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# The California Numismatist

# The California Numismatist

Official Publication of the  
California State Numismatic Association  
and the  
Numismatic Association of Southern California  
Spring 2014, Volume 11, Number 1



## About the Cover

We have a lollapalooza of an issue here, folks, as hinted at by our cover showing the broad spectrum of material our authors have queued up for you. Whether you're a bibliophile, token collector, US or foreign coin aficionado, paper money fan, or something else entirely, I think you'll find something to enjoy within these pages. Take a peek at the table of contents on the righthand page, and then start flipping to your heart's content.

## Visit Us on the Web

The California Numismatist has a Web site at [www.CalNumismatist.com](http://www.CalNumismatist.com). You can find the official scoop there in between issues. Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own Web sites at:

[www.Calcoin.org](http://www.Calcoin.org)  
[www.NASC.net](http://www.NASC.net)

## The California Numismatist Staff

<i>Editor</i>	Greg Burns P.O. Box 1181 Claremont, CA 91711 <a href="mailto:GregSBurns@gmail.com">GregSBurns@gmail.com</a>
<i>Club Reports South</i>	Virginia Bourke 10601 Vista Camino Lakeside, CA 92040 <a href="mailto:VLBourke@cox.net">VLBourke@cox.net</a>
<i>Club Reports North</i>	Sally Johnson PO Box 10416 San Jose, CA 95157-1416 <a href="mailto:SallyJohnsonTCN@aol.com">SallyJohnsonTCN@aol.com</a>
<i>Advertising</i>	Roy Iwata c/o CSNA P.O. Box 2449 Seal Beach, CA 90740-1449 <a href="mailto:rti2449@aol.com">rti2449@aol.com</a>



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# Presidents' Messages

NASC...

Greetings to my fellow numismatists! The board finalized the finishing touches on the next Golden State Coin Show, sponsored by NASC. It will be held at the Arcadia Masonic Center in Arcadia, August 23rd and 24th. The Nona Moore Golden Coin Raffle Drawing is returning with 35 gold coins once again. It is being coordinated again by the one-and-only Harold Katzman and his committee. Harold has some really exciting incentives for the clubs as well as the dealers, so look in this issue for the details on this fund raiser.

CSNA and NASC have agreed to dispose of the older broken display cases, with the proceeds to be divided evenly between the two associations.

The numismatic hobby is really jumping, with many high-end coins selling for multi-millions of dollars! It is a great time to be a collector.

Have you had a chance to visit the new NASC website, ably managed by our webmaster Jim Phillips? He has done a fantastic job. When you are able, take a look at his fine work. The address is [www.nasc.net](http://www.nasc.net). I want to personally thank Jim for his professional expertise in designing this artistic new web site.

There is a very important job within the NASC that has not been filled for several months. This is the position of historian. I would like someone to please step up and accept this position, so that we may have a complete board of officers again.

The next board meeting will be Sunday May 18th, at 10:00 AM at the Arcadia Masonic Center.

Happy hunting!



Alex Jaramillo  
NASC President



## CSNA...



*Your president received a generous cash donation from long-time CSNA Member and numismatic advocate, “Xan” Chamberlain.*

As can be viewed in the picture, well-known error specialist, hobby advocate, and longtime CSNA member, “Xan” Chamberlain, donated \$1,000 towards the association’s two intended 2014 Educational Symposiums. Thanks, Xan! Previously, Xan contributed to the CSNA library, at \$750, and to the youth activities at both 2014 conventions. Wow! Again, thanks, Xan!

With that support it is hoped that other CSNAers might “step to the plate” and make similar contributions, in any amount. CSNA is an incorporated non-profit 501c3 organization with all donations fully deductible. Any and all donations would be properly acknowledged by me as the president.

While this is happy news, our association and our “world of money” hobby are being swept away in a tsunami of demographic changes in California society. As I retorted in an e-mail exchange among ANA former governors, “it ain’t your ‘Ed Sullivan Show’ and ‘Leave To Beaver’ society”.

To confirm this conclusion, during the January San Jose Coin Club’s show, several remarked the attendance was “old, gray, white, and male”. CSNAers, that is not what California today is like. Look about you. In the *Emerging Numismatist* column I have added to these remarks, and as can be read, asked young numismatic advocate, Taylor A. Webb, 14, to share his thoughts.

How the hobby and our association responds to this tsunami shall decide if the hobby would remain one of universal avocation or return to its old, “ancient regime”, past time of only the wealthy and well-educated.

Closing, our hobby and our association faces challenges, and I would certainly welcome commentaries from our members. Reply to [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com). Remember, have fun with your hobbies! Always serve others! Enjoy your collecting! And, create hope and do good!

Michael S. Turrini  
CSNA President

# Editor's Page

Glad to have 80 pages to deal again with this issue, as we're purt' near burstin' at the seams. We have ten articles for your reading pleasure. Some short, some long, all interesting. You'll find something to fit just about any slice of time you have available. If you happen to meet up with any of our authors at various club functions, please be sure to thank them for their generous literary contributions. By next issue we'll be announcing the literary awards for our 2013 publication year, so you might want to wish those authors *good luck* as well.

We're lucky that there's been no significant association functions in the last three months, otherwise we'd never have fit all the material to print into the issue. I'll have to squeeze in two 64-page issues before the end of this year to comply with my current mandate to reduce costs. Sigh.

Times are changing. Both associations raised dues, one in lock-step with the other (a prudent coordination if you ask me). The pressure's on to balance budgets, and TCN makes a good target. If you have any influence with major advertisers (*wink, wink*, you know who you are), see if you can convince them to send some funds our way by taking out an ad. And our general readers can help that effort by supporting our existing advertisers (see page 75 for a listing), and mentioning that their ad in TCN was a factor.

The California summer coin show season is queuing up, and there will be lots of opportunities to spend some face-to-face time with the myriad of dealers who frequent those venues. It's a nice way to spend a morning or afternoon (or even the whole day), so head on over to page 74 to our "Calendar of Events" to see what's brewing in your neck of the woods.

Until next issue let me pass along my best wishes, and thank you for your support...



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Greg Burns". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Greg Burns  
Editor

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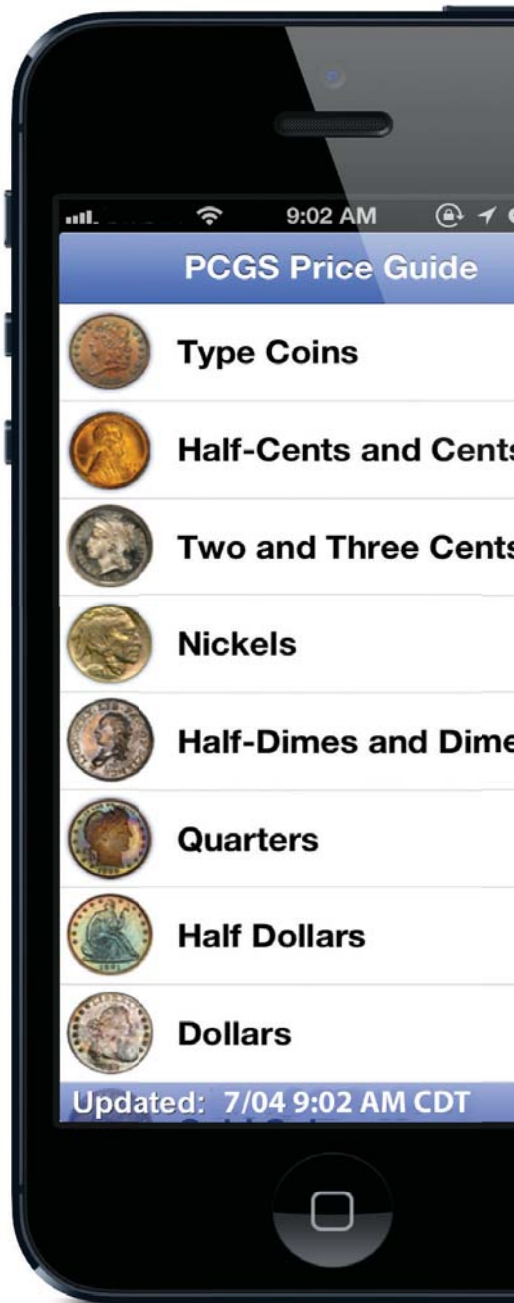
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# Corresponding Secretaries' Reports



## CSNA—

by Donald L. Hill

I have to figure out who told me I could relax when I retired. I've got more to do now than ever. I've gotta learn to say no when someone tries to volunteer me for something. I guess if I wasn't complaining I wouldn't be happy. I hope each of you is participating in your local clubs, coin shows, and other numismatic events. That's how you learn. You get to be with people who share your interests and who like to share their knowledge. You will make friends and have some good times. Take a friend or your child to a meeting. All clubs welcome guests; it's how they grow.

The dues notices for 2014 have gone out and very many of you have paid your dues, which includes your subscription to TCN. Thank you. If I haven't heard back from you yet, you'll soon receive a second notice.

## NASC—

by Harold Katzman

We have one new member, junior Logan Joseph J-3101. Effective April 15 the NASC has changed the dues structure. This was done, in part, due to raising cost of postage. All renewals and new members can join at the existing rate through the April date. Following that date, the new dues structure will be as follows: Junior (under 18) \$10, Individual \$25, Individual (3 years) \$80, Club \$30, Club (3 years) \$85, Sustaining (lifetime) \$300 (50 years of age or older), Sustaining (lifetime) \$500 (under 50 years of age).

Dues notices to all members and clubs have been mailed out, giving everyone the chance to renew one last time at the old rates.

NASC Membership on 7 Feb. 2014	
Charter.....	1
Junior.....	7
Life.....	14
Club.....	19
Regular.....	68
Sustaining.....	137
Total.....	246

R6400.....	Michael Meyer
R6401.....	Paul Dickey

## CSNA New Members

R6397.....	Verbena Caldwell
R6398.....	Vincent Kohlbecker
R6399.....	Shawn Chin

## CSNA Membership on 8 Mar. 2014

Associate.....	8
Junior.....	7
Life.....	134
Clubs.....	26
Life Clubs.....	13
Regular.....	248
Business.....	11
Total.....	447



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## Dear Members—Please Note!

If you've moved, please help us keep our addresses up to date. Take a moment to drop us a short note to ensure that you keep getting your copy of *The California Numismatist*:

CSNA—Donald L. Hill  
c/o CSNA, P.O. Box 4003  
Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

NASC—Harold Katzman  
P.O. Box 3382  
Tustin, CA 92781-3382

# Collecting Western Americana Paper

by Jim Hunt



Why collect Western documents? There are five good reasons to consider collecting Western documents.

1. It is a field just coming into its own.
2. Many documents are undervalued.
3. Rare, one-of-a-kind documents are frequently encountered.
4. Documents may have untapped historical significance.
5. Certain kinds of documents are very attractive.

How did I become interested in collecting Western documents? It all began in 1979 when I was planning to do an exhibit of a Carson City Mint type set. I always tell new exhibitors that using props enhances an exhibit. Accordingly, taking my own advice, I set out to find some documents that related to the Comstock Lode, Virginia City, and Carson City. The Comstock mines, of course, provided the gold and silver for the Carson City Mint coinage.

I found that such documents were available, inexpensive, and definitely related to the subject area I was seeking. Collecting began with mining stocks, certificates of deposit, mining vouchers, checks, pay chits, receipts, bullion deposit certificates, invoices, any material involving transfer of money or bullion. This also led to extensive reading and acquisition of books about the Comstock Lode. I then found out that among the documents available were some that contained the signatures of individuals who were historically significant in the development of the Comstock Mines: James G. Fair, John W. MacKay, William Sharon, Adolph Sutro, D. O. Mills, William Ralston, et al. As I learned more about the Comstock, I stumbled across other documents relating to Nevada mining and of course Comstock-related California items, since many of the mines had their headquarters in San Francisco.



*Western documents can include photos, stock certificates, money orders and checks, in fact, anything that was printed on paper.*

The financiers of the mines were also in San Francisco. So the collection expanded to include San Francisco, Sacramento, and other mining areas in Nevada. Later came South Dakota and Colorado when my wife and I visited mining towns in those states.

The collection expanded again when I did an exhibit on Wells Fargo and Company. The exhibit included the Wells Fargo Anniversary medals and mementos, currency, stamps, commissions, stamped envelopes, receipts, all being accented with some Wells Fargo memorabilia as props. Since Wells Fargo operated throughout the West, other locations were added to the list of places from where material was collected.

Another expansion took place when I put together an exhibit on California's Gold Rush Era Money. This required the acquisition of checks, bills of exchange, certificates of deposit, bullion deposit certificates and promissory notes from the California Gold Rush era. Additional items have been added to both the Comstock and California Gold Rush material in the years following the time of the original exhibits.

As the document collection grew and grew, I tried to make some sense out of focusing on particular areas of collecting within this field. After all, you can't possibly collect everything. In trying to evaluate how these documents might be collected in some



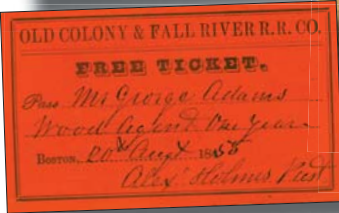
organized fashion, I have come up with several suggested ways in which this might be accomplished. I settled upon five possibilities:

1. Geographical area—California, Nevada, Colorado, Mother Lode, Comstock Lode, South Dakota Black Hills, Virginia City, San Francisco, Sacramento, Denver, Cripple Creek, Silverton, Tombstone, Bodie, etc.
2. By industry—banks, mines, mills, refineries, express companies, railroads, etc.
3. Famous people—autographs of bonanza kings, bankers, engineers, business leaders, lawmen, outlaws, soldiers, indian chiefs, etc.
4. Type of document—stocks, bonds, checks, bills of exchange, certificates of deposit, bill heads, invoices, assay reports, bullion deposit certificates, promissory notes, trust deeds, and all sorts of ephemera.
5. You could also combine any of the above; for example, checks from specific geographical areas or specific banks within those areas, along with the signatures of famous bankers associated with those banks. Here the possible combinations become limitless. Since I've gotten stuck on number

five, I still haven't figured out how to properly consolidate my own Western American paper collecting in some logical fashion.

What are the considerations of value when collecting Western documents? Of course, condition and rarity are important. Tears, water stains, folds, foxing, insect and other damage will lower the value of the items. Some items are readily available in quantity and therefore have limited value. Unissued documents are worth substantially less than issued documents. Any document containing a signature of an important person will always bring more money. Items that are appealing to the eye will have an enhanced value. Stocks and bonds often have that greater eye appeal since many were printed by firms specializing in banknote printing. Items with vignettes will have more appeal than those on plain paper. As a rule of thumb, the older the document is, the greater the value. The reason for this is that far fewer Western documents were issued in the 1850s and 60s than were issued afterwards. Western expansion began to occur in the 1830s, but many historians suggest that the period covers 1840 to 1910. Some will go another 10 years to 1920. A professional dealer in this material says that





all documents should best be dated not later than 1910.

Where can these Western documents be obtained? The easy answer is dealers and auctions. Some dealers will be found at coin shows, gun shows, other shows featuring antiques, books and documents, or other related items. Some firms conduct auctions of historical and/or Western Americana. The Long Beach Coin Show used to have a number of document dealers but now have very few because of the high bourse fees charged by the show promoters. The most prominent auctions of Western documents these days are conducted by Holabird-Kagin.

They auction everything that is Western Americana.

The collection of Western Americana paper can be very interesting and rewarding and can provide numerous opportunities for further research and study. If you think you might be interested in collecting these documents, give it a try and see how you like it. I've been doing it for over 30 years.

Suggested reading: Warren R. Anderson, *Owning Western History: A Guide to Collecting Rare Documents, Historical Letters, and Valuable Autographs from the Old West*, Mountain Press Publishing Co., Missoula, MT, 1993.

# Never a Dull Time Being a Numismatist

by Bill Febuary

As I was reading the latest *Coin World*, I noticed another interesting facet of our numismatic hobby that perhaps many of our readers have neglected to think about. Over the years I have been blessed with so many wonderful numismatic collections and this article raised my interest in something I had failed to write about before. So with this writing I will bring out that treasured numismatic item, which is the collecting of old-time auction catalogs.

My collection of these auction catalogs is rather large as I have boxed them up over the years, thinking that someday I might read them or, as I am doing now, writing an article about them. As I look over these many catalogs I will try and emphasize some of the great ones from our numismatic history. I will elaborate on those in this article. The others are perhaps more for the modern day collector and perhaps those who collect auction catalogs have many of these in their own collection.

Many of my auction catalogs are those with historic names connected with them, including the following:

My favorite author is B. Max Mehl and I have several of the auction catalogs that he published starting with his 10th edition copy dated 1914. As I ponder through the pages of that edition, it is listed as the *Star Coin Book, Tenth Edition, An Encyclopedia*

*of Rare American and Foreign Coins*. The grading system alone is worth seeing as it describes coins in the following manner:

*“Proof:* Proof coins are especially struck from polished blanks and dies and finished by hand which give them a mirror like, smooth, reflective surface. The most perfect condition known. The mint makes a small charge for the proof coins, and they can only be had during the year of the issue.

*“Uncirculated:* Uncirculated coins are coins struck for circulation. But coins, to be classified as ‘uncirculated,’ must be as new and bright as when dropped from the coining press; a coin that has been in circulation, no matter whether it shows no marks of wear, cannot be classified as uncirculated.

*“Fine:* Fine coins are those that have been in circulation and have lost their original mint brightness, but they must not show any scratches or nicks.

*“Good:* Good coins are those which have seen considerable circulation, but every feature of the coin must show plainly. It must not show any bad scratches or nicks.

