

# The GlenCoin News

Newsletter of the Glendale Coin Club

## Elections in June



June 2001  
Volume 6, Issue 6

Meeting Place: CalFed  
2350 Honolulu Avenue  
Glendale (near Montrose)  
Date/Time: 2nd Friday of every month  
at 7:30 p.m.  
Mailing Address: 327 Delaware Road  
Burbank, CA 91504  
Editor: Greg Burns, 909-621-9670  
Gburns@thevine.net

**W**e have our yearly election coming up at the June meeting. During the May meeting, Dorsille Fritcher (Chair of the Nominating Committee) briefly covered who the nominees were, but dang if I can remember who was on the hook (I neglected to write them down—some editor, huh?). I do know that Oded Paz is in line for the 1st VP slot (in which I'm sure he'll do a fine job.)

We'll go over the slate again at the June meeting in time for the formality of an election.

Hopefully we'll have a full slate, because if we don't, that means the club is broken, i.e. not working properly. So if you haven't had your turn in the barrel, be prepared to volunteer to do some time (actually, it's quite fun for a newbie; I only imagine it gets a little old when it's the billionth time you've done it), so help those officers who've been doing this over and over, and please be receptive to Dorsille if she tags you with a request to volunteer.

### Thanks to John Purnell

We had a treat at the May show when John Purnell (Joe's brother from Philadelphia) showed up and gave us an update on the fascinating story of the Japanese WWII memory album that was captured at Iwo Jima (or was it Okinawa?). Joe had spoken to us on this subject a couple of years ago, and told us at the May meeting that he had been successful in repatriating the book with the family of the original owner. His talk

about tracking the makers of the book down and presenting the album to the wife of the original owner was very interesting. Plus, John had a copy of the book so we could look again at the photos, artwork, and other interesting artifacts from another time and culture.

Thanks, John, for keeping us informed of the ongoing story.

### Golden State Coin Show

The GSCS is coming to town in August. The dates are the 25th and 26th (Saturday and Sunday), and the show will be held at the Masonic Temple, located at 50 West Duarte Avenue in Arcadia (just south of Santa Anita park). The show is sponsored jointly by the CSNA (California State Numismatic Association) and the NASC (Numismatic Association of Southern California). There's plenty of free parking, inexpensive eats, \$2 admission (FREE to juniors!), and exciting gold coin drawings. All this, in addition to more coins for sale or trade than you could shake a stick at. For more information contact: Gary Beedon (714) 963-6138 ([beedon@earthlink.net](mailto:beedon@earthlink.net)).



Jerry Yahalom (l.) presents our Certificate of Appreciation to John Purnell for his talk at the May meeting on the Japanese WWII memorial album.



Young Chris Watson sits on the buffalo skin that Joe Purnell brought to the May meeting. Wow! That thing was big. I was especially surprised at how soft the fur was, also. When you see these huge beasts it's easy to imagine a rough exterior, but tain't so folks, that thing's as silky as lambs wool.

be home now and well on the road to recuperation. We all filled out a "get well" card for Joyce at the May meeting. Hope to see you soon, Joyce!

We also found out that another GCC member was on the injured list. It seems life member Viesturs Zagars snapped some nuisance bone in his foot, requiring crutches and other orthopedic devices to hobble around. It was good to see you were

able to make it to the meeting, Viesturs. Hopefully, you can make it without the crutches for the June meeting.

**See You In July**

I've mentioned before that wedding bells are ringing in my ears, and by the time you read this I'll likely be hitched already. Elena Krishtal and I are having a small wedding (just my kids, our mothers, and her brother) on Saturday, June 2, in Upland.



A couple of days after the wedding we zip off to Europe for a short honeymoon, then

**Upcoming Meetings**

Tradition has it that June is the month for elections, followed by thanking of the outgoing officers and installation of the incoming at the July meeting.

Did you know that we hold the annual White Elephant Auction during the month of August so that the new, incoming 1st VP (also known as the Program Chairperson) has a free month to get their feet under them before they have to start putting on their first program?

Well, it's so.

