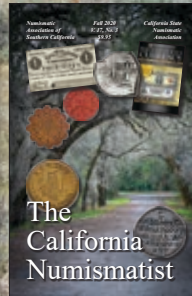
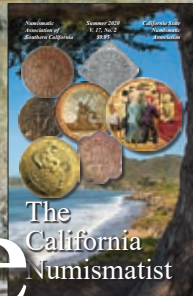


*Numismatic  
Association of  
Southern California*

*Spring 2021  
V. 18, No. 1  
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*California State  
Numismatic  
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# 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 2021, Volume 18, Number 1



## About the Cover

A view of last year's TCN covers (acknowledging the TCN literary awards announcement in this issue) set against the ramshackle houses in Bodie State Historic Park, a gold-mining ghost town. The park is in a state of "arrested decay" as described by the park service, with the last residents departing over 50 years ago. Located just north of Bridgeport, it's a 13 mile drive east of US 395, ten miles paved (and a pleasant drive), and the final three miles driving *very* slowly on a rough dirt road. Very well worth the inconvenience if you have the time to spare.

## Visit Us on the Web

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

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

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

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

And both associations have Facebook pages at:

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

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

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# Presidents' Messages

NASC...

I attended a recent coin club meeting (virtually) and one of the topics of discussion was the lack of younger collectors embracing our favorite hobby of coin collecting. It seems like this same discussion takes place at coin club meetings and coin shows across the country and has unfortunately been taking place for years and years.

Many of the participants in that discussion believed that the current pandemic, has made it much more difficult to reach out to potential new collectors. Of course meeting up in person and looking at coins or talking about coins is now a bit problematic, but I know you can still do quite a bit to help grow this hobby from home.

The new 2022 edition of the *Red Book* will be out this spring and I will be getting a copy as I am sure many of you also. Over the last year, the sales of the 2021 *Red Book* were so strong that most retail outlets ran out of copies. Prices of the book in the aftermarket spiked and another print run had to be made to restock supplies. The strong sales of the 2021 *Red Book* illustrate the peaking interest in coin collecting by people all over the country as they are forced to spend more time at home and are looking for new activities to fill their time.

So, when you get your new copy of the 2022 *Red Book* in the next couple of months, take the time, and maybe spend the few dollars in postage, to mail off your gently used copy to a friend or relative who you think might take interest. I regularly tell new collectors that the *Red Book* has about the best bang for the buck when it comes to information on United States coins and is a terrific resource for beginning collectors. I know that many of you will agree with that.

Please do not let your older copy collect dust on your bookshelf; instead, do what you can to get it in the hands of anyone you may know that might enjoy it; maybe enclose a few coins too!

I hope that you are all doing well and I thank you again for your support of NASC. I also hope to see you at shows and club meetings again soon!



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

Michael J. Kittle  
NASC President

## CSNA...



*Our president and his son, Tim.*

Let me begin with this appeal: CSNA members, in two years our association needs nominations and a real election for its executive officers and directors. Please consider “stepping to the plate”.

While this is my “third swing at bat” as your president, and certainly flatters my ego, the continued sustaining of our soon seventy-five year old association is more collective involvement, insights, and initiative. Speaking of this, your officers and directors are warmly welcoming any volunteering and assisting, particularly with our hoped convention and show plus the educational seminars.

On a positive note, as president it is gratifying that some members have made financial donations to our association. These gestures are most appreciated, and all are acknowledged personally from me as your president.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to explain or dismiss the wrecking ball that the seemingly never-ending pandemic has wrought upon our hobby and our association as well as local California coin clubs. We all pray for the pandemic to end, and the normalcy of being with fellow coin hobbyists is resurrected. Until then, keep collecting and keep in contact with your fellow coin hobbyists.

Follow the old adage: pick up the phone and call, or nowadays, as so many of us, email. There is power, and hope, with the human voice and personal contact.

To this end, I invite CSNAers to contact me and share whatever, even complaints: make me the punching bag! LOL! You can reach me at [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com) or PO Box 4003, Vallejo, California, 94590-0400.

I loath to end and seek something to bring comfort in these troubling times. So, let the legendary Helen Keller speak to us: “Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”

Work hard. Play fair, and give back!

Michael S. Turrini  
CSNA President



# Editor's Page

Sorry, folks, just like last year at this time I'm getting this out a couple weeks late. Different circumstances, but same basics: just too busy running around doing "things". I retire from my day job in a couple months (hopefully) so hoping to be more on top of things going forward.

That pathetic excuse out of the way, I'm happy to report that we're chock-full (wonder where that expression came from) with gobs of great articles in this issue. Plus, as sharp-eyed readers (and that means *you*) will have noticed, our recognition of many of last year's authors is on the facing page with our announcement of our literary awards for the 2020 publication year.

