

# Coin Chronicles

The Newsletter of the Trenton Numismatic Club

February 2017

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## Anti-Slavery Tokens & Medals

-Harry Garrison

In the month of February, Americans everywhere celebrate Presidents Day, as two of our most important past Presidents were both born this month. Also, February is Black History month. This article will focus on President Lincoln and his freeing of the slaves during the great Civil War.

The anti-slavery roots began in Philadelphia with the Tappan brothers and William Lloyd Garrison – no relationship that I’m aware of - who began publishing an abolitionist journal, *The Liberator*, in 1831. They were also responsible for the formation of the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1833.

The primary concern of the society was the denunciation of slavery as a moral evil and its members calling for immediate action to free the slaves.

In 1835 the society launched a massive propaganda campaign. It flooded the slave states with abolitionist literature, sent agents throughout the North to organize state and local antislavery societies, and poured petitions into Congress demanding the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.

The drumbeat of the abolitionist movement continued throughout the 1840’s and the passage of more stringent fugitive slave laws in 1850 increased abolitionist activity throughout the 1850’s. The culminating act of extreme abolitionism occurred with the raid of John Brown at Harpers Ferry, VA. After the opening of the Civil War, insistent abolitionist demands for immediate freeing of the slaves, supported by radical Republicans in Congress, pushed President Lincoln in his decision to issue the Emancipation Proclamation on September 22nd, 1862.

“That on the 1st day of January, A.D. 1863, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State and the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they

may make for their actual freedom”

Over the years, I have purchased anti-slavery tokens as they became available to me. Only recently, have I picked up two of the more difficult pieces to find. One is a uniface So-Called dollar medal issued to honor William Lloyd Garrison.



The second piece is considered a Conder token and is the most challenging to locate. The token “Am I not a Man; Am I not your Brother” I recently picked up from a coin shop in London via the Internet. I have a half-dozen examples of the Hard Times token “Am I not a woman; Am I not your Sister”.



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## COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

By Bill Liatys

*March 2017*

### LOCAL SHOW SCHEDULE

**PARSIPPANY** *March 5th at Sunday 9 AM – 3 PM*  
*Pal Bldg 33 Baldwin Road Parsnippany NJ*

**BURLINGTON** *March 12th Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM*  
*Burlington Mason Lodge Route 541 Burlington, NJ*

**TREVOSE** *March 19th Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM*  
*Trevose Fire House 4900 Street Road Trevose, PA*

**TRI-STATE COIN & STAMP SHOW** *March 26th Sunday 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM*  
*Sheraton Bucks County 400 Oxford Valley Road Langhorne, PA*

**WHITMAN COIN & COLLECTIBLES** *March 3rd to April 7th Thursday – Sunday*  
*Thursday – Noon – 6 PM Friday – Saturday - 10 AM – 6 PM Sunday – 10 AM – 3 PM*  
*Baltimore Convention Center One W. Pratt Street Baltimore, MD*

**RED ROSE COIN CLUB SPRING SHOW** *April 1 Saturday 9 AM – 3:30 PM*  
*Farm & Home Center 1383 Arcadia Road Lancaster, PA*

**GSNA 42nd Annual Convention 2017** *Thursday May 18 - 12PM to 6PM*  
*Friday May 19 - 10AM to 6PM Saturday May 20 - 9AM to 4PM* *Ukrainian Cultural Center - Somerset, NJ*

**2017 EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS (EAC)** *April 20 – April 23*  
*Thursday – Sunday Thursday – Dealers Only Friday – Saturday – 9 AM – 5 PM*  
*Sunday – 10 AM – 3 PM*  
*Doubletree by Hilton Phila. Center City 237 Broad Street*  
*Philadelphia, PA*

With President Lincoln's assassination shortly after the conclusion of the Civil War, many additional medals appeared celebrating his slavery emancipation. One important piece in my collection is a medal funded by the citizens of France.

