

The GlenCoin News

Newsletter of the Glendale Coin Club

April Fools, GCC!



April 2002
Volume 7, Issue 4

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, 909-981-6101
Gburns@adelphia.net

President's Message...

Dear Members, I appreciate our loyal members who come to the club meeting each month. Thank you, and bring a friend, young or old, next month. All those members who stay at home the second Friday of each month, drive on out to Montrose and bring a Show 'n Tell article to share with all of us.

A special thanks to Oded Paz for his enlightening and entertaining program. Mark Watson, our ANA Representative, supplied Oded with an ANA list of questions about coins—general, U.S., and foreign—20 of each. We only did about 10 of each category. Some were tough and some were easier; for example, what was the only year the U.S. did not produce a one cent piece?

- A) 1799
- B) 1815
- C) 1922
- D) 1943

For foreign coins, how many pence were in a pound prior to 1971 (when the UK converted to the decimal system)?

- A) 142
- B) 240
- C) 437
- D) 550

Do you know the answers? Check out the GCC website for the answers (soon) at:

<http://glendalecc.tripod.com>

Thank you so much to Dor-sille Fritcher and Denise Ballard for helping out with the refreshments at the March meeting.

Thank you also to Earl Fritcher for picking up the key

so we can get into the meeting room. We do appreciate his willingness to do this for the GCC.

A special thanks to all of the officers and board members.

See you next month!

Mary

President, GCC

April Coin-O Month

At the April meeting we'll be playing Coin-O, our numismatic version of Bingo.



Mary Yahalom presents Oded Paz with the Glendale Coin Club's Certificate of Appreciation for his terrific "Who Wants To Be A Coinionaire?" program.

Ina Mauck on the Move

I got a phone call, and the club received a post card from Ina Mauck explaining her relocation to the sunny climes of Palm Springs. I hope Ina is still able to come see us once in a while, and I'm sure I speak for all of us when I wish her the best of luck in her new home.



SBCCC Coin Show

The San Bernardino County Coin Club is hosting its 39th annual Coin & Collectible Show on April 6th 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 7th 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Meadows Banquet and Conference Center, 225 North Del Rose



United We Stand

E-Z JOE AND MARY THE PURNELL'S PIONEER EXPERIENCE

Here's a copy of the postcard that Mary and Joe Purnell sent me. Quite a get-up, don't you think?

Drive in San Bernardino (formally Norton AFB NCO Club).

There will be 58 dealer tables, hourly drawings, free giveaways for kids, plus a 7 Gold Coin Drawing on Sunday afternoon.

If you're looking for something to do this weekend, it sounds like a trip out to San Bernardino may prove to be a lot of fun!

Board Meeting Results

The board met at Bea Young's house on 3/29 and discussed the following items:

1. To increase membership we should try and get a free table at local coin shows. Perhaps Harry Reder may have further input on this.
2. We'd like to put flyers in coin dealer's shops, libraries, and other places interested folks might see them. Various people volunteered to make some up.

Magnificent Management List

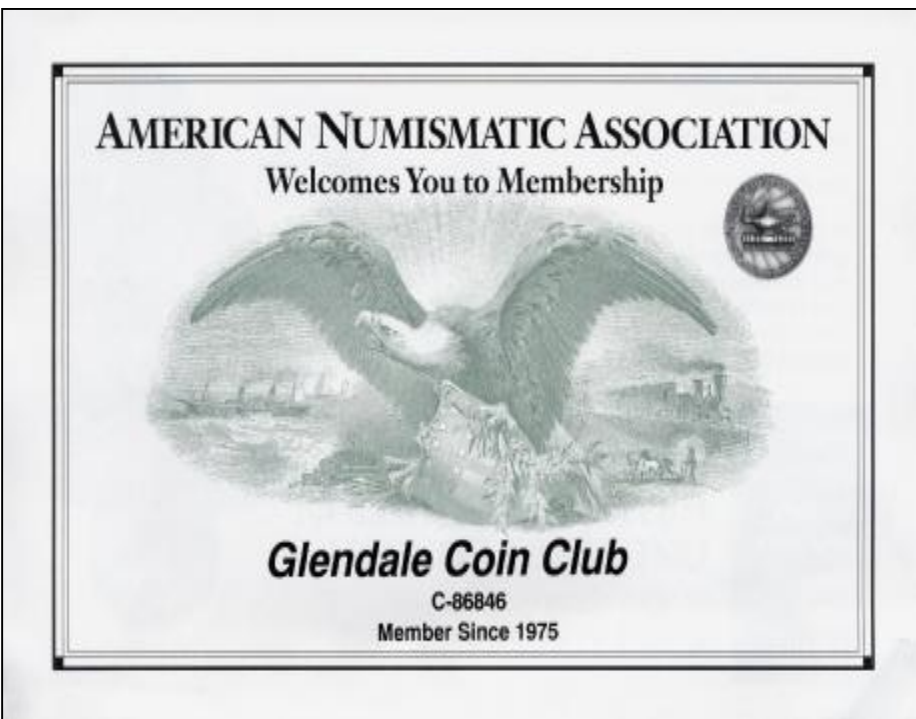
President	Mary Yahalom
1st VP	Oded Paz
2nd VP	<open>
Treasurer	Joe Purnell
Asst. Treasurer	<open>
Secretary	Mary Purnell
Asst. Secretary	Denise Ballard
Newsletter Editor/Website Mgr	Greg Burns
Board	Bea Young
Board	Harry Reder
Board	Viesturs Zagars
Board	Bob Vick
Board	Tom Redmond
Board	Jerry Yahalom

