

2011 The Year in Review

It was a great year for the Palm Beach Coin Club with membership hitting a record high of 329, up 35 from last year. We are now the largest local coin club in the country. We changed coin show venues in March, moving from Knights of Columbus to the American Polish Club. We went from 36 tables to 53. We have more parking and the hall rent is cheaper.

In January, 43 club members went on the bus trip to the FUN Show in Tampa. Club President Tony Swicer was elected President of Florida United Numismatists (FUN) for 2011-2013. Tony was appointed ANA Regional 4 Coordinator (7 SE States). Sandy Pearl was appointed ANA District Delegate. We discussed the FUN Show at the January 11th meeting.

In February we had a huge supply auction consisting of 12 big bins of books, snap locks, jewelry trays, show cases, lock boxes, padded mailers, currency holders, vinyl pages, coin chemicals and more. Everything sold at bargain prices. On the 23rd, we had a video of "Abe Lincoln at the FUN Show" and George Cook displayed a Civil War Medal of Honor awarded by Lincoln to the 29th Maine Regiment.

March 9th was our first "Mini-Coin Show with 21 dealer tables. Our monthly coin show moved to the American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road. The first show was a tremendous success with 56 dealer tables. Everyone did well by all accounts.

April 13th was "Free Food Night" and a "White Elephant Sale". Attendance was almost 100. The 2012 Red Books came in for the 27th club meeting. Red Books were sold at cost to club members, \$8 soft cover, \$9 hard cover. 22 books were donated to the Palm Beach County Library System. Silver was \$46.50 on the 20th. Gold was \$1500.

May 11th we had Cub Scout Pack #207 of Lake Worth attend our meeting. The program was the "Basics of Coin Collecting" and all 13 scouts received an Ike dollar and a Silver Certificate. Several scouts also won door prizes. May 14th was the 2nd annual club picnic at John Prince Park. Approximately 60 members attended. May 25th, Keith Sanger gave a program on "Coin Registry Sets", while Tony spoke on "The Carson City Silver Dollar GSA Sale". Silver was \$49.75 on May 3rd. Gold was \$1570. Both dropped May 5th.

June 8th, Francis Musella told us about the Princeton University numismatic collection and showed us the numismatic article he wrote that was published at Princeton. June 22nd, Dan Pecoraro showed us a documentary he produced on his coin club at LC Swain Middle School. Silver was \$35.80 and gold was \$1540.

July 9th was the bus trip to the Summer FUN Show with 43 members on board. July 13th we discussed the Summer FUN Show. July 27th, Buddy Hirsh showed the variations between the 1979 & 1981 type 1 & type 2 proof sets.

August 24th was the “Report on the ANA in Chicago, August 17-20th by Tony Swicer & Sandy Pearl. Late in the month silver hit \$43.60 and gold hit \$1890.

September 14th was “Free Food Night” with 80 members in attendance. Even though we planned for 100 people, all the food was eaten by the gluttonous crowd. The coin club membership hit 300 members for the year on that night. September 28th, Tony reported on the Whitman Coin Expo in Philadelphia, 14-17th.

October 12th was the “Mini-Coin Show with 21 dealer tables. October 26th was “Other Hobbies Night” with 8 members displaying and speaking on their other hobbies such as, trains, angels, militaria, model planes, knives, etc. A 10- coin grading contest was won by Jim Wagner. Sandy Pearl told us about the ANA in Pittsburgh, 13-15th.

November 9th, retired US Mint Master Engraver Jim Ferrell spoke on his career at the Franklin Mint and the US Mint. Jim engraved 5 State Quarters, 1991 Korean War dollar, 1997 FDR \$5 Gold, and much more. The audience was extremely quiet. November 19-20th, the club had a table at the Gem & Mineral Show at the South Florida Fair Grounds. November 23rd, Richard Spencer spoke on “Coins of the Hawaiian Islands”. The club election was as follows; President- Tony Swicer, VP- Richard Spencer, Secretary- Bruce Eleshewich, Treasurer- Robert Leneve, Newsletter Editor- Rick Carver, YN Chairman- Dan Pecoraro. Board members are Antonio Acevedo, Rick Carver, Jack Diaz, Buddy Hirsh, George Kovacic, Tim Morley, Ed Napoli, And Ed Polyanchek, The Board decided to support LC Swain Middle School and Wynnebrook Elementary School with \$250 each in numismatic materials throughout the school year. The club donated 55 pounds of foreign coins to LC Swain’s coin club. The Board also decided to have an Essay Contest of 500 words or less on how the ANA Summer Seminar would benefit you and others. This is a \$1000 scholarship to the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs in June or July, 2012.

December 14th was the Awards Night, Pot Luck Dinner, and White Elephant Sale. The Club Member of the Year voted on by the Board, was Emily Diaz for her volunteer service to the club at meetings and at the monthly coin show. Richard Spencer brought in the most new members during the year. Approximately 101 members were in attendance and the white elephant sale brought in \$487.

The club was written up three times during the year for, 1. The Cub Scouts at the May meeting, 2. The club going over 300 members in September, and 3. For our donation of coins to LC Swain Middle School in November. All were in Numismatic News and the 300 membership was also in Coin World.

Using barchart.com, gold started 2011 dropping to \$1375 late in January. It went up steadily to \$1575 around May 3rd. It then went down to \$1490 July 1st. It then went up to \$1900 about August 20th. It dropped to \$1710 about 5 days later then rebounded to \$1925 about September 2nd. Late in September the Trend for the last 5 years ended when it dropped to \$1540 about September 26th. It did rebound to \$1800 early in November, but ended the year at \$1566.60.

Silver went down to \$27 late in January. It went up steadily to \$49 May 3rd. It then dropped just as quick to \$33 about May 13th. At the end of June it was \$33.75 but then it went up to \$44 about August 22nd. It then took a huge drop around September 25th to \$26. It went up to \$35.90 about October 28th, but finished the year at \$27.91. If you are buying gold or silver, it would make cense to look at the charts for the last several years before you buy or sell. Why go into it blindly like everyone else.