



YN-SIDER

A Monthly Publication of the Ozarks' Coin Club's YN Program

June 2018

Wooden Nickels, Are They Real?

By Pinocchio

I have an uncle who is fond of saying, “Don’t take any wooden nickels” as he is ending a visit. I’ve always wondered what that meant, today I decided to solve that mystery, so I went to the computer and typed in “*history of wooden nickels*”. Not surprisingly, there wasn’t much information. This is what I learned.

During the 1930s wooden nickels were fairly common as novelty coins. They were used for advertising or as a way of commemorating an event or organization. Many businesses passed out wooden nickels to advertise sales or the grand opening of a new store. Sometimes the fair would pass out wooden nickels that could be redeemed for a soda or popcorn.

Historically scrip and tokens have often been issued locally in times of severe economic distress. There is even one report of a bank in Tenino, Washington issuing emergency currency printed on thin shingles of wood during the Depression. Soon after, Blaine, Washington followed suite and issued both flat scrip and, in response to requests generated by news and word of mouth, coins that included a 5-cent piece.

The phrase, “Don’t take any wooden nickels”, has become part of our pop culture over the years. Basically it is a warning to be careful when dealing with strangers, or questionable people, in any way to avoid being taken advantage of.

Over the years wooden nickels have become popular with collectors of exonomia. They are not only very numerous, but the tokens are affordable. Collectors can often buy them for less than 50 cents each. Older, scarcer wooden nickels can fetch \$1 to \$5 each based on demand.

Wooden nickels are still around today. In fact, the Old Time Wooden Nickel Co., established in 1995, claims to produce over 6 million custom printed nickels every year!



Editor's Corner

As the oppressive heat of July marches on, I'm reminded that fun things come with the heat.

One of those things is the St. Charles trip. I hope to see a lot of YNs on the bus.

In addition to the reminder of our impending trip, I have a question for everyone “What did the worm say after he swallowed five dimes?” For the answer, ask me at the meeting.

I hope everyone is able to attend the July meeting and keep cool in this hot month.

Dillon

YN Assignment for July 2018 State Quarters

Name: _____

Which state quarters have the following inscriptions?

SPIRIT OF COURAGE

GRANT WOOD

WISDOM JUSTICE MODERATION

CROSSROADS OF AMERICA

VIRTUE LIBERTY INDEPENDENCE

FORWARD

CROSSROADS OF THE REVOLUTION

GATEWAY TO FREEDOM

FREEDOM AND UNITY

QUADRICENTENNIAL

If any YN is unable to attend the meeting, this assignment may be mailed to:

Jim Guy
3136 S Oak Ave
Springfield, Mo 65804

10 correct = 3 auction dollars
9 correct = 2 auction dollars
8 correct = 1 auction dollar

YN 2018 COIN SEARCH

Keep looking for a 2018 P nickel and P & D dime. Remember, YN dollars add up for the YN auction in Jan.

COINS FOR "A"s

Congrats to Kayla and Logan. Their great report cards with over three As earned them a coin and a free 1 year membership from ANA.

Welcome

A big welcome to Hannah G., who became a new YN member to the OCC. She is a friend of YN member, Paige.

YNs, let's see some more report cards with at least three As. Turn in a copy to your YN advisor.

St. Charles Trip

Seven YNs have signed up for the bus ride to the MNS coin show in St. Charles on Fri. July 27. Each YN will be given \$20 to spend as they wish at the show. So plan ahead what you need for your collection. Also, on the return trip back, we will stop at the Missouri Hick BBQ for dinner. The club will pay for each YNs dinner.

Annual OCC Picnic

You need to mark this picnic event on your calendar. It will be at Ritter Springs Park on Sat. Sept 8th from 11 AM to approx. 2 PM. There will be many games for coin prizes