*“Fair:* Fair coins are those which are much worn, but on which the design, lettering and date are clearly visible.

*“Poor:* Poor coins are those on which the design, lettering and date



*Auction catalogs serve a special purpose as repositories of historical information on pricing and provenance, and many of them contain expert discussions on the significance of the treasures contained within their pages.*

are almost obliterated. Poor coins, unless of a very rare date, are worth their intrinsic value only.

**“Mutilated Coins:** Mutilated coins are those with holes, bad cuts, or scratches, or otherwise damaged, and are worth intrinsic value only.

**“Over-Dates:** When a die, made in one year, is used in a later year, by engraving one figure over another, the piece struck there from is called an ‘over-date.’ For instance, the same dies from which the cents of 1810 were struck was used in 1811, by sinking a 1 over the 0, and portions of the latter figure are plainly visible.”

All the early half-cents in this auction catalog are listed from \$.05 to \$10, starting with the 1793 date and

ending with the 1857, many of which are listed at \$.05 each. The rare 1856 flying eagle cent is listed at \$3 to \$5. Two-cent pieces are listed from \$.02 to \$.10. Early twenty-dollar gold pieces are listed from \$20.00 to \$100.00 including the rare dates.

It is fascinating to see the various prices that we think of today as fortune coins which are listed in this early edition book for a mere token price. But again remembering that this edition of *The Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia* (as they were called later on in the earlier editions) was printed in 1914, with the other editions in my collection dated 1925 for the 27th edition, 1932 for the 36th edition and 1957 for the 60th edition.

B. Max Mehl was my favorite because besides the many auction catalogs that he produced about his own coins for sale, he helped produce and issue many of the well-known catalogs for many other auctions during the 1940's, some of which included the *Collection of William D. Waltman, United States and Pioneer Gold; The Jack Roe Collection of Superb U.S. Silver Dollars*; and *The Maurice A. Ryan Collection of United States Half Dollars*, which was published on June 12, 1945. He also published a superb catalog for Frederic W. Geiss of rare gold, silver, and copper coins: *Pioneer Gold and Foreign Gold and Rare Currency*, published in 1947. Another early collection that B. Max Mehl cataloged and sold was for the William Cutler Atwater collection. This auction was held on June 11, 1946.

I had written an earlier article in TCN on B. Max Mehl, who was an exciting numismatist in the early part of the 1900's.

As I continue looking through the many boxes of auction catalogs, another one that is fascinating was M. H. Bolender, who was from Freeport, Illinois. He produced many consecutively numbered auction sales catalogs during the late 1930's and early 1940's and I have many of his catalogs in my collection.

My second-most favorite auction catalog numismatist would have to be Aubrey Bebee, from Omaha, Nebraska. This is perhaps because many years ago I visited his shop and talked to him personally. I had also written about him in one of our earlier issues of TCN. I have many of his early catalogs, which were published in the mid 1950's.

Another famous name who many of us may recall was that of the famous actor and coin collector Adolph Menjou. His coin collection and auction catalog was produced by Abner Kreisberg and Hans M. F. Schulman. Again a raft of material was shown in the catalog published for the auction, which was held from January 25-26, 1957.

All of these catalogs were magnificent publications and appear to be a collectors dream just to behold the material in them.

As you can see, a great many of these names are familiar to us old-time collectors and perhaps this article will raise a renewed interest to those that have collected these out-of-date and out-of-print publications.

It is interesting just to read and see the price differences from catalog to catalog over the years as history continues in the numismatic world. Some of the prices are almost unbelievable when compared to today's prices, but realizing that most early listings were without the grading standards of today and of course some or very few were included certified coins in their listings.

As I ponder through the many, many catalogs, I wonder who purchased the coins that were listed in these marvelous books and where are those coins now?

This numismatic type of collecting is yet another facet of our wonderful hobby and I hope our readers will enjoy the contents of this article and think about their own collecting joys and realize that numismatics holds so many wonderful treasures which many of us have yet to explore.





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# The Life and Times of America's Half Dimes

by Jim Wells

What's so exciting about America's half dime?

As our country's smallest coin for decades, the half dime lived in the shadows of its larger, similarly-designed silver siblings: dimes, quarters, half dollars, and silver dollars. Its mintage was slowed or stopped when demands for the denomination waned. Its fortunes changed when the price of silver fluctuated, when coins were hoarded during the Civil War, and when it met competition from other monetary instruments. And its life was eventually ended when the nickel industry won political battles with the silver industry. Of course these changing times affected other denominations as well.

But the half dime can claim a singular distinction. The first examples, called half *dismes*, have been recognized as our government's first coins.

The life of the half dime rose and fell along with America's historical events, as marked by several milestone years.

## 1792: America's First Coins—Half Dismes

The five-cent half disme was included in the formal Coinage Act of 1792 that authorized ten coin de-



*Our country's first silver coins featured a female some thought was Martha Washington.*



nomina-tions and specified several of the design details. It was first proposed by Congressman Thomas Jefferson in 1784, but was not included in 1786 and 1790 coinage plans.

While Mint Director David Rittenhouse was overseeing construction in 1792 of the Philadelphia Mint, new minting equipment was stored in John Harper's nearby saw-making shop. On July 13, mint employees gathered there and struck a small quantity (estimated at 1,500-2,000) of silver five-cent coins.

Why that denomination? As the smallest-sized of the first coins, per-

*The iconic 1914 painting “Inspecting the First Coins” by John Dunsmore reputedly depicts the 1792 minting of America’s half dimes. From left: Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, Mint Director David Rittenhouse, President Washington, Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, Mrs. Washington, coinier Adam Ekfelt,*



*Thomas Lear, and Chief Coiner Henry Voigt. Lear holds a tray of the first coins. Purists dispute the room’s furnishings, the large gathering of notables, and the event itself. But Dunsmore accurately conveyed the Founding Fathers’ interest in our coinage.*

haps it was considered easiest to strike with the new small screw presses.

The designer is believed to be William Russell Birch, who met the Coinage Act’s requirements of having “an impression emblematic of liberty” on the obverse, and the year of coinage. The inscription reads LIB(erty) • PAR(ent) • OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY. This proclamation shrank to a simple LIBERTY on later coins. On the reverse is an eagle, UNI(ted) STATES OF AMERICA, and HALF DISME.

The new Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson distributed these to dignitaries. President George Washington followed this with interest and reported “a small beginning” in coinage to Congress.

Some numismatists perpetuate the lore that the Washingtons’ tableware provided the silver for these coins, and that Martha Washington served as the model for the obverse. (These legends

and controversies were described in “Mysteries Surround America’s First Coin—or was it a Pattern?” in the winter 2008 TCN.)

You may question the legitimacy of this “coin,” but the survivors are highly valued. Nice examples have sold for over \$1.3 million each!

### 1795: Regular Production Begins

The first half dimes produced inside the Philadelphia Mint did not follow the 1792 design, but featured a “Flowing Hair” Liberty designed by Robert Scot, like the first dollars and half dollars that debuted in 1794. The size (16.5 mm) and weight (1.35 grams) were the same as the 1792 piece. No denomination (using either “disme” or “dime”) was specified, yet the mint records used the spelling “disme” until 1837.

Mintage of half dimes began in February 1795, yet some of the first



*Mint Director David Rittenhouse was considered America's finest scientist. He kept a close eye over the flowing hair half dime designs. But he resigned due to poor health and died in 1796.*



coins came from dies dated 1794. The half dime remained America's smallest-diameter and smallest-weight coin for nearly six decades, until gold dollars and 3¢ pieces were introduced.

Coin designs and mint directors changed rapidly in the mint's first years. Many thought the early flowing hair designs "made Miss Liberty look frightful." In response, new Mint Director Henry William DeSaussure ordered a new obverse design, based on sketches by famous artist Gilbert Stuart.

These draped bust designs continued the small eagle inside a wreath on the reverse in 1796 and 1797, but half dime coinage was then stopped for three years as demands for the denominations were low. In 1800, Chief Engraver Robert Scot prepared a new

reverse with a heraldic eagle, based on the Great Seal of the United States. It was used through 1805. But half dimes saw little usage, and no more were coined for 24 years.

In competition with half dimes were half-real coins (1/16 of a Spanish milled dollar) that were struck in Spain's American dominions of Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, and Mexico. Those dated 1732-1825 were declared US legal tender worth 6¼ cents, and were widely circulated in early America. Many small purchases were made with these coins.



*The "scrawny chicken" eagle reverse of 1796-1797 draped bust half dimes was replaced in 1800 by a heraldic eagle based on the Great Seal of the United States.*



The capped bust half dime was struck from 1829 to 1837, but the denomination continued to compete with smaller but heavier Spanish half real coins (medios) in American trade.



### 1829: Half Dimes Resume After 24 Years

Half dime coinage resumed in 1829, just in time for one specimen to be placed in the cornerstone of the new (second) Philadelphia Mint. Chief Engraver William Kneass designed the capped bust obverse akin to the other silver denominations being minted. The reverse was also changed to a sitting eagle with a shield. The motto E PLURIBUS UNUM was added, along

with the denomination 5C for the first time. Large mintages reflected the more widespread use of these small coins.

### 1837: Miss Liberty Sits for Mid-Life Makeovers

In the 1830's, new Mint Engraver Christian Gobrecht set out to modify coin designs. His Liberty seated design was engraved on all silver denominations, and appeared on half



Minor changes to the Liberty Seated design resulted in varieties 1, 2, 3, and 4. The reverse remained the same on the first three varieties. On the final variety 4 design, the new cereal wreath reverse bumped UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to the obverse.

*This 3¢ silver coin replaced the half dime in 1851 as America's smallest silver coin, but both were discontinued in favor of nickel equivalent coins in 1873.*



dimes in 1837. The eagle and motto E PLURIBUS UNUM disappeared from the reverse, replaced with a centered value HALF DIME. The use of a seated goddess on coins dated back to the ancient Romans and contemporary English coins.

Several varieties resulted from minor changes; the original design with no stars on the obverse is now called “variety 1.” In 1838, stars were added to the obverse (creating variety 2), and from 1853 to 1855, arrows were placed at the date to denote a slight reduction in weight due to the increased value of silver (variety 3).

The final revisions to the Liberty seated design in 1860 saw the stars on the obverse replaced with UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (ignoring laws to keep that on the reverse), and a wreath of corn, wheat, oak, and maple sprigs (dubbed the cereal wreath) on the reverse. This became variety 4.

### 1873: 5¢ Nickels End the Life of Half Dimes

Half dimes met monetary competition from several fronts. The relative value of silver rose after the California gold rush rendered gold more common. The government’s reaction to the hoarding of silver coins was to introduce a three-cent piece in 1851, composed of 75% silver and 25% copper.

Output of half dimes fell during

the Civil War as silver was hoarded and bullion sources fell. To meet the coin shortage, the government printed fractional paper currency from 1862 to 1876, including three issues of five-cent notes. The nickel industry lobbied successfully for “nickel” five-cent coins, even though they were 75% copper, 25% nickel. Nickels were first struck in 1866, and are still struck today. Their larger size and silvery appearance proved successful, and helped speed the demise of America’s silver half dimes.

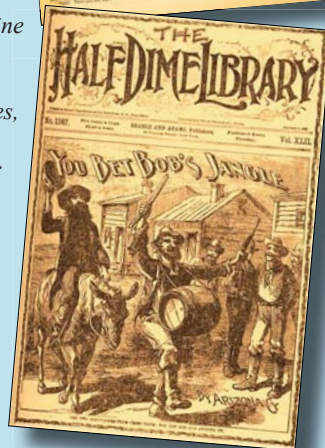
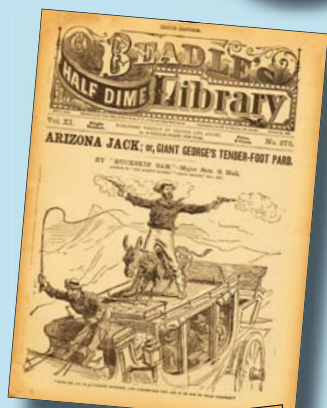
A major revision to American coinage was introduced by the Coinage Act of 1873, in which the half dime, silver three cent, copper two cent, and even the silver dollar were dropped from production. The nickel miners had outfoxed the silver miners! The half dime, which had premiered America’s silver coinage, was relegated to obsolescence.

### Today: Any in Your Collection?

During its 82-year lifetime, over 97 million half dimes were minted at Philadelphia, New Orleans, and San Francisco. Do you have any specimens? A nice half dime collection can be made with examples of the eight major types. Adding the iconic 1792 half dime would be expensive, but this treasure would be the highlight of any collection.



*After competition from fractional currency, nickel three-cent pieces, and finally the five-cent nickel, minting of half dimes was ended in 1873.*



*The life of half dimes reflected the American times. But perhaps they were not as exciting as the stories portrayed in the 1877-1905 weekly magazine Half Dime Library. The magazine regaled young boys with adventure stories, and kept memories of the half dime alive long after its coinage ended. The price per issue—take a guess—was 5¢.*



# A Tale of Two Coins

by Charlie Catlett

This is a tale of the two coins pictured here. They were both minted in ancient Tyre, a hub of commerce in ancient Phoenicia, and still existing as a city on the coast of southern Lebanon. The obverse features Melqart, a Phoenician god, and the reverse shows an eagle standing on the prow of a ship. The top coin is a half-shekel, and the lower coin one shekel, and they both have historic and biblical significance.

In the Old Testament (the Torah), the term shekel was originally used as a unit of weight representing a certain value. Later it represents a coin of a specific value. One specific issue in ancient times was that the annual Temple tax for every Jewish man, woman, and child over a certain age was...one-half shekel.

So how do the coins above fit in, since Tyre was 100 miles from Jerusalem? The Temple tax was specified to be of fine silver from Tyre. Their coins were consistently pure over the years, whereas coins from most other countries/kingdoms were of varying purity. People from all over the ancient world would come to Jerusalem to pay the tax and worship at the huge temple there, the center of the Jewish world. So the shekels and half-shekels of Tyre were probably the most common silver coins in Jerusalem.

Since pilgrims came from many nations carrying their own coins, here is where the first of three tales from the New Testament fit in. The coins from other lands needed to be



*Top, a half-shekel of Tyre, and below it a shekel. They portray the Phoenician god, Melqart on the obverse, and an eagle on the reverse.*



exchanged for half-shekels of Tyre to be accepted for the tax. Which meant that a currency exchange was necessary. There were money changers there at the base of the temple, known for shouting out their rate of exchange. This is the tale where Jesus was angered at the moneychangers there at the holiest site of worship, noisily trying to get business—and he overturned their tables.

Even a full shekel was not accepted for the tax—it was a half-shekel. The exchange rate cost a little extra, and the smallest coins of the time were likely what was used for this. These were the tiny prutah (plural is prutot),



*The “widow’s mite” refers to an ancient coin, the prutah or lepton, and its place in the Christian scriptures (Mark 12:41-44 and Luke 21:1-4). Its value was roughly equivalent to six minutes of the average daily wage of the times.*



also known as a lepton, most likely minted by the Tasmanian ruler Alexander Jannaeus. One shekel equaled 256 prutot. And here is where a second tale of the bible comes in. The name of these coins was translated in English initially in the Tyndale Bible of 1525 as a shortening of the word *minute*—not as the name of a coin—to *mite*. The King James Bible in 1611 made the term mite popular as the name of the coin. The books of Mark and Luke both tell a tale of two people donating money to the temple (yes, back then, as now, extra donations were welcome). One was a wealthy merchant who threw some coins from his purse into the treasury. The other was a poor widow, who threw the only two mites she owned. Jesus praised her as the more worthy for giving everything she had. Widow’s mites can be commonly purchased today. They have an inverted anchor on one side, and a star (or wheel with spokes) on the other.

One final story from the bible is what Judas was paid to reveal the location where Jesus could be found—thirty pieces of silver. Those pieces of silver were probably shekels, since

they were the predominant coin. So the shekel pictured here is like what was paid then, though the date could have been somewhere in a 150+ year span, since the coins remained so consistent through the years. Some collectors still do try to get coins dated around 32 or 33 AD, when the 30 pieces of silver were paid.

This brings you back to the coins pictured at the beginning. They are readily available on the market, though the half-shekel denomination is more scarce than the shekel. But both are extremely hard to find in this good a condition. The half-shekel was purchased a couple years ago at auction, and the shekel was just purchased. Both are in a condition as struck, and both are dated 76/75 BC! The date is actually year 51 of the ruler’s reign, which corresponds to the year 76/75 BC. So they make up an uncirculated year set that is almost 2100 years old! Can you top that?

*The author is the secretary of the Redwood Empire Coin Club, and this is a reprint from their August, 2013 newsletter.*

# Friends of Silver

by Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald



This writer remembers visiting Las Vegas, Nevada, in the early 1950s and being forced to return to California with silver dollars. Oh, how times have changed!

## Bland and Allison

Representative Richard Bland was from the state of Missouri (1835-1899) and later became secretary of state under President Chester A. Arthur. William Allison was a United States Senator from Iowa (1829-1906).

