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The California Numeration

The California Numismatist

Official Publication of the California State Numismatic Association and the Numismatic Association of Southern California Fall 2017, Volume 14, Number 3



About the Cover

A great autumnal photograph of Half Dome in Yosemite National Park plays its fall colors as a background for the gorgeous toning of the image of a buffalo nickel out of Mark Benvenuto's article beginning on page 38. Both coin and Yosemite are stunning.

Visit Us on the Web

The California Numismatist has a Web site at www.CalNumismatist.com. You can find the official scoop there in between issues. Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own Web sites at: www.Calcoin.org www.NASC.net And both associations have Facebook pages at: www.facebook.com/CSNA1947 www.facebook.com/NASC-704859806311445



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Presidents' Messages

NASC...

We have just wrapped up the recent annual NASC Golden State Coin Show in Arcadia and I believe the show went very well. We received mostly positive feedback from our dealers who participated in the show and it looked like the public showed up in strong numbers as well. Approximately 80 scouts attended our Boy Scout Merit Badge Workshop and many of them brought family members along too. It was also wonderful to see so many NASC members in attendance at both the show and our awards banquet. It was great to be able to finally meet some of you in person and I appreciate all of the feedback you provided to me. I want to thank all of the volunteers



who helped make this show another great success; the show simply would not go on without your efforts.

The highlight of the show for many was of course the annual Nona G. Moore gold benefit drawing of 35 gold coins which raises money to support all participating NASC member clubs. As you likely know, each year the NASC helps local coin clubs raise thousands of dollars through this raffle and this year was no exception. Unfortunately, this benefit raffle seems to be the only way several of the clubs are currently interacting with NASC. Remember that all member clubs are also entitled to send a representative to all NASC board meetings and I strongly urge them to do so. I hope all reading this reach out to the folks who run their local coin clubs and demand that they start sending a club representative to all NASC board meetings. We have been holding most of our board meetings at the Long Beach Convention Center in connection with each Long Beach Coin Expo as a convenience to the club representatives. Certainly, someone from your local club will be at Long Beach anyways and the input from our member clubs is essential in helping to guide NASC going forward.

Again, you are welcome to contact me if you have any thoughts on the current state of NASC and/or any ideas of how we can continue to improve. Thank you again for your support.

Michael J. Kittle NASC President



CSNA...

As we reflect on our celebration of Labor Day, please remember all the unsung heroes who volunteer their efforts serving as officers in our local coin clubs. Many of them have served continuously, sometimes for five, ten, fifteen, or even twenty years. They provide educational talks, opportunities to socialize, and are the life blood of our hobby. These people are invaluable to the health of our numismatic community and they deserve our thanks and recognition.

Many others like Phil Iversen, our director of education, work tirelessly to provide our annual education symposia. Phil and our past president, Howard Feltham, expend a considerable

amount of "labor" to put on CSNA sponsored events such as our 134th convention and coin show coming in Arcadia on December 16-17. (This show will be held at the Arcadia Masonic Center, same place as last year.) These events don't just happen! Without dedicated volunteers like Phil, Howard, and many others, they simply would not be available to our numismatic community.

So the next time you participate in one of these events, either a local club meeting or a coin show, remember to thank them. These events significantly improve our hobby. You can also help by volunteering yourself to support our CSNA sponsored functions. We can use every available able-bodied member we can get.

Our next board of directors meeting will be held in Arcadia in conjunction with the December 16-17 coin show. Stay tuned for additional details.

Thank all of you for your continued support as we fulfill our mission to the numismatic community.

Regards,

Bell Pfeifer

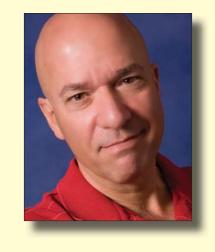
Bill Pfeifer CSNA President

Editor's Page

A larger proportion of longer articles will occupy your read in this issue. We usually have a number of shorter articles, but some of our authors have apparently decided to spend a little more time in their research books and sitting at the keyboard than normal.

Bill February has a nice introduction to the world of checks. Bill enjoys paper money immensely, as this piece demonstrates, and gives a pretty thorough overview of the many different types of checks that have been in use. I frankly had no idea the list was so extensive.

Jim Wells turns his attention to Congressional Gold Medals in this issue. While many of us may not have the means to make a major collection of these artifacts, Jim's recounting



of the personalities and events denoted on the precious pieces shows the wide breadth of topics spanning from the military roots of these pieces to the later encompassment of artistic, humanitarian, scientific and other disciplines. Oh, and there are non-precious variants that fit everyone's budget.

Donald Lannon delves into American history with an article on the events of 1892 relating to the transfer of 38 tons of gold. Thirty. Eight. Tons. That's about \$1.5B ("B" is for billion!) at today's value. You can imagine the logistical difficulty of transporting that much material, especially when its enormous value represents such an enticing target for thievery. It's a pretty exciting story that you'll find beginning on page 26.

Mark Benvenuto gives those with a smaller time-budget a bit more quickly digestible piece on the buffalo nickel and some related works of James Earle Frasier. An image of his iconic coin graces our front cover all by its lonesome, only because once I saw how the beautiful toning on the coin played against the fall colors of Yosemite I couldn't bear to dilute the scheme with anything else.

So along with all the usual columns and contributions from our stable of California numismatic personalities, you'll have a full task working through this issue. I'll look forward to talking to you again in another three months. Best regards,



Team TCN Comes Through for the Twelfth Time...

TCN won the ANA's "Best Regional Publication" award in their "Outstanding Numismatic Publication" contest in 2017 (for the 2016 publication year).

Authors, columnists, and other contributors to this latest accolade include (in alphabetical order):

Kyle Anderson (author) Lila Anderson (columnist) Merle Avila (columnist) Mark Benvenuto (author) Virginia Bourke (columnist) Greg Burns (editor) Bill Febuary (author) Jim Hunt (author/columnist) Ross Irvin (author) Sally Johnson (columnist) Donald Lannon (author) Walt Ostromecki (columnist) Sol Taylor (columnist) Michael Turrini (columnist) Jim Wells (author)

Numismatic Association of Southern California & California State Numismatic Association The California Numismatist EDITED BY GREG BURNS FIRST PLACE 2017 **Outstanding Regional** Numismatic Publication



TCN has been very happy to have been awarded this honor from the ANA so many times (12 now, missing only in 2016 when we failed to place) beginning with our very first publication year, so please do let the fine volunteers listed above know that you appreciate their efforts, because without them there would be no TCN.



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Corresponding Secretaries' Reports

CSNA by Don Hill

Does your club have a business card? Some clubs do and yours should have one, too. The card should give the name of the local club, the address where it meets, and the date and time of meetings. If your club has a website or Facebook page include that, too. If possible include contact information such as an email address or an officer's telephone number.

If you can, include www.calcoin.org for CSNA. The CSNA website has information about the location of local coin clubs and a link to *The California Numismatist* and a listing of coming events such as coin shows.

The objective of having cards is to have each club member carry a couple in their wallet and to give them to persons they meet and discuss coins or coin collecting. I've given cards to cashiers and bank tellers when I ask them if they have any "different" coins or currency in their cash drawers. If time permits, I invite the person to the next club meeting and emphasize that visitors are welcome and there isn't a cost to visit and I tell them what usually goes on at a meeting. This might be just the thing to get new hobbyists and new club members.

An information card is a convenient, friendly, but sort of official way of getting your message across. You may have local printers make up your club information cards or look online for business card vendors.

NASC-

by Harold Katz	zman		
Here is a re	ecap for 25- and 50-year m	embers:	
<u>2015</u>			
50-Year:	Richard Striley, SM84	25-Year:	Arri Jacob, SM418
	Michael Zagorin, SM162		Scott Travers, SM417
	CES*, CL1002		
	Verdugo Hills*, CL1071		
<u>2016</u>			
50-Year:	Sol Taylor*, LM21	25-Year:	David Cieniewicz, SM425
<u>2017</u>			
50-Year:	Ira Goldberg, SM89	25-Year:	Clyde Hubbard, SM278
	Glenda Koppenhaver, SM	[238**	Abbot Low, R2821
	Lawrence Lewis, SM184		* = Award given
	Steve Markoff, SM88		**= Address unknown

NASC New Members

Clark Numismatics	#3235
Pierre Fricke	#3234
David Hyams	#3227

CSNA New Members

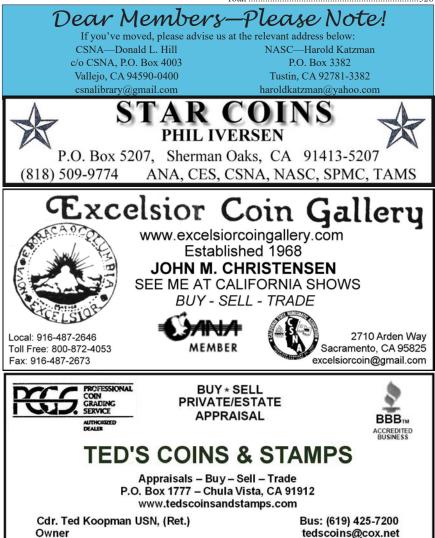
R6474	Carol Pfeifer
R6475	Madelin Palmieri

NASC Membership on 26 August 2017

Junior Members	5
Life Members	10
Club Members	21
Regular Members	76
Sustaining Members	117
Total Membership	231

CSNA Membership on 31 August 2017

Associate	4
Junior	1
Life	
Member Clubs	16
Member Clubs Life	12
Regular	
Business	11
Total	



Numismatic Paper

by Bill Febuary

Perhaps the most neglected area in numismatics is the collecting and study of negotiable instruments.

Several well known numismatic writers of numismatic paper have written books on currency and script of the various states as well as one writer who has written on Depression scrip, but there are still several branches of this subject which have been barely noticed by collectors. Some of the types of collectible paper are bank checks and drafts and their related materials.

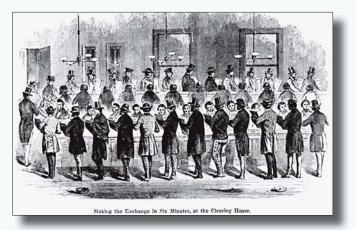
Bank checks and drafts as well as other forms of checks and drafts can make a very interesting collection. One such writer traced the history of certain banks in the San Francisco area and found that banks there could issue currency only when they held a national charter. Through several mergers they would often drop the national charter for a state charter and then become a national bank again at a later date. During the state charter period the only representation available was a check.

Type fonts in comparison with today's checks were often quite ornate. At one time revenue stamps were required to be affixed to checks by both the federal and state governments. Those revenue stamps affixed to checks are often very colorful as well as interesting. Most checks can be obtained at a reasonable cost.

Checks of a sort got their start with the Romans before the time of Christ. Modern checking systems probably got their start in Amsterdam, Holland, about 1500 AD when people started depositing their money with cashiers and paying them a fee for keeping their money safe. This way eliminating the risk of storing cash in their homes. In time the cashiers agreed to cancel debts (pay off loans) or pay out to others on the written orders of their depositors...thus was born the check.

The English began making deposits with goldsmiths in the latter part of the 17th century. The goldsmith gave his depositors a receipt which was called a "goldsmith note". These could be likened to bank issued currency. These notes were simple promises to pay to the depositor or his order. This system was gradually expanded so that a depositor might drop a line to the goldsmith directing him to pay to a certain person or to that person's order or even to the bearer of the note. These orders differed from today's checks principally in that they were entirely hand written and were less uniform than today's checks.

In exchange for these services the goldsmith charged the depositor for handling his gold. The charge in the early Gold Rush days in California was much the same type of system, due to the scarcity of banks. The job of safekeeping funds, be they currency, coin or gold, was given to merchants who had a safe for their own funds. They issued receipts and charged the depositors for the service. Many of these merchants turned to banking as a full time job and career in later years. The New York Clearing House was organized on October 4, 1853. One week later 52 banks participated and exchanged checks worth \$22.6 million on its first day. Today, the daily average is in excess of \$20 billion.



As time went on, the use of checks was greatly expanded in England. Persons receiving checks from different people or different banks found it inconvenient to go to each bank to collect, so instead deposited the checks with their own bank which did the job for them. The bank accomplished this job by sending a messenger to the banks on which he held the checks. This meant that the messenger would have to visit as many different banks as was necessary to collect on the checks they had received as deposits.

The story goes that one day a weary messenger stopped off on his rounds between banks at a coffee shop to rest and take refreshment. Shortly, he noticed a messenger from another bank and they soon discovered that each carried a bundle of checks on the others bank. Before leaving the coffee shop they agreed to exchange checks and return to their own bank, thus shortening their trips. They also agreed to meet there the following day at a specified time.

Soon other messengers heard of this *exchange* and started to meet at the coffee house. They exchanged checks with each other as required and returned to their own banks. So, it goes that the *clearing house* was born. When the bankers learned of these transactions many of them objected. Soon, however, they too saw the advantages of a system like this. Today the local clearing house associations are an important part of the check collecting operations

Today's clearing house operates very much the same as the original coffee house gatherings. Each bank sends their messenger with bundles of checks, one bundle for each of the other banks in the association, to the clearing house. At the clearing house they exchange checks and figure their differences as obviously it would be unusual for each to exchange the exact same amount. The members of the association are all members of the federal reserve system, but have separate accounts with the federal reserve bank. Their differences are then settled with their drafts on the federal reserve bank where the final settlement is made with a bookkeeping entry. Prior to the federal reserve system or where there was no central bank the settlements were made in gold each day.

In the United States checks really

came into general use around 1850, with the fabulous growth of cities and improvements in communications and with cheap uniform postal rates. Checks surpassed bank note currency as a means of payment except in the rural areas. The biggest draw-back to the use of checks was the lack of a central clearing mechanism. Banks that had frequent business with each other set up accounts with one another and thus were able to handle checks between each other with great ease. A bank in one large city usually has at least one correspondent bank in each of the other large cities of the country. Usually a small country bank will have as a correspondent a large city bank in the city located at the hub of its trading area.

In the latter part of the 19th century many banks charged a fee for handling checks presented by out of town banks. This could mean that a check drawn on a Sacramento Bank was worth less than face value in San Francisco. To avoid paying these exchange charges checks would often travel thousands of miles and many days, sometimes weeks, to arrive at their destination only a few miles away.