**Thanks Wilfred**

Wilfred Gamble gave all of the juniors in attendance at the May meeting a special treat by passing out free coins. Just another benefit of coming to the meetings, kids. Thanks, Wilfred!



**GCC Get Well List**

Well, we heard in the last newsletter that Joyce Allen had heart bypass surgery. She should

**New Wonderful Workers List**

President .....	Bob Vick
1st VP .....	Tom Redmond
2nd VP .....	<open>
Treasurer .....	Joyce Allen
Asst. Treasurer .....	<open>
Secretary .....	Mary Purnell
Asst. Secretary .....	Denise Ballard
Newsletter Editor .....	Greg Burns
Board .....	Bea Young
Board .....	Harry Reder
Board .....	Viesturs Zagars
Board .....	Bob Vick
Board .....	Tom Redmond
Board .....	Jerry Yahalom
Board .....	Greg Burns

back to the states just in time to pack up and move to the new condo we've just bought. Wish us luck!

Anyway, the offshoot of all this harmonious activity is that I'll be missing the June meeting. This is the first meeting I'll have missed in at least five and a half years, maybe quite a bit longer; I just can't remember. The reason I mention it is that I'll need some of my email buddies to take down some notes for me and email them to me so I have something to put into the July newsletter. Please track who wins the door prizes, and any special "goin's on" that happen at the June election. You all can be the cub reporter who gets the scoop!

**Thanks Earl**

Earl Fritcher gave a one pound box of See's chocolates to the people at the bank on behalf of the GCC. The bank hosts our meeting place each month free of charge, which is quite a nice treat for us, because then we can use the savings for our annual Holiday Party (Tom's already starting to drool.) Thanks for your considerate thoughtfulness, Earl. We all appreciate those things that you do in the interests of the club and our members.



The two objects of my affection: Elena and Pepper (our cat).

**A New Member**

We've picked up another member off of the club's internet website. Please give a big GCC welcome to Tony Ibarra of Torrance. Tony collects Indian head cents, Lincoln cents, Mercury dimes, old and new quarters, and anything else that catches his attention (sounds just like me...at least the "catching attention" part.) Tony's GCC membership number is 638—Welcome!



**Refreshment Listing Reminder**

Just so we don't forget who's on first, I thought I'd reprint the list for the upcoming months:



- July ..... Joyce Allen
- August..... Denise Ballard
- September ..... Bea Young
- October ..... Wilfred Gamble
- November ..... Jerry Klein
- December..... Holiday Party!

**Door Prize Ticket Prices**

I thought it also might help to reprint the prices for the door prize tickets. Remember, the more you spend, the more you get for each dollar. Plus, when you spend at least \$5 on tickets, you get a special door prize ticket for a separate drawing:



<u>Qty</u> .....	<u>Price</u>
3 .....	\$1
8 .....	2
13 .....	3
23 .....	5
33 .....	7
48 .....	\$10

**Mary's Traveling**

Seems I'm not the only one with travel plans. We found ourselves severely understaffed at the May meeting. While our President, Bob Vick, and 1st VP, Tom Redmond, were visiting fairly prosaic places (Minnesota and Baker, California, of all places), it turns out that our Treasurer, Mary Yahalom, was enjoying the exotic culture of New Zealand.

I'm sure Mary will have some amazing stories to tell and pictures to share when she returns for the June meeting. Be sure to bug her plenty about what she did and saw, because I won't be there to do it.



**Hey, What Happened?**

Our May meeting was so disorganized (no knock on you, Jerry, you stepped in and did a fine job; we just weren't prepared for so many officers to be gone). I didn't even realize we had a guest, Nick DeLauer, at the meeting. I saw a new face, but thought perhaps it was someone brought in for the program (to speak or something), and later neglected to ask. Next time we have a guest I hope we get them to introduce themselves. I'll send Nick a copy of the newsletter, and if we're lucky, he'll give us another chance.

**By-Laws Still Up for Revision**

We've received comments from our newer members, Mark Watson and Oded Paz, on the proposed new club by-laws. We should incorporate final comments, have a bit of discussion

on the subject, and get on with the business of voting on these things.