## History and Politics

On February 28, 1878, the so-called "Crime of '73" was overturned by the influence of the owners of silver mines. Silver was to be struck into silver dollars. This was helpful to mine owners because of the discovery of the large silver deposits in Nevada and Utah. The law required the secretary of the treasury to make monthly purchases of two to four million dol-

*George T. Morgan's famous design debuted in 1878 and was minted up to 1904, then a final issue in 1921.*

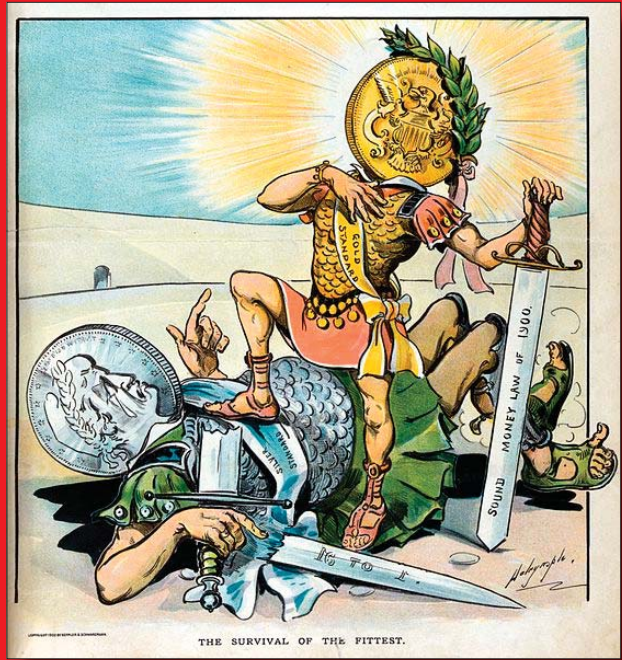
lars of silver to be struck into silver dollars. It passed in the House with a vote of 163 to 34 with 92 abstaining. William Allison considerably modified the bill before its passage in the Senate. It became law over the veto of the 19th president, Rutherford B. Hayes (1822-1893).

The proponents argued that with more money in circulation, workers would demand higher wages. However without the gold-standard, prices would rise and lead to inflation. This part of our story will end with what was started by Bland and Allison and in a bit look at the beginning of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act.

## The Story in the East

The labor unrest of 1877 caused support for workers for the Greenback

*The Mint Act of 1873, which demonetized silver, was referred to by western silver mining interests as "the crime of '73", as it drove down demand for their product, silver. The Act also ended production of the half-dime, silver three-cent piece, and two-cent piece, and was signed into law by President Grant.*



Labor Party. The party argued against specie payments and acceptance of national banknotes. At the Congressional elections of 1878, 14 candidates won seats in Congress.

On January 1, 1879, the resumption of specie payments began. There was no attempt to reclaim greenbacks and Congress mandated they should support the nation's currency. By this time the greenback had reached parity with the value of gold for the first time since 1862.

### The Story Continues

The Bland-Allison Act was repealed in 1890 and was replaced by the Sherman Silver Purchase Act. This new law required 4,500,000

ounces of silver per month to be paid for with treasury notes that would be legal tender and redeemable in gold or silver dollars coined from the bullion purchased. The treasury notes were being constantly redeemed for gold that was exported. In fact this was actually a government subsidy for a few influential miners. The act was quickly repealed. The Bland-Allison Act and the Sherman Act added 57 million silver dollars to the nation's monetary stocks.

### William McKinley

The presidential election was held on November 6, 1894. William McKinley from Niles, Ohio, was born on January 29, 1843. McKinley was

the 25th president of the United States. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He passed the bar, becoming a lawyer in 1867 and practiced law in Canton, Ohio. McKinley was elected governor of Ohio in 1891 and re-elected in 1893. In 1896 McKinley's administration was in favor of revising import tariffs upward to the highest rate in US history. With the passage of The Gold Standard Act of 1900 along with the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands on July 7, 1898, the United States established itself in the Pacific. William McKinley was elected president in 1896 and again in 1900 with his running mate, Theodore Roosevelt, a hero from the Spanish-American War..

### Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt

His image, along with George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln, appears on the national monument in South Dakota.

Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York City on October 27, 1858. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1880. Roosevelt served a two-year term in the New York State Assembly from 1882-1884. When the war with Spain started in 1897, the United States seized Cuba. Later Roosevelt helped organize "The Roughriders." It was during this war with Spain that he led the famous "charge up San Juan Hill."

The politics of New York led by T.C. Platt arranged to have Roosevelt nominated as McKinley's running mate in 1900. Following the assassination of William McKinley in 1900, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt became the 26th President of the United States. Republican William Howard

Taft was elected President in 1909 with the support of Teddy Roosevelt. However in 1912 Taft lost the support of Roosevelt as the Republican Party backed him. Roosevelt started a third party, this progressive party that was called the "Bull Moose Party."

Theodore Roosevelt continued to influence events as World War I commenced in 1914. These included the building of the Panama Canal, the growth of the United States navy and the participation of the United States in World War I.

### Coinage

Early in 1879 Charles Barber and George T. Morgan submitted designs for the nation's coinage. Together with his brother William they insisted they had the responsibility and the authority to design the nation's coins. Theodore Roosevelt did not agree and asked Augustus Saint-Gaudens to design some coins. It would be fair to state there was very poor relations between the Barbers and Roosevelt.

Theodore Roosevelt died on January 6, 1919, in Oyster Bay, New York.

### Conclusion

The silver interests of the west were off-set by the greenbacks of the east. The Gold Standard Act of 1900 gave the country a single standard. However the friction between the supporters of silver and the greenbacks continued. The silver dollar became a standard coin. It still enjoyed legal status as well as subsidiary coins. Their value, in terms of standard gold, was secure even before the gold-surrender executive order several decades later, which was far below its face value.



# National Emblems on Coins

by Dr. Sol Taylor

Many countries feature their national emblem on their coins and currency. A few examples include the American eagle, Canada's maple leaf, the Celtic harp, the Aztec calendar, the British crown, Israel's menorah, and the Ashoka pillar of India.

The Ashoka pillar is a national treasure unearthed about six miles northeast of Benares in northern India in the mid-19th century. The four-lion top of the monument, which now resides inside a small museum near the site of its discovery, stands about seven feet tall. It consists of four lions back to back. The fourth lion is the only damaged part of the monument with part of its face missing. It faces the wall and on all symbols the three other lions are seen. I was one of a small group of American educators on a tour of India in October, 1971, and was fortunate to stand within arm's reach of the monument. Considering its national significance, it was surprising to see its humble location in a small building no bigger than the average two bedroom condominium in the USA. The site in Sarnath is believed to be the site where Buddha preached his first sermon on the Eight-fold Path of Enlightenment some 2500 years earlier. Indian emperor Ashoka had the monument built some 300 years after the sermon by Buddha and



placed atop a sandstone pillar about 50 feet tall. The column fell probably in an earthquake about 300 years ago and remained there until discovered. The monument and column were believed to have been placed atop a stupa (a mound) some 200 feet high which stands about 300 feet from the present day museum. Though Buddhism was getting a foothold in India at the time, today it is a minor fraction of the religious population of India..

The elements of the monument include the four lions, the pedestal carved with images of the wheel of life shown four times, two Brahmin cows, and two horses, all significant images in Buddhism. The monument was hand-polished tan sandstone until it had a marble-like finish. In 1947 the newly independent nation of India adopted this symbol as its national image and it appears on all coins, currency, and official documents.

# Full Steps, Full Split Bands, Full Heads, Full Bell Lines: Fully Worth the Price?

*by Mark Benvenuto*

As numismatics has moved into what might be called a more scientific state over the years—with a numeric grading system from 1-70, where it once was just good to uncirculated—there have been quite a few delineations made in specific coin designs that set a very few coins apart from all the rest. These chosen few are now the *crème de la crème* of coinage, the upper flakes of the upper crust. Of course, with such elite designations come elite prices. Why don't we do some quick price comparisons among four popular collectible series of United States coinage and see just what those differences are.

## Jefferson Nickels—Full Steps

First of the four “full” coins that we will look at, the Jefferson nickel is also the only one still being produced today. The reverse of these nickels sports a front view of Mr. Jefferson's Virginia home, Monticello. On the best struck examples all six steps are shown fully separated. The common wisdom is that these examples always cost more.

Here then is where we begin to question just how much more this small but important difference is worth. Examples of the more recent Jefferson nickels in amazing grades such as PF-70 or MS-70 only cost about \$50. Believe it or not, that's roughly the same price for PF-65 specimens made back in the early 1950's. Even going back to the 1930's—since the Jefferson nickels replaced the buffaloes in 1938—a PF-65 price tag is still not much more than \$100.

All in all, how much more than this do you want to pay for a single Jefferson nickel? While the common wisdom may dictate that full step Jefferson nickels “command a premium,” which we quote because almost every single numismatic reference uses this term, it's hard to imagine anyone paying more than \$100 for one.

## Mercury Dimes—Full, Split Bands

Moving back in time to the Mercury dimes, a.k.a. the Winged Liberty dimes, here the “full” that collecting aficionados seek refers to the center bands on the fasces that dominate the



*A full step Jefferson nickel and a full split bands Winged Liberty dime.*

reverse design of the coin. There are a whopping total of two bands, but because they are directly opposite a high point on Lady Liberty's head, they did not always strike up as distinct and separate.

The Mercury dime is collected by enough wonderfully rabid fans that several of the standard price listings and guides actually have a grade column of MS-65 and one labelled MS-65FSB, or just MS-65B. As for the price differences between the two? Well, they can be trivial or eye popping. The 1937 costs about \$30 as MS-65, and \$45 as MS-65B – and also has a \$500 price tag attached to the very few proofs that were made that year. All said though, \$30 versus \$45 is probably a price most of us would accept. The 1920-S on the other hand, rings in at \$1,400 in MS-65, but “commands a premium” that gets it to \$6,000 as MS-65FSB. Even for those of us who are willing to cough up \$1,400 for a Mercury dime, that extra for the full, split bands may be a smidge too high.

### Standing Liberty Quarters— Full Heads

The next of our designs to sport some “full” device is the Standing Liberty quarter, with a figure of Liberty striding through a gate that really does dominate the obverse in that she stretches right from the upper rim all the way down to the exergue into which the date is set. The problem is the dear lady's noggin. Since her head is right up near the rim, at the edge of the coin and design, there are numerous instances in which design elements, such as the leaves in the wreath she wears, did not strike up well. Once again, we have the situation where a very small difference can mean some perhaps big difference in price.

Much like the Mercury dimes, Standing Liberty quarters are avidly enough collected that price guides often have a column denoting MS-65 coins, and a separate price column for MS-65FH or MS-65H specimens. The 1916 is pretty much the key coin of this entire series, since there are only 52,000 of them in the official tally.



*A full head Standing Liberty quarter and a full bell lines Franklin half.*

Grabbing one in MS-65 is going to cost a person about \$25,000—yep, that is *twenty-five thousand dollars*. If you'd like it in the MS-65H form, the price climbs to \$35,000.

It's a fair bet that most of us have not dropped \$25K on any coin in any condition, so perhaps it's wise to look down to the lower end of the price range, and see what the price differences are there. In 1925 the design was changed slightly, by recessing the date into the exergue. This means for collectors today that all the 1925-1930 quarters generally survived with easier-to-read dates than the earlier years. In MS-65, the cheapest examples in these final six years cost about \$500-\$600. If you want to pay for all the details on Liberty's head, it will probably cost \$900-\$1,000. That's a curious difference.

### Franklin Half Dollars—Full Bell Lines

The final coin we'll look at for full details is the Franklin half, minted from 1948-1963. In this case, it is the

seven lines running horizontally across the lower part of the Liberty bell that need to be fully separated. As with the other two silver coins we just considered, there are price listings that post grades for MS-65, and MS-65FBL or just MS-65F. Actually, since Franklin halves seem to have seen less use than the smaller denominations, the same designators exist for MS-66 and MS-66FBL.

Once again, the differences can be relatively small in price between an MS coin and the premier piece with the FBL title. For example, the very common 1952 is \$65 as MS-65, versus \$150 for the FBL. But the prices for the much less common 1953 are \$125 versus \$700 in similar grades.

### Overall

Are these "full" details worth it, overall? Well, that's for each collector and his or her wallet to decide. In some cases though, it appears that you don't really have to pay much for that little extra. In other cases, you'll pay quite a lot.



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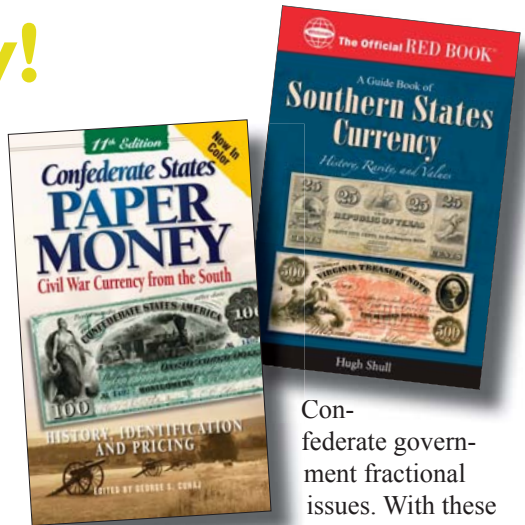
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# Collecting Southern States Fractional Currency!

by Jim Phillips

Due to the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, collecting Confederate currency has again regained the popularity it once had. This article is about collecting a niche segment of those issues with the added bonus of being inexpensive compared to the big dollar rarities that are the usual focus of Confederate currency collecting.

I'm talking about collecting the fractional issues of the southern states, and the Confederate government fractional issues. To do this you will definitely need a reference book or two. The first book you will need is *A Guide Book of Southern States Currency—History, Rarity, and Values*, by Hugh Shull. This book contains listings of six of the seven southern states that issued fractional currency, complete with color illustrations of each issue, its rarity, and a suggested value. It also has listings for the many varieties of those issues. The second book I would recommend is *Confederate States Paper Money: Civil War Currency from the South* edited by George S. Cuhaj. This book also showcases the specific types of state notes (with color illustrations) and it also identifies the only two types of



Con-  
federate govern-  
ment fractional  
issues. With these  
two books you  
should have all the

basic information needed to get started with collecting these notes.

In case you didn't notice, when looking at both of these books the notes of South Carolina are not listed. This is because the Civil War issues of those notes were technically issued by the Bank of South Carolina and not by the state government, and therefore most catalogers and collectors consider them to be obsolete bank issues versus a state issue. Sometime in the future I'll probably write another article on those particular notes but they are out of the scope of this article for the present moment.

You would think that since the collecting parameters are contained within just six state issues, and also just fractional notes, (only six of the Confederate States had fractional



*Southern states fractional currency comes in a wide array of colors and styles, some well-designed and others quite crude. All of them though have a charm all their own.*

issues), that there would be a fairly small number of notes to collect. However, in this specialty, there are 114 type notes, and that can also be expanded by an additional 47 varieties of those notes, for a total of 161 cataloged fractional notes. Compare that to the 78 type notes issued by the Confederate government!

Obviously, attempting to collect all of these notes is a long term task, so most collectors have narrowed the collecting of these notes to an individual state. With that in mind, your collecting options would range from the state of Mississippi with only two type notes and one variety (very rare), all the way up to the state of North Carolina with over 113 type notes and 47 varieties. Each state had its own dates of issues and designs ranging from very ornate to utilitarian plain.

There are a number of other collecting options as well. Considering that these notes were the small change of the period and therefore were well-used, uncirculated and high-quality notes are exceedingly tough to come by, and collecting top quality type notes would certainly be a long term challenge. Another idea may be to try and collect all the different types of vignettes that were printed on the notes. A number of the early notes were quite ornate with sailing ships and scenes of Southern life and can be very detailed.

Usually in the currency world condition is of great importance when evaluating specific notes. However, with these types of notes, I would point out that because these notes were so small in value they were used extensively, and finding them at all, much less in decent condition is very



*Notes from Alabama for twenty-five cents and fifty-cents.*

difficult. In building my own (albeit modest) collection I've taken the position that if I find a note that I currently don't have I'll try to purchase it regardless of condition because it may be a long time before I even see another one to upgrade to!

As far as collecting sources for these type of notes, it requires a bit of detective work. Internet sales are a good source as long as you avoid the usual pitfalls of on-line currency buying. Over-grading and hiding defects is rampant online and because of the value of these notes third-party grading is unusual. Also, watermarks identify some varieties and usually can't be detected in an on-line photo posting. Stick with well-photographed (front and back) notes. Occasionally, common notes show up on the Internet sites for sale noting various stamps or markings and claiming that they are rare or unique. While contemporary markings may add historical interest, they generally do not add to the value of the note. Keeping good records of all your purchases will help keep track of dealers that are reputable and who deal in material your interested in.

Next for sources are coin shows. Actually, most of my state purchases have been at shows. That is because you can actually handle the

note and get a much better idea of its value. Shows are a great place to "cherrypick" notes because a lot of times dealers are unfamiliar with the fractional pieces. While there are some rare and valuable notes in the state fractional area, most notes are usually well under \$100, so a lot of dealers don't spend much time with selling them. I once identified a scarce variety in a dealers stock, and told him about it, but since he had purchased it in a collection he was happy to sell it for what he had marked on the label! Most of my purchases have come from combing through dealer's stocks both at coin shows and on-line but it is time consuming.

Don't neglect the smaller dealers! I've bought a number of pieces from dealers that only had a piece or two. Getting to know the currency dealers that frequent the shows in your area will save you a lot of time since they can tell you if they have made any new purchases since they saw you last. And, if you're a regular customer, a lot of dealers will keep an eye out for material that may interest you.

While collecting Confederate notes may get more press, these notes can be a lot of fun to collect and historically fascinating. Remember to collect what interests you and you can't go wrong!