Today's checks are being processed ever more efficiently. With the use of a magnetic ink it is possible to do most of the sorting and other processing by automatic machinery. The large city and branch bank systems are establishing central processing centers which do the bookkeeping chores for many offices. With the increased use of checks it has become essential to automate in order to handle the system.

The collecting of checks is fast becoming an important facet of numismatics. More properly it should probably be referred to as collecting negotiable instruments. Included in this category are bank checks, with which all are familiar, sight and time drafts, cashier checks, warrants, and similar paper instruments.

Most collectors of broken or obsolete bank and southern states currency are also collectors of checks, although they are probably not aware of it. After the federal government had established a circulating currency system during the Civil War, they decided to drive state issues out of existence by taxation. They succeeded by getting



many law firms to issue checks which circulated as currency. The panic of 1907 created a shortage of currency. Clearing houses across the country issued certificates to fill the need. Some of these were issued in the form of a check. Similar emergency issues have been made from time to time.

It should be noted that an instrument of these various types must conform to the following requirements:

A. It must be in writing and signed by the maker or drawer. This really is true only for personal checks issued by the likes of us. Corporate checks, payroll checks, dividend, and similar instruments are entirely printed even including the signature.

B. It must contain an unconditional promise or order to pay a sum certain in money.

C. It must be payable on demand or at a fixed or determinable future time.

D. It must be payable to order or to bearer.

E. Where the instrument is addressed to a drawer, he or she must be named or otherwise indicated therein with reasonable certainty.

Unfortunately, many people lump most forms of negotiable instruments under the name of checks. While checks are the most familiar to many of us there are many other types of similar paper which is correctly called by other names. The following information and pictures depict those various types.

Picture #1: Shows that of a check on the Bank of Pinole and fulfills the definition of a check. It is drawn on

#1: Bank of Pinole check.





the Port Costa Branch of the Bank of Pinole. The number 90-1115 is the bank number, the 12 below is the Federal Reserve District. It has a payee, a sum certain in money and is signed by the drawer. The oval stamp indicates that the item was paid.

Picture #2: Shows this to be a certified check which means that the

Union National Bank on which the check is drawn certifies by its stamp and signature that the funds have been transferred to the bank's own account and the check will be paid when presented.

Picture #3: Shows that it is a cashier's check, a check drawn by a bank upon it's own funds and signed



#6: Peoples National Bank of Illinois bank draft.

eoples Aationala ama 38 2886 ROCH ISLAND, III. MAY 22 1899 Dollar ERS NATIONAL BANK elpenste Bily, delt 21 No. JEWIS PIERCE. Dollar To WILLIAM PIERCE, Esq. 433 Jackson Street, SAN FRANCISCO

#7: Trade or personal draft of William Pierce.

by the cashier or his authorized representative.

Picture #4: Shows that this is a counter check, a check obtainable at a bank especially to be cashed only at the bank by the drawer. These used to be fairly common, but since the use of magnetic inks have come into use they are infrequently used.

Picture #5: Shows this to be a memorandum check, an instrument used internally in a bank to debit a customer's account in accordance with his written instructions. These are seldom used today as the computers are programmed to make automatic deductions from your account which you have requested. Return items and errors on deposit slips however use a form of this check.

Picture #6: Shows this to be a bank draft drawn by the Peoples National Bank of Illinois, which has as its correspondent bank the Importers and Traders National Bank in New York.

Picture #7: Shows this to be a trade or personal draft, which is an order drawn by one person or firm or on another person or firm, directing him or her to pay a certain sum of money to a third person or firm.

Picture #8: Shows this to be a sight draft, which is payable on presentation or at sight. This is also called a second of exchange. This was drawn by Adams and Company in San Francisco on their office in New York.

Picture #9: Shows this to be a time draft, which is a draft payable a specified numbers of days after the date of the draft or presentation to the drawee. This item is also an acceptance. Note the script in red across the face of the item.

Picture #10: Shows this to be a trade acceptance, which is a time draft

#8: sight draft by Adams and Company in San Francisco.

#9: time draft against an account at the Mexico City Banking Company.

#10: trade acceptance draft of the Iron Cliffs Company.

bearing the buyer's acceptance and shows the place of payment as the Third National Bank.

Picture #11: This is a money order, an order issued by a bank for payment of a specified sum of money at another office. This happens to be a bank money order, but they are also issued by post offices and telegraph offices.

Picture #12: This is a travelers check, which is a draft issued by a bank or express company payable on presentation to any correspondent of the issuer. Travelers checks are supposed to be negotiable almost anywhere.

Picture #13: This is a warrant, which is a commission or document giving authority to do something, specifically: a writing that authorizes a person to pay or deliver to another and the other to receive money or other consideration. These are usually issued by a government such as a state or county, and usually drawn on themselves.

Picture #14: This is a scrip of paper currency or a token issued for

Adams & Co withinge for Proprofie sight of this SEGOND of Cartograve (first (uput) pay to the inter of Julia a Vertino. Anndred 可以知道自己的 Palar maind and place to account of Cachar new York Mexico City, Alflowber 24 ,004 nto \$ 300. in sight pay to the order of Mexico City Banking Co., S. 3. Co., Banking mared Dollars and charge to account of. City maps alelaton Warner Mexico Mage news perh City ompany No. 954 Sion 8115 % wer Charcoal H Bainum (hain order of for Value Received ant advise Chailes J. Kanta Ticasuit Your York City

temporary use in an emergency. This one illustrates as a clearing house certificate of San Francisco.

So, here we have a whole new realm of interesting numismatic docu-

ments that most or many of us never knew existed and now we can begin a whole new search for examples of the above checks and drafts that still exist today.

#11: a bank money order, this one by Fort Lupton State Bank.

#12: Thomas Cook and Sons travelers check.

ON COLO MAR 21 1914 194 No. Y TO M OLLARS COLORADO NATIONAL ENNS DENVER, CULORADO. ELERS CHEQUE FORTEN DOLLARS J8-371-716 HE PRESENCE OF PAYING CASHIER PLACE AND DATE THOS. COOK & SON (BANKERS) LIP NEW YORK AGENCY. IN PRESENTATION OF THIS CHEQUE COUNTERSIGNED THE PERSON WHOSE SIGNATURE IS SHOWN BELOW WILL ay to the Order of IN UNITED STATES IN OTHER COUNTRIES TEN DOLLARS \$10 HE EQUIVALENT AT BANKERS BUTH HATE FORSIGHT DRAFTS ON NEW YOR SII BIGMATURE 2000 hus 1:8000-00061: 183-71716-21

BANKMONEYORDER

FORKER HELENRORS STRAND

#13: state of Nebraska, Stanton County warrant.

#14: clearing house certificate (scrip) from the San Francisco Clearing House.

Stati 148021 STANTON COUNTY. COUNTY 189 lanten a ader ARRAI?T Dollars and chickae Na ace of County General Fund Far of Carsa Jan Francisco Clearing San Francisco, Galiforn 1.C 55063 Per 13/ 1907 \$20 99 TWENTY DOLI RS Courilies having been deposited with the 6. of the Associated Banks f San Francisco this 6 pr/110 be accepted by the said Banksfor the sum name min Kins

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Congressional Gold Medals Honor Diverse Recipients

by Jim Wells

"Few inventions could be more happily calculated to diffuse the knowledge and preserve the memory of illustrious characters and splendid events than medals."

The sentiments above were declared in Congress during the Revolutionary War when America's Congressional Gold Medals were first conceived. The medals were intended to express the nation's appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions of our military leaders. Since then, Congressional Medals have evolved from military awards into honors bestowed on an array of recipients.

Today Congressional Medals are also awarded to athletes, actors, entertainers, public servants, and foreigners. Recipients have expanded from military generals who inspired their troops to victory, to include singers who inspired their listeners with song. Admirals whose fleets sank enemy ships have been joined by top golfers who sank golf putts for championships. Pilots who flew into battle or into space have been joined by doctors and scientists who labored in laboratories or hospital wards. Individual awards have been joined by group awards.

These medals, along with the Medal of Honor and the Medal of Freedom, represent the highest honors of the US government.

Military Recipients

The first Congressional Gold Medals were awarded by the Continental Congress. The very first was awarded to—guess who—General George Washington in 1776, for the recapture of Boston from the British army. The victory demonstrated America's strength to fight for what they believed, and was a turning point in the war.

Because the Americans had no minting facilities at the time, the first medals were struck at our ally France's Paris Mint. The Gold medal was presented to Washington, and now resides in the Boston Public Library. Silver and bronze duplicates were struck for his officers and soldiers.

Subsequent 3-inch diameter gold medals were awarded by the Continental Congress to Army generals Horatio Gates, Anthony Wayne, Daniel Morgan, Nathanael Greene, and Major Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, for Revolutionary War victories.

Continental Navy officer John Paul Jones also received a medal for



General Washington's 1776 defeat of the British in Boston prompted the first Congressional Gold Medal.

commanding his *Bonhomme Richard* warship to victory over the British frigate *Serapis* in 1779. In addition, Congressional Silver Medals (not duplicates of Congressional Gold Medals) were awarded to three other officers for lesser heroics. Smaller reproductions of these seven Gold Medals and three Silver Medals have been marketed in modern "America's First Medals" sets; all bear the legend *Comitia Americana* (American Congress.)

Victorious American commanders continued to receive Congressional Gold Medals throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Army generals included Andrew Jackson, William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Ulysses S. Grant, George Marshall, John Pershing, Billy Mitchell, Douglas MacArthur, Matthew Ridgeway, Norman Schwarzkopf, and Colin Powell.

Winfield Scott received two medals: for exploits in the War of 1812 and in the Mexican-American War in 1848. Major General Zachary Taylor received three medals: for 1846, 1847, and 1848 action in the Mexican-American War. His forces defeated larger Mexican armies in the Battles of Palo Alto, Monterrey, and Buena Vista. He was thrust into national spotlight and became the Whig party's winning candidate for the White House in 1848.

Navy recipients have included Thomas Truxton, Edward Preble, Isaac Hull, Stephen Decatur, William Bain-



In 1779 the British navy thought they were defeating John Paul Jones' Bonhomme Richard until his declaration, "I have not yet begun to fight!" General Zachary Taylor's third Congressional Gold Medal (90 mm) was struck with 20 ounces of California gold.



bridge, Oliver Hazard Perry, James Lawrence, and Hyman Rickover. US Navy ships have also been named for these naval standouts.

For Civil War leadership, Major General Ulysses Grant received a large (102 mm, or 4-inch) gold medal in 1863 "for gallantry and good conduct of himself and his troops in battles of the rebellion." It honors victories on the Mississippi River including Vicksburg and Chattanooga. Anthony Paquet of the US Mint was the engraver; the gold medal is now at the Smithsonian.

Congressional Gold Medals were awarded exclusively to military commanders until 1858, when Congress granted one to Dr. Frederick Rose, a British naval surgeon who helped an American ship's crew during an epidemic of yellow fever, at great risk to himself.

Later Congressional Gold Medals

After the Civil War, guidelines for the Congressional Gold Medal evolved. The Congressional Gold Medal is now considered "the nation's highest civilian award and the most distinguished award" given by the US Congress. It may be given to recognize a lifetime contribution or a singular achievement. No statutory provisions govern the award; the medal is awarded irregularly, when merited. Legislation authorizing each

Ulysses Grant parlayed his Civil War leadership into the presidency. His Congressional Gold Medal was 102 mm in diameter.



medal must be passed by Congress and signed by the president. Each gold medal is individually designed and struck by the US Mint. Although only one gold medal is made, in most cases, legislation also provides for the production and sale of duplicate bronze medals.

Besides the five generals listed above who became presidents (Washington, Jackson, Harrison, Taylor, and Grant), other presidents who have received a Congressional Gold Medal are Theodore Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan (the last two shared with their wives.) Lady Bird Johnson received her own. Other Washington politicians honored include Sam Rayburn, Alben Barkley, Robert Kennedy, Hubert Humphrey, Laurence Rockefeller, and Edward Brooke.

Recipients have expanded to include doctors (such as Walter Reed, Jonas Salk, and Michael DeBakey), inventor Thomas Edison, civilian aviators (Orville and Wilbur Wright, Howard Hughes), and religious leaders (Billy Graham, Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II, the Dalai Lama.)

Foreign recipients have included Winston Churchill, the Netherlands' Queen Beatrix I, Nelson Mandela, and Tony Blair. Civil rights leaders include Martin Luther King, the Little Rock Nine, Rosa Parks, and the Salem Alabama marchers. Athletes with gold medals include Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Arnold Palmer, and Jack Nicklaus. Entertainers honored include Irving Berlin, Bob Hope, Walt Disney, Marian Anderson, John Wayne, George and Ira Gershwin, Aaron Copeland, and Frank Sinatra. Approximately 200 gold medal



Equally honored: Medal recipients have included Pope John Paul II, inventor Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife, Nelson Mandela, Dr. Jonas Salk, singer Marian Anderson, and golfer Arnold Palmer.

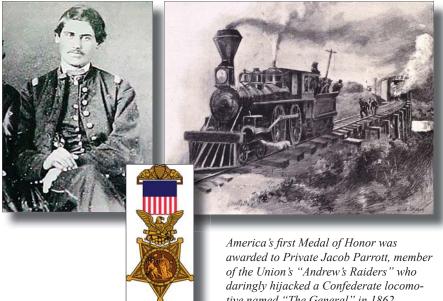


Group recipients have included Navajo Code Talkers, Civil War veterans, World War II Tuskegee Airmen, WASP pilots, World War II Monuments Men, September 11 2001 attack victims, Apollo 11 astronauts.

designs are included on current medal lists. Most were issued to a single person, a few to two or three people, and several to groups of an indefinite number. Silver and bronze copies have also been struck for other participants of a battle, mission, or action. Groups that have been honored include the Byrd Antarctic Expedition team, Civil War surviving veterans, the American Red Cross, World War II Navajo Code Talkers, Tuskegee Airmen, WWII Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs,) Apollo 11 astronauts, September 11 2001 victims. Monuments Men, and the 1980 Olympic team.