Perhaps President Bob Vick will call for a (now overdue) board meeting so this issue can be discussed. Besides, I'm looking forward to seeing everybody at the board meeting again; the last one was a real winner, what with all the comments and participation from board members and general members alike.

**The Lettered Edge**

*By Lee F. McKenzie  
(This is a transcript of the American Numismatic Association's Money Talks radio series.)*

Why do quarters, half dollars and dimes have ridges or milling around their rims, while pennies and nickels don't? The average person on the street might tell you that dimes, quarters and halves are clearly more valuable, and that the ridges keep them from slipping through our fingers so easily. But, "it ain't necessarily so"!

The real reason for the ridges is because quarters, dimes and halves used to be made of silver. In the past, some unscrupulous people tried to steal part of a coin's value by scraping tiny pieces of metal from the edge. Milling protects a coin from this kind of tampering. Another way to prevent it is to have lettering, or designs placed on the edge of the coin.

America's most beautiful coin, the "Saint Gaudens" \$20 gold piece, has a series of 48 stars around the edge. England's pound coin, of 1820, has a lettered edge in Latin which translates into "AN HONOR AND DEFENSE." The edge lettering

decorates the coin while at the same time protecting it from unscrupulous clipping.

The edge of a coin can also be a place for a country to proclaim its most sacred values. In the 1960s, Switzerland's five Franc coins had an edge engraved with Latin words, which when translated meant "THE LORD PROVIDES." The edges of larger denomination German coins have traditionally had the words "GOD BE WITH US," in German.

The beautiful Austrian Florin coins of the 1880s have a lettered edge with the Latin words meaning "unity and truth," separated by ornate scroll work and a star. Many people believe that a truly beautiful coin is incomplete without a lettered edge.

### Is All the Gold in Fort Knox?

*By Mark Van Winkle  
(This is a transcript of the American Numismatic Association's Money Talks radio series.)*

It's been said when someone is asked to do something we want no part of: "Not for all the gold in Fort Knox!" But, how do we even know there is any gold in Fort Knox?

In the early days of the United States, the mint in Philadelphia was guarded by a vicious dog and a night watchman, who rang a bell periodically to let citizens know the mint, and all its bullion, were still secure. After gold was removed from U.S. coins in 1933, and citizens were required to turn in nearly all their gold coins . . . the gold was melted down and turned into small bars. In 1937, most of the nation's gold reserves were



Fort Knox Bullion Depository: The facility was designed and constructed in 1936 for the purpose of housing our gold supply; however, over the years it has served as temporary home to the original Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution, original copies of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, 3 volumes of the Gutenberg Bible, and crown jewels from European nations, proving the strength and security of the fortress. The exterior dimensions of the 2-story basement and attic facility are 105 by 121 feet. Inside the building is a two-level, concrete-and-steel vault. The vault door itself weighs in excess of 30 tons, and no one person knows the complete combinations required to unlock the vault. Sophisticated security and defense systems ensure the safety of the contents, and the fortress includes a separate emergency power plant, water system, and other necessary facilities.

Information courtesy of URL [http://www.ltadd.org/radcliff/gold\\_vault.html](http://www.ltadd.org/radcliff/gold_vault.html).

moved to the new Fort Knox facility near Louisville, Kentucky.

Security is so tight at Fort Knox that no one person is entrusted with the complete combination to the twenty-ton vault door. Except for authorized personnel, the only person to ever enter the facility was President Roosevelt, who paid a visit in 1943. Since no one, other than those who worked there, had seen the gold for thirty years . . . rumors began spreading that the gold bullion was either partly, or completely, missing. Illinois Congressman Philip Crane discussed that rumor with Treasury Secretary Simon in 1974. And, 26 years ago today, a seven man congressional inspection team, and nearly 100 reporters entered the vault. Later, the General Accounting Office and the Treasury Department conducted a special audit, and all the gold was ac-

counted for. Since then, visits have become more frequent, along with regular government audits.

