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Southern California*

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*California State  
Numismatic  
Association*



# The California Numismatist

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Official Publication of the  
California State Numismatic Association  
and the  
Numismatic Association of Southern California  
Winter 2020, Volume 17, Number 4



## About the Cover

The numismatic images are each of the reverses or backs of the pictured item, set against a wintery photograph of a lightly frozen-over Gull Lake Marina on the June Lake Loop in the eastern Sierra Nevada mountains. June Lake rests at 7,600 feet sharing the 14-mile loop with three other lakes, Gull, Silver, and Grant. Summer time is trout fishing time, and winter is for skiing. Seventeen lodges serve annual visitors at the base of Carson Peak stretching up to 10,909 feet at the top.

## Visit Us on the Web

The California Numismatist has a website at [www.CalNumismatist.com](http://www.CalNumismatist.com). Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own websites at:

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

[www.NASC.net](http://www.NASC.net) as well as

[www.goldenstatecoinshow.com](http://www.goldenstatecoinshow.com)

And both associations have Facebook pages at:

[www.facebook.com/CSNA1947](https://www.facebook.com/CSNA1947)

[www.facebook.com/NASC-](https://www.facebook.com/NASC-704859806311445)

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# Presidents' Messages

NASC...

After what seems to be a very long and challenging year for many of us, the holidays are finally here. Despite the many challenges that faced us all during 2020, I think the NASC was able to accomplish quite a bit to help benefit the coin collecting hobby, not just for Southern California, but for all collectors everywhere. I know that several of our member clubs have continued to hold virtual meetings while in-person gatherings remain prohibited. In fact, NASC Board member Jim Phillips, who handles our website, is creating an online directory of clubs who are holding virtual meetings. This new resource will not only allow area collectors to find those meetings, but anyone in the world will be able to attend virtually.



Our member clubs sharing their meetings with the world has directly benefited NASC. Corresponding Secretary Walt Ostromecki has reported that several new members have joined in recent months having found out about our organization through these virtual club meetings. We have also had some former members come back to NASC after seeing the virtual presence of some of our member clubs. Despite the challenges of 2020, it is great to see so many of the clubs adapt and make the best of this situation. The resolve of our clubs directly helps further the mission of NASC to share this great hobby that we all love, and to do so well beyond Southern California.

I know that you will agree with me that so many more collectors should become members of NASC. As a member, you're the best resource we have in recruiting new members. You know best the good that NASC does for the hobby and our local clubs. You also already know how great TCN is and the value in this publication. Please share the gift of an NASC membership and subscription to TCN with your collector friends or family members this holiday season.

Finally, I thank you all once again for being members of our great organization and for your support of our beloved hobby. Have Happy Holidays and see you all next year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Kittle".

Michael J. Kittle  
NASC President

## CSNA...



Greetings Everyone,

As much of the country's numismatists report the closing of their events, we too are unable to have our 138th ,2020 Convention and Coin Show due to the corona 19 virus. I know this is a disappointment to all of us. In lieu of our normal board meeting we will have a zoom meeting. The meeting will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 9:00 a.m. followed by the swearing in of new officers and board members. Congratulations to Michael S. Turrini, president; Jose Gallego, vice president; George Magann, corresponding secretary; David J. Trimmingham, recording secretary; Lloyd G. Chan, treasurer; and all the new/returning board mem-

bers and appointed individuals.

We are happy to announce that Eduardo Rodriguez has volunteered to fill the important position of advertising manager for TCN. Congratulations and thank you Mr. Rodriguez.

American eagle redesign—did you hear? The United States Mint is redesigning its American eagle coins! Beginning with those released in summer 2021, the reverse design is changing for both silver and gold American eagles. This is the first time the designs are changing since being introduced in 1986.

This is my last president's message.. Two years go by very quickly. I want to thank everyone for your help and support. I hope I see you at next years convention and coin show. Stay safe, wear your mask and keep your social distance. Hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Hogan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dennis Hogan  
CSNA President

# Editor's Page

Greetings, dear readers. We're right on schedule with this issue, and may actually get it out to the printer about a week early. That's good from two points of view. First, the holiday time is always busy for both the print-cycle as well as the postal service side. Each of them seems to be extra-busy in December, so being ahead of the curve is a good thing just from that consideration. Second, I believe this may be the last issue to be printed in the La Verne facility of our print and mailing supplier. The company has been acquired and it sounds like they'll condense that facility with the new owner's property a little further south. I'll find out more about the timing of that in the weeks ahead, but am sure that preparations for the change-over will introduce some minor delays. I'm told that many of the key folks that I deal with will make that transition to the new location as well, so I'm not sweating any bullets yet (their quality has always been top-notch).



Like everyone else who has a message or report on the current numismatic scene, I'm completely sick of the covid-complications, and looking forward to being able to attend events, shows, meetings, etcetera. In the meantime, assuming you, dear reader, are appropriately hunkered down, spend some time perusing the websites of our dear TCN advertisers. Things are hard on them and I know they'd appreciate the opportunity to show you the *many* items they have in stock that I'm sure you'd like to have transferred to your collection. Plus, they help to pay the bills around here, and that certainly should earn some loyalty and consideration from us all!

In closing, hope your holidays are comfortable and cheerful, and that you have the chance to connect (one way or the other) with family and friends. See you in spring.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Burns'. The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Greg Burns  
Editor

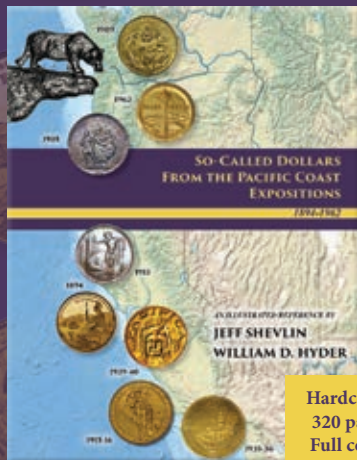
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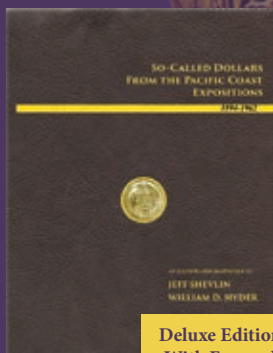
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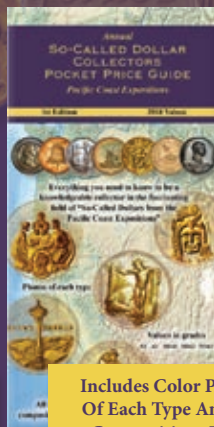
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# Corresponding Secretaries' Reports



NASC—

by *Walt Ostromecki*

Today's hobby in general and clubs in particular are facing challenges to attract new hobbyists. Those who have embraced the new *virtual* norm have experienced success. They have seen increased interest. Most have also seen an increase over the past several months in membership which is directly credited to their holding Zoom, Youtube, etcetera, monthly club meetings that include a numismatic speaker.

NASC and Glendale Coin Club (GCC) President Mike Kittle and his team have made it their goal to make sure their virtual meetings have every element their in-person meetings had —show-and-tell, show information, door prizes, coin auction, and a well known speaker who might normally not be able to attend a regular monthly meeting.

Using Youtube, GCC records the programs for future public viewing. The following NASC member clubs: Covina, Greater Orange County, Long Beach, Sacramento Valley, San Diego Numismatic Society, and I believe the Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles are all hosting virtual monthly club meetings. There may be others which are unknown to me. Kudos+ to all!

The average GCC monthly meeting attendance is between 50-70. They have also received many cash donations and along with NASC and ANA many new members. They're to be commended for not just connecting current members but adding new members to numismatics!

How has NASC benefited membership wise? During September and October, ten new members and one reconnected; four new coin clubs with one from Canada. I will be presenting two Zoom talks to groups: The Czech Republic and Waterloo Coin Society, Canada, in January 2021.

Our membership was 286 and now 301. We lost sustaining member Virginia Dennis to death. We also have three on our rolls with bad mailing addresses.

One of our YN's was honored with a Literary Award by the ANA in September. The ANA's National Money Show in Phoenix, AZ is slated for March 11-13, 2021. You are urged to attend.

No NASC Board meetings are scheduled. The current elected officers were asked to stay on by President Kittle until our next planned Golden State Coin Show in August 2021.



**CSNA—**

by *George Magaan*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all waiting for the COVID-19 to go away so we can get out, go to coin shows, and have fun again with each other.

**CSNA Membership on 29 Nov. 2020**

Regular.....	209
Life.....	110
Junior.....	6
Member Clubs.....	25
Associate.....	5

Member Club Life.....	12
Business Members .....	13
Total .....	380

**NASC Membership on 15 Nov. 2020**

Total .....	301
-------------	-----

*Dear Members—Please Note!*

If you’ve moved, please advise us at the relevant address below:

CSNA—George Magaan  
1740 Sessler Drive  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
gcmagann@hotmail.com

NASC—Walt Ostromecki  
5914 Hesperia Avenue  
Encino, CA 91316-1014  
ostromecki@money.org

**CSNA Membership Database Drops**

Readers may recall that the CSNA membership database went through a “rebuild” during the course of 2020. During that period, members who had been carried as “current” in the remnants of the previous database that was used for the rebuild, carried that status into the 2020 year and maintained that status while the association made attempts to contact them. There were many whose last listed dues would have had their memberships expired previously (some all the way back to 2016 if I recall correctly).

Well, that “grace period” will undoubtedly die away with the closing of 2020, and in anticipation of that (still to be confirmed with CSNA officials), I’ve taken the time to calculate what that would mean to the overall membership should those so previously graced be dropped.

The following tally assumes that everyone who actually paid through 2020 would also renew their membership in 2021 (and it obviously includes

those who are already paid through 2021-2025). The result currently shows a net loss of 102 memberships, that under more normal circumstances would have been dropped much earlier in the year due to nonrenewals.

**CSNA Membership Pending 2021**

Classification	2021	Prior/2020	Delta
Regular.....	128.....	209.....	-81
Life.....	110.....	110.....	0
Junior.....	0.....	6.....	-6
Member Clubs.....	17.....	25.....	-8
Associate.....	2.....	5.....	-3
Member Club Life.....	12.....	12.....	0
Business Members .....	6.....	13.....	-7
Total .....	278.....	380.....	-102

Note that both NASC as well as CSNA will shortly be sending out 2021 dues renewal notices, and TCN *heartily* encourages all members to reply promptly to those calls for action, and help us thereby eliminate the expense of repeated attempts. For even greater convenience please do consider a multi-year option, so that you’re prepaid beyond the end of 2021.

—**Greg Burns**

# Returning Thoughts of My Barber Half Dollar Set

by *Bill Febuary*

I still ponder over the selling of my Barber half dollar set, which I sold several years ago. The set was missing both of the 1892-O series, the 1892-O and 1892-O micro-O, along with the 1893-S, but otherwise was complete in VG-8+ to F-12+, with no damage or cleaning to any of the coins. Most of the coins were in the VG-10 to VG-10+ grade Twelve of the coins were graded F-12 or better and 34 were graded VG-10 to VG-10+. The remainder of the coins were VG-8 to VG-8+, with none of the coins graded below VG-8.

This set was almost blemish free and I felt showing it was my pride and joy reward for having an almost complete set of Barber half dollars which was quite an accomplishment.

One of my close numismatic friends convinced me in selling the set to him as he was an active coin dealer and attended and set up at many of the coin shows in California. He felt that showing such a set across the state of California would be an ideal way of publicizing his own business with this type of set being displayed at the shows he attended.

In appraising the set at the time of my selling it, this dealer rewarded me with his cash purchase of \$2,450 for the set which was housed in a

Dansco album. At the time of my selling it, the trends price listed the set at \$3,126.50. In today's market a set of this type is listed from \$4,800 to \$5,200 in the various grades mentioned.

I have since collected and purchased Barber half dollars, but none in the similar grades that were collected in my original coin set. I have 43 Barber half dollars in grades from AG-3+ to F-15, but giving no thought of upgrading them or putting together another Barber half dollar set as that was a once-in-a-lifetime venture and it made me feel good about accomplishing such a task.

I also have many Barber dimes and Barber quarters, but I have no plans in making a set of either of them.

So, here we have another example of what can be accomplished if a person sets their mind to assembling a coin set that gives a person pride and joy and what they can do in the world of numismatics.



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# Two-in-One: Mr. Sidney J. Phillips and His Five Million Commemorative Half-Dollars

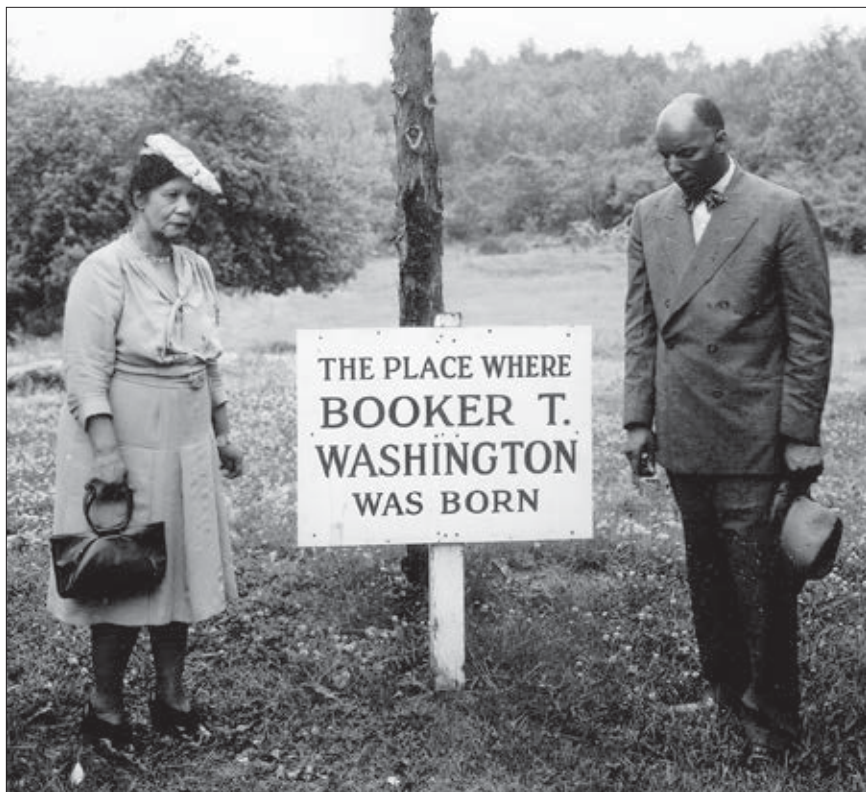
by *Donald Lannon*

Beginning in 1945 and continuing through the early 1960s, stories about Mr. S. J. Phillips often appeared in American newspapers; however, seldom did the authors of those articles agree as to his occupation. Among the many job titles assigned to Phillips by the press were professor, commission chairman, executive director, foundation president, and soft drink company agent. Today, he would be described as a promoter – an incredibly successful one who alone convinced Congress to give him five million half-dollars. This coinage would be the first to commemorate the life of an African-American, in this instance Booker T. Washington (c. 1856-1915) who was remembered at the time as the nation's foremost black educator. Not until 1998 would another black American be so recognized.

Sidney J. Phillips, an ardent admirer of Washington, graduated from Alabama's Tuskegee Institute (Class



of '22) with a degree in agriculture. Following graduation, he secured employment with the State of Alabama as a teacher of vocational agriculture. In 1927 he began work as a county agriculture agent for the State of Arkansas, a position he held until 1931 when he joined the staff of Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University). While there, Phillips served as the superintendent of farming operations and head of the institute's farm management and agricultural engineering division. Eight years later, Georgia-based Nehi Corporation, the maker of Nehi brand soft drinks and Royal Crown Cola, recruited him to manage its marketing efforts within the African-American community. Phillips' relationship with Nehi continued into the late 1950s.