Related Medals

Two other awards represent high honors from America's government. The Medal of Honor was created during the American Civil War for military personnel who distinguished themselves "conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity" in combat. Initially, many medals were issued for capturing the enemy's flag or strategically planting the US flag in a battleground. The Medal of Honor is the oldest continuously issued combat decoration of the US armed forces. Because the medal is presented "in the name of Congress," it is often referred to as the "Congressional Medal of Honor." However, the official name is "Medal of Honor." Army and Navy versions were initially awarded, and an Air Force version was added in the 20th century. More than 3,500 Medals of Honor have been issued to the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and coast guardsmen since the decoration's creation in 1861. On March 25, 1863. Private Jacob Parrott was the first of a group of six men awarded the medal



for their actions in "the Great Locomotive Chase" in April 1862.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is an award bestowed by the president and along with the comparable Congressional Gold Medal, is now the highest civilian award of the United States. President Kennedy established the award in 1963, superseding the Medal of Freedom that was established by President Truman in 1945 to honor civilian service during World War II. Kennedy chose 23 people to receive the award the first year. President Obama awarded the most medals (123), the last to Vice President Joe Biden in January 2017. It now recognizes those who have made "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors." The award is not limited to American citizens and. while it is a

tive named "The General" in 1862

civilian award, it can also be awarded to military personnel and worn on the uniform.

Winners of Multiple Awards

Several individuals have been awarded two or more of the nation's three highest honors. Aviator Jimmy Doolittle received the Medal of Honor for leading the 1942 raids on Japan in World War II. Doolittle and 80 airmen flew 16 B-25 bombers off an aircraft carrier to attack Tokyo, and all crash landed at sea or in China. Doolittle later received a Presidential Medal of Freedom from President G.H.W. Bush in 1989. His whole team of "Doolittle Tokyo Raiders" won Congressional Gold Medals in 2014 "for outstanding heroism, valor, skill, and service to the United States "

General Douglas MacArthur received the Medal of Honor in 1942 for his defense of the Philippines in



Medal of Honor by Franklin Roosevelt in 1942, and a Medal of Freedom in 1989. All the "Doolittle Raiders" received Congressional Gold Medals in 2014.

World War II, and a Congressional Gold Medal in 1962. Charles Lindbergh also received both awards. Colin Powell received a Congressional Gold Medal in 1991 for planning and coordinating the military response to the Kuwait invasion by Iraq. Powell received the Presidential Medal of Freedom twice, in 1991 from George H.W. Bush, and "with distinction" in 1993 from Bill Clinton.

The US Mint website currently sells 3" and 1.5" bronze reproductions of recent Congressional Gold Medals on their website. Congressional Medals are listed in "Historical Events" or "Humanitarian and Cultural" categories. All copies of Congressional Gold Medals include the legend "Act of Congress" and the year of passage.

Recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal, and the Medal of Honor and Medal of Freedom, represent the finest heroes, leaders, achievers, and skilled performers among all Americans and our allies. The medals reflect their accomplishments, and comprise a beautiful and meaningful component of our numismatic hobby.

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The Panic of '92: How 51 Postmen and 38 Tons of Gold Coins Saved the US Economy

by Donald Lannon

It was a hot, sticky July afternoon in the nation's capital. While many of the city's political-elite had fled to cooler climes, the Honorable Charles Foster had not. By the summer of 1892, US Treasury Secretary Foster was certain: America's economy was going to crash as reserve margins approached "panic conditions" and business became "more depressed daily." Foster feared that the cash reserve kept on hand at the sub-Treasury in New York City "might prove insufficient to meet the demands likely to be made upon it." To prevent this catastrophe, he ordered the transfer of 76,000 pounds of US gold coins (current bullion value, about \$1.25 billion) in the sub-Treasury vault at San Francisco to that of the New York facility. Secrecy and speed were of utmost importance. The initial plan, to daily ship 3,800 pounds by rail over a 20-day period, had been leaked to the press and was abandoned; so, a new strategy was called for.

Bold Plan Approved

Foster met with Postmaster General John Wanamaker in an effort to decide on the "best and safest method of moving so large a sum...from one city to another," an official recalled. They agreed that the transfer had to be done by the Post Office Department (POD) under the supervision of General Superintendent James White, and that the entire shipment would be classified as registered mail. Authority to proceed with the move was given to White on July 20th, 1892. Three days later at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Chicago, White secretly held a morning meeting with three division superintendents. He told them that the department was to transport by rail and safeguard \$20 million (face value) in coins-perhaps as many as two million Liberty \$5, \$10, and \$20 gold pieces-from one coast to the other, a 3,239-mile journey that under normal circumstances took 127.5 hours.

The move would require the use of

Right: Charles William Foster, Jr. (April 12, 1828 – January 9, 1904) was a US Republican politician from Ohio. Foster was the 35th governor of Ohio, and later went on to serve as secretary of the Treasury under Benjamin Harrison. His concerns over the US economy sent 76,000 pounds of US gold coins on a cross-country journey.





Left: John Wanamaker (July 11, 1838 – December 12, 1922) was an American merchant and religious, civic, and political figure. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and served as US Postmaster General. He helped to engineer the logistics of moving those 76,000 pounds of US gold coins from coast to coast.

five railroad cars as well as the assignment of five postal supervisors, each from a different division, and a total of 45 Railway Mail Service (RMS) clerks selected from these divisions. White emphasized that "Great care must be exercised in making selections [of these men], soldiers of the Civil War to be given preference." Familiarity with the use of a pistol and carbine was essential.

Nearly two decades later, White would write in his autobiography that those employed by the RMS as clerks had agreed to "...place their lives in jeopardy...every time they enter a railroad train upon its business and... [were] expected to protect its mails from bandits, thieves, fire and flood with courage and energy." So, too, had these men. During the previous seven years, 43 clerks had been killed; another 385 had been seriously injured. The superintendent was determined to avoid additional losses, if possible. White successfully conducted negotiations with five different railroads for the use of their rolling stock, motive power, trainmen, facilities, and rights-of-way. This was accomplished in less than five days between July 21st and the 26th.

Clerks Weren't Told Truth

Selection of the clerks was concluded by the 27th. White claimed that their supervisors told them "the work of the divisions from which they were detailed had been so exceptionally good...that the Post Office Department desired as a measure of encouragement to recognize it in some unusual and attractive way, and believed that an outing across the country to San Francisco, with a few days for sightseeing in that city, would...please them." Their expenses were to be paid by the department.

In late August Norman Perkins, one of the three division superin-

tendents White had summoned to the Grand Pacific Hotel, provided a reporter with a much different account. According to Perkins, "The [clerks] were ordered to report...at a certain date for three week's [sic] special duty. They were given no notice of where they were to go or the purpose for which they were going. When they found they were under marching orders, and not supposed to know anything about it, they obeyed blindly and cheerfully. There was much speculation, though, as to what they were going to do. They were not informed." All members of the group arrived in San Francisco by Monday morning, August 1st, and departed for New York City three days later.

"Gold Train" Was Rolling Fortress

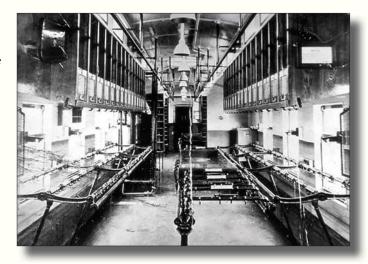
A five-car train had been assembled in Southern Pacific's transfer yard and awaited the arrival of the general superintendent and his 50 men. It consisted of a steam-powered locomotive, a tender, an officers' car equipped with an observation platform, followed by two Railway Post Office (RPO) cars, a baggage car, and an express car. This last car had been steel-plated with boiler iron throughout its interior and its windows had been heavily barred. "The observation end of the officers' car [was] coupled to the tender, which was narrower than that car and the engine," White explained. "[This] enabled the guards who occupied the chairs placed in front of the observation windows to focus their sight in front of the engine, and to command the country and the steps on either side of the engine upon which one must mount to gain access to that machine."

Not one of White's 45 clerks had "the least knowledge of the real object of the trip, nor were they aware of it until they were taken down to the cars the morning of ... the last day in San Francisco." As he remembered, "The [clerks] were shown into their respective cars, then the chests and boxes were opened and the munitions issued." The ordnance consisted of 60 Springfield carbines and 2,000 rounds of cartridges, 51 Colt .45-caliber revolvers and 1,000 cartridges, 51 cartridge belts and the same number of holsters, all of which had been requested by Superintendent White, approved by the War Department, and issued through the Army's arsenal at Benicia, California.

Shipped from Army Point to San Francisco on Southern Pacific Company's train No. 12, the guns and ammunition had arrived in San Francisco on August 3rd and had been loaded aboard the awaiting train. Such a large commitment of manpower and firepower was essential, both precautions taken in recognition that a hold-up attempt—an event that had become commonplace by 1892—was likely.

Provisions (e.g., cold food, canned meats, and fruits) for the first leg of the journey from San Francisco to Ogden were purchased on the morning of August 4th as were many other items for use during the entire trip such as mattresses, bedding, camp stools, chairs, and utensils.

At 10:00 a.m. that morning boxes began to arrive from the sub-Treasury in downtown San Francisco. Each load was transported in a heavy, horse-drawn "truck wagon," with the boxes covered by a tarpaulin. Two Treasury guards, both of whom carried Interiors of the "Gold Train" RPO cars carrying the gold were specially reinforced to protect their precious cargo.





Many of the clerks were armed with Springfield carbines and Colt .45 revolvers.

a concealed weapon, accompanied every load to the train. They remained there to oversee their wagon's unloading as well as the movement of its cargo to one of the four train cars; then the empty wagon and guards returned to the sub-Treasury for more boxes. When loaded, each of these rail cars contained 125 boxes. One box weighed 160 pounds, gross, and contained 152 pounds of gold coins in eight sacks; a boxful had a face value of \$40,000. Mattresses were spread over the tops of the boxes, giving clerks a place to rest when off duty. By 4:00 p.m. all of the gold had been loaded aboard the cars.

White assigned nine clerks and one officer to each of the four cars carrying the coinage. The officers' car was the first, positioned directly behind the tender. It was known as the "danger

car" although it didn't carry coins. Nine clerks and two officers were stationed in this car. Inside the five cars 25 of White's men were always on guard duty, while the other 25 rested. The superintendent demanded that offduty clerks "...keep their carbines by their sides, the barrel resting in the inside curve of the arm, and the revolver within reach." On-duty clerks were required to sit in chairs or on stools placed near the doors and windows. "...their revolvers in holsters belted on their bodies, their carbines in reach. and the doors bolted shut and locked." With windows and doors closed, ventilation inside all but the officers' car was nonexistent; daytime temperature within the cars regularly exceeded 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Almost as bad, toilet facilities were primitive. Several "honey buckets" were strategically

positioned in the baggage and in the express car; each of the two RPO cars had a small washbasin and an open commode.

Train Carried Only Silk

White telegraphed Assistant Postmaster General J. Lowrie Bell, "Have engaged an old stage coach for the World's Fair." This coded message, one of many agreed to by both men, told Bell that the special train was ready to leave San Francisco. It secretly departed the lower yard at 7:00 p.m. on August 4th. If attacked while en route, White was supposed to telegraph, "Strike on again at 2:05 a.m. in Idaho." Postal officials had announced that the train carried only silk, something they hoped train robbers wouldn't go after. "This fable served its purpose well," White believed. "It was repeated whenever its effectiveness was not likely to be doubted until we arrived in Ogden." Perkins, in contrast, only remembered the composition of the train to have been curious, and that it "would attract the attention of a trainman whenever seen." And the locomotive's engineer was reported to have complained, "Well, that may be a load of silk, but it is terrible heavy silk, and I don't believe that it is silk either." Rumors were rampant, the most believable being that the US branch mint in San Francisco was shipping millions of Liberty gold coins to its main facility in Philadelphia.

Mint records, in fact, show that a total of 1,389,675 gold pieces were struck at the San Francisco branch mint during Fiscal Year 1892 (i.e., between July 1st of 1891 and June 30th, 1892). Some of these coins were

dated 1891 and others '92. Half eagles accounted for 215,900 of this total; eagles, another 115,500; and double eagles, 1,058,275. Combined face value of the coins was \$23,400,000. All of the \$20,000,000 coin shipment may have consisted of these San Francisco mint coins.

"If everything works smoothly," White had told Bell, "we will reach Omaha on the 8th of August, Chicago on the 9th, and New York City on the 10th...[and] will telegraph from Reno, Ogden, Cheyenne...and Chicago 'Service in excellent condition."" Such optimism, however, wasn't universal. Fear of a hold-up was palpable among the clerks, despite the precautions taken by the superintendent to protect the cargo.

Matters worsened on August 3rd when White "...found that the wife of a member of a gang of train robbers had called at the baggage car of a train standing in the [San Francisco] yard of the Southern Pacific, and handed the baggage man a letter addressed to her husband and asked [the baggage man] to mail it," he recalled. "He [the baggage man] accepted it, and made a proper delivery, considering the circumstances. He knew nothing about the ... shipment of gold east, but he did know the woman, the lawless occupation of her husband, and the losses [the baggage man's] employers had sustained at the hands of these marauders, and delivered it properly." Postal officials carefully examined the letter "...without finding that this wife was seeking to inform her lord and master that the largest 'Jack pot' ... was in sight and might be had if they could locate it and wipe out...[its] courageous and experienced defenders."

The train carried almost 1.4 million gold coins from the San Francisco mint dated 1891 and 1892: \$5, \$10, and \$20 coins like this one pictured here, all with similar obverse designs.



As planned, the train departed San Francisco. "The guards were in their assignments," White recollected, "the doors were locked [and] all were wide-awake as we moved out into the Sacramento Valley." The locomotive engineer had been ordered to proceed with all possible speed and to stop only for water—a necessity for the men as much as the engine—or to change locomotives relay-style. It wasn't long, however, before the order had to be disobeyed.

20%

Breakdowns Threatened Lives

The train stopped at Sacramento for more than half-an-hour while a damaged coupler part known as a "drawhead" was repaired on one car. Once underway again, White's "Gold Train" moved out of the capital city, through the valley beyond, and began the long, slow climb up the Sierra Nevada Mountains. "The higher we mounted the more tense the strain upon the couplings became," he explained. "The strain became greater until in the extreme effort to reach the apex the coupling between the [tender] and the [officers'] car broke, [as did a second coupler between two other cars] and the situation became dangerous, but the company had taken the precaution to reinforce the couplings at all points with chains. ...Had the chain been lacking the five cars would have commenced the descent the moment they broke from the power that held them, before air or hand brakes could have been applied—and down they would have started upon a ride to destruction at least, perhaps to death."

