

TCACC



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INCUSE COINAGE OF THE GREEK CITIES OF SOUTHERN ITALY TO BE TOPIC OF SEPTEMBER 24th MEETING

In the late 6th century B.C., a peculiar form of coinage was developed in the Greek cities of Southern Italy. These coins feature high relief designs on the obverse and similar, but incuse, designs on the reverse.

Why was this unusual style of coinage chosen? Why was it only used in Italy? Did Pythagoras have anything to do with the development of this coinage, as is often speculated? And why did this style of coinage suddenly disappear?

These are a few of the questions which will be explored by Bill Daehn at our first meeting of the new club year.

This unusual coinage series has been the subject of debate for decades. Examples of 6th century B.C. incuse coinage will be shown.

Please attend and take part in the discussion. If you own examples of this coinage, you are encouraged to bring them to share with others.

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 1992-1993

President: John Haer
Vice President: Art Noot
Secretary: Bill Daehn
Treasurer: John Carnes



If you have items you'd like published in this newsletter, call the editor, Bill Daehn at 566-7316. This newsletter's for you!

COIN SHOWS

Take Note of These Important Dates!

Rare Coin Expo

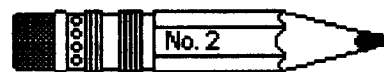
October 10-11, 1992

Signal Hills Mall, South Robert St., West St. Paul

32nd Annual Southern Minnesota Coin and Stamp Show

October 11, 1992

Ramada Inn, 1625 Broadway St. S., Rochester



PRESIDENT HAER APPOINTS CLUB HISTORIAN: HISTORY OF THE CLUB TO BE COMPILED

President John Haer has appointed club member Jerry Kolton to the position of Club Historian. Jerry expressed an interest in compiling a written history of the club. Those of you with memories of and information on the early days of the club are urged to talk with Jerry at our up-coming meetings. He needs your input!

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THE TWIN CITIES ANCIENT COIN CLUB

The club is open to anyone interested in ancient coins and history. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 South Snelling (corner of Snelling and Goodrich) in St. Paul. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M.

An educational program is always featured, followed by an auction of coins and books. All are welcome to participate.

Annual dues are \$5.00 payable each January. In addition, members are asked for a \$1.00 donation at each meeting to cover the expense of renting the meeting room.

See you there. Bring something to show!

The Collector's Perspective (Another "Back Page")

"Our Private Hobby"

Coin collecting is a private pursuit. Although we come together once a month to share our hobby, most of our hobby time is spent by ourselves. We spend many hours reading about ancient history and coinage. We each have our collecting specialties and we utilize many of our all-too-rare leisure hours to study the fine pieces in our collections in private.

Yet the full enjoyment of our hobby relies greatly on our ability to share our collecting experiences with others—at club meetings and coin shows. Indeed, it is during our interactions with other collectors that we learn the most. It is because of our varied collecting interests that we are assured we'll always be able to learn more by "talking coins" with our fellow hobbyists. And of course, we all rely on the written words of other collectors and researchers to educate ourselves during our private hours.

It is this interaction that makes our private hobby more enjoyable. Although we can learn from our fellow club members, wouldn't it be great if we could converse with some of the scholars and collectors who have gone before us? After all, getting in touch with the past is what collecting ancient coins is all about, isn't it? As collectors, we often attach added value to a coin that once was owned by a well-known numismatist. The pedigrees or provenance associated with a coin adds another personal touch to our private hobby.

Wouldn't it be great to own a Greek coin once in the collection of the great scholar/author Barclay V. Head (b. 1844; d. 1914)? Or a piece from the collection of the prolific researcher and collector Edward T. Newell (b. 1916; d. 1941)? Or how about a piece from the collection of Dr. Feori Pipito, whose vast collection of Greek coins from Italy and Sicily was sold at auction in 1987?

Unfortunately, even if we can trace the provenance of one of our coins to an important collector of the past, the connection is more mental than physical. This is where autograph collectors have the advantage. For us, the physical connection is missing (unless the previous owner of our coin left a big greasy fingerprint on the coin—in which case, we'd be better off without this personal connection!). But we numismatists are not without hope...

Sometimes an item comes along that is just "too neat" to ignore. Example: lot 505 in *Empire Coins'* August 17th auction of numismatic literature—the auction catalogue for the Northwick Collection of Greek coins, sold by Sotheby's in December of 1859. The original owner of this catalogue attended the auction and wrote the buyer's names next to each lot. Furthermore, the title page of the catalogue was signed by Barclay V. Head. Later, the catalogue passed into the hands of E. T. Newell, and bears his bookplate. The catalogue then went to Feori Pipito, and bears his stamp.

Neat item! Coins are not the only way to get in touch with the numismatists of the past. I hope to see you at the next club meeting. —*Bill Daehn*