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*California State  
Numismatic  
Association*



# The California Numismatist

**Literary  
Awards,  
page 7...**

# The California Numismatist

Official Publication of the  
California State Numismatic Association  
and the  
Numismatic Association of Southern California  
Spring 2020, Volume 17, Number 1



## About the Cover

Water tumbling from the fountain at Viña del Mar Park in Sausalito reminds us of the rebirth of the new year and the celebration of springtime. Another reminder of springtime is the upcoming active calendar of the many club, association, and commercial coin shows, though as of the printing of this issue, we seem to be on the cusp of many cancellations of such, as organizers respond to concerns of many to the mingling of people during this period of sensitivity to the coronavirus.

## Visit Us on the Web

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

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

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

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

And both associations have Facebook pages at:

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

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

704859806311445

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# Contents

## Articles

Researching the Variety and Background of Tokens <i>Bill Febuary</i> .....	10
Coin Collecting Addiction? <i>Steve Sussman</i> .....	12
A Most Interesting Obsolete Note of the 1830's <i>John Duff</i> .....	16
The Strange Case of Modern Coinage <i>Steve Sussman</i> .....	20
A Summary of the “False Images” on US Coins <i>Donald Lannon</i> .....	24
The French Colonies “Stampee”: Hardly Ever Appearing on the British Colonies Mainland <i>Steve Sussman</i> .....	34
America’s Crown Jewels: Fifty-Dollar Gold <i>Jim Wells</i> .....	36
History Captured in a 1653 Potosi Eight Reales <i>Steve Sussman</i> .....	50

## Columns

Presidents’ Messages <i>Michael Kittle and Dennis Hogan</i> .....	4
Editor’s Page <i>Greg Burns</i> .....	6
California Token Spotlight <i>Merle Avila</i> .....	54
The Emerging Hobbyist <i>Michael S. Turrini</i> .....	62
ANA Educational Outreach <i>Walt Ostromecki</i> .....	68

## Association Reports

Literary Awards.....	7
Corresponding Secretaries’ Reports.....	8
CSNA 138th Southern Convention Report.....	56
Association News Items and Events (starting on page).....	56
Goings On .....	70
Around the State .....	74
Farewells .....	85

## Everything Else

NASC Membership Application.....	49
CSNA Membership Application .....	59
We Get Letters .....	64
Numismatic Nostalgia.....	67
Directory of Member Clubs .....	82
Calendar of Events.....	86
Advertisers Index .....	87
Officers, Boards, and Chairs .....	88
Writing for <i>The California Numismatist</i> .....	90

# Presidents' Messages

NASC...

The program at one of the recent club meetings I attended was on estate planning and your coin collection.

Although most of us are hopeful that a family member will take on our coins and continue collecting with our same interest and passion, that is typically not the case. In most cases when a collector passes, the collection they leave behind is quickly liquidated and far too often not for full value. In my experience, and from the club program on the subject, it seems that the single best thing you can do for your family is to share the contact information of a couple of people in the hobby that you trust, either fellow collectors or dealers. That simple step will greatly improve the chances that your heirs will have access to a friendly party who will give proper guidance regarding your collection when the time comes.

On a much more positive note, spring is almost here and so is the ANA's National Coin Week. This year, National Coin Week takes place April 19-25 with the theme of "Remarkable Women: Catalysts of Change." As you may know, the ANA hosts activities during this annual event to engage its members and increase their interest in numismatics. Check out their website for all the details.

Of course, National Coin Week is the perfect time for you to share your love of coin collecting with another. Reach out to that friend or family member who you think may enjoy our great hobby and invite them to have fun. It can be as easy as just giving them a few older, common coins. You could even share copies of some of your older coin publications like a *Red Book* or even a copy of TCN! Maybe even go one step further by giving that friend or family member the gift of membership in a numismatic organization like the ANA or the NASC. Please reach out to me if you need help signing anyone up for either organization as I can usually help you with membership discounts to both organizations!

Again, thank you for your continued support of NASC.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Kittle". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael J. Kittle  
NASC President

## CSNA...



Hello everyone: happy New Year! CSNA celebrated its 138th Convention, Awards Banquet and Coin Show, December 13-15 at the Arcadia Masonic Center. We hosted two highly interesting and informative seminars as well as educational exhibits during the coin show. The show and awards banquet were a great success and a great time was had by everyone. I would like to extend a special thanks to everyone who helped with the convention, banquet and show, a special thanks to Jeff Shevlin (So-Called Guy), L&C Coins, and the Covina Coin Club for their donations and assistance.

The new year rolled in and we are happy to welcome 19 new members to the CSNA family. Congratulations and thank you for your support. You are joining the “Best in the West” numismatic association. Our focus is on our members. We have three educational seminars per year, a coin show, convention, and awards banquet. We also have a long list of benefits. A big welcome to Eduardo Rodriguez, our newest member of the board of directors. Welcome aboard Ed.

Unfortunately, due to the heightened sensitivity to gatherings of people during the coronavirus pandemic, CSNA has reluctantly had to postpone the 52nd CSNA Annual Southern Educational Symposium that was planned for May 2 in Carlsbad. Further information will be distributed in the next issue of TCN and on the CSNA website [calcoin.org](http://calcoin.org). Keep your eyes open.

I read an interesting little factoid in the February issue of *The Numismatist* by Ursula Kampmann. It is really a reminder of all the fraudulent websites that are appearing on the numismatic scene. The culprits steal a picture and information from sites like eBay, post it and sell for half the price. Those who order receive nothing. She lists three characteristics as 1) no imprint, 2) no physical address and 3) no possible way to contact the company. Just something to keep in mind if you order from the web.

Many thanks to all our members for your support of our educational programs and have a fun year in numismatics.

Dennis Hogan  
CSNA President

# Editor's Page

<Sigh> Well, I'm a week late in getting this out, but I think you'll be pretty happy with this issue. We have a lot of interesting articles stuffed into the pages following, with a very broad range of topics from which I'm sure that everyone will find something that pushes their numismatic hot-buttons.

Five different authors have jinned up eight articles for us in this issue, with relatively new author Steve Sussman pounding out four of them. And as an indication of next issue's gas-gauge, I've already received several submissions for that, so no one's going to be bored over the summer either!

As long as we're on the topic of authors and their output, please take a glance to the page to the right and read about the literary awards presented from those chosen out of all of the articles we ran in last year's issues. There were 25 articles penned by 11 different authors, the most prolific being Bill Febuary with seven (thanks so much, Bill!). Note that there were no articles from YN's or articles on ancient coins, so <hint, hint, eye-wink, elbow-nudge> there's an opportunity for someone there. If you do happen to see any of the authors whose work has graced our pages, regardless of whether they've won an award or not (after all, not all do), please do let them know you appreciate their efforts, because without them there'd be no TCN as we know it.

As intimated elsewhere in these pages, the coronavirus seems to be a topic on everyone's radar these days, and we're just now seeing many show and meeting cancellations being announced. Like the virus itself, we hope this is very short-lived, and that we'll quickly get back to a stable listing of events that come marching along the calendar to occupy our idle hours. Until then, wash your hands and read your TCN, and remember, we love all our readers, but *you're* our favorite!

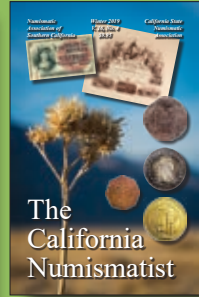
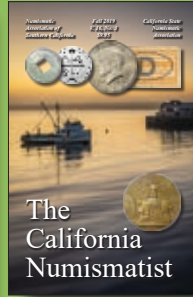
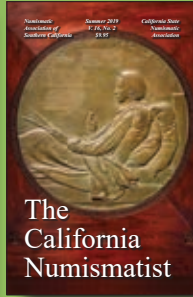
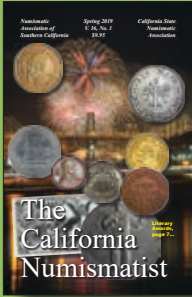


A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'Greg Burns'. The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Greg Burns  
Editor

# TCN Literary Awards

We're proud to announce the awards for the 2019 publication year. Each category has 1st through 3rd places, with the exception of the Brainard award which is for best article overall. Note that there were again no entries from young numismatist writers. Regardless of any awards won, TCN and the editor gratefully thank *all* of the authors who submitted materials for publication. It's hard work and very much appreciated.



## **Karl Brainard Literary Award for Best Article**

Civil War Copperheads, *Jim Wells*

## **George Bennett Literary Award for Articles on Ancient Numismatics**

*No articles within this category were submitted*

## **Charles Kappan Literary Award for Articles on Exonomia**

1st: Civil War Copperheads, *Jim Wells*

2nd: The Perilous Pigeon Post, *Ross Irvin*

3rd: A True Tale: St. Joseph and the Air Mail Medal, *Donald Lannon*

## **Bryan Burke Literary Award for Articles on Foreign Coins**

1st: Once Ounce Gold: Collectibles? Investments? Or Both?, *Jim Wells*

2nd: Half Dollars in the Americas: The Importance of Consumer Demand on Prices, *Steve Sussman*

## **Virginia Hall Literary Award for Articles on Medals**

1st: The Perilous Pigeon Post, *Ross Irvin*

2nd: A True Tale: St. Joseph and the Air Mail Medal, *Donald Lannon*

3rd: A Successful Immigrant Story, *Charles Catlett*

## **Charles G. Colver Literary Award for Articles on Paper Instruments**

1st: The Centennial Exhibition Stock Certificate: "...A Beautiful Work of Art...", *Donald Lannon*

2nd: World War I Food Coupons of Hannover, Germany, *John Duff*

3rd: The Pacific Guano Company Story, *Walt Ostromecki*

## **Roy Hill Literary Award for Articles on United States Coins**

1st: From Rarity to Workhorse: the United States Quarter, *Mark Benvenuto*

2nd: From Silver to Nickel, But Always Five Cents, *Mark Benvenuto*

3rd: Grandpa's Coin Collection, *Jim Wells*

# Corresponding Secretaries' Reports



NASC—

by Walt Ostromecki

Sixty-seven dues renewal notices were mailed out 1/4/2020. As of 2/4/2020, 28 have not remitted dues payments for 2020. I would like to note that the three new members (all beginning collectors from out of state) all joined after visiting our NASC.net website. About 25% of our members are out of state.

The posted tips and basic content for new, young, and beginner collectors was something they were looking for. The site along with TCN and our one-on-one online and Skype mentorship support program are beginning to bear fruit. All site resources posted are geared to help them grow more knowledgeable in and about the numismatic hobby. A few of their brief positive comments are cited in this TCN issue under the “ANA Educational Outreach” column.

This is an election of officer’s year for the NASC. President Kittle is getting together a nominating committee. A slate of volunteers along with a call for additional nominations for the 2021-2023 term will go out in the next TCN.

Fifteen copies of TCN were gobbled up at the January Tucson show. Fifteen more will be taken to the El Paso show. These have been proven to be outstanding membership recruiting tools.

CSNA—

*Note: at this time the position of CSNA corresponding secretary is vacant. We’ll attempt to publish up-to-date membership information as best as we can until the post is filled, and will provide other updates as they become available.*

## NASC Membership on 2 February 2020

Regular, includes youth (9).....	126
Sustaining Membership .....	120
Life Members.....	9
Coin Clubs .....	30
Bad Address .....	3
Total .....	288

## CSNA Membership on 1 December 2019

CSNA New Members:	
R-TBD *.....	Chuck Wohlwend
R-TBD *.....	Louis E Green

R-TBD *.....	Rocklin Coins
R-TBD *.....	Michael Worrell
R-TBD *.....	Ed Rodriguez
CSNA Membership Breakdown:	
Regular.....	125
Life.....	115
Junior.....	7
Member Clubs.....	11
Associate.....	2
Member Club Life.....	11
Business Members .....	78
Total .....	279



# Professionalism You Can Use!

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Successful Expert Witness Services

Portfolio Management & Brokerage Services  
Auction Advisory & Representation  
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Life Member: California State Numismatic Association  
Central States Numismatic Society • Florida United Numismatists  
National Silver Dollar Roundtable • Society of Paper Money Collectors  
Member: Professional Currency Dealers Association • Numismatic  
Consumer Alliance • Industry Council for Tangible Assets



We Make Regular Trips  
to the Bay Area and  
Southern California.  
It's Time to Schedule an  
**Appointment!**



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DHKConsulting@Verizon.net

Don Ketterling CSNA Life Member 44-2

## *Dear Members—Please Note!*

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

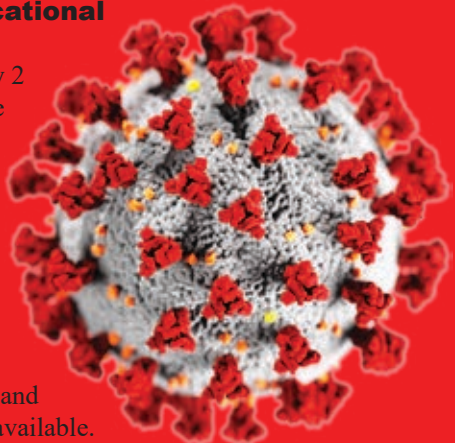
CSNA—George Magaan  
TBD  
TBD  
gemagaan@hotmail.com

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

## **CSNA Annual Southern Educational Symposium Postponed**

Though originally planned for May 2 at the Carlsbad City Library, due to the coronavirus pandemic and the authorities recommendations against large gatherings of people, the event has at this time been reluctantly postponed.

We look forward to the point when we can reschedule the event. Look in future issues of TCN and on CSNA's website at [calcoin.org](http://calcoin.org) for further information on any updated dates and locations as the information becomes available.



# Researching the Variety and Background of Tokens

by *Bill February*



With my collection of various types of tokens I have become interested in their selling price and information provided about the tokens themselves which has become an interesting task and another worthwhile numismatic endeavor.

Over the years I have collected tax tokens, store tokens, celebration tokens, states tokens, historic event tokens, tokens connected with famous coin collectors, parks tokens, presidential tokens, and so many others, including wooden tokens and plastic tokens as well.

Many of the tokens are listed on Ebay and it is surprising what the values of some of these tokens are selling for, even though mine were

perhaps collected years ago when the token collecting hobby was not active like it is today.

Many of the coin clubs have produced tokens and I have many of those, including CSNA's, which we no longer have minted for sale.

Many of the tokens in my collection are the size of our Ike dollars or early silver dollars, and are very well illustrated as most of them I collected were new and never were circulated.

I even have my own father's World War I dog tags, which I guess could be considered as a token because they are also very collectible.

I like to browse through the many pages of tokens; they are all stored in cardboard 2X2 holders which keeps

them free from damage and easy to view and handle without damaging them.

Some of the earlier tokens which were used during World War II when food rationing was in effect are made of a hard type material, but are not metal and many of the states tax tokens were also made of a similar material.

Another part of this collection houses several pages (20 pieces per plastic page) of wooden tokens and plastic tokens, so the variety of materials that tokens are made from varies from cardboard type material to plastic, and so many types of metal, including brass, bronze and aluminum, making the collecting of these almost endless for varieties.

For those of our members that find coins and currency too expensive these days they might consider looking into collecting tokens, which have such a variety that it would be easy to find a token subject that would be available

to them in many coin stores and of course at coin shows as well, and the expense of most tokens are far less than the price than most coins.



## Enjoying Your Hobby?

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

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

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

And now, you can help them to ensure there will be someone around interested in your collection when it comes time to pass it along by making a tax-deductible donation today. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 9), identify your gift as a "fund-raising donation", and then receive acknowledgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.



# Coin Collecting Addiction?

by *Steve Sussman*

## **Introduction**

Addiction may be best defined as intaking a substance or engaging in a behavior repeatedly which provides an appetitive effect, resulting in preoccupation with the substance or behavior, loss of control regarding intake of the substance or engaging in the behavior, and negative or undesired consequences. An appetitive effect refers to satiating an appetitive need. Appetitive needs are humans' innate or secondary drives to fulfil functions of survival of self and the species and be part of the human herd. Subjective satiation refers to a temporary feeling of an improvement in affect, maximal arousal level, or maximal cognition level. Because humans think, think abstractly, and retain many events in memory, many behaviors can become associated with or become subjective appetitive needs (see Sussman, 2017; Sussman, in press).

Back in 2013, the American Psychiatric Association finally officially recognized that behavioral addictions "formally" exist and could be endowed with third party payments. This was accomplished by changing the status of gambling disorder from being an impulse control disorder to an addictive disorder (APA, 2013). More recently, gaming addiction is being recognized as such by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2019).

Another one of these behaviors could be addiction to coin collecting (Belk, 1995).

## **Coin Collecting Addiction: Recognizing When it Exists**

Collecting involves the process of selectively and passionately acquiring and possessing objects removed from ordinary use and perceived as unique or special (Belk, 1995). Collecting may be a form of self-expression, sociability, and a search for personal continuity (Belk, 1995). Coin collecting may be one means to preserve history and may be perceived to be one form of art collecting. However, some coin collectors may sometimes feel that they need to possess and own specific coins, no matter the cost. They may feel upset by not having the coin. They may get depressed or anxious if they don't get their "coin fix" (Sperber, 2013). Then, they may feel temporarily good after purchasing and receiving the coin. However, they may also feel like they have done something beyond their long-term satisfaction. They may hide their purchases from others and feel shame or guilt that they paid much money for coins. They may feel a need to engage in another purchase. They may feel that if they don't make a purchase quickly, they will lose the opportunity forever. They may repeat the purchase of coins, to their own dis-



may as well as their families, leading to notable financial loss and family conflict. They may go without on other items (e.g., new clothes). They may lust for competition at auctions. They may fantasize that their coins will someday be on exhibit at a museum. They may fantasize that their coins will be a great investment in the future. (It may be but oftentimes it takes 100 years. In the short-term, after bid fees, taxes, and processing charges, any “profit” may disappear.) Coin collectors may joke about collecting being an addiction, perhaps to distance from responsibility for their actions or because coin collecting is socially approved (Belk, 1995).

If coin collecting addiction (CCA) exists, what molar addiction category might it fall under? One possibility is that it is an example of “compulsive buying disorder”. Compulsive buying disorder (CBD) is characterized by excessive shopping of unneeded or unwanted items that leads to distress or impairment. The classification of compulsive buying disorder remains elusive. Some researchers suggest that it should be grouped with behavioral

addictions, while others have linked it to mood and to obsessive-compulsive disorders. CBD is relatively common, with prevalence rates in general population varying from 2 to 8% across different countries. Age of onset typically coincides with the age at which people first establish credit accounts and with emancipation from home. It shares similar clinical characteristics with classical addictive disorders including compulsive preoccupation, craving, loss of control and negative consequences of shopping. CBD tends to run in families and is associated with significant psychiatric comorbidity, particularly mood and anxiety disorders, substance use disorders, eating disorders, and other disorders of impulse control (see Galimov & Black, in press).