Division Superintendent Perkins recalled another incident. "It was just at the highest point of the Sierra Nevada range. ...As the train was going along at a high rate of speed, a 'torpedo' which [sic] had been placed on the track exploded. The guards sprang to their arms, at least those that had been lying [sic] down. The train was brought to a standstill and a flagman was seen approaching waving his flag. Before he had time to say a word he received the order, 'Hands up.' Up they went and, nearly scared to death, he explained that the section men were fixing the track and had taken a rail out a short distance ahead. In a few minutes the track was repaired and the train continued on its way."

General Superintendent White was convinced that the flagman's life was only saved by the "quick inspection" of his men who were able to correctly determine "the character of the alarm." Used to grab the train crew's attention, a "torpedo" was a fiber-cased, slightly oblong package of noise – much louder than a shotgun blast – that weighed about an ounce.

Repair of the couplers broken during the climb up the Sierras was made at Colfax, California. This, in addition to the "drawhead" repair and the "torpedo" scare, put the train more than three hours behind schedule. White, by this time, also had become aware that his eastbound train was being sidetracked in favor of those freight trains moving west. Nevertheless, the "Gold Train" began the winding descent of the Sierras' east slope, its engineer hell-bent on making up the lost hours.

Train Almost Derailed

A brief stop was made at Wadsworth, Nevada, where the locomotive's tender took on hundreds of gallons of water; then, as White wrote in 1910, the train "commenced speeding through a valley full of lakes and sink holes, vanishing and reappearing streams, until we passed Humboldt Lake."

"When we commenced lashing the Humboldt's shores," the superintendent continued, "our engine was aroused and the tail end of the train cracked like chain lightning; this alarmed me somewhat because the distance between stations ranged from 12 to 33 miles, and the roadbed was as crooked as the [Truckee] river. We were running at 65 miles per hour and my alarm was caused by the danger of the whole train...being swung around some...curves with so much force as to derail it. ...The derailed portion of the train would have been broken up, some of the guards killed and it would have been very difficult to secure sound cars to transfer into."

To avoid such a disaster. White ordered a clerk to deliver the engineer a message. So the clerk climbed from the observation platform of the officers' car, tiptoed across the coupler, and onto the tender's ladder; then climbed up the ladder, crawled across the tender's top, climbed down another ladder, and then hopped into the locomotive's cab, all while the train swung around curves at more than a mile a minute. White's message: " ... [T]ell him that I said he was showing very little judgment in the handling of the train; that my 'cut loose' was for New York, not eternity."

At the next stop the engineer, accompanied by the clerk, walked from the engine to the officers' car as oil and water were taken aboard the tender. The clerk gladly returned to his post inside the car while White told the engineer, "Nothing serious has happened, and I am sure you will be more careful after this, but when you strike a good piece of track, reasonably straight, you can let the engine go as fast as steam will carry her."

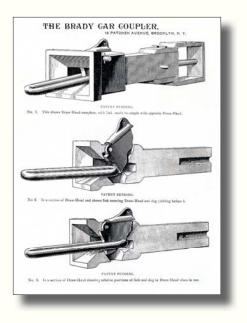
Meanwhile, Division Superintendent Perkins recalled one night The drawhead was the "weak link" in the system holding the railroad cars together, and proved problematic during the crosscountry trip, leading to delays that endangered the gold being transported.

when he was on guard. The train had stopped at a station so that the brakemen could perform a routine wheel inspection. Perkins overheard a conversation between two of these men during which half-a-dozen suggestions were offered as to the train's purpose—none included mention of either silk or gold. White and Perkins remained confident of their mission's secrecy.

Salt Lake City Papers Stole Secrecy

Depending entirely on the fruits and canned meats placed on board in San Francisco, the 51 men had been unable to get a hot meal from the time they had left that city until their arrival at the depot in Ogden, Utah. Here the train was greeted by the sound of newsboys as they called out the headlines of Salt Lake City's morning papers, seemingly all of which announced the gold shipment; at the same time a gong sounded, informing hungry travelers that breakfast was ready in the restaurant that adjoined the depot. The men didn't permit the bad news to quell their hunger.

Five of the ten clerks in each car were required to turn over their arms and ammunition to the five who remained on duty. These off duty clerks casually walked to the restaurant, quickly ate—they were allowed 20 minutes—walked back to their respective cars, gave the appropriate counter-



sign, and relieved those clerks on duty. The second shift then repeated this procedure. None of the men had time to bathe; by now the inside of each car reeked with the combined stench of sweat, spoiled fruit, and human excrement.

All of the 51 men now realized that someone had leaked details of the shipment to the press; secrecy had been forfeited. "We did not feel so confident after that, that we could get through without any trouble," Division Superintendent Perkins confessed. A return to the safety of San Francisco was impossible; speed was secrecy's only replacement.

Train Protected Every Minute

Onward raced the "Gold Train," reaching Green River, Wyoming, in time for a 40-minute dinner stop; from there it sprinted to Rawlins where a change in locomotives and engi-

neers was made. "The relief engineer protested against taking the train out," White recalled. "[He] said he'd been held up twice down the road. ... It was represented to him that he would be thoroughly protected during every minute of his run; that it would be impossible for a gang of outlaws to interfere with him or his engine, for there was a corps of 51 well-armed guards in the cars behind him ... and that he must make the run and pay no attention to signals, flags, or lanterns, but send his engine on under full headway. ...This he did [until] he left us at Laramie, Wyoming."

With great effort the train ascended the Rocky Mountains' west slope, briefly pausing at Sherman, the highest point along this line. Soon after it had stopped, White said, his clerks reported "Hearing the low hum of voices, and the shuffling of feet on the outside, [so] we deemed it best to investigate, and some of the guards were marshaled...inside of the cars, directly in front of two of the doors, their guns brought to a level, the two doors opened, the muzzles thrust through the openings, [and] the character of the disturbance [was] discovered." Tramps! Each of whom desired a free ride and repose on the officers' car platform; all of whom were "sent flying into the wilderness."

Some Lost Time Recovered

The distance by rail from Cheyenne, Wyoming—the next stop—to Omaha, Nebraska, was about 500 miles, with the Nebraska portion being flat. This condition permitted a speed of 65 miles per hour; so it should have been possible for the train to make up much of its lost time. But repair of an

overheated wheel bearing on several of the cars, a problem known as a "hot box," in addition to repair of a slipped eccentric on the locomotive, delayed White's train nearly three hours. The engine and tender combination was exchanged for another at Omaha. Between there and Chicago about one hour and 40 minutes of this time loss was recovered, a greater gain having been prevented by recurrent "hot boxes" and traffic interruptions (i.e., frequent passenger trains speeding west to a Knights Templar convention in Denver forced White's consist off the single-track mainline and onto sidings).

From Chicago the train continued east to Buffalo, New York, where it arrived at 1:20 a.m. on August 9th, two hours behind schedule. Within minutes of the train's arrival in Chicago, a change of locomotives was effected. Perkins explained, "At this point the first reporter was encountered, but he was not able to get near the car[s], being ordered to halt as soon as he approached." Away from Chicago dashed the "Gold Train," running toward its final destination, New York City.

Superintendent White remembered the dash between Chicago and New York. "It was a lively ride," he recollected. "The train moved without friction, no swinging or rolling, no disturbance of equilibrium, save at a point east of Rochester, I think, when she came down with a tremendous jolt, and bounded as if she had run against the end of a broken rail, trembled and moved forward as before, smoothly, a mellow, pleasant sound greeting the ear, her equilibrium restored." At 10:46 a.m. on August



The 3,000 mile trip across the United States from San Francisco to New York took the "Gold Train" just over 109 hours, averaging a speed therefore of 27.5 MPH.

9th, 1892, the "Gold Train" came to a stop in New York City's Grand Central Depot, requiring a bit more than 109 hours to complete its journey.

Gold Delivery Commenced

"Being informed of the facilities provided for the transfer of the registered boxes from the depot to the sub-Treasury," White recalled, "I had the carbines, extra ammunition, equipment, camp stools, [and] mattresses placed in the officers' car under guard. ... Then the doors of the discharging side of the cars were unlocked, opened, and guards stationed at each. The gates to the yards were opened and five wagons were loaded as quickly as possible, the boxes being checked out of the cars into the wagon, then two armed guards were placed on each wagon with the

driver."

According to a story published in the New York *Morning Advertiser* on August 10th, "Superintendent White decided that the drive to the sub-Treasury in [sic] Wall street [sic], where the gold was to be deposited, should be processional. The vans were to be driven in as close proximity as possible. In the event of a breakdown, or accident of any kind, it was understood that every driver should pull his team down, then close up together and stop until orders were received to go on."

The first group of five loaded wagons left Grand Central Depot at 11:50 a.m., arriving at the sub-Treasury 50 minutes later. These were followed by five more with four more wagons following that group, 14 wagons in all. Once at their destination the wagons were unloaded; the boxes of gold coins were checked off, then placed in the sub-Treasury's vaults; and a receipt for delivery was given to White.

Postmen Lauded

"For the manly manner in which these splendid boys had borne themselves, their perfect observance of discipline, their intelligent comprehension of duty and responsibility, and their moral and upright conduct and absolute fearlessness," White proclaimed, "the Post Office Department permitted them to remain in New York City and vicinity two days, a courtesy they enjoyed greatly."

Several days after White's train had safely arrived in New York City, a *Pioneer Press* reporter wrote, "The utmost secrecy was attempted in the removal of the gold, as had the fact that a special train was to start from San Francisco, with such an amount of money on board, leaked out, the chances were ninety-nine to one that it would have been wrecked somewhere between the Golden Gate and Chicago. Hundreds of men would not have hesitated a moment to wreck the train and take the lives of everyone who was on it for the sake of laying hands on the gold. There were a hundred places where this could have been accomplished with the greatest ease during the trip across the mountains. Such men as the Dalton brothers would have jumped at the chance to have made [sic] themselves wealthy by wrecking the train." White and 50 other postmen somehow had beaten these odds.

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Factoid

In the United States, a Railway Post Office (RPO) was a railroad car that was normally operated in passenger service as a means to sort mail en route, in order to speed delivery. The RPO was staffed by highly trained Railway Mail Service postal clerks, and was off-limits to the passengers on the train. From the middle of the 19th century, many American railroads earned substantial revenues through contracts with the U.S. Post Office Department to carry mail aboard high-speed passenger trains. In fact, a number of companies maintained passenger routes where the financial losses from moving people were more than offset by transporting the mail.



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One Forgotten Anniversary, One Amazing Coin—At Least One Buffalo Nickel

by Mark Benvenuto

The dust has begun to settle on the hype that came with the release of the 2016 gold versions of the Mercury dime, the Standing Liberty quarter, and the Walking Liberty half dollar. Those who managed to get their hands on all three can be proud of having three perfect examples of some truly great numismatic artwork. Those who have chosen to wait still have some time before they figure out whether their wait means prices will rise or fall on the secondary market, or aftermarket. Yet through all this, one true American classic has been overlooked. We're talking about the Indian Head nickel, also called the Buffalo nickel.

The artistry of Mr. James Earle Fraser's nickel saw its 100th birthday come and go in 2013, but without any centennial hype. Perhaps this is because of the 2001 American buffalo silver dollar, or the more recent 0.9999 fine American buffalo gold bullion coins first issued ten years ago. Whatever the reason, it's a bit of a shame, as Mr. Fraser was an amazing, highly accomplished artist, and one who had a special connection to the Native Americans he portrayed in his artwork. Born in Minnesota in 1876. Mr. Fraser grew up close to the native peoples at a time when the last of these First People Nations were being forced onto reservations. He was an

artist from an early age, and ended up studying in Chicago as well as Paris. For a period of time, he even worked with Augustus St. Gaudens, although it was before St. Gaudens began his revamping of United States coinage.

The obverse image of this nickel is said to be a composite of three living models: Oglala Sioux Chief Iron Tail, Kiowa Chief Big Tree, and Cheyenne Chief Two Moons. The result is a true masterpiece of an image, one of the most realistic portraits that had ever been placed on a United States coin.

If we were to look for a single 1913 Indian Head nickel to add to any collection, one to honor that centennial vear as it were, there are six possibilities from which to choose. The main mint in Philadelphia pounded out a river of these five-cent pieces, and the branch mints in Denver and San Francisco each ponied up millions more. Originally, the words "five cents" in the exergue on the reverse were a high point for the coin, being on raised ground under the buffalo (more properly, the bison). Then later in the year the words were recessed into that spot, creating a variety with a much more protected wording. And all three mints produced these in hefty numbers as well.

Undoubtedly the least expensive 1913 Indian head nickel is that from

A gorgeously toned 1913 Buffalo nickel (also known as an Indian head nickel), type one with the nonraised "five cents" reverse.

Photograph of Oglala Lakota Sioux Chief Iron Tail by F. W. Glasier in 1905.

Philly, with "five cents" on the raised exergue. A person can land one for about \$150 in a grade as high as MS-65, which

will be a handsome piece, without a doubt. Most of the major price lists also mention proofs that were made that year. To snag one of these though, we'll need to add another zero to the just-mentioned price tag.

That being said, one obviously can choose other dates among the Indian Head nickel series that can still serve as a reminder of the 100th anniversary. The last few years of issue had some very large mintages, for which a MS-65 specimen will cost less than \$100. That's a champagne coin on a beer budget, for sure.

Any of us who wish to expand and explore beyond a single Indian Head nickel can easily come up with several means of building a partial or full set of them. Date runs are popular, as are sets of "all Philadelphia" nickels. But aficionados of Mr. Fraser's work can conceivably also go in other directions. A person could put together a trio consisting of a mint state or proof nickel, a 2001 silver dollar, and one of the American buffalo gold bullion coins. For those of us who shy away from one-ounce bullion coins because of their price tags, there are some fractionals, meaning American buffalo gold bullion coins that are smaller than an ounce—even as small as 1/10th ounce. Price tags for a gold piece of this size are not particularly tough on the wallet.

FINECEND



From left: obverse and reverse of the World War I Victory Medal for the US designed by Fraser. Not only did the United States issue a Victory Medal, but so did a significant number of Allied and associated countries involved in the conflict. Third image is the Navy Cross also designed by Fraser.