*Portia Washington Pittman (Booker's daughter) and Sidney J. Phillips pose in front of the future location of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial's cabin replica, c.1947.*

## **Notoriety Secured by Phillips**

Phillips secured notoriety in October 1945 when he used \$7,610 in funds furnished by Nehi Corporation to purchase the former James Burroughs plantation, a 214-acre farm and the birthplace of Booker T. Washington. On November 10, 1945, *The Indianapolis Recorder* boldly declared in a headline, MEMORIAL SHRINE TO BE ERECTED AT BOOKER T. WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE. The story reported that Phillips, of Tuskegee Institute, planned to develop an “international birthplace memorial” on

the site of the former tobacco plantation, located near Roanoke, Virginia. (Although Phillips’ employment by the institute ended in 1939, he continued to cite its mailing address as his own, conveying the impression that he was still associated with the school.)

“The ‘big house’ of plantation days is still standing,” the article said, “... but the base of the chimney is the only remaining relic of the cabin in which Booker T. Washington was born. It is planned to restore the cabin according to a description given by a playmate of Washington, who still lives in the community.”



*Postcard depicting the structures on the grounds when the site for the Tuskegee Institute was purchased and which served as the first school buildings.*

Phillips told the *Recorder* that he planned to establish a demonstration farm as well as an industrial school on the property. Under his leadership the memorial would operate as a non-profit entity and would serve as an inspiration to “the man farthest down,” a phrase often used by Washington.

Long before Phillips acquired the Burroughs property, Booker T. Washington had become a national icon. His autobiography *Up from Slavery*, first published in 1901, had been read by thousands of Americans, black and white. Washington was born into slavery several years before the Civil War began. Unlike most black children of the era, he received a basic education and went on to attend the Hampton Industrial Institute in Virginia where, after graduating, he became an instructor; later, he attended Wayland Seminary.

In 1881 Washington founded Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, an institution dedicated to the education of black Americans; he also served as its first principal and president. During his lifetime, he was awarded honorary

degrees from Dartmouth and Harvard. Booker T. Washington died on November 14, 1915, in Tuskegee.

### **Phillips Lobbied Congress**

The Commonwealth of Virginia granted a charter to this new organization, officially named the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial, in January 1946. Soon thereafter, Phillips conveyed control of the memorial property to a governing foundation of which he was the founder; then, he appointed himself as its president. Groundbreaking occurred in April. Fund raising followed.

Over the next months the foundation solicited the assistance of influential Americans throughout the South, including politicians, businessmen, educators, editors, and members of the clergy. By the end of May 1946, governors of all 48 states had been contacted; 40 had responded with polite messages of moral support. Only one, the governor of Virginia, pledged more than kind words, his state’s General Assembly approving a gift of \$15,000 in March.

During the first half of 1946, Phillips lobbied Congress in support of H. R. 6528, “A Bill To Authorize the Coinage of 50-Cent Pieces To Commemorate the Life and Perpetuate the Ideals and Teachings of Booker T. Washington.” On June 28, July 10, and July 12 the House of Representatives held hearings before its Committee on Coinage Weights and Measures at which he testified.

“We are interested in procuring five million commemorative coins to help perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington,” Phillips began. “We feel that this gesture

*Booker Taliaferro Washington (April 18, 1856 – November 14, 1915) was an American educator, author, orator, and adviser to multiple presidents of the United States. Between 1890 and 1915, Washington was the dominant leader in the African American community and of the contemporary black elite. Washington was from the last generation of black American leaders born into slavery and became the leading voice of the former slaves and their descendants.*



will be one of the finest tributes ... because these coins will find their way into the pockets of millions of Negro youths throughout the country, which will serve as an inspiration to them for years to come.

“In addition to that, our purpose is to establish a service program based on the philosophy and teachings of ... Washington which will originate from his birthplace in Franklin County, Virginia. We plan to have a resident industrial training school, then a better workers’ institute throughout the country.”

Phillips explained, “Booker T. Washington in his book *Character Building* stated that he wished it were possible for him to have at his command enough money to have a training school in every center to encourage the right attitude toward work and doing an honest day’s work for an honest day’s pay. So it will be the purpose of this memorial to advocate the ideals and teachings of ... Washington.”

“... The majority of America’s 14 million Negroes are below high school and college levels,” he claimed, adding that “... Thousands of Negro veterans of World War II cannot take advantage of the GI training program because they do not have sufficient

educational qualifications to meet the requirements. ... The program ... will offer opportunities for people at this level. ... Statistics compiled during the recent war show a grave need for industrial training. ... Surveys indicate that practically no facilities are at present available for millions of Negroes ... to secure such training.” While he recognized the need black veterans had for technical education, Phillips failed to see their need for equality.

### **Veterans Sought Equality**

An estimated 1.2 million African-Americans served in the armed forces during World War II, 90 percent of whom were forced to serve in supply and labor units. The remaining 10 percent saw duty overseas in such distinguished, all-black battalions as the 92nd Buffalo Soldiers, 93rd Blue Helmets, 761st Tank Battalion, 452nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, and the 332nd Fighter Group known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Despite being denied their civil rights at home, they

Many black veterans of WWII struggled to take advantage of GI Bill benefits due to a lack of educational qualifications.

Below: a 1946 10-cent postage stamp honoring Washington.



fought for democracy abroad, helping to liberate Europe and defeat Japan. Ironically, as author Stephen Ambrose observed in *Citizen Soldier*, “The world’s greatest democracy fought the world’s greatest racist with a segregated army.”

Once home, these black veterans experienced a wave of violence as they struggled to secure equality under the law. Many of them joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), establishing new chapters throughout the South; effectively, they became the all-volunteer infantry of the new civil rights movement. Nearly a third of civil rights leaders were World War II veterans. And segregation – the policy of “separate but equal” – was their enemy.

### **Program Supported Segregation**

Phillips was confident the House committee would approve his program in large part because of its segregated focus on black veterans. Without hesitation, he emphasized this fact. “This is a plan of training Negroes to meet

the needs of industry and service institutions for today and tomorrow so that they will be able to accept more fully their responsibilities in the economic life of their communities. ...”

Speaking as president of the memorial’s governing foundation, Phillips assured the committee that the proposed coinage would have “... historic value since it would symbolize the culture and attainment of 14 million [black] Americans” and would also be “a morale builder for the Negro citizens of America who are especially proud of the life and achievements of Booker T. Washington.”

### **Mint Expressed Concerns**

Also at the hearing was Leland Howard, assistant director of the United States Mint, who expressed the concerns of both the treasury and the mint. “The Treasury Department and the mint think that the purpose for which the commemorative coin is to be issued is a noble one,” he told the committee. “We have, however, for many years frowned upon the issuance of any commemorative coins. We feel that any event can be equally honored by the issuance of a medal, under an act of Congress authorizing a medal. ... We realize ... there are many noble



*Sculptor Richmond Barthé (left) shows his bust of Booker T. Washington to Frank M. Tutton, national chairman of the United Negro College Fund in 1946 as preparations were underway for its installation at New York University's Hall of Fame for Great Americans (HOF). Washington was the first black American elected to the HOF.*



causes for which commemorative coin bills are introduced in the Congress. We feel that the issuance of a great number of half-dollars of different designs confuses the public; it is not in general harmony with a good monetary system and we think it should be stopped. ...”

Congressman Compton I. White (D-ID), committee chairman, interrupted Howard. “... We, by making this a fifty-cent piece, would thereby imprint the legal definition on it and thereby greatly enhance the value of its circulation. ...”

The assistant director was emphatic, responding, “We believe that Congress never intended to have a multiplicity of designs circulating at one time. We have a standard fifty-cent piece today.”

White thought briefly. “... We will agree with you,” he said, “that the issuance of indiscriminate coins, and the abuse that could arise in the way of speculation, cheating, fraud, and the like ... is bad. ... What we seek here is to avoid speculation and fraudulent practices by a proper control; and we

have the assurance of the Booker T. Washington Association that they will protect these coins from such fraudulent and speculative manipulations.”

Howard remained doubtful, worried about the public’s reaction to the coin. He didn’t hold back. “... I for one can say that the people do not like a coin that is not easily recognizable, that is not familiar; and I can say that from personal experience. ... We put out during the war, due to the lack of copper at the time, a cent coated with zinc, the steel cent. It had all the legends on it but it confused the public [who sometime mistook it for a dime] and aroused public condemnation. ...”

Committee Clerk John McBride supported Congressman White. McBride was positive that “... the trustees of this organization, who were among the leaders and most responsible members of the colored race, said they were eager to cooperate with government to eliminate abuses of any kind; and they would be governed by any rules and regulations that the treasury might issue. They plan on selling these commemorative coins for

\$1.00 each and they feel that at least 95 percent of them will never get into general circulation; that they will be kept as mementos or [for a] similar purpose.”

### **Millions in Profit Anticipated**

Earlier in the hearing Chairman White had asked the assistant director about the cost of the coins to the mint. Having received an estimate, Howard informed White that the total for the five million half-dollars would be \$808,606 – \$1,695 for 13,779 pounds of copper, plus \$843,912 for 1,808,438 ounces of silver, plus \$35,000 in manufacturing costs. Profit to the treasury would be \$1,619,394 (i.e., face value less cost). If all five million coins could be sold for \$1.00 each as Phillips anticipated, the memorial foundation would earn \$2.5 million and the treasury, just over \$1.6 million.

Meanwhile, in the July 1946 edition of *The Numismatist* a story appeared that described S. J. Phillips as “... the public relations representative of 500,000 colored Elks and 4.5 million colored Baptists who will participate in the sale of these commemoratives.” It continued, “Mr. Phillips and Booker T. Washington’s only surviving child, Mrs. Portia Washington Pittman, visited the office of the chairman of the Coinage Weights and Measures Committee on their return trip from the dedication [of Washington’s bust at NYU’s Hall of Fame] in New York and outlined a plan. They are anxious that every Negro boy shall have one of these commemorative coins in his possession, as an inspiration to emulate the ideas and teachings of Booker T. Washington who, through a life of constructive efforts on behalf

of his people, rose from a boyhood of slavery to the Hall of Fame. ...”

Not surprisingly, on August 7, 1946, Congress approved Public Law 610, authorizing the coinage of five million half-dollars in commemoration of Booker T. Washington. This act allowed these coin to be issued at the request of the memorial, then sold to the public for a premium by foundation-approved banks and trust companies.

### **Hathaway Design Approved**

Alabama sculptor Isaac Scott Hathaway (1872-1967) – one of two artists who had submitted a coin design to the US Commission of Fine Arts – was best known for his work in ceramics and sculpture, creating plaster and bronze busts of famous African-Americans such as Frederick Douglas. At one time he taught at the University of Arkansas, and later at Tuskegee Institute where he was a founding member of its Department of Ceramics. Years before Washington’s death, Hathaway had made a life mask of the educator’s face, incorporating it into his coin’s obverse design. The commission liked it and recommended that his design be used.

In *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, published in 1991, numismatic author Q. David Bowers explained, “The reverse design was adopted by Hathaway from a sketch provided by an unnamed Commission of Fine Arts member, depicting the Hall of Fame at New York University, where a bust of Washington was enshrined.” A log cabin was depicted at the coin’s base with the inscription FROM SLAVE CABIN TO HALL OF FAME separat-

*Sculptor Isaac Scott Hathaway, left, with another famous black American whose image graced our half-dollar, Washington Carver.*

ing it from the hall above.

The mint began production of the coin at all three of its facilities in December, striking one million 1946-dated half-dollars at Philadelphia, 200,000 at Denver, and 500,000 at San Francisco. These figures excluded the pieces struck for assay. Bowers reported that 200,000 PDS sets were assembled from these coins and offered for sale to collectors and the public.

### **Coin Sales Commenced**

Stacks, a rare coin dealer in New York, placed an ad in the February 1947 issue of *The Numismatist* announcing its appointment as an authorized agent of the birthplace memorial. Philadelphia and San Francisco-minted coins were each available for \$1.00; those minted at Denver, for \$1.50 each. Postage was set at \$.10 for the first coin and \$.05 for each additional piece. Later, an ad in the December issue informed collectors that the commemoratives could be ordered directly from the memorial; however, the coins were available only as PDS sets for \$6.00 each plus \$.30 postage. At the same time Stacks continued to assist with sales.

A problem with the half-dollars immediately became apparent to collectors. Bowers wrote, "Most ... half-dollars were handled carelessly during the minting and shipping process." Of course, many complaints resulted. And in the February issue of *The Numismatist* a letter appeared,



written by Seattle collector F. H. Hisken. "We recently received ten sets of the new ... commemorative half-dollars," he stated, "and after examining them, promptly returned them to the commission. Every single one of them was bruised and nicked, and, in particular, damages appeared on the right jaw which [*sic*] is slightly in relief. I can see no reason for sending out commemorative coins in such condition. There is enough premium being charged to justify special handling of these coins, at least on the pieces which [*sic*] are being sold to collectors."

### **Favorable Press Continued**

Despite collector complaints about the coins, press coverage remained favorable. A front-page story published in the May 9, 1947, edition of *The Arizona Sun* was typical. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S FRIEND VISITS WHITE HOUSE its headline announced. "President Truman was presented five [PDS] sets of the first run

Booker T. Washington commemorative half-dollars at the White House,” the article said. “The presentation was made by 90-year old Henry Swain of Franklin County, Virginia, a childhood friend of ... Washington.

“Presentation of the Booker T. Washington coin were [*sic*] also made at this time to Mr. John W. Snyder, secretary of the treasury ... to Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross, director of the mint ... and to Congressman Compton I. White, chairman of the Coinage Weights and Measures division [*sic*]. ...” S. J. Phillips was in charge of the ceremony.

“... The coin is being enthusiastically received by the American people,” *The Sun* declared. “Three months before the issuance day, 50,000 orders had been filed with the birthplace memorial which is distributing the coin; and banks throughout the nation bought one-half million dollars worth the week previous to the issuance. ... Those [coins] minted at the Philadelphia and San Francisco mints cost \$1.00 each. Those minted at Denver cost \$1.50 each plus 10 cents postage.”

The newspaper emphasized that the presentation pieces “... were paid for out of a fund created through contributions of students in 3,500 schools ... who participated in Booker T. Washington Memorial Week, November 10 through 16.” It noted that future presentations to governors and national leaders would be funded through the same source.

### **B. T. W. Sales Agency Hired**

To assist in marketing the commemorative half-dollars, Phillips employed the Booker T. Washington

Sales Agency of Tuskegee, a business he owned and of which he was president. Most of its work had been for Nehi Corporation and involved that company’s presence at the weeklong National Baptist Convention, held annually. But in September 1950 the agency began a new campaign, revealed by a headline in *The Ohio State News*. It said, **LEBLANC CORPORATION EMPLOYS TECHNIQUES TO SECURE FRIENDS.**

The newspaper explained, “... The LeBlanc Corporation wanted wider distribution for its leading product, Hadacol [a dietary supplement], and they also wanted to perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington. Phillips, who handles public relations for the National Baptist Convention, Inc., secured a place for Hadacol in the convention’s exhibition hall, and the stage was set for the opening wedge into the fertile Negro consumer market.”

“... Initial merchandising efforts of the Booker T. Washington Sales Agency,” it continued, “will be directed toward wider distribution of Hadacol through the medium of the Negro press. Use will be made of the ... Washington memorial half-dollar, since approximately four million of these historic coins remain unsold. LeBlanc Corporation gave the angle a boost by purchasing 20,000.”

“In the new campaign buyers of Hadacol will receive a shiny new Booker T. Washington memorial coin in exchange for the regular fifty-cent piece by merely sending to [the] Booker T. Washington [Birthplace] Memorial, Virginia, the top of a Hadacol box [along with the regular fifty-cent coin].”

*A Carver-Washington  
half-dollar struck  
in 1951.*



### **Congress Amended 1946 Act**

From December 1946 through early-August 1951, a period somewhat less than six years, almost 3.2 million Booker T. Washington commemorative half-dollars were struck by the Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco mints combined. Bowers claimed that 1,581,631 of these were never sold, and were eventually returned to the mint and melted. Many of the 1946 coins were placed in circulation.

By June 1951 Phillips had concluded that his marketing campaign, with nearly 1.6 million half-dollars unsold, was a failure. So, he convinced Congress to amend the 1946 act; and, on September 21, 1951, the lawmakers did just that. The two-in-one amendment authorized the issuance of a newly designed coin, the Carver-Washington commemorative half-dollar. These pieces could be struck until August 7, 1954, in an amount equal to the unused portion of the five million maximum stipulated by the 1946 act; to this figure would be added the number of unsold coins returned to the mint for melting.