# California Token Spotlight

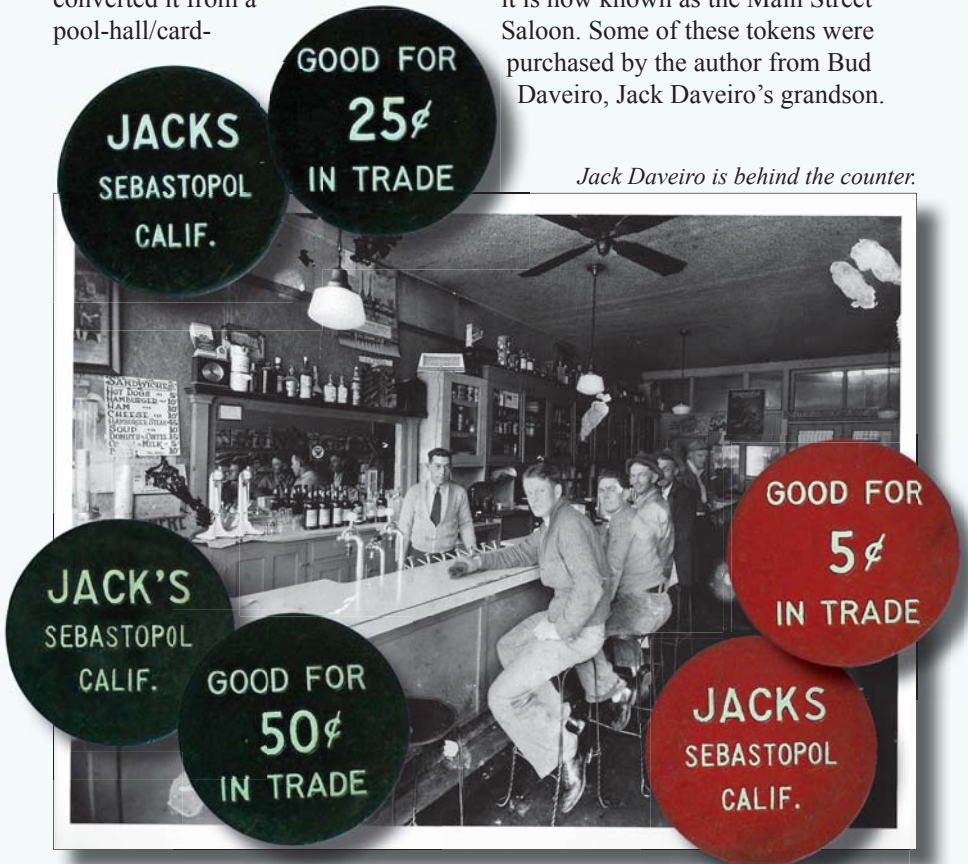
Shining on: Jack's Central Cigar Store, 153 North Main Street, Sebastopol

by Merle Avila

The Central Cigar Store started as a pool-hall/card-room/hamburger-fountain during the prohibition years and was owned by Walter Fore. Jack Daveiro (father) and Don Daveiro (son) bought the business in 1934. When prohibition ended they slowly converted it from a pool-hall/card-

room to a bar. By 1940, it was called Jack's Central Cigar Store, then later became known as just Jack's. When Jack Daveiro died in 1964, the youngest son, Jack Daveiro, Jr., became partners with his brother, Don. They sold the establishment in 1980 and it is now known as the Main Street Saloon. Some of these tokens were purchased by the author from Bud Daveiro, Jack Daveiro's grandson.

*Jack Daveiro is behind the counter.*

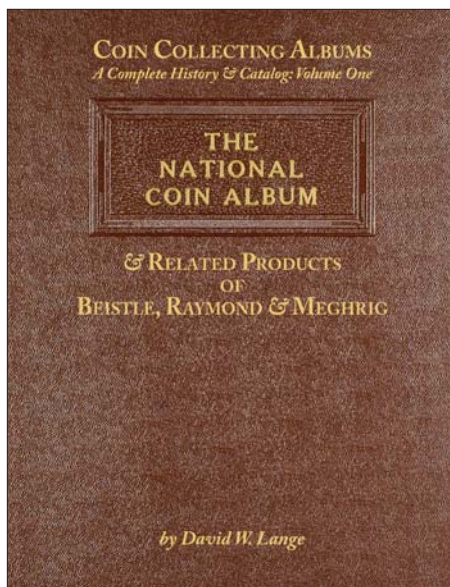


# California Company Produces a Very “American” Coin Album

by *David W. Lange*

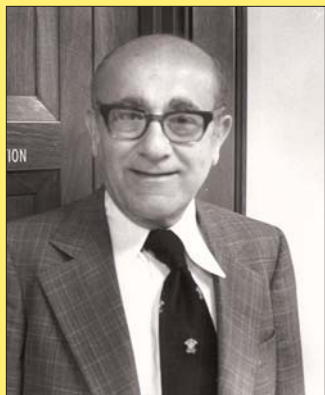
Ask a California numismatist to name the oldest numismatic businesses still operating in the state, and names such as Superior and Kagin’s immediately come to mind. Some might even suggest that the San Francisco Mint earns top honors, and there’s some merit to that claim, at least since it began selling collector-edition coins in 1965. One name that is not likely to be mentioned, however, is Bulanikian. Who is that, you say? Well, perhaps if I mention that Raffi Bulanikian is the grandson of Gary Meghrig it may provide a clue. The family-owned business of M. Meghrig & Sons was founded by Gary Meghrig in New York City in 1936, but it has operated in Los Angeles since 1948, and that is now its sole location under Manager Raffi Bulanikian.

Though it has never in its nearly 80 years of operation sold coins, the company did begin as a stamp dealership during the Great Depression. It is now known today primarily as a wholesaler of coin and stamp collecting supplies, and you may learn more



about its current product lines at the company’s website: [meghrigsupplies.com](http://meghrigsupplies.com).

How M. Meghrig & Sons became of interest to me in particular is that it formerly produced several lines of its own coin albums, and I’ve been a passionate collector of all such things for more than 30 years now. In researching my recent book on the National Coin Album and related products, Meghrig became an integral part of this project, since it published for many years a near clone of the National brand called the American Coin Album. As my work on the book progressed, it became evident that



*Above: Gary Meghrig circa 1973.*

*Right: Gary Meghrig and son-in-law Serj Bulanikian circa 1973.*



I could not tell the story of Wayne Raymond's National albums without providing several chapters on Meghrig's American line. Ultimately, the complete roster of coin albums from both companies made it into my book, with the result that the finished product came in just under 300 pages.

Garabed "Gary" Meghrig was one of seven children born to Megrditch and Yakut Meghriqian. With the collapse of the Ottoman Empire during World War I, one of the tragic outcomes was the brutal persecution of Turkey's Armenian population. The Meghriqians were such a family, and they were driven to flee Turkey. Their circuitous journey took them first to Syria (itself currently embroiled in ethnic and political chaos), and from there they continued on to Beirut,

Lebanon and thence to Paris. While living in France, middle son Garabed (1905-2000) became a stamp collector, and brothers Kosrof (1900-84) and Himayak (1912-94) got the bug, too, though to a lesser degree. They saw an ad from Boston stamp dealer H. E. Harris seeking European stamps for his inventory, and the seed of lifelong careers was born.

All three brothers became European buyers for Harris, and this activity continued after their relocation to New York City during the late 1920s and early '30s. They shortened the family name to Meghrig and now went by their Americanized identities of Karl, Gary and Harold. Their stamp buying activity continued, but Gary soon yearned to be his own boss and founded the firm of M. Meghrig &

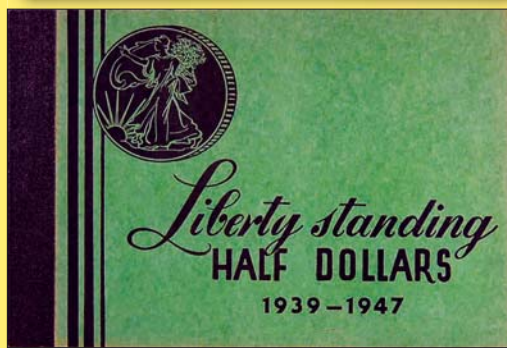
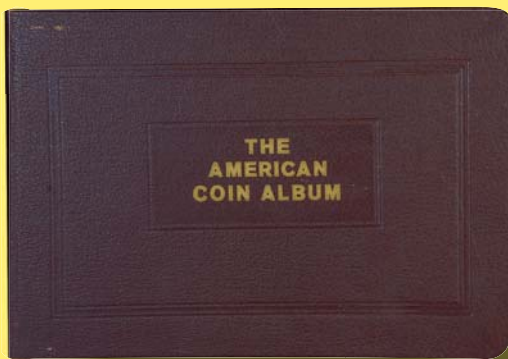
Sons in 1936 (the “M” was simply a tribute to their father, Megrditch, who had once considered stamp collecting to be childish nonsense but was evidently won over by his sons’ initiative). By that time the family had been reunited in America, with their four sisters joining them, as well.

The onset of World War II in 1939 proved to be a turning point for the Meghrigs, as it cut off the supply of European stamps and ended their buying trips there for the duration. To augment the company’s revenue, Meghrig became a jobber for the books and coin albums produced by Wayte Raymond, Inc. of New York City. M. Meghrig & Sons was located in downtown Manhattan at 116 Nassau Street, and this address appears in

Raymond ads of the war years when Meghrig was a wholesale source for Raymond products. By 1946 Meghrig was placing its own ads as the “Sole Distributor” of Wayte Raymond, Inc. Wayte Raymond was then semi-retired and living in Montauk at the far end of Long Island. His supply business, which consisted of the National Coin Album and the Popular Album, was now managed by Alan W. Faxon, who had just returned from service in the Army.

This was a chaotic time for the Raymond business, with the man himself largely out of the picture and Faxon still learning the ropes. Wartime shortages of supplies and restrictions on the manufacture of non-essential goods had played havoc with deliv-

*The 1947 introduction of the American Coin Album by the Meghrigs marked their first step into competing with Wayte Raymond’s National Coin Album series. The “budget” versions produced by the Meghrigs was eventually named as the “Green Book” line in the mid-1950s.*






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*The company's slogan was, for many years, "East or West M. Meghrig & Sons Serves You Best!"*

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**THE MEGHRIGS**  
East and West  
wish everyone  
NORTH  
WEST  EAST  
SOUTH  
A Most Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy, Prosperous New Year

from New York      from Los Angeles

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Sara M. Meghrig      Amy Meghrig  
Helen Meghrig      Charles Bass  
Julia Lourey      Mrs. Rose Duran  
Mollie Tepper  
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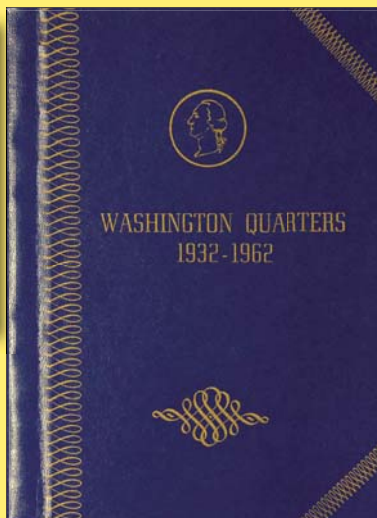
64      THE NUMISMATIST

eries of National binders and pages and had suspended production of the Popular line altogether until 1946. The Meghrig Brothers evidently saw opportunity in the irregular availability of Raymond items, and the company launched its own line of similar products at that time. A 1947 ad revealed the Meghriqs' newly-adopted logo and announced a "COMPLETE STOCK of COIN HOLDERS • ALBUMS • BINDERS • NUMISMATIC ACCESSORIES and PUBLICATIONS."

What was not mentioned in its ads is that these albums and binders were near exact clones of the Raymond products. Wayte Raymond's National Coin Album was recreated as Meghrig's American Coin Album, while the Raymond Popular line of budget albums was mimicked by Meghrig's own line of similar albums that, as yet, had no name. It was not until the mid-1950s that Meghrig advertised its coin

albums under the names American and Green Book, respectively. In the meantime, however, the company was rapidly gaining market share by filling the shortfalls in Raymond's National binders and pages and by targeting non-numismatic retailers with its Green Book albums that were priced at just 75 cents for two-page albums and \$1.50 for the four-page titles. While these prices were comparable to those of the Raymond version, Meghrig was much more aggressive in marketing its product outside of the traditional numismatic outlets.

In a letter to this writer, Alan W. Faxon's son Stuart revealed how the Meghrig brand of Green Book albums gradually pushed Raymond's Popular line to near extinction: "He [Gary Meghrig] got his [albums] into department stores and it killed ours." The Raymond business had indeed eschewed conventional retailers such



*The Merit Coin Holder line (above) and the Gem Album line (at right) were introduced by the Meghrig's in 1958 and 1960 respectively to address holders brought out by their competition. Neither was especially successful.*

as 5-and-10-cent shops and department stores, while Meghrig embraced this market. The company did then and still does today offer a broad assortment of stamp and coin collecting supplies, while Wayte Raymond, Inc. relied solely on books and albums to supplement actual coin sales. M. Meghrig & Sons, Inc. never did offer coins for sale, and it gradually phased out its stamp sales following the success of its supply business in the 1940s-50s.

Meghrig advertised very heavily between 1955 and 1970, and it offered its dealers an illustrated catalog of its supply lines on which the dealership's name could be printed. From the 1960s onward seekers of its products were advised to contact their local dealer first and order from Meghrig directly only if the dealer could not satisfy their order. Even so, the company expanded rapidly, opening satellite locations in Los Angeles at 535 S. Western Avenue and in San Francisco

at 1263 Market Street (longtime hobbyists will recognize the SF address as being located directly across the street from famed dealer Earl A. Parker). The company's slogan was, for many years, "East or West M. Meghrig & Sons Serves You Best!"

While the SF location was fairly short-lived, Los Angeles gradually became the primary one as the 1960s progressed. Both were managed by Karl Meghrig after he relocated from New York in 1948. The New York office was run by Harold at 236 Park Avenue South until 1976, when the business was moved to Englewood, New Jersey, under the direction of his son, M. Alan Meghrig (the east coast operation was discontinued altogether in 1980). Gary took over as manager of the Los Angeles location in 1963, which is about the time that Meghrig stopped producing its several lines of coin albums. The American and Green Book albums had been augmented with the Merit Coin Holder in 1958

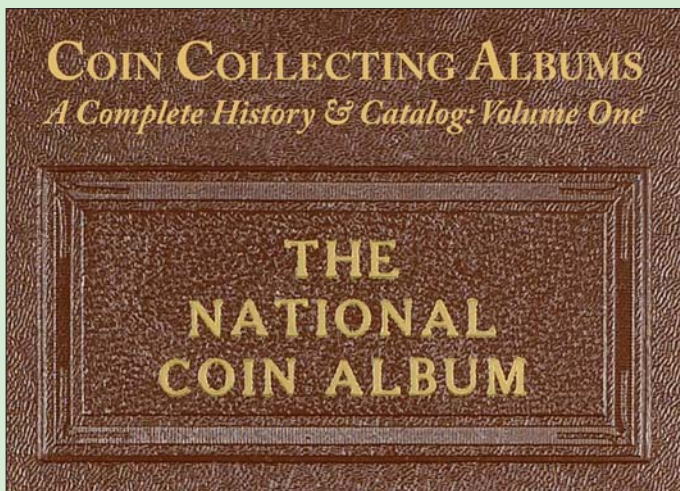
and the Gem Album in 1960, both created in response to more modern and attractive coin albums introduced by competitors. Neither was terribly successful, and Meghrig lost much of its market share to Whitman, Dansco and the Coin & Currency Institute (Library of Coins and Treasury of Coins albums).

Since 1964 M. Meghrig & Sons has been almost solely a wholesaler of stamp and coin supplies, both its own and those published by other companies. Meghrig also sells its remaining supply of old American and Gem albums, though the list of available titles is now greatly reduced after being out of production for 50 years. Gary Meghrig passed the business on to his son-in-law Serj Bulanikian in 1989,

and Serj's son Raffi has been manager for the past several years. Raffi Bulanikian and Alan Meghrig were both very helpful to me in researching my book on National Coin Albums and related products, and I thank them for helping to make it the complete work that it is.

*David W. Lange is Research Director for NGC in Sarasota, Florida, and a past-president of the CSNA. His new book is titled "Coin Collecting Albums—A Complete History & Catalog: Volume One—The National Coin Album & Related Products of Beistle, Raymond & Meghrig." It is published by PennyBoard Press, and information is available from the author at POB 110022, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211 or by emailing LangeDW@msn.com.*

## Great New Book!



by David W. Lange

*Providing a complete history and catalog of all coin albums published by Beistle, Raymond and Meghrig. Nearly 300 pages, including 80 in full color. Hardcover with heavy, glossy paper. All copies signed, unless otherwise specified.*

*\$75 + \$10 priority shipping*

*Send check to: David W. Lange, POB 110022 Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211  
or use PayPal to LangeDW@msn.com*

# What Price, A Trade Dollar?

by Mark Benvenuto

If you are like me, you like big, hefty, gorgeous coins for your collection, but don't like paying big, decidedly-not-so-gorgeous prices. When I make a statement like that, I have to admit it: I'm a cheapskate. If you feel similarly inclined, feel free to admit it to yourself as well. But instead of feeling down about it, let's use our "cheapskatedness" to examine at least one really worthwhile coin, and see what details we can discern about the best way to buy it. Let's look in some detail at the 1876-S trade dollar.

The trade dollars remain an interesting experiment in United States coinage, one that is now generally considered an economic failure. They were originally produced for international use, mostly in the port cities of Imperial China. But by the time the US got there with these big dollars, as it were, the Spanish colonial silver coins of Mexico and Peru were so well accepted that our large, silver pieces weren't able to make too much of a dent in that market. Use of the trade dollars at home was also a limited



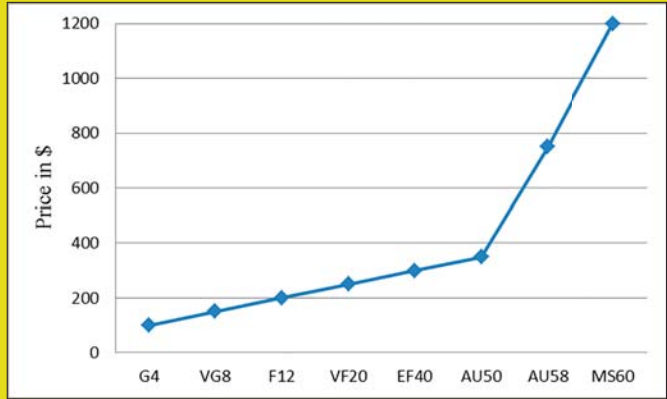
*Trade dollars were struck from 1873 to 1885. Though demonetized for US commerce in 1876, the Coinage Act of 1965 restored its legal tender status.*

success; and in the end, the coins were actually demonetized.