Finally, two works Mr. Fraser produced that are also numismatic in nature, though less remembered than his nickel, are medals. The first is the World War I victory medal, with a classic figure of a winged victory on the round medal, sword in hand, suspended from a rainbow ribbon. Depending on where a soldier fought, the ribbon could have one or more clasps across it with the names of areas of battle. The second is the Navy Cross. featuring a ship under sail superimposed on a thick cross all suspended from a blue and white ribbon. As might be imagined, the first of these two hasn't been awarded for quite some time. The second is basically one step below the Medal of Honor (sometimes called the Congressional Medal of Honor, because of how it is awarded), and is awarded to personnel

for extreme heroism in combat. While it is illegal to buy, sell, or trade medals and decorations of the United States armed forces, collectors can sometimes obtain them when a relative or friend gives them to another, or passes away and leaves directions about them in a will. Both may be hard to find, but both represent further examples of Mr. Fraser's skill.

The centennial mark of this most iconic five-cent piece may have passed with no fanfare, but that does not mean we need to ignore it. Whether we choose to search for a single 1913 nickel in the best shape we can afford, or assemble some more complete set, or try to couple a choice-looking nickel with a 2001 silver dollar and a gold bullion piece, it's easy to have fun with our 103-year-old nickels.

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We Get Around

Copy Editor Cynthia Wood-Davies of the ANA's *The Numismatist*, let us know that they've prepared an adaptation of TCN Author Charlie Catlett's article which originally appeared in the fall 2015 issue of TCN, "Collecting the Other 1804 Dollars". The ANA plans for it to appear in their September issue this year. Congratulations, Charlie, on this well-deserved recognition of your ability to tell an absorbing story!



GSCS Report—2017



The Golden State Coin Show (GSCS) was held August 26-27 in Arcadia. Though free admission was given to all youth, \$465 was collected as admission fees, indicating excellent attendance and an encouraging testament to the advertising which was helped along by many dealers sending mailers to their customers. Many attendees turned in postcard mailers for discounts, one way of tracking the effectiveness of various advertising methods.

The Member Club Gold Benefit Drawing brought in \$4,160 *after* the partial split with member clubs (thereby covering the cost of the gold coins), which strengthened club treasuries to the tune of an additional \$2,500-\$3,000. The top three selling clubs for gold tickets were Glendale Coin Club (760), Upland Coin Club (140), and Downey Numismatists (128).

Of the 35 gold coins in the drawing, top winners were Lisa Pleski (\$5 Liberty), Harold Katzman (10 marks), John Plaia (\$20 St. Gaudens), Michael Kane (\$2.5 Indian), Roy Iwata (\$2.5 Indian), and Patrick Evans (Nether-

The Masonic Temple in Arcadia was again home to the bourse, banquet, meetings, ANACS coin grading, scout workshop, gold drawing, and other activities of the Golden State Coin Show.



lands ducat). There were also 1/10th and 1/20th ounce gold, 1 gram gold, 2, 2.5, and 5 peso coins to round out the action.

NASC honored significant numismatists through their annual awards. Their highest award, the Richard P. Goodson Award for service to the association, went to Robert "Bobcat" Thompson, who has been a numismatist since 1951 when he began collecting Lincoln cents from pocket change. He is also an active philatelist, and synographist. Bobcat joined NASC in 1972 and was the post office chairman during the 1970s joining the board of NASC in 2012 as well as taking on the responsibility of publicity chairman since 2009. Bobcat was a charter member of the Verdugo Hills Coin Club and has served on the board in all its positions and continues today as their newsletter editor. Bobcat has been a member of the ANA for the past 45 years attending his first ANA convention in San Diego in 1968 and was their registration chairman in 2009. Bobcat has received the ANA Presidential Award from Clifford Mishler.

The Speaker of the Year Award went to David Schwager, who writes "The Modern World" column for *COINage* magazine and regularly provides features to that publication. He is a contributor to *The Numismatist*, including recent cover stories, as well as *CoinWeek* and *FUN Topics*. His first book, *Sample Slabs*, was published in 2015, and is in its second edition. David is also president of the Orange County Coin Club. David has become a great and dependable speaker at coin clubs



NASC President Mike Kittle presenting awards to, from top: Bob Thompson, David Schwager, and James Thompson.

throughout Southern California including; Orange County, Verdugo Hills, Glendale, Long Beach, Covina, Upland, San Bernadino, Seal Beach, and CSNA.

The Junior Achievement Award was presented to James D. Thompson, who will be 16 years old as he starts his junior year this fall at Eagle Rock Highly Gifted Magnet. James was born in 1991 to Greg and Carolvn (both ancient-medieval numismatists/dealers). His first photo was on the cover of a coin catalogue. He grew up attending the Long Beach Coin Show, the Renaissance Faire, and the ANA shows. He assembled a type set of US coins at the age of ten, often running errands or selling type coins at various coin shows. The tooth fairy was always kept informed as to which coins were needed for that set! More recently, James completed three high school advanced placement courses as a sophomore, including world history, something he was well prepared for spending many hours listening and learning history as part of numismatics. He spent many hours learning and identifving Roman coins for customers at the Faire, remembering details of every emperor. James is a Boy Scout of the life rank with one of his first merit badges in coin collecting. More recently, with an interest in Ottoman and Arabic coins, he has signed up for an Arabic language course this coming school year. James has many friends and acquaintances at coins shows, and continues to collect coins, often buying and selling to improve his collection.

The President's Trophy for Outstanding Club Bulletin went to Editor



Above: Mike Kittle presenting the President's Trophy for Outstanding Club Bulletin to Editor Jim Phillips of Hemet Coin Club.

Below: Mike Kittle presenting Dennis Rocklein picking up the third place certificate on behalf of Editor Helen Desens of Covina Coin Club.



Jim Phillips of Hemet Coin Club for their *Hemet Numismatists*. A second place certificate was presented for Editor Andrew Woodruff of the Heartland Coin Club for *Coin Sense*. And a third place certificate was won by Editor Helen Desens of the Covina Coin Club for *Covina Coin News*.

California Token Spotlight

Shining on: The Model Saloon, Santa Rosa

by Merle Avila & John Burton

In 1880 a man named Gillard opened the Model Saloon at 540 Fourth Street in Santa Rosa. He sold the business in 1883 to the Groshong brothers who sold to Enoch Yates in 1885.

Herman Bayer purchased the Model from Yates in 1890 and operated it until his death August 10th, 1910, in a train crash near Ignacio in which 12 died and 20 others were injured. When Bayer met his death he was seated in the smoker car of the train, and was instantly killed by an iron rod entering his mouth and penetrating his head. Mr. Bayer had a fine voice Santa Rosa and was always a favorite entertainer at gatherings of fraternal orders to which he belonged.

R. R. O'Brien bought the Model Saloon from the Bayer estate and ran it till prohibition closed it for good in 1920.

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Numismatic Luminary



by Jim Hunt

Our Numismatic Luminary Jim Phillips was born in Jennings, Missouri, and was brought to California by the navy. He was stationed in Seal Beach and then in San Diego where he met his wife, Cathy. They had a long distance relationship for two years while he was in Okinawa. Upon his return, they got married in 1995 and Jim retired from the navy as a Mineman Chief Petty Officer two years later. He then moved to Hemet where Cathy was living. He and Cathy raise and train service dogs for "Canine Companions for Independence". He presently works for an eye clinic and spends the rest of his time caring for the ranch.

Jim's hobby outside of numismatics is skydiving. He notes that he met Cathy through a group of skydiving enthusiasts and that they married with a skydiving wedding. He also worked as a professional skydiving instructor for 15 years after retiring from the navy. His wife supports his numismatic hobby by attending local coin club meetings, but mostly enjoys the social interaction with people.

Jim started collecting US type coins. He has two type collections, one with "raw" coins and a second with PCGS/NGC slabbed coins. He is also a currency collector. He started with a type set of fractional currency and then expanded his collection to include obsoletes, MPC, and private scrip. He developed a special interest in the Civil War's "Great Train Chase". Accordingly, he is a serious collector of Western and Atlantic Railroad script. He also has a special interest in World War II related "Operation Bernhard" counterfeit notes. His other currency interests include US large-size notes and colonial currency. He is working on putting together a set of colonials, one from each colony, and a Continental piece.

His favorite collecting story involves handling a rare fractional currency presentation book at the Long Beach show. Of the 18 copies published, three are in museums, the whereabouts of seven are unknown, and eight are in private hands. Jim was thrilled to actually handle such a rare item. I can completely understand his enthusiasm, as I too like to examine rare auction material at coin shows.

Our luminary belongs to the ANA, CSNA, NASC, Society of Paper Money Collectors (SPMC), Central States Numismatic Society, Hemet Numismatists, Upland Coin Club, and the San Diego Paper Money Club. The Hemet Coin Club was the first numismatic organization he joined. He has held every one of the club's offices, from president on down and is presently the corresponding secretary. He has also been the club's newsletter editor for over ten years. He has been an NASC board member and the



NASC webmaster for three years. Jim is also a contributor and on-line calendar events manager for the SPMC, and received their 2013 Social Media Award "for contributions to extending the services and presence of the SPMC via the website".

He has received many appreciation certificates from local coin clubs for doing presentations on a variety of subjects. He is the recipient of a CSNA symposium speaker award for his presentation on "The Great Train Chase" and has received a literary award from TCN for his article "Collecting Southern States Currency". He has also received a second place award for "Best Club Newsletter" in NASC. Of these many awards, he has the greatest appreciation for those bestowed by the Hemet Numismatists. After receiving every award given by the club, his fellow club members created an award especially for him. He says this "Special President's Award" is the most important award

he has ever received. Complete with a mounted proof 2016 silver eagle, it was presented to him, January 2017.

The greatest numismatic event in his life, Jim notes, was probably giving his presentation on "The Great Train Chase" at a CSNA symposium. He says that people, after a number of years, still remember that presentation. In addition to the symposium presentation, Jim has written articles for TCN, coordinated the Hemet Numismatists display at the Hemet Public Library for National Coin Week, and has given many numismatic presentations at coin clubs and other organizations.

Jim's advice to new collectors is to take your time and enjoy what you collect. It may be a niche interest that others have passed by or it may be something that is heavily collected. Either way, if you have an interest in it, it will be something you search for and then research to find new insights or information. Then go to a coin show to explore your interests.

ANA Report

by Jim Hunt

The results of the ANA elections are in. Gary Adkins has been elected President, and Don Kagin, Vice President. The new Board members are: Coronel Steve Ellsworth, Dr. Ralph Ross, Greg Lyon, Paul Montgomery, Thomas J. Uram, John W. Highfill, and Brian Henderson. The ANA



from the ANA.

The ANA has also been collaborating with the *Coin Dealer Newsletter* to provide ANA members with a reliable retail pricing guide for collectable US and early American coinage. Members can access the "Collector's Price Guide" in *The Numismatist*. Each monthly 8 to 10

reports that of the 19,425 members eligible to vote, 27.65% participated in the election. This is an increase from 26.66% in the 2015 election. This election, 25% of the votes were cast electronically, compared to only 8% in the last election.

The ANA is collaborating with the publishers of the E-Sylum weekly on-line newsletter to provide ANA members with an additional source of news and numismatic information. At the Numismatic Literary Guild (NLG) bash, held during the ANA convention in Chicago, producer Wayne Homren of the E-Svlum was recognized, along with editor and columnist Maria Fanning and David Fanning who received recognition for their related literary work on the Asylum, the quarterly print publication of the NLG. The on-line E-Sylum has been published for many years, and take it from me, a devoted subscriber, it is a great source of numismatic information. The newsletter is now also available on-line

page supplement offers up-to-date values for a variety of US coin types and denominations on a regular rotation basis. The "Collector's Price Guide" is intended as a hobby resource only and should be used in combination with other numismatic references as part of a practical, informed purchasing plan.

The Florence Schook School of Numismatics will conduct two seminars hosted by numismatic organizations. Counterfeit US Coins: Cents Through Silver Dollars, hosted by the Virginia Numismatic Association, and Introduction to Counterfeit Detection, hosted by the Raleigh Coin Club. They will be held September 20-21, and October 18-19, respectively. The cost is \$259 for each course with ANA members getting a \$40 discount from the stated price. While these courses are being held on the East Coast, they could also be conducted in California just as well. Something to think about!

It Makes Cents:

The Lincoln Cent Mintmarks

by Dr. Sol Taylor

In 1909 the Brenner design for the Lincoln cent did not include the position of a mintmark. Before 1909 all mintmarked coins had the mintmark on the reverse with a couple of exceptions in 1838. So when the San Francisco version of the 1909 cent was about to be struck the chief engraver had no guidance as to where to place the S. Though the reverse would have been a good choice, there were already small initials on the lower reverse, i.e. "VDB". The next choice was somewhere on the obverse. No logical space seemed to work. As a result there are no less than six known mintmark locations under the date of 1909S (and 1909S VDB) cents. (They are illustrated in my book, The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent.) In addition, one die had the mintmark not quite centered and a second punched S was stamped over the first S resulting in the first of many so-called RPMs (repunched mintmarks) in the series.

In 1910 the mintmark location was set at 2mm below the center of the date and has been the preferred location of S and D mintmarks ever since.

Among my preferred RPMs is the 1938 triple-S Lincoln cent. Though often described as a RPM, it is actually a triple mintmark. The first S was apparently a small S probably designed for the dime. Then a second S was stamped over the first S but was still left of center. The third punch over the first two resulted in this unusual, but



not that rare, triple RPM. Over the decades in searching rolls and even bags of cents I've managed to find a dozen (or more) of this RPM. In a mail bid sale of SLCC in 1989 I had two uncirculated specimens for sale—a MS65 brought \$45 and a MS63 brought \$25. I guess recent market value is not much different today—if one can find any auction results.

Finally, in 1960 with all the hoopla over the small date cent being the scarce variety, a very scarce doubled die was discovered, namely a small date punched over a large date. Not only is this a scarce variety, a very few with the D mintmark were also an RPM. The first D was too high, touching the date. It was partially buffed off and a second properly located mintmark was stamped over it. This double variety coin sells for over \$100 (based on a mail bid sale of SLCC in 1995).

