



# MINT LUSTER



The Official Publication of the  
OKLAHOMA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

**Vol. 35, No. 1**

**Jan., Feb., Mar., 2011**

# ONA OFFICERS

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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.

Advertising copy must be received by the editor 15 days prior to the first day of the publishing month. The editor reserves the right to revise copy to fit the requested space. All ads are priced on a PAID IN ADVANCE basis.

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### ADVERTISING RATES

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Sixth Page	\$10 per issue/\$35 per year

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# Editor's Notes



Brian Miller - Editor

**I** am very excited to be taking over as the Mint Luster editor. I have a lot of ideas in place and slowly I will start to work them into the newsletter.

I was told I should write a little introduction about myself to all of you, so here it goes. I started collecting pennies when I was about 7 years old and quickly expanded into other denominations. I now collect every series from large cents to Peace dollars, but unfortunately, all I have left to acquire are the really tough dates, but I still try to buy 3 or 4 coins per year. I am married and have a 7 year old son and a 3 year old daughter. My son has just recently become interested in collecting too and

he has just started his own penny collection. We enjoy attending the OKC Coin Club meetings each month and we really enjoy the "show and tell" part of the meetings.

I hope all of you enjoy the new look to the newsletter and if anyone has any suggestions please feel free to contact me and let me know.

## New Members

Brian Miller, Oklahoma City

Robert Borland, Sr., Richardson, TX

# Letter from the President



Gary Parsons - President

**P**lease join me in welcoming Brian Miller as the new editor of MINT LUSTER. Brian is an active member of the Oklahoma City Coin Club. He has been a collector of U. S. coins for most of his life. Thank you Brian for taking on this big job for the association! The MINT LUSTER is our primary means of communication with our members. We are always looking for new content, so send your club reports, articles, and suggestions to Brian.

October took me to the Border Town Coin Club show in Ft Smith. It seemed to be well attended and I visited with lots of friends from Arkansas and Texas. I also bought some neat coins and notes. You should plan to attend this show if you haven't been. Their next show will in March, 2011. The Lawton show is days away as I write this and I'm planning to attend.

The Association recently approved my proposal for a coin club competition; I'm calling the Redbook Challenge. Multiple choice examinations will be administered at the club level to test member knowledge of the Redbook in clubs that wish to participate. Prizes will go to team members that prevail at the club level. The scores attained at the club level will be averaged and a club score for all the clubs will be compared. The two clubs with the highest average scores will pick members to

represent their club at the Challenge that will take place at the ONA Oklahoma City Show in 2011. The Association will provide a cash prize of \$100 to the club that wins the challenge and \$50 to runner up. So get out your Redbooks and start reading. I will be contacting the club leadership of each participating club soon with details and to schedule visits.

The health of the hobby and coin market seems to be outstanding as we near the end of another year. With gold and silver commodity prices near record levels at \$1400 per ounce and \$27 per ounce respectively, prices for collectible coins and currency seem to be firming and going up in some areas of market. 2010 was a great year for ONA with many new members joining, a new club in McAlester, and two successful shows. Lets all pledge to work hard to make 2011 even better. Your Association and clubs will only be as good as we want to make them. Volunteer your time and talents to make things better for all of us. Your ideas are always welcome but your willingness to work to make your ideas a reality is even more appreciated.



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# Why We Collect

**W**e will continue our discussion of Civil War money. The ANA recently announced that next year's National Coin Week (April 17-23, 2011) theme will be BLUE, GRAY, and GREENBACKS. In April, 2011, we will celebrate the sesquicentennial (150 year anniversary) of the start of the Civil War. Because the Civil War theme of this column has become timely, I plan to continue write on this topic for at least the next two quarters.

This quarter we will turn to money/money substitutes created by the private sector and individual States to meet the needs of commerce due to disruptions resulting from the War. By 1862 Federal Coinage was being hoarded by the public to such an extent that merchants lacked coins to make change in ever day transactions. Postage stamps were monetized by the government in an attempt to meet this need. These stamps did not hold up well in everyday commerce. Encased Stamps evolved to protect the stamps. Many collectors of Civil War money collect both the stamps and encased stamps



Gary Parsons - President

as a result. The stamps are available and can be acquired in nice circulated condition for under \$100 depending on type. Encased stamps are rare and expensive. Most collectors try to acquire a nice type in the various denominations.