Not every author gets honored with a literary award, but for those who submit material that doesn't win one of these fancy-pants and highly coveted awards, please know that I treasure all of the items submitted to TCN for publication. Without them and others like them, there'd be no such thing as *The California Numismatist*. And that would be a sorry state of affairs.

Everyone seems to be getting vaccinations now, so I'm guessing that's the final element that will start opening things up within the next few months. I'd love to go to a coin show and spend a few happy hours wandering around, looking in cases, sitting down and going through a dealer's offerings. Meh, it's right around the corner, right? Speaking of which, because there ain't much goin' on, I've deleted the "Goings On" column in this issue. Look for it to reappear in the future.

It'll be interesting to see the landscape one, two, three years out. The post-pandemic collecting scene will undoubtedly be affected for years to come. However I'm certain that we'll all find positive aspects that we'll take advantage of. From my lips to God's ear.

Until our next issue, hope you and those you care about are all safe and healthy, and if not, at least as comfortable as circumstances will allow.

Best regards,

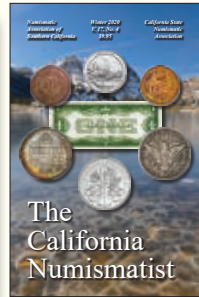
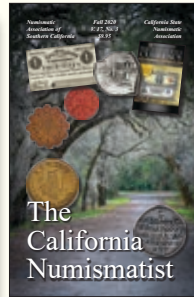
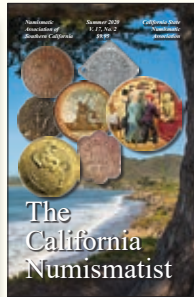


A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Greg Burns". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Greg Burns  
Editor

# TCN Literary Awards

We're proud to announce the awards for the 2020 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 Paper Money Denominations, *Jim Wells*

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

1st: Might We Talk About the Widow's Mite?, *Mark Benvenuto*

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

1st: When is an Error Not an Error? The Santa Cruz Banc Saloon, *William D. Hyder*

2nd: 1876 US Centennial Exposition So-Called Dollars, *Jeff Shevlin and William D. Hyder*

3rd: Scarce 1933 Token of the A.B.W Club of Mexicali, Baja California, *John Duff*

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

1st: The Queen's Beasts Epitomize British Heraldry, *Jim Wells*

2nd: Pernicious Promises—the Venetians in Cyprus 1570, *Ross Irvin*

3rd: The *Santa Maria de la Consolación* Shipwreck, *Steve Sussman and Daniel Sedwick*

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

1st: 1876 US Centennial Exposition So-Called Dollars, *Jeff Shevlin and William D. Hyder*

2nd: Tokens, Medals, Wooden Money, and Coin Types, *Bill February*

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

1st: Civil War Paper Money Denominations, *Jim Wells*

2nd: Collecting \$1 Small Sized US Issued Currency (1928-Present), *Rick Melamed*

3rd: Emil J. Graff—Store Scrip, *Phil Iversen*

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

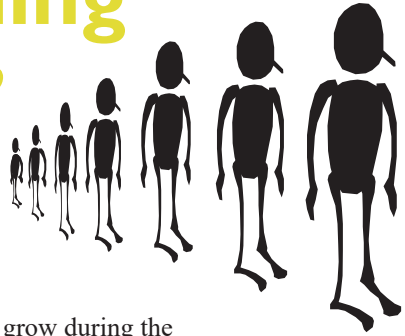
1st: Two-in-One: Mr. Sidney J. Phillips and His Five

Million Commemorative Half-Dollars, *Donald Lannon*

2nd: America's Crown Jewels: Fifty-Dollar Gold, *Jim Wells*

3rd: Inspire Youth to Join Through "Imagination 101"—America the Beautiful Quarter Program, *Walt Ostromecki*

# Corresponding Secretaries' Reports



NASC—

by *Walt Ostromecki*

NASC membership slowly continues to grow during the COVID 19 epidemic thanks in part to our exposure on the monthly Glendale Coin Club on-line virtual meetings. Credit for this belongs to Mike Kittle, NASC and GCC president who hosts the monthly virtual meetings. The meetings' educational programs presented by well-known national hobby speakers on various topics are recorded and posted on Youtube for both the general-public and coin hobbyists to review. Average monthly attendance is around 60 including several individuals from around the world.

NASC membership as of February 5 stands at 299. We reconnected a dropped sustaining member, James J. O'Connell III; added two new coin clubs and four new members since November. As of 2/5/21 there are but 9 unpaid dues renewals outstanding. Second email/mail final dues renewal notice blast will go out 2/28.

On the sad side we lost long time sustaining member, Clyde Hubbard, at age 104 in November, from Mexico. He was the long-time promoter of Mexican coin collecting and past president of the Mexican Numismatic Society.