The amendment also permitted a

second organization to order the Carver-Washington coins from the mint. Its name: the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, founded by Phillips in 1950. Effectively, this organization could strike as many as 3,415,631 of these new half-dollars.

### **Communism Feared**

Phillips told Congress that all profit from the sale of these commemorative half-dollars would go to “oppose the spread of communism among Negroes in the interest of the national defense [Bowers, 1991].” In 1950s America, BETTER DEAD THAN RED was not so much a bromide as a belief, held by many. Americans feared that members of the Communist Party had infiltrated every institution, particularly government, academia, labor unions, and entertainment; indeed, Hollywood was seen as a hotbed of communist activity. And while Senator Joseph McCarthy (R-WI) used the nation’s paranoia to advance his political fortunes, Sidney Phillips used it to market Carver-Washington half-dollars.

Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of Pres-

ident Franklin D. Roosevelt, openly embraced Phillips' anti-communist objective. In her syndicated newspaper column "My Day" Roosevelt wrote, "... In addition to what he was doing for the Booker T. Washington home, in October 1949 Mr. Phillips was informed by a member of Congress that the birthplace of George Washington Carver at Diamond, Missouri, could be taken over by the National Parks Commission if a debt of \$85,000 could be paid off. So, having undertaken this second responsibility, he went to Washington. There Mr. Phillips succeeded in persuading representatives and senators to pass a bill appropriating not [a] mere \$85,000 but \$150,000, and that is why the Booker T. Washington coin became the Carver-Washington coin.

"... It is frequently said that our minority groups, particularly our Negro minority group, find it easier to accept the communist promises because of certain tensions and a general feeling that the promises of democracy are not kept equally for all our citizens. An undertaking of the kind which Mr. Phillips is working on will certainly help to remove some of the attractiveness of communist propaganda."

### **Carver Was American Icon**

Like Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver had long been an American icon. Born into slavery sometime during the Civil War, he grew up on the farm of Moses Carver in Diamond Grove, Missouri. When his home state abolished slavery in January 1865, Moses and his wife, Susan, made the commitment to raise George and his brother as their own

children. His birth parents were both slaves who belonged to Moses Carver, each of whom had been abducted by raiders shortly after George's birth.

"Aunt Susan," as George called Mrs. Moses Carver, taught him to read and write. Over the next decade he attended public schools. Eventually, the young George Carver earned a diploma at Minneapolis High School in Kansas. And in 1890 he began to study art and piano at Simpson College in Iowa. The following year, he left Simpson to pursue a B.S. degree in agriculture at Iowa State Agricultural College (now Iowa State University). Carver graduated in 1894. He taught at Iowa State until 1896 when he received his M.S. degree as well as an offer to head the agriculture department at Tuskegee Institute.

Carver accepted the Tuskegee position and was there for the next 47 years. During these years, he developed techniques to improve depleted soils; he founded an industrial research laboratory; and he designed an agricultural extension program for Alabama farmers. Carver's work with peanuts, however, brought him the most fame. He died on January 5, 1943. His epitaph proclaimed, "He could have added fortune to fame, but caring for neither, he found happiness and honor in being helpful to the world."

### **Hathaway Design Criticized**

By October 5, 1951, sculptor Isaac Hathaway had completed his design proposals for the Carver-Washington half-dollar, and had submitted them to the Commission of Fine Arts for its approval. At the commission's meeting later that month, his reverse

design – most notably, the insignia of the American Legion – was not well received. He revised this design and it was approved on November 9. With respect to the obverse, commission Chairman David E. Finley advised Hathaway that “... The second head should also be modeled in clear profile and not only in three-quarters. The spacing of the letters should also be improved, allowing some space between the heads and the lettering. ...” Almost as an after-thought, Finley politely noted, “... The reverse side is acceptable [Bowers, 1991].”

Bowers, in his encyclopedia of commemorative coins, asserted that the commission had approved Hathaway’s design without the mint’s approval. In a letter written by Leland Howard, acting director of the mint, and sent to Chairman Finley, the director wrote, “The engraver [Gilroy Roberts] stated that the designs were unsuitable for coinage, especially the reverse side. The center part of the design, the map of the United States, was too high in relief and was much higher than the border of the design. If a coin had been made using this design, it would have ‘rocked’ on the map ... and would not have stacked properly, in as much as a coin should rest on its outer rim.

“He [Roberts] said that the lettering was terrible and could not be reproduced. Also, with the United States in high relief on one side and the heads of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver in high relief on the other side, it would be impossible to coin such a piece, as the metal could not flow into the center of the die and still leave a uniform surface on the remainder of the

coin. ...” According to Bowers, Chief Engraver Roberts was “commanded to alter designs appropriately and make them ready for coining.”

The final version of the coin’s obverse design portrayed the overlapping busts of George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington; the reverse depicted a map of the United States with only 47 states delineated – Delaware was inadvertently omitted. Surrounding the map was the legend FREEDOM AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL – AMERICANISM, a revision of the originally proposed UNITED AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM / NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMITTEE.

Two decades later, art historian Cornelius Vermeule observed, “... A map labeled U. S. A. marks [*sic*] a low point in pictorial imagination, and it is rather sad that the splendid series of commemorative coins, so much an ornament to the arts of the United States, should reach its conclusion in 1954 with a reverse so impoverished of ideas and devoid of artistry [*Numismatic Art in America*, 1971].”

## **Carver-Washington Coin Prices Rose, Sales Fell**

Carver-Washington half-dollars were struck at all three mints during 1951 through 1954. The Carver-Washington Coin Commission handled the general distribution of PDS coin sets through 1954; so, too, did Ohio coin dealer Sol Kaplan. Stacks, however, only distributed these sets in 1951 and 1952. Single coins sold for \$5.50 each; a three-coin set, for \$10.00. A total of 2,226,319 pieces were struck at the mint in Philadelphia; only 38,019 at Denver; and 248,054 at San Francisco.

Over four years, a combined total of 2,512,392 Carver-Washington coins were produced of which 1,332,392 were distributed – a dismal sell-off rate of 52 percent.

A story that appeared in the July 16, 1953, edition of *Jet* magazine may have discouraged many African-Americans from buying the new coins, particularly those who supported the nascent civil rights movement. Phillips had spoken before an audience at the dedication of the Booker T. Washington Memorial Highway, between Rocky Mount and Big Island, Virginia. The *Jet* headline screamed, SEGREGATION BENEFITS BLACKS, CLAIMS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON MEMORIAL HEAD.

Phillips told dedication attendees, “The economic progress of the Negro as achieved and as presently enjoyed is due in large measure, if not practically entirely, to the pattern of segregation. The circumstances of the segregation system has [*sic*] been of overall benefit to the Negro. Handicapped as he was on emerging from slavery, it has given him a field of his own to develop. Within that field, he has had opportunity to work out his own destiny, to find himself, to grow to man’s estate without the competition with which he could not have coped had the circumstances been otherwise.” Clearly, Phillips was out of step with the African-American community on the issue of civil rights.

### Coins Were Goodwill Builder

In August 1954 the foundation’s authority to order and distribute Carver-Washington half-dollars expired along with the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial. With debts



approaching \$140,000, the memorial entered bankruptcy in January 1955; then, on January 29 the *Roanoke Tribune* featured an op-ed, FACTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL, written by Sidney J. Phillips.

“... The Booker T. Washington half-dollar carried the memorial message to all parts of the nation,” Phillips wrote. “It became a goodwill builder that added to racial pride and engendered national respect. ...”

He explained, “The promotion of the sales of the Carver-Washington half-dollars was perhaps the most difficult job of the memorial’s undertakings. The public was not enthusiastic over paying a premium on a coin whose intrinsic value was definitely set at \$.50. Because the selling job was hard and widely scattered, sales forces



had to be offered greater commission incentives that [*sic*] are generally approved for fund raising bodies. This meant that cooperation of national advertisers could not be secured in publicizing the coin. It also meant that some criticism was inevitable – yet the coin had to be sold.”

Phillips claimed that “... The total number of Carver-Washington coins issued from the mints to the various banks throughout the country amount to 3.8 million. To date there has been a disposal of approximately 3.4 million, selling from \$.10 to \$1.50 over face value. The largest number sold for \$.10 over face; the next largest, for \$.50 over; and the smallest number, for \$1.50 over face value.”

“... Negroes manifested very little interest in the development of a service memorial,” he complained. “Ninety-seven to 98 percent of the half-dollars purchased were purchased by white people. ... [We] spent more than \$15,000 in paid advertisements in Negro papers and received less than \$1,000 in [the] purchase of coins by Negroes.”

“... Every organization and individual who attempted to promote the sale of these half-dollars eventually lost money and gave up the promotion.” Nevertheless, Phillips believed that “... The 3.8 million half-dollars put into circulation left a constant reminder to the American people of the great contributions made by Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver.”

## **Phillips Continued Coin Sales**

On March 5, 1955, *The Tribune* declared, BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

## **TON BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL PURCHASED BY DAUGHTER.**

According to the newspaper, “... The 207-acre farm was sold at auction on the \$16,000 high bid of Mrs. Portia Washington Pittman, daughter of the famous educator. Mrs. Pittman’s bid was made in behalf of the newly created Booker T. Washington National Monument Committee [*sic*], which is headed by Sidney J. Phillips, who founded and was president of the former memorial corporation. Through the efforts of Phillips, interested friends provided a loan of \$16,000 to redeem the Washington birthplace reservation which [*sic*] contains the restored birth cabin and to which former memorial administration made extensive improvements. ...”

The monument foundation [*The Tribune* had incorrectly identified it as a “committee”] had been incorporated under Virginia law in August 1955 with S. J. Phillips as its president. The foundation’s trustees then formed the Booker T. Washington Centennial Commission. Congress appropriated \$225,000 in 1956 so that the commission could pay for the expenses associated with an 11-month long celebration of the educator’s life, held from April 5, 1956, through August 1, 1957.

In October 1957 Phillips told *Roanoke World News* reporter Dick Sutherland that 8,264 Carver-Washington half-dollars had been sold during the centennial for \$1.00 each; 2,082 had been exchanged at face value; and 2,786 had been donated. “Elk lodges and Negro women’s clubs were being asked to sell coins ... for the commission,” Sutherland reported.

The centennial commission also

advertised in newspapers throughout the country. To illustrate: During the 1956 National Baptist Convention, held in Denver, a local paper ran this ad in its September 21 edition. “You, too, may help,” it advised. “Buy Carver-Washington memorial half-dollars, an investment in America. This month in Denver will be your last opportunity to get one of the historically important Washington-Carver [*sic*] commemorative US half-dollars being distributed to honor the centennial year of Booker T. Washington. These commemorative coins have been sold in many parts of the country for as much as \$2.00 each. This offering in Denver is being made to the public at a special price of only \$1.00 per coin. The proceeds over the face value of the coins are being used to further the work of the Booker T. Washington Commission.”

“These commemorative coins make exceptionally fine gifts for friends and are good collector’s items,” the ad continued. “US legal coinage, they will always have face value. Money spent for these coins furthers the progress of human relations among all Americans. With an outline map on one side and the portraits of Washington and Carver in bas-relief on the other [*sic*] you’ll want one or more for family gifts and helpful souvenirs of this important centennial year.”

### **Senator Opposed Phillips**

In September 1962 Phillips once again solicited Congress to establish a George Washington Carver Commemorative Commission and to authorize the appropriation of \$249,000 to cover the commission’s expenses. Senator Absalom W. Robertson (D-VA)

opposed House Joint Resolution 110 which, had it been approved, would have provided the requested funds. Robertson, a Dixiecrat, was one of 19 legislators who vehemently opposed desegregation. The senator’s statement about Phillips appeared in the *Congressional Record – Senate* of February 21, 1962.

“In the beginning,” Robertson recalled, “I was an enthusiastic supporter of the idea of providing a suitable memorial to Booker T. Washington at the site of his birth in Franklin County, a county in which I lived as a boy. I accepted an invitation, along with many other Virginians, to serve on the board of governors of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial Foundation.”

“But the board of governors never met. When I received an inquiry from the chief postal inspector, who was investigating charges that the memorial was using the mails to defraud in connection with fund-raising schemes ... I advised him that the board existed in name only and was not responsible for the actions of Phillips or his trustees. Shortly thereafter, the board of governors was dissolved.”

The senator then expressed his concern. “... In one capacity or another, Phillips ordered the manufacture of a total of 5,588,000 coins under the 1946 act and its amendment, and he returned almost half of them, 2,675,980, to the mint for re-melting, ... The coins were issued with the understanding that they would be sold at a modest premium and that the profits would be used for a worthy cause, but I am told by the mint that Phillips deliberately limited the number of coins in circulation and gave exclusive



*1956 was the 100th anniversary of Booker T. Washington's birth, and a centennial celebration was financially supported by a \$225,000 congressional appropriation.*

resale rights to certain coin dealers who reaped a substantial profit, despite the protests of coin collectors.”

Robertson complained, “... Phillips left no financial records of the eight-year period during which the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial existed. Some of the records were destroyed by fire in 1950, and Phillips destroyed others in 1957 because, he told the General Accounting Office, he had no storage space for them and he did not believe they would be needed again.”

“Last fall,” he advised colleagues, “Phillips sent me his own summary of the annual financial reports he made to his friends on the board of trustees during the life of the birthplace memorial. The Government Accounting Office has reviewed this document and concluded that it provided ‘only limited information.’ In five cases, it was found, the yearly figures for disbursements were not even added properly,

and in one case, the final total was padded by \$993.”

Senator Robertson concluded, “Phillips’ financial report indicates that he handled more than \$2.0 million between 1946 and 1954, and it is readily apparent to me that he produced nothing of value with the money. ...”

### **Saved for Posterity**

Today, collectors of US coins would disagree with Senator Robertson’s conclusion. Sidney J. Phillips, in fact, produced two commemorative half-dollar designs, one of which celebrated the life of Booker T. Washington while the other celebrated the lives of both George Washington Carver and that of Washington. Examples of these half-dollars will remain safe in the possession of American numismatists long into the foreseeable future, insuring that these men will not be forgotten – something of value, indeed.



## Inspire Youth to Join Through “Imagination 101”—America The Beautiful Quarter Program

by *Walt Ostromecki*

Whatever happened to the imagination? No, not the kind that fantasies or dreams are made of, but the kind which transports one’s mind to envision, transcend and escape—even momentarily, the reality of the present. Youngsters of all ages and many adults, too, can often do so after just reading a book about space, travel destinations, romance, historical events, or even old west tales of Wells Fargo.

Today’s online virtual world offers up thousands of posted personal videos of all sorts of subjects for people to view, enjoy and even become a follower of on a site like Youtube. An example here might be by watching an individual share his or her first-hand closeup personal experience adventure with an Emperor penguin colony

encounter in Antarctica while lying flat on ice.

The sound records the curious chattering voices of the penguins, flapping their wings and bobbing their heads about. You can hear the squishy sound of penguin feet walking on the ice as they cautiously approach to check out the individual. Your imagination allows you to be there and share the first-hand experience of the individual’s awe and audible reaction to the exciting encounter.

CBS veteran newsman, Walter Cronkite, used the imagination tool when covering all sorts of worldwide stories by simply invoking his famous phrase, “And now you are there.” And under his skillful guidance your imagination took you there!

Numismatic hobbyists can do likewise now during the COVID-19 Pandemic by stimulating the imagination of youth through stories about the designs on America the Beautiful (ATB) Quarters.

Why now more so? Because of “the stay-at-home is safer” orders, established by many states arising from the pandemic. This helps to make sure family members and young loved ones remain at home, but often bored. As such, it provides the perfect opportunity to share with youngsters and others the rich cultural heritage, historic facts, and special events depicted on each quarter and, of course, with the aid of invoking the imagination.

This interactive fun-filled, hands-on, and historic “numismatic seed planting” opportunity can be the adventure of a lifetime which encourages, excites, and inspires a youth to develop an inner interest for the money hobby—a win-win opportunity.

Besides, what youngster can resist an opportunity to snuggle up with a parent or grandparent and be captivated by their coin story telling combined with the imagination!