As for the many other RPMs (there is an RPM book listing most of the 500 or so RPMs) they are fun to find in collections, rolls, or even mixed lots of older coins. In most cases RPMs command little or no premium over the non-RPM variety. Further, the popular *Red Book* lists only a very few of these varieties, so most collectors may not even be aware that they exist.

Goings On

by Greg Burns

There's been no CSNA board meetings since the last issue. As shown in the upcoming December CSNA convention schedule (look elsewhere in this issue of TCN), there will be an open CSNA board meeting on Saturday, December 16, at 7:45 a.m. at the Arcadia Masonic Hall (convention site), and I encourage any who are interested to attend.

In the meantime, email traffic relating to CSNA business has mentioned the progress on selling the bourse tables for the December show (sounds like Howard Feltham's doing a great job with that), a changeover for CSNA late-year show-dates from November to December (works better for certain dealers, thereby increasing the likelihood of selling out the bourse), and the selling of repaired show cases.

And just prior to TCN publication, CSNA President Bill Pfeifer has generated a questionnaire he'll have our printer include with the mailing (double sided: one side with explanatory letter, and other side with the questionnaire). The main point of it is that Bill is trying to get a more thorough sense of what members would like from CSNA. I'm sure that in addition to a completed questionnaire, he'd love to receive any emailed suggestions readers may have (bill.pfeifer@ icloud.com). Please bend his ear.

Meanwhile, NASC has had two board meetings. One held during the Golden State Coin Show (GSCS) in late August, and another a couple of weeks later in early September at the Long Beach Expo.

I missed the meeting at the GSCS (business took me down to San Diego for the weekend; great weather at 70-80 degrees versus the over-100 at my home in Upland). Apparently a few others missed as well, as we didn't have a quorum, and so couldn't conduct any official business.

At the next NASC meeting held during the expo there was again no quorum (in part perhaps because it was held so closely following the GSCS meeting), and Harold Katzman took an action to review possible means of modifying NASC bylaws to simply permit a majority of the executive board to conduct business.

NASC President Mike Kittle stated that CSNA had invited the board of NASC to jointly meet during the upcoming December CSNA convention, with the topic to be informal discussions on whether there's any interest in a more formal review of merging the two associations or otherwise enhancing their cooperation and functioning. The meeting is apparently set for 11 a.m. that Sunday morning. I doubt that will be an open meeting, so if you have thoughts on the topic please communicate them to either (or both) of the association presidents beforehand.

The topic has come up before. In fact, you're holding in your hands the output of a small group of optimistic folks who in early 2003 speculated on how to gradually push the two groups together. Since at the time I was editing both association journals it seemed a walk in the park to merge those two organs into *The California Numismatist* as a first step. Bolstered by the fact that each association's publishing costs came down (the economies of scale were greatly in favor of such a move), it wasn't too hard of a sell to get both boards to agree to it. There was some hesitancy based upon concerns that some strength of *identity* may become diluted, but aside from those initial worries it actually seemed to work out pretty well.

But the second and subsequent steps never came. There were occasional discussions here and there, but nothing serious (and a fair amount of resistance from those who were more invested in one or the other group), and it seemed easier to do nothing than to tackle the job of melding everything into a single state-wide organization.

Aside from any difficulties that might be encountered, and the long list of reasons why not to do it that could be made, the single biggest reason to consider it are the limited human resources to drive the two buses. Having two associations requires two presidents, two vice presidents, two corresponding secretaries, two of pretty much everything (except editors at the moment). And as an illuminating comment on that, when was the last time there was a contested election for one of the elected positions? It's usually an exercise in arm-twisting to get even a full slate for a white ballot.

There's probably some minor easing of finances since the treasury would be double what either single group has now, but the "ins and outs" of cash flows probably wouldn't change a whole lot.

Anyway, the topic wasn't debated at the NASC meeting, and those present expressed interest in meeting with their counterparts in CSNA, so we'll see what happens with that.

Though Treasurer Jay Robinson wasn't able to get to the meeting, he did send some financial updates via Mike Kittle. It seems the GSCS overall likely made around a \$2,000 profit (eh, plus or minus). The bourse tables were sold out; that's always a good sign. And the financing on the Member Club Gold Benefit Drawing appeared to cover all the costs, give a nice financial boost to the clubs through retained ticket revenue (half goes to the clubs), with a few crumbs left over to start for next year.

Other comments on the outcome of the show were that the ANACS coin grading service felt they received more business than they had originally anticipated, and the new addition of a coin supplies dealer in the front lobby of the show appeared to be a big hit. Count on that returning next year. You can mark your calendars now for August 25-26, 2018, in Arcadia.

The next NASC board meeting would normally be at the next Long Beach Expo (February 24, 2018, at 8 a.m.), but there's various important planning tasks that need to be defined and accomplished sooner than that date would support, so it's likely that Mike Kittle will "send out the call" for a board meeting before then. Perhaps we'll have something in the next TCN due in your hands sometime in December.

The California Numismatist • Fall 2017 51

The Emerging Hobbyist

by Michael S. Turrini

For this TCN's "The Emerging Numismatist", I've welcomed and invited someone else to provide some insights, our first woman guest columnist, Maria E. Stillwagon, who is relatively new to our "world of money". Maria is currently associated with and involved in the Diablo Numismatic Society (Concord/Walnut Creek) and is its monthly Diablo Die Break editor. Her observation that our hobby should not be "gender specific" could encourage other women to be involved and active. Thanks, Maria for your thoughts!

Sidebar: I encourage exchanges and comments from TCN readers; email me at EMPERORI@juno.com or write to PO Box 4003, Vallejo, California, 94590-0400... MST

I want to start out by saying that I was honored when Mr. Turrini approached me about submitting a commentary.

As a female, I wasn't sure how I could find my place in the hobby. It's extremely overwhelming. When my then-boyfriend and his friends got together the energy level in the room was enough to light up a small city. There were times I thought I had flown to another country and didn't speak the language. You know what I'm talking about...



I first started attending club meetings to see what all the hoopla was about. At first, I perceived the hobby to be a male dominant hobby. I later realized that being a numismatist is not gender specific. Anyone who has the interest to want to learn more are only hindered by their own limitations. This is truly a hobby for anyone, no matter your age, gender, or financial status.

I look forward to seeing more females participating and mentoring new members. It would be rewarding and uplifting to all involved. I gave my first presentation in October of last year on the Franklin halves. I will admit that I was scared beyond belief. Getting up in front of so many people who I considered "experts" was horrifying. I persevered and found everyone to be welcoming, appreciative, and encouraging. Being part of a club is like having many brothers and sisters to guide you on this amazing journey of coin collecting.

- Maria E. Stillwagon

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Don Ketterling CSNA Life Member 44-2

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.

CSNA Southern Show 2017

Arcadia Masonic Center 50 W. Duarte Road Arcadia, CA 91007



Friday, December 15

- Noon to 4:30 Show set-up (signs, cases, etc.)
- 4:30 Open for dealers and exhibitors only
- 7:00 No-host Social Hour at Coco's
- 7:30 Banquet at Coco's
- 8:30 Set-up closes for dealers and exhibitors (doors locked/secured)

Saturday, December 16

7:45am	CSNA Board meeting
8:00	Open for dealers and exhibitors only
9:00	Scout Clinic (ends at 12:00pm) - <i>tentative schedule; please check!</i>
10:00	Open to the public
2:00	CES meeting and club benefit auction
5:30	Bourse closes to entry traffic
6:00	Bourse closes for the day

Sunday, December 17

8:30am	Bourse open for dealers only
10:00	Open to the public
2:30pm	Exhibitors can remove their exhibits
3:30	Bourse closes to entry traffic
4:00	Show closes
6:00	Security ends

Special Room Rate: \$89

Oak Tree Inn, 788 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, 626-358-8981 (1.6 miles from convention location). Joyce has reserved a block of rooms for CSNA convention-goers. Be sure and ask for the "CSNA rate" of only \$89.



CSNA Show Banquet

Coco's Bakery Restaurant (Oak Tree Room) 1150 Colorado Blvd., Arcadia, CA Friday, December 15, 2017 No-host Social 7 PM, Buffet 7:30 PM

Master of Ceremonies to be Announced

<u>All American Buffet</u> Includes all you can eat of the following: Prime Rib—Salmon Filet—Honey Dijon Chicken Vegetables—Rice Pilaf—Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Salad Bar—Breads—Desserts Coffee, Iced Tea or Fountain Drinks

\$37 per person includes tax and tip (and a whole lotta fun...)



Make reservations by December 9, 2015. Make checks payable to "CSNA".

Party:
Joyce Kuntz
697 Scripps Drive
Claremont, CA 91711

RIP Samuel Lopresto

Sam was born 1925 in Salt Lake City, Utah, and passed away at home in Torrance California on April 6, 2017. Sam served in World War II. He enlisted in the Navy and was dispatched alongside the 1st Marine Division when they landed on Peleliu island in September 1944. He later spent six years in Paris with the US Army. Obviously a patriot, Sam later enlisted in the US Air Force, and finally retired in 1967 after 20 years of service.

Sam and his wife Marcelle (who passed in 1981) raised two sons, Robert and Danny, who survive their parents.



In 1967 Sam Lopresto opened a coin shop in Long Beach. That year he took a table at the Long Beach Coin Show and was asked to help run the bourse floor on the first day. In 1978 he and his partner took over the show, expanding its reach and adding a third annual show. For the next 14 years Sam operated the Long Beach Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition, finally selling his share in 1992 to long time friends and numismatists, Ron Gillio and Paul Koppenhaver.

The sole person to be honored with a life membership by the Long Beach Coin Club, Sam supported the club in a myriad of ways, both before and after his ownership of the Expo. For his service to numismatics on the national scene, Sam received the ANA's Glenn Smedley Memorial Award in 1993, and their Medal of Merit in 1994.

Bringing Home the Bacon

Phil Iversen displays the exhibit awards he won at the ANA's Worlds Fair of Money in Denver in August. His exhibit "Denver Mine Early Years" won second place in the convention theme category (this year it was "Rush to the Rockies"), and his "Bingle Tokens" exhibit took third place in the tokens category. Great job, Phil! Congratulations.

Northern Nevada Coin Hires So-Called Dollar Expert

Jeff Shevlin will manage their store in Reno, Nevada. Owner Allen Rowe said "Jeff is well known and respected in the numismatic community and I am elated to have him manage our Reno location operations. His numismatic experience and management expertise makes him a perfect fit for our Reno store."

Jeff retired five years ago from his professional career as a senior executive IT manager and as a college professor. A lifelong passionate numismatist, since his retirement he has worked professionally in the numismatic community in various capacities including the executive director of the ANA. Jeff is an author, researcher, publisher, public speaker and nationally recognized expert on So-Called Dollars, historical US commemorative medals.



David Lange Awarded ANA's Numismatist of the Year

The award honors an individual within the numismatic community who has demonstrated long-term leadership in the field and to the ANA.

As an author and researcher, David Lange is adept in a wide variety of



numismatic areas. A longtime collector specializing in United States type coins, Philippine coins and notes from 1903 to 1945, and British coins from 1816 to 1970, he pioneered the study of coin-collecting boards and folders, writing three volumes and designing and maintaining a website on the subject (www.coincollectingboards.com).

In addition to his many other contributions to the hobby, David has written a number of articles in TCN, and was CSNA president in the mid-1990's. The photo above by Robert Van Ryzin of Krause Publications shows outgoing ANA President Jeff Garrett presenting David his plaque and trophy.

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!

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 acknowl-



edgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.

ANA Educational Outreach

by Walt Ostromecki

This is Part 3 of Walt's "ANA Ready-to-Use Fun and Educational Programs, and Activities Geared Toward Attracting and Developing Next Generation Hobbyists".

Money.org makes available a wide variety of ready-to-use numismatic resources and youth-family-adult focused activities/programs geared toward enticing the numismatic hobby curiosity to join in the fun collecting hobby. Most can be adapted and used by local coin clubs and at coin shows to attract and draw into the hobby fold non-collectors.

Some of the newest collection of free educational resources available is focused on empowering and exciting next generation hobbyists and current seasoned numismatists of all ages with valuable information necessary to become a more informed and wiser collector.

New educational resources include: NGC Research Tools, Money Talks Radio Shows, Video Vignettes, The Dollar Project, and Treasures in Your Pocket—the latter being "a step by step coin hunting activity" for youth and family beginners.

Research Tools from NGC - www. money.org/research-tools - coming directly from the official ANA Grading Service are a variety of very useful US coin research tools to help all levels of numismatists. See for yourself the wealth of resources guaranteed to make anyone a more informed and knowledgeable hobbyist!

Money Talks Radio Shows - www. money.org/getting-started/moneytalks-radio-archive - these two- to four-minute long broadcasts consist of coin story fun which were recorded to educate and encourage interest in the numismatic hobby. Ideal educational programs for streaming via a lap top computer at a coin show youth/family hobby activity booth, or even at a coin club meeting.

Video Vignettes - www.money. org/video-vignettes - a series of online three- to five-minute videos with instructional guidance of an individual tutorial hosted by ANA Education Director Rod Gillis. The latest installment features "Coin Collecting Misconceptions". A great resource for both youth and adult beginner to advanced collector.

The Dollar Project - www.money. org/thedollarproject - an interactive fun learning activity designed to engage the youngest beginning hobbyists, ages 12 and under, in the study adventure of coin collecting worldwide. There are four captivating and fun filled activities which can earn them individually or as teams of up to five coin prizes and prepare them for more advanced pursuits. This ANA youth outreach activity premiered in both French and English at the Koin Kids Canada table during the recent Walt working the youth table up at the RCNA convention held in Boucherville, Quebec, Canada, just this past July.



RCNA convention, July 20-23, 2017 in Boucherville (just outside Montreal).

Treasures in Your Pocket - www. money.org/pocket-treasures - a website resource guide which provides step by step information to young beginning collectors and their families embarking on a fun and exciting numismatic adventure treasure hunt. The TIYP activity can be customized by any youth educational leader and used as a hands-on youth or family activity at any coin show. The educational activity plan complete with TIYP detailed individual pages denoting subtle nuances and variations can be downloaded from the website. This error coinage related youth activity was successfully introduced for the first time during the Las Vegas Numismatic Society's 60th Anniversary celebration convention in May of 2017 by myself, and I can provide a step by step activity outline and coinage needs. Email: drwaltomfl1@earthlink.net.

