

78th Annual Central States Convention
Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center
April 24-29, 2017

I got to Chicago on Wednesday about 11:30AM and met up with Cindy Wibker and Bob Russell. We took a cab to the Renaissance Hotel which cost \$62. The weather was great on Wednesday with temperatures in the mid 70's. Thursday on, it was in the 40's and rainy.

The convention center was very nice with about 275 dealer booths, 10 club tables, PCGS & NGC. The exhibit area had about 52 exhibits in 210 cases. At the Awards breakfast, the Best of Show was Mack Martin for "A Unique Collection of Georgia Certificates". The People's Choice Award went to Tom Uram for "The Society of Medallists". There were 31 exhibit judges. All three of us from FUN judged exhibits and Cindy had an educational program on exonomia.

Heritage had the auction which included 5 sessions of coins and 5 sessions of currency. Prices realized were \$22,704,000. The 1866 PR-65 \$20 gold piece sold for \$517,000. There were several educational programs, a 2 day US paper money grading seminar, and a YN program.

Public attendance was sparse. Cindy went around the floor signing up dealers for the Summer & Winter FUN shows and I passed out nomination forms for the Numismatic Ambassador Award. FUN had a table and we manned that, answering questions and giving away FUN medals, pins, magazines, and lanyards. The free candy always draws people to our table.

We all had a nice time and look forward to next year.

Tony Swicer
FUN Club Liaison