For those who wish to believe in conspiracy theories, probably nothing short of a personal visit would persuade them the nation's gold stocks are secure. But it does appear that the granite, concrete and steel structure known as Fort Knox has held the nation's gold since 1937 . . . and it's still doing so today.



This Month—Our 504th Meeting



**Program**

June is our election month. Perhaps we'll have some other activity also, as I'm pretty sure the slate is already decided.

**Door Prizes**

(Next donation month is August.)  
 1964 Proof Set  
 1987 Mint Set  
 1915 Barber Quarter  
 1951 Washington Quarter  
 1936 Walking Liberty Half  
 1954 Franklin Half  
 1968 Mexican 25 Peso—Olympic  
 1975 Canadian Dollar—Specimen  
 1880 Morgan Dollar (special prize)  
 2 1/2 Peso Mexican Gold



**Birthdays**

Harry Reder .....6/5  
 Bob Vick.....6/6  
 Oded Paz.....6/7  
 John Govorchin .....6/8  
 Mary Yahalom.....6/11  
*Did we forget your birthday? If so, let our newsletter editor know for next year!*



**Refreshments**

Harry Reder will be bringing our June meeting refreshments. Thanks, Harry, for being such a good sport and treating our tummies so well!

Last Month, May 2001—Meeting Results

**Attendance—19**

Lots of absences in May. Lets do better in June!

**Early Bird Prize**

Wilfred Gamble whistled a tune as he picked up his 1956 proof quarter.

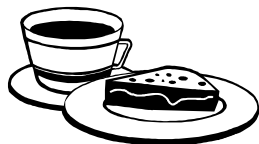


**Show and Tell**

Mark Watson\*\*\* ..... Grocery Shopping  
 Lisa Koerner ..... The Euro  
 Michal Paz ..... Dominican Republic Pearls  
 Oded Paz\* ..... Medal/Coin Alignment  
 Kim Klein ..... Volunteer Work on Front Page  
 Joe Purnell\*\* ..... Warm Blanket  
 Wilfred Gamble ..... Medals  
 Dorsille Fritcher..... Couple of things  
 \* Indicates the number of dollars worth of door prize tickets won during the Show and Tell drawing.

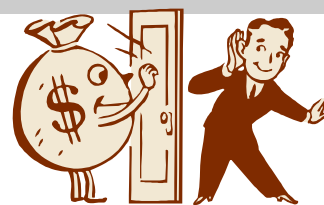
**Refreshments**

Earl and Dorsille Fritcher hosted our refreshments at the May meeting. Thanks, you two, they were delicious!



**Door Prize Winners**

1956 Proof Quarter ..... Wilfred Gamble  
 1995 Ecuador 100 Sucres ..... Mary Purnell  
 1964 Silver Quarter Dollar ..... Denise Ballard  
 1916D Barber Quarter ..... Michal Paz  
 1985 Israel Piefort Mint Set .... Christopher Watson  
 1958D Unc. Lincoln Cent..... Joe Purnell  
 1971S Proof Jefferson Nickel.. Christopher Watson  
 1964D Silver Roosevelt Dime..... Dorsille Fritcher  
 2 Peso Mexican Gold..... Mary Purnell



**Special Prize**

Dorsille Fritcher walked off with the 1964D Roosevelt dime. (We'll see if our June drawing as a more "special" special prize.)



**Membership Drawing**

We didn't have the numbered chips...maybe next month.





Contributor to Yeoman's Redbook Since 1978  
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March 18, 2001—May 20, 2001—July 15, 2001—  
September 16, 2001—November 18, 2001—  
January 20, 2002—March 17, 2002—May 19, 2002

Public auction by **Michael Aron Rare Coins** held at the Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, California. Viewing at 9:30 a.m. Auction begins at 12:30 p.m. Michael Aron Rare Coins is a full-service numismatic firm, licensed and bonded. Featuring rare U.S. gold, silver and copper coins; offering complete auction and convention services, professional appraisals and consultation. \$3.00 catalog may be obtained by writing to address above.

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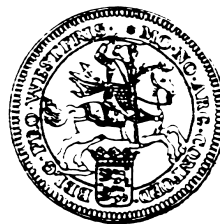
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