Even though “normal” collectors also spend a lot of time and money in their hunt for desired goods, their attitudes towards the purchases is different than in persons with CBD. Collectors focus on the item itself, which they often show to others with considerable pride. On the other hand, compulsive buyers focus on the buy-

ing process and often are disappointed with a purchase. Many subjects fail to remove the items from the packaging and return them; others give them away or put them into storage (Belk, 1995; Galimov & Black, in press).

How many of us have seen coin collectors craving for a new coin to own, always being disappointed afterwards, hardly looking at the coin before buying the next one? Some writers have asserted that greedy dealers take advantage of coin collecting addiction (Sperber, 2013). Characteristics of coin addicts was even described by Jaime Hernandez for PCGS (Hernandez, 2014). These characteristics include obsession with shopping for coins weekly, use of shopping for coins as a means to cope with stress, experiencing feelings of euphoria or excitement after making purchases, buying unnecessary items that are ignored, lying to perpetuate shopping habits, feeling remorse over purchases but continuing to shop, and not even remembering how much or what was purchased. These characteristics might be utilized to provide a diagnostic assessment of CCA. I utilized the DSM-V criteria (APA, 2013) to provide the following criteria for CCA, or as the DSM might term it “Coin Collection Disorder”.

### **Types of Coin Collection Negative Consequences—Coin Collection Disorder**

Two or more of the following are needed, involving recurrent involvement in collection of coins over the last 12 months:

1. Buying more coins than intended.
2. Desire, but inability, to quit or

cut down on purchases of coins.

3. Coin collection consumes one’s life. It usurps potential involvement in other activities such as a family or non-coin related social life.

4. Craving, a strong desire to buy and examine coinage.

5. Failure to fulfill role obligations; one’s work or home life is impaired due to a focus on coin collecting.

6. Continued involvement in coin collection despite related social problems.

7. Other activities are neglected or given up.

8. Borrowing money, incurring debt, lying about amount spent, or engaging in illegal activities to procure coins.

9. Continued involvement in coin collection despite related psychological or physical problems, including depression, anxiety, guilt over purchases, feeling that one has been impulsive regarding coin purchases, or sedentary activity which indirectly diminishes physical activity.

10. Tolerance—one has needed to buy more and more coins to feel elated, one feels upset when not buying coins.

11. Withdrawal—one feels irritable or has difficulty concentrating, or feels a craving, when one attempts to stop purchasing coins.

### **Prevention and Treatment of CCA**

There are means to prevent or treat CCA, as with other addictions. The first step is accurate diagnosis. Certainly, coin collecting may be a rewarding hobby and, though one may obsess about their collection, is not necessarily self-destructive. It is when

the hobby is used to achieve an appetitive effect, there is extreme preoccupation with the hobby, one loses control regarding coin collecting, and negative consequences ensue that addiction is occurring (Sussman, Rozgonjuk, & van den Eijnden, 2017).

Prevention serves to sever the relations of antecedent conditions with the onset or worsening of coin addictive behavior. One means of prevention is to hold sellers accountable for the quality and price of coins they provide. Additional third-party services, such as CAC, may (or may not) assist there (Sperber, 2013). They should not sell cleaned coins as if they have not been cleaned. Public policies need to be enacted or enforced here. Coin dealers might provide literature on CCA; many do suggest that collectors slow down on buying and, instead, focus on reading until they are more of an expert. Use of coping skills instruction (to deal with stress in other ways), differential reinforcement of other activities (e.g., exercise), media literacy (to be educated well on sales hype and how to avoid it), among others, might assist. Therapies used with other types of addictions may apply here (e.g., cognitive-behavioral therapy [CBT], motivational interviewing [MI], use of implementation intentions strategies, problem solving, or family therapy, as examples (Galimov & Black, in press; Sussman, 2017). I am not sure that a 12-step group such as CCA Anonymous would ever thrive, but who knows.

## Conclusions

It is likely, and anecdotally known, that coin addiction exists, may be an aspect of shopping addiction, and may

be a behavior that can be prevented or treated. It is hoped that my brief piece may provide a platform for continued discussion and remedy. Coin collecting is a great hobby, with living ties to history, and with expressions of man-made beauty and rarity. However, one doesn't have to buy a coin just because one attends an auction or show, visits a coin shop, or talks with a charismatic seller. One should be aware when showing signs of addiction and take it seriously. It is not healthy for an otherwise cool thing to do.

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# A Most Interesting Obsolete Note of the 1830's

by John Duff

Little did I know Elvis was working in a glass factory in Philadelphia in 1836!

All kidding aside these obsolete notes are from the Manual Labor Banking House located at the northeast corner of Second and Race Streets of Philadelphia, established in 1834 by entrepreneur Dr. Thomas W. Dyott. These interesting obsolete bank notes are sometimes referred to as “Elvis notes” because the figure dressed in white in the vignette is dressed and looks like Elvis.

Thomas W. Dyott arrived in Pennsylvania from England in 1795 and was selling patent medicines by 1806. Within a year he was listed as the owner of the Patent Medicine Warehouse at 57 Second Street. By 1809 he was listed under Robertson’s Family Medicine at 116 North Second Street. Several known medical products were Robertson’s Infallible Worm Destroying Lozenges, and Gout & Rheumatic Drops. By 1812 he was listed as T. W. Dyott, M.D. although it is not known if Dr. Dyott actually had a medical degree.

By 1817 Dyott would establish the Olive Glass Works producing glass windows, bottles, and vials at 137-139 northeast corner of Second and



*The painted portrait above was also used as one of the vignettes (upper right) of the promissory note on the page opposite, issued and signed by Dyott himself.*

Race Streets. So besides selling patent medicines he was producing glass bottles and vials for medicinal and other products. T. W. Dyott is well known to those that collect his antique glass bottles much more so than his Manual Labor Banking house obsolete notes. A very good reference for his bottles can be found in *Bottles, Flasks And Dr. Dyott* by Helen McKearin (Crown Publishers, Inc., 1970).

## **American Druggist and Patent Medicine Man**

When T. W. Dyott arrived in Pennsylvania from England he was





*This 1838 issue \$100 obsolete bank note featured a vignette of the type of glass-making activity inside of Dyott's glass works.*



*Hunka, hunka, who's that! Why with that turned up collar and proud burst of hair on top of his head, one of the workers in the vignette takes on a more-than-fair resemblance to the king himself, Elvis!*

young and poor, and began making a living shining shoes and mixing his own bootblack. He would quickly begin marketing and selling a number of elixirs including Vegetable Nervous Cordial, Infallible Toothache Drops, Stomach Bitters, and others from his pharmacy located on Second and Race Streets. His business would quickly grow with agents in a number of states.

### **Glass Companies**

Stanger Glass Works was established in 1781 and would become Dr. Dyott's Olive Glass Works. Dyott would also become part owner of Gloucester Glass Works in Clementon, New Jersey, with a Jonathan Haines, and the Union Glass Works in Port

Elizabeth, New Jersey. In 1817 Dr. Dyott would rebuild the Kensington Glass Works and completely own the company by 1819, which would later become Dyottville Glass Works within the planned company town of Dyottville, Pennsylvania. Dr. Dyott was considered the largest producer of glass bottles, flasks, and other glass products on the East Coast and possibly throughout the states at the time. Certainly today a great deal of his fame comes from his sought after antique glass bottles, especially those bottles with his portrait and the portraits of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, General La Fayette, and the American eagle. My favorite bottle is the small seahorse bottle for pungents and fancy colognes.



*A Dyott flask (both sides shown) with portraits of Dr. Dyott on one side and Benjamin Franklin on the other. Produced by the Philadelphia Kensington Glass Works in a variety of sizes and portrait styles.*



## Manual Labor Banking House

Fortunately, in Q. David Bowers book entitled *Obsolete Paper Money* (2006) there is a very good write-up about T. W. Dyott and his Manual Labor Banking House obsolete notes.

As the planned company town of Dyottville grew Dr. Dyott would open his own bank, the Manual Labor Banking House of Philadelphia in 1834. These Manual Labor Banking House notes with the Elvis figure in the vignette were found on the \$1, \$2, \$3, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 notes. There are also fractional notes without the Elvis vignette for 5 cents, 6 ¼ cents, 10 cents, 12 ½ cents, 25 cents, and 50 cents. The 6 ¼ cent and 12 ½ cent notes were made due to the common use of the Spanish 1, 2, 4, and 8 reales. The 12½ cent note would be worth one Spanish reale, and the 6 ¼ cent would be worth ½ Spanish reale.

The depression of 1837 would

eventually bring an end to this bank and the businesses that Dr. Dyott had established in Dyottville. Dr. Dyott would be charged with “defrauding the community” and “fraudulent insolvency.” At 70 years of age he would be sentenced to the Eastern State Penitentiary and Dyottville would become a ghost town.

Dyott’s bottles are highly collectable to this day. In 2010, a Dyott bottle named the “firecracker flask” sold for more than \$100,000 setting a record.

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# The Strange Case of Modern Coinage

by *Steve Sussman*

Concurrent with changes in the world of monetary value and transactions is an apparent desire by sellers to keep hobbyists interested in more recently minted coins, which involve governmental or private mints that create an ever-expanding domain of proof and business strike options. Marketing would be of most importance among those who want this hobby to include recently minted specie, referred to as “modern coinage”.

Modern coinage varies in definition, though one prevalent conception refers to all coins minted after silver was dramatically reduced from 80-to-90+% in business strike coinage and replaced by clad coinage (multiple layers of metal, generally involving a copper core surrounded by a nickel-copper alloy). Clad coins are worth less than their face value. In the US, the last year of “true” silver coinage occurred in 1964; in Canada, this occurred in 1967 (e.g., Garrett & Schechter, 2016, <http://news.coinupdate.com/what-are-modern-coins/>, accessed 10-31-2019). Modern coinage also serendipitously involved improvements in precision of the minting process. Each coin minted looks extremely similar to the next and of consistent quality, due to use of computer technology, and large, precise and fast coin presses (<https://www.usmint.gov/learn/history/coin-production>,

accessed 10-21-2019). Handling after pressing them may differentiate grades (e.g., bag or contact marks). A third event that might have influenced attitudes towards the collection of modern coinage involves the now-normative use of monetary transactions that do not involve currency or specie; another advent of electronic technology (see: [https://bookdown.org/Jack\\_Biggs/Cryptocurrency/what-is-digital-currency.html](https://bookdown.org/Jack_Biggs/Cryptocurrency/what-is-digital-currency.html), accessed 10-31-2019). One possible overall conclusion is that old coins may have “character” that long preceded technology-driven, online financial exchanges, whereas modern coins may be considered “junk” and minted only for the “collector”.

Many coin dealers are reluctant to purchase modern coins. The modern coin market is a different beast. Older coins are relatively likely to obtain value through their precious metal content, low mintage, high quality of strike and beauty, and historical significance (e.g., see: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/what-determines-the-value-of-coins-768726>, accessed 11-8-2019; <https://www.us-coin-values-advisor.com/US-coin-values.html>, accessed 11-8-2019). It is unclear how to negotiate the modern coin market without the risk of falling victim to initial price highs followed by later price crashes and difficulty selling one’s modern coins without losing



*A 2007 MS-67 Washington dollar with missing edge lettering. Back in 2007 a MS-65 might go for \$188, whereas today that same coin has dropped to roughly \$30.*



a lot of money. Marketing tactics may lead to a new phenomenon of “buying high and selling low” or perhaps “buying somewhat high”, then “selling really high”, then later-on “selling low” if there is a crash. Marketers may describe a modern coin as more important than it truly deserves in terms of its inherent long-term value, utilizing sensational advertisements that could be misleading to the unsuspecting, overly trusting coin collector. Such marketing tactics, utilized by mints and companies that specialize in modern coinage, might be labeled as “hype marketing”.

Hype tactics include noting that the coin is (a) authentic, legal tender somewhere, or a precious metal (e.g., done with many of the silver bullion coins); (b) of low mintage, a “limited edition”; (c) richly detailed, unique, or beautiful; and (d) of historical or cultural significance. These four general marketing tactics might be summarized as: authentic, rare, artistic, and historic. Let me note these characteristics as ARAH (sounds a little like “error”).

One of the top 100 modern coins is the 2007 Washington Dollar missing edge lettering (<https://www.pcgs.com/>

[top100/details](https://www.pcgs.com/top100/details), accessed 11-8-2019; #34). I attach a photo of an MS-67 example.

It is legal tender, worth \$1 USD; an authentic coin with a mint error. Being composed of 88.5% copper, 6% zinc, 3.5% manganese, and 2% nickel, the melt value is only about five cents. Listed in the citation of the “top100”, 100,000 of these error coins are known. The color of these coins is different from older issues and might be of interest, though strikes for distribution to the public at large was suspended in 2012 as a huge stockpiling of uncirculated coins had occurred. Celebrating the first president of the United States, this coin intends historical ties. The missing edge Washington coin was an initial hit with collectors, with a retail value of \$188 back in 2007, generating a lot of interest in the hobby. The retail value sunk and went down to \$60 for an MS65. Buyers are getting this coin for \$30 on ebay nowadays. Collectors who bought the coin back in 2007 have taken a big loss.

Composed of silver or gold, a coin will be worth nearly its melt value to coin dealer buyers. However, other hype tactics could inflate the premium added onto the melt value. A nice and new one-ounce silver eagle bullion coin is legal tender in the US, worth



*The 2019-S enhanced reverse proof is a hot-selling ticket right now. A limited issue of 30,000 pieces sold out in 20 minutes. You can find them offered for sale at around \$2,000 now, sometimes higher.*



\$1 USD. At 99.93% silver, this coin has a melt value that fluctuates somewhere around \$16 to \$18. The recent 2019-S enhanced reverse proof PR70 is selling for over \$2000 at this writing. I have a photo example of this coin. The hype on this coin is extraordinary, highlighting the fixed 30,000 mintage—making it the lowest mintage among the silver eagle coins. It is a very pretty coin and its recent sales from the US mint and profit margin for people who got it from the mint and had it graded, is creating a new history of a sorts. It sold out within 20 minutes, costing around \$120 including grading and slabbing for the lucky US mint purchasers; who are making an incredible profit. However, if a large percentage of these coins are graded (e.g., more than 50%), and if a large percentage of the graded coins are PR70 (e.g., 75%), the long-term value is likely to sink—a lot. Once again, the collector may lose a lot of money.

A comparison example: consider the 2015-P Eisenhower reverse proof dollars. While not minted using precious metals, there were only 16,744

minted, and they sold out in 15 minutes

(<https://www.coinworld.com/news/precious-metals/heres-the-2015-reverse-proof-ike-from-the-coin-and-chronicle-coin-world-buzz.html>; accessed 12-18-2019).

Approximately, 15% of these coins are near perfect, PR69. See the photo for this coin. Their PCGS and NGC retail values are \$120 and \$120, respectively. However, one is lucky if a dealer will buy them for \$50, and sales on Ebay of these drag on with diminishing demand. Only 1% of them are perfect RP70. These perfect versions have value to collectors with PCGS and NGC retail values of \$600 and \$675, respectively. Many of the modern coins need to be a perfect, and quite rare, to both acquire and maintain value.

Another feature of a modern coin that may get hyped is the beauty (eye appeal, distinctiveness, detail) of the coin. This may help explain the desire for silver eagles in the US. I have a 2018 Armenian Noah's Ark MS-70



*A 2015-P Eisenhower reverse proof dollar, with a mintage of 16,744, which sold out in 15 minutes. But the current market often struggles to sell them, with recent closing prices on Ebay ranging from just above \$40 up to almost \$120, quite a wide span.*



one-ounce coin, legal tender in Armenia, which arguably is a very beautiful coin. See the photo of this coin. I think around 500,000 were minted. NGC graded 259 of them (one MS-67, 182 MS-69, and 76 MS-70). Stunning images of an important biblical, cultural, historical event are depicted. I paid \$31 for it, a \$14 premium, at an Ebay auction. I don't know if it will appreciate in value. It is not a US coin, and consumer demand appears greater for US coins. These coins are very hard to find in perfect condition on Ebay or elsewhere now, at least graded by NGC.

The US mint enjoys creating coins with historic reference. For example, the Apollo 11 coin celebrates landing on the moon. However, this coin references history. It is not a symbolic reflection of actual events as they were happening. Historic value sometimes is created to refer to an historic event in time. However, the intention is to refer to the coin being minted during a historic period, such as the first minted half dollar or coins minted at the outbreak of the Civil War, or consider the very first Ionia or Lydia electrum

coins, as examples. Of course, even with older coins, some with low mintages are not valued that highly. For example the 1865 3 cent silver coin at AU50 sells for under \$600 even though the mintage is only 8,000 (see <https://news.coinupdate.com/affordable-low-mintage-us-coins-1558/>). Note that this coin is made of precious metal (albeit tiny), and it was minted at the end of the Civil War and was used to buy postage stamps (historical significance), as well as being of low mintage. Here, a bottom line rises once again to the surface—consumer demand appears to be the most important variable. If consumers want certificates of authenticity and signatures, and early strikes, so goes the way of modern coinage. Numismatics must grapple with the twists and turns of modern coinage and somehow integrate it with the lineage of coins stemming back through time.

# A Summary of the “False Images” on US Coins

by *Donald Lannon*

As collectors of US coins know, the allegorical figure of Liberty appeared on the obverse of the “Indian Head” cent designed by James Longacre; on Adolph Weinman’s “Mercury” dime; on Hermon MacNeil’s “Standing Liberty” quarter; on Weinman’s “Walking Liberty” half-dollar; and on Anthony de Francisci’s “Peace” dollar. Each designer worked with a different human model to create his own interpretation of Liberty. According to legend, Longacre based his Liberty on Sarah, his daughter. Weinman is said to have borrowed a neighbor, Elsie, for both of his images. Doris Doscher was claimed to have been the model for MacNeil’s depiction. Anthony de Francisci just asked his wife, Mary Teresa, to be his. But does it matter who served as the model for any allegorical figure? No, it doesn’t.