Because stamps did not hold up well and encased stamps were expensive to make, the private sector began creating what we call Civil War tokens as early as 1862. Most were made in similar size and metal as the Federal bronze cent. These were readily accepted in the market place and quickly become, along with paper fractional notes, the primary small denomination money. Civil War Tokens were made in huge quantities and eventually in numerous sizes and metals. For this reason common varieties in well circulated grades can be acquired for less than \$20. There are two major types of Civil War

Tokens, Patriotics, which are more generic with standard designs. Store Cards or Merchant tokens included advertising and unique designs, which required individual dies. These were more expensive to make but also become popular. I collect these old tokens and find them fascinating and historically significant. Consider joining the Civil War Token Society if you decide to collect these old coins. They make a wealth of information available to members through their quarterly Journal and various books published by the Society or its members, many of which are involved in original research.

We are all familiar with Federal Fractional notes which I have mentioned previously. What is not so well known is notes were issued in the private sector and by individual states in the Southern States during the Civil War. I will pick up on this topic next quarter. IS THIS A GREAT HOBBY OR WHAT !!



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# What Is A Dime Worth?

In the June 20, 1958 COINWORLD, a dime minted in San Francisco in 1894, one of 24, was sold to an anonymous collector for \$3,200. In May 1996, an 1894S, Prf-64, Barber Dime, from the Eliasberg Sale, brought \$451,000.

The \$3,200 deposited in a bank at 6% would have earned only \$29,300. Not too bad for a 38 year bank deposit. But how would a really savvy collector who does his homework do better? Research!



Irv Brotman

In a 1964 COINWORLD ad, a reputable coin company offered an XF 1798 Sm. 8 Dime for \$2,500. They noted it was "Extremely Rare only 5 to 6 known". A quick check of my 2008 North American Coins and Price Guide indicated 4 varieties, with a mintage of 27,650. The Small 8

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version in XF-40 is only priced at \$3,600. After 44 years you would think that this Dime should be valued much higher. It is only 1 of the 4 varieties, and is very easily identified.

If you go back to the Eliasberg specimen, it was a PROOF. The 1798 coin in 2008, is listed in MS 60 at only \$9,500. NO PROOFS! So, coin collector, what would you think an auction price, say

about 20 years from now bring? Old issues of price lists are a must for your research. Example: the same 1964 price list that I used, offered a fine 1942/41 dime for only \$100, and a VF for \$135. Check out those prices now!



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## COIN SHOW GUIDE

### **ONA 2011 Annual Show**

April 30 - May 1

State Fairgrounds, Oklahoma City, Hobbie, Arts & Crafts Bldg. 9:00 AM each day, Dealer Set-up 10:00 AM April 29, Early bird - noon to 6:00 PM - For information, Contact Gary Parsons, show chairman at 405-426-9044 e-mail: olegar@cox.net

### **Border Town Coin Club Show**

March 18-20, 2011

Fri. 3-7, Sat. 9-5, & Sun. 9-3

Columbus Acres,

Hwy 71 South & Broken Hill Dr., Fort Smith, Arkansas.

### **Enid Coin Club Spring Show**

March 11-13, 2011

Fri. 12PM-6PM, Sat.& Sun.

9:00AM Open, Free Admission

Garfield County Fairgrounds,

Pavilion Bldg., 111 West

Purdue, Enid. For Info contact-

CLIFFORD COOPER (580)

478-5709 or (580) 233-0007.

### **Stephens County Coin Show**

February 11-13, 2011

Fri. 1PM-6PM (dealer set-up)

Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3 Free

Admission, Stephens County Fairgrounds, Duncan, OK.

Contact-TRAVIS MORRIS at

(580) 656-2595 or

(580) 252-1538.

# 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 - Ron LaSpisa  
Secretary - Carroll Johnson  
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 - Robert Gregg  
Vice Pres - Keith Boltz  
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 - Jeff Cecil  
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 - Joe Anne Sloan  
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

### Indian Capitol Coin Club

ONA Member CC 185  
Meets 3rd Monday of each month -  
7pm  
Kiwanis Senior Citizens Center  
119 Spaulding Blvd.  
Muskogee, OK. 74403  
President - Paul Mocha  
Vice-Pres - Sam Carter  
Sec/Treas - Elaine K. Meyer  
1500 W Okmulgee  
Muskogee, OK. 74401

### 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 - Rex Ross  
Secretary - Joy Woods  
Treasurer - Larry E Campbell  
(580)470-8799  
Box 635  
Duncan, OK. 73533

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## OKC COIN CLUB

### NEWS

By Gary Parsons

The Club Auction at our October Meeting was a great success with many neat coins and notes changing hands. Some good books also sold. We are blessed with a large membership so our auctions usually have in excess of 100 lots. Anyone can come and buy! You have to be a member to consign material. Plan to join us in April next year for our next big club auction.