## **US Mint's America The Beautiful Quarter Program**

The US Mint's ATB quarter program began in 2010 with five quarters being released yearly. It will end with the last one being issued in 2021. (Note, as of this writing the last three ATB Quarters for Kansas, Vermont, and Alabama have not been issued.)



The following ATB quarter stories share some examples to assist the storyteller with Imagination 101 adventure ideas. These are simply building block thoughts provided to help stimulate the mind's curiosity in both the teller and listening youngster(s) behind each quarter design.

Before you begin any narrative session make sure each youngster has the appropriate ATB quarter(s) in their hands to look at and take in the awe and wonder.

The imagination stories provided following are but idea suggestions for consideration. You are free to use your own thoughts instead. They are listed in the order in which this writer presents them in a session one at a time. The Imagination 101 ATB quarter adventure is designed to be a spark, a gradual one-by-one or two-by-two first step introduction journey to the fun coin collecting hobby. And it could be the only opportunity you get to inspire a next generation youngster to become a collector.

## **The ATB Quarter 101 Imagination Adventure**

So, which ATB quarter is a good beginning point? Any one will do. I suggest the state wherein you live or where you were born being the best place. As this writer resides in California, that ATB quarter along with the California state quarter serves as a captivating lead-off point to begin the youth Imagination 101 journey adventure.

## Nature's Splendor!

The 2010 California ATB quarter depicts iconic El Capitan in Yosemite National Park with its magnificent waterfalls cascading down more than 3,000 feet to the valley floor. There are nearly 1,200 square miles of lush valleys, grand colorful meadows of wildflowers and rocky hillside slopes, and ancient giant sequoia redwoods.

Both of you close your eyes and imagine the scenic picturesque setting. Can you hear the mighty roar of a waterfall, feel the light mist on your skin, smell the fragrance of the flowers, hear the bees buzzing about them and/or the chirpings of birds? It is so relaxing!

Next thought you may wish to ask kids: Can you hear that echoing shrill from the bird as it dives past El Capitan and gracefully glides down and about the ancient giant sequoia's? The answer should be *no!* But do not despair if a reply should come back, eagle, hawk, or California Condor.

It only proves their picture memory and now imagination transference from the California statehood quarter to the California ATB quarter has kicked in. Unfortunately, you must let them down that there is no bird pictured, but their recall association of a detail on the California statehood quarter is remarkable. Oops!

## I Spy a Coin Minting Press, Do You?

Please make sure to hand out or lay out on a table several different examples of ATB quarters from which the youth can look over and make a choice. You can inquire why he/she chose a certain quarter design which was not the "I spied one". You can also, if you choose, share some information about any incorrectly "I spied" quarter.

Listen to what their responses are coming up with as to why this or that quarter. Make sure the youngster's correctly "I spied" pick gets into his/her hands. Now, the storyteller can begin the Imagination 101 adventure with the first in the series — the 2010 Arkansas ATB quarter.

So, what is the actual design pictured if not a minting coin press? The image depicts a *façade* —the front or face of a building opening usually with a walkway into it. In the case of

the Arkansas ATB quarter it is the archway entrance (in Spanish colonial revival style) with a thermal fountain in the foreground to Hot Springs National Park in Little Rock, the state capital.

If it were really a coin minting press what would you imagine the *mintmark* or letter designate for the dated coins struck there be from the following choices: A, H, L, R?



## Afraid of the Dark?

Here, the imagination has no bounds for many kids and adults as well: monsters under their beds; shadows of bright light streaming in from a window become aliens ready to snatch a kid away; the wind whistling and tree branches creaking and swaying (and other haunting noises) mean ghosts, etcetera.

Think what it must have been like for Francis Scott Key being held prisoner aboard a captured American ship anchored in the Patapsco River eight miles away from Fort McHenry on those dreadful and fearful night bridging September 13 and 14, 1814—which is portrayed on the 2011 Maryland ATB Quarter.

When the relentless British bombardment began and continued through the night; the bombs busting loudly in the air; the rocket's red glare lighting up the night sky eerily revealing the destruction; and at seeing a tattered "stars and stripes" giving its last full measure of devotion must have been emotionally overwhelming and devastating to Key. His imagination must have surely surmised the worst that it, along with the fort, would surely be gone by the dawn's early light.

But as the darkness slowly gave way to the morning light his deep

sadness and despair disappeared and gave way to a calming and joyful jubilation. For that tattered battle-wearied star-spangled banner was still there, proudly waving in the air!

His imagination at seeing it so in all probability provided him with the inspiration to pen the words for "The Star-Spangled Banner"!

## Ship Travel and Scenic Beauty

Give some thought to what it was like to be a deck hand or passenger on a riverboat as you passed slowly along a 40 mile stretch of Lake Superior shoreline of Pictured Rocks Lakeshore (the National Park pictured on the Michigan 2017 ATB quarter) consisting of 200-foot high colorful sandstone cliffs, a lush forest scenery, and 300-foot tall sand dunes. You can see an abundance of wildlife: black bears, deer, porcupines, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, etcetera, around the cliffs and beaches.

The 2018 Wisconsin ATB quarter, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, offers a similar spectacular 12-mile shoreline view filled with diverse populations of birds, mammals, fish plus several lighthouses.

On another note, think about what it must have been like for a ship filled with hundreds of European immigrants coming to America to start a new life in a new country. Imagine



what all those on the deck felt as their ship passed by the welcoming Statute of Liberty in New York Harbor on its way to Ellis Island. The 2017 New Jersey Ellis Island ATB quarter portrays that welcoming story of hope and a new life!

**Dinosaurs!**

Dinosaurs sure can invoke the Imagination. Many a youngster has a love affinity with the ferocious dinosaur. A couple of large toy ones can be certainly found in a boy’s bedroom on a nightstand, a shelf or even hanging from the ceiling. Sometimes they also serve as a favorite snuggle-up-with nightly sleep toy.

With a little imagine you might just be able to see one pictured on the 2014 Louisiana ATB quarter. No kidding! Take a quick look at the quarter design and close your eyes. Let your mind’s imagination picture and process it. By golly, it could actually be that of a dinosaur — a giant flying pterodactyl or pterosaur.

Louisiana Governor Piyush “Bobby” Jindal was asked by a news reporter covering the first day of release ceremony of the Louisiana ATB quarter in Baton Rouge what was a most unusual question probably in jest: “Some individuals in your state have expressed the thought that the coin design pictured appears to be a

dinosaur rather than wild turkey. Can you elaborate on this?”

The crowd chuckled, giggled, and smiled. The governor grinned and provided the following answer with a straight face as best possible and in a humorous manner: “It’s just an artist’s depiction or interpretation of the Louisiana wild turkey probably after downing a few shots of Wild Turkey Bourbon.

Sir, if you are seeing it that way now, I would suspect you may be so impaired as well. And your imagination has done the rest. I hope the bourbon was a product of Louisiana!”

**Thrills, Chills and Scary Things**

What feelings does the imagination conjure up in your mind when it comes to great heights, roller-coasters, spiders, whitewater rafting, etcetera?

Fear, anxiety, concern, worry, a queasy stomach or perhaps it may generate feelings totally the opposite such as: thrills, adventure, exhilaration, or elation!

Picture oneself hanging by a 3/8” steel cable attached to a metal bosons chair 500 feet over a rock face with a jack hammer in your hand on Mount Rushmore.

You are carving out what would be face of Thomas Jefferson, the actual scene depicted on the 2012 South





Dakota ATB Quarter.

Now add in the scary-dangerous component risk: your toolbox also contains a few sticks of dynamite which are used from time to time to carve out large facial areas. Any blast gone wrong could be your last, sending you free falling and spiraling down earth bound to certain death—provided the blast itself did not take care of that first.

What motivates someone to take on such the risky job? The answer is anyone's guess! Perhaps the view, thrill of it all, or maybe for the pay? In the case of Mount Rushmore workers, that meant a steady job from 1927-1941 at \$8 a day.

## Bats!

No, not the kind used in baseball but rather the flying ones such as the fruit bat mother hanging in a tree with her pup pictured on the 2020 American Samoa ATB *bat* quarter. The quarter was issued to promote the endangered species threat to the mammal in Samoa.

In Samoan mythology it is called “pe’a vao”, also the same name of the traditional Samoan tattoo. What sort of uneasy, often

erie messages, does the imagination conger up about bats? Blood sucking, evil, vampires, haunted houses, etcetera.

Then for many youngsters there is the good flip side for bats, Batman the caped crusader for justice in Gotham City of cartoons and the Adam West TV series fame of the 1960's.

Did you know if you use a bat quarter in the Bram Stoker's Dracula pinball machine you get a free play? This should excite “Pinballers” young and old of all ages!

## Pen Pals

The portrait of social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman Frederick Douglass appears on the 2017 Washington DC ATB quarter. Consider what it might have been like to receive a letter from him as your childhood friend wherein he shares some of his incisive anti-slavery thoughts and the inequality of black Americans in America. Said letter might have also included his most famous quote, “Slavery is both the enemy of the slave and the slave holder.” Douglass escaped from slavery in 1838, thereafter dedicating his life



to fight for African-Americans freedom from slavery and social injustice by any means — a goal of Lincoln in the Civil War.

When young people walk in Douglass’s footsteps they can become inspired by his life as an independent intellectual and productive citizen, and a great shining leadership example — black or white, male or female— especially during these troubled times in America during the 2020’s!

### Playing in the Sand

Can you remember as a kindergartner what enjoyment and fun you had along with classmates playing in the school sandbox during recess or lunch time? Perhaps to were looking for buried treasure like coins. Or maybe spending the day with family and peer age friends at the beach playing in the sand or building sandcastle forts close to the water’s edge?

Your imagination my recall “the absolute most real cool event” of the day—the fun of covering a parent, sibling, grandparent, friend or relative with sand. Then, outlining the sand covered victim with rocks, seaweed, shells, and a few bird feathers? And maybe as a final straw pouring salt water over him or her and watching the individual escape from the sand?

Close your eyes and with a little imagination you can relive this fun-time memory of your childhood again through the 2014 Colorado ATB quarter.



The quarter features a portrait of the Great Sand Dunes National Park along with a father and son playing in the sand.

You might even be able to slide down one on a flattened-out box or inner tube again feeling that exhilarating speed-rush with arms raised in the air with friends cheering you on as you “sand sled” downhill to the bottom. *Wheweeeeee!*

### Noah’s Ark?

Put your imagination to work in high gear when you look over the 2020 Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Idaho ATB quarter. Pay special attention to the portion of the bow of a boat jutting out from the riverbank.



Close your eyes and let your imagination-memory focus in on boats and see what may come to mind. Perhaps the sinking of the *Titanic*, a submarine surfacing, or a Lewis and Clark Expedition keel-boat boat being saved from disaster over the waterfall.

You might even imagine finally discovering the site of Noah’s Ark!

Could that exposed ragged bow portion of a boat be that of the Ark’s resting place on Mount Ararat being

partially uncovered by the raging Church River of No Return by a waterfall in the Idaho wilderness? With a little imagination anything is possible!

After all, the Church River Wilderness is dominated by the Salmon River Canyon, one of the deepest gorges in North America, deeper than the Grand Canyon. It consists of a large variety of landscapes including huge, eroded monuments and bluffs, rugged rocky castles and towers, and solitary crags—a perfect setting for the final resting place of the Ark!

[OPTIONAL -The storyteller may opt to consider inserting a short Biblical narrative about Noah’s Ark.]

### **Liberty, Freedom, War – and 1943 Steel Cent**

The war in the Pacific. Lest we forget the brave soldiers and hundreds of local island residents who suffered and died in the Pacific Theatre of WWII fighting for freedom and oppression during Japanese occupation.

The Guam and Northern Mariana Islands ATB quarters pay tribute to their bravery, courage, and sacrifice! The 2019 Guam ATB quarter portrays the

Memorial Wall which lists and honors all the military personnel and local island residents killed in action in the name of *freedom*.

The 2019 Northern Mariana Islands ATB quarter depicts the Court of Honor Memorial for those –both American troops and local citizens—who gave their last full measure of devotion— and sacrificed their lives in the bloody battle for Saipan.

\*[OPTIONAL] – Though the 2021 Alabama Tuskegee Airmen of WWII Historic Site Quarter has not been issued, consider sharing some of the heroic actions, exploits, and achievements by these African-American pilots, mechanics, nurses, and other support staff during WWII.

The pilots began training in 1941 and formed the 332nd Expeditionary Army Airforce Group; the 477th Bombardment Group; and the 99th Pursuit Fighter Squadron—the first all-black American flying squadron. Of the 992 pilots, 355 were eventually deployed overseas. They first saw combat in North Africa in April 1943.

Of the pilots who saw combat, 84 lost their lives in action or accidents,



and 32 were captured by the enemy. Many of the Tuskegee pilots earned prestigious military awards for their heroic actions. Willie Rogers was the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen combat pilot. He died at age 101 in November of 2016.

\*[OPTIONAL instead of Tuskegee airmen] -This would also be the perfect opportunity to share with youngsters the stories behind the special coinage issues of WWII: the 1943-steel cent, the 1944-46 went-to-war recycled cent; and the copper, silver, and manganese alloy substituted for the metal nickel in the Jeffersons of 1942-1945. Let them hold and see the differences for themselves as you point them out.]

## Saratoga, 1777

[Note: You might consider asking the youngster to share how disappointed he or she felt after losing a team sport event, a race, not receiving a passing grade on a quiz, etcetera—especially after practicing or studying hard!]

Think about all the great many sacrifices the American colonists made in April of 1775 when they desired to be free from British tyranny and waged a bloody struggle against the odds to become *free and independent* from the British Crown.

Their minds were filled with fear and uncertainty. Things began to look very bleak at times as American and militia forces lost many battles to the superior well-trained British forces. A final victory in favor of the colonists

seemed impossible. Serious doubt began to take hold.

But a few leaders remained confident because of their strong faith-based trust and assurance in God, that He would guide them through to inevitable victory! So, they chose to stay the course and ultimately won independence in September 1783!

The historic turning point in the Revolutionary War for the American forces came in the autumn of 1777 when they met and forced a major British army to surrender at Saratoga, New York.

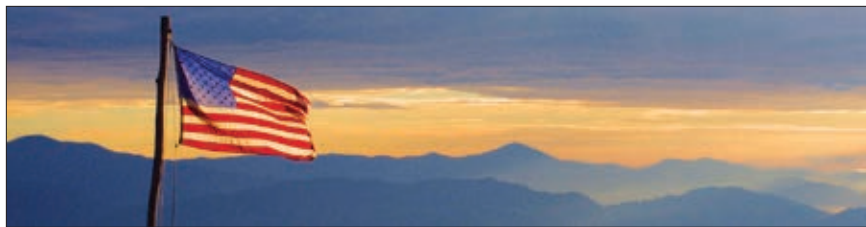
This great victory was made possible with naval support and official recognition from France which forever changed the face of the world—not to mention the beginning of a long-lasting close friendship between France and America!



This historic American victory is immortalized on the 2015 New York ATB quarter. It depicts the moment British General Burgoyne surrendered his sword to American General Gates following the British defeat at Saratoga in 1777—and realizing that all the colonists sacrifices and losses were not in vain!

## Conclusion

As you can see it does not take much effort to stimulate and excite the mind's imagination, nor to use the imagination to help engage curiosity about the history portrayed on coin designs in a youngster's mind—whether it be the America The Beautiful



quarter program, the US State Quarter program, both, or something else.

Sharing the history and lore behind ATB quarters, and all coins for that matter, is a perfect foundation building opportunity, especially during the current COVID pandemic crisis, for developing and growing a youngster's mind into a lifelong fun-filled appreciation, enjoyment, and adventure with the numismatic collecting hobby!

The current youth window of opportunity for enticing, attracting, and sparking an interest in numismatics hobby is closing fast. The talking, wishing, and lamenting stage is long past. Clinging hard to old youth traditions, methods, and programs are no longer viable for attracting kids and families to the coin hobby in today's digital and virtual online world.