With the introduction of the Victor D. Brenner-designed “Lincoln” cent in 1909, historic personages began to replace the Liberty images. This change continued through 1947. And knowing who served as the model for the obverse image on these coins began to matter. Was that really President Lincoln on the cent or just some 1860s Washington bureaucrat? This might seem like a simple question, much like

answering, “Who’s buried in Grant’s tomb?” It’s not. For more than 125 years Americans have been subjected to many coins whose historical images are false, a practice that began, rather innocently, in 1892 when US Mint Chief Engraver Charles Barber (1840-1892) came face-to-face with Don Cristoval Colon (1446-1506), known to Americans as Christopher Columbus.

Barber was confronted with the task of designing a half-dollar in commemoration of the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, to be held the following year. As proposed, the coin was to have a bust of Christopher Columbus on its obverse. The chief engraver, however, had no idea of what the explorer looked like. Further complicating this situation was Chicago industrialist James Ellsworth; he had “generously furnished the funds” to purchase a portrait of Columbus for display at the Columbian Historical Exposition at Madrid, Spain. [The portrait was by Italian painter Lorenzo Lotto (c. 1480-1556). Bernard Berenson (1865-1959), Lotto’s biographer, believed that the artist had worked from a description of Columbus provided by the Vatican about 1512; and Lotto’s portrait of the admiral somewhat agreed with several written



*A painting at right by Lorenzo Lotto (1480-1556), in 1512 from a Vatican description of Christopher Columbus, compared with the image of Columbus on the Columbian Exposition half-dollar of 1892 along-side.*



descriptions.]

Ellsworth

wanted Barber to use the

Lotto painting as the

basis for the coin's obverse image.

The industrialist pressured Barber; in turn the engraver prepared his design sketches replicating the Italian artist's image of Columbus. Exposition officials deemed it unsatisfactory. Artist Olin Levi Warner (1844-1896) replaced Barber. Subsequently, Warner's design was accepted and, after some modifications by Barber and his assistant, George Morgan (1845-1925), the Philadelphia mint struck the coin.

David Bowers explained in his book, *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia* (1991), "... Barber adopted a design from a plaster model by Olin Levi Warner, who in turn took Columbus' portrait from a medal made in Spain in 1892, whose facial image was made from a Madrid statue by Jeronimo Sunel (1839-1902), which in succession was taken from a fanciful portrait by Charles Legrand [a French artist working in 1838] in the Naval Museum in the same city. The most that can be said for the Warner-Barber portrait of Columbus on the obverse of the half-dollar is that it ... probably

ized of Genoa may [sic] have looked like in the explorer's time."

### **Whose Face Was It?**

William Curtis, a US representative, arrived at the Madrid exposition in the summer of 1892. He accompanied and set up a Columbus-related collection that consisted only of items assembled in July for display at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Curtis said, "The portraits of Columbus, which were 77 in number, included the originals or copies of all that had been painted or published of any historical interest or artistic value up to the 1st of January 1892. ... They were presented solely for their historical interest, and to furnish a complete exhibit of the varied conceptions which [sic] artists in all countries, for 400 years, have had of the appearance of the genius who discovered America. Nor were any of the portraits offered as authentic."

The collection catalogue, prepared by Curtis, clearly explained, "There

was no evidence that the features of Columbus were ever painted or engraved by anyone during his life. ... It is believed that all of them are more or less fanciful.” After Madrid’s exposition had closed, Curtis accompanied the collection to Chicago where it was set up inside the Convent of La Rabida as a part of the State Department’s Columbian Exposition exhibit.

About the 1893 exhibit in Chicago, Curtis wrote, “There have been presented to the public no less than 71 pictures – oil paintings, engravings, sketches, and drawings – each one of them having, at some time or other, been presented ... as a portrait of the great discoverer. All degrees of positiveness [sic] have been employed by their owners and advocates in declaring for the genuineness and authenticity of these portraits, and in asserting that they were more or less taken from life or copied from pictures which were.”

“The question, ‘Have we a portrait of Columbus?’ has been under discussion for more than a century and has been investigated by some famous historians, artists, and archaeologists of Europe. ... It may be said that the consensus of opinion among artists and historians is that there is no evidence that any portrait of Columbus was painted or engraved during his life.”

In a report dated April 5, 1892, Curtis made an interesting observation, writing, “Though forced to admit that we have no evidence of any portrait of Columbus painted from life, we are not, therefore, to conclude that the world is entirely without knowledge of his form and features derived from portraits. ... If not reproduced

during the lifetime of the individual, it has been done during the lifetime of his friends and acquaintances who were able to criticize and, if need be, correct the portraits in order to obtain a representation as lifelike as possible. When the artist employed was a reasonably good one, this is [sic] believed to have been accomplished.”

Curtis and Paul Lester (*Visual Anthropology*, Vol. 5, “Looks Are Deceiving: the Portraits of Christopher Columbus,” 1993) agreed: There are several contemporary descriptions of the “admiral.” These included:

Fernando Columbus (1488-1539), the admiral’s second son, who often traveled with his father. Between the ages of 13 and 15 Fernando accompanied Columbus on his fourth voyage to the New World. In his book, *The Life of the Admiral Christopher Columbus*, Fernando described his father. “The admiral was a well-made man, of a height above the medium, with a long face, and cheek bones somewhat prominent; neither too fat nor too lean. He had an aquiline nose, light-colored eyes, and a ruddy complexion. In his youth he had been fair, and his hair was of a light color, but after he was 30 years old it turned white (Curtis, 1892).”

Gonzales Fernandez de Oviedo y Valdez (1478-1557) was a Spanish colonialist and historian who wrote *Historia General de las Indias* (1526). Gonzalez had attended receptions where Columbus was present as well as the admiral’s interviews with Spain’s queen, Isabella I (1451-1504). He described Columbus as “a man of honest parentage and sober life. He had a noble bearing, good looks, and a height above the medium which



Above-left, a woodcut (1551) of Columbus by Tobias Stimmer, and right a painting (1519) by Sabastiano del Piombo.

[sic] was well carried. He had sharp eyes, and the other parts of his visage were well proportioned. His hair was a bright red, his complexion flushed and marked with freckles (Curtis, 1892).”

Andres Bernaldez (1450-1513), a Spanish historian, knew Columbus well, and permitted the admiral to stay as an honored guest at his home in Grenada, often for months at a time. In his book, *Historia de los Reyes Catolicos* (1513), Bernaldez described Columbus. “Columbus was a man of fine stature, strong of limb, with a elongated visage, fresh and ruddy of complexion, marked with freckles. He had a noble bearing, was dignified of speech, and bore a kindly manner.”

Peter Martyr ‘d Anghiera, also known as Petrus Martyris Anglerius (1457-1526), was an Italian historian, in service to Spain, who was Columbus’ friend. In his book, *De Orbo Novo* (1530), he described the admiral, providing details much like those offered by others (Curtis, 1892).

Fray Bartholome de Las Casas (1474-1566) was a Spanish colonist, historian, social reformer, and a close friend of Columbus. Known as the “Apostle of the Indies,” he became a Dominican friar. Brother Bartholome recalled that Columbus had red hair and freckles, keen gray eyes and aquiline nose, a large mouth and a sad expression (Curtis, 1892).

Curtis bluntly concluded, “These verbal portraits do not coincide with many of the pictures [77 at the 1892 exposition in Madrid] which bear the name of Columbus.”

In “Looks Are Deceiving: the Portraits of Christopher Columbus,” Paul Lester identified the three portraits most often claimed to be Columbus, each one unlike the other two. The so-called Lotto portrait, already discussed, was among this group; also included is a wood engraving by Tobias Stimmer (1539-1584) and a painting by Sabastiano del Piombo (c. 1485-1547).



*Left: 1920-21 Pilgrim Tercentenary*



*Right: 1921 Alabama Centennial*

Paulus Jovius, Paolo Giovio in Italian (1483-1552), was a wealthy 16th century physician who had assembled a large portrait collection. In the first edition of his *Elogia* (or collection catalogue) a Columbus portrait wasn't listed. However, the second addition, published years later, included the Stimmer engraving of the admiral. It is likely that this engraving, published for the first time in 1551, was based on the painting it later replaced. Lester explained, "Jovius probably hired an unknown artist to paint a likeness out of sheer imagination for his collection. The painting doesn't match the written descriptions of Columbus. The Jovian portrait is probably the most widespread version of the admiral."

Sabastiano del Piombo, the third painter, was only 21 when Columbus died. There is no documentation that he had ever met the admiral. Lester noted, "Piombo took up painting later in life, having devoted his early years to music. ... Michael Hirst (1933-2017), Piombo's biographer, asserts that the portrait matches his [Piombo's] style and the technique he used in other 1520s era paintings."

"Hirst," Lester added, "includes

the painting in his biography of the artist [published in 1981], but with the simple caption, 'Portrait of a Man.' Hirst theorizes that it is probably a portrait of one of the clerics present at Bologna in the winter of 1529-1530. The inscription along the top of the portrait identifies the sitter as Columbus [but] was certainly included much later."

Regarding the obverse image on the 1892-1893 World's Columbian Exposition half-dollar, numismatic scholar David Bowers was, indeed, accurate when he wrote that it "... probably represents what a typical citizen of Genoa may [sic] have looked like in the explorer's time." At best it was a generic image.

### **False Images Abound**

In the context of this article, a "false image" occurred when an artist created a portrait of a specific person that wasn't based on either a contemporary image or description. The result was a likeness that was termed as speculative, interpretive, representative, idealized, false, etc., etc. Each of the following coin designs incorporated a false image.



*Left: 1927 Vermont Sesquicentennial*

*Right: 1934-38 Daniel Boone Centennial*



### **Commemorative Half-Dollars 1892-1954**

(1920-1921) Pilgrim Tercentenary – Boston sculptor Cyrus Dallin (1861-1944) executed the design that had been given to him by the governing commission. On the coin's obverse was a portrait of William Bradford (1590-1657), governor of Plymouth Colony. No actual likeness of Bradford existed.

(1921) Alabama Centennial – The coin's obverse depicted overlapping images of governors William Bibb, who held office from 1819 to 1820, and T. E. Kilby, governor at the time of the centennial. Sculptor Laura Fraser (1889-1966) designed the coin. Bibb's image was based on a speculative portrait made by R. M. Dawson in 1897. During the late-1920s, Alabama artist Roderick McKenzie painted eight murals, one of which was "Governor William Wyatt Bibb and Committee Drafting the First State Constitution at Huntsville, 1819." This, too, was speculative.

(1927) Vermont Sesquicentennial – Ira Allen's (1751-1814) likeness was placed on the coin's obverse, as designed by Charles Keck (1875-1951). The earliest known portrait of Allen

appears on an oval miniature (3.5 by 2.75 inches) copied after a William Wood watercolor and made c. 1793-1798. An engraving of Allen (c. 1810) also exists. Neither of these images, however, resemble Keck's idealized version.

(1934-1938) Daniel Boone Centennial – New York sculptor Augustus Lukeman's (1872-1935) design portrayed a young Daniel Boone (1734-1820) on the obverse of the coin; on its reverse was Shawnee Chief Blackfish (c. 1729-1779) standing with Boone. In 1820 Chester Harding (1792-1866) made a portrait of Boone. The frontiersman sat for the portrait. He was 84 at the time and died shortly after the sitting. No contemporary images of Chief Blackfish existed. [Note: David Bowers has said that another depiction of Boone appeared on the 1921 Missouri half-dollar. Not able to verify the intention of the artist, the author has regarded the obverse image on this half-dollar as a generic frontiersman whose identity is unknown.]

(1936) Albany, New York Charter – Sculptor Gertrude Lathrop (1896-1996), an Albany resident, designed this half-dollar. On its reverse was a depiction of Peter Schuyler (1657-



*Left: 1936 Albany, New York Charter*

*Below: 1936 Cleveland Centennial/ Great Lakes Exposition*



*Above: Providence, Rhode Island Tercentenary*

1724) with Robert Livingston (1654-1728) taking leave of Thomas Dongan (1634-1715), New York governor. David Bowers uncovered a letter Lathrop wrote to *The Numismatist*. “I found very little material about the personal appearance of the three men,” she stated. “My portrayal of the two young gentlemen ... was based upon [sic] a portrait of each, painted fully 30 years after their historic trip, and that of Dongan, upon [sic] a brief description. ... There is no authentic portrait of him.” In fact artist Nehemiah Partridge probably painted portraits of both Schuyler and of Livingston between 1710 and 1718, but not of the governor. According to community historian Stefan Bielinski, “We have found no authentic (that means done by an artist who actually met the subject) likeness of Thomas Dongan. Additionally, bloody little descriptive material exists to inspire any memorial paintings.”

(1936) Cleveland Centennial/ Great Lakes Exposition – The obverse of

this coin had a bust of Moses Cleveland (1754-1806). Sculptor Brenda Putnam (1890-1975) designed the issue. In their 1997 book, *Cleveland: A Concise History 1796-1996*, authors Carol Miller and Robert Wheeler provided a portrait of Cleveland painted by Rolf Stool in the 1930s. “Like all other portraits of the city’s founder,” they explained, “it is based on written descriptions, since no actual likeness of Cleveland is known to exist.”

(1936) Providence, Rhode Island, Tercentenary – John Benson (1901-1956), an instructor at the Rhode Island School of Design, and silversmith Graham Carey (1892-1984) designed the coin. Its obverse depicts Providence founder Roger Williams (c. 1603-1683) kneeling in a canoe while an Indian on a rock extended his arm in greeting. In an essay written for the Carter Roger Williams Initiative, Ted Widmer wrote, “... all these images ... are entirely imaginary! We have no idea what Roger Williams



*Left: 1937 Roanoke Island,  
350th Anniversary*



*Right (top  
and bottom):  
1992 Colum-  
bus Quincent-  
enary, dollar and  
half dollar*



*Left: 1938  
New Ro-  
chelle, 250th  
Anniversary*



looked like. If he was ever depicted in his lifetime, we have no record of it. All of the statues, paintings, and drawings of Roger Williams ... have been made up.” Widmer, at the time he wrote the essay, was the director of the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.

(1937) Roanoke Island, North Carolina, 350th Anniversary – Sculptor William Simpson (1903-1958) was the designer of this coin the reverse of which portrayed Ellinor Dare (c. 1568-1587) holding her daughter, Virginia. No contemporary images of Ellinor were known to exist.

(1938) New Rochelle, New York, 250th Anniversary – Gertrude Lathrop was the designer. On this half-dollar’s obverse she placed a depiction of John Pell (1643-1719), pulling on a rope tied to a calf. Sir Godfrey Kneller’s

(1646-1723) painting, “Portrait of Lt. Col. Sir John Pell IV, 2nd Lord of Pelham Manor,” was the only known contemporary image. Lathrop didn’t have access to this portrait. No other contemporary images were known to exist. [Note: The unidentified calf was considered to have been a generic image.]

### **Modern Commemoratives 1982-2020**

(1992) Christopher Columbus Quincentenary – The obverse of the half-dollar depicted Columbus landing in the New World, and was designed by US Mint sculptor T. James Ferrell. The dollar’s obverse, designed by Mint sculptor John Mercanti, featured a full-length figure of the explorer. Contemporary images of Columbus were unavailable to either artist.

*Left: 1998 Crispus Attucks*



*Below: 2000 Leif Ericson Millennium*



*Above: 2009 Louis Braille Bicentennial*

(1998) Black Revolutionary War Patriots – Mint sculptor John Mercanti placed the bust of Crispus Attucks (c. 1723-1770), a runaway slave, on the obverse of this dollar. Attucks was one of five men killed during the Boston Massacre of 1770. The sculptor relied on a speculative portrait of Attucks made by an unknown artist some time in the 19th century, most probably about 1854.

(2000) Leif Ericson Millennium – John Mercanti designed this dollar, placing a speculative image of Ericson (c. 970-1020) on its obverse. No images of the Viking were made during his life; all statues and portraits of him were made after 1885.

(2009) Louis Braille Bicentennial – Designed by Joel Iskowitz and sculpted by Phebe Hemphill, this dollar's obverse featured the bust of a young Louis Braille (1809-1852). It was based on the only known image of him: a miniature portrait on ivory by Lucienne Filippi, derived from

a daguerreotype taken shortly after Braille's death in 1852. His corpse, not surprisingly, appeared much different than the Iskowitz-Hemphill rendering.

### **Sacagawea Dollars 2000-2008**

Sacagawea – The obverse of this coin depicted Sacagawea (c. 1788-1812), a young Shoshone girl, carrying her son, Jean Baptiste, on her back. Sculptor Glenna Goodacre designed this dollar. No contemporary image of Sacagawea existed, so the sculptor modeled her after a modern Shoshone-Bannock woman, Randy 'L He-dow Teton.

### **Native American Dollars 2009 to Date**

The obverse of this series bears the interpretive image of Sacagawea. All reverses, other than that of the 2017 design, have depicted either symbolic or generic images. In 2017, however, the coin's reverse bore a profile of





*Left: 2000-2008  
Sacagawea*



*Right:  
2017  
Native  
American  
Series  
showing  
Sequoyah*

Sequoyah writing “Sequoyah from Cherokee Nation.” Chris Costello designed this dollar in collaboration with sculptor Charles Vickers. Of course, a contemporary likeness of their subject didn’t exist.

### **What’s the Big Deal?**

Most Americans are familiar with the expression, “Tell a lie enough times, and it becomes the truth.” Perhaps coin designs are no different. Without doubt, the vision of Columbus many Americans believe to be true resembles the false image on the Barber-designed half dollar; just as bad, young Americans seem certain they know what Sacagawea looked like. But what options does a sculptor have when designing a coin? There are four. (1) Use of an allegorical image – it offers the potential of great beauty, such as Aldolph Weinman’s Liberty walking half-dollar. (2) Use of a generic image – if well researched before it’s executed such an image offers the possibility of historical safety. (3) Use of a symbolic image – an object, instead of a person, is used to represent an event. And (4) use of a false image – this option permits the sculptor to create an image of “what the person might have looked like.” A false image is pure fantasy; it does nothing but

insult the intelligence of Americans.

