NOVEMBER 1985

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 3

TACC

TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

GOT A QUESTION?

What do Agamemnom, Julius Caesar and Julian The Apostate have in common? They all consulted the Oracle at Delphi! Come to the November meeting and find out why. Bob Stumm will leave no omphalos unturned in investigating this ancient religious site. Did I mention wild sexual orgiastic rites? Bob knows all about them!

MEETING AGENDA

We're going to try something new this year to make our meetings more fun. We're going to run our monthly auction before the presentation. Too often our auction has been drowned out by the other activities at the end of the meeting. Therefore our new meeting agenda will be:

7:30-8:00 Socializing
8:00-8:15 Auction
8:15-8:45 Presentation
8:45-END More Socializing

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sure - Men are welcome too! Once again our Christmas party will be held at the Women's Club at **410 Oak Grove St**. This warm and stately mansion is the perfect setting for our annual gathering. The date is Wed., December 11. Coctails will be available by the fireside in the main lounge beginning at 6:30. Dinner will be served in the Peacock Room at 7:30.

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

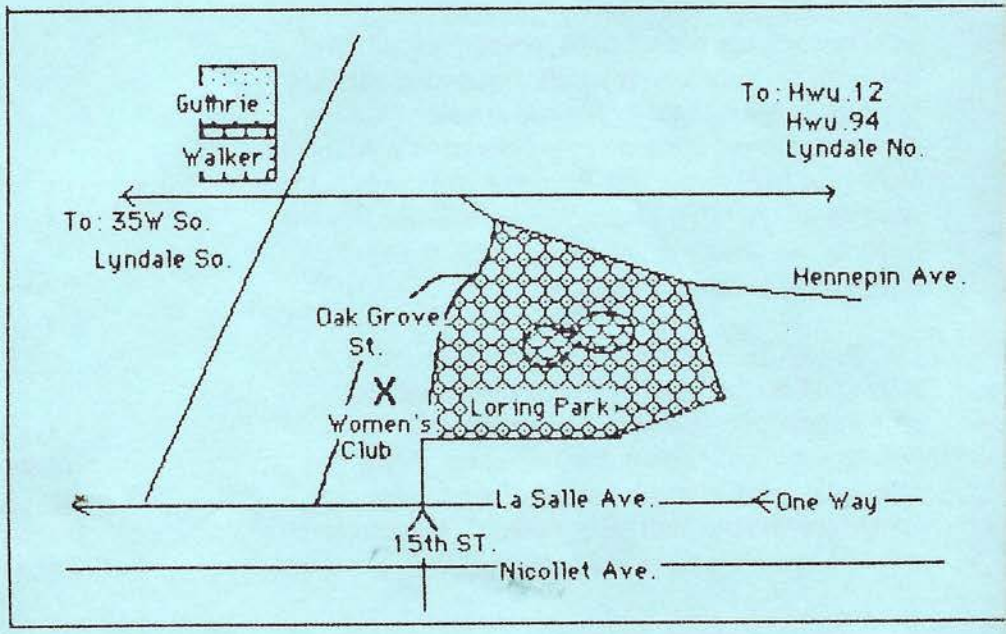
1. Meetings are held at Immanual Lutheran Church, 104 So. Snelling, St. Paul, at 7:30 p.m.

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 - 50¢ to $1.00 is sufficient.

4. Meetings generally consist of a speaker, an auction, and social time for buying, selling, trading, gabbing, and eating goodies.

5. For information, please contact:
President: Bob Stumm 487-1569
Vice President: Tom Beniak 722-3235
Secy./Treas: Kenn Hollister 822-8157



Rx FOR BRONZE DISEASE

Collectors love to talk about bronze disease but in reality it's a pretty rare affliction in its extreme form. The Center For Disease Control in Atlanta has identified two major varieties of this disease:

1. The Green Slime (*Slimus Vertus*)
2. It's Alive (*Spiritus Transcendus Mortus*)

Where Does It Hurt?

The "Green Slime" is the common variety that usually results from improper storage of nice bronze coins. In some cases it is more a result of deterioration of the packaging than of the coin. Its symptoms include sticky, oily deposits on the coin often accompanied by a yellowing or chemical breakdown of the packaging.