Today's coin hobby youth prefer to use and learn from online platforms rather than personally attend a club meeting. Why? Simply that it is far more convenient for them, available at any time with basic learning information programs and specialized coin talks, no club membership dues requirement for a monthly newsletter, provides listings of monthly coin shows by state to assist them in purchasing coins, posts a list of coin shops located around their home residence, and most important of all without leaving home!

Parents and new teen drivers like this feature the most. Why? Because driving a youngster to a meeting site is an inconvenience for parents; it is at night and requires both or the young collector to stay out late with a new school or work day the next morning and so on.

The time for action and a new approach is now! Get serious and try out a new idea or concept. The ANA on its money.org website has posted many new youth activities for your consideration and use. And, you do not have to be an ANA member or club. You have got nothing to lose and much to gain!

Even the BSA Scouts are currently employing virtual merit badge opportunities with online E-Learning programs. Though impersonal unless one uses a Skype, Zoom or Youtube audience interaction platform to not only connect with but engage scouts and adult leaders face-to-face in a friendly learning environment.

For the past few months scouts have been learning and earning merit badges in small interest groups, troops or as individuals through these face-to-face interactive online programs. This does include the coin collecting merit badge which this writer has developed and successfully given to scouts via the Western Los Angeles County Council's Virtual Merit Badge University.

# Collecting \$1 Small Sized US Issued Currency (1928 – Present)

by Rick Melamed

Those collectors looking for a diverse and interesting way to expand their numismatic holdings without breaking the bank should consider collecting small sized US issued currency. While small sized notes were issued in denomination from \$1 to \$100,000, we will focus on just the \$1 notes in this article.

From 1861 to 1923, there were many large sized issues (Treasury notes, demand notes, FRNs, nationals, gold and silver certificates, etc.). The notes were large and bulky (and expensive to collect). In 1928 in a move to economize and streamline, the government, under the direction of Treasury Secretary Andrew W. Mellon, reduced

the actual size of circulating currency. Large sized notes measuring 9.125" x 3.875" were reduced in size to 7.625" x 3.125"... the size of modern US currency.

Most of the issues were blue seal silver certificates; but there were special issues with brown and yellow seals. In addition, in a very short run, the Treasury printed \$1 red seal US notes. In 1963 to the present day, green seal Federal Reserve notes replaced the silver certificates and became the only circulating \$1 bill.



*A 1928A series  
"funny back"  
silver certificate.*



*A 1934 series silver certificate with a blue numeral “1”, and the seal moved from the left to the right.*



## Silver Certificates

Small sized silver certificates were issued from 1929 to 1963 and were the main source of circulating \$1 bills. They were backed by the government's assurance that a \$1 silver certificate could be traded in for \$1 worth of silver coins. Below Washington's portrait it states: "ONE SILVER DOLLAR / PAYABLE TO THE BEARER ON DEMAND".

There were four major date issues during the small sized run of silver certificates: 1928, 1934, 1935 and 1957. Minor changes over the years of issue, such as the change of a signatory (i.e. treasurer and/or secretary of the treasury) resulted with the addition of a letter at the end of the date. The 1928 series had 6 signatory changes which are represented by a letter suffix (1928, 1928A, 1928B...1928E).

The 1928A example shown has the blue Treasury seal on the note. The back, colloquially called "funny back" was short lived. 1934 was the last year they were on the back of the \$1 silver certificate. For the 1928 series, notice how the blue seal is located on the left side of the note. A mid-grade example can be had for less than \$20 and a Choice CU slabbed note would be priced less than \$100.

The 1934 series was a one series year issue. The blue Treasury seal

moved to the right side and a large blue numeral "1" was positioned to the left of the portrait. Prices are similar to the 1928 series.

If any sheet was damaged during production, it would be destroyed and remade using the same serial number sequence. A star would be used in the serial number indicating it was a replacement (as seen on the note above). Simply called *star* notes, their presence indicated it was replacement. Star notes are not common but do arise with some regularity. Their scarcity has value and can increase the value of a note many times over.

The 1935 series of silver certificates had (9) releases issued from 1935 to 1957 (1935, 1935A...1935H). Except for the change in signatories, the faces were the same. The large numeral "1" on the left side changed color from a light blue to gray. The large "ONE" in block letters on the right side was removed and the size of the blue seal was reduced in size. The back design was radically changed. Exit the giant "ONE" and enter the pyramid with the eye on top and the eagle clutching arrows and olive branches. The newly designed back is still with us today. While the 1935 series is quite common, there is one particular release that should be of keen interest to the collector. The

**"IN GOD WE TRUST"**  
**New Dollar Bills Carry Old Inscription**  
 WASHINGTON, Oct. 1. AP — Something new has been added to the dollar bills available at most banks today.  
 On the green side, just above the large word "one," is the motto "In God We Trust." The inscription has long been used on coins, but was added to the paper money under provisions of a 1953 law.  
 The new bills also carry the signature of Robert B. Anderson, who succeeded George M. Harshbarger as secretary of the treasury, July 29.



1935G series, issued in 1957, added the "In God We Trust" to the reverse. In the process the Treasury created an interesting collectible. For a modest amount of money (less than \$30) a collector can own an AU pair of 1935G \$1 silver certificates with and without the "In God We Trust Motto" on the back. A small 1957 news article

made the announcement. Quite the eye-catcher.

1957 was the last series of silver certificates. It had 3 signature revisions (1957, 1957A, 1957B). They were used in circulation until 1963 and were phased out in 1963. By 1964, the government ended the ability to trade the silver certificates in for silver



*Low or fancy serial numbers can command a premium. Really fancy serial numbers can command a real fancy premium.*



*These unusual “test notes” identified by the red capital “R” and “S” in the lower right corners were meant to help identify means of increasing note durability.*



dollars. A circulated note is worth a very slight premium; a nice uncirculated example can be purchased for less than \$10. This uncirculated example with a low serial number would be a premium, but still affordable. But if you want some wow factor on a serial number...the note with all 9’s in the serial number would cost you \$14,000 (image courtesy of Heritage Auctions).

In an uncompleted test, a group of the 1935A series of silver certificate were imprinted with a bold red “R” and “S” in the lower right. Chronologically entered into circulation in 1944, the “S” branded note (S for Special)

was impregnated with a special chemical to increase durability. The “R” note (R for Regular) was untreated. No conclusion was ever reached and the test abandoned since many collectors and dealers hoarded the notes. A circulated pair will set you back around \$300.

Another interesting 1935A silver certificate was this yellow seal example issued during WW2. The note was made for use in North Africa. If was felt that if the Nazi’s conquered North Africa, the yellow seal notes could be repudiated and demonetized if they should fall into the hands of

*The yellow seal on this note was used during WW2 in North Africa to enable them to be easily identified and demonetized if captured.*



The HAWAII overprints on the left and right sides of the face on this note, and the large overprint on the back, was used during WW2 in Hawaii to enable them to be easily identified and demonetized if captured.



our enemy. A circulated example is valued about \$50.

One of the coolest examples of the 1935A silver certificate series is the brown seal Hawaii note. The bold “HAWAII” overprint on the face and back were also issued in WW2 (1942-44) using the same justification as the North African notes. If Hawaii fell into the hands of the Japanese, the branded notes could be demonetized. These exist in relatively large numbers and in great condition because the Treasury did not release them all. Many were set into circulation after the war and were widely collected. A mid-grade example can be purchased for \$35.



### United States Notes

Under the direction of President Franklin Roosevelt, The US Treasury also issued a \$1 US note in 1933 (though dated 1928) for release in Puerto Rico. It was a short run and this note commands a premium price...over \$100 for a mid-graded example.

### Federal Reserve Notes

From 1963 to present day, with the silver certificate and US notes phased out, the familiar green seal Federal Reserve Note (FRN) is the only \$1 bill in circulation. They are all virtually identical with no design changes over the last 57 years. There have been many series from 1963 to present



The 1928 series was at first little used, but was later released for use in Puerto Rico in 1949.

*The Federal Reserve note is ubiquitous today, and the only note that most of today's citizens have ever seen.*



day (1963, 1969, 1974, 1977, 1981, 1985, 1988, 1993, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2017). FRN's are issued by the 12 Federal Reserve banks located in major cities across the United States (each designated with the letters A-L in a seal in the center left representing location – A=Boston, B=New York, C=Philadelphia...L=San Francisco). These are very affordable with gem notes rarely worth more than \$10. Full sets by the 12 Federal Reserve

geographical districts as well as by issue year, offers numerous collecting possibilities.

Collecting small sized \$1 notes with its rainbow of colors is an interesting and affordable way to collect a cool aspect of numismatics. Collecting by fancy serial numbers or by the myriad of error possibilities further enriches the possibilities of small sized note collecting.

## 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 8), 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.



# A World of Silver, One Ounce at a Time

by Mark Benvenuto

The United States one-ounce silver eagle coins have become a series with some history to them, as they now get to being 35 years old. A generation of collectors has come of age who have never known a time when there were not silver eagles to collect, either as regular issues or proofs. But the spike in gold prices in 2020 carried the price of silver metal up with it as well; and thus, now might be a good time to do some armchair globe-trotting, and see what other options are available for those of us collecting big silver. After all, the metals prices have dropped a bit from the top of the spike. Now might be an excellent time to look into one-ounce silver bullion coins.

## The Great, Silver North

For bullion coin collectors who have focused on the silver eagle issues of the United States Mint, we can widen our gaze, as it were, and look north, to our Canadian friends and



the silver one-ounce maple leaves that have been produced by the Royal Canadian Mint (the RCM) almost as long as we have had our eagles.

The Canadian program is a big one, since the RCM is capable of churning out a huge number of coins, circulating, commemorative, bullion, and even for other nations. A



collection of silver Canadian maple leaves could be fun to build, and probably wouldn't cost a fortune.

That large output generally translates to lower prices.

## Good Finds South Of The Border?

In the greater scheme of things, Mexico has been pounding out big, silver coins for centuries. What is now the Casa de Moneda—the Mexican Mint—started way back in

1535, producing a river of big, crude, chunky, silver 8 reales pieces, as well as plenty of minors.

Quality control certainly improved over time, and the 8 reales of Spanish colonial Mexico, and later a free Mexico, fueled the coffers of many



nations in the world during good times and bad, from the kingdoms of Europe on one side of the globe to the Empire of China on the other. The silver one-ounce libertads can be considered the successor coins to the 8 reales, or maybe just the next coin design in a long line of big silver. There are definitely enough of them that anyone wishing to break into this series will not have to shell out too much of their own paper money.

### Less Well Known

While we could “round up the usual suspects”—to purloin a line from the classic movie, “Casablanca”—meaning the Chinese silver Pandas, the silver Kookaburras of Australia, and the one-ounce pieces of a few others, it might be more fun to see what sort of silver, one-ounce bullion coins we can add to any growing collection that come from nations not traditionally known for their silver bullion coins.

### Land of the Kazakhs

The relatively new nation of Kazakhstan, one of many that arose from the implosion of the old Soviet Union, has a significant mineral wealth, and has produced



one-ounce silver irbis coins for several years now. The name is that of a reclusive Asian snow leopard, and yes, the big cat is featured prominently on the coins. Finding these may be a bit tougher than simply asking local dealers, as there does not yet seem to be a big market for them in the West. But if all else fails, we could always pay a visit to the website of the National Bank of Kazakhstan (it’s real!), which even has a button in the upper right corner that translates the entire site into English. For the unbelievers among us, try: [nationalbank.kz/en](http://nationalbank.kz/en).

### The Fabled Krugerrand

When it comes to bullion coins in general, the nation that really started the whole modern phenomenon is South Africa. But these famous bullion coins – the krugerrands – have for the longest time exclusively been gold. The first South African silver krugerrand was only issued in 2017. But like Canada and Mexico, South Africa is a land with incredible mineral wealth, and that first year of issue saw 630,000 silver krugerrands issued, making them relatively affordable today. A full collection does

not encompass too many years, and might be fun to put together.

### An Archangel?

The Archangel Michael is the patron saint of a wide variety of professions, including mariners, police, paratroopers, and grocers. To that eclectic mix we can add military personnel, which does make some sense since the Prince of the Heavenly Host is often portrayed holding a sword. But he also now appears on the silver, one-ounce coins of Ukraine, since he is also the patron saint of the city of Kyiv. Believe it or not, what can be called the silver Archangel Michaels have been produced since 2011, but never in enormous quantities. Finding these may be a challenge, and will probably be more costly than simply the price of the silver plus 10%. But they are attractive, and would be a neat addition to a bullion coin collection.



### Celebrating the Music

The Austria that came out of the Second World War is one that did everything it could to remain non-aligned during what is now known as the Cold War. At roughly the same time, much was made of its rich musical heritage; and so it was not too big a jump for the Austrian Mint to honor its famed philharmonic on its gold and silver bullion coins. The silver, one-ounce philharmoniker pieces are attractive,



and have been produced for enough years, and in large enough quantities, that it isn't too hard to find them.

### More, Better, or More and Better?

We've only made a small scratch in the big surface that is now silver, one-ounce bullion coins of the world. There are quite a few nations that produce them in somewhat limited quantities, mostly for us collectors, and not for the world's metals markets. But this brings up an interesting point.

If we want to collect even a single piece from every nation or colonial holding that is issuing them, do we go for what can be called the regular issue, or for some upgraded version—usually a proof, or proof-like piece—that is being minted for the collecting community? It's a rather wonderful predicament to be in,

but it's still one that needs to be solved or answered. And the simplest answer may be to collect what we like.

If a one-ounce silver piece from the British Virgin Islands is a bit too off the beaten track for our tastes, but a silver Britannia is not, so be it.

Collecting one-ounce silver bullion pieces doesn't really have any books with pre-cut holes that must be filled—or really have any rules at all, for that matter. It's more a matter of having some fun, learning about various lands that are all over the map, and collecting some great silver, all at the same time.

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## Enjoying Your Hobby?

**Ever wonder what's going to become of it in the future?**

Who will be enjoying the “mystique” when the current crop of “greybeards” is gone? Better hope someone promotes it to the general population and gets young people involved at an impressionable age...

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

You can help to ensure there will be someone interested in your collection when it comes time to pass it along by making a tax-deductible donation today. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 8), identify your gift as a “fund-raising donation”, and then receive acknowledgment in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.



# Grandpa's "Good-For" Token

By Jim Wells

In the spring 2019 issue of *The California Numismatist* I wrote an article about "Grandpa's Coin Collection" that I received from my maternal grandfather when I was a boy. He gave me several dozen 18th and 19th century American coins that he had apparently collected over many years, some possibly found in the cash register in the office supply store he ran.

But he didn't give me, nor even mention, any of the "good-for" trade tokens he had struck for his own store! That fact I just now learned. I might have been a big "good-for" collector!

Many of his coins I illustrated in my 2019 article. I spent decades studying and identifying his coin gifts, exhibiting, writing articles, and presenting talks about them. I bought others to fill in some of the many gaps, and have enjoyed numismatics for decades. I have added foreign coins, US and Confederate paper money, and other areas to my collections over the years. But I had not gotten around to tokens!

My "Grandpa's Coin Collection" article described my family's trip to his hometown: Lake Charles, Louisiana. There my grandpa Fred Rollosson established and ran the Rollosson Stationery Company. My mother recalls working there as a schoolgirl, serving customers during busy back-to-school times. She also was blessed with many cousins and friends in Lake Charles.

In August 2020 Lake Charles was overrun by the eye of Hurricane



TC-320365; Crawford-Farber 4788-R/3-5

Laura, and six weeks later by Hurricane Delta. Together, they wiped out many of the area's homes, farms, and businesses.

My family has no relatives left in Lake Charles today. But one of my cousins checked with her friends there and in neighboring towns and got reports of massive damages.

Another find my cousin made was on Facebook, from Glyn Farber of the Lake Charles Historic Neighborhoods group. He had posted a copper trade token from the Rollosson Stationery Company. He reported "Frederick Rollosson opened the business at 314 Pujos Street in 1913. Rollosson Stationery Company moved to 905 Ryan Street in 1917 and to 728 Ryan in the late 1940s. The company closed in the mid-1950s. In 1924 Rollosson Stationery opened a branch in Crowley (La) which operated for over twenty years."