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# The French Colonies “Stampee”: Hardly Ever Appearing on the British Colonies Mainland

by Steve Sussman

While many different types of exogenously minted species dominated the British Colonies and the US prior to the 1840s and were almost the only types used prior to 1793, the 1779 French Colonies “Stampee” (named as such by the British) has had an unusual place in colonial coinage, seldom reaching the mainland. Certainly, none of the French Colony coinage was intended specifically for future US territories (Yeoman, Bowers, Garrett, & Bressett, 2018). Some did drift into the Americas through Canada and Louisiana. In particular, the billon mousquetaires (30 deniers; see 1710-D PCGS AU55 example), the 1767-A copper 1 Sou (see NGC XF45 BN example with counterstamp), and, most popularly, denominations of the Ecu (see NGC 1789-A NGC MS61 1



Ecu example) entered the mainland. However, the French estampe (“Stampee”) apparently

hardly ever entered the mainland and is not mentioned in the *Red Book* (Yeoman, Bowers, Garrett, & Bressett, 2018). It is mentioned in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* (Cuhaj, 2013, page 261). This coin was a billon type, a mixture of copper and tin with some silver (maybe 20%). Wood (1914) noted that a variety of these general sorts of coins were minted in France beginning in 1738 (i.e., in Paris and 11 other mints) and then, soon thereafter, were exported to the French-controlled West Indies. They were small and of little value. Some did wander into Canada, acquiring a value of 18

deniers. In the French West Indies (Guadeloupe, including the islands of Basse-Terre, Grande-Terre, Les Saintes, Marie-Galante, and La Desirade; Martinique; Saint Martin; Saint Barthelemy; Saint Dominique [Western Hispaniola]; and possibly French Guiana [Cayenne]), they were worth 18 deniers up to two sols-six deniers (i.e., around 1/60th the value of an ecu, or French dollar; less than two US cents). They were known as “black dogs” when wandering in the mid-1700s over to the English controlled West Indies, according to the Notre Dame website (see: <https://coins.nd.edu/ColCoin/ColCoinIntros/MA-Pence.intro.html>; accessed 1-12-2020). Colonists petitioned to the home government for more of these coins.

Many worn 24-denier pieces (7 mm radius in size) were stamped on one side with a small crowned “C” for use in the colonies, produced at least in 1763 and 1764 (based on the under-type over this overstrike). The reverse of the coin was blank. Demand was high for this coin. Newly minted billion flans were sent to the French West Indies in 1779. These undated coins were stamped with a larger crowned “C” for “colony” use only. These new two-sols estampes (marked sous) coins were 12mm radius in size (about 1.5 grams) and wandered about the West Indies and to some extent in the British and Dutch West Indies (Salamanca, 2004). They were issued until 1797. This coinage was used primarily by the poor and enslaved peoples who lived in the French West Indies. The colonists were rather protective of this coinage, and sometimes would stamp a symbol of the island in which they lived on the coin. They probably

did not want this coin wandering too far. These coins were demonetized in 1828. Six of the 1779 KM-2 variety have been sold at Heritage Auctions; of a total of 16 graded (one by PCGS and 15 by NGC).

As noted by Galke (2018), while hardly ever reaching the mainland, one such 1779 coin stamped with SV (for the island of Saint Vincent) was found in an archaeological find at George Washington’s Ferry Farm, formerly in British Virginia. Galke speculated that the coin may have been dropped by a sailor whose ship first visited the West Indies, and then docked at Fredericksburg, a port town, to unload its cargo. This town was the furthest point up the Rappahannock River that small ocean-going vessels could travel before encountering rapids. More research is needed to better understand how many of these coins survived and if any more wandered onto the mainland.

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# America's Crown

## Jewels: Fifty-Dollar Gold

by *Jim Wells*

Are you tiring of poking all those identical Lincoln cents into your blue Whitman coin folders? Need a change of pace? I recommend that you examine the other end of the coin denomination spectrum—\$50 gold coins.

America's \$50 coins are a fascinating group of large-size specimens with interesting designs, lots of heft, and high desirability among collectors. These represent the trophy products, the crown jewels of the minting process. And as you might suspect, they are all rare, and valued accordingly! In the 19th century, four major types were coined, with numerous varieties and versions. Since that century, the US government has produced four spectacular examples, two still being minted today. Another pair are controversially termed "restrikes" of some historic treasures.

### **The Impetus: the California Gold Rush**

American gold was first discovered not in 1840s California, but in Southern Appalachia over two decades before. Both areas were remote portions of a still-underdeveloped nation. The Northeast relied heavily on banknotes, a long-standing tradition despite innu-



merable instances of fraud, including phantom bank names, altered notes, and insufficient reserves. These factors had led to a serious financial crisis in 1837, accounting for the Hard Times of 1837-1843, and had a tremendous influence on California's skepticism toward commercial banking.

In the California gold rush, raw gold dust predominated as a medium of exchange, but coins and bars were also traded when available. Odd-sized and unfamiliar foreign gold and silver coins were also used but difficult to exchange. The issuance of paper money had been explicitly banned upon the adoption of California's constitution in 1849. This led to the adage "Hard money west, paper money east."

When California was admitted into the Union on September 9, 1850, it already had a "hard money" economy, with no paper money in sight. The dependence upon silver and gold coins and the exclusion of paper money prevailed for many years thereafter.

California miners were producing



*The miners lured to California's gold fields produced over \$600 million for America's economy, and spawned many gold coins and ingots for today's collectors.*

huge amounts of gold per day in 1849. There was seemingly no reason for banks to issue paper money under those circumstances. The same could not be said for East Coast states, except for Georgia and North Carolina, where modest amounts of gold were being coined. But the huge California discoveries produced over \$600 million for America, spurred the expansion of the American economy, and spawned over 30 private coining firms, mostly in San Francisco. Most private minters coined small-denomination products to satisfy the burgeoning need for small change. The United States government recognized the need for a new mint in the growing area, but their San Francisco mint did not begin operation until 1854. To meet the heavy demand for coinage, fractional gold of 25 and 50 cents and

gold coins valued at \$1, \$5, \$10, and \$20 were produced from these private mints.

### **1851-52: The US Assay Office's multiple \$50 versions**

In September 1850, Congress authorized the Treasury to contract with a well-established assaying business in California to affix the stamp of the United States to bars and ingots, to assay gold, and assign value to it. Moffat & Company, the most respected of the San Francisco coiners, received the commission. Appointed to the position of United States assayer was Augustus Humbert, a New York City maker of watch cases.

In preparation for the new franchise in late 1850, Moffat & Co. curtailed most of their private business



Early US Assay Office “slugs” were struck with plain areas outside the beaded circle, and the edge lettered with AUGUSTUS HUMBERT UNITED STATES ASSAYER OF GOLD CALIFORNIA 1851. 43 mm. (Kagin-2)



Later 1851 US Assay Office slugs included AUGUSTUS HUMBERT UNITED STATES ASSAYER OF GOLD CALIFORNIA 1851 around the obverse, and a reeded edge. (Kagin-6)

and prepared to issue coins and ingots under the government contract. New premises were secured on Montgomery Street. In January 1851, the *Daily Alta California* reported that the “United States Assay Office was prepared to receive gold dust for smelting and assaying, and forming ingots and bars, in accordance with our recent contract with the Secretary of the Treasury. The United States Assayer, August Humbert, Esq., will affix the United States stamp on products of Moffat & Co.”

In January 1851, Augustus Humbert arrived in San Francisco. Soon after, the first octagonal \$50 gold piece bearing his stamp was shown to the press, probably in the form of a trial piece Humbert brought

from New York. *The Pacific News* in February 1851 noted that “the dies for this purpose—the striking of the \$50 pieces (originally called ingots, and later slugs) have been procured, and the first coin produced by them was shown us yesterday.”

The octagonal slug’s obverse pictured an eagle standing on a rock within a beaded circle, grasping a shield and three arrows. In the eagle’s beak is a scroll inscribed LIBERTY, and above his head is the label 880 THOUS (for 88% fineness.) Across the top is UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Below the rock is “50 D C” (originally intended to be hand punched with the Dollars and Cents value.) These first “lettered edge varieties” were stamped on each of the eight edge sides with AUGUSTUS / HUMBERT / UNITED / STATES / ASSAYER / OF GOLD / CALIFORNIA / 1851. It was designed by Charles C. Wright, a contract engraver in New York. The reverse featured an



*The 1852 Assay Office slugs were struck by the new contractors Curtis, Perry, and Ward under the old Moffat & Co. name. The obverse legend was amended to UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE OF GOLD SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA. The fineness of .887 was raised to .900 to meet the 1837 federal standard. (Kagin-14)*

engine-turned pattern, possibly using Humbert's watchcase skills, and a ribbon design around the edge.

Several varieties of this design followed; a dozen versions are catalogued in gold expert Don Kagin's *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States*. Some included "50" in the reverse center; some were marked with "887 THOUS" or "900 THOUS" fineness. Later "reeded-edge varieties" brought the AUGUSTUS HUMBERT UNITED STATES ASSAYER OF GOLD to outside the obverse circle border, and "1851" to the bottom center. FIFTY DOLLS replaced the 50D C notation.

The slugs proved to be popular and many older private gold issues ended up at the Assay Office to be restruck as slugs.

The firm of Moffat & Co. was dissolved in 1852 and the Assay Office contract was taken over by Curtis, Perry, & Ward. They were permitted to continue the Moffat name on \$10 and \$20 coins that Moffat had campaigned to strike. Augustus Humbert continued as US assayer. In mid-1852, the outer inscription on \$50 slugs was changed to UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE OF GOLD SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA. After starting with 0.887 fineness issues, the fineness was raised to 0.900 to match federal standards. Political battles in Washington raged over whether to establish a San Francisco Mint, and acceptance of the Assay Office slugs was a major factor. During their debates, Congress at one point declared them no longer acceptable for customs duties payments. This blow to the California economy came despite the acceptance as legal tender of lower-fineness foreign gold of many European and South American countries. The disputes were eventually resolved, and the Assay Office continued until December 1853.

The tariffs charged by the Assay Office for converting gold dust and ores to coinage increased with the amount of gold delivered and the product denomination requested. The higher tariffs for \$50 pieces became too costly for miners, so \$50 slug production was ended. The San Francisco Branch Mint was approved in July 1852, and began operations in April 1854, using the building and much of the equipment of the Assay Office. But the San Francisco mint has never struck any \$50 coins for circulation since.



Wass Molitor's \$50 was the first round coin of the denomination. Its obverse copied the US Liberty Head with 13 stars, but without LIBERTY on the coronet. The reverse had the value within a wreath. 42 mm.



### 1855: Wass, Molitor & Co.— the first round \$50s

Two Hungarians, Count S. C. Wass and A. P. Molitor were considered the best issuers of gold coins in San Francisco, although their initial production did not begin until 1852. They struck \$5 and \$10 coins similar to the federal \$5 denomination in 1852, and \$10, \$20, and \$50 coins in 1855.

The Wass, Molitor & Co. \$50 gold piece was the flagship coin for that company's 1855 coinage issue. The firm had stopped striking coins after 1852, in anticipation of the opening of the San Francisco Mint. When the mint experienced long delays and an especially long layoff in March of 1855, a group of influential bankers and merchants petitioned Wass, Molitor & Co. to resume coinage operations to alleviate the situation.

Wass, Molitor & Co. replied on March 24 that they would begin issuing coins within the week. The Wass, Molitor \$50 pieces were round, unlike the distinctive octagonal slugs issued by the United States Assay Office. They were eagerly accepted, as the firm had established a reputation for honesty that was fully justified by an assay at the San Francisco Mint. Their subsidiary coinage of \$10 and \$20 coins was accepted without question as well.

The obverse design of the 1855 Wass, Molitor & Co. \$50 gold piece features a central bust of Liberty, with no inscription on the coronet, surrounded by 13 stars and the date below. The reverse displays the legends SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA above and WASS, MOLITOR & CO. below. The denomination, expressed as 50 / DOLLARS, is enclosed by a wreath, with a ribbon inscribed 900 THOUS. above. Although the design is not especially distinctive, the coins were well-received by the public. An article in the April 30, 1855 edition of the *Sacramento Daily Union* summarized the popular lukewarm feeling:

“This coin is circular, almost entirely destitute of ornament, and plain as a maiden's countenance who has breathed the air of fifty summers... the coin certainly has no pretensions to beauty; nevertheless, we would not like to refuse a few to break with our friends.”

What they lacked in aesthetic appeal the Wass, Molitor \$50 pieces made up for in stately size and instant recognition. An article in the *San Francisco Herald* of March 1, 1854, outlined the desirability of such a coin for trade purposes:

“In a country like our own, where the currency is purely metallic, it is of great importance to have coins issued





*Kellogg's \$50 features a liberty head on the obverse similar to the Wass Molitor obverse, and a reverse alike the Assay Office's slug. It has been called "the King of Territorial Gold." 41 mm.*



of a size which will admit of rapid and easy counting, both in receiving and paying money; and the experience of all our businessmen goes to show that in the absence of bank notes the fifty dollar piece is the most convenient coin for such a purpose."

The coins circulated widely throughout the region and in other parts of the country. An article in the *Alta California* reported that Wass, Molitor was issuing \$38,000 worth of \$20 and \$50 gold coins per day at their peak.

### **1855: Kellogg's trial pieces?**

A second round \$50 coin was produced by Kellogg & Co. This firm was founded by John G. Kellogg, a former employee of Moffat & Co., who later organized the Kellogg & Richter Co. with another Assay Office assayer. Kellogg later founded Kellogg & Humbert with the one-time US assayer from the Assay Office.

The origins of the 1855 Kellogg & Co. \$50 gold piece are shrouded in mystery. Not one was released into circulation at the time of striking, and knowledge of the issue was quite limited in the 19th century. Around a dozen examples of the Kellogg \$50 are known to present-day collectors. Prominent coin dealer B. Max Mehl once referred to the Kellogg & Co.

\$50 gold piece as "the most beautiful of all Pioneer gold coins and one of the rarest."

The Kellogg \$50 obverse resembled the Wass Molitor obverse, with KELLOGG & Co. on the coronet. Ferdinand Grüner cut the dies and put his name on Liberty's bust truncation. The scroll above the eagle on the reverse reads "1809 GRS (grains) / 887 THOUS." The California newspapers in 1855 mention the \$50 piece of Wass, Molitor & Co., yet had no references to those of Kellogg & Co. This would seem to indicate that the Kellogg \$50 coinage did not go beyond the experimental stage, and that the known pieces now located were scarcely more than trial pieces. All known examples of the Kellogg \$50 were struck in proof format, lending credence that the coins were intended to serve as presentation pieces.

Kellogg & Co. did excel at producing \$20 gold during 1854-1855, and in May 1855 the newspapers reported that Kellogg was issuing 50% more coins than the struggling US Mint, often from \$60,000 to \$80,000 daily. When John Kellogg died in 1886, the *Alta California* newspaper wrote that had it not been for Kellogg & Co., the financial community of San Francisco might have gone bankrupt.

As an aside, many of the Kellogg



*The 1877 Half Union with Large Head (pictured at left is the gold example) and Small Head (at right in copper.) The reverses are identical and similar to the double eagles of the time. (50 mm)*



coins and ingots were lost in the sinking of the *SS Central America* in 1857 but were recovered in 1989. Under the direction of the California Historical Society in 2001, authorization was granted to re-produce 5,000 1855 \$50 Kellogg “relics” in proof. These coins are exact in size and appearance as the originals, which adds an even greater appeal. They were struck in San Francisco using the original San Francisco Mint press. Each coin is completely made from actual Kellogg & Humbert Co. gold ingots recovered from the *SS Central America*. More details follow later.

### **1877: The US Half Unions**

The federal \$50 half union, as it was called, was the result of a proposal made in 1877 to create a large gold coin for commerce, in view of quantities of bullion being available from California. The inspiration for these came directly from the \$50 gold

slugs of California produced in 1851 and 1852, as well as the round \$50 coins of Wass, Molitor and Kellogg in 1855. In 1877, Dr. Henry Linderman, superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint, reactivated the idea, although the need at that time for a \$50 coin was not recorded. Most likely, it was a pet project. It was believed that these \$50 coins were ordered by Director Linderman (an avid coin collector) for his own use. Moreover, mint correspondence suggests that such a large and heavy coin would be especially susceptible to sawing and filling with base metal, an ongoing concern of mint officials.

The dream in 1877 was to have a \$100 coin called the union, and a \$50 called the half union. The \$50 has also been called the quintuple eagle, as it was worth five times the \$10 gold eagle.

Alas, no union coin was ever created, and the two test designs of the half

union only reached the pattern stage, with one gold version each (both now in the Smithsonian's National Numismatic Collection) and a handful of copper trial pieces, most impounded in museum collections. Others come up for auction only rarely. Tough to collect!

Two obverses were designed by engraver William Barber, both with a portrait of Miss Liberty, one a "Large Head" and the other a similar but slightly reduced "Small Head." The head of Miss Liberty superficially resembles that on contemporary \$20 pieces, but is strictly Barber's own work, with stylistic differences and with a coronet of an unusual configuration. On the reverse of both is the same federal eagle, like that on double eagles of the era. These do not appear in the familiar *Guide Book of United States Coins*, but they are catalogued in *United States Pattern Coins*.

## **1915: Panama-Pacific Commemoratives**

The 1915-S Panama-Pacific round and octagonal gold coins are monumental tributes—as was the San Francisco exposition for which they are named—to the most ambitious engineering project ever undertaken by America. The formats were inspired by the US Assay Office of Gold octagonal ingots issued in the early Gold Rush days and by the Wass-Molitor \$50 rounds.

The round and octagonal \$50 coins were joined by silver half-dollar, gold \$1, and gold quarter-eagle commemoratives to celebrate the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. All were minted at the San Francisco Mint.

The completion of the Panama

Canal in 1914 represented a triumph of American will over implacable elements. The plan to link the Pacific and Atlantic oceans via a Central American waterway had been a dream for hundreds of years, as an alternative to months-long treacherous voyages around South America's Cape Horn. When gold was discovered in vast quantities in California in 1848, it reinforced the need for a shorter, faster way to connect those destinations. It required a series of giant hydraulic locks that enabled giant oceangoing vessels to, in effect, climb the mountain range of Central America. In his espousal and fierce support of the project, President Theodore Roosevelt created a new Central American nation, enabled the rise of America as a world superpower, and presided over innumerable triumphs of engineering, science, medicine—and the human will.

The Panama Canal started out as a colossal failure of a project undertaken first by the French in 1881. The United States, via Roosevelt and his envoys, began negotiating to acquire Panama from Colombia in 1902. The canal, at the time called the "13th Labor of Hercules," signified America's rise as a dominant world power. The combination of notable advances in railroad and hydroelectric engineering, managerial organization, public health and disease control, and the triumph of sheer American determination over a stubborn Nature put the Panama Canal project on a scale never seen.

A clever, well-known palindrome describes President Roosevelt's efforts: "A man, a plan, a canal, Panama."