Displaying a portrait of Lincoln on the obverse, the reverse details reflect the European perspective of the great Civil War and Lincoln's role. Depicted is a memorial tombstone with triangular top bearing a level and two sprigs of acacia. Flanked by a winged and partly draped figure of Liberty to the left; her left arm resting on the tomb and holding a wreath of laurel leaves with her right hand supporting an anchor. To the right a black man, whose right hand extends over the tomb and whose left is on the muzzle of a bayoneted rifle; gesturing to his son with a book in his right hand and his left hand, pointing towards the inscription. The inscription reads: LINCOLN L'HONNETE HOMME/ ABOLIT L'ESCLAVAGE RETABLIT L'UNION/ SAUVA LA REPUBLIQUE/ SANS VOILER LA STATUE DE LA LIBERTE/ IL FUT ASSASSINE LE 14 AVRIL/ 1865. (Lincoln the Honest Man Abolished Slavery, Restored the Union, Preserved the Republic without compromising Liberty. He was assassinated the 14 of April, 1865.)



Above the whole, an illuminated eagle with spread wings displayed, its head to right, and bearing on its breast a shield and holding in its sinister talon three arrows barbed and in its other one a sprig of olive; it supports a ribbon bearing legend: E PLURIBUS UNUM.



Over the eagle two semi-circular lines of five-pointed stars, the upper line containing 19 and the lower 18. On the ground at the extreme right a ballot box with inscription: VOTE. Behind and to the left, a corded bale of cotton, in the distance a steamship; and to the right a locomotive engine. An example struck in gold was presented to Mrs. Lincoln.

Black Americana and Anti-Slavery material is a unique niche of numismatics and a popular collectable.

## New Newsletter Format New Web Page

-Joe Pargola

As you can see we have changed the look of the newsletter with a new masthead. We have also completely rebuilt the web page with a matching look. Please visit [www.trentoncoinclub.org](http://www.trentoncoinclub.org) and take a look. I have posted pictures from our events, Bill's show schedule, helpful links and bulletins for upcoming events. It will change every month so go there often. I hope you find it useful and informative. Any comments or additions are welcomed.

## Articles Wanted

If you have a topic you'd like to be covered in the Newsletter... write an article or submit your idea. Don't be shy....do it. All entries are welcome. Articles will appear in the Newsletter as soon as possible and might be edited for space consideration, not editorial content.





*Trenton Numismatic Club*

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*Trenton Numismatic Club is members of:*



**American Numismatic Association**



## American Numismatic Association

### NATIONAL COIN WEEK 2017, APRIL 16-22

### CONFLICT AND COURAGE: MONEY AND THE MILITARY

2017 marks the 100th anniversary of United States involvement in "The War to End All Wars," World War I. To honor the connection between numismatics and the military throughout history, "Conflict and Courage: Money and the Military" is the theme for the 94th annual National Coin Week. The ANA is offering a variety of activities and educational resources:

- An online trivia challenge. Every day from April 18-22, a new clue will be released on this page. Participants submit their answers online for a chance to win great prizes.
- The annual Club Trivia Challenge, where ANA member clubs test their numismatic knowledge.
- Online articles, links, a youth activity and promotional materials (see below).
- An open house at the Money Museum in Colorado Springs on April 22.

Prizes for the online video quiz and club trivia challenge are as follows:

- 1st Prize: 2017 American Eagle one tenth ounce proof coin and 2017 America the Beautiful Quarters proof set
- 2nd Prize: 2011 P Medal of Honor proof silver dollar and 2017 America the Beautiful Quarters proof set
- 3rd Prize: 1994-P Women in Military Service proof silver dollar and 2017 America the Beautiful Quarters proof set



*Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing.*

Benjamin Franklin

## Meeting Schedule

The Trenton Numismatic Club meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the

**HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
 ONE JUSTICE SAMUEL A. ALITO JR. WAY  
 HAMILTON, NJ 08619-3809

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[www.trentoncoinclub.org](http://www.trentoncoinclub.org)