Wow! I hadn't known all those specifics. But I had visited grandpa's store when he gifted his collection to me, and he found some manila envelopes and a small file box there to give me for my new collection. I knew his cousin George Rollosson who ran the Crowley store. When the Lake Charles store closed "in the mid-1950s," I knew my grandpa moved to Los Ange-



*This 1936 postcard shows the main street of Lake Charles with the “Rollosson” store sign on the right side of the street.*



*Above: My only non-numismatic memento from my grandpa is this 3” leather paperweight from his store. Like the token it is well used, but invaluable to me!*

*Right: My grandpa at work inside his store in 1940.*



*Left: A 1927 ad for grandpa’s store, in a city business directory. (He had hired his father-in-law (my great-grandfather) to repair typewriters. Another of many street addresses! Check the three-digit phone number.*



les. My parents and I visited him there too.

I contacted Facebook member Farber who posted the token and found he has authored two Louisiana trade tokens catalogs and has a large website about them. His website displays hundreds of tokens! But his house was severely damaged by the hurricanes and he still had no internet link to conduct his token business. He owns the token pictured but doesn’t want to part with it!

Recently, I looked more carefully into tokens, and learned that they are similar to coins, but not issued as legal

tender by a government. They can sometimes be used instead of money, such as in periods of depression or coin hoarding, like the Hard Times period of the 1830s or the Civil War in the 1860s. They can be made of copper, cardboard, pewter, aluminum, brass, Bakelite, porcelain, cardboard, or many other compositions. They may be used for feeding slot machines or washing machines, paying railroad fares, advertising merchants, redeem-

ing prizes, commemorating events, or swapping for drinks, goods, or communion. They can be in many shapes: round, square, clover, barrel, clover, and more. Sounds to me like a bigger field than coins! Does any one person have time to explore it completely?

The Token and Medals Society (TAMS) offers education and encouragement about token collecting in their website ([tokenandmedal.org](http://tokenandmedal.org)), book sales, and their bi-monthly *TAMS Journal*. Even TCN frequently features interesting articles of tokens.

Now that my grandpa is long gone, I have few other memories or memo-

abilia except his wonderful coins. I do have a paperweight from the store. (Who uses paperweights anymore?) I have passed many of grandpa's coins to my own grandchildren or sold them at auction. But I still have camera images of them in my computer to enjoy and share.

And now that I have the camera image of the Rolloson token, do I need to research this entirely new field? I already have the photo of that trade token and am able to write a story about a token from my own family's store!

---

## Goings On

by Greg Burns

Short column this issue. NASC hasn't had any board meetings, but other than canceling the Golden State Coin Show in August, there really hasn't been any news.

CSNA too, has had to cancel their planned December show and convention, and there have been no further board meetings for that group either. Plus the planned educational form that was a joint venture between CSNA and the Northern California Numismatic Association, to be held in Vallejo, was announced as canceled as of the beginning of September (same as the CSNA symposium originally planned in the south in the spring).

So both associations, CSNA and NASC, have had much of their functioning and member benefits stymied by the stink bug (covid). Obviously and happily TCN is unaffected, and our authors continue to skillfully

churn out their wonderful material during the shut-downs and isolation measures. Several of the clubs have managed various levels, some high, some low, of streaming services to connect interested members and visitors. But other than that, there ain't been much "Goings On", though I do see in Turrini's club reports that a very few of the northern clubs have cracked open a bit and seem to be reestablishing their meetings, so maybe that's the dawn at the end of a long, long night.

My guess is that by our spring issue there will be some good news and board activity to share. Keeping my fingers crossed!



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- Enquiries about CSNA should be addressed to CSNA Membership Director George Magann, or CSNA Treasurer Lloyd Chan at his email address found on [www.Calcoin.org](http://www.Calcoin.org). Please allow several days for a response.



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# California Token

## Spotlight

**Shining on: Alcatraz Island**

*by Merle Avila*

The Spanish discovery of the bay and the first documentation of the island soon to become known as Alcatraz was by a band of soldiers led by Captain Gaspar de Portola, who overshot their original destination of Monterey and happened upon the San Francisco Bay in 1769. At the time, the large body of water was believed to be landlocked until discovery of the Golden Gate by Capt. Pedro Fages, who found the peninsula gap in 1770. Five years later, the first recorded Spanish ship, the *San Carlos* commanded by Lt. Juan Manuel de Ayala, was the first to explore the San Francisco Bay. Upon charting the islands of the bay, Ayala discovered an island covered with a large amount of pelicans; this island would become known as La Isla de los Alcatraces or “island of pelicans” or “large birds.” This translation would eventually evolve into Alcatraz.

For the next 46 years, Spain would remain in control of California and the San Francisco Bay until Mexican independence in 1821. Six years after Mexican independence, a more accurate chart would be made of the bay. In 1827, when Capt. Fredrick Beechey of the British Royal Navy was allowed to explore the bay, his more detailed map cemented the name La Isla de los Alcatraces, or Alcatraz Island. Later



*Each cell in B & C block was 5 feet by 9 feet. Cells at Alcatraz had a small sink with cold running water, small sleeping cot, and a toilet. Most men could extend their arms and touch each wall within their cell. The cells in D Block (segregation) were more spacious, but still the least popular. In D-Block, inmates were confined to their cells 24-hours per day, with the exception of one visit per week to the recreation yard, and these visits were alone.*

examination of Ayala’s original charts shows that the name de los Alcatraces was actually placed on Yerba Buena Island, and it was not until Beechey’s more extensive examination of the bay and his rearrangement of the island’s names that the island of Alcatraz actually became known as Alcatraz.

James Marshall discovered gold in Coloma, California, on January 24, 1848, changing the development and settlement of the territory drastically. Nine days later on February 2, 1848, the Mexican-American War was settled through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The treaty granted the United States 525,000 square miles of northwestern Mexican territory, including California. Two years later

in 1850, California gained statehood, bringing with it the small island in the San Francisco bay, Alcatraz.

Alcatraz, along with other strategic points in the San Francisco Bay, was chosen to become the frontline of defense in case of an attack on California via the San Francisco Bay. By 1853, construction of the military installation on the island had begun. Alcatraz would stand as one of the main lines of defense against ships coming through the Golden Gate. That same year, the first lighthouse in California was constructed on the island. Alcatraz would simultaneously function as a fortress and military prison. For 80 years, it would hold some of the worst military prisoners and confederate conspirators during the Civil War, and military deserters during the Spanish-American War. Alcatraz would continue as a fortress until 1907 when the island was deemed obsolete as a defensive position, simply becoming a prison for western military. This would last until 1933 when administration of the island would be transferred to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Alcatraz, a sandstone island, gained its place in American history as one of the most notorious prisons in the United States and a place only for the most incorrigible prisoners. The hard-nosed prisoners that were sentenced to do time there, the high profile crimes they committed, and the desolation that Alcatraz left them with as a punishment made the island notorious in the minds of the American population. Some of America's most infamous criminals were sent to serve out their prison sentences on the island. Men like Al Capone and Machine gun Kelly spent a portion



of their lives on the island. Criminals of this stature and the sheer inescapability made Alcatraz one of the most infamous prisons in American history. Over the years, the island had seen its share of attempted escapes, riots, and other exploits that raised its level of fame higher and higher. The federal penitentiary survived until 1963 when the prisoners were moved

to new prisons, and the guards and their families were sent to new duties and new homes. Alcatraz penitentiary officially closed for good. Today Alcatraz has become one of the San Francisco Bay's most popular tourist attractions after opening to the public in the 1970's as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

### TCN Tip of the Hat

The ANA awarded Editor Patrick Carpenter of the Sacramento Valley Coin Club's publication, the *SVCC Newsletter*, a second place award in the local club category in this year's Barbara J. Gregory Outstanding Club Publications competition.



### Coin World Reports US Mint Medals Price Increases

Paul Gilkes of *Coin World* published a September 25, 2020, story that reported that the mint's spokesperson, Michael White, a day earlier stated that beginning in 2021 the price of the 3-inch bronze medals will increase from the current \$39.95 up to \$160, and the 1.5-inch medals will increase from the current \$6.95 up to \$20. The presentation cases for each will also increase, up to \$35 and \$15 respectively. Incredible.



### Self-Reliance

*"A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines."*—Ralph Waldo Emerson, from his 1841 essay



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# The Emerging Hobbyist



by Michael S. Turrini

*For this issue, your Emerging Hobbyist columnist invited one of the most esteemed, exemplary, and energized Canadian numismatic stalwarts and devotee, Mr. Scott E. Douglas, of Acton, Ontario, Canada. As can be read, the respected Mr. Douglas reminds that our childhood adventures might or should endure well into retirement. Read and enjoy, plus share!—MST*

## **How Much Is Numismatics A Part of Your Life?**

Ever since I can remember I have been enthralled with money. From a very early age I would collect it, count it, stack it and treasure it. I had a bank account at six years old but would hold the money for a long time before depositing it. I would never spend it.

At ten years of age I had an extensive paper route. Collecting those large silver dollars and fifty cent pieces from my customers was thrilling. Later I helped a man deliver bread door to door on Saturdays. This entailed larger transactions and more interesting coinage.

When it came time to choose a career it was only natural that I should “follow the money”. I came out of high school and went directly to the trading floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange where I began a journey of 45 years as a professional stock

trader. When I retired from my career as a market maker for the Toronto Stock Exchange I realized how much my profession had shown me how to appreciate the value of not only what money is but what it really represents in literally everything we do in our daily lives.

During my life as a trader there would be a degree of stress that as a young man I would wave away as just part of life. I was unaware 30 years ago that it was this stress that would naturally lead me back to the world of numismatics for relief. I knew what money was and I knew what power it commanded. But what is its history? Why does it exist in the form that it does? It was my quest to answer these questions and more that would lead me from coins to tokens to medals and scrip and eventually to the heart of the passion that is collecting. Numismatics is a study of science, the search and research of the history of round discs of metal that reveal so much through a small window of time.

Although I was never a particularly good student when I was young, numismatics gave me a thirst for



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information that would allow me to appreciate my collections for what they really are. Not a financial asset as such but a gateway to a world unlike any other. The dividends we reap from the knowledge we gain is rewarding in so many ways. By sharing this enthusiasm we bring like-minded people together creating a camaraderie that is like no other. This feeling is something that money cannot buy in the literal sense.

We are blessed to have coin clubs that exist for us to entertain our interest. I have met so many people I may never have met without numismatics in my life. I have met people all over the world, face to face by being at their club meeting to share a Powerpoint on my collecting passions. Some of these people have come to visit

Canada and we have met, only to carry on a conversation like we had been together all along. Numismatics is exciting. It is rewarding. It is mentally stimulating and so essential in today's world.

Do yourself a favour and share your collections with your numismatic circle. Give a talk at a coin club or educational symposium and reveal what makes your collection interesting. When you are at home bring your collection into the light and handle your treasures. Play with your coins like you were ten years old again and soon you will feel that same euphoria.

How much is numismatics a part of my life? It is very much a part of everything I do.

—Scott E Douglas

# 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](mailto:gregsburns@gmail.com). Submitted material may be edited for form or content...

## Complete the Whole Menagerie

Greg:

When you published my article of "The Queen's Beasts Epitomize British Heraldry" in the summer 2020 TCN, Britain's Royal Mint had not issued their tenth and final "beast" coin, that of the White Greyhound of Richmond. I had to substitute a Turks and Caicos Islands strike of a White Greyhound.

Now I see that the Greyhound coin is to be released on September 23, 2020, yet dated 2021. I can attach the latest British version:

Now everyone can complete their set!

Cheerio,

—Jim Wells

*Thanks for keeping the readers up to date, Jim! I see that's a one-ounce gold coin and some Internet bullion dealers are offering it on pre-sale for just over \$2000. I wonder how many TCN readers will have received theirs by the time the winter*



*2020 issue that contains this letter to the editor hits their hands?*

*Best regards, Greg*

## Angel Island Connection

Hi Greg,

I hope you're doing well in Cal, dodging fires and such. I get reports from my family members in Petaluma and Santa Clara about how bad the air has been.

I enjoyed Merle Avila's article about Angel Island and its tokens. The island has a family connection for me, as my paternal grandfather was interned there during World War I. As the story goes, he and his best friend were merchant seamen from Germany when they jumped ship in San Francisco to avoid conscription into the German service. As enemy aliens they were detained for a brief time on the island before being shipped to Pennsylvania in time to harvest the potato crop. When the war ended my grandfather returned to his home, but the post-war German economy held little promise. He relocated to America a few years later, this time legally and for good, soon becoming a citizen and marrying my grandmother. I have in my collection the nearly worthless



banknotes that were in his wallet when he arrived.

—David W. Lange

*Hi Dave, good to hear from you. Yes, air quality has been poor, and I'm hoping for early seasonal rain to help scrub it clean again.*

*Your grandfather's story is certainly interesting, and how wonderful that you have his banknotes as mementos to go along with that story. I love it when numismatic specimens have a personal connection like that. I'll pass along your email to Merle, as he'll*

*appreciate hearing you enjoyed the article.*

*Best regards, Greg*

## **Good News From PCNS**

...Attendance is *up* from live meetings because PCNS has many members in other states, even Canada. We are unlikely to be returning to live meetings without any streaming even when allowed. Not unless we can still stream the in-person event to our many distant members. Attendance nearly doubling is the silver lining of moving online...—**Stephen Huston**

## **Wilson Dollar Restrikes**

This year, to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the Manila Mint, restrikes of the Wilson Dollar are being offered for sale. The restrikes have been struck using the original Wilson Dollar obverse die engraved by George Morgan. The Wilson Dollar was originally struck on the newly installed minting equipment in the Philippines, the only overseas US Branch Mint, to commemorate the opening of the Manila Mint in 1920. They were struck in gold, silver and bronze.

Dennis Tucker, publisher, Whitman Publishing, said regarding the 100 Year Wilson Dollar Anniversary restrikes by Jeff Shevlin, “The Wilson Dollar is one of the most historically significant issues among the medals numismatists identify as ‘So-Called Dollars.’ We value it for the unique way it connects the people of the United States to the people of the Philippines—a golden

(and silver and bronze!) symbol of a deeply important connection that resonates to this day.” “In Whitman’s Mega Red, the expanded edition of the Red Book, we devote more than a page and a half to the Wilson Dollar. This is a measure of the importance of this intriguing, richly layered, and many-storied medal.”

Jeff Shevlin, the So-Called Guy, a nationally recognized expert on So-Called Dollars, historical US medals, is offering the restrikes, struck by Daniel Carr of the Moonlight Mint, in gold, silver, copper, brass, aluminum, nickel and select gold-plated. Visit the website [www.WilsonDollar.com](http://www.WilsonDollar.com) to place your order or contact Jeff Shevlin at [SoCalledGuy@hotmail.com](mailto:SoCalledGuy@hotmail.com) or (916) 955-2569.



# ANA Educational Outreach

by *Walt Ostromecki*

In early October, this writer received an email with letter attached from ANA Executive Director Kim Kiick. It was forwarded to me as an actively involved representative program member in Southern California with the notation: “Walt are you aware of this concern? Thought our Education Department had this youth area well covered. Can you check into this and report back on your findings, please?”

The letter was from the president of a California coin club and ANA member in search of ideas and programs available from the ANA on youth. It was short, curt and to the point “Why has the ANA not produced any handouts or flyers on programs and activities coin clubs can use to attract and teach YN’s about coin collecting...(this) includes for use in public schools information...”

This writer was shocked that an ANA California club was totally unaware of any ANA youth programs and activities available and wrote an email back in response immediately with a bevy of YN activity flyers attached. A get-together call between us was suggested by the club president.

A Zoom meeting was arranged and a productive discussion took place. It was explained that all ANA district representatives had received a multitude of this information sent to them for distribution to clubs and

individuals in their states. I agreed to publish all the current youth activities information in a forthcoming issue of the TCN. I was also asked to speak to the club membership at an upcoming Zoom meeting—which has already taken place. The individual later apologized profusely for his initial letter’s comments stating: “...(he) had absolutely no idea so much free YN information was available to clubs ...”

The ANA Education Department during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis has developed and sent out to its representatives and others involved in youth promotion numerous free youth activities and programs which are still available online or for download printed hard copy.

