

Manhattan Coin Club Minutes

January 10, 2017

President Alan called the meeting to order at the American Legion.

Treasurer Dave asked reported that the club has a balance of \$2,844.02.

Old Business:

No old business

Auctions:

No auctions were announced.

New Business:



The American Legion Auxiliary spoke to the group asking for their support by purchasing raffle tickets for a quilt. Tickets are \$5 each and 15 for \$20. Tickets may be purchased at the American Legion bar. They also asked that members contribute to sponsor scholarships for the Johnson Cancer Research Center at K-State. They also were selling tickets for a Mystery theater dinner as a fundraiser. Tickets are \$40 each and available at the bar.

Following the presentation a motion was made and seconded to purchase 15 tickets and if the club wins, the quilt would be used as a door prize. The motion seconded

and passed.

Matt brought up the renewal of our web site for two years. The cost would be \$72. A motion to pay the fee was made and the motion seconded and passed.

Program:

The program this month was alternate collections.

Allan talked about his collection of transportation tokens. He also has a map that he marks for the place each token came from. Transportation tokens, sometimes called Transit tokens or Bus tokens, are tokens made for an operator of a transportation facility. They were used with his authority on his facility for personal transport or passage. They include tokens used mainly on buses and streetcars to accepted as payment for one fare, one half fare or one student fare. Toll roads, bridges, amusement rides, and ferries also used tokens and they fall under the transportation token category. The majority of these tokens are 16mm or 23mm and had three main types of buses pictured. The old bus type with



the protruding front first appeared in 1924. A second type appeared in 1936 and by 1952 a third type closely resembled a Greyhound bus. Many other tokens had the name of the Transportation Company, city, and state on them. Many did not have the city and state, so a catalog is needed to identify their location.

Myron showed us his antique cast iron lever seal presses, which included a Lion, head press. The most common of the figural seal presses is the lion head presses, produced primarily from the late 1850s through the 1920s. There are over 60 known varieties of the lion head press, and new varieties are discovered each year.



Collections can be small as this collection of small beer steins. The beer stein had its origins in the mid-1500's along the Rhine river in Germany, when small towns began producing functional drinking



vessels decorated by enameling and glazing. Each town or area adding their own flair or nuance. By the 1860s, factories around Westerwald and Dresden began producing ornamental steins for display, and continued doing so until WW1, from which the industry never fully recovered.

Matt showed his collection of Denver Bronco football cards, which includes a John Elway card. Interesting to note, Janet Elway, the former wife of John Elway, was included in the product as part of a Wives insert set. The set also included Joe Montana's wife, Jennifer Montana, and Ahmad Rashad's former wife, Phylcia Rashad. Additionally, rare signed versions are available for each of the wives.



Dave collects Masonic badges from conventions. Each of these badges contains a symbol that is important in one way or another to masons and or their lodge. Symbols are deeply rooted in Masonic teaching.

Ray showed his collection of military fraternal organization pins, a Tom Mix wooden revolver, and a stunning Buck Rogers Rocket Pistol from the 1930's.



First sold in 1934, the Buck Rogers rocket pistol was the first ray gun ever produced. Fashioned after the weapon carried by the fictional Buck Rogers comic-book character, the rocket pistol was straight out of the future. Buck Rogers was introduced in a 1928 issue of Amazing Stories as a World War I hero who spent nearly 500 years in a state of suspended animation after being exposed to radioactive gas and wakes to become a full-fledged superhero with a futuristic weapon. Like its fictional counterpart, the toy pistol made a zapping sound; manufacturers went on to produce multiple versions during the decades-long popularity of the character.



Guy showed his M1874 Cartridge Box made at the Watervliet Arsenal that he inherited from his father. The Watervliet Arsenal is an arsenal of the United States Army located in Watervliet, New



York, on the west bank of the Hudson River. It is the oldest continuously active arsenal in the United States, and today produces much of the artillery for the army, as well as gun tubes for cannons, mortars, and tanks. It has been a National Historic Landmark since 1966.

The arsenal was founded in 1813 to support the War of 1812, and was designated as the Watervliet Arsenal in 1817. It occupies 142 acres of land, approximately 8 miles north of Albany, New York. The location is adjacent to the Hudson River. The site contains manufacturing, administrative offices, and storage areas. It also houses the Army's Benet Laboratories, which does product development, improvement, research, and testing.

The box contains six .50/70 Frankford Arsenal internally primed ball cartridge with very rare Frankford Arsenal headstamps. (Not verified but we believe they are 50/70s.) One of the rarest of the Frankford Arsenal produced .50-70 cartridges, these bearing the standard arsenal headstamp in the same format as the internally primed .45-70 cartridges, were produced for issue to scouts, packers, and other auxiliary personnel who supported the columns of soldiers, and it is likely these cartridges were made available to militia units and academies who were armed with the earlier .50 caliber Trapdoor arms.



There was no door prize for this meeting. The meeting then concluded with the silent auction.