Alan Ramsey, our senior member, presented a program on Coins of Sicily at the November meeting. Our new overhead projection system caused a few problems, which was all taken as

good fun. I hear it may have had more to do with operators and not the system. Everyone enjoyed Alan's presentation.

December will bring our annual Christmas Party with our usual "Dirty Santa". If you don't know what it is, I can't tell you in this column. Come join us and find out. You can contact me for information.

The greatest asset in our hobby is our clubs. If you are a dealer or serious hobbyist, you need to join a club and participate in their activities. You need to support them financially. You will receive much more in return than you ever give!

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM  
ALL OF US

# Board Meeting Minutes

On September 12, 2010, the meeting of the Oklahoma Numismatic Association was brought to order by President Gary Parsons at 8:30 AM at the Elks Club in Tulsa.

## Old Business:

No old business to discuss.

## Treasurers Report:

Current status of all accounts. Figures for the Checking Account are in a constant state of flux due to income and expenses for the State shows.

Life Member CD \$31,000.00  
Checking Account \$30,946.98  
Saunders Fund \$ 2,198.07

Gary Parsons has accepted Brian Miller as the new Editor of the Mint Luster replacing Richard Chadwick. Richard has sent Brian all editable text for the Mint Luster.

Shane Cornell will be responsible for Mint Luster Ad renewals and will forward the mailing labels to Gary Parsons who will mail the Mint Luster. New envelopes have been ordered and delivered to Gary.

Gary is pursuing both the Woodward and Muskogee Coin Clubs in hopes of renewing their interest. The death of Paul Mocha has left the Muskogee Club somewhat leaderless.



Shane Cornell - Secretary / Treasurer

The ONA trailer will be donated to the Oklahoma City Coin Club as they are the ones who use it. They will be responsible for storing the trailer. Archival materials will be removed by Aaron Stanfill, the ONA Historian.

The ONA Show in Oklahoma City will be April 29-May 1, 2011.

Membership in the ONA has steadily grown, due, in no small part, to our President Gary Parsons who has relentlessly pursued new members. You all can tell by our financials that the ONA is healthy.



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# Code of Ethics

## of the Oklahoma Numismatic Association

Membership in the ONA is a privilege extended to those persons and organizations deemed worthy thereof and is not a matter of right. Such membership can be maintained only until the Board of Directors determines that the conduct of a member has been such that, in the best interest of the Association, such membership should be terminated. For the guidance of its members, this Code of Ethics has been duly adopted by the Board of Directors under the authority vested in it by the ONA Bylaws. A breach thereof by any member reflects, directly or indirectly, upon all members. Such a breach shall be considered conduct prejudicial to the welfare of the Association and cause for action by the Board of Directors.

As a Member of the Oklahoma Numismatic Association:

I agree to support and be governed by the ONA Bylaws and such rules, policies, and regulations as may be in force from time to time;

I agree to conduct myself so as to bring no reproach or discredit to the ONA, or impair the prestige of membership therein;

I agree to base all of my dealings on the highest plane of justice, fairness and morality;

I agree to neither buy nor sell numismatic items of which the ownership is questionable;

I agree to comply with the accepted standards of dignified advertising;

I agree to immediate steps to correct any error I may make in any transaction;

I agree not to sell, exhibit, produce nor advertise counterfeits, copies, restrikes and/or reproductions of any numismatic items if their nature is not clearly indicated by the word "counterfeit", "copy", "restrike", "reproduction", incused in the metal or printed on the paper thereof, with the exception of items generally accepted by numismatists and not in any way misrepresented as genuine;

I agree to represent a numismatic item to be genuine only when, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is authentic;

I agree to fulfill all contracts made by me, either orally or written, to make prompt payments upon delivery, and to return immediately any item that is not satisfactory;

I agree to give aid to members in their quest for numismatic knowledge.

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby make application for membership in the Oklahoma Numismatic Association, subject to the Bylaws of said Association. I also agree to abide by the Code of Ethics adopted by the Association.

- Annual - Regular (\$10)
- Annual Club (\$11)
- Life (\$150)

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Name (please print First, MI, Last)

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ONA Bylaws require applicant's name to be published in the Mint Luster. Addresses will not be published.

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Applicant's signature and date

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Signature of Proposer ONA#

Make checks payable to the Oklahoma Numismatic Association.

Mail the check and this application to the ONA Secretary: Shane M Cornell, PO Box 277, Jenks, OK. 74037-0277

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