This TCN column shares all the various programs which can be downloaded or obtained in hard copy form through Sam Gelberd, ANA Education Department, Young Collectors Corner Coordinator at [sgelberd@money.org](mailto:sgelberd@money.org) or by telephone direct at (719) 482-9846. You can contact this writer for the same information and flyers at [ostromecki@money.org](mailto:ostromecki@money.org)

So, what’s available? One great youth promotion and activity resource is the ANA’s Virtual Young Collectors Corner [[money.org/explore-numismatics-at-its-basic-levels](http://money.org/explore-numismatics-at-its-basic-levels)] or email Sam Gelberd directly at [sgelberd@money.org](mailto:sgelberd@money.org). This virtual platform area is geared solely for youth ages 5-17



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where the ANA will introduce them to the world of coin collecting. They can explore numismatics at its most basic levels so they can understand more about the fun hobby. Kids do not have to be ANA members, but must be registered with Sam Gelberd. Boy and Girl Scouts can also meet requirements (virtually) for the Coin Collecting Merit Badge or Fun with Money Patch. Optional educational kits are provided to registered youth only are \$7.95.

Youth can have fun on the ANA website ([ana@money.org](mailto:ana@money.org)) [visit youth activities programs] with interactive games which sharpen their coin collecting skills and overall numismatic knowledge such as The Grading Game, Money ‘Musement’s.

School grades count in the Coin’s For A’s Program. Earning three A’s on your school report cards throughout the year can get you free coins and a *free* one-year ANA digital membership. Youngsters can learn more about this program and sign up for this free program by contacting Rod Gillis, ANA education director at [rgillis@money.org](mailto:rgillis@money.org) or by telephone at (719) 482-9845, where you can earn free coins with the following activities: Ancient Roman Coin Project – (ages 18 and under) to earn free Ancient coins; The Dollar Project – (must be age 12 or under) to earn free dollars an even a silver one! There are four

activities here 1) Coin Rolling, 2) Pick a Year, 3) Design a Dollar Coin, 4) The Minting Maze. Also available is the Early American Copper Project – (ages 17 and under) to earn early copper coins.

Other programs and activities include: Treasures In Your Pocket; Coin Collecting Basics 101; Quarterly ANA Youth Auctions; A Youth Only Blog – an opportunity to connect with other young collectors online; Article Writing, Publication & Awards Opportunities and more.

This writer has along with fellow ANA youth advocates developed a game to help inspire next generation youngsters to join the fun coin hobby through – Imagination 101, The America The Beautiful Quarter Program (see article in this issue of TCN). It uses narratives about several quarter designs to stimulate the curiosity and imagination of youngsters.

Now, you are all aware of the free activities and programs from the ANA for use in reaching out to and attracting youth to the numismatic hobby and ultimately into coin club membership. All that is needed now is for you to take the first step to trying something new and in some cases to use the virtual world—which next generation youngsters prefer—to attract or entice them to and into the fun numismatic hobby.

# Around the State...



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**Ginny's Gleanings:** Finally, the end of the tunnel is in sight. A vaccine was announced just today which looks promising so maybe next year will be more normal. I have enjoyed meeting new people from all over the states so hopefully, we can continue with “virtual” meetings as well as regular meetings. Congratulations to Dorothy Baber who not only turned 100 in 2020 but was presented with the coveted award from the ANA honoring Elvira Chain Stefanelli. This award is new and has only been issued a few times. Not to be outdone, Michael Turrini was made a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association and given a Presidential Award by the president of the organization. Congratulations to you both. They belong to too many clubs to list. “Real Change, enduring change, happens one step at a time.”—Ruth Bader Ginsberg

**Michael's Musings:** TCN readers, for sure, know this damning pandemic is not ending soon, and a recent national presidential election “ain't changing anything.” Local coin clubs are not meeting or only via digital contacts. Club shows as well as commercial shows have ceased. Even major national gatherings are subject to cancellation or significant restrictions. As for myself, as already announced, yours truly has returned, for a third term, as the CSNA president; but, shall continue, for 2021, as an assistant editor. The “Emerging Numismatist Column” will in 2021 be equally shared with new CSNA Director Matthew L. Malvini; he and I would rotate submissions. I would enjoy hearing from and

learning from local coin club advocates and enthusiasts how they are handling this current crisis, which does threaten the future of the hobby. Suggestions and commiserations would be welcomed. In the meantime, work hard, play fair, and give back! Plus, practice the three w's: *wash* hands, *wear* mask, and *watch* your distance! Due to counties regressing back to *purple*, both the Delta Coin Club and Fairfield Coin Club have canceled meetings until further notice (this news came in after the following reports were written). It is obvious that no local coin club in-person meetings or local club shows will be held anywhere around northern California.

### **Club Reports...**

**VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** meetings canceled; nothing happening. Hope for 2021.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB** has successfully merged into Zoom. It continues to issue monthly its *Gold Strike*.

**SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** members are justly proud of **Dorothy Baber** and **Michael Turrini** (see Ginny's Gleaning's). New vice president, **John Gray III** has hit the road running and lined up many virtual speakers. **Phil Iversen** showed off his 50-year ANA membership medal presented to him at the virtual award ceremony; he just received. In September, **Steve Fahrlander** gave a talk on *Occupation Currency of WWII*. He has almost a complete set of these notes. Renowned author and current president of the Tokens and Medals Society, **Jeff Shevlin**, spoke in October on the various medals issued during the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. He stated that he is working on two new books covering expo medals and the second book, everything else. Guest **John Duff** from the Glendale Coin Club spoke in November on the historical items issued from once well populated towns in the Imperial Valley area, such as Holtville, Brawley, Tumco, Yuma, and others where gold prospectors worked. He has several tokens from Tumco, which is now a ghost town. He has lived in this area for 50 years and loves the search of the history and exploring the area for any token. His talk on gold rush towns inspired many visitors to his talk.

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB** President **Alex Jaramillo** invited members to contact him to discuss future meetings. Editor **Cheryl Lannan** sends out the newsletter to keep members in the know of what is going on even if they can't meet in person. Members were saddened by the passing of two long-time members, **David Rutherford** and **Dwight Buschlen**.

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB** has successfully merged into Zoom. It's quite lengthy monthly newsletter with member submitted articles found an award from the ANA this year. Much of the success, during this terrible year, for this club is credited to the enthralling leadership of **President Patrick Carpenter**, who is a real cheerleader.

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB** has successfully merged into strictly Zoom, with excellent participation in the *Show 'n Tells*. However, your assistant editor has not been receiving a complimentary copy of the club's well-done monthly newsletter. His personal copy, as life member #1, has been received, yes.

**PENINSULA COIN CLUB** has been meeting via Zoom. Newsletter still issued monthly.

**PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** has successfully merged into strictly Zoom, with exemplary programs; recent speakers were **Scott Safe**, October 28; **Frederico Castillo**, September 30; **Herb Miles**, August 26; and **Paul V. Turner**, July 22.

**LONG BEACH COIN CLUB** club members are reeling from the accidental and horrific death of **Treasurer Greg Heistand**. Due to the pandemic, all meetings have been canceled but president Howard Feltham continues to publish an exceptional newsletter with emphasis on modern collectible coin series with the coins' history and varieties.

**LIVERMORE VALLEY COIN CLUB** did hold one meeting via Zoom, but no further reports. Newsletter still issued.

**LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** meetings canceled; nothing happening.

**INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO** In August, **Steve Fahrlander** displayed money-order coupons from all over the world used as money. **Ken Spindler** shared what passed for money during the French Revolution and **Bob Fritsch** showed off the great numismatic books he has been finding on the web at great prices. In September, **Joe Yager** presented his talk on *Security Features Used on Paper Banknotes*. It was very interesting. In October, **Ken Aring** spoke on *Money Transfer Systems Similar to Money Orders* used by various countries of the world. Members learned much about this subject.

**HEMET COIN CLUB** The newsletter editor, **Jim Phillips**, continues his award winning ways by providing a very informative, yet fun to read newsletter. He recommends going to the website [tokencatalog.com](http://tokencatalog.com) for token information. Some tokens can be difficult to find information on.

**HEARTLAND COIN CLUB** **Bob Fritsch**, a member who lives in New Hampshire, provided a virtual program to the members in August, *Don't Get Ripped Off*. Bob has been attending all the San Diego coin clubs that he belongs to and is a well-known numismatist in New England. He has been collecting for over 50 years and has extensive interests. *Show and Tell* was the format in September. **President Jose Gallego** gave two short presentations, one on collecting rare



Sacajawea/Native American dollars, and the other on the 2000 US millennium coinage/currency set. In October, Jose provided a program *Introduction to Coin Errors* using his own error coins for study. Several members of the Covina Coin Club visited. They were **Mark Baskin**, **Roy Iwata**, **Brad Yonaka**, **El Jefe**, **Phil Iversen**, **Dennis Rocklein**, and **Robert Dix**.

**GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB** **Mike Ontko** presented a talk on Costa Rican coins in August which was enjoyed by all. He is a lively speaker. Guest speaker in September was renowned author and coin dealer, **Stephen Album**. His topic was on the *Coins of the Great Mongols and their Successors*. Guest speaker and senior numismatist from Stacks Bowers, **Ben Orooji**, spoke in October on *The Advent of Steam Press Coinage in the United States*. Another guest speaker, **Daniel Frank Sedwick**, presented his talk *Spanish Colonial Numismatic Royalty: the Mexican Gold 8 Escudos Royals of 1695 to 1729* in November. All the programs are using the Zoom format.

**GLENDALE COIN CLUB** **Michael Kittle** has been hosting virtual meetings since April using his own Youtube channel and presents programs with attendees from all over the world. We do live in amazing times! His meetings are recorded and available on-line. In October, **Greg Berkowitz**, presented a talk on an *Introduction and Overview of the US Federal Paper Currency* in a two-part presentation. Part two will be in November.

**FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** resumed meetings in October at the local American Legion Post #147, in a fairly large room. **John Ward**, the society's *Fresno Numismatist* editor, continues with a folksy monthly newsletter, and he "ain't" scared to "say it as it is".

**FREMONT COIN CLUB** meets via Zoom, twice a month. Club's *Double Eagle* is issued infrequently.

**FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB** has resumed meetings in person, and **David J. Trimmingham**, who is the incoming CSNA recording secretary, continues the club's multipage *Fairfield Moneygram*, triple duties as president, secretary, and editor.

**DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** meets via Zoom, with fair participation. **David Davis**, *Diablo Die Break* editor, publishes an informative multipage monthly newsletter.

**DELTA COIN CLUB** has resumed meetings in person; but no newsletter or reporting has been done.

**CUPERTINO COIN CLUB** meets via Zoom. Did hold an anniversary banquet on October 18, with bingo and much recognition. *Coin Press* still issued, usually

monthly. The club sadly lost a former president, Daniel O. Shattuc, on Halloween. A *Farewell* is published elsewhere in this issue.

**COVINA COIN CLUB** members enjoyed the talk of **Jim Evert** from Utah at their virtual meeting in September. He spoke on the fun of coin collecting. **Denis Rocklein** earned a big thank you for providing the virtual meeting format. The Heartland Coin Club and this club meet on the same night and the officers have decided to host every other month.

**COINEERS** members have been meeting via a “walk in the park” format so members can get together and talk about coins while social distancing. **Vice President Richard Tritz** plans to host a Zoom meeting in November.

**CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB** In September, members were joined at their virtual meeting with a guest from Delaware who met **President Steve Fahrlander** on the web. **Ralph Munoz** gave his talk in October on collecting Mexican Libertads. He owns many varieties and showed examples of what to look for when buying these coins. November was *Other Hobby* night and many members shared their unusual hobby. **Jim Phillips** collects scrimshaw carved from tauga nuts from a palm tree only grown in Ecuador. It is known as vegetable ivory and is quite popular by carvers. **Ted Koopman** collects commemorative covers issued when a submarine is christened. Every sub has a cover. He has over 1,000. **Jose Gallego** creates and purchases lasers. He has some that need to be held with 2 hands and have different colors. **Ralph Munoz** restores vintage sewing machines and could open his own business as his friends keep bringing him more to restore.

**BURBANK COIN CLUB Phil Iversen** is emailing a bulletin to all the members to keep them informed and amused. Meanwhile, he is having fun “crashing” many virtual meetings and meeting new friends. Phil is also providing a quiz with a prize to the winners.

**ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES** members are using Zoom and meeting twice a month. One business and one just for chatting. In September **Mike Markowitz** from the Washington DC area did a wonderful presentation: *Hadrian's Travel Series* covering the coins used in his empire. **Randy Butler** presented *Smooth Kilikia; Sites, Coins and History* in October. There were 22 members and guests including me. It was a great talk. In November, **John Borneman** presented *Celtic Coins: Images of Power*. This club has many important members who are working with the Cultural Properties Advisory Committee regarding the “memorandum of understanding” agreement between Greece and the USA.

**ALAMEDA COIN CLUB** meetings canceled; nothing happening.

## “Steamer” Gets Visit From Fellow Coin Friends

Well-known and once a strong and outgoing presence in organized California numismatics, Michael M. “Steamer” Stanley, retired United States Navy and United States postal letter carrier, had a nice and invigorating recent visit by four fellow numismatic sojourners.

“Doctor” Lloyd G. Chan, current CSNA treasurer and Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) president, Vincent O. “Coin Vince” Lacariere, respected California-based coin dealer, Michael S. Turrini, incoming CSNA president, and Fred G. van den Haak, incoming CSNA director, visited “Steamer” at his longtime Concord home on Friday, November 20.

“Steamer”, suffering from declining health issues and quite limited mobility, has become house bound; he is preparing to relocate to an assisted living facility. By time this TCN is mailed, “Steamer” will be relocated. His daughter, Penny, would be expediting his home and accumulations.

For decades “Steamer” was an intense and easily heard presence and participant in California numismatics: past president of the defunct California Exonumist Society, Diablo (Concord/Walnut Creek) Numismatic Society, NCNA, San Francisco Coin Club, and Vallejo Numismatic Society. He chaired several coins shows and conventions for CSNA and NCNA, and served as CSNA vice president.

Over the decades he presented programs and was an award-winning exhibitor. His numismatic involvements expanded to the American Numismatic Association and the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association.



*From left: van den Haak, “Steamer”, and Turrini. Photo by Chan, Lacariere missing.*

His primary collecting pursuit, spanning six-plus decades, was all United States coinage, including assembling and disposing three complete Lincoln cent collections.

With his current conditions, his four fellow numismatic sojourners visited for three-plus hours, exchanging “sea stories”, reviewing his remaining collections, and sharing reminiscences along with laughs.

“You know, I have known women in every port from Athens to Zanzibar,” he joked. “Even the Australian Liberal Party, Women’s Branch presented me a kangaroo tail, and I have kissed every ANA president; I mean the women,” he chuckled.

Contacts to “Steamer” may be via Michael S. Turrini at [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com). “Steamer’s” smart phone remains, for now, 925-825-0649. His email remains [xsteamerx@aol.com](mailto:xsteamerx@aol.com); but, he has restrictions in accessing this home PC. Telephone calls from his acquaintances would be welcome.

