

Cumberland Coins

The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

March, 2011

Next Meeting

Our March meeting will be next Tuesday, the 8th at 6:30 pm. We meet at the 127 Senior Center on Highway 127 (Main Street) South of town. Doors open at 6:00.

We have our election of officers this month. The nominees are listed below. Our Treasurer, Mike Swanson will also be collecting membership dues (\$10.00) for the coming year. Our normal business meeting, show and tell, raffle and auction will take place as well.

Nominees for Office

The nominating committee selected the following nominees.

President – Mike Puhl

Vice President – Franc Connor

Secretary – Sonna Young

Treasurer – Mike Swanson

In our discussion of what members would like to see done differently was to do an educational segment more often, but to try to keep it to about 15 to 20 minutes. Franc Connor has agreed to be our education chairman for the coming year.

Coin Lore

Older's Museum, Circus & Menagerie - by Bill Groom

Pardon A. Older was a well-known circus man during the second half of the nineteenth century. Perhaps the only circus man to exceed Older's fame was P.T. Barnum. They knew one another and were partners in 1872-73. The year prior, Older's horse barn had burned, and it's quite likely that Barnum came to his rescue in forming the partnership. They had previously been partners at times. Whereas Barnum had concentrated his business in the eastern states, Older was based in Independence, Iowa and mostly traveled about the Midwest. He had the reputation of being a generous man, and he was especially revered by his hometown folks.



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The above token is a form of shell card, having a cardboard-like center. Dated 1870 and being a bright, brass shell, it resembles in both appearance and size a \$20 gold piece of that era. It was likely punched near the date to confirm that it was not gold. It was issued and circulated in 1870-71. Probably, less than a hundred specimens survive. This writer has seen but three in thirty or so years of collecting such items.

This token features Mademoiselle Sanyeah who was a trapeze artist. The highlight of her performance was a so-called 100 foot "Niagara" leap. She was scantily clad and performed acts of strength and coordination that were not, in those bygone days, typically associated with the fair sex. Tokens such as these were handed out to townspeople in advance so as to generate word-of-mouth advertising. Other attractions of that time were Older's exhibit of the "Cardiff Giant" and the "horned horse." Older lived to the age of 85, and one can but imagine the stories he could have told ...

COINfucious says: *"Love of money is root of all evil; and, numismatics!"*

Area Coin Shows

March 4-6, 2011

Tennessee State Numismatic Society Annual Spring Coin Show
Camp Jordan Arena, Chattanooga, TN, I-75, Exit 1.

March 12, 2011

Knoxville Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike
(I-40 exit #378)

April 2, 2010

Knoxville Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike
(I-40 exit #378)

April 30, 2011

Crossville, La Quinta Inn, Highway 127 North at I-40 exit 317.

This Month's Raffle Prizes

Est. Grade		
1866	Two Cent Piece	Fine
1877-CC	Seated Dime	G/AG
1863	CN Indian Cent	F-VF
1979-S	Type. 1&2 Lincoln Cents	Proof
1976-S & 1982-S	Lincoln Cents	Proof

The Door Prize will be a 1916 Buffalo Nickel (VF).