



## TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

Volume 23

NEWS LETTER

Number 1

### MEETING

January 22, 1987

### PRESENTATION

### THE BATTLE OF MARATHON

SPEAKER: Bob Stumm

- Bob will talk about the battle that changed the course of history, explaining:
- )Why the Greeks were able to defeat superior Persian forces.
  - )Why the Greeks were able to defeat the Persians in big battles.
  - )Why the Greek tactics were superior to those of the Persians.
  - )Many more interesting aspects of the battle.

### MEETING AGENDA

- 7:30-8:00 Socializing
- 8:00-8:30 Presentation
- 8:30-8:45 Auction
- 8:45-END Socializing

### CALENDAR

- |                 |                      |   |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|
| Jan. 17 - 18    | Minn Gopher Show     | Ramada Inn<br>194 at White Bear Ave.                                    |
| Feb. 7 - 8      | Winter Carnival Show | Holiday Inn, Capital,<br>St. Paul                                       |
| Feb. 14 - 15    | Har Mar              | Har Mar Mall, Roseville   |
| Feb. 22 - 23    | Minn Show            |   |
| Feb. 28 - Mar 1 | Liberty Show         | West St. Paul Armory<br>1346 So. Robert (near<br>Don Doyle's coin shop) |
| Mar 20 - 22     | Northwest Show       | Hyatt Regency, 1300<br>Nicollet Mall, Mpls.                             |

Calendar, continued

April 3 - 5	Chicago International Coin Fair	Hyatt Regency, Wacker Drive, Chicago
May 8 - 10	Central States Show	St. Louis, Missouri

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

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1. Meetings are held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 So. Snelling, St. Paul, at 7:30 p.m.
2. Directions: Snelling Avenue exit off of Interstate 94. Drive south on Snelling Ave. to the intersection of Goodrich and Snelling. The church is on your left.
3. Annual dues are only \$3.00. We pass the hat at meetings to pay for the use of the church facilities - \$1.00 is usual.
4. For information, please contact:  
President: Bob Stumm 487-1569  
Vice President: Tom Beniak 722-3235  
Treasurer: Frances Miller 451-7312

In keeping with the theme of this month's speaker, I've included a chart of the Greek alphabet. I have personally found it useful in understanding some of the legends found on Greek coins, particularly cognates, such as the AΘE (Athe[ns]) found on the Athenian tetradrachm c.350 B.C.

# GREEK ALPHABET

Upper case	Lower case	Name	Phonetic value
Α	α	alpha	ä (as in ah )
Β	β	beta	b
Γ	γ	gamma	g
Δ	δ	delta	d
Ε	ε	epsilon	e
Ζ	ζ	zeta	z
Η	η	eta	ā (as in pay )
Θ	θ	theta	th
Ι	ι	iota	ē (as in see)
Κ	κ	kappa	k
Λ	λ	lambda	l
Μ	μ	mu	m
Ν	ν	nu	n
Ξ	ξ	xi	ks
Ο	ο	omicron	o (as in pot)
Π	π	pi	p
Ρ	ρ	rho	r
Σ	σ	sigma	s (ς is used at the end of a word)
Τ	τ	tau	t
Υ	υ	upsilon	u,oo
Φ	φ	phi	f
Χ	χ	chi	kh
Ψ	ψ	psi	ps
Ω	ω	omega	ō (as in oh)

Following is the Greek numbering system, taken from the 1985 edition of Standard Catalog of World Coins, Chester L. Krause and Clifford Mishler.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	
Α	Β	Γ	Δ	Ε	Σ	Τ	Ζ	Η	Θ	Ι	Κ	Λ	Μ	Ν	Ξ	Ο	Π

100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	1000
Ρ	Σ	Τ	Υ	Ο	Χ	Ψ	Ω	Α

- I have several questions concerning the above charts, and the use of the numerical symbols. These are:
- why are four characters (Ε, Σ, Τ, Ζ) given for the three numbers 5, 6, 7 ?
  - why is no character given for 90? c) why is no character given for 900?
  - how are the characters used to compose large numbers, such as 57, 93, 3003, etc.?

I'm sure that many of the club members would be interested in gaining additional knowledge of the Greek's numbering system. If any of you can provide information to that end, I'm sure it would be appreciated.