

Do You Collect Elongated Coins?

Elongated coins (so-called because of their shape after they are rolled) are part of what's known as "exonomia" — that is, they fall outside the usual numismatic interests. But rest assured, if you have a few, a few hundred, or a few thousand of them, you are not alone.

The first US elongateds were rolled in 1893 at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Illinois. Over the next few decades, entrepreneurs appeared with their dies and rolling machines at many fairs and expositions, eager to provide visitors with an inexpensive and unique souvenir. A man who operated a penny machine at the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair recalls "My earnings began to hit \$20 to \$22 per week. This was real money." To attract customers, "we would say to the people, 'make a souvenir from your penny for five cents, just a nickel, folks, a souvenir of the Chicago World's Fair on your penny!'"



In the 1950s, after assurances from the US Treasury that elongating US coins is indeed quite legal, many more individuals created their own dies and rolling machines, establishing themselves over the next 30 or so years as particularly devoted elongated fans and building astonishing catalogs of elongateds, not to mention a nationwide network of friends.

Then in the late 1980s, a further expansion of the hobby occurred when customer operated electric and manual rolling machines began appearing at amusement parks, museums, zoos, and other attractions, providing seemingly endless opportunities for Happy Collecting! All of which brings us to today when some rare elongateds command high prices, but most still remain one of the least expensive and most unique collectibles available. Beloved by young and old alike, found at thousands of locations worldwide, elongateds are truly a joy.



Founded in 1966, The Elongated Collectors (TEC) now has over 750 members in several countries. Our purpose is to 1) encourage the study, acquisition, and exhibition of elongateds and related items, 2) research and publish articles in *TEC News* and elsewhere, 3) assist new collectors, especially youth, and 4) promote the realistic and consistent valuation of elongateds. Basically, we care for and foster interest in these marvelous souvenirs from every source and every era.

If you love elongateds, then TEC is the club for you! We gather for our annual meeting at the American Numismatic Association's World's Fair of Money convention. In addition, many of our members gather throughout the year at "mini-meets" in various parts of the country to visit with one another, compare collections, trade duplicates, and go on "squishin' missions." And many of us also participate in various internet discussion groups, sharing our latest discoveries and helping each other out any way we can. More information about us is available at our website: www.tecnews.org. We welcome any and all questions you may have.

Join us! For your nominal membership dues, you'll receive:

- Our quarterly newsletter *TEC News* and periodic email updates (*TEC eNews*)
- Exclusive elongateds, including coveted annual TEC Member issues
- Birthday elongateds for Junior members
- Discounts on classic reference books such as *Yesterday's Elongateds*
- And, more, but best of all access to the unmatched generosity and wisdom of novice and advanced collectors alike

Happy Collecting!



The Elongated Collectors
(TEC)

For more information, contact:

Robert Morris, TEC Secretary
PO Box 704
Richlandtown, PA 18955

or visit us at www.tecnews.org



THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS (TEC) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Visit our website at www.tecnews.org

Please print legibly or type and send completed forms to the TEC Secretary at address below, with your check or money order payable to "TEC". Membership dues are due January 1st for each calendar year. You may pay your dues for no more than one year in advance (two years total). *(If you join after the October issue of TEC News is mailed, your dues will cover the following year.)*

I am . . . Applying for membership *(please allow 4-6 weeks to receive your welcome package)*
 Renewing my membership, TEC # _____

I wish to be/am a . . . Regular Member (U.S.) 1 year = \$12 2 years = \$24
 Regular Member (Foreign) 1 year = \$18 2 years = \$36
 Associate Member 1 year = \$6 2 years = \$12
(additional member at the same address as a Regular Member - Does not receive TEC News or coins)
 Junior Member 1 year = \$6 2 years = \$12
(a member under 18 years old - must show date of birth on application)

I hear TEC republished Lee Martin and Dottie Dow's reference book *Yesterday's Elongateds* . . .
 Send me YE at the special TEC member's price: \$25 per copy x _____ copies = \$ _____
(Note, your TEC membership really pays! The non-member price for YE is \$35 + \$5 postage)

I've enclosed my check or money order payable to "TEC" for a total of \$ _____

I understand TEC members may request contact information for each other from the TEC Secretary . . .
 I do **not** wish my contact information to be made available.

I hear TEC issues official e-mail updates periodically, above and beyond the quarterly paper newsletter . . .
 No, thanks, I'd rather not get any more e-mail; No, thanks, I don't have an e-mail address.

I learned of TEC from *(name of website, publication, person)* _____

I've been collecting elongateds for _____ years and I specialize in _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP/POSTCODE _____

COUNTRY _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS *(if any)* _____

BIRTH DATE *(required for Junior Members)* _____

I have read the Bylaws of TEC (available for review at www.tecnews.org), and I will abide by them as long as I am a member.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____
(if under 18, please have a parent or guardian sign)

Return completed form and payment to:
Robert Morris, TEC Secretary
PO Box 704, Richlandtown, PA 18955

For Club Use Only

Date Admitted to Membership _____ TEC # _____ *(Form revised August 2009)*
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