The "It's Alive" variety is usually found on large bronze coins, antiquities, weapons, etc., that came out of the ground. There is usually evidence of corrosion, possibly including mysterious holes which promise to open to caverns within the mass of the object. This is the dangerous variety. It is bacterial in nature and therefore subject to spreading to your other numismatic loved ones.

Leper! - Unclean!

Don't buy a coin if it has "living" bronze disease. Leave these to the museams to treat. If you already own one, sell or trade it to a dealer or collector you don't like. Museams treat these coins much like items recovered from shipwrecks; by soaking them in preservatives. If your coins are slimed, you can do one of two things: Call Ghost Busters to remove them or try to clean them. The risk of green slime is twofold: A)It is ugly, and B) If left for an extended time it can cause permanent discoloration or pitting.

There Is A Cure

To preserve your bronze coins, prepare a solution of one teaspoon of sodium carbonate monohydrate and one teaspoon of baking soda in 1/4 cup of water. Sodium carbonate monohydrate can be purchased in a good photo store such as Brown Photo. Immerse your coins in this solution for 10-15 minutes. If your coins display only a spot or two of corrosion, you can apply the solution with a bit of cotton on a toothpick.

To complete the treatment, seal your coins with a solution of benzotriazole and rubbing alcohol. Start with a spoonful or two of alcohol and add the benzotriazole until no more will dissolve. Apply this solution with a cotton swab or a Q-Tip and allow the coin to dry without blotting or rubbing. Benzotriazole can also be purchased in photo stores.

Rx By A Specialist

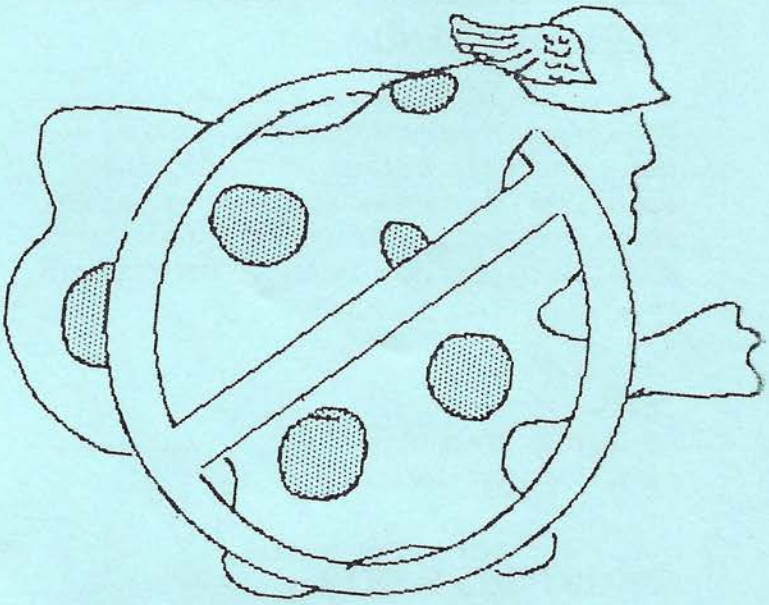
If your "slimed" objects don't respond to the efforts of the Ghost Busters, then maybe you should consider taking preventive actions next time. The ideal way to store your coins is in a chemical-free environment, which effectively precludes planet Earth. The next best thing is to use inert coin flips and *Cointains*. Cointains have the advantage of protecting your coins but have the disadvantage of being sized for United States coins. Try to cram an Athenian tetradrachm into a quarter size holder. The U S mint has much to learn about striking high relief coins!

Look at the bright side. These coins have been around for hundreds, even thousands of years. They will surely outlast you and I!

Cointains and other "safe" coin supplies can be purchased directly from the manufacturer:

E&T Kointainer Co.
P O Box 103
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Or if there is sufficient interest among club members, Moneta will put together an order at a 20% discount. Please see Kenn Hollister if you are interested.



"SLIME BUSTERS"

CALENDAR

November 16 - Holiday Coin Show, Mpls.
November 21 - Third Meeting
Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 - New York Int'l Coin Show
December 11 - Christmas Party
January 23 - Fourth Meeting