3. Is there a way to reach members who haven't renewed this year (or for the past couple of years)?

4. Sandy Mazel would look into requesting door prize donations or sponsorship from local coin stores.

5. It would be interesting to have a segment on members and their collecting interests.

6. Bea Young will be installed as a Royal Matron at the Fremont Court #49 at the Burbank Masonic Center, 406 Irving Drive, on 4/27 at 1:00 p.m.



Here's a recent membership certificate the club received from the American Numismatic Association. Wow, we've been members for 27 years. Not bad...

As usual there were refreshments and general camaraderie after the meeting (actually, the meeting itself was pretty friendly too!). Thanks, Bea, for again extending your hospitality in hosting the GCC Board Meeting.

Once Again...

Well, I'm proud to say for the third year in a row that the Glendale Coin Club won the Numismatic Association of Southern California's (NASC) "President's Trophy" for "...consistently publish[ing] out-



standing Club bulletins throughout the year".

Mary Yahalom is shown in the picture with me on the bottom of the page along with the new trophy. If you'll recall, it used to be a rather LARGE item. So large in fact, that the last time we won it I refused to take it

home with me (I'd been through that the year earlier, and was preparing to move anyways.) Well, thanks to the generosity of Galaxy Designs, the old trophy was retired and replaced with the much more sensibly sized plaque you

see in the photo. Thanks to you, Nona Moore.

Some Ideas

At the beginning of April, Mary Yahalom routed an email around to many of the members who have such accounts. In it, Mary suggested that one way to boost interest in our meetings and attract new members (particularly juniors) might be to sponsor a Youth Auction, similar to the ones held by Verdugo Hills Coin Club and also at the Golden State Coin Show.

There were a few responses to that email. All were supportive, and several brought up some twists of their own. Mark Watson mentioned that some clubs give away script that can be used at such auctions, in exchange (or as payment) for YNs being involved in club activities. As examples, bringing a guest, doing a show and tell, or other club-boosting activities would earn a YN a certain amount of script to be used in the auction.

Viesturs agreed that the script/YN auction idea would be helpful, and offered the point of view that we need to focus on just getting OURSELVES to the meetings as the first priority. Once we all start participating in our meetings more can we best turn our attention to bringing in YNs and others.

Oded's "Coinionaire" Winners

See Mary's message at the front of the newsletter for the details of Oded's quiz; I just wanted to list the winners here (especially since I'm one of them):

1st Place—Sandy Mazel



2nd Place—Greg Burns

3rd Place—Earl Fritcher

All three of these geniuses were treated to spectacular prizes (not quite millionaires, but who really expected anything anyway?). First place took a 2000 Silver Eagle, I was treated to an SBA proof for second, and Earl mopped up with a 1971 proof set. Thanks, Oded, it was a hoot! Send me the list of questions and answers and I'll post them on the club website.

April Door Prize Donations

Mary tells me that April is one of the donation months for door prizes. I already have a few items various members have donated over past months, but I'll refrain from listing anything on page 5. That way we can accommodate appropriate changes to the door prize line-up once the meeting starts and anyone else who wishes to donate has a chance to do so.

Purchasing Power of Ancient Coins

By Gerald Tebben

(This is one of the scripts for the ANA's "Money Talks" series of radio spots.)

Have you ever tried comparing today's prices with the prices our grandparents paid for the same things? A loaf of bread costs a dollar today, but you could buy it for 7 cents in 1934. A gallon of gas that costs \$1.29 today was just 14 cents in 1939. But what about long ago---I mean really long ago? What was the purchasing power of a penny in Ancient Rome?

Actually, there was no such Roman coin as a penny. The penny mentioned in the King

James Bible wasn't a penny at all. It was a denarius, a silver coin of substantial value in the first century. When the Bible was translated into English during the 17th century, scholars wanted to make the Bible understandable to the common people, and substituted a modern coin---the penny---for an ancient one, the denarius.

The denarius was as big around as a dime, and twice as thick. It was more than a day's pay for a soldier in Caesar's army. A soldier was paid 225 denarii a year, and could live rather comfortably while saving 30% of his salary.

Common workers didn't fare as well. Laborers in the Roman empire's gold mines earned about half a denarius a day. Slaves, of course, earned nothing, but were valued at anywhere from 200 denarii for common laborers to 2,000 denarii for the finest wine dressers. Wine dressing was an important occupation in ancient Rome, where wine was considered a gift from the gods.