# 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, 6:15 p.m., Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 2880, Alameda, CA 94501-0880. (CSNA)
- Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles**—meets 2nd Sunday, 1:00 p.m., Skirball Cultural Center, Classroom 160, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles; mailing address: Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 2364, Reseda, CA 91337; Website: [www.accla.org](http://www.accla.org); [klf1031@roadrunner.com](mailto:klf1031@roadrunner.com). (NASC, CSNA)
- Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Westchester Recreational Center, 7160 West Manchester Ave., Los Angeles; mailing address: P.O. Box 45233, Los Angeles, CA 90045. (NASC)
- Burbank Coin Club**—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:00 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 State Numismatic Association**—meets up to twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: CSNA, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590; email: [csnalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:csnalibrary@gmail.com); Website: [www.calcoin.org](http://www.calcoin.org). (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; Website: [www.chulavistacoinclub.org](http://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, NASC)
- 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., St. Joseph of Cupertino Church, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; email: [CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com](mailto:CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com); Website: [www.cupertinocoinclub.org](http://www.cupertinocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Delta Coin Club of California**—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 690761, Stockton, CA 95269-0761; email: [deltacoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:deltacoinclub@gmail.com). (CSNA)
- DHHS Numismaniacs Coin Club**—meets periodically, Dana Hills High School, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, CA; Mrs. Mary Danna (club advisor), email: [dhhsnumismaniacs@gmail.com](mailto:dhhsnumismaniacs@gmail.com) or text @DHHSNumismaniacs to 23559 for updates about the club. (NASC)
- Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Museum & Event Center, 1928 Clayton Road, Concord; contact: President Robert E. Luna, 707-980-0618; email: [info@diablocoinclub.org](mailto:info@diablocoinclub.org); Website: [www.diablocoinclub.org](http://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)

- Edmonton Numismatic Society (Canada)**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:15 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion Br #255, 10427 174th St NW., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5T 6A1; email: info\_ens@yahoo.ca. (NASC)
- 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, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538-0140; Website: www.FremontCoinClub.org. (CSNA)
- Fresno Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Center, 2992 E. Clinton Ave. Fresno ; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525; email: admin@fresnocoinclub.com; Website: www.fresnocoinclub.com. (CSNA)
- Glendale Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:00 p.m., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: GCC, c/o Michael Kittle, P.O. Box 388, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0388; email: mike@kittlecoins.com; Website: www.GlenCoin.com. (NASC)
- Greater Orange County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church, 2845 Mesa Verde Dr. E. Costa Mesa; mailing address: 2032 Kornat Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; email: bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net; phone: (714) 546-0931; Website: www.occoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Heartland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Rec. Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: P.O. Box 191448, San Diego, CA 92159; email: 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, 6:00 p.m., North Park Adult Rec. Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176; Website: www.inssd.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Las Vegas Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Saturday, 3:00 p.m., University United Methodist Church, 4412 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; Website: http://lasvegascoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Leisure World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Mike Supple, 13421 Del Monte Rd., #24D, Seal Beach, CA 90740; email: supplemike5@gmail.com. (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; Website: LNS.ANAclubs.org. (CSNA)
- Livermore Valley Coin Club**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd., Livermore; mailing address: P.O. Box 610, Livermore, CA 94550. (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)
- Military Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Rd., Bonita; mailing address: Steve Fahrlander, 1342 Valencia Loop, Chula Vista, CA 91910; email address: MilitaryCoinClub@gmail.com. (CSNA)
- Northern California Numismatic Association**—mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; email: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA)
- Numismatic Association of Southern California**—meets four times per year; mailing address: Walt Ostromecki, 5914 Hesperia Avenue, Encino, CA 91316-1014; email: ostromecki@money.org; Website: www.NASC.net. (CSNA)

- Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Website: [www.pcns.org](http://www.pcns.org). (CSNA)
- Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists**—meets at PAN conventions; mailing address: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131; email: [pancoins@gmail.com](mailto:pancoins@gmail.com); Website: [www.pancoins.org](http://www.pancoins.org). (CSNA)
- Polk County Coin Club (Oregon)**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, Monmouth, OR; John Brown, (503) 362-9123; email: [brownjohnheil65@gmail.com](mailto:brownjohnheil65@gmail.com). (NASC)
- Redwood Empire Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: 5850 Commerce Blvd., Suite 100, Rohnert Park, CA 94928; Website: [www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com](http://www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com). (CSNA)
- Sacramento Valley Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., North County Corporate Yard, 5026 Don Julio Blvd., Sacramento, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816; Website: [SacValCC.org](http://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 311141, Fontana, CA 92331-1141. (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; Website: [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: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040. (CSNA, NASC)
- 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; Website: [www.sanjosecoinclub.org](http://www.sanjosecoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Santa Maria Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave. Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA, NASC)
- 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; Website: [www.stancocoinclub.org](http://www.stancocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Upland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Saturday (January-November) and 2nd Saturday (December), 2:30 p.m., 331 East I Street (private residence), Ontario; email: [Sandragk57@gmail.com](mailto:Sandragk57@gmail.com). (NASC)
- Vallejo Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador, Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; email: [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., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)
- Visalia Coin Club**—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Amigos Restaurant (Banquet Room), 5113 W. Walnut Ave., Visalia; email: [bill.terry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bill.terry@sbcglobal.net). (CSNA)
- Western States 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; email: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com). (CSNA)
- Whittier Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 6:00 p.m., 10005 S. Cole Rd., Whittier, East Whittier United Methodist Church; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Ave., La Habra, CA 90631; email: [phil.chang540@gmail.com](mailto:phil.chang540@gmail.com). (CSNA, NASC)



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# Farewells

## Greg Heistand

*Long Beach Coin Club (LBCC) Treasurer Greg Heistand passed away recently while working under a unsupported vehicle (elevated but not on jack-stands), that fell on him and took his life.*

*Greg has a sister, niece and nephew as the only living relatives known, and we are trying to make contact with at least one of them so we can notify the Long Beach Police and city authorities (which are also trying to notify them) to find out how Greg's remains and estate will be dealt with.*

*Greg was an important member of LBCC, as were his parents, Gwen and Warren Heistand, who were also long time members and on the executive staff of our club before both passing away several years ago.*



## Dwight Buschlen

*(8/31/1925 - 8/5/2020) Long-time member of San Bernardino County Coin Club. A celebration of his life for family and friends will be held next year on August 31, 2021.*



## Virginia Dennis

*Sustaining member of NASC.*

## David Rutherford

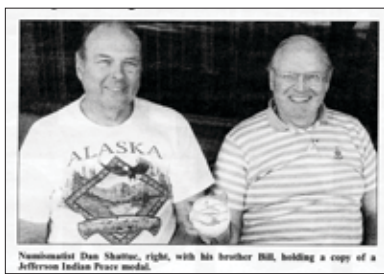
*Long-time member of San Bernardino County Coin Club.*

## Daniel O. Shattuc

*(10/31/2020) "Dan" Shattuc: Green Beret, Naturalist, Waterfowl Supporter, and Avid Coin Hobbyist. As is so common nowadays in our universal hobby which ages with each year, the email sadly reported that Daniel O. Shattuc, of Sunnyvale, California, had passed away.*

*While "Dan" had been enduring poor health and assisted care for recent years, he was once an active advocate for our hobby spanning forty-plus years, serving in positions in the Cupertino Coin Club, the Liberty Numismatic Society, the Peninsula Coin Club, the San Jose Coin Club, all of California, plus CSNA. He was an intense booster of youth activities, and in 1985 he chaired National Coin Week for California, driving many miles and having long late evenings, visiting local coin clubs promoting the Week and our hobby.*

*"Dan" was a diverse hobbyist, enjoying much. In a "Coin Celebrant" interview and photograph published in the October 10, 2006 Numismatic News, smiling with his brother "Bill", he held his new acquisition: an Indian peace medal. Being an Oregonian by birth, he had a passion for Oregon 1959 Centennial tokens and "Good For" plus for as well anything for Lewis and Clark.*



Numismatist Dan Shattuc, right, with his brother Bill, holding a copy of a Jefferson Indian Peace medal.



*His lifelong enjoyment of our hobby could be traced to a 1949 visit by his family to San Francisco, from their home in Oregon. His mother somehow arranged an inside tour for her then youthful son of the San Francisco Mint. Decades later, "Dan" would lead young future hobbyists with tours of the now closed The Granite Lady.*

*"Dan" was a green beret, an eagle scout, and loved the outdoors. This eulogist remembers his efforts with scouts and young people to create habitats for wood ducks around the San Francisco Bay Area. He would talk proudly of their efforts. Speaking of military service, he was always proud of seeing and meeting John F. Kennedy in person, twice.*

*For numismatics, he gave the same passion. Once during a now long-gone Northern California Numismatic Association then famous "Jar Tar Hotel" show, his auction catalog was found by me, misplaced near the registration entry; it was filled with copious handwritten notes: marks for certain lots, estimates, calculations, intended bids, and descriptions underlined. His diversity and his knowledge were quite evident.*

*"Dan's" greatest service was to instill with the Cupertino Coin Club the importance and emphasis of "youth numismatics". His sincere and sure comments in the 2006 "Coin Celebrant" confirm his devotion for our hobby's tomorrows.*

*Our hobby is and has been blessed by many who create an enduring legacy and standard for service with service over self. "Dan" exemplified that trait. He, as like so many countless others, paved the way for us today and those tomorrow.*

*Closing, let me end with this quotation: "Immortality is to live life doing good, and leave your mark behind." "Dan" achieved that.*

*RIP, "Dan".*

*—Michael S. Turrini*

# Enjoying Your Hobby?

**Ever wonder what's going to become of it in the future?**

Who will be doing the research when the current crop of "greybeards" is gone? Better hope someone promotes it to the general population and gets young people involved at an impressionable age...

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

And now, you can help them to ensure there will be someone around interested in your collection when it comes time to pass it along 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.



# Calendar of Events



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

We use [www.CalCoin.org](http://www.CalCoin.org) and [www.NASC.net](http://www.NASC.net) as the sources for TCN. To include your event please send information regarding the event to CSNA Webmaster Lloyd Chan at [lchanfizz@aol.com](mailto:lchanfizz@aol.com) and NASC Webmaster Jim Phillips at [jimjumper83@gmail.com](mailto:jimjumper83@gmail.com).

**Upcoming shows will continue to be updated based on the most current information available. However, due to the Covid-19 situation, coin shows and events may be canceled or postponed on short notice. Please verify current information with the show promoter before attending!**

## 2021

- January 3      **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- February 4-6      **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, [info@longbeachexpo.com](mailto:info@longbeachexpo.com).
- February 7      **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- February 14-16      **Laughlin River Coin Show**, Tropicana Hotel and Resort, Laughlin, Nevada. Info: Dawn at [CKShows.com](http://CKShows.com), 888-330-5188.
- March (TBD)      **Buena Park Coin Show**, Retail Clerks Hall, 8550 Stanton Avenue, Buena Park. Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- March 28      **Van Nuys / Verdugo Coin Show**, Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys. Info: Mike Kittle, 818-451-9199.
- June 17-19      **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, [info@longbeachexpo.com](mailto:info@longbeachexpo.com).
- July 10-11      **64th Annual Coinarama**, San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South (Mission Valley), [www.coinarama.org](http://www.coinarama.org).

- August 20-22 **Golden State Coin Show (GSCS)**, NASC, Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Road. Info: Don Berry, 626-786-0177, [dberry@pressedsales.com](mailto:dberry@pressedsales.com), [www.goldenstatecoinshow.com](http://www.goldenstatecoinshow.com).
- Sept 30-Oct 2 **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, [info@longbeachexpo.com](mailto:info@longbeachexpo.com).
- October 24 **Glendale Coin Club Show**, Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405 Contact: Mike Kittle: 818-451-9199

## California News - Congratulations!

Disseminating and distributing this to a large audience, because most all, in varying degrees, know or have knowledge of the following numismatic advocates; during the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association General Annual Meeting, as mandated in Canadian corporate law, via Zoom and Smart-Phone, these three were recognized:



**Clifford L. Mishler**, the Moore Award, for his numerous professional contributions to numismatics in Canada and our United States,

**Alexander B. “Xan” Chamberlain**, a President’s Award, for his generosity and enthusiasm for our hobby, and

**Michael S. Turrini**, a President’s Award.

There are other numerous recipients; however, the three aforementioned are all known here in our Golden State.

Congrats! Outstanding!

Work hard. Play fair, and give back! Plus, practice the three w’s: wash hands, wear mask, and watch your distance!

—Michael S. Turrini

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# CSNA

## Elected Officers, 2019-2020

President.....	Dennis Hogan hogandjp@yahoo.com, 951-652-5736, 2032; C 951-551-0338
Vice President .....	Phil Iversen phil_iversen@yahoo.com, 818-439-9097
Corresponding Secretary.....	George Magaan 1740 Sessler Drive, Yuba City, CA 95993, gcmagann@hotmail.com, 530-822-9557
Recording Secretary.....	Michael S. Turrini emperori@juno.com, 707-246-6327
Treasurer .....	Lloyd Chan lchanfixx@aol.com, for most current contact info please visit www.CalCoin.org

## Board of Directors

Past President: Bill Pfeifer, bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net, 714-546-0931
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José Gallego, JMGallego@LosGallego.com, 619-261-3610
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Eduardo Rodriguez, eduardoa0788@outlook.com, 951-452-8109
Jim Phillips, jimjumper83@gmail.com, 951-551-9480
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Mathew Malvini (Numismatist Intern)

## Appointed Officers

Bourse Coordinator.....	Howard Feltham Hfelt@aol.com, 310-850-9860
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Director of Education, North .....	Michael S. Turrini emperori@juno.com, 707-246-6327
Editor.....	Greg Burns gregsburns@gmail.com, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711
Librarian.....	<open> csnlibrary@gmail.com, CSNA Library, c/o Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum 734 Marin Street, Vallejo, CA 94590-5592

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

Awards Chairman.....	Philip L. De Augustino deaugustino1@gmail.com, 951-219-2068
Emerging Numismatist Coordinator .....	Michael S. Turrini emperori@juno.com, 707-246-6327
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Webmaster.....	Lloyd G. Chan lchanfixx@aol.com, for most current contact info please visit www.CalCoin.org

# NASC

## Officers, 2019-2020

President.....	Michael Kittle
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Vice President .....	Don Berry
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Historian.....	George Moore III
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## Board

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John Plaia	Jim Phillips	Bob Thompson
Phil Iversen (immediate Past-President)		

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Awards .....	John Duff
Awards Recognition Event.....	Don Berry
CSNA Representative .....	Phil Iversen
Editor.....	Greg Burns
Exhibits .....	John Duff
Finance and Budget.....	Jay Robinson
Gold Benefit Drawing.....	Michael Kittle
Grievances.....	Dennis Berry
Legal Advisor .....	Michael Kittle
Membership .....	Albertus Hoogeveen
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Property.....	Don Berry
Publicity .....	Bob Thompson
Sergeant at Arms .....	John Plaia
Speakers Bureau.....	John Duff
Webmaster.....	Jim Phillips
Young Numismatists .....	Walt Ostromecki

# Writing for *The California Numismatist*



**Articles**—should be relevant to money collecting or numismatic 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 or higher) 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, PSD, 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: February 15, 2021**

## 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. Print run is approximately 700 and most issues are 80 pages or more. 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

- CSNA was having their 47th semi-annual convention (every year one in the north of the state, and another in the south) at the Los Angeles Hilton Hotel in October 1970.
- Coincidentally, NASC was deep into the final planning stages for their upcoming “sensational sixteenth” convention to be held in the same Los Angeles Hilton Hotel in February 1971. The banquet cost attendees \$7.50 and came with filet mignon. They had a live orchestra with a dance floor and party favors as well as a four gold coins, \$2.50, \$5, \$10, and \$20, to close out with a door prize drawing. Ah, the economics of those old days.



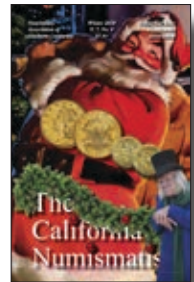
## Twenty-Five Years Ago

- Both the *NASC Quarterly* as well as *Calcoin News* ran a report on the just concluded Golden State Coin Show (GSCS), at that time hosted by the Society for International Numismatists (SIN), the Convention Of International Numismatists (COIN, get it?), CSNA, and NASC as a four-way joint effort. Today NASC solely manages this show, though it was “covid-canceled” here in 2020.



## Ten Years Ago

- Can't seem to get off the topic of shows in this issue's NN. 2010 was the final year that CSNA participated in the GSCS, with NASC thereafter (starting in 2011) being the sole remaining sponsor in running the event.
- Then NASC President Jerry Yahalom announced that the NASC Yap stone had been sold by Heritage at auction for \$16,000, and called it “a nice infusion to bulk up the treasury.”
- In a déjà vu of this issue's announcement of Michael S. Turrini taking the CSNA reins as president again in 2021, ten years ago as 2010 closed out he was just then leaving that same office!
- In closing I'll share my “least-favorite” (I ended up hating it) cover ever on TCN. While I've had many that I loved, and though I liked this one when I initially produced it, by the end of the holiday season, I was so hyper-saturated with Christmas I couldn't stand the sight of it anymore.



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