The huge 1915-S Panama-Pacific



*Round and octagonal \$50 gold commemoratives were struck for the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. The obverses show a helmeted head of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom, and the reverse features the owl, symbol of wisdom. The octagonal issue has eight dolphins in the angles on both sides. (43 mm)*



*Below: a bird's-eye view of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition grounds in 1915 in San Francisco.*



round and octagonal \$50 gold coins were designed by Robert Aitken and were a fitting tribute in their artistry and size to the canal, the largest single federal expenditure to date, which was the most immense undertaking of America prior to World Wars I and II. In addition, the exposition site and the coining of the various numismatic issues in San Francisco provided an enormous showcase for that city. The beautiful exposition helped the city rise from the ashes, only nine years after San Francisco's disastrous 1906

Great Earthquake and Fire.

The 1915-S Panama-Pacific fifties have merited high honors in the century since their creation, as among the most-pursued issues in American numismatics. The octagonal variants are the single most-memorable issue of all the classic commemorative issues. Only 483 of the round and 645 of the octagonal versions were distributed.

(A San Diegan's aside: The Panama Canal's completion also spawned another world's fair: the Panama-California Exposition in San Diego. But



*The gold bullion coins produced yearly since 1986 have become popular investment pieces for collectors and non-collectors. The one-ounce American Eagle (shown left) joins 1/10-ounce, 1/4-ounce, and 1/2-ounce pieces with the same design. The American Buffalo \$50 (at right) and subdivisions were later added to honor the Buffalo nickel design. (32.7 mm)*



numismatically, the San Diego fair produced only a few so-called dollars, not the glorious commemoratives of the San Francisco fete. See “That Other 1915 Exposition” in the spring 2015 issue of TCN.)

### **1986-present: Gold Bullion – American Eagles and American Buffaloes**

New one-ounce \$50 gold bullion coins debuted in 1986, copying the popular Augustus Saint-Gaudens walking Liberty design from the obverse of \$20 double eagles. For the first five years, the date was shown in Roman numerals (1986 = MC-MLXXXVI.) A family of eagles is depicted on the reverse, designed by Miley Busick.

American buffalo gold bullion coins were first struck in 2006 in response to growing demand for a more pure gold coin (99.99% pure, as opposed to the 99.93% pure American

eagle gold coins). The design of this coin copies faithfully that of James Earle Fraser’s Indian head or “buffalo” nickel issued from 1913 to 1938, with the addition of the motto “In God We Trust” to the bottom left reverse. Initially, only one-ounce versions were produced, but fractional issues appeared in 2008. Each one-ounce coin bears a \$50 face value, far below the coin’s bullion value. Both mint state and proof versions have been produced, as well as special collector sets of different denominations.

### **2001, 2008: SS Central America “Relics”**

The *SS Central America*, now nicknamed the “ship of gold,” had operated during the 1850s transporting freshly mined gold from the California gold rush to New York. She reliably did this twice a month until the largest hurricane of the 19th century struck in 1857. The 280-foot ship sank along

*The SS Central America sank in 1857, carrying a treasure trove of gold from California. Much of the gold was recovered in 1989.*



*The Central America's treasure included gold bars, Assay Office slugs, and \$50 coins. They needed a bit of cleaning after 132 years on the ocean floor, but most survived in pristine condition.*



with 425 souls and millions of dollars of gold into the Atlantic Ocean. The loss of the cargo was so critical to the financial market that it caused the Great Financial Panic of 1857.

In 1989, the shipwreck was found by entrepreneur Tommy Thompson's Columbus-America Discovery Group. Bob Evans, the group's chief scientist and historian, reported salvaging over 7,500 gold coins, 20 pounds of gold dust, and 532 gold ingots—quite a haul! “Only” 14 Humbert/Assay Office \$50 slugs and one Wass Molitor \$50 were included in their initial reports. Yet Evans says tens of thousands of gold coins remain on the sea floor! Lawsuits from insurers held up

the bounty for an additional decade. When the gold ingots became available for sale, several were reported unsold, because “few numismatists could afford to purchase them.” The stamped “face plates” of the remaining Kellogg & Humbert ingots were saved, and the rest of the ingots were refined into restrike proof Kellogg & Co. 1855 \$50 pieces.

These copies were quickly advertised and widely popular. They were not often called “coins,” but were heralded as relics, proofs, medals, commemoratives, copies, or restrikes, to confuse their origin.

A total of 4,461 Kellogg & Co. proof \$50 “restrikes” (albeit not



*The gold ingots recovered from the SS Central America included this Kellogg & Humbert piece, approx. 2.5" by 6". Later these "face plates" were shaved off and the remaining gold was restruck into "relic" 1855 Kellogg & Co. \$50 coins or 1852 Assay Office slugs.*

from original dies) were struck over a period of 24 days in August and September 2001, and business strikes were made on four of those days. The 24 days corresponded to the 1857 journey of the *S.S. Central America*, from Panama to its Atlantic Ocean foundering. The items were struck by the California Historical Society at the Presidio near San Francisco, from copy dies made from the original Kellogg & Co. \$50 dies owned by Don Kagin. Gallery Mint personnel Ron Landis, Joe Rust, and their staff used a transfer technique for the dies for the restrikes. The originally blank ribbon in the eagle's beak reads S.S. CENTRAL AMERICA GOLD and

C.H.S. The exact date of striking was counterstamped above the eagle on the reverse, for example "STRUCK AUGUST / -20- / 2001 · C.H.S."

In 2008, 375 "Humbert \$50 commemorative" proof slugs were struck using bullion from two Kellogg & Humbert gold ingots (numbered 830 and 555) recovered from the *S.S. Central America* shipwreck. The octagonal design closely imitates the 1852 Assay Office/Humbert \$50 slug. On the reverse, a four-line inscription within a rectangular area reads S.S. CENTRAL AMERICA / 1857 CAL. GOLD FROM / HUMBERT INGOTS / 830/555 SEPT. 12, 2008. Other proof examples read PURE CAL. GOLD



*Spoiler Alert—Whitman nixed my suggestion about issuing a fifty-dollar blue coin folder. I guess we'll just have to make our own folders.*

on the obverse instead of FIFTY DOLLS., and in the reverse rectangle is HUMBERT GOLD INGOT / COMMEMORATIVE 2008 / PURE CALIFORNIA GOLD / 2.5 OZ TROY 999.9 FINE.

As an aside, in 2014 another search of the wreckage was made by Odyssey Marine Exploration, Inc. They recovered 15,500 gold and silver coins, 45 gold bars, gold dust, and many nuggets and other artifacts. But no \$50 denominations were reported. David Bowers' 2019 book (see references) dedicates 30 pages to the Central America saga.

### Ready to collect?

Obviously collecting these beauties is expensive, and obtaining a complete set is likely impossible. Luckily, the recent gold bullion issues are—get this—only worth their weight in gold. Tenth-ounce specimens can currently be bought for \$150-\$200. The older, more historic examples are often uncollectible, or run into five or six figures, sometimes more. But these treasures have storied histories and represent the ultimate trophies of our numismatic hobby. Perhaps their interesting narrations can partially substi-

tute for holding them in our hands.

### Acknowledgements

I thank gold authorities Jim Hunt and Don Kagin for their comments and for clearing up some of the conflicting stories of these historic treasures.

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# History Captured in a 1653 Potosi Eight Reales

by *Steve Sussman*

The British colonists produced little coinage due to lack of access to mines and because the King of England did not permit it, lest one wanted to lose their head. So, colonists acquired specie coins by importing them, mostly from Spanish America in exchange for exported goods (Grubb, 2012). Spanish colonial coinage has had a major place in world numismatic history, serving as the leading international specie from not long after 1536 until gradually losing force after 300 years of relative dominance. Revolutions occurring from 1819 through 1824 (except for Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Santa Domingo) led to Latin Republics minting their own coinage which, itself, continued to impact the world. However, royal and republic coinage was no longer legal tender in the US in 1857 and dissolved throughout the rest of the world mostly by 1915 (Andrew, 1904), with minor impact in 1949 (noted in the *Mega Red Book*; Yeoman, Bowers, Garrett, & Bressett, 2018).

The duration and impact of this coinage is quite amazing. Among them were the cobs, the earlier pieces of eight of pirate lore. As the reader likely is aware cob coinage refers to metal cut off a bar, hammering an obverse die one or more times into a

rough-cut planchet sitting on top of the reverse die. Then, extra metal would be removed by the assayer to make sure that the coin was the appropriate weight (27.2 grams for the eight reales coin). Among at least eight mint-based cities of Spanish America, the two most prolific in the minting of silver coins were Mexico City, Mexico, and Potosi, Bolivia. The latter location began minting coinage in 1574, minting cobs up through 1773. The largest silver cob to come out of Bolivia was the 8 reales.

Among the cobs at Potosi, one particularly fascinating item is the 1653 eight reales cob at the last step of transition from a shield version to the pillar and waves type. This coin was minted during the reign of Philip IV of Spain. Along with the date, appears a “P” for Potosi, “E” for Alonso de Ergueta the assayer of the mint, “8” for the coin value of eight reales, and “I-PH-6” under the crown (which stands for the first two numbers in the date surrounding a shorthand “PH” for Phillip IV). The 1653 1-PH-6 is what Torrey McLean possibly would have considered a Type VIII-like last transition, or what Sedwick and Sedwick (2007) might call among the first of the post-transition types because of the cross-type obverse and 1653 date.



The date, assayer, and mint in theory should show up three times on this coin as an expression of accountability. My coin in the photo is an NGC VF-35, 27.06 grams. Only nine of these have been graded by PCGS or NGC, four higher than the one in the photo.

While this coin is of numismatic interest, it is more than that. It is a Potosi cob that symbolizes the intercept of a volatile and deadly place and time. The historical intercept involved the sullen reign of Philip IV of Spain and implosion of the Spanish Empire, continuation of deaths of mine workers, the scandal of Potosi, and sunken treasure—struggles, all for that shiny atomic number 47 (silver).

Philip IV was King of Spain from 1621 at 16 years of age until his death, September 17, 1665 at age 60. He was a great patron of the arts but swamped economically through inescapable involvement in the Thirty Years' War

(1618-1648), leading to eight million deaths. While started as a war of Protestant versus Catholic faiths, it reflected ongoing warfare of Spain with France from 1635-1659, and led to rising costs and internal revolts throughout Spanish territories. Inflation was rampant. Spanish currency was not stable, in part due to uncooperative bankers in Italy and capture of the Spanish treasure fleet of 1628 by the Dutch. Higher taxes were not well received by those under the reign of Spain. Portugal left Philip's control. Philip became increasingly isolated. A Catalan rebellion was stopped in 1652, with Philip promising to respect their customs from then on. At the end of his reign, he had lost much of the respect of his people, and Spain's military might had imploded along with the economy.

Also, during this time in the Spanish colonies, there was great pressure to mine as much silver as possible for



*The discovery of silver turned this isolated Incan hamlet into the fourth largest city in the Christian world in just 70 years. At its peak in the early 17th century, 160,000 native Peruvians, African slaves and Spanish settlers lived in Potosí.*

transport to Spain. Somewhere around eight million people lost their lives working at the Potosí mine, 4,000 meters above sea level in the Cerro Rico Mountain. Working up to 20 hours per day in slave-like conditions, the indigenous workers died in great numbers through disease, exhaustion, and accidents, leading subsequently to forced-labor of African slaves in the mines, where the deaths continued mounting to uncover silver for the manufacture of cobs, that would be sent back to Spain in treasure fleets. These people were considered expendable in support of the Spanish Empire.

Fifty years after the mine was in operation (around 1625) a scheme of coinage debasement began (e.g., Mossman, 1993). Potosí's debased silver reales reached world markets no later than 1638 and were being rejected worldwide. In fact, silver coins from that mint had depreciated up to 50% in 1649. In 1647, in the context

of a sorely suffering Spanish royal economy, due in large part to competition with other European powers (France, in particular), King Philip IV dispatched an investigator to unravel this Potosí mint debasement scheme. Apparently, many public officials were involved throughout the region. The scheme was uncovered in 1648 involving at the core a silver merchant (Francisco Gomez de la Rocha) and an assayer (Juan Ramirez de Arellano) at the Potosí mint who were caught and condemned to death two years later. In October of 1650, a decree ordered that all Potosí cobs either be turned in for melting or be counterstamped as an indication of their officially devalued status (see: <https://www.sedwickcoins.com/articles/countermark.htm>; accessed 10-20-2019). Another royal decree, of February 17, 1651, ordered a new design. In 1652 the insignia of the Hapsburg coat of arms was replaced by the crowned columns of Hercules



*Modern Potosí is a shell of its former self. The mountain still towers over the city but it is crumbling inside, made unstable by the hundreds of miles of mine shafts constructed over the 500 years it has been exploited. In 2011, the upper cone of the mountain collapsed.*

floating over the waves of the sea. That is, a new pillar-and-waves design was created to signal new non-debased coins.

My coin depicted in the photo represents the last of the transition period, or among the first of the post-transition period. This coin type (1653, 1-PH-6), or the next 1653 PH version, has been located ungraded from shipwrecks including the *Capitana*, sunk in 1654 off Chanduy, Ecuador, the *Maravillas*, sunk in 1656 off Grand Bahama Island, and the *Whydah Gally*, sunk in 1717 off of Cape Cod. It symbolizes in a piece of metal a long-lasting reminder of kings, slavery, corruption, death, and shipwrecked cargo.

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# California Token Spotlight

**Shining on: The Grape Vine Saloon, Santa Rosa**

*by Merle Avila*

Located in the Dougherty-Shea Building, A. B. Stump had a saloon at 104 Main Street from 1885 to 1889. In 1890 he and William J. T. Orr formed a partnership and opened The Grape Vine Saloon on Mendocino Avenue. The address was listed as 313 Mendocino Avenue, between Fourth and Fifth Streets in the 1905 City of Santa Rosa registry. Their partnership lasted until 1907.

In 1907, the business was sold to Walter Jones and John O. McIntosh who were partners for only about six months with Jones selling his share and becoming partners with Mathews at the J & M Saloon. McIntosh ran the Grape Vine until 1911 when he sold to Dan Pickin who had been a shoemaker. Pickin continued the business until prohibition.



*A. B. Stump was a busy guy back in the day, a real liquor entrepreneur. Here's an ad from around the same time frame for another saloon he started up.*



K-40



*A selection of spirits bottles from the Grape Vine. These are three different varieties of flasks from the establishment.*



*K-41*



*K-42*



# CSNA 138th Southern Convention Report

The CSNA convention was held December 13-15 in Arcadia at the Masonic Center. The three day show kicked off on Friday, opening for a half-day to the public, and this approach was again well received, so likely recommended for the 2020 show at the end of the year.

The banquet held Saturday night was at the traditional Coco's, and along with general festivities there was the presentation of the CSNA awards:

*Andrew Woodruff flanked by Philip de Augustino (l.) and CSNA President Dennis Hogan (r.) accepting Coin Club of the Year Award on behalf of The Heartland Coin Club.*

*CSNA President Dennis Hogan presented Philip de Augustino with the 2019 Numismatist of the Year Award.*

*Below, a view of the bourse floor in the "calm before the storm" just before the doors opened to the public on Saturday, and just after the conclusion of the CSNA board meeting (report on that elsewhere in this TCN).*





Redwood Empire Coin Club won the CSNA Publication of the Year Award (no photo), and RECC President Merle Avila presented the award to Secretary/Editor Charlie Catlett at one of their monthly meetings.

(Top right photo) Jim Phillips received 2nd place for Publication of the Year Award on behalf of Hemet Coin Club.



George Magaan receiving 3rd place for Publication of the Year Award on behalf of Sacramento Valley Coin Club.

(Right, third from top) Andrew Woodruff received the first place and best of show awards for his exhibit on the Olympics from Edward Van Orden.



(Below) CSNA President Dennis Hogan presented an Outstanding Service Award for "sustained superior service" to long-time member and past-officer of many titles, Stephen Huston (not present), in recognition of his exceptional and long service to the association, most recently as data manager overseeing the mailing list. Stephen has previously received the CSNA top honor, the Medal of Merit.



(Above) Edward Van Orden presents Phil Iversen with the second place exhibit award for his display featuring the Denver mint. Roy Iwata (not present) won third place for his display on Ancients.



*(Left, top to bottom) CSNA President Dennis Hogan presented President's Medals for "many years of outstanding service" to Howard Feltham, Phil Iversen, Philip de Augustino, and Joyce Kuntz (not present). Hogan also presented Michael Turrini with a President's Medal up in Northern California earlier in the year (no photo), and TCN Editor Greg Burns with a special recognition award for "continuous outstanding publication".*



*(Above) Phil Iversen hawking a jar of coins during the benefit auction, which raised a total of \$103 for the association.*



*(Right) Master of Ceremonies Phil Iversen gave Philip de Augustino a good roasting during the banquet, much to the chagrin of Philip and the delight of the crowd.*



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# PAN

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## “Get Abe Lincoln to Pittsburgh” GoFundMe Drive

PAN in conjunction with PAN Secretary and Benjamin Franklin actor, Patrick McBride, have created an internet web-based GoFundMe page to raise money to bring renowned Abraham Lincoln actor, Dennis Boggs, to the ANA’s World’s Fair of Money at the David Lawrence Convention Center, in Pittsburgh PA on August 4 – 8 2020. The money generated will cover Dennis’ fee, airfare, hotel stay, etc. McBride as Franklin lives in the Pittsburgh area and his presence carries a minimal cost.

Lincoln and Franklin have appeared together previously, charming young and old alike with their wit, humor and historical tales. Most recently they attended the FUN convention in January and last year’s ANA’s World’s Fair of Money, Chicago. Many dealers, vendors, and attendees enjoyed posing for photos with these historical figures, but most importantly, the children whose eyes lit up and tongue’s tied in the presence of Mr. Lincoln [www.MeetMrLincoln.com](http://www.MeetMrLincoln.com) or Dr. Franklin [www.FranklinAlive.com](http://www.FranklinAlive.com) was priceless. Imagine being 10 years old and able to tell your teacher that you met President Lincoln or Dr. Franklin or BOTH! And what a more wonderful gift could we give our children than the desire to learn. Young collectors are the future of the coin business, and we encourage you make a donation.

Small amounts are encouraged. Ten dollars each from 400 donors will easily reach our goal. Please consider a \$5 Lincoln note or a \$100 Franklin note to get these engaging characters to Pittsburgh this summer. Mail donations are also gladly accepted. Make payable to: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23, #225, White Oak, PA 15131.