On the Hunt

NASC is looking for the original "President's Trophy" that was awarded annually to the winner of the Outstanding Club Bulletin contest within NASC member clubs. The towering trophy was retired in 2001 and replaced with a plaque, which travels yearly from recipient to recipient. Does anyone know where the original now resides? Please let either TCN Editor Greg Burns know (gregsburns@gmail.com), or NASC Historian George Moore III (galaxiedesigns@aol.com).



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 snailmail to CSNA, PO Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711, or better yet drop us an e-mail at gregsburns@gmail.com. Submitted material may be edited for form or content...

Full Circle

In 2015 I completed the full circle of meeting sites for the Whittier Coin Club when I attended their meeting at the Santa Fe Springs Library. Founded in 1959 they met at the Santa Fe Springs Library. In 1960 they moved to the old Bailey School. By 1962 they moved to the Bank of America on Philadelphia Street. When the new Whittier Recreation Building opened in 1963 they moved there. I served as president three times: 1964, 1965, and 1966. To accommodate the growing membership they moved to Parnell Park. After about fifteen years and rising costs, the club moved to the Jordan Retirement home for the next two years. Again, they moved to the LaHabra Community Center after a couple more years. Finally, in 2013 they completed the cycle by moving back to the Santa Fe Springs Library. I am the only WCC member to have attended a meeting at all seven WCC meeting sites and completed the tour in under 54 years.



Sounds like the numismatic equivalent of the Tour de France, Sol! <grin> I think a good suggestion would be for the club to now go in reverse rotation for the next 54 years, and you can say you've done it clockwise and counter-clockwise (so to speak)... Regards, Greg

ANA Award Email

Dear Mr. Burns,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that *The California Numismatist* has been selected by a panel of judges to receive the first-place ANA Outstanding Club Publication Award in the "Regional" category. We had a large number of submissions in each category, and your publication stood out from the rest!

The Outstanding Club Publications Awards will be presented at the ANA World's Fair of Money in Denver, during the ANA District Representatives meeting on Saturday, August 5 at 8 a.m. Please plan to be at the Colorado Convention Center, Room 502 at that time. Winners will also be featured in the September 2017 issue of *THE NUMISMATIST*.

If you are not planning to attend, you can name someone to accept the award on your behalf, or the award Auctions • Appraisals • Paying highest prices for coins

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can be mailed to you following the close of the show. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Congratulations, and we look forward to seeing your submission next year!

Regards, —Caleb Noel News Editor THE NUMISMATIST

Hello Caleb,

That's wonderful news. Thanks so much to you and the rest of the team involved with the contest!

While I won't be able to attend the presentation, I'd like to take a few days and solicit the officials of the two sponsoring organizations, as I'm fairly certain someone will be there and can attend to accept the award. I'll reach out to the groups and get back to you with the final decision within a week.

Again, please express my gratitude to the others who helped conduct the competition.

Regards,

Greg

(Note to readers: Phil Iversen graciously agreed to attend the ceremony and accept the award on behalf of TCN. Thanks, Phil. See page 8 for a scan of the certificate.)

Correction

Page 42 of the last issue, second paragraph, second sentence, should have read: "It started in North Carolina in 1799 when Conrad Reed, 12 year old son of John Reed, found a 17 pound gold nugget in a stream on his fathers farm."

...Ed.

Around the State...

<u>Club Reporter—North</u> Lila Anderson P.O. Box 365 Grover Beach, CA 93483-0365 Lila@JoelsCoins.com

> <u>Club Reporter—South</u> Virginia Bourke 10601 Vista Camino Lakeside, CA 92040-1605 vlbourke@cox.net

Ginny's Gleanings: I love summertime, coin shows, potlucks, picnics, romps in the park, and just fun. I have not heard from Downey or Covina Coin Club, but I am hoping this will remind them that I need their bulletins. Bay Cities Coin Club's Bernie Malis wrote the "Viewpoint" in the *Numismatic News* edition of May 16, 2017, about how their club celebrated National Coin Week by setting up a time in the El Segundo Library for them to talk about coins with interested children and to give them some donated coins to start their own collections. Bernie said he had a lot of fun. "Society exists in mental concepts: In the real world there are only individuals." — Oscar Wilde

Lila's Lookout: Temporarily in the great state of Missouri, with Grace and Parker, doing what grandmothers do, including processing the mind-boggling amount of news coming from member clubs of Northern California! Amazing how resourceful these people of our hobby can be given some interesting coinage, paper money, or tokens to collect, enjoy, and research, put simply, our kind of folk.

Partake of all the crisp autumn meetings, shows, talks, and banquets coming your way.

Club Reports...

WHITTIER COIN CLUB *Hard Times Tokens*, a video produced by **Bob Fritsch**, was presented by **Roy Iwata** in May. In June, Roy presented the video *Franklin Half Dollar Series*. Members enjoyed the ambience of the 1904 Saint Louis World Fair from the DVD produced by the man who has more items from this fair than anyone else in the world. The DVD also featured the very famous horse Jim Key. This was an amazing horse trained by an ex-slave. Roy presented another video in August from the ANA, *Collecting US Type Coins*.

WESTERN WOODEN MONEY CLUB helps provide programs to California coin clubs and beyond in the collecting field of wooden money. Often these programs are given during coin shows or at various clubs meetings.

VISALIA COIN CLUB members are doing all they can to help their neighboring Fresno Numismatic Society's Coin Show in October. Also remember that Visalia's regular meetings are held at Amigo's (Walnut and Akers) every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM.

VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB This club celebrated its 53rd birthday in May with cake, ice-cream, and a *Brown Bag Auction*. The brown bags contain nice coins but you have to bid not knowing what you will be getting. Some of the bags contain gold coins. In April, **Gregg Bercovitz** presented his program *Large Size Silver Certificates*, which were made until 1923. Members were saddened by the passing of club founder and charter member #1 in May, **Richard Boden**. **Red Henry** discussed the future of silver in June and in July **John Duff** showed a video by Q. David Bowers entitled *The Untapped Potential of Civil War Tokens*.

VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY and Fairfield Coin Club are readying themselves for their enjoyable Annual Joint Christmas Party taking place on December 9, 2017, at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum Hall of History. Reservations are a must. Deadline for registration, through Lloyd Chan, is November 30, 2017. Phone 707-425-4752 or 727-247-6327 or lchanfizx@aol. com or EMPERORI@juno.com. This year's Master of Ceremonies shall be Joel and Lila Anderson from Grover Beach, CA. Rumor has it there may be some thespians involved.

UPLAND COIN CLUB The May meeting featured a *White Elephant Sale*. In June, **Past ANA President Walter Ostromecki** presented a talk on the various contributions women of the Treasury department have given to the hobby. **Phil Iversen** spoke on *Graffiti on Currency* in July.

SANTA MARIA COIN CLUB continues to emphasize education in their meeting. Each month features a quiz covering a section of the *Red Book*. Members are warned in advance which pages they will be quizzed on so they can study up. They should all be real experts by the time they get to the end. Most months also feature a presentation. August's presentation was on *Shipping, Receiving and Storage of Coins*. It is important information for all collectors. They will be holding their 60th Anniversary coin and collectibles show on October 14 at the Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave. Santa Maria.

SAN JOSE COIN CLUB's *Todo Dinero* newsletter mentions the speaker for August was **Ray Johnson** giving *Tips on Exhibiting*, a very useful topic considering how many coin shows of exhibiting potential within driving distance from San Jose. Participation in *Show and Tell* for that same August meeting included **Keith Scott's** 20C Collection Centerfold and **Ken Barr's** Magnificent State of *Texas \$100 Note*.

SAN FRANCISCO COIN CLUB announces the return of one-time member (back in the 1970's) **Kenneth B. Spingola**, rejoining after a long hiatus. Al-though Ken cannot attend the quarterly luncheon meetings due to his job, he has remitted dues for 2017 and 2018. Welcome back Ken!

SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY Treasurer Ken Spindler spoke in the May meeting on how he got started collecting coins. His goal was to have one of every coin in the *World Book of Coins* but decided that was going to take too much time and narrowed his interest just a little bit. Members loved his talk even though he ran out of time. **Ken Berger** shared his extensive collection of Bechtler gold coins. **Mike Shaw** brought in several silver medals issued by Portugal to honor their soldiers who fought in the wars against Napoleon. In June, *Other Hobby Night* was featured and **Bill Perrin** brought in an assortment of very strange looking antique handtools made by hand. **Greg Knox** brought in a geode sphere he made himself by taking lapidary courses. He learned that if you grind too much, you lose your stone.

SAN BERNARDINO COIN CLUB *Bingo*, everyone's favorite, was the highlight of the May meeting with numismatic prizes. In June, the club held a *White Elephant Sale* using the proceeds to offset the cost of the July picnic. **David Schwager** spoke on collecting sample slabbed coins. He now has a second edition of his book, *Sample Slabs*, published in 2016.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB members participated in their oneday August 20 Coin Show with their usual exuberance. Nothing like the thrill of a good show!

REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB Looking to enrich the hobby of coin collecting on second Wednesdays of every month, 6PM onward, they manage to have a Juniors meeting which runs between 6:15-7:00pm, a short business meeting between 7:00-7:15pm, and enjoying of the hobby between 7:15-9:00pm. Empire prides itself on enjoying the hobby! How can anybody resist that?

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION reminds you to attend the California Numismatic Seminar on Saturday, September 16, at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. The Theme: *Collecting in Today's World*. Speakers include **Paul R. Johnson**, **Robert Luna**, **Robert Lyles**, and **David E. Harper**.

LOS ANGELES PAPER MONEY CLUB members enjoyed the presentation of Gregg Bercovitz in May discussing US Large Size Silver Certificates. President Scott McNatt visited the Kansas City Paper Money Show and spoke on his reflections on this show and the future of paper money collecting in general. Speakers in July were Larry Thomas discussing Small Size Red Seal Registry and Scott McNatt and Paul Vreede discussing World Paper Money.

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB A panel discussion in June about the *State of the Coin Market* was enjoyed by all and led to stimulating conversation. Don Schlesinger won the gold coin drawing. Brad Yonaka finished the second edition of his book, *A Variety Guide to the Fractional Pillar Coinage of Mexico City 1732-1771*, and spoke on this topic. Vice President Robert Wu spoke on his lengthy trip to China. Members are saddened by the passing of long time member Samuel Lopresto in April.

INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO President Ken Spindler presented the May program and spoke on one of his favorite areas of collecting, *Mintmarks on Indian States Coins*. **Ken Aring** spoke on *Coins of the Mediterranean* in June and brought in over 800 types, some of them dating back to the 1600's. He also brought in his favorite reference books and literature. **Secretary-Treasurer Joe Yager** spoke in July on the various commemorative coins issued by Switzerland to their heroes over the centuries when the individual countries were trying to overrun their neighbors. Switzerland held its own and the medals are very informative honoring the men who defended the country. Kudos to **Bob Fritsch** who somehow always creates a clever quiz featuring the monthly theme.

HEMET NUMISMATISTS members enjoyed their outstanding *Super Auction* at the April meeting. **Rafael Flores** again organized the club picnic at Gibbel Park with lots of burgers, hot dogs, and drinks that make up a picnic and all had a great time. In June, the members decided to combine the program and *Show and Tell* and the members really responded by bringing in items to share and talk about. The *Annual Anniversary Luncheon* in July became a potluck and members brought in tons of food to share.

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB The club celebrated its 55th birthday in May with cake, ice-cream, and a raffle consisting of ten Morgan dollars. The coin show in June was very successful due to the hard work provided by **John Weiss** and his helpers. He had over 47 dealers for a one-day show. In June, the quarter was

declared the coin of the month and every raffle prize came with a quarter. Vice **President Andrew Woodruff** always provides a challenging quiz each month. **Mark Schwartz** spoke before the club in July on coin conservation.

GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB Members of this club have been busy! **Jim Malone** presented a talk on *Barber Dimes* at the May meeting and **Mike Ontko** spoke on the *Coinage of the Popes, Part III Vatican City* at the same meeting. **John Skocilic** talked about the *Currency of the Balkans* in June and Mike again did the educational portion of the meeting speaking on *Silver Dimes of the World, Part III.* The always very popular *Bourse Night* was a huge success and lots of fun for all. Members bought, swapped, talked, and traded to their hearts' content.

GLENDALE COIN CLUB members are happy with their new meeting location at the La Crescenta Library. **Michael Kittle** presented the May program, *Grading Mint State Morgan Dollars* using a PCGS video. **Red Henry** won the 1862 Indian cent in April and **Clarence Scherich** won a 2005 legacy proof set in June. **David Hyanis** presented the July program *The Short Life of the Half Cent*.

FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY's monthly newsletter, *The Fresno Numismatist*, and its editor, **James Ober**, states the effort going into the society's annual show, which takes place October 28 and 29 in the Masonic Center Hall. One of the committee chairs is past president, distinguished FNS life member, and past president of CSNA, **Ruth Phillips**, organizing the dealer food during this event.

FREMONT COIN CLUB now has a site online at www.FremontCoinClub. org. **Triptiki** is the newsletter author for 2017. You are asked to come to an FCC meeting and get more details from **Dennis Pagano** or **Briita Ehlers**.

FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB and Vallejo Numismatic Society are readying themselves for their enjoyable Annual Joint Christmas Party taking place on December 9,2017 at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum Hall of History. Reservations are a must. Deadline for registration, through Lloyd Chan, is November 30, 2017. Phone 707-425-4752 or 727-247-6327 or lchanfizx@aol.com or EMPERORI@juno.com. This year's master of ceremonies shall be Joel and Lila Anderson from Grover Beach. Rumor has it there may be some thespians involved.

DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY is holding the 20th Annual Contra Costa Coin and Collectibles Show, at Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr. on October 13-15, 2017. Admission will be \$3, show attendees age 12 and under are free, and free parking is available. See Larry Casagrande, 925-583-1180, or Bourse Chair James Laird, 925-200-2276. **DELTA COIN CLUB's Bourse Chair Ruben Smith** stresses that you *must* attend that great show they have at the end of Bourbon Street in Stockton on October 21st and 22nd.

