krause book to see what is actually out there.

After 1900, the minting became even more sporadic. The final ? cent came out in 1916, featuring George V on the obverse. Half cents were issued in 1904, 1906, 1916, and 1932 (the last one being square shaped). The final large cent, which featured Edward VII came out in 1908. 1926 was the

final year of the cent. The aforementioned silver issues, along with half dollars and dollar pieces, continued infrequently up until 1935.

I have been able to obtain over 100 different pieces from the Straits Settlements, including one item of paper currency. Items from dead nations always fascinate me. One wonders how these items journeyed from that part of the world to the United States. They are getting harder and harder to find. Many of my minor pieces were gleaned from various junk boxes at shops around the country. Visit your shops and coin shows while you



can. Other nations in the region also issued coinage, including Sarawak, Prince Of Wales Island, and North Borneo. The entire region basically became Malaya after 1940. If one likes scavenger hunts, this might be a worthy one. As always, find something you like and collect the heck out of it.



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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 - Larry Bennett  
Secretary - Kim Pepe  
518 W. Broadway Ave.  
Enid, OK. 73701

## Indian Territory Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday each month -  
6:30pm  
Sizzlin Sirloin, 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  
918-697-8348

## Comanche County Coin Club

ONA Life Member 14  
Meets 1st Wednesday of each month  
- 630pm  
Chateau of Lawton  
6302 SW Lee Blvd.  
President - Sam Feedback  
Vice Pres - James White  
Secretary - Lisa Kay Ewing  
Treasurer - Erwin Wheeler  
130 S. Hillside Rd, Apache, OK.  
73006

### **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 - Bill Nelson  
Secretary - Mark Yarbrough, Jr.  
Treasurer - Daniel Yarbrough  
214-232-2410.



# COIN SHOW GUIDE

## **STEPHENS COUNTY COIN CLUB**

### **48th Annual Coin Show,**

February 10-11

Setup opens Friday 8am

Show Hours: Friday 12-6

Saturday 9-5

Stephens County Fairgrounds

1618 S. 13th St, Duncan

contact Ed at 580-475-4570 for  
details.

### **Enid Coin Club 40th Annual Coin Show**

March 10-12

Free Admission

Friday 12-6

Saturday 9-5

Sunday 9-3

Garfield County Fairgrounds

(See ad on page 3 for more infor-  
mation)

### **2017 ONA Annual Coin Show**

May 5-7

Friday 1-5

Saturday 9-5

Sunday 9-3

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds

Hobbies, Arts and Crafts Bldg

Free Admission to Public

For more info, contact Gary

Parsons at 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](mailto:brianmiller3732@att.net)**

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

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

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PO Box 277  
Jenks, OK. 74037-0277**