The GoFundMe platform is popular and easy to use, and all money raised goes to the cause with no fees. The platform encourages donors to leave a tip that will sustain the service, but you’re able to tip \$0 or any amount if you choose. To donate go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/get-abe-lincoln-to-pittsburgh>.



*Dennis Boggs left and Patrick McBride right.*



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*Happy faces of members of the Burbank Coin Club by all the winners from the door prize drawing during their holiday dinner at an Asian buffet. Good times and food were enjoyed by everybody.*



# Enjoying Your Hobby?

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# The Emerging Hobbyist

by Michael S. Turrini

Greetings!

For this TCN issue, your Emerging Hobbyist columnist will offer his insights and input; rather, than inviting the recent youthful contributors to share their thoughts. They shall be heard in the next TCN.

Before progressing, submissions for this column, as space allows, are encouraged and invited. The diversity of inputs enhances our readers' understanding of the "world of money hobby" and its universality: remember, there is not just one insight and input. Please consider a submission. Length can be from 250 words to 500 or so.

The fall 2019 Fairfield Coin Club meeting at which two unrelated pieces of currency were shared by novice coin hobbyists have sparked this column. The premise is that one should enhance his numismatic enjoyment with *references* and *reading*, you might say "the two R's".

*References* is simple. A serious numismatic pursuer needs books, a small library. For the aforementioned currency at the Fairfield meeting, both would have been easily explained with the proper references being handy and accessible. The Internet and Google searches are options; but, having readily "available to open now" references can answer most any question and provide solid information.

For CSNAers, one asset of CSNA



is its library, its single most enduring service and support to our hobby. The CSNA numismatic library is the oldest and largest west of Colorado Springs, Colorado, home of the ANA library.

Sidebar: the library welcomes on-site research and also welcomes donations of books and like. The library can be contacted via [csnalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:csnalibrary@gmail.com), and is always willing to assist research inquiries, which has become the primary service of our association's library over lending.

Continuing, the other "R" is *reading*. Let me explain with a personal example.

This past July 2019, while attending the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association convention in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, I purchased a rare 1916 German East Africa 15 rupien gold coin. Needless to say, in any world coin catalog or other sources, including Wikipedia, the basic numismatic knowledge would readily be learned.

But, my point is *reading*, and where I learned much more about the history, origin, and background of this 15 rupien was in reading the November 2019 issue of *Sea Classics*. Yes,

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*Sea Classics*, the bimonthly magazine with the banner "Where history sets sail," which is for Navy and merchant marine pursuers. Yes, it is not numismatics.

The history and background for this quite rare one-time only struck gold coin during the First World War, The Great War, involves a German cruiser, *Konigsberg*, among the first attempts of reconnaissance by airplanes, possibly the first attempts to bomb a warship from the air, with primitive bi-planes, and paying loyal native African troops!

All that is as interesting or even more interesting in the coin design, created by a jeweler in then German East Africa, or the gold mined for these coins or the coin's two varieties.

This column is not long enough for the whole history. This is left to the reader. But the story is confirmation that "coins are history in your hands".

My point is by reading you can enhance, enlighten, and expand your numismatic knowledge, and by reading even in diverse and supposedly unrelated magazines, journals, books, and the like.

A serious numismatist needs a solid library or access to solid references, and should be reading. Needless to say, an excellent confirmation of both is in your hands, our award-winning TCN.

Closing, parallel to my commentary here is the great research accomplished by fellow columnist the distinguished Merle V. Avila, confirming that coins (and with his column, tokens) are history in your hands.



# We Get Letters...

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



## RIP Sol Taylor

Hi Greg,

I was real sorry to hear of Sol Taylor's passing.

When I was 16 years old in late 1970 or early 1971, I became the program chairman for the Glendale Coin Club. Long time GCC board member Tom Wood gave me a list of NASC speakers, and it was just a short while before I arranged for Sol to speak at the club. I really got to know him better as we were both active members of NASC. He was a very good speaker and could keep your attention with his good wit and overall knowledge of coins (Lincoln cents were his favorite as most of your readers already know), tokens, and exnumia.

Sol must have attended 90 percent of my numismatic auctions held in Van Nuys between 1982 and 2009. I was very surprised when I read that he also conducted mail bid only sales during that exact time (1982-2009). Like Sol, our firm also conducted 145 auctions!!! What are the odds of that?!

Hope you are doing well. Love *The California Numismatist!* I'm sure I will be visiting the Glendale club

soon as I will be a 50-year member either in late 2020 or early 2021.

All the best,

—**Michael Aron**

*Hi Michael,*

*Yes, it's an adjustment to get used to his absence. I could always rely on Sol to have his material to me early, and often accompanied by side-stories in the transmitting emails. He was an endlessly entertaining man with a long history in the hobby, and his passing is a loss to the community.*

*Congratulations on your own achievement with the Glendale Coin Club; 50 years is a long time, and I know you've been a supporter behind the scenes in many ways. I still have a complete collection of the wooden nickels you sponsored for them!*

*Best regards, Greg*

## Club Activities Perspective

Hi Greg,

Last summer in this publication Mr. Ostromecki decried events that coin clubs hold, like Pizza Night, White Elephant Auction, Hot Dog Picnic Meeting, Club Annual Auction Fundraiser, Ice Cream Social, Bingo



Nights, Other Hobby Night and Club Medal Design. Our club has had three of the ones he mentioned.

Some things he needs to remember: first coin clubs are social events, second people do have other interests, and more importantly, club auctions are a way for clubs to raise money without raising dues.

When we have other types of events, there is still some talk of numismatics. I myself have done presentations on two of my other hobbies. We had one member do a presentation on collecting art.

Walters' article has been on my mind since I read it. I have meant to write this response since.

—Philip L. DeAugustino

## **Passing Of A Coin Hobby Stalwart**

As is so often in the years as we age, another email reported sadly the passing of Gary Acquistapace, of San Jose. A towering presence in San Francisco South Bay organized numismatics, Gary was committed to our hobby for nearly five decades.

His passions were currency and casino chips, as well as other interests. In fact, when he was not at two recent coin club meetings, the feeling was Gary had taken another ocean cruise seeking and searching casino chips. Regretfully, his longtime friend and fellow sojourner in organized numismatics, Al Lo, was to learn of his sudden passing.

My last time conversing with Gary was during the October 2019 Annual Awards Banquet of the Cupertino Coin Club. He came walking very slowly with pain in his legs and back; yet, he came to enjoy the banquet plus

had everything ready for attendees. As usual, those of present received our special banquet chip. He smiled and sat among his friends. He and I exchanged chuckles with our perennial commentary of dislikes and likes in our hobby. Little did I anticipate a tragic passing.

Over the decades, Gary was a consummate numismatic exhibitor, earning many awards. He, in addition, had a lengthy record of service and devotion, having joined in April 1971 the Cupertino Coin Club, particularly dedicating many years as its treasurer. Among his other services was his support to youth numismatics.

His smile, his "I told you so", he was always among the first at the monthly Cupertino Coin Club meeting, plus also always holding the same parking space at the club's meeting venue shall be missed. However, we and our hobby have been enriched and enlightened while Gary was here. We are forged to continue as Gary would hope.

Words and thoughts are always difficult at the passing of someone that you have known or anyone else for that matter. But, I close with these words from a source undocumented and which shall speak from our hearts: "Those we love do not go away; they walk beside us every day: unseen, unheard, but always near; still loved, still missed, and very dear."

RIP, Gary.

—Michael S. Turrini

## **Sdyney M. Kass, Mr. Delta Coin Club**

For many years, even decades, the late Syd Kass would cook a huge pot of chili for the Delta (Stockton)

Coin Club's Annual May Pot Luck. He would carry to the potluck a large slow-cooker and place it at the end of the buffet table, ready with ladle and even hot sauce, for the hungry crowd. Syd would stand, slowly turning the chili. Everyone raved about the homemade chili. Years later, the truth was discovered and calmly reported by his wife, Mary, that it was not from-scratch homemade but some large Nally's cans that he added some seasoning. But, we all still loved Syd's chili.

Syd was an eagle scout, World War II veteran, printer, credit union volunteer and official, newsletter editor, error coin specialist, numismatic exhibitor, local coin club stalwart, and paper money aficionado.

Syd in his quiet and unassuming demeanor, amassed quite a bucket list in his 99-½ years, which included a marriage to Mary that lasted 77 years.

Syd remarked once in passing that he and Mary rather than arrange and wait for a proper church service just drove, while he had a few days Army leave, and were married in Reno.

For this eulogist, my contacts, and sincere admiration, go back to 1981. It was then that Syd and I began a four decade friendship and numismatic passion. Being both "old school", we corresponded via the typewriter and telephone call. Thanks to Syd I joined the Delta Coin Club, and he reciprocated joining my local coin clubs.

Syd was a mentor. The renowned error authority, Fred Weinberg, would credit later in Fred's career, Syd's influence. For this eulogist, Syd enticed involvement with credit unions, even to the point, long after he had retired his credit union involvement spanning

fifty plus years, that I had to inform him of my credit union and its issues, to which his sage encouragement was offered.

Syd was a friend. He met and enjoyed my late mother; via me, he met and bonded with numismatic notables Michael M. "Steamer" Stanley, Clifford L. Mishler, the late Edward C. Rochette, and late Helen and Donald Carmody, to name a few.

Syd was "Mr. Delta Coin Club". That title was bestowed some years ago. He was listed until his passing as an honorary director, and his devotion and dedication to the club were legendary. Even when with a walker and having his longtime sidekick, Dale Olsen, drive him to the semimonthly meetings, Syd would still remind, question, and entice.

Syd was a passionate coin hobbyist. He would assemble much of his collections into binders, labeled to a specific theme or topic. If you wanted some Delta Coin Club collectible, like the famous men's ties, Syd had those, which he graciously gave.

Several of us were anticipating celebrating this July his century, reaching the great age of 100. It did not happen. Yet, in his ten decades, Syd celebrated our world of money for over 90 years, since he began collecting in his youth.

Syd was my mentor and friend. He is now gone. I am loath to end my poor remembrance here, seeking comfort as the tears are cried. Words can be difficult but serenity and solace can be learned from this teaching: "Your lost friends are not dead, but gone before, advanced a stage or two upon that road which you must travel in the steps they trod." RIP, Syd.

—**Michael S. Turrini**

# Numismatic Nostalgia



## Fifty Years Ago

- *The NASC Quarterly* reported the passing of officers/appointees torches in their spring issue of 1970. Among all the changes, President Peggy Borgolte handed off the gavel to incoming President Jim Betton, and Editor William Wisslead turned the publication reins over to Ed McClung.
- Talk about someone who'd seen tremendous change in the world. *Calcoin News* highlighted a member profile of A. G. "Hap" Yeager in 1970, a member of CSNA, Sacramento Valley Coin Club, Davis Coin Club, Double Eagle Coin Club, and many non-numismatic organizations. Hap was born in 1898, and enlisted in the Army in 1916, serving in WWI in the cavalry (they rode *horses!*), and in WWII working for the Air Corps at McClellan Field. In the mid-1960's he ramped up his collecting hobby, serving as officer etcetera for many clubs and associations.



## Twenty-Five Years Ago

- *Calcoin News* reported that the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) was establishing the Ron Miller Award for distinguished service in California numismatics, in memory of Miller, himself a very active numismatist, dealer, and founder of Fremont Coin Club. Miller had been killed during a robbery in his coin shop in 1993.
- *The NASC Quarterly* published a list of prior presidents. How many names do you recognize (in chronological order, 1955-1993)? McCormac, Whitehead, Fanning, Ruby, Dunbar, Williams, Goodson, Bennett, Wood, Brainard, Singer, Snyder, Borgolte, Hall, Borgolte, Betton, Abelson, Wisslead, Greene, Waldorf, Taylor, Reinoehl, MClaffin, Lebold, McInnis, Moore, Borack, Fitzgerald, Hall, Hoogeveen, Ellis, Lebold, Ayers, Colver, and Ostromecki.



## Ten Years Ago

- TCN carried the story of the release of the California state quarter in Sacramento by then-Governor Schwarzenegger, First Lady Maria Shriver, and US Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore on January 1, 2005.



# ANA Educational Outreach

by *Walt Ostromecki*

Have you recently visited the ANA website: [money.org/museum](http://money.org/museum)? If not, you certainly should from an educationally enriching standpoint. This is where individual hobby growth at all levels and for all ages can begin. Knowledge is the key element, the first step if you please, to personal hobby growth enrichment, collecting fun, and satisfaction and long-term numismatic enjoyment!

The ANA website now has 23,676 coin objects available online, all with obverse and reverse images plus basic data: issuer, date, country, weight, description, etc. The online collection is available for viewing by not only ANA members, but free for the general public as well at [www.money.org/money-museum-collection](http://www.money.org/money-museum-collection).

Did you know that after an ANA website visit you or anyone can put together a numismatic talk on just about any form of money, US or foreign; date, mintmark and denomination of US and foreign coinage; an overview of US low mintage issues in copper, silver and gold; ancients, tokens, odd and curious, US and foreign paper money, even badges, medals and error coinage. And many individual clubs and club members have already done so! Its one way coin club meetings can get back to their founding principle, numismatic education and fellow hobbyist enrichment rather than just primarily being social, auction, and raffle

ticket-focused monthly gatherings.

The ANA website also features virtual money exhibits with more on the way. Currently, available is a 20-case virtual exhibit entitled “Money of the Empire” ([www.money.org/money-museum/virtual-exhibits/moe](http://www.money.org/money-museum/virtual-exhibits/moe)). Others programs include: “Money of the Commonwealth”; “Canadian Money”; “Paper Money of Great Britain”; and “Trenches to Treaties: WWI in Remembrance” (24 cases).

Another outstanding educational feature is entitled: “Tales from the Vault” ([www.money.org/tales-from-the-vault](http://www.money.org/tales-from-the-vault)), a series of articles that feature objects in the Money Museum’s collection that do not often get to see the light of day—again all fine programs worthy of presentation at any coin club meeting or even at a coin show or educational outreach forum.

Yes, websites are impersonal versus face to face discussions. But in today’s digital world hosting a live Skype one-on-one chat or a “Basic Numismatic 101 Beginner Class” can make it far more personal in nature.

Any knowledgeable hobby leader-mentor with a computer can setup and host an individual talk or a regular (weekly or monthly) introductory program with FAQ’s. These can often be free of charge through Skype for any hobby or non-profit organization. I know from personal experience they do work. I’ve conducted sever-

al one-on-one discussions and two introductory Q&A-style beginner one-hour sessions under both the ANA and NASC banners—the largest attendance being 14. That alone, for a single one-hour session, translated into 14 new contacts and prospective future numismatic collectors and club/organization members.

Now, the \$64 question, how many of the 14 became members of ANA and or NASC as a result? ANA after a couple of individual discussions, 8 including two youth! And, NASC after individual follow ups and viewing the beginner and personal coin hobby growth material posted on the NASC Website, 3. One additional also joined after viewing the first few pages of a few TCN quarterlies.

Today's prospective hobbyist is first and foremost seeking knowledge, period. They want to be educated about the fascinating hobby of numismatics, pure and simple—a place or person to learn from about collecting Lincoln cents to Morgan dollars, type coins, currency, tokens, etc.

They will go to a website, club, organization, or person where they can find whatever information they are searching for—basic collecting information on a myriad of topics “they need to know” before getting involved in the hobby—the tips for selecting a coin dealer, the value of buying coins at a show versus online, investing, coin grading, counterfeit detection, how to store a collection, estate planning, etc.

Today too many coins groups and meetings continue to focus on long-standing social affairs and traditions to appease their older base. Today's next generation of future

collectors of all ages are looking for information, personal numismatic growth opportunities, and an ongoing mentor. They are searching the Internet thirsting for knowledge, instruction, and guidance.

The NASC.net website has added much needed educational outreach enrichment information content geared to entice, attract, inform and educate new coin hobby seekers of all ages and collecting interests.

Recently two out-of-state individuals joined the NASC for four reasons: the quality and amount of resource information, hobby growth how-to-tips; a FAQ mentorship contact person for support and encouragement; and the top caliber quarterly TCN.

Adam from Texas shared his thoughts on the value of the NASC website with me. Excerpts from his email: “Wow...the NASC website content was just what I was looking for...I know I can learn so much from NASC as a result...sign me up for three years...dues sent via PayPal.”

Phil from New Mexico said the following: “...what an outstanding source of new and basic postings that every prospective new collector should know so as to make a well informed decision before blindly jumping into the numismatic hobby on a whim... tips on does and don'ts are vital to encouraging an enjoyable fulfilling life-long fellowship with numismatics....(and) a mentorship concept program will ensure an individual's numismatic growth by any contact means including an Internet face to face or regularly scheduled follow up telephone call or email. This new NASC member gives the NASC a hearty thumbs up!”

# Goings On

by Greg Burns



NASC hasn't had an official board meeting since the Golden State Coin Show (GSCS) in August 2019, though things seem to be moving along just fine in the meantime. I've not heard of a new meeting being scheduled, though other than at the GSCS typically held in August of every year they're often held in a complimentary room at the Long Beach Expo. I'd assume we'll have an update in the next TCN.

CSNA has had two board meetings in the past several months. One during the December convention in Arcadia, and a second via telephone in February. Some of the material overlaps, and some of the December material is moot following the February meeting, but I'll report on at least a bit of the first event and wrap up with the second, along with some other very recent material.

In December, CSNA Treasurer Lloyd Chan passed along that the coffers held \$39,951.00, with \$14,057.82 of that in a CD bearing 1.5%. Income mid-December year to date was \$12,724 (still collecting income from the December show at that time).

Phil Iversen agreed to take on the task to visit Historian Joyce Kuntz' home and make an inventory of the CSNA dies that were stored there. Phil reported there were an estimated 100 dies as well as a selection of medals. Disposition yet to be decided.

The 2020 December show was the swan song for Howard Feltham's handling the bourse. That will tip to

Dennis Hogan going forward, with Howard's sage guidance to help Dennis. We'll still have a shortage of set-up, teardown, and during-show help (registration desk, whatever), so Dennis will certainly appreciate any offers of assistance.

