

## Women In Numismatics General Meeting

April 28, 2016

Schaumburg, Illinois

WIN President Charmy Harker called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Charmy welcomed the 17 people in attendance and made announcements as follows: (1) WIN will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the ANA convention in Anaheim in August, (2) special elongates rolled on 2016 quarters will be given away and special elongate sets are available at \$10 each, (3) cake will be served at the FUN table at noon on Thursday during the convention, (4) there will be a mixer that Thursday evening, (5) raffle tickets are available for the 25-25-50 drawing to be held in Anaheim, with all of WIN's 50% to be used for the scholarship program, and (6) WIN is participating in the program to convert *Winning Ways* to digital format to post on a website.

Following announcements, everyone at the meeting introduced themselves and said where they were from.

Kathy Freeland gave a brief introduction of WIN's guest speaker, David Hunsicker. Hunsicker collects savings banks issued by banks. He exhibited part of his collection in Michigan and won the best of show award. Hunsicker then began to discuss the little banks used to collect coins. They had the name of the bank on them, and he found his first one at a flea market. He now has about 70 of them. When he began to research one, he discovered a photo of Robert Thompson, who held the patent for the little bank.

When the bank gave the customer a small bank to collect coins, the bank kept the key. When you filled your bank with coins, you turned it in at the bank. They opened your bank with their special key and then gave you credit for your savings in your passbook. The key slot was forked and very difficult to pick. Some of the banks had slots of different sizes on the sides for the different denominations of coins.

Hunsicker has a 1912 banknotes book which has an ad inside with photos of the banks. They were called postal savings banks. The banks came in different sizes and shapes, including one shaped as a barrel, one like the liberty bell, and others as figures such as John F. Kennedy and Ben Franklin. They had security devices which prevented shaking out coins or removing them with a knife or flat object. One bank totaled the coins as they were deposited when you pulled a lever. The Bantrico Company of Chicago made over 900 different banks.

One bank had a slot for \$5 gold pieces, which means it was pre-1933. Hunsicker said the estimated cost per bank is \$15-\$20. He had a nice surprise when he opened one bank that said "Save In Time" to find a pocket watch inside!

Hunsicker visited a local bank and an employee told him there were some old keys in a drawer. They had been there for many, many years, but they didn't know what they were. He borrowed one, and it fit some of the banks he owned! He had two copies of the key made and returned the original to the bank.

Freeland thanked Hunsicker for his presentation, which was very well received. She presented him with a WIN certificate of appreciation, and the meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy Wibker*

Secretary, WIN