Now of course, every coin that has been made in quantity ends up being collected by someone, including the trade dollars. Several of them were made to the tune of millions, with the 1876-S chalking up a total of 5.2 million. But those original mintage numbers don't mean much when it comes to determining value for the collector market today. When they were demonetized, plenty were taken back by the mint and melted. Still, the 1876-S, the even more common 1877-S (9.5 million), and all of those made in the millions—now that we stop and think about it—ought to have a good number of survivors. Here is where being a cheapskate starts to factor in.



Graph 1: 1876-S trade dollar from G4 to MS60.



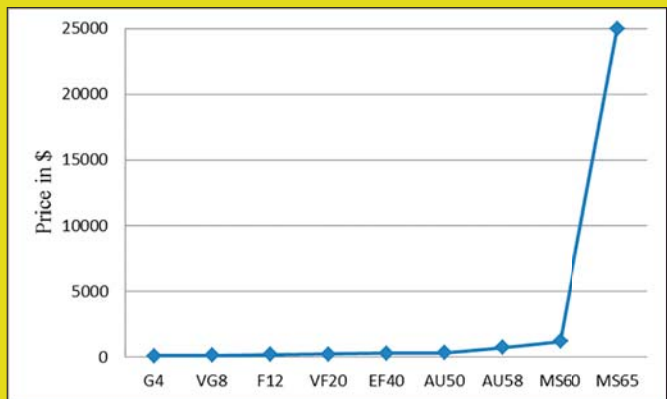
In the rather lousy condition ironically called *good*, or G-4, the 1876-S trade dollar costs \$100. That seems like a lot for a dollar that is so heavily worn, especially when there are Morgan dollars with about the same mintage totals that cost \$50-\$80 in MS-60. So, looking for a better trade dollar, we note that as the grades go up to AU-50, the price climbs pretty steadily by \$50 per grade. But then it jumps when it goes from AU-50 to AU-58. And it jumps again when it goes to MS-60.

Take a look at the first graph we've made, showing prices for this trade

dollar from G-4 to MS-60. We've constructed a graph precisely because collectors are very used to looking at price sheets, but not at the same information in some more visually comparative form. Note that the rise is steady—until we get to the AU-58 version of this coin.

Going a bit further though, many of the standard price lists give a value for almost all coins in the MS-65 grade. Indeed, this becomes something of the standard for what we would call the best of the best. The grade scale certainly goes all the way up to MS-70, meaning the perfect coin, but es-

Graph 2: 1876-S trade dollar from G4 to MS65.



*While conducting an investigation at the San Francisco Mint, Controller of Currency John Jay Knox (photo at right) began discussing the monetary situation with Louis A. Garnett, a man who had worked as both the treasurer and assayer of the mint. Garnett recommended that the US produce a commercial dollar that could be exported to Asia to compete with other large silver coins that were already popular in that region. Garnett's rationale was that the coins would be hoarded or melted in Asia and would never be presented for redemption, allowing the government to make a profit from the seigniorage.*



entially no coins from the 1870's ever earn such a grade. Technical limits in minting in the nineteenth century, coupled with almost 150 years of the possibility of improper storage or care, mean that coins start out less than perfect and get worse with time. And thus there are only a very few that are still even at grades such as MS-66 or MS-67.

With that in mind, when we take our first graph and add to it the price tag for one of the 1876-S trade dollars in that MS-65 grade, we get a very new, rather distorted second graph.

Yes, believe it or not, the addition of the MS-65, at a whopping \$25,000, dwarfs everything else in terms of price and grade. That first graph is essentially squished down to the bottom, including the AU-58 and the MS-60, and that new number becomes the massive high point.

Now, it's probably fair to say that most of us do not have \$25K to spend on one coin. Sweet mercy, many of us probably don't spend this much on an automobile! But it's worth looking at this bigger graph just to see how these

numbers all compare. And it is now obvious that the 1876-S trade dollar is probably still a pretty common coin, but not in the highest of grades.

With these two graphs in mind, and thus a new way to look at any coin's price, what can we claim is the best price for grade? Well, there's always room to argue, but the AU-50 is the coin that rests at the top end of a straight line in pricing. Again, using the first graph to see such grades in the best detail, the AU-50 is \$350, a price that rests at the top of the straight line when it comes to all the values for different grades. Beyond that, the prices don't just ascend, they jump.

This method of comparing prices can certainly be useful, but it too has its limits. Within the trade dollar series there are some serious rarities. This method probably doesn't show us anything new when it comes to those or any other rarities. We know they'll be expensive. But sketching it all out like this gives us cheapskates a good view of the best price to pay and the best grade to look for when it comes to buying a quality collector coin.

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# Numismatic Luminary

by *Jim Hunt*



Our Numismatic Luminary was born in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1920. His father, a mining engineer, and his mother, a nurse, were missionaries there. His mother brought him to Loma Linda, California, in 1927, and he has been a resident of this state ever since. He met and married his wife in Leicester, England, during World War II and has three children of his own, two sons and a daughter. After graduating from Redlands High School, he attended San Bernardino Junior College until he joined the Army Corps of Engineers in 1942. As a military reservist, he was recalled to duty during the Korean War where he served in the supply corps. He served a total of 12 years on active duty and over five years in the reserves. His civilian life involved almost 35 years working for the Southern California Edison Company in the systems operations department directing power operations for Southern California. From my own experience, I know this can be a very stressful and demanding job.

Many of you will now recognize our luminary as Angus Bruce. He began collecting coins in 1938. His mother was given a 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent by a coin-collecting hospital patient. The donor instructed her to give it to her son because it would be worth a lot of money some day. This started Angus's interest in

coins and is his favorite numismatic story. Angus also considers this to be the most important numismatic event in his life as it has sent him on a numismatic journey that has lasted for over 75 years. In addition to coins, he also collects military war medals and military insignia, Red Cross memorabilia, and military sweet heart pins that GI's made for their loved ones while stationed overseas. Angus is most interested in collecting international bank notes, military payment certificates (MPC's) and military emergency money from many countries. He is also a collector of odd and curious money, and US fractional currency.

Our luminary is currently a member of the ANA, International Bank Note Society (IBNS), CSNA, NASC, San Bernardino County Coin Club (SBCCC), and the Hemet Coin Club (HCC). He first joined the SBCCC in 1948 followed by memberships in CSNA and NASC. He was also an original member of the Convention of International Numismatics (COIN), a California-based collector and research group. He has served as president of COIN, SBCCC, Redlands Coin Club, and the HCC, and has held positions of vice president, secretary, and treasurer in these organizations. He has been a board member of CSNA and NASC. He was also the head librarian for the IBNS for four years.



*Angus Bruce in his numismatic lair, surrounded by the many awards and mementos collected over his years of collecting and service to the hobby. Angus is holding the NASC's Richard P. Goodson Award from the NASC.*



Angus has been the recipient of many awards, the most important of which is the Fred W. Coops medal awarded by the Fred Coops and Company Collector Galleries. This lifetime achievement award was received in 1993, the second presented by the Collector Galleries. It is a mounted ten-ounce silver medal. His other most important awards are the Richard P. Goodson Award for lifetime contributions to the NASC (2012), and the Helen Trumpower Award for lifetime contributions to the HCC (2002).

Angus Bruce has made considerable contributions to numismatic education through both his research and contributions to the numismatic publications listed below:

- Krause's *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money*, volumes 1 and 2
- Schwann's *Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates*

- Schwann and Boling's book, *World War II Remembered*
- Bryan Burke's book, *Nazi Counterfeiting of British Currency During World War II*
- Lance Campbell's book, *Prisoners-of-War and Concentration Camp Money of the Twentieth Century*

He has also given many numismatic presentations at coin clubs and coin shows throughout the Southern California area.

When asked what advice he would give to beginning collectors, Angus replied, "Enjoy the hobby and the good friends that you make, and have fun with the hobby," and "buy the book before you buy the note".

*Author's note: I especially want to thank James Phillips for interviewing Mr. Bruce and submitting the information collected to me to prepare this article.*

# CSNA 46th Annual Southern Educational Symposium

Saturday, April 12  
10:00am - 4:00pm  
Holiday Inn Mission  
Valley Stadium  
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Enjoy an entire day with four experts speaking on a broad variety of numismatic topics, interesting exhibits on display, gold coin raffle for those who support the event as a paid “patron”, and door-prizes for those attending the luncheon. Parking and attendance are free. Lunch break from noon to 1pm.

*Albertus Hoogeveen: Boy Scout Exonumia*

*Jerry Kleeb: Constantinian Silver Plate Follis*

*Ted Koopman: The Coin Market Today*

*William D. Hyder: Elder vs. Zerbe: Satirical Medals from the 1909 ANA Election*

*Info: CSNA Director of Education Phil Iversen at [phil\\_iversen@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_iversen@yahoo.com) or 818-509-9774.*

## Symposium Luncheon Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of total lunches \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with check payable to CSNA by April 5th to: CSNA Symposium, Attn: G. Bourke, 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040. Indicate Chicken Caesar Salad or Cobb Salad. Note: lunch may possibly be ordered the day of the symposium up until 10am if all tickets have not already been sold.

# ANA Report



by Jim Hunt

The next big event for the ANA is the National Money Show, being held in Atlanta, Georgia at the Cobb Galleria

Centre from February 27 to March 1. The show hotel is the Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel. Unfortunately, by the time you read this, the Atlanta convention will be over. So our focus, prior to August, will be on the World's Fair of Money to be held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois (Chicago) from August 5 – 9, 2014.

National Coin Week is April 20-26, 2014 and the theme is "Celebrating Civic Service".

The 2014 Summer Seminar will be held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with the first session, June 21-26 and the second session, June 28-July 3. You will be able to choose from an offering of 17 courses during the first session along with five mini-seminars. The second session will feature 16 courses and five mini-seminars. For those living off-campus, the weekly fee will be \$710. For those living on-campus, the weekly fee, which includes tuition, lodging, and meals, ranges from \$1075 to \$1175 depending upon the type of lodging arrangements. The evening mini-seminars generally cost \$79 each. Additionally, there are 3 different tours available: Pike's Peak Cog Railway (\$55),



*Waiting for opening day of the 2013 Summer Seminar session was almost more than the YNs could handle.*

Baseball – Colorado Rockies vs. St. Louis Cardinals (\$75), and the Denver Mint Tour (\$35). Another

feature for those attending the seminar is the Colorado Springs

Coin Show to be held from June 26-June 29. Remember also that anyone attending the seminar will be able to utilize the outstanding ANA library and can enjoy the world-class Money Museum. Another advantage of attending a seminar is the opportunity to meet with many of the country's most well-known numismatists. Going to a Summer Seminar is a must for any serious numismatist. I've personally attended three of them along with a couple of the mini-seminars. For the 46th Annual Summer Seminar catalog, go to [www.money.org](http://www.money.org) or call 719-482-9850 for more information.

The ANA is making efforts to tailor membership to be more attractive to local and regional clubs. To learn more about club membership benefits contact ANA Club Coordinator Tiffanie Bueschel at [bueschel@money.org](mailto:bueschel@money.org), (719-482-9816), or Sandy Hill, national coordinator for the ANA Club and District Representative Program at [sandyhill@money.org](mailto:sandyhill@money.org).

If you are not already an ANA member, join now, you will be glad you did.

# The Emerging Hobbyist



by Michael S. Turrini

Welcome!

First, the latter part of this issue's *Emerging Numismatist* column is by Taylor A. Webb, 14, of Fremont. Taylor has previously written for TCN, and was a presenter at the 2013 Northern Educational Symposium. I asked Taylor to share his insights, and welcome readers to ponder his thoughts.

Second, one of my "pet-peeves" is that we, our association and our hobby, particularly the ANA, are not studying other avocations, organizations, and hobbies, since generally across the board we all are having similar issues: aging or aged participants, lack of youth, Internet and social media changing the ways once so common, and the like. There is an aphorism that "a rising tide lifts all boats". I add, a low tide and ebb tide sink all boats into the mud!

Here is something to reflect before reading Taylor's thoughts.

Recently, I visited my favorite stamp shop, well-known The Stamp Gallery, in Walnut Creek, and had an exchange with its owner, talking about the aforementioned and philately as well as numismatics.

As I wrote, we, our association and our hobby, are not listening or learning from others. The owner, "Spence", noted that five years ago, just five years ago, 20% of the business was Internet related and 80% in store. To-

day, it is 90% via the Internet and only 10% in the store!

The ramifications of this statistical fact are shocking: one does not need the traditional venues, a store or a club or larger association, to participate in and receive enjoyment from numismatics. He or she now gets viewing the screen and hitting click or touching the pad.

Any comments? Now, for Taylor...

I think most people have heard a major issue in numismatics: a lack of young numismatists. Our hobby is aging rapidly, and as the average age of numismatists' increases, the proportion of young numismatists decreases. I think numismatics in general will continue as a hobby for a while, but will continue on its path to the grave as the "King of Hobbies". I think that a while ago, coin collecting was considered a normal thing to do as a hobby. But video games, electronics, and technology have largely replaced time that was previously set aside for leisure activities like numismatics. I personally find it hard to give coins my time as I have other "things" to do. Now if somebody my age has a coin



# Change is inevitable. Progress is optional.

—Tony Robbins

collection they are deemed a nerd or “weird”. I haven’t really been called that, although that is mostly due to the fact that most of my friends don’t even know that I collect coins. Although the Boy Scouts have a coin collecting merit badge, the impact of this is small and does not diminish the nerdy factor associated with having a coin collection. I think if more YN’s attended coin clubs or coin shows they would attract more young people into our hobby. I find that at most of the coin shows I go to the large majority of people on the bourse are over age 50. This age average will continue to grow until we have a sufficient numbers of

YNs to counterbalance it. I know that CSNA has a very small number of junior members, even though we recruit aggressively. I am one of only two or three I believe. This is reflected across all numismatic groups, both local and national. The state quarters program has helped generate a few collectors, but not many are serious enough to join a club. I, for one, will continue recruiting for all my clubs with the hope that our hobby will remain vibrant and lively for some time longer. But I can’t do it alone. We need more adult recruiters as well if we want our hobby to survive.

## Enjoying Your Hobby?

Maybe so much you’re “drowning” in assets?

Decades of collecting can cause one to accumulate a mountain of materials. Wouldn’t it be great if there were a way to easily lighten the load?

*Hey, CSNA and NASC can help with that!*

Both organizations can accept your tax-deductible donation today, and will put those assets to work to help the hobby. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 9), identify your gift as a “fund-raising donation”, and then receive acknowledgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.



# Goings On

by Greg Burns



CSNA had a board meeting in Coalinga in February. The relatively full house enjoyed a lunch prepared by Joyce Kuntz. Thanks, Joyce!

Major topics covered were TCN, the budget, membership growth and retention, and the conventions, both north and south.

There was much consternation regarding the funding for TCN, being as it is the biggest expense for both associations. We're examining ways to continue the fine quality we've enjoyed, and mostly this centers on the printing expenses. There aren't a lot of options here, other than squeezing the printer. Most members want to retain the print version (versus an electronic issue), and they figure that's what their dues are going to support. We'll keep working at it.

The budget review wasn't too optimistic. While CSNA still has a war chest of \$50,804, the projections going forward aren't looking any brighter than they have over the past ten years. The profits from the southern convention came in below estimates, and the numbers for the northern convention are pretty thin as well (coming up in July in Vallejo). Symposiums are a net loss as they really don't produce any "income" (they're free to everyone, though I've never figured out why they aren't better attended). We'll look at the budget more critically in July when we've had a full year of income/expense to compare.

One of the financial changes

CSNA passed was a general dues increase (it's been a while since we had one). Individuals will be \$25 annually, and I think that's supposed to start in July.

While membership was on the agenda, there wasn't a lot of creative ideas about attracting new members or ensuring existing members stay with us. We talked a bit about multi-year memberships getting a reduced dues structure as an inducement to make a longer commitment. The group also asked President Turrini to review the possibility of consolidating some of the regional groups within the state to see if that makes any sense from a financial and managerial standpoint.

There were some general matters discussed as well: in June Lloyd Chan will be introducing a Paypal option on the [www.Calcoin.org](http://www.Calcoin.org) Web site for dues payments and donations (hello, 21st century!). There were updates from the upcoming symposiums (south in April and north in October). There's some talk about splitting up the storage space that CSNA and NASC share, and divvying up the cases, cords, lights, whatever—seems odd as I'd assume two spaces, even smaller ones, would be more expensive than sharing one. In any regard, hard-working Phil Iversen and Howard Feltham have been cleaning junk out of the space, fixing show cases, and generally organizing it. Sounds

like a thankless job, doesn't it? Well then, tell them "Thank you!" the next time you see them.

Unfortunately we didn't get around to a couple of other high nails: there are some pending by-law changes we need to vote on, and we didn't talk much about fund raising and long-range strategies for CSNA. We'll likely tackle those at our next board meeting.

The NASC also held a board meeting in February. Through some last minute finagling (assigning me as a club rep for one thing) we managed to squeak out a quorum to enable us to vote on various items. You'll remember that at the previous NASC board meeting we couldn't cut the mustard due to a lack of voting members.