The perception was raised during the meeting that it's difficult to get individuals to join both CSNA and NASC, with many people opting for one or the other to enable a TCN subscription, which means the one of them misses out on a possible member. I know I'm happy to maintain a year-to-year membership in both, simply because the dues are dirt-cheap and they help to support the hobby in general (seriously, some folks spend more money on their weekly Starbucks habit). Frankly, I think they should both raise their dues. I've joined other groups as well (TAMS, CWTS, RCNA, whatever) and I think for value-for-dollar both CSNA and NASC shine. Of course, at the same time neither is on the ropes financially, but both would love to have a bit more income and reserves to enable some of the nicer things that have been dropped in recent years (annual medals used to be routinely produced by both, and we had special medals for literary award winners that I've not been able to confer for several years now, the supply having been depleted).  
CSNA President Dennis Hogan an-

nounced the creation of a new appointed position: director of membership. George Magann will be stepping into that role to start with. I'm not sure if this is intended to be a temporary situation or not, but at some point should be reconciled within the association bylaws.

Phil Iversen used a list of Californian members of the ANA with that organization's permission, and with a mailing he put out he was able to pick up 13 new members for CSNA. Great job, Phil!

There was some discussion on getting enameled lapel pins with the CSNA logo. They sounded fairly inexpensive (a couple bucks apiece at most), but no decision was made, deferring to further gathering of information and options.

The board also discussed matching NASC's offer of free membership to all California-based coin clubs, and if I recall correctly that passed, limited at this time to 2020 and 2021 (new clubs or renewals).

A vote was taken and passed to again join the Numismatic Association of Northern California in a collaborative educational symposium (same as last year), with CSNA contributing \$1,500 towards the event. We'll have more info on that event in the next issue of TCN, but the planned date is November 21, so you can mark it in your calendars now.

Near the end of the meeting it was brought up that Dorothy Baber would have her 100th birthday on May 10, 2020, so there were statements of best wishes and congratulations that followed that. Dorothy (or "Dot") is a past president of CSNA (circa 1988-91), and a long time ardent supporter

of the association. Happy birthday, Dorothy!

CSNA President Hogan also announced that he had awarded Stephen Huston a special "Outstanding Service Award" plaque (see page 57) for "sustained superior service" to CSNA for Stephen's decades of support to the association, most recently as data manager overseeing membership software and generating the mailing list used by TCN. Stephen has previously received the CSNA top honor, the Medal of Merit.

That pretty much wrapped up the December CSNA board meeting, which then brings us to the February meeting just a month or so ago that was held by telephone.

Lloyd lead off with a treasurer's report, though looking at the December notes I must have recorded something wrong somewhere, as this go-around we have \$21,490.34 in checking, \$25,402.03 in a CD, and a Paypal balance of \$692.98, for a total of \$47,585.35. Maybe the difference was the final accounting from the December show. Accounts receivable include an additional \$1,700 due from NASC for their portion of TCN expenses.

Director of Membership George Magaan reported that 10 clubs had taken up the free membership offer for California coin clubs.

Though Director of Education - South Jim Phillips at this time provided info on the planned educational symposium in Carlsbad in May, as of TCN publication time here in March it turns out that coronavirus concerns have caused that event to be postponed. So if you had this on your calendar, please update it to note that

the event will *not* be held. We don't want folks showing up unnecessarily and being both inconvenienced and disappointed. Hopefully we'll have more information on that in the next TCN, or you can always check the website [calcoin.org](http://calcoin.org) for the latest scoop. Seems like a lot of club meetings and convention/show events have been cancelled due to this sensitivity to public gatherings and the desire to limit folks physical proximity and interaction.

It was reported that Michael Turrini generously donated \$500 to cover the CSNA library's rent for the year. Thanks so much, Michael! That's very impressive financial support, in addition to your many years advocating for CSNA, holding positions of trust within the association, and your vigorous general promotion of hobby interests both domestically and internationally.

The final accounting for the December show resulted in a reported profit of \$5,079.34! Great job, team! The 2020 event will be held December 18, 19, and 20, and the same Arcadia Masonic Hall has been reserved for the next five years. Starting in 2021 and going forward it will be held during the second week of December.

Phil Iversen reported an additional 17 new members from his previous mailing to the list provided by the ANA. Great job, Phil! Just as in years past, this approach has proven to be a productive membership recruitment technique. Now the trick is to offer enough membership advantages that folks decide to maintain their membership as active in future years.

Phil also updated everyone on his count of the CSNA medal dies

at Joyce Kuntz' home as being 85. Joyce also reported that she had 103 of the CSNA silver medals that had been struck in going back many years, and would transfer those to Howard Feltham to be the custodian of them. Disappointingly, *not* found during the search were the perpetually missing "President's Medals" funded by Michael Turrini during his presidency, intended as honorary recognition to significant contributors at the discretion of the CSNA president. It's a mystery where they disappeared to, but the group remains hopeful that they'll turn up and the continuity of their presentation resurrected.

In preparation for a CSNA election later this year, Joyce Kuntz agreed to take on the chair position of a nominating committee, being helped by the team of Dennis Hogan, George Magaan, and Philip De Augustino. If you have a nomination to suggest please do send it in (contact info on the officers page of this TCN).

We voted to move ahead with the order of the CSNA logo lapel pins at a cost of \$2.79 each for 100, to be sold to members for a nominal cost of \$3 or \$4 each. Very inexpensive. Look for something perhaps in the next issue of TCN on how to get yours. We also discussed medals of a similar nature, and believe we've identified viable yet inexpensive sources, but will acquire some additional quotes and look more closely at costs before making a final decision.

A serious problem was addressed during the meeting that had been growing over the past several years, and especially the last several months, and that corrective action was the suspension of Don Hill as a CSNA mem-



## NASC Election!

This is an election year for NASC. Our policies and procedures say that Vice President Don Berry ([dberry@pressedsales.com](mailto:dberry@pressedsales.com)) is charged with collecting the nominations for our officer and board positions and presenting those to the board by the end of the first quarter of the year. Of course, if there are any contested positions, we'll move forward with an election. So, if you have nominations for officers/board members, please let Don know. And if you're a current officer/board member, expect that Don will be contacting you soon to confirm how you wish to serve the NASC in the next term. Thank you all again for the time you put into NASC!—**Mike Kittle**



ber and his removal from the positions of librarian and corresponding secretary. The stated cause was the long-going nonperformance of the essential functions of the corresponding secretary's position, resulting in detriment to the association, its members, and its reputation. A discussion was held regarding his lack of communication with officials, and options for the association to pursue if all the materials related are not returned (especially as related to the corresponding secretary position, such as membership records, recent membership applications, etcetera). Messy, counter-productive, and very unpleasant for everyone to have to deal with this action, but hopefully the distasteful activity will be short-lived and replacements for those key positions will be up and functioning as quickly as possible. It's a mystery why this situation developed, but I suppose there are even stranger things in life.

As a "go-along" with the above, the actual CSNA membership files as

well as many of the recent applications for membership (maybe over the last 12 months?) are in a bit of a haphazard status at the moment. So if your CSNA membership seems honked-up, or if you know of an acquaintance who feels there's something amiss with their membership, please do contact George Magaan at [gcmagann@hotmail.com](mailto:gcmagann@hotmail.com) to solicit his help getting it unhonked. I'm sure he'll respond with remarkable alacrity and get things settled promptly.

CSNA's February telephone meeting concluded without setting a follow-on meeting date or time, but I'm assuming one will be defined prior to the next TCN, so will have news of it there if not already held, and readers are always encouraged to visit CSNA's website at [calcoin.org](http://calcoin.org), as well as NASC's at [nasc.net](http://nasc.net), for the very latest information pertaining to each of the associations.



# Around the State...



## Club Reporter—North

*Michael S. Turrini*

*P.O. Box 4003*

*Vallejo, CA 94590-0400*

*emperori@juno.com*

## Club Reporter—South

*Virginia Bourke*

*10601 Vista Camino*

*Lakeside, CA 92040-1605*

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**Ginny's Gleanings:** Thankfully the pace has slowed just a little from all the festivities in November and December. Take a breath before things get hectic again as spring approaches.

Congratulations to Heartland Coin Club for garnering the CSNA “Coin Club of the Year” award presented at the banquet in Arcadia during CSNA’s annual coin show. Jim Phillips has been visiting as many coin clubs that he can to publicize the upcoming 52nd CSNA Educational Symposium, May 2, in Carlsbad. He is taking over the reins from Phil Iversen who has been providing speakers for the symposium for many years. Dorothy Baber will turn 100 on May 9 and cards would be great (611 Oakwood St., El Cajon, CA 92021—she doesn’t want gifts). “Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”—Malcolm X

**Michael's Musings:** First, it would be nice that local northern California coin clubs provide, preferably hard copy/conventionally mailed, copies of respected newsletters/bulletins. It has been some time since the Stanislaus County (Modesto) Coin Club, Sacramento Valley Coin Club, and the Gateway (Merced) Coin Club have sent or mailed any newsletter/bulletin to your assistant editor, even my personal copy as a member! Hum? Second, reporting and crediting becomes a burden and chore when local coin clubs do not respond. Contacts from our several local northern California coin clubs would be welcomed and encouraged. Your assistant editor can be reached via EMPERORI@juno.com and at PO Box 4003, Vallejo, California, 94590-0400. In the meantime, *work hard, play fair, and give back, making our hobby the best!*

## Club Reports...

**ALAMEDA COIN CLUB** issues a short electronic monthly newsletter which summarizes the agenda and any intended program. *The Island Coin Club* continues, and **Michael Turrini** renewed through 2023! The ACC had several members attending the December Joint Christmas Party of their neighbors, the Fairfield Coin Club and Vallejo Numismatic Society, and seating and sharing an assigned ACC table. The highlight for them was that their former “sparkplug” **Past President Herbert Miles** was serving as the party’s emcee. Herb used the time to reconnect and learn updates.

**ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES** **John Borneman** recently purchased an impressive tetradrachm of Seleucos I Nikator featuring the head of Herakles. New officers were installed in December: **President Joseph Geisinger**, **Vice President Roger Burry**, **Secretary Michael Connor**, and **Treasurer Bob Effler**. Mike shared his stunning Aigina (coin spelling) stater featuring a beautiful turtle. Congratulations to **Barry Rightman** for receiving Honorary Life Membership after 50 years of membership. **Randy Butler** was awarded the coveted Barbara Rightman Award. **Javier Williams** provided the February program, *Visigothic Coinage: Standing up to the Empire*.

**BAY CITIES COIN CLUB** members celebrated their 75th installation dinner at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Manhattan Beach in January. There were many gold coins among the prizes to be given out. **Bernie Malis** always gives me the club information.

**BURBANK COIN CLUB** New Town Buffet was the setting for the Christmas party. There were many nice prizes won by **George**, **Dustin**, and **Don**, with **Phil** winning the gold! Four bottles of bubbly libation were won by George.

**CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB** The November meeting program was the annual donation auction which garnered over \$500 for gifts and prizes. At the Christmas party/potluck in December members were thrilled with the assortment of numismatic items chosen by **VP Ted Koopman** as gifts to each member. In January the Installation Dinner was held at the Family Pancake House in National City. Winners of the Participation Awards were hard-working couple **Treasurer David** and **Glenda Corcoran** who both received a prize and **President Steve Fahrlander**. The 50/50 pot brought in \$94 and a very happy **Al Zimmer** won \$47. In February, **Doug Hildenbrandt** shared his collection of Chinese Lunar Year coins. **David Rossi** shared a large gold coin from Sierra Leone depicting a tiger with diamonds in its eyes. The diamonds sparkle making it appear that the tiger is alive.

**COINEERS** **Andrew Woodruff** won Best of Show at the December CSNA coin show for his exhibit, “Los Angeles Olympic Coins”. Congratulations. The residence of **Brent** was the setting for the installation dinner for new officers. They

are **President Wayne Joy**, **Vice President Richard Tritz**, **Secretary Darlene Cervantes**, and Treasurer/Editor Andrew Woodruff.

**COVINA COIN CLUB** *Bingo* was the entertainment at the Christmas party with very nice prizes to the winners including two \$5 gold coins from Australia and Canada. No wonder there were more than 50 members attending. The speaker in January was **John Plaia** talking about *Becoming a Coin Dealer*. Members were seen taking notes. The new officers are **President Ron Noseworthy**, **Vice President Mark Baskin**, **Secretary Helen Desens**, and **Treasurer/Editor Dennis Rocklein**.

**CUPERTINO COIN CLUB** Sad news: The club's longtime member, plus many years its treasurer and stalwart booster, **Gary W. Acquistapace** passed away this past December suddenly. His longtime sojourner, **Al Lo**, wondering why Gary had missed the December meeting, which was unusual, checked his home only to learn of his passing. The club coordinated a well-attended celebration of life on January 31, which attracted members, fellow neighboring local coin club members, and Gary's family. In fitting tribute, along with a short Powerpoint plus eulogies and remembrances, the club funded Gary's favorite treat: Togo sandwiches. **Michael Turrini**, **Donald L. Hill**, and "**Doctor**" **Lloyd G. Chan** attended representing CSNA. As a note, Gary was a frequent award winning exhibitor at CSNA Northern California Conventions over the many years. This year marks this club's 50th anniversary.

**DELTA COIN CLUB** held its Annual Awards and Installation Banquet January 10 at the upscale and exclusive Elkhorn Country Club in Stockton. The banquet was coordinated by dedicated **Ron** and **Joyce Korock**, who double as the club's treasurer and recording secretary. The evening had presentations and the installation of the club's 2020 officers. **Jay Coffey** succeeds **Ed Hohe** as the club's new president. For the first time in five decades, "Mr. Delta Coin Club", Syd Kass, due to a momentary health issue, was unable to attend.

**DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** heard **Scott D. Griffin**, with *Future of Coin Collecting* at its January meeting, and **Robert E. Luna**, *Peace Dollars*, at its February meeting. The society's 2020 officers were installed at the January 16 meeting by neighboring coin hobbyist **Ed Hoffmark**; they are: **Robert E. Luna**, president; **Kyle Anderson**, vice-president; **Charles Ludvik**, treasurer; and **David Davis**, secretary and editor. Directors are **Bill Hickman**, **Janet Kinney**, and **Neil Robertson**. This year marks this society's 60th anniversary.

**DOWNEY COIN CLUB** **Albertus Hoogeveen** is an especially busy man and he forgot to forward me this club's activities. I know they are doing well.

**FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB** Sad news: the club's past president and devoted booster, **Robert W. Belleau, Sr.**, passed away this past December; he shall

always be remembered for his devotion to the club and hobby plus as “Newspaper Bob”. Reelected **David J. Trimmingham**, president; **William F. Bartz**, vice president; and **Scott D. Griffin**, treasurer; and **David J. Trimmingham**, again doubling as secretary and editor. **Michael Turrini** installed these officers at the club’s February meeting. In January meeting Turrini spoke on *Enhancing Your Numismatics*, with an emphasis on references and reading. The club’s highest award, the coveted Rich Neily Award, was bestowed on **Gene** and **Lori Berry** in December during the club’s and Vallejo Numismatic Society’s Joint Christmas Party.

**FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** heard member **James Johnson** at its January meeting speak on *Teddy Roosevelt and Coin Designs of 1907*: “Roosevelt was instrumental in getting new Eagle and Double Eagle designed by Augustus St. Gaudens. Roosevelt described the existing designs as ‘soggy, cold oatmeal’ and believed the new designs reflecting the world-class quality of the United States were needed.” James collects ten dollar eagles of this series and had several on display. Sidebar: this society is proud to report its new meeting room allows cell and smartphone reception. **Michael Turrini** remembers once that local coin club meetings were more interested where the closest paid telephone was to be located! Wow! What a change.

**GLENDALE COIN CLUB** **Brian Drouin** won the November top prize, a four ounce silver \$20 BVI John Kennedy coin graded MS 69 by NGC. Generous **Gordon O’Rourke** of Citi-Coin donated a 1/10 ounce gold eagle and 20 one-ounce silver rounds for prizes. Five games of *Bingo* were played at the Christmas party. **Red** and **Judy Henry** won the 1945 Mexican dos pesos and \$137.50, half of the *Bingo* profits. Nice! **Ron Noseworthy** took home the 1/10 ounce gold eagle. The eagerly awaited club medals minted by Daniel Carr arrived in time for the January meeting. Members all agreed they were beautiful. The program was a panel of **John Duff**, **Don Berry**, **Michael Kittle**, and **Gordon O’Rourke** discussing estate planning relating to coin collecting. Refreshments were served by the Berry family.

**GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB** In November **Harvey Gamer** covered the subject of the medals of Edward VII of Britain and **Greg Provencher** brought the goodies. The annual potluck was held in December.

**HEARTLAND COIN CLUB** Several members met at President Jose Gallego’s home to sort through over 40 pounds of tokens, medals, etc., donated to the club by the family of a recently deceased member. The Christmas/potluck and *White Elephant Sale* in December was held at the Ronald Reagan Convention Center. All the members received a gift. **Jeff Campbell** did a great job of entertaining as well as auctioning off the donations. New officers for 2020 were installed at the installation dinner in February at Jimmy’s Restaurant in Santee. The officers are **President Jose Gallego**, **1st Vice President Andrew Woodruff**, **2nd Vice**

**President Jeff Campbell, Treasurer Darlene Cervantes, Corresponding Secretary Frank Darvalics, and Recording Secretary Ginny Bourke.**

**HEMET COIN CLUB Jim Phillips** presented a Powerpoint program in November, *Fractional Currency*. **Phil DeAugustino** was presented the President's Award at the CSNA banquet and named Numismatist of the Year. Jim Phillips was awarded 2nd place at the banquet as editor of the *Hemet Newsletter*. At the Hemet Christmas party, **Rafael Flores** and **Dennis Hogan** were both presented with President's Awards. New 2020 officers are **President Dennis Hogan, Treasurer Rafael Flores, Corresponding Secretary Jim Phillips, and Recording Secretary Bill Pearson**. They are looking for a vice president.

**INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO Joe Yager** shared his type set of early Israeli coins and provided a Powerpoint program in October. **Ken Spindler** shared three binders of coins featuring Israel, Palestine, Yemen, and Saudi coins. **Mike Shaw** spoke on his large Iranian Order of the Lion and Sun medal he had brought. **Ken Aring** shared his extensive collection of Islamic paper money. **Larry Baber** educated the members with his presentation in November *Great Britain Maundy Coinage*. Members brought items from countries with roots to Great Britain.

**LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** reports that its "every position guru" **Bill Hurja** was honored with an ANA Certificate of Recognition for his intense service to the LNS! Congrats, Bill! The Camino Coin, of Burlingame, donated a 1/10 ounce gold eagle to the society's year-ending Attendance Drawing; the winner was "Mr. S. Mint", **Edgar D. Fulwider**.