The NASC acknowledges and honors its 2020 *Fifty-Year* members: Jack Beymer, SM #121; Q. David Bowers, SM #107; Dennis Conrad, SM #201; Mac McInnis, LM #25; James J. O'Connell III, SM #104; and Malcolm Varner (Alhambra Coin), SM-111. Longevity has its numismatic rewards!

NASC is looking forward to holding its annual Golden State Coin Show and Scouts BSA Coin Collecting Merit Badge Workshop in August of 2021. Also planned is the long-awaited election of new NASC officers and their installation on Saturday evening at the NASC awards recognition dinner event.

The ANA's 98th Annual National Coin Week celebration is scheduled for April 18-24, 2021. Theme: Money, Big and Bold. The theme was inspired by Morgan, Peace and Eisenhower dollars. More information on how to participate visit [www.nationalcoinweek.org](http://www.nationalcoinweek.org) or email [ncw@money.org](mailto:ncw@money.org).

## *Dear Members—Please Note!*

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

CSNA—George Magann  
1740 Sessler Drive  
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[gcmagann@hotmail.com](mailto:gcmagann@hotmail.com)

NASC—Walt Ostromecki  
5914 Hesperia Avenue  
Encino, CA 91316-1014  
[ostromecki@money.org](mailto:ostromecki@money.org)



## CSNA—

by *George Magaan*

The new year is underway, spring is just around the corner, the pandemic is still causing havoc with everything and the politicians, *well?*

The good news for CSNA, January/February renewals almost 100, three new life members, and 39 new members. With many of the renewals signing up for multiple years. Numbers are looking good. Several members are doing a great job recruiting or sponsoring new members. Soon, we all hope, things will return to some type of normal, so we can get together for shows and meetings. Zoom meetings help fill the void but just lack togetherness. Share your TCN with others, share the wealth and knowledge, build their interest in coinage and they will come.

### **CSNA Membership on 17 Mar. 2021**

Regular.....	244
Life.....	110
Junior.....	6
Member Clubs.....	25
Associate.....	5

Member Club Life.....	12
Business Members .....	17
Total .....	419

### **NASC Membership on 5 Feb. 2021**

Total .....	299
-------------	-----

## **CSNA December Convention Update**

CSNA is hoping to resume having its annual show on December 10-12, 2021, in Arcadia as in past years. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we do not know at this time if the facility will be available to use until a later date. If we are able to have our event there may be certain guidelines that will need to be followed to ensure a safe environment for everybody. More information will be given once we know more and hope that all collectors can once again have fun pursuing their individual interests. Updates will appear on our CSNA website: [www.Calcoin.org](http://www.Calcoin.org)

## **CSNA Convention Medal Dies Disposal**

I have started the process of trying to dispose of the dies per board approval that were used in making the convention medals we have issued in the past. Andrew Woodruff and I made a plan and it has begun to be implemented. The first people who are being contacted are the medal designers via a letter being mailed today. I have received from our Corresponding Secretary the addresses of some of those people, but no records were found on others. I am asking that we include the following in the next issue of TCN in hopes of finding out where they are so I can get in contact with them.

**“Information is requested by anybody knowing the current whereabouts of the following individuals:** F. Lenkham, J. Cobb, H. Heller, P. Moulton, C. Heriques, E. Flemate, L. Woodard. This in regards to their designing of CSNA past convention medals. Please contact Phil Iversen at [phil\\_iversen@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_iversen@yahoo.com) or P.O. Box 5207 Sherman Oaks, CA 91413. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.” Thanks in advance, Phil

# Reviewing Old Coins That Have Been Stored Away for Years

by *Bill Febuary*

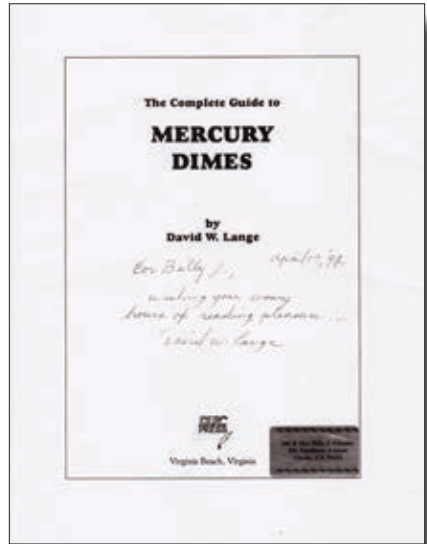
As I look back over the years (since 1969) when I first became interested in coin collecting, I remember all of the coins that were given to me back in the 1950's by my parents and grandparents, but I never had an interest in them at that time. I merely put them in the glass Mason jar with the metal lid and set them on the shelf in the back of my closet at home where I lived and grew up in Huron, South Dakota.

Little did I know that someday I would have a passion for coins and bring them out of the closet and actually look them over to be eventually graded and priced from the many grading books that I had been given over the years by friends and relatives.

