

## September 2025 Bluegrass Coin Club Newsletter



All the Peace Dollars

Back to school, back to football, and another ANA in the books. The Bluegrass Coin Club was represented at the latest annual World's Fair of Money. Mary Lynn Garret was sworn in as ANA Vice President and a few other members were present whether they were working or on a road trip.

Now that it is September, it is appropriate that Labor Day was spent raking leaves with the kids. But September also means that the Bluegrass Coin Club will start displaying lots from our Christmas Banquet Auction. Cliff will have the exnumia lots available for preview at this month's meeting. If you like tokens, wooden nickels, coal scrip, and the like, this is your chance to see what is coming in December. Plus, we will have a special speaker and September auction.

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## September Meeting Speaker – John Riley

Former Chicago Coin Club President and native Kentuckian John Riley will be speaking at our September meeting and will have an interesting presentation for us. He offers the following preview and pictures, lightly edited for clarity, of his presentation:

*While Numismatics have been challenging by the changing times, and the decline in young collectors are the biggest concern, modern technology has been GREAT in many other ways!*



*As a youngster starting to collect some 50 years ago, and growing up in Hopkinsville, I felt no Kentucky's connections. One-cent collections, Nickels, and the occasional Indian were the goal ... but goals have changed. And kids these days don't even use coins anymore!*

*But something else has changed, and that is technology and a much easier way in which to spread knowledge and to easily publish.*

*When I spotted the very occasional Lexington or Louisville commemorative issue in those days, something was sparked! Early "experts" included George & Melvin Fund for Civil War Tokens.*





*Russell Rulau was with Krause Publications and a founding member of TAMS Journal. Paul Cunningham from Michigan is a memorable dealer in the world of tokens & medals.*



*Taking these efforts into account in the 1990's and the interest then appeared and GREAT info as well as acquiring opportunity appeared on-line and the opportunity to collect greatly improved!*

*Tonight we will look at Kentucky Medals and tokens as well as hopes for creating a unified publication to bring it together. Most states have a book but Kentucky does not as yet.*

*Among the areas tonight are early Kentucky medals dating back to the early 1830's, we will talk about Senator Henry Clay and John C. Breckinridge. Will touch on the numerous issues of Northern KY (Cincinnati's notorious suburb)! We will look at early issues for the Ohio River, for Eastern Kentucky's coal mines, for bus travel, for major state constructions, etc., etc.*

*It will be an enjoyable travel tonight of the whole state!*



*This is a presentation you will not want to miss!*

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## Recap of the 2025 World's Fair of Money in the OKC

Many dealers and collectors were skeptical of Oklahoma City being able to host a successful major coin show. The doubters were proved wrong. The editor and the Old Man drove to Oklahoma City and concur that this year's big ANA World's Fair of Money was on par, or better, than recent ANA shows. There were a few dealers that were notably absent but the bourse floor was sold out and all of the dealers we spoke to had a busy show. The drive to Oklahoma City was about thirteen hours from Lexington. Great summer weather and little traffic through rural areas of Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and I-40 to Oklahoma made for an easy drive. On the way, we stopped at a Whataburger and one hopes they consider coming to Kentucky soon.

Jeff Garrett had a thorough recap of the 2025 World's Fair of Money in Oklahoma City available on NGC's website [Jeff Garrett: Gamble Pays Off for World's Fair of Money | NGC](#).

The World's Fair of Money was at the Oklahoma City Convention Center and was located with walking distance of several hotels and an entertainment district near downtown OKC. The NBA Champion Thunder's home at the Paycom Center was also across the street. Some pictures from the show:



1839/8 Type of 1838 Eagle (\$10)



The PR68 1907 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle (\$20) from the Tyrant Collection





An ANA Money Museum display on the hyper-inflation era currency of Zimbabwe

Oklahoma City is a fine city to visit and I hope the ANA returns for future events in the Panhandle State.

## **Bluegrass Coin Club Member Highlight**

In this edition of the Bluegrass Coin Club Meet and Greet Section, we interviewed Jason Zhang. Thanks for sharing!

*Some responses were lightly edited for formatting and clarity.*

Q: What do you collect?

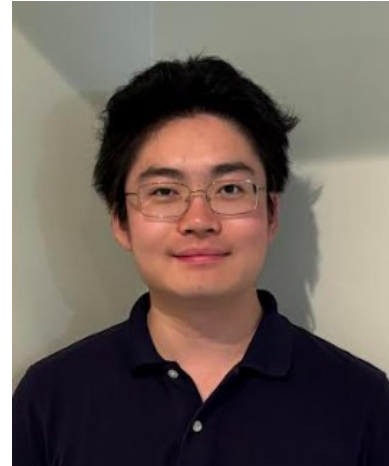
A: I mainly collect late Roman and Byzantine coins. I also like collecting world silver and gold coins but that getting harder with the recent price increases.

Q: How did you get started collecting?

A: I got started when I began noticing state quarter designs in circulation. I began trying to fill a set of them.

Q: What is your favorite part about being a member of BGCC?

A: My favorite part is having a community of like-minded people to share and learn from.



Jason Zhang

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*Anyone in the club is welcome to contribute articles or other information to the monthly newsletter. Write a story about a numismatic related topic that interests you, share some pictures of your collection, or brag about a recent coin find at the local grocery store's CoinStar machine. We love to hear from you! Email us at [bgcoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:bgcoinclub@gmail.com).*