**LONG BEACH COIN CLUB Mary** and **John Sunada** provided the program in January telling of their efforts to locate the WWII medals that her father earned. It was quite a story! The annual banquet was held at Denny's Restaurant in Lakewood. It was well attended with gifts for all. **Steven Schultze** spoke in February on collecting Eisenhower dollars.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION** and CSNA are joining for a second joint Northern California Numismatic Forum later in 2020. Speakers and theme have been confirmed, and the date with venue is Saturday, November 17, returning to the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum in Vallejo, California. NCNA also reports that **Herbert Miles**, now living in Southern California, was 2019 honoree of the coveted Miller Medal. NCNA's other award, the esteemed Donnell Award, was recently bestowed on **Gene Berry** of San Pablo, and **Matthew L. Malvini**, of San Jose.

**PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Elected its 2020 officers: **Jason Macario**, president; **Bob Somers**, secretary; and **Stephen M. Huston**, treasurer; with the vice-president position vacant. At the January meeting, internationally

known numismatist **David McCarthy** shared his research on *The Continental Currency Medal*.

**PENINSULA COIN CLUB** ended 2019 with its famous Mega-Drawing that earned the club a \$100 profit, but left **Michael Turrini** a loser! LOL! To assist the club financially, the club encourages patrons, who donate cash.

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB** TCN readers are aware that **Merle V. Avila**, now in his 26th or more year as the RECC's president, writes a column for this quarterly. Merle is known nationally and abroad for his token expertise. His knowledge and his RECC service were recognized this past December with an ANA Certificate of Recognition. **Dr. Charles Catlett** shared "his best of 2019" with an emotional review and history of the *Lodz Ghetto Currency of the Holocaust*. An excellent numismatic remembrance from the Second World War.

**SAN BERNARDINO COIN CLUB** The 19th Annual Banquet was held at the Senior Center in Highland. Appointed members brought turkey, gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce, etc., and delicious desserts. Prizes were generously provided. **Ken Crum** provided beautiful table decorations which became prizes after the dinner. The January meeting featured an *Extended Show and Tell* where members brought in their weird, extraordinary, and unique numismatic items. After many years of service **Donna Rutherford** is hanging up her hat as editor of *The Coin Press*. The new editor is **Cheryl Lannon**.

**SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** The guest speaker in December was noted paper money collector **Andrew Woodruff** who covered the subject of US large denomination notes of the 20th century. Not many people collected \$10,000 notes and they are quite rare. **Gary Beals** is a resident of Spain but he was a charter member of INSSD and is in San Diego visiting. Gary offered to be a speaker at the installation dinner before he returns to Spain. His topic was *How the Spanish Silver Ingot Traveled in the Treasure Fleets to Spain in the 16th and 17 Centuries*. Gary used Powerpoint and it was fascinating. Texan member **Paul Whitnah** donated a \$50 gift certificate as a participating prize. It was won by **Mike Shaw**. Other winners were **Ken Spindler**, **Steve Fahrlander**, and **Jim Hunt**. SDNS invited the INSSD members to attend the banquet and several members took advantage to hear Gary's talk. He has written several books and is renowned for his expertise on Spanish coins.

**VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** proudly notes that CSNA treasurer and well-known numismatist "the great 'Doctor' **Lloyd G. Chan**" was honored with its coveted service medal this past December. In addition, **Donald L. Hill** was recognized with the Joint President's Award. Doing these presentations was **Kimberly S. Kiick**, ANA executive director, who traveled out to northern California. Kim also presented several ANA Certificate of Recognitions. In appreciation, both the VNS and the Fairfield Coin Club made Kim titled "Honorary

Member". The two groups held their respective Joint Christmas Party at which every attendee received a silver eagle, including Kim's mother, who accompanied her. She called it "an early holiday silver gift"! The party's 50/50 Drawing earned Don Hill \$1310! Yes, \$1310.00! Don shared it (some or all) with his wife, **Earlene Miller**.

**VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB Past President Don Berry** presented his story and journey through the world of coins in November, *How I Got to Where I Am*. A special holiday cake was the featured dessert in December with members bringing other goodies. New officers were also installed. They are **President Brian Drouin, 1st Vice President John Duff, 2nd Vice President Albertus Hoogeveen, Secretary Judy Henry, and Editor Bob Thompson**. Nine games of *Bingo* were played with special prizes. *Blackout Bingo* featured a dos pesos gold coin won by Albertus. Albertus also won the 1/10 ounce US eagle. Members are working hard on their upcoming free *Youth Coin Auction*, with over 50 lots, scheduled for March 22 in the La Crescenta Library Community Room.

**WHITTIER COIN CLUB** This club forgot to mail me any of its activities so I assume it is doing well; after all it was founded in 1959!

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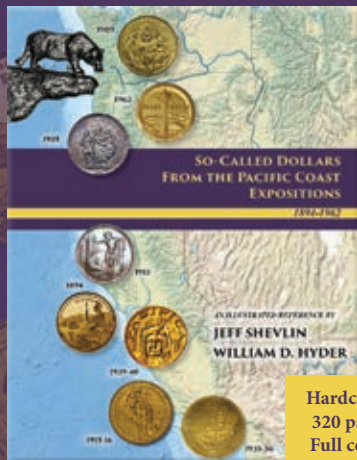
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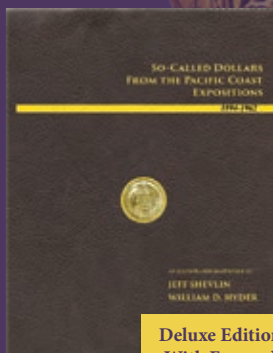
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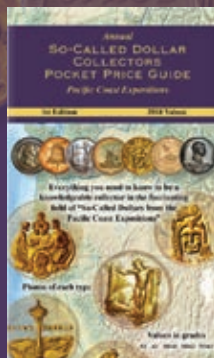
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# Directory of Member Clubs

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

- Alameda Coin Club**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 2880, Alameda, CA 94501-0880. (CSNA)
- Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles**—meets 2nd Sunday, 1:00 p.m., Skirball Cultural Center, Classroom 160, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles; mailing address: Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 2364, Reseda, CA 91337; Website: [www.accla.org](http://www.accla.org); email [klf1031@roadrunner.com](mailto:klf1031@roadrunner.com). (NASC)
- Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Westchester Recreational Center, 7160 West Manchester Ave., Los Angeles; mailing address: P.O. Box 45233, Los Angeles, CA 90045. (NASC)
- Burbank Coin Club**—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Joslyn Center (Nutrition Room), 1301 W. Olive Ave., Burbank; mailing address: c/o Don Fujitani, 215 Cedar Heights Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. (NASC)
- California State Numismatic Association**—meets up to twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: Don Hill, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590; email: [csnalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:csnalibrary@gmail.com); Website: [www.calcoin.org](http://www.calcoin.org). (NASC)
- Chula Vista Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., San Diego County Library, Bonita Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: [www.chulavistacoinclub.org](http://www.chulavistacoinclub.org). (CSNA, NASC)
- Coiners Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA, NASC)
- Covina Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., San Dimas Royal Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 1630 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas.; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (CSNA, NASC)
- Cupertino Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph of Cupertino Church, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; email: [CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com](mailto:CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com); Website: [www.cupertinocoinclub.org](http://www.cupertinocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Delta Coin Club of California**—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 690761, Stockton, CA 95269-0761; email: [deltacoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:deltacoinclub@gmail.com). (CSNA)
- DHHS Numismaniacs Coin Club**—meets periodically, Dana Hills High School, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, CA; Mrs. Mary Danna (club advisor), email: [dhhsnumismaniacs@gmail.com](mailto:dhhsnumismaniacs@gmail.com) or text [@DHHSNumismaniacs](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/00299a00000000000000) to 23559 for updates about the club. (NASC)
- Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Museum & Event Center, 1928 Clayton Road, Concord; contact: President Robert E. Luna, 707-980-0618; email: [info@diablocoinclub.org](mailto:info@diablocoinclub.org); Website: [www.diablocoinclub.org](http://www.diablocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Downey Numismatists**—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)

- Edmonton Numismatic Society (Canada)**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:15 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion Br #255, 10427 174th St NW., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5T 6A1; email: info\_ens@yahoo.ca. (NASC)
- Fairfield Coin Club**—meets 4th Wednesday (except December), 7:00 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall #1, corner of First and Kentucky Streets, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094. (CSNA)
- Fremont Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Elks Club, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538-0140; Website: www.FremontCoinClub.org. (CSNA)
- Fresno Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Center, 2992 E. Clinton Ave. Fresno ; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525; email: admin@fresnocoinclub.com; Website: www.fresnocoinclub.com. (CSNA)
- Glendale Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:00 p.m., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: GCC, c/o Michael Kittle, P.O. Box 388, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0388; email: mike@kittlecoins.com; Website: www.GlenCoin.com. (NASC)
- Greater Orange County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church, 2845 Mesa Verde Dr. E. Costa Mesa; mailing address: 2032 Kornat Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; email: bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net; phone: (714) 546-0931; Website: www.occoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Heartland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Rec. Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: P.O. Box 191448, San Diego, CA 92159; email: jmgallego@losgallego.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Hemet Numismatists**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; mailing address: P.O. Box 36, Hemet, CA 92546. (CSNA, NASC)
- International Numismatic Society of San Diego**—meets 4th Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., North Park Adult Rec. Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176; Website: www.inssd.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Las Vegas Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Sunday, 3:00 p.m., University United Methodist Church, 4412 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; Website: http://lasvegascoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Leisure World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Mike Supple, 13421 Del Monte Rd., #24D, Seal Beach, CA 90740; email: supplemike5@gmail.com. (NASC)
- Liberty Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Website: LNS.ANAclubs.org. (CSNA)
- Livermore Valley Coin Club**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd., Livermore; mailing address: P.O. Box 610, Livermore, CA 94550. (CSNA)
- Long Beach Coin Club**—meets 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m., Millikan High School Cafeteria, 2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach; mailing address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808. (CSNA, NASC)
- Northern California Numismatic Association**—mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; email: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA)
- Numismatic Association of Southern California**—meets four times per year; mailing address: Walt Ostromecki, 5914 Hesperia Avenue, Encino, CA 91316-1014; email: ostromecki@money.org; Website: www.NASC.net. (CSNA)
- Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Website: www.pens.org. (CSNA)

- Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists**—meets at PAN conventions; mailing address: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131; email: pancoins@gmail.com; Website: www.pancoins.org. (CSNA)
- Polk County Coin Club (Oregon)**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, Monmouth, OR; John Brown, (503) 362-9123; email: brownjohnheil65@gmail.com. (NASC)
- Redwood Empire Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: 5850 Commerce Blvd., Suite 100, Rohnert Park, CA 94928; Website: www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com. (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 311141, Fontana, CA 92331-1141. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council**—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 10:00 a.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: www.coinarama.org. (CSNA)
- San Diego Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard St., San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Jose Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Website: www.sanjosecoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Santa Maria Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave. Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA, NASC)
- Stanislaus County Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-1672; Website: www.stancocoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Upland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Saturday (January-November) and 2nd Saturday (December), 2:30 p.m., 331 East I Street (private residence), Ontario; email: Sandragk57@gmail.com. (NASC)
- Vallejo Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador, Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; email: EmperorI@juno.com; phone: (707) 642-0216 or (707) 246-6327. (CSNA)
- Verdugo Hills Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)
- Visalia Coin Club**—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Amigos Restaurant (Banquet Room), 5113 W. Walnut Ave., Visalia; email: bill.terry@sbcglobal.net. (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 2nd Friday, 6:00 p.m., 10005 S. Cole Rd., Whittier, East Whittier United Methodist Church; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Ave., La Habra, CA 90631; email: phil.chang540@gmail.com. (CSNA, NASC)

# Farewells

## **Gary Lee Acquistapace**

7/14/1942 - 12/13/2019, resident of Willow Glen, a noted numismatist, and strong and supportive presence in several coin clubs, including Fremont, San Jose, and his most recent and active Cupertino Coin Club. He wore many hats as treasurer, curator, mentor, and he chaired numerous committees and events. Gary graduated from San Jose State College with several master degrees in a variety of subjects. He was an Army veteran during the Vietnam War, an extensive world traveler, and an avid bowler. See extended material in the "Letters to the Editor" column.



## **Robert W. Belleau, Sr.**

Fairfield Coin Club reports the club's past president and devoted booster passed away also this past December 2019; he shall always be remembered for his devotion to the club and hobby plus as "Newspaper Bob".

## **Glenn Franks**

2/19/2020, president emeritus of the Covina Coin Club passed after a short period in the hospital. Glenn was husband to Carol, a proud veteran (as attested by his hat in the photo, Glenn was a USAF veteran), and ardent support of many area clubs and the NASC. At the recent Golden State Coin Show hosted by NASC in August of 2019, Glenn won a second place exhibit award for his display of an original copy of the The New York Herald newspaper (4/15/1865) announcing the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.



## **Sydney Maurice Kass**

7/24/1920 - 2/19/2020, native Stocktonian, member of Delta Coin Club. He graduated from Stockton High School and served in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. He was a lithographer with Fibreboard Corporation for over 30 years. A lifelong numismatist, he was one of the longest serving members of Stockton's Delta Coin Club, serving in a variety of executive officer positions. He also was a longtime member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and Mended Hearts. See extended material in the "Letters to the Editor" column.



## **Claire Abelson**

Wife of NASC President Benjamin Abelson (1971). Was active with NASC back in that time period, volunteering for a variety of roles, and in 1999 was jointly honored along with her husband, with the Richard P. Goodson award.

## **Carol Richardson**

Carol was a TCN reader, and your editor seems to recall that Carol was a volunteer in NASC history, though moved to Roseville many years ago and no longer active as such.

## **William Swoger**

Reported by NASC corresponding secretary. William was a TCN reader residing in Lake Odessa, Michigan.

# Calendar of Events



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

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

- March 22      **Verdugo Hills Coin Club's Coin Show**, Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys. Bob Thompson, 818-249-1237.
- March 27-29      **WESTS Token Show and Jamboree**, Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue. Merle Avila, 707-585-3711, [merle@avilaarchitects.com](mailto:merle@avilaarchitects.com).
- April 5      **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- April 17-19      **Santa Clara Coin, Currency, Stamp, and Sports Collectibles Show**, Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara. Scott Griffin, 415-601-8661, [scottgriff@hotmail.com](mailto:scottgriff@hotmail.com).
- April 18      **Santa Maria Coin & Collectable Show**, Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave., Santa Maria.
- April 18      **Vacaville Coin Show**, Vacaville Moose Lodge, 6585 Gibson Canyon Rd., Vacaville. Scott Griffin, 415-601-8661, [scott@griffincoin.com](http://scott@griffincoin.com), [www.griffincoin.com](http://www.griffincoin.com).
- May 2      **CSNA's 52nd Annual Southern Educational Symposium**, *Note, the symposium has been postponed at this time and will not take place as originally planned. Look in future issues on and the CSNA website at [calcoin.org](http://calcoin.org) for further information.*
- May 3      **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- May 3      **Vallejo Numismatic Society 48th Annual Show**, Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador. Vince Lacariere, PO Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428. 510-305-5339.
- May 8-9      **San Jose Coin Expo**, Doubletree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Blvd. San Jose. Scott Griffin, 415-601-8661, [www.griffincoin.com](http://www.griffincoin.com).
- May 15-17      **The Vegas Show**, Palace Station Hotel and Casino, 2411 W. Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV. Dawn, 888-330-5188.

May 31	<b>Sacramento Coin Show</b> , Lions Gate hotel, 3410 Westover St., McClellan. P. Macintosh, 916-317-9055, <a href="http://www.sacramentocoinshow.com">www.sacramentocoinshow.com</a> .
June 4-6	<b>Long Beach Coin, Stamp &amp; Collectibles Expo</b> , Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, <a href="mailto:info@longbeachexpo.com">info@longbeachexpo.com</a> .
June 7	<b>North County Monthly Coin Show</b> , Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, <a href="http://www.pacificexposllc.com">www.pacificexposllc.com</a> .
June 19	<b>Modesto Coin, Stamp, and Collectibles Expo</b> , Clarion Inn Conference Center, 1612 Sisk Rd. Modesto. J. Silveria, 209-668-9367.
June 26-27	<b>East Bay/Concord Coin Show</b> , The Clarion Hotel, 1050 Burnett Ave., Concord. Bill Green, 925-351-7605, <a href="http://www.norcal-coinshows.com">www.norcal-coinshows.com</a> .
June 28	<b>Van Nuys/Verdugo Coin Show</b> , Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys. Richard Murachanian, 661-287-1651.
July 5	<b>North County Monthly Coin Show</b> , Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim. K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, <a href="http://www.pacificexposllc.com">www.pacificexposllc.com</a> .
July 11-12	<b>63rd Annual Coinarama</b> , San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South (Mission Valley), <a href="http://www.coinarama.org">www.coinarama.org</a> .
July 25-26	<b>Fremont Coin Club's 47th Annual Show</b> , Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Dr., Fremont. Vince Lacaciere, 510-366-1365, P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538.

## Advertisers Index

DH Ketterling Consulting.....	9
Excelsior Coin Gallery.....	63
Fragner & Fragner, Ltd. ....	81
Glenn Schinke.....	49
Heritage Rare Coin Galleries.....	92
Jeff Shevlin So-Called Dollars.....	81
Joel Anderson.....	59
Kagin's Auctions.....	91
Michael Aron Rare Coins.....	81
Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists.....	60
PCGS.....	19
Star Coins.....	63
Ted's Coins & Stamps.....	61

# CSNA

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**Articles**—should be relevant to money collecting or numismatic club experiences, and are accepted with the understanding that they are unrestricted from publication. Please indicate if the article has been previously published, and if so, where. Digital files are preferred via e-mail to [gregsburns@gmail.com](mailto:gregsburns@gmail.com); typed copy is also acceptable mailed to *The California Numismatist*, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711. The author's name and contact information should appear on the first page or on an accompanying cover letter or e-mail. *The California Numismatist* reserves the right to edit all items for format or content. As a guide to the general writing style typically preferred for use in our publication, please see the journal's website at [www.calnumismatist.com](http://www.calnumismatist.com).

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

**Next deadline for material submission: May 15, 2020**

## Advertising

**General**—*The California Numismatist* is an educational journal published four times per year and distributed to all California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and Numismatic Association of Southern California (NASC) members as a membership benefit. Print run is approximately 700 and most issues are 80 pages. All advertising is accepted subject to the approval of the editor.



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