The treasurer's report shows NASC coffers with \$39,649.66. Like CSNA, NASC also voted to raise dues ('bout time), so that will have a positive influence, assuming that folks don't drop their memberships at any greater rate than usual because of it.

ANA President Walt Ostromecki gave an update on that group's activities. Sounded like good things were happening with their budget, upcoming shows, and some significant donations (over \$100,000).

George Moore reported that attendance at the Awards Recognition Events have been getting lower over the years. The last only had 22 people. Still in the planning mode for the next one upcoming in August.

Harold Katzman reported that the Member Club Gold Benefit Drawing from last August had a net profit of \$1,243.52. The group voted a budget of \$2,700 for the 2014 effort.

NASC's medals inventory contin-

ues to drop. No more are being made and the few in stock occasionally sell. There are a couple of silver ones left and few than 200 overall.

NASC President Jaramillo appeared to breathe a great sigh of relief when Harold Katzman agreed to take on the chair position for the Policies and Procedures (P&P) Committee.

Phil Iversen asked the assembly what to do with the remains of the Visual Education Library (slides, film, whatever). He was asked to make an inventory listing in the next few weeks to enable further discussion.

New Webmaster Jim Phillips reported that the [www.NASC.net](http://www.NASC.net) site was up and running and getting good reports. Go take a visit and let him know what you think!

Like CSNA, NASC also discussed the issue of the storage space, and agreed to dispose of unneeded materials in cooperation with CSNA. There was the discussion about separate spaces previously mentioned, or perhaps at least moving to another, smaller and less expensive space.

Our officer terms (which were mistakenly extended during the last term) should be put back on track by having a new installations of officer by the Golden State Coin Show in August of 2015. There will need to be some P&P changes to enable that.

The next NASC board meeting is scheduled for May 18 at 10AM at the Masonic facility in Arcadia. Be there or be square (or circular, polygonal, amorphous, or some other form)...



# We Get Letters...

*Got some thoughts you'd like to share with other readers, comments on articles or opinions you've read in TCN, or otherwise have something you'd like to say? Let your voice be heard and write to us via snail-mail to CSNA, PO Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711, or better yet drop us an e-mail at gregsburns@gmail.com...*

## Is That So?

Dear Mr. Burns,

I read Mr. Bill Febuary's response to my letter which appeared in the most recent issue of TCN. I do not wish to get into a "he said, he said" issue, but unfortunately he is wrong.

Neil Shafer's classic work of 1974, *Philippine Emergency and Guerilla Currency of World War II*, pp. 300 - 392, lists all the provincial and municipal issues for Samar. Mr. February states that there were ONLY (my emphasis) 1 P & 2 P notes and that they were issued on July 15, 1943.

Yet, on the provincial level, Shafer states (on pages 300 - 315) that Samar issued notes in the following denominations: 10 ctvs, 20 ctvs, 50 ctvs, 1 P, 2P, 5P, & 10 P in 1943; 1P, 2P, 5P & 20 P in 1944, for a total of sixteen different Samar provincial notes. On pages 315 to 394 issues, Shafer lists all the municipal issues.

A cursory examination of the municipal issues shows that these notes were issued in denominations from 5 ctvs up to 5 P. The dates include November 15, 1942; December 7, 1942; December 8, 1942; December



10, 1942; January 1, 1943; January 11, 1943; February 22, 1943; March 1, 1943; June 8, 1943; July 1, 1943; July 15, 1943; September 1, 1943; October 12, 1943; October 23, 1943; November 5, 1943; November 9, 1943; November 15, 1943; December 1, 1943; and December 3, 1943.

It should also be noted that Shafer presents illustrations of the majority of the Samar notes.

So, in conclusion, Samar issued a lot more notes, both provincial and municipal, and on a lot more dates than Mr. February states.

Finally, I should mention that I either have in my collection or have personally seen & examined most of the Samar notes mentioned by Shafer.

Yours truly,

—**Dr. Kenneth J. E. Berger**

*As mentioned before, Ken, it's good that we have a format that allows people to write in with material that clarifies and corrects whatever we've printed, and thank you for your information. I'll again conclude with some comments from Bill [GB]:*

*"I only wrote about what is on the currency that I have in my possession and tried to emphasize what I have*



*literature on about the currency and that was already published in several books.”*

## Napoleon Has a Fan!

Hi Greg,

*The California Numismatist* is looking good! Just went through the winter issue and especially enjoyed the layout on the Napoleon piece.

Happy New Year!

Best,

—**Steve Roach**

Editor, *Coin World*

*Thanks, Steve. Means a lot coming from you. Yes, the Napoleon piece was fun. Jim Wells did a terrific job on it. Happy New Year back atcha... GB*

## Sounds Like a Racket to Me

Mr. Burns,

Today I had the pleasure to read an account of the racketeer nickel and Josh Tatum’s alleged exploits thereto. I found it in the winter 2006 issue of TCN. I once printed a similar account during the early 1990s in *ACCent*, the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Coin Club.

At next Tuesday’s Alyeska Toastmasters I will recount a heavily embellished version of the story - and embellish without concern for the truth because, to my disappointment, it seems the Josh Tatum story is almost certainly apocryphal and the earliest use of the term “to josh” is not related to Joshua Tatum in any of his incarnations.

First please find the Merriam-Webster entry on the term “josh” - where a first known use is listed for 1845.

But further and perhaps more definitive, it seems that Patrick Feaster

engaged in a long search for evidence to confirm the Tatum story. In short:

1) Feaster found many contemporary (1880s) references to gold-plated nickels but none regarding the story details. He rightly conjectures: “that the Tatum story would certainly have circulated in the popular press if it had been at all widely known.”

2) The earliest reference to the story (that he reported finding) in print was in 1965.

3) “... there were only four Joshua Tatums in the 1880 US federal census, and none of them was a deaf mute!”

So, Tuesday I shall spin the tale in the best way I can (it involves a “ring”, several batches of gilt vee-nickels, a long trip through all of New York’s boroughs, a subsequent journey up the Atlantic Seaboard, arrest in Boston, trial in Manhattan, a long list of indignant witnesses—all shopkeepers and clerks—some of whom swore on cross-examination that Tatum asked for change. The defense’s one witness, Tatum’s personal physician who testified as to his mute-deafness, and subsequent immediate dismissal by the presiding judge.

Then I’ll say “unfortunately I’m joshing you, because the story is cut from whole cloth (or base metal, as it were)”, and recount the evidence I just offered you.

Best Regards,

—**Jim Susky**

*Hi Jim,*

*Thanks for the e-mail. Yes, the 1883 racketeer nickel and the story of Josh Tatum make for interesting intellectual fodder. I suspect the reporting of Josh’s escapades is simply a fascinating invention, but am always open*

to more positive proof. I think your implied conclusion is the best way to recount the tale: with a caveat the size of a barrel of salt (grin). Good luck with your talk...

Regards,  
Greg

## Double His Pay!

Hi Greg,

Just wanted to share some news from the San Bernardino County Coin Club (SBCCC). Treasurer Norm Sturges is celebrating his 40th year as treasurer of SBCCC. Norm started the job in 1974 and is still doing the treasurer job in 2014. Not many can say they have served a club that long doing the same job. Just thought it would be nice to share with the readers in the TCN.

Thanks,  
—**Tony Micciche**  
President, SBCCC

Wow, Tony. That must be some kind of a record. If you folks do any kind of a presentation as recognition of this please do send me a copy... Regards,  
Greg

## Just Checking In

Hi:

We are well and living in Eureka, CA. We do not collect coins, but we collect stamps. We do give coins to our two grandkids.

We both enjoy reading TCN. I was glad to see Angus Bruce receive the NASC Richard P. Goodson Award. He was a good choice. I saw the membership is slowing down. I hope the kids of today will some day go back to collecting.

Ralph is 84 years strong. Sally is in a wheelchair, but is still going places and volunteering when she can.

Sincerely,

—**Sally and Ralph Marx**

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## Medal Honors Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Ginsburg was selected as the 2013 Jewish-American Hall of Fame honoree. Eugene Daub sculpted the portrait of Ginsburg; it will be added to the display at the Virginia Holocaust Museum and be reproduced in limited edition medals. The over 2-inch medals have the rounded-trapezoidal shape that distinguishes the series. The reverse is inscribed with Ginsburg's remarks when she received the Albert D. Chernin Award: "I am a judge, born, raised, and proud of being a Jew. The demand for justice runs through the entirety of the Jewish history and Jewish tradition."

The limited editions of no more than 150 bronze (weighing 2.5 troy ounces), 85 pure silver (3 troy ounces), and 35 gold-plated pure silver (3 troy ounces) are offered to collectors for contributions of \$45, \$200 and \$250, respectively, sent to the non-profit Jewish-American Hall of Fame, 5189 Jeffdale Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91364. To order by telephone, call (818) 225-1348, or e-mail Mel Wacks at [directorjahf@yahoo.com](mailto:directorjahf@yahoo.com). Mention that you read this in TCN and take a 25% discount.



## Burglar Security Warning!

*Passed along by CSNA Librarian Don Hill*

This is a warning about rented storage lockers. Do you or your club have a storage locker? This is one CSNA member's unfortunate experience. Having too much stuff (according to his wife) he rented a locker for years storing camping equipment, prospecting equipment, some large furniture pieces he was hoping would become antiques someday and many other things. The storage facility was across town and he had little reason to visit it. Apparently someone with inside information from the storage facility learned that it was infrequently visited. That someone was able to cut off the lock and steal the valuables (a large truck would have been necessary). The thieves put another lock, same size and brand, on the storage room which concealed the crime. When the renter finally got into his locker, after cutting off the lock for which he did not have the key, some months had passed. This made recovery of the stolen items impossible.

Reporting to the police was of no help. There's nothing easily identifiable that was stolen, like a serial number or license plate. Homeowner's insurance isn't going to help much either. The storage facility says 'not their problem' and that the on-site managers have been changed.

My suggestion is that if you rent a storage locker you find one that is individually alarmed. Put the best possible lock on your locker. There are locks made that have a very small opening for the shackle. That makes cutting it more difficult and time consuming and may even damage the door in the process. Damage to the door should get the management's attention. Talk with your insurance agent about protecting your property, of course that applies to all of your possessions, not just those stored away from home.



## Freddie Grant Dies at 78

Freydis “Freddie” Patricia Grant, age 78, of Highland, passed away on January 5, in Loma Linda. She was predeceased by her husband of 54 years, William “Bill” Grant. She is survived by daughter Julie (John) Johnson; grandson Sean Johnson of San Bernardino; step grand daughter, Crystal (Rob) Kingery; and step great grandson Rune. Freddie was born in Vermont, raised in New Hampshire and served her country in the US Air Force. She joined CSNA in 1981 and became life member 59-11 in 2006.

She followed “#24” NASCAR, and in her years of retirement she loved to go on cruises and trips to Las Vegas with her family. A celebration of Freddie’s life was held January 11 at her daughters home (Julie and John Johnson), in San Bernardino.

Freddie was one of the chairs at the 2009 ANA Los Angeles convention, president of CSNA 2007-8, CSNA vice president 2005-6, historian, nominating committee member, assistant bourse chair, member of Upland Coin Club, Fontana United Numismatists, Hemet Numismatists, the San Bernardino County Coin Club,



*Freddie addressing the Southern Educational Symposium during her 2008 CSNA presidency. Notables such as the ANA's Barbara Gregory, publishing star Cliff Mishler, Smithsonian Assistant Curator Jim Hughes, and our own Michael Turrini joined her in San Diego as speakers.*

California Exonumist Society, NASC, CSNA, and quite likely many more that have been overlooked. She was an ANA Presidential Award winner and a member of the “CSNA Thespians” (theatrical group at CSNA banquets).

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## RSVP Leonard Paul Hirsch—LBCC

November 4, 1925 - January 14, 2014. Member of Long Beach Coin Club. Born in Chicago to Harry and Helen Hirsch and predeceased by his wife Trudy, Leonard is survived by daughters Karen (husband Manny), Anita, and Linda, brother Ephraim “Effie” (wife Annita), and granddaughters Sarah and Julie. Leonard was a creative man with some of the best puns ever heard. After an esteemed career as a construction manager, working on well-known buildings such as the Arco Towers, the Anaheim Hilton, and the UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute, he continued creating through his own watercolor painting and as an instructor of drawing at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. He was an avid and meticulous sailor, taking great pleasure in his boat, the *2nd Wish*. Leonard will be remembered with love as a man of great patience, abundant humor, and unconditional friendship.





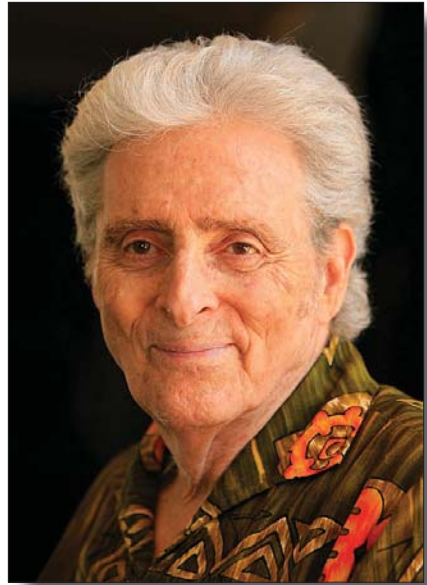
## Author Len Ratzman Passes

Leonard “Len” J. Ratzman passed away December 26, at the age of 80 in the city of Bellflower. Born on April 16, 1933, to Sam and Gertrudal Ratzman, Len is survived by his daughter, Geri, and granddaughter, Kelsi, both of Corona. The interment took place at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Cypress.

A graduate of Euclid Senior High in Euclid, Ohio (1951), and Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, Len was an officer on active duty in the US Air Force as a B-52 navigator from 1956 to 1963, and in that capacity was the unlucky participant in some aviation excitement: “On February 23, 1962, I was a navigator on a B-52 that took off from Westover AFB on a ‘Chrome Dome’ mission. About 10 to 11 hours after takeoff (over Baffin Bay near Thule AFB [Greenland] at approximate coordinates 76°31’52”N 068°42’11”W), a malfunctioning hatch gave way and our commander, Major Earl Caril was killed when the result of the rapid decompression sucked him out at 31,000 feet altitude without a parachute through the hatch opening.” The plane was carrying nukes and Thule weather was bad: blowing snow and zero visibility. A minor electronic difficulty had been noted while the plane was on a training mission, the Air Force said. The commander’s body was never found, but the rest of the crew survived, and damage to the aircraft was minor.

Len’s wife died of cancer many years ago at the age of 33, and then one of his two daughters died of cancer, also at age 33.

Len loved buffalo nickels, as described in his debut TCN article, “The



Buffaloes That Never Were” (summer, 2007 issue). Len went on to write many more award-winning articles for TCN thereafter, reflecting the broad array of topics that piqued his interest. Daughter Geri writes, “My Dad so enjoyed his writing, and coins have always been his passion even before the writings. I have bronze buffaloes now from his love of that nickel. His many articles were his pride and joy and I thank you greatly for making that possible.”

Len’s writings besides TCN included *Whitman Coin Journal*, “The Buffalo Nickel: a 50-Year Mystery”, May/June 1964, prior to which he met Chief John Big Tree (the Seneca/Iroquois Indian), and a topic on which Len was an expert.

Len was also a Corvette enthusiast, owning and enjoying one himself for many years, and his display of buffalo nickels won the NASC best-in-show award in the mid-1960’s. Len was one of a kind, and we’ll miss him dearly.

# Around the State...



Club Reporter—North

Sally Johnson

P.O. Box 10416

San Jose, CA 95157-1416

SallyJohnsonTCN@aol.com

Club Reporter—South

Virginia Bourke

10601 Vista Camino

Lakeside, CA 92040-1605

vlbourke@cox.net

**Ginny's Gleanings:** Most of the clubs in the south have been partying and installing new officers. A big *thank you* to all those clubs who mail me their bulletin. I do appreciate it. The Glendale Coin Club turns 55 this year! Wow! They have issued a beautiful medal to commemorate this event and you need to contact them asap if you want one. The only US coin produced at all 8 mints is the \$5 gold piece. West Point produced the \$5 coin in 1984. Thank you, Al Hoogeveen, for this information. On a sadder note, Freddie Grant, the girl with the winning smile, always friendly and always willing to help out, and loved by all, is no longer with us. She belonged to many different clubs and associations and leaves behind enormous holes that may never be filled. Remember, "Life should not be lived; it should be celebrated"—Osho

**Sally's Sayings:** Looking back over this past year we welcome 2014 and a full plate of shows and activities. I miss that fewer club members are involved in our clubs and shows and not taking an overall interest. I see no last names on the people we write about and can't identify them, so as I look back through articles and documents, those names now mean nothing to me. I don't know who they are anymore and no way to find out. That history is gone forever! Also, I would encourage all clubs to post in their newsletters a small note to indicate their club show dates each and every month. This is a great way to advertise and it doesn't cost the club anything. I know that clubs are struggling with maintaining their shows but it is up to us to please our dealer base and show we are making an effort to support them or they will go to other shows that do take care of business.

## Club Reports...

**WOODLAND HILLS COIN CLUB** members had a wonderful holiday party in December. **Larry Buck** brought in turkey and all brought in potluck dishes to share. **Phil Iversen** provided the January entertainment using a CSNA video, *Liberty Seated Coinage*, taken from an earlier CSNA Educational Symposium.

**WHITTIER COIN CLUB** members had a very successful silent auction fundraiser at their annual Christmas party in December. **Roy Iwata** presented the January entertainment, a video on *US Colonial Coinage*. **Sharon Arnt** presented the program in February teaching the fine art of origami. She taught everyone how to fold a crisp US note into a shirt and pants.

**VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB** New officers were installed in December. They are **President Donald Berry**, **1st Vice President John Duff**, **2nd Vice President Jeff Klemzak**, **Secretary Tammy Berry**, **Treasurer Walt Ostromecki** and **Editor Bob Thompson**. Members played *Bingo* for silver or gold prizes and had a spectacular raffle of gold and silver rounds. Founding member **Jerry Reinoehl** came all the way from North Carolina to attend the December meeting. **CSNA Vice President Howard Feltham** presented the January program, *The Lincoln Cent*, using Powerpoint. Nationally known silver dollar expert and VAM specialist **Jeff Oxman** spoke in February on *The Silver Dollar Market Place*. Members are gearing up for the March coin show.

**VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** will be having its forty-first coin show on May 5 at the Vallejo Veterans memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan, off Tennessee at I-80, in Vallejo, CA, hours 9-4pm, with free admission/parking.

**UPLAND COIN CLUB** members recalled their childhood love of Cracker Jack from the presentation by **NASC President and SBCCC Past-President of Alex Jaramillo** who is an avid collector of all things Cracker Jack in November. *Bingo* and *Secret Santa* were the highlights at the annual Christmas party dinner. New officers are **Earl Cross**, president; **Marco Garcia**, Treasurer; and **Secretary Janet Reeves**. **Jackie Kahler** was the thrilled winner of the special silver eagle prize. **Harold Katzman** provided the January program talking about *Plates of Significance* and why they mean so much to him. The February meeting featured **Albertus Hoogveen** speaking on *Collecting Short Sets*.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB** had its Christmas party and distributed junior gift bags, and any remaining bags were auctioned off with the proceeds going to the club. There were five bingo games played for a gold 2 peso, Morgan silver dollar, proof 2013 silver panda, and a 2013 silver eagle. The final game had a cash prize. The club's show will be June 21-22 at the Modesto Centre Plaza. We still need volunteers for set-up, help at the greeting table, selling raffle tickets, tear down and more. This is a great way to help promote the hobby. Our 2014 club silver medals are in, so see **Lloyd Solomon**, and dues are now due.

**SAN JOSE COIN CLUB** was honored by a visit and gifts from Santa. Congratulations to **Chuck White** and **LaVonne Spencer**, and **Ron Ishizaki** and **Connie Michel** on their marriages. Donations were collected by **Ryan Johnson** for the Second Harvest Food Bank. Get well wishes to **Dennis Jow**. Condolences for three great guys who will be missed, **Frank Sabatelli**, **Victor Lazzaro**, and **Charles Colburn**, who recently passed away. SJCC put on another fantastic show this year. Our educational symposium was a huge success again with **Susan Trask** on *Every Civil War Token Tells a Story* and **Herb Miles** on *Women of the Revolutionary War*. Thanks to **Chuck Call** for his January talk on Mexican libertads. And thanks, **Ed Sins**, for writing *A King's Ransom, the First French Franc* for the program. Thanks to **Rick Hagen** who took on the job of refreshments for our club. Our elections and medal designs are coming up in April.

**SAN FRANCISCO COIN CLUB** continues to meet monthly on the 4th Friday, with a no-host dinner at 6:30pm, and an informal gathering thereafter at the Tennessee Grill in San Francisco. Dues are \$10 and due by March 1st. Also, cash donations would be welcomed. January *Show 'n Tell* theme was "Early Coinage". February's will be "Something Gold", and March's "Small Denominations". Big kudos to longtime member and booster, **Kenneth K. Takahashi**, who's made a quite nice cash donation and has been paying our club's ANA annual dues. Thanks again, Ken!

**SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** members enjoyed the lasagna prepared by **Treasurer Ken Spindler** at the December potluck. The donation auction in November netted just under \$275 and will be used for gifts and a special award to the winner of the "participation drawing". **Jim Wells** won the prize at the installation dinner. **Mike Shaw** brought in a grouping of gold and silver medals presented to Joseph Dixon (1799-1869). Among Dixon's many inventions was the pencil, which is still made today by the Ticonderoga-Dixon Company. **Larry Baber** shared a large assortment of medals and souvenirs from the 1914/15 Panama-California Expo held in San Diego. Jim Wells proudly displayed his most recent award, the "G. Lee Kuntz Best-In-Show" medal beautifully engraved by **George Moore**. The installation dinner at Marie Callender's was excellent. Featured guest speaker, **Steve Fahrlander**, did a presentation on Buffalo nickel errors, and said they are still out there and easy to spot.

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB** members were educated and entertained with *The History of Ted Binion and His Hoard of Silver Dollars* by **Jim Soulliere** in November. The meeting-dinner in December was held at The Original Cottage Family Restaurant. Member **Ken Crum** provided the program in January, *The Wonderful World of Disney*. Ken also donated decorated trees and flower arrangements to the Christmas dinner.

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB's** installation dinner was held in January at the Lake Natomas Inn. Speaker **Larry Rolufs**, retired director of the



Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and deputy director of the US Mint, will most likely speak about the new \$100 dollar bill among other things. SVCC has been selected to host the Northern Educational Symposium for CSNA in October.

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB** remembered their friend **Willie Quarante** with a special award after his passing. Willie was known for his warmth, humor, kindness, and collecting interests—Indian cents, error coins, and holey coins. He was a stalwart volunteer for the club, always helping however he could. The Redwood Empire Coin Club “Willie Quarante Memorial Award” for outstanding service was presented, for the first time, to **Rich Wright**. Rich has also been selflessly volunteering for the club, running the junior meetings, working the coin shows, giving talks. His help is greatly appreciated and recognized with this award. Redwood welcomed three new members: **Anthony and David V. and Bruce C. Bill G.** brought in an 1853 dollar in MS-63 with a great story to go with it. **Charlie C.** talked about an electrum coin he recently purchased. **Phil A.** talked about how he obtained an 1830 capped bust half dollar.

**PENINSULA COIN CLUB** has received two design proposals for their annual medals. The membership will vote for their choice during the February meeting. If you are not able to be present to vote you can send an e-mail to **Fred**, specifying your preference: fredvdh@gmail.com. Medal order forms will be available for the medals in the March bulletin. Remember, elections are coming up and will be held in April. Also, dues are due with the start of the New Year. Raffle prizes for this month are a BU 1935 walking liberty half, BU 1948 D Franklin half, fine 1886 seated dime, AU 1936-S buffalo nickel, and an XF 1889 Indian cent. The exhibit prize is an uncirculated 1938 D Jefferson nickel; the youth prize is a 1986 US mint set, and the door prize a fine 1909 Barber dime.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION** had a great turn out of over 100 attendees for the December Joint Christmas Party from sponsoring and local clubs. This year was the 27th annual event and **Mike Browne** was the emcee. The party included a dinner, many presentations and awards to attendees, party bags and door prizes along with a major raffle with prizes generally valued at \$1500 or more. NCNA would also like to remind clubs of the “Gordon Russell Donnell Award” and also the “Ronald Miller Memorial Award” which can be awarded each and every year.

**LONG BEACH COIN CLUB** members learned about compiling a *US Type Set 20 and 25 Cent Coins* from **Les Watson** in November. **Jerry Kleeb** shared his *axumite*, a sixth-century bronze coin from Ethiopia in December. Members had a well-attended installation dinner at Coco’s in January. **Past President Howard Feltham** was presented with an ANA award from **ANA President Walter Ostromecki**. Congratulations, Howard. **David Schwager’s** February program was *Four Key Dates in US Numismatics*. The club is saddened by the passing of its long time member, **Leonard Paul Hirsch**.

**INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO** members were blown away by all the various types of German notgeld issued during WWI in the program presented by **Secretary-Treasurer Joe Yager** in November. New Hampshire member **Bob Fritsch** always provides a quiz on the monthly theme and based his quiz on Karl Goetz's medals. (Ref. karlgoetz.com website.) **Ken Aring**, **Ken Spindler**, and **Mike Shaw** all gave lengthy *Show and Tell* presentations on the theme of Germanic coins. Renowned numismatist, collector, and coin dealer, **Greg Thompson** was the special guest speaker at the January installation dinner and shared his passion for jetons, which were used for counting for centuries using the Roman numeral numbering system. He demonstrated how to count using that system. *Africa* will be the February theme.

**HEMET NUMISMATISTS** members enjoyed Marie Callender's cuisine in December where they installed new officers **President Ken Busby**, **Vice President Jerry Bodenhorn**, **Treasurer Mary Anne Bodenhorn**, and **Secretary Jim Phillips**. Congratulations to **Angus Bruce** for receiving the coveted NASC Richard P. Goodson award.

**HEARTLAND COIN CLUB** **Vice President John Weiss** pulled off a very successful coin show in December in a new venue with a short notice. Well done, John. **Jose Gallego** was his right-hand man. The new location has been deemed bigger and better. The Christmas potluck featured a large donation auction and great prizes for the members. The raffle consisted only of key date coins, gold and silver coins, as well as a \$100 note. As usual, **Charles Fares** is leading the pack with all the correct answers to **Vice President Andrew Woodruff's** challenging quizzes. **Ken Stempien** has been the president for many years and is doing such a good job, he can't find a replacement. He will be installed at Coco's in February along with 1st Vice President Andrew Woodruff, **2nd Vice President John Weiss**, **Treasurer Diane Barbieri**, **Secretary Ginny Bourke**, and Corresponding Secretary Jose Gallego.

**GLENDALE COIN CLUB** The October show was an outstanding success. New member **Dr. Joseph Michelson** presented a talk on the world coins featuring doctors. Lucky **Don Berry** won the October top prize, a proof 2001 mermaid coin from Palau. Prizes for the winners of *Bingo* were desirable coins. **Jay Robinson** won the proof 1/10 oz. American gold eagle. This club has a new, very beautiful medal commemorating their 55-year existence. The program in February featured a video on the *SS Republic* treasure ship that sank in 1865. It was loaded with California gold and silver and was recovered during the years 2003-04 using state-of-the-art technology.

**FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** celebrated the end of the year with a banquet meeting consisting of salmon or steak, sides, salad and dessert. Some members brought unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots drive. There was also a gift exchange as well. Our now former-president, **Ken Richert**, turned the reins

of the club over to our new 2014 president, **Mr. James Obler**. Congratulations James! **Dennis Olswang** talked about the grading/certification service ANACS noting the difference of their old and new holders and how he took advantage of their grading service provided through their table set up at their last show in October. **Phil Plettner** shared his replica of a George Washington peace medal that was made sometime between 1880 and 1890; it carried the original date of 1793 on it. **Randy Clifton** shared his New Orleans Morgan dollar set that he put together after buying a Capitol holder for New Orleans Morgan's at a past FNS *White Elephant Auction*. Also, **James Johnson** talked about currency that was used and developed in the Mormon territories.

**FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB** enjoyed a Joint Christmas Party with the Vallejo Coin Club at the Vallejo Museum this year. **Jon Marish** shared the five-star generals commemorative set. **Michael S. Turrini** displayed a Pan-American lottery ticket and **Scott Griffin** showed his 1934-D doubled-die buffalo nickel. The raffle pot was \$240 and raffle winners were **Oscar Reyna**, Michael Turrini, **Gene Berry**, **Bob Florkowski**, **Richard Blum**, **Kevin Quenga**, **Maria Stillwagon**, Jon Marish, and **Paul Romesburg**. The 50/50 pot was \$55 and the winner was Jon Marish. The consolation prize was a slabbed Jefferson dollar won by Paul Romesburg. The door prize winners were Bob Florkowski, Gene Berry, **Bob Luna**, Kevin Quenga, and **Elaine Florkowski**. Special thanks to Gene Berry for his donations to the raffle.

**DOWNEY NUMISMATISTS** members discussed the *Future of the Bullion Market* at the December meeting. **Al Hoogveen** provides the entertainment to this club and always has something interesting to share.

**DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** had a Christmas party instead of a general meeting. The party was held at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill and **Bill Hickman** was the master of ceremonies. The "Gordon Russell Donnell Award" was given to both **Mike Stanley** and **James Laird**. **CSNA President Michael S. Turrini** presented **Brad Lee** with a CSNA President's Medal. The January speaker was **Bradley Pucket** on *Collection Presentation and Inflation Analysis*. He gave a presentation using videos featuring the Weimer Republic and Zimbabwe's inflationary money. **Charlie Ludvik** will give a talk on *Numismatics and the American Space Program*.

**DELTA COIN CLUB** welcomes the newly elected club officers for 2014. **President Ed H.**, **Vice President John H.**, **Recording Secretary Joyce K.**, **Corresponding Secretary Ted G.**, **Treasurer Ron K.**, **Raffle Chairman Harold H.**, and **Social Chairman Cliff R.** Congratulations to all of you! The club's annual dinner was held at UJ's Restaurant with the master of ceremonies role being conducted by **Michael S. Turrini**, and with his side-kick **Lloyd G. Chang** as the official photographer for the event. All the club's officers were properly installed and others were named to their newly found duties. The annual picnic

has been reserved and will be held on July 27 at the Micke Grove Park in Lodi. Don't forget that with the New Year dues are due.

**CUPERTINO COIN CLUB** served Togo sandwiches for their Christmas get-together and all youth in attendance received lots of goodies. **Harold Woron** presented a talk on *Treasury Seals*, and talked about the three items that must be on every piece of currency, including the seal. He said our seal is older than our Constitution as it was used by the treasury under the Articles of Confederation. The seal has changed color on currency. It started as red, then gold, then blue, and finally to green. Big thanks to **Peter Griffith** for his donation to the youth program. Special thanks to **Keith Scott** for his talk at the January meeting on seated liberties. Elections will be held in March for the board of directors for 2014-2015. Also, in March will be the medal design contest, so start thinking about a design.

**COVINA COIN CLUB** *Buy, Sell, or Trade Night* was featured at the November meeting. In December, members enjoyed their annual holiday party and played the *Dice Game*. An extended show and tell made up the January program. **Ron Stone** was awarded the club's highest honor; the Walter H. Menegatti Award. **Howard Feltham**, CSNA vice president, awarded a surprised **Helen Desens** the 25-year CSNA membership token.

**COINEERS COIN CLUB** – Members responded to an interesting theme in November, *High Face Value, Base Metal Coins*. Paper money did not qualify! The new officers are **President Wayne Joy**, **Vice President Chris Beyerle**, **Treasurer/Editor Andrew Woodruff**, and **Secretary Laura Merrill**. New to the board, **Chris Dinanno** was also installed in January.

**CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB** The donation auction in November netted enough revenue to allow **Steve Fahlender** to get really nice coins for the Christmas party/potluck in December. Every attending member got a prize. The dinner in January had **President Dave Jones**, **Vice President Steve Fahlender**, **Secretary Ginny Bourke**, and **Treasurer Al Zimmer**, installed.

**BURBANK COIN CLUB** members were entertained in November by **Phil Iversen's** presentation *World Paper Money – Part 1*. Phil will present *Part 2* in the future. The Christmas party was an outstanding success. A plan is afoot to determine the date for their annual coin appraisal event, which brings in many new people.

**BAY CITIES COIN CLUB** This club is justly very proud of **Eagle Scout and YN Ryan Petersen** who has earned (so far) 51 merit badges. Congratulations, Ryan. **Scott G.** obtained a \$1000 bag of silver coins and found a rare standing liberty quarter. **Phil Chang** and **Garn Anderson** provided enough refreshments to feed a small army at the November meeting. **Neil Hoffman** and **Gordon Wil-**



**vang** were so inspired they outdid them in December. The Christmas party also featured the very popular *Bing-O*. **Tracy G.** won a 2007 silver proof set. The Christmas tree decorated with real coins was won by **Rob P.** and **Gordon W.** while the wreath with coins was won by **Tracy G.** New officers were installed at the banquet held at the Torrance Hometown Buffet.

**ALAMEDA COIN CLUB** The coin of the month for December will be an Indian head penny. **Kenny** won the attendance prize and **Mike** won the coin of the month. The month of January was a winged Liberty-head dime. The club held their annual Christmas party at Straw Hat Pizza and everyone in attendance received a commemorative holiday token that was designed by **Tom**, our outstanding president. The gathering was a fun-filled social event and everyone had a great time. February was a Barber dime. **Bill** won both the attendance and coin prize. Congratulations Bill! It is with deep sadness that we inform you that **Bob Sturn** passed away on December 26th. Bob was one of the founders of the Alameda Coin Club and over the years he served as a bourse chairman for some of our club's coin shows; he was also the club's secretary and the editor of *The Thick & Thin Times* for at least the past 12 years. He regularly attended our meetings and was also a member of other local coin clubs. We will miss Bob's big smile and warm heart, and our thoughts and prayers go out to Bob's family.

## Enjoying Your Hobby?

Are you grateful for the fun you've had over the years?

Consider the enjoyment future generations can have if they're properly introduced to numismatics. Sure would be nice if there was an organization that was set-up to help spread the word...

*Hey, that's just what CSNA and NASC do!*

And now, you can help them to ensure that others get the message about our terrific educational hobby by making a tax-deductible donation today. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 9), identify your gift as a "fund-raising donation", and then receive acknowledgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.