CUPERTINO COIN CLUB's report by **Alison Paker** always manages to make me hungry. CCC has monthly dinner meetings and for their *September Fest* meeting on the menu are hotdogs and Polish sausages, with side dishes. They give advance warning that December's meeting will occur on December 15, featuring the *Annual Holiday Party* and **King Lyle's** birthday celebration!

COINEERS This club has signed up several new members. It also has very interesting themes; the theme in May was *Nations No More*.

CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB membership is growing fast and the auction lots are getting lots of bids. It is a win-win for all. The theme in June was *My Favor*-*ite Coin* and over nine members brought in material. **Doug Hildenbrandt** has been collecting eight reales from Mexico for many years and has over 300 coins. **Steve Fahrlender** brought in his assortment of buffalo nickels, a complete set with varieties and errors, and hobo nickels. The August potluck was a huge success with tons of food.

CALIFORNIA EXONUMIST SOCIETY A plea by the *Medallion* editor, **Michael S. Turrini**, that CES members and others make plans to attend the CSNA Convention Saturday and Sunday, December 16 and 17, 2017, in Arcadia at the Arcadia Masonic Center. Mr. Turrini reminds everyone "Only attendance and participation would make our famous fund-raising auction, or any program or presentation worthwhile." Please convey your interest to either csnalibrary@ gmail.com or EMPERORI@juno.com

BURBANK COIN CLUB members decided to have a dinner-meeting in June and had a wonderful time. In July **Phil Iversen** presented a grading course. The quarterly drawing was an 1830 bust half dollar.

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB Bernie Malis is still elated about the success of the National Coin Week program members of this club provided to the El Segundo Library youngsters. They gave away lots of coins, told them the history of the coins and had a great time. The August picnic has been rescheduled to September.

ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES Randy Butler did a talk on Flavious of the Month – the Judea Capta Series at the July meeting. In June Roger Burry gave a presentation of Alcibiades and the Sicily Expedition. Denea Buckingham spoke in August on Ancient Secrets Fourni – Shipwreck Capital of the Mediterranean. This is an island in the Icarian region of Greece. This club has had almost one million hits on its website and 1,532 followers on Facebook.

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 1763, Alameda, CA 94501-0202. (CSNA)
- Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles—meets 2nd Sunday, 1:00 p.m., Community Room A5, Sherman Oaks Galleria (level A rotunda; self-park validated), 15301 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks; mailing address: ACCLA, c/o K. Friedman, 16255 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1200, Encino, CA 91436; Website: www. accla.org (check for meeting info); email klf1031@roadrunner.com. (NASC)
- Bay Cities Coin Club—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., El Segundo Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo; mailing address: P.O. Box 45233, Los Angeles, CA 90045. (NASC)
- **California Exonumist Society**—meets twice a year during the semi-annual CSNA Conventions; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; email: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- California State Numismatic Association—meets up to twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: Don Hill, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590; email: csnalibrary@gmail.com; Website: 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. (CSNA, NASC)
- Coineers 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; Website: 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. (CSNA)
- DHHS Numismaniacs Coin Club—meets periodically, Dana Hills High School, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, CA; Mrs. Mary Danna (club advistor), email: 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 Police Department meeting room, 1350 Galindo St., Concord; contact: James Laird, president, (925) 200-2276; email: info@diablocoinclub.org; Website: 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)
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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 15113, San Diego, CA 92175; 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, 5:45 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)
- Leisure World Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Austin Overholtz, 1331 Pelham Road, #67A, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (NASC)
- Liberty Numismatic Society—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Website: LNS.ANAclubs.org. (CSNA)
- Livermore Valley Coin Club—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Livermore Public Library, Community Room "B", 1188 South Livermore Ave., 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)
- Los Angeles Paper Money Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Marie Callendar's, 14743 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks; contact: Scott McNatt, 818-667-2329; email: info@promedia.la; website: www.losangelespapermoneyclub. com. (NASC)
- Northern California Numismatic Association—meets annually during Nor-Cal coin shows in various communities; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; email: Emperorl@juno.com. (CSNA)
- Numismatic Association of Southern California—meets four times per year; mailing address: Harold Katzman, P.O. Box 3382, Tustin, CA 92781-3382; email: haroldkatzman@yahoo.com; 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. (CSNA)
- Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists-meets at PAN conventions; mail-

ing address: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131; email: pancoins@gmail.com; Website: www.pancoins.org. (CSNA)

- Redwood Empire Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: P.O. Box 9013, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0013; Website: 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. (CSNA)
- San Bernardino County Coin Club—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Highland Senior Center, 3102 E. Highland Ave., Highland, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 2745, San Bernardino, CA 92406. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 10:00 a.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: 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 Francisco Coin Club—meets 4th Friday, no-host dinner 6:30 p.m. at the Tennesse Grill, 1128 Taraval, San Francisco, followed by an informal meeting in same location; mailing address: P.O. Box 880994, San Francisco, CA 94188-0994. (CSNA)
- San Jose Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Website: www.sanjosecoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Santa Maria Coin Club—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Edwards Community Center, 809 Panther Drive, Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA)
- Stanislaus County Coin Club—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-1672; Website: www.stancocoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Upland Coin Club—meets 3rd Saturday, 7:00 p.m., Magnolia Rec. Center, 651 W. 15th Street, Upland; mailing address: 9369 Somerset Drive, Alta Loma, CA 91701. (NASC)
- Vallejo Numismatic Society—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador (between Florida and Georgia), Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; email: 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 Čoin Club—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Visalia Senior Citizen Center, 310 North Locust, Visalia; mailing address: 204 West Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291. (CSNA)
- Western Token Society (WESTS)—meets annually; mailing address: P.O. Box 723, Merced, CA 95341. (CSNA)
- Western Wooden Money Club—meets at various San Francisco Bay area local coin shows, about four times per year; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 3467, Fairfield, CA 94533-3467; email: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA)
- Whittier Coin Club—meets 1st Thursday, 5:30 8:00 p.m., at the Santa Fe Spring library on Slauson Ave just east of Norwalk Blvd, Whittier; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Avenue, La Habra, CA 90631. (CSNA, NASC)

Application for CSNA Membership

Individual Membership Dues (New Rates Effective 12 July, 2015)

- Regular Member: \$20 per year / \$55 for three years / \$90 for five years (includes print TCN)
- Regular Member: \$10 per year (digital only TCN)
- Junior Member (age 17 or younger): \$10 per year (digital only TCN) Provide your Birth Year_____
- Life Member (includes print TCN): \$500 (18 to 54 years of age), \$450 (55 to 64 years of age), \$350 (65+ years of age)

Organizational Membership Dues

- Clubs: \$20 per year (\$55 for three years, \$90 for five years)
- Businesses: \$20 per year (\$55 for three years, \$90 for five years)

Additonal Mailing Fee: \$10 (Mailings to non-USA addresses only)

Name:		
Address:		
City:	StateZip	
Email:		
Applicant's Signat	ture:	
Sponsor: CSNA W	/ebmaster g CSNA member's name:	(optional
1		

- Make your check or money order payable to: CSNA
- Mail completed application to the CSNA Treasure or CSNA Secretary:

CSNA Treasurer P.O. Box 4003 Vallejo CA 94590

CSNA Corresponding Secretary P.O. Box 4003 Vallejo CA 94590

- ATTENTION PAYPAL USERS. Members can now pay their dues through PayPal. Payments can be sent to our CSNA1960@gmail.com account. Your written instructions should include renewal term and address or contact information to ensure delivery of your issues of The California Numismatist.
- Enquiries about CSNA should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, Donald Hill, or CSNA Treasurer, Lloyd Chan. Please allow several days for a response.

Secretary: csnalibrary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ichanfizx @ aol.com



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Please request our e-mailed World Coin Flashlist featuring new issues, bi-metallics and hard to find older coins.

Calendar of Events



...mark your calendars and plan to attend!

We use www.CalCoin.org and www.NASC.net as the sources for TCN. To include your event please send information regarding the event to CSNA Webmaster Lloyd Chan at lchanfizx@aol.com and NASC Webmaster Jim Phillips at jimjumper@hughes.net.

September 22-24	Las Vegas Numismatic Society Coin Show, Westgate Resort
	and Casino, 3000 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV, www.ckshows.
	com, 800-208-1810.
September 23-24	Pasadena Coin and Currency Show, Scottish Rite Center,
-	150 N. Madison Ave. Pasadena, 818-486-7285.
September 29-30	Sacramento Valley Coin Club Fall Coin Show, Four Points
	Sheraton Hotel, 4900 Duckhorn Dr., Robert.Shanks@att.
	net, www.sacvalcc.org.
Sep 30-Oct 1	Pasadena Coin and Currency Show, Scottish Rite Center,
	150 N. Madison Ave., 818-667-2329.
Sep 29-Oct 1	The Locals Coins Show, Westgate Resort and Casino, 3000
	Paradise Rd. Las Vegas, NV, Dawn, 800-208-1810.
October 1	North County Monthly Coin Show, Embassy Suites Ana-
	heim hills, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, 714-271-8946.
October 7-8	Buena Park Coin Show, Retail Clerks Hall, 8550 Stanton
	Ave., Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, Kerry Pieropan, 714-
	271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
October 13-15	20th Annual Contra Costa Coin and Collectables Show,
	Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek www.diablo-
	coinclub.org, Larry Casagrande, 925-683-1180.
October 14	60th Anniversary Coin & Collectable Show, Elwin Mussell
	Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave., Santa Maria, 805-937-
	1250.
October 21-22	Delta Coin Club 52nd Annual Coin Show, Eagle's Hall,
	1492 Bourbon St., Stockton, Ruben Smith (209) 982 -5961
	Free Admission!
October 22	Glendale Coin Club Coin & Paper Money Show, Van Nuys
	Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Bourse: Nick Rulli, 213-
	250-4354, mike@kittlecoins.com, www.glencoin.com.
October 28-29	South Bay Coin and Currency Show, Elks Lodge, 1735 W.
	162nd St., Gardena, 818-667-2329.
October 28-29	Fresno Coin Club's Annual Coin Show, Las Palmas Ma-
	sonic Center, 2992 E. Clinton, Richard Hunter, 559-738-8128,
	www.fresnocoinclub.com.

October 28-29	Marin County Coin Show, Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 1010	
	Northgate Dr., San Rafael, Scott Griffin, 415-601-8661.	
November 3-4	Sacramento Coin Show, Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover	
	St., McClellan, P. Macintosh, 916-317-9055, www.sacramen-	
	tocoinshow.com.	
November 5	North County Monthly Coin Show, Embassy Suites Ana-	
	heim Hills, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, 714-271-8946.	
November 5	Peninsula Coin Club's Annual Coin & Collectibles Show,	
	Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose, Fred van	
	den Haak, 650-380-4181, fredvdh@gmail.com.	
November 10-11		
	1085 E. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale, Bill Green, 925-351-	
	7605, info@norcalcoinshows.com.	
November 19	Van Nuys/Verdugo Coin Show, Van Nuys Masonic Hall,	
	14750 Sherman Way, Richard Murachanian, 661-287-	
	1651, ramrarecoins@yahoo.com.	
December 3	North County Monthly Coin Show, Embassy Suites Ana-	
	heim hills, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, 714-271-8946.	
December 8-10	The Vegas Show, Westgate Resort and Casino, 3000 Paradise	
	Rd., Las Vegas, Dawn, 800-208-1810.	
December 16-17	CSNA 134th Convention and Coin Show, Arcadia Masonic	
	Center, 50 West Duarte Road, Arcadia. Hours: Saturday 10	
	am-6 pm, Sunday 10 am-4 pm. Admission: \$4 Saturday,	
	\$3 Sunday, youth 15 and under free. Free parking. Howard	
	Feltham, 310-850-9860, hfelt@aol.com.	
December 17	Sacramento Coin Show, Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover	
	St., McClellan, P. Macintosh, 916-317-9055, www.sacramen-	
	tocoinshow.com.	

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These Non-Voting Appointees Perform Special Duties for the Association

These first round appointees renjorm special Dattes for the Association
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Writing for *The California Numismatist*

Articles—should be relevant to coin collecting or coin club experiences, and are accepted with the understanding that they are unrestricted from publication. Please indicate if the article has been previously published, and if so, where. Digital files are preferred via e-mail to gregsburns@gmail.com; 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.

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

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

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

Next deadline for material submission: November 15, 2017

Advertising

General—*The California Numismatist* is an educational journal published four times per year and distributed to all California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and Numismatic Association of Southern California (NASC) members as a membership benefit. Circulation is approximately 600 and most issues are 80 pages. All advertising is accepted subject to the approval of the editor.



Guidelines—Digital files preferred, but we are happy to

make your ad up for you at no charge with sufficient advance notice. Digital proofs of your ad can be provided upon request and at that time ad revisions may be requested. Annual ads may be changed at each issue.

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Rates	B/W	B/W	Color	Color
Space	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 busy with their plans for the 41st semi-annual convention. It was to be held at the Disneyland Hotel November 2-5, including exhibits, an auction, a "ladies luncheon" and "fashion show", three (educational) forums, banquet, awards, entertainment, and of course, a bourse.





• NASC President Edwin Borgolte proudly announced in his *NASC Quarterly* "President's Message" that the association had formally dedicated the NASC Money Museum, installed at the Union Bank at Fifth and Figueroa in Los Angeles. The museum was cared for by Curator Ernest Hood.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

- Phil Iversen wrote a piece for *NASC Quarterly* in which he described his experience training for, then actually running, the 26-mile Los Angeles Marathon in 1992. Along with the participation medal he proudly acquired, Phil also had 500 wooden nickels made up to commemorate the event. I wonder if any of our readers might have one of those still?
- Tom Fitzgerald's "Through the Numismatic Glass" in *Calcoin News* trumpted the news about the return of edge lettering to US coins after a hiatus of almost 60 years. The Olympic silver dollar of 1992 was the first US coin to display the use of this device since the last appearance on the 1933 St. Gaudens double eagles. The very first occurrence on a US coin was on the 1793 half- and large-cents.

Ten Years Ago

• Second Lieutenant Grace Anderson from Northern California (daughter of dealers Joel and Lila) wrote an article which appeared in TCN describing a tradition practiced by newly-minted "commissioned officers", that of giving a silver dollar to the first enlisted member to salute them. Grace provided a 2007 silver eagle to the sergeant who unknowingly gave her her first salute.



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