Inscriptions unearthed in Pompeii show that a draft of wine in that ill-fated city's taverns cost 1/16 of a denarius for the cheap stuff.

And what did the ancient tavern owner have to pay for his wine? It wholesaled for one denarius---that's per urn, not per liter.

April Fool's Day

by David Vagi

(This is one of the scripts for the ANA's "Money Talks" series of radio spots.)

Be careful. Today is April Fool's Day . . . a day of tricks . . . a day when we try to make fools of our friends, and maybe even ourselves. But what's the origin of this mock holiday, and what

part did coins play in it?

April 1st used to be part of the New Year's celebration. Medieval Christian Europe regarded March 25th as New Year's Day---because it was the Feast of the Annunciation, the day Church teachings say the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was to be the Mother of Jesus. But in 1582, Pope Gregory convinced the Catholic countries of Europe to adopt his Gregorian calendar. Besides knocking 10 days off the old calendar, it set January 1st as the first day of the new year.

Many people couldn't understand this---and some thought they were being cheated. Riots even broke out in England, as people demanded to be "given their 10 days back." It wasn't long before other people started mocking these complainers, calling them "fools," and playing tricks on them.

The pagan Romans celebrated their New Year with an impressive festival, and coins were often distributed to the citizens. In Fourth Century A.D., the mint at Rome began to make coins especially for the New Year's Festival. Most were bronze, and showed the Emperor's portrait on one side and an Egyptian deity on the other side.

The festival coins were produced each year for about a century. We know they were issued in small quantities, because they're among the rarest of all Roman coins. Not only do these coins usually show a lot of wear, but they often have holes drilled into them, so they could be worn as pendants after the festival ended.

So, to all you April Fool's tricksters out there, have fun today---and Happy New Year!

This Month—Our 514th Meeting



Program

We'll be having a rousing game of Coin-O. So bring your favorite marking pen and be prepared to keep up with all the action. See you there!

Door Prizes

Our April meeting will have the door prizes donated by various members. We'll figure out the lots once we get there...



Birthdays

Mitchell Maseredjian.....4/4
 Dustin Aron4/15
Did we forget your birthday? If so, let our newsletter editor know for next year!



Oops! Had Mitchell and John Maseredjian's birthdays switched in last month's newsletter <blush>.



Refreshments

Bob Vick will be bringing the refreshments in March. I don't think it will include salmon or sturgeon (or even walleye), but I'm sure Bob will pick out something we'll all enjoy.

Last Month, March 2002—Meeting Results

Attendance—16



Show and Tell

Wilfred Gamble ** News Item
 Oded Paz * Some Polacks
 Kim Klein State Quarters
 Thomas M. Redmond Favorites
 Mary Purnell Pioneer Experience
 Joe Purnell Transportation Tokens
 Sandy Mazel QX3 Microscope
 Dorsille Fritcher Crowns
 Denise Ballard *** "Found" Money
** Indicates the number of dollars worth of door prize tickets won during the Show and Tell drawing.*



Door Prize Winners

1971S Ike Proof (early bird).....Bill Butcher
 1851 One Cent..... Joe Purnell
 1971 Proof SetJerry Yahalom
 1954D Franklin Half..... Kim Klein
 1929 Standing Liberty Quarter Joe Purnell
 1972 Proof Set Mary Purnell
 1899 Barber Quarter Wilfred Gamble
 1939 Walking Liberty Half.....Bob Vick
 5 Lirot Israel Commem (Eilat)Dorsille Fritcher
 1989 Maple Leaf (Canadian \$5).....Oded Paz

Refreshments

Thanks to Bob Vick for hosting our enjoyable refreshments in March. Thanks, Bob!



Membership Drawing

Member Alexandros Kastrinios won the membership drawing, but wasn't present to accept the prize. Goes to \$4 next month.





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APPRAISALS · CONSULTATIONS · INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS

Public Auction Calendar

January 20, 2002—March 17, 2002—May 19, 2002
July 21, 2002—September 15, 2002
November 17, 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.

3.02

California Federal Savings and Loan has been a generous sponsor of many community efforts, and the **Glendale Coin Club** is especially grateful for the use of Bank facilities to conduct our monthly meetings... perhaps you should open an account.

Contact a New Accounts Representative soon to learn about various account features and competitive rates.

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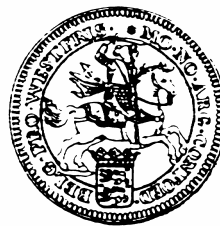
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The GlenCoin News

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Business Card Sized Ads:
Only \$4 per monthly insertion, or
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2.03

Have an idea for an interesting article for the newsletter? Like to see your name in print? We'll even put it on the internet! Put some thoughts down (digital preferred, but paper accepted) and pass it along to Greg Burns at the next meeting.