# Directory of Member Clubs

*Changes should be sent by a club officer via mail to the applicable association's corresponding secretary. CSNA and NASC membership status is indicated in parentheses at the end of each club's listing.*

- Alameda Coin Club**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:45 p.m., Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 1763, Alameda, CA 94501-0202. (CSNA)
- Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., El Segundo Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo; mailing address: c/o Jack von Bloeker III, 5714 Apia Drive, Cypress, CA 90630. (NASC)
- Burbank Coin Club (formerly Lockheed Coin Club)**—meets 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Joslyn Center (Nutrition Room), 1301 W. Olive Ave., Burbank; mailing address: c/o Don Fujitani, 215 Cedar Heights Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. (NASC)
- California Exonomist Society**—meets twice a year during the semi-annual CSNA Conventions; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; e-mail: Emperor1@juno.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- California State Numismatic Association**—meets up to twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: Don Hill, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590; e-mail: csnalibrary@gmail.com; Web site: www.calcoin.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Chula Vista Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., San Diego County Library, Bonita Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Web site: www.chulavistacoinclub.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Coiners Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA)
- Covina Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., San Dimas Royal Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 1630 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (CSNA, NASC)
- Cupertino Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., West Valley Presbyterian Church, Parish Hall, 6191 Bollinger Avenue, Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; Web site: www.cupertinoclub.com. (CSNA)
- Delta Coin Club**—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 216, Victor CA 95253-0216. (CSNA)
- Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Police Department meeting room, 1350 Galindo St., Concord; contact: James Laird, president, (925) 200-2276; e-mail: info@diablocoinclub.org; Web site: www.diablocoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Downey Numismatists**—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)
- Downtown Coin Club**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Downtown Coin, 111 W. Telegraph St., Suite 100, Carson City, Nevada 89703; mailing address: same. (CSNA)

- Fairfield Coin Club**—meets 4th Wednesday (except December), 7:00 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall #1, corner of First and Kentucky Streets, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094. (CSNA)
- Fremont Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Elks Club, #2121, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538-0140; Web site: [www.FremontCoinClub.org](http://www.FremontCoinClub.org) (CSNA)
- Fresno Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Temple, 2992 East Clinton, Fresno; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525. (CSNA)
- Gateway Coin Club**—meets 1st & 3rd Thursday, 7:15 p.m., Bear Creek Community Church, 1717 East Olive Ave. (Olive at Parsons), Merced; mailing address: P.O. Box 3101, Merced, CA 95344-1101. (CSNA)
- Glendale Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Blvd., Glendale; mailing address: GCC, c/o Yahalom, P.O. Box 388, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0388; Web site: [www.GlenCoin.com](http://www.GlenCoin.com). (NASC)
- Greater Orange County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Ave.; mailing address: 2032 Korrnat Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; e-mail: [bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net); phone: (714) 546-0931; Web site: [www.oocoinclub.com](http://www.oocoinclub.com). (CSNA, NASC)
- Heartland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Rec. Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: Jose M. Gallego, P.O. Box 191448, San Diego, CA 92150; e-mail: [jmgallego@losgallego.com](mailto:jmgallego@losgallego.com). (CSNA, NASC)
- Hemet Numismatists**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; mailing address: P.O. Box 36, Hemet, CA 92546. (CSNA, NASC)
- International Numismatic Society of San Diego**—meets 4th Wednesday, 5:45 p.m., North Park Adult Rec. Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176; Web site: [www.inssd.org](http://www.inssd.org). (CSNA, NASC)
- Leisure World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Austin Overholtz, 1331 Pelham Road, #67A, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (NASC)
- Liberty Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Web site: [LNS.ANAclubs.org](http://LNS.ANAclubs.org). (CSNA)
- Long Beach Coin Club**—meets 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m., Millikan High School Cafeteria, 2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach; mailing address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808. (CSNA, NASC)
- Northern California Numismatic Association**—meets annually during Nor-Cal coin shows in various communities; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; e-mail: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com). (CSNA)
- Numismatic Association of Southern California**—meets four times per year; mailing address: Harold Katzman, P.O. Box 3382, Tustin, CA 92781-3382; e-mail: [haroldkatzman@yahoo.com](mailto:haroldkatzman@yahoo.com); Web site: [www.NASC.net](http://www.NASC.net). (CSNA, NASC)
- Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 457656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Web site: [www.pcns.org](http://www.pcns.org). (CSNA)
- Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists**—meets twice a year during PAN conventions at various locations; mailing address: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131; e-mail: [pancoins@gmail.com](mailto:pancoins@gmail.com); Web site: [www.pancoins.org](http://www.pancoins.org). (CSNA)
- Redwood Empire Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: P.O. Box 9013, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0013; Web site: [www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com](http://www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com) (CSNA)

- Sacramento Valley Coin Club**—meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 5026 Don Julio Blvd., North Highlands; mailing address: P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816; Web site: [www.sacvalcc.org](http://www.sacvalcc.org). (CSNA)
- San Bernardino County Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Highland Senior Center, 3102 E. Highland Ave., Highland, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 2745, San Bernardino, CA 92406. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council**—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 10:00 a.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Web site: [www.coinarama.org](http://www.coinarama.org). (CSNA)
- San Diego Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard St., San Diego; mailing address: Lenker, P.O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 92166-6909. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Francisco Coin Club**—meets 4th Friday, no-host dinner 6:30 p.m. at the Tennessee Grill, 1128 Taraval, San Francisco, followed by an informal meeting in same location; mailing address: POB 880994, San Francisco, CA 94188-0994. (CSNA)
- San Jose Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Web site: [www.sanjosecoinclub.org](http://www.sanjosecoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Santa Maria Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Edwards Community Center, 809 Panther Drive, Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA)
- Stanislaus County Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-1672; Web site: [www.stancocoinclub.org](http://www.stancocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Upland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Magnolia Rec. Center, 651 W. 15th Street, Upland; mailing address: P.O. Box 8272, Alta Loma, CA 91701. (CSNA, NASC)
- Vallejo Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador (between Florida and Georgia), Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; e-mail: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com); phone: (707) 642-0216 or (707) 246-6327. (CSNA)
- Verdugo Hills Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)
- Visalia Coin Club**—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Visalia Senior Citizen Center, 310 North Locust, Visalia; mailing address: 204 West Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291. (CSNA)
- Western Token Society (WESTS)**—meets annually; mailing address: P.O. Box 723, Merced, CA 95341. (CSNA)
- Western Wooden Money Club**—meets at various San Francisco Bay area local coin shows, about four times per year; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 3467, Fairfield, CA 94533-3467; e-mail: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com). (CSNA)
- Whittier Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., at the Santa Fe Spring library on Slauson Ave just east of Norwalk Blvd, Whittier; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Avenue, La Habra, CA 90631. (CSNA, NASC)
- Woodland Hills Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 21240 Burbank Blvd. (East Gate), Building 30, Woodland Hills; mailing address: Walt Wegner, Box 521, Woodland Hills, CA 91365; e-mail: [wlwegner@msn.com](mailto:wlwegner@msn.com). (CSNA, NASC)

# NASC Membership Application

Membership Category	Cost
Junior (under 18)	\$10
Individual	\$25
Individual (3 years)	\$70
Club	\$30 or three years for \$85
Sustaining (lifetime)	\$300 (50 years of age or older)
Sustaining (lifetime)	\$500 (under 50 years of age)

**Includes subscription to  
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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I herewith make application for membership in the association subject to its constitution and by-laws,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail along with check/money-order for the amount of the dues noted above to:

Numismatic Association of Southern California  
Attn: Harold Katzman, Corresponding Secretary  
P.O. Box 3382  
Tustin, CA 92781



## Glenn Schinke

NUMISMATISTS

*Please visit us at an upcoming Coin Show*

**Mar 8-9 Buena Park Coin Show**  
**Mar 27-30 Baltimore Expo, Baltimore**  
**Convention Center**  
**April 4-6 LVNS, Palace Station Hotel**  
**Las Vegas**  
**April 10-13 Chicago International Coin Fair**

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**April 25-27 Santa Clara Coin Show, Santa**  
**Clara Convention Center**  
**May 2-4 PNNA, Tukwila, WA**  
**May 9-11 Denver Coin Expo, Denver**  
**June 5-7 Long Beach Expo, Long Beach**  
**June 29 Van Nuys Paper Money &**  
**Collectible**

P.O. Box 52  
Montrose, CA 91021

Schinke4-Bzzz@Yahoo.com

(626) 446 - 6774  
Cell: (626) 221 - 4606



# Calendar of Events



*...mark your calendars  
and plan to attend!*

Note: our usual source of event information (*Beedon's California Show List* on the Internet) is having problems. We're not sure when, if ever, Gary will be able to get it fixed. In the meantime we'll start pulling our information off of CSNA's events page at [www.Calcoin.org](http://www.Calcoin.org). If anyone would care to suggest an alternate resource, please let me know... Thanks, Greg ([gregsburns@gmail.com](mailto:gregsburns@gmail.com))

- April 12      **CSNA Southern Educational Symposium**, see advertising on page 50 of this issue of TCN.
- April 12      **West Valley Coin and Currency Show**, Masonic Lodge, 19620 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, 9AM-5PM, admission \$3 (kids free), free parking, [www.losangelespapermoneyclub.com](http://www.losangelespapermoneyclub.com).
- May 2-3      **Sacramento Valley Coin Club Annual Spring Coin Show**, Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Dr., Sacramento, 10AM-6PM on the 2nd and 10 AM-4 PM on the 3rd, free parking. Robert Shanks, 916-204-5168.
- May 3      **Santa Maria Coin and Collectibles Show**, Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Avenue, Santa Maria, 9AM-3PM, [www.santamariacoinclub.com](http://www.santamariacoinclub.com) or [president@santamariacoinclub.com](mailto:president@santamariacoinclub.com).
- May 4      **42nd Vallejo Coin and Collectibles Show**, Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Dr., Michael S. Turrini, 707-246-6327 or [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com).
- May 17      **Heartland Coin Show**, Guardian Angels Catholic Church, 9310 Dalehurst Road, Santee, John Weiss, 619-249-9299 or 619-448-9702 ext. 4, [www.heartlandcoinclub.com](http://www.heartlandcoinclub.com).
- May 30-June 1      **Pyramid Coin and Collectibles Show**, Double Tree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Pl., San Jose, Fri/Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 10AM-4PM, \$4 admission (\$2 with coupon—see page 47), kids free, Ray Johnson, 408-598-7772 or [pyramidshows@aol.com](mailto:pyramidshows@aol.com).
- July 12-13      **CSNA 132nd Convention and Coin Show**, Veteran's Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Ln, Vallejo, Saturday 9 AM-5 PM, Sunday 9 AM-4 PM, Fred van den Haak, 650-380-4181 or [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com).
- July 26-27      **Fremont Coin Club 42nd Annual Show**, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Dr., Vince Lacariere, 510-792-1511.
- August 10      **Fairfield Coin Club 25th Annual Coin Show**, Fairfield Community Center, 1000 East Kentucky, admission \$1, [fccjoni@yahoo.com](mailto:fccjoni@yahoo.com) or 707-384-3793.

- August 23-24 **NASC Golden State Coin Show**, Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, Kay Lenker, 619-222-8739, free parking, coins for kids includes penny-squishing machine, educational forum and exhibits! See details in next issue of TCN.
- September 14 **Livermore Valley Coin Club 4th Fall Coin Show**, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, 925-422-3794.
- October 3-4 **Sacramento Valley Coin Club Annual Spring Coin Show**, Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Dr., Sacramento, 10AM-6PM on the 3rd and 10 AM-4 PM on the 4th, free parking. Robert Shanks, 916-204-5168.
- October 9-10 **Diablo Numismatic Society Fall Coin Show**, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek, 9AM-4PM on the 9th and 9AM-4PM on the 10th.
- October 11 **CSNA Northern Educational Symposium**, details to be announced in the next issue of TCN.
- October 18-19 **Delta Coin Club 50th Annual Coin Show**, Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, Ruben Smith III, 209-982-5961 or rubensmith@hotmail.com.
- November 2 **Penninsula Coin Club 35th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show**, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose, fredvdh@gmail.com.
- November 22-23 **CSNA Southern Convention**, details to be announced in the next issue of TCN.

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# CSNA

## Elected Officers, 2013-2015

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Vice-President.....	Howard Feltham hfelt@aol.com, 2550 Pacific Coast Hwy, Space # 229, Torrance California 90505
Corresponding Secretary.....	Donald L. Hill csnlibrary@gmail.com, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA, 94590-0400
Recording Secretary.....	Lila Anderson lila@joelscoins.com, P.O. Box 365, Grover Beach, CA 93483-0365
Treasurer.....	Joel Anderson joel@joelscoins.com, P.O. Box 365, Grover Beach, CA 93483-0365

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Director of Education.....	Phil Iversen phil_iversen@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413
Editor.....	Greg Burns gregsburns@gmail.com, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711
Historian.....	Joyce Kuntz joycemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

## These Non-Voting Appointees Perform Special Duties for the Association

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Medals/Events/NASC Representative.....	Joyce Kuntz joycemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640
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NCNA Representative.....	James H. Laird P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA, 04590-0410
Webmaster.....	Lloyd G. Chan For most current contact info please visit <a href="http://www.CalCoin.org">www.CalCoin.org</a>
Emerging Numismatist Coordinator.....	Michael S. Turrini emperori@juno.com, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

## Officers Emeritus

President Emeritus, Al Hall

# NASC

## Officers, 2012-2014

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Historian.....	<TBD>

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Awards Recognition Event.....	George Moore
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Gold Benefit Drawing.....	Harold Katzman
Golden State Coin Show Committee.....	Mary Yahalom, Kay Edgerton Lenker, Alex Jaramillo
Golden State Coin Show Banquet.....	George Moore
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Medals.....	Harold Katzman
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# Writing for *The California Numismatist*



**Articles**—should be relevant to coin collecting or coin club experiences, and are accepted with the understanding that they are unrestricted from publication. Please indicate if the article has been previously published, and if so, where. Digital files are preferred via e-mail to [gregsburns@gmail.com](mailto:gregsburns@gmail.com); typed copy is also acceptable mailed to *The California Numismatist*, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711. The author's name and contact information should appear on the first page or on an accompanying cover letter or e-mail.

*The California Numismatist* reserves the right to edit all items for format or content. As a guide to the general writing style typically preferred for use in our publication, please see the journal's website at [www.calnumismatist.com](http://www.calnumismatist.com).

**Images**—relevant to the articles and of a resolution suitable for publication (generally 300dpi) are appreciated. If the author lacks photographic equipment, material may be sent to *The California Numismatist* for reproduction, but *only* with prior arrangement. The preferred format for digital files is JPG or TIF, though other formats may also be acceptable (GIF, PNG, etc.) depending upon the editor's capabilities at the time.

**Author's Biography**—New authors interested in providing the information should submit a brief biography (150 words or less) that includes pertinent data, such as place of birth, professional background, hobby interests and affiliations, and numismatic awards and accomplishments.

**Annual Awards**—Each contributor to *The California Numismatist* is eligible for consideration for prestigious literary awards. These awards are conferred annually and are accompanied by the eternal gratitude of the editor.

**Next deadline for material submission: May 15, 2014**

## Advertising

**General**—*The California Numismatist* is an educational journal published four times per year and distributed to all California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and Numismatic Association of Southern California (NASC) members as a membership benefit. Circulation is approximately 800 and most issues are 80 pages. All advertising is accepted subject to the approval of the editor.



**Guidelines**—Digital files preferred, but we are happy to make your ad up for you at no charge with sufficient advance notice. Digital proofs of your ad can be provided upon request and at that time ad revisions may be requested. Annual ads may be changed at each issue.

**Payment**—Cancellations of annual contracts will be rebilled at the prevailing per-issue rate. Payment should be made to "CSNA" or "NASC" and forwarded to the advertising manager prior to ad placement.

Rates Space	B/W	B/W	Color	Color
	Per Issue	Annually	Per Issue	Annually
Inside Rear Cover	n/a	540	n/a	810
Full Page	140	400	210	600
Half Page	85	250	125	375
Quarter Page	45	130	75	210

**Publication Deadlines**—February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15.



# Numismatic Nostalgia



## Fifty Years Ago

- An article by Brent Hughes in *Calcoin News*, “Restoration of Paper Money”, advised readers about the following repairs: wrinkles and folds, glued to backing, cleaning, cellophane tape removal, repairing torn parts and cut cancellations, replacing missing corners and punch cancellations, filling pin holes, filling corroded paper, and general improvements.
- NASC President Karl Brainard relayed in his “President’s Message” that the ninth annual convention had 6,125 registrants, 87 dealers from “all over the US and Canada”, and a banquet that entertained hundreds. Elliot Markoff won the “Best of Show” trophy for his exhibit, and the trophy appeared to be about three and a half feet tall!

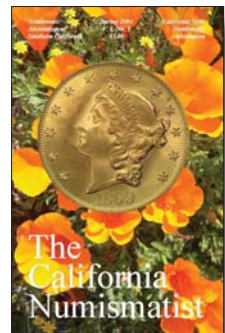


## Twenty-Five Years Ago

- *The NASC Quarterly* reported on a meeting held December 11, 1988, in which CSNA, NASC, the Convention of International Numismatists (COIN), and the Society of International Numismatists (SIN), voted to unite together in support of a joint Southern California convention: the “Golden State Coin Show”. Each group sent two representatives (for a total of eight) to perform the show planning: Dorothy Baber, Tom Fitzgerald, Phil Parks, Kay Lenker, Charles Colver, Harold Katzman, Phil Iversen, and Beate Rauche.
- *Calcoin News* relayed that they printed an average 1,500 copies of the publication and mailed (“subscription”) 1,002, for each issue. CSNA President Dorothy Baber stated the San Francisco Mint donated to CSNA over 2,000 “medals, coins, tokens, etc.” that had been buried in the mint archives. I wonder what ever happened to all those pieces?

## Ten Years Ago

- The inaugural issue of TCN came out, effectively joining NASC’s *The NASC Quarterly* and CSNA’s *Calcoin News* at the hip.
- NASC celebrated their 50th anniversary, the organization’s name having originally been suggested by I. Newton Sanders. In 2005 the group issued an anniversary medal designed by Tom Fitzgerald and Alex Shagin.
- Assets for CSNA were valued at \$71,013, and NASC at a bit over \$47,000.



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