Most of the coins were placed in 2 X 2 holders for safe keeping and then moved into plastic pages and then moved into three-ring binders making it easy to show and display those coins to interested coin collectors.

Many of the pages of coins have been removed because the coins in those pages were sold over the years. Now I look them over to see what coins are left that were not sold and that is what this article is all about, the coins that are left in my coin collection.

First I will reminisce about Mercury dimes, as that is perhaps a shorter version of a type coin that was used in the teens and into the 1920's all the



*Bill's book on Mercury dimes, inscribed by author David W. Lange.*

way up to 1945. They are a unique coin and on the obverse of the coin is displayed the photo of a winged Liberty head or as some people refer to them as "Mercury" dimes. The reverse of the coin shows a fasces (symbolic of unity) and an olive branch.

Most of the Mercury dimes were relatively inexpensive (other than their silver price) except the 1916-D, 1921-P and 1921-D coins because of their lower mintages, which are 264,000, 1,230,00 and 1,080,000 respectively. Some of the later date coin mintages were in the low mintage range as well,



*Mercury and Roosevelt dimes make a collecting target that's attainable and affordable. For Mercury's, "short sets" (1941-1945) can permit the collector to focus on higher quality coins.*

but never appeared to bring a premium price, including the 1926-S, 1930-S, 1931-D, and 1931-S.

Another group of coins that were placed into a three-ring binder were my Roosevelt dimes. Many of them were sold as well over a period of several years, but many of them still remain in the binder and I will emphasize a few points about them in the discussion of my coin collection.

The Roosevelt dimes are a modern type coin and are still being minted today, even though they were originally minted right after the Mercury Dime issues, and began a long history of coinage starting in 1946. They were minted from a silver alloy (.900 silver and .100 copper), which continued through 1964 and then were made of copper-nickel.

The Roosevelt dime series has very few low mintage coins other than those that are considered proof coins, which show mintages ranging from one million to three million, except several issues that were produced in silver and they range from six hundred thousand to one million. This series of coins is still being issued today and is perhaps be the most active coin that is in circulation other than Washington quarters.

As many of our readers know I have written about other types of dimes, including Barber dimes and the earlier series of dimes as well, but the two highlighted in this article as they are most often available at a very reasonable price if purchased either online or from coin collectors and coin shops.

# From Dollar-Sized Silver, to Extinction – the Italian Five-Lire

by Mark Benvenuto



*This NGC-graded beauty (MS-62) fetched a healthy \$11,000 in a 2014 Heritage auction.*

Collectors of foreign coins choose their favorites for a wonderful array of reasons. Perhaps their family comes from a certain country. Possibly they served in one foreign nation or another in some way in the United States military, or in the Peace Corps. Maybe they have friends who live in a particular land. Maybe it's just a place they enjoyed while visiting as a tourist. Whatever the reason though, collecting the coins of one country can be fun, and can have the same challenges as collecting any series of US coinage. Let's take the Italian lira as an example, and see just how a person might focus a collection.

A look through the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* or any of several on-line sources brings a person to the

quick realization that plenty of countries have used a currency they call the lira, not all of them connected to Italy. Perhaps obviously, the two enclave nations of Vatican City and San Marino have used lire (the singular is *lira*, the plural is *lire*) pretty much in direct alignment with Italy. But the island nation of Malta has as well. Interestingly, so have Turkey and Syria, with neither of them having any financial connection to Italy. And a person can make the claim that Lebanon has also had such a monetary system – although there it is spelled *livre*. Also, some decades ago, one might claim Israel used them, although there the spelling was *lirah*.

When it comes to the Italian lira, the first of them issued for a unified

Victor Emmanuel III reigned as King of Italy from 29 July 1900 until his abdication on 9 May 1946. In addition, he was Emperor of Ethiopia (1936–1941) and King of the Albanians (1939–1943). Emmanuel was short at just over 5 feet. Emmanuel abdicated his throne in 1946 in favor of his son Umberto II, hoping to strengthen support for the monarchy against an ultimately successful referendum to abolish it. Victor Emmanuel III was one of the most prolific coin collectors of all time, having amassed roughly 100,000 specimens.



### ...from high to low...



Italian dictator from 1919 to 1945, Benito Mussolini founded the fascist movement and inspired other totalitarian rulers such as Adolf Hitler and Francisco Franco. His policies and cruelty resulted in civil war; and in April 1945 Mussolini and his mistress Clara Petacci attempted to flee to Switzerland, but were captured by Italian partisans and executed by firing squad on 28 April 1945 near Lake Como. The bodies of Mussolini and his mistress were then taken to Milan, where they were hung upside down at a service station to publicly confirm their demise.

Italy came about right as the nation was being unified (go figure!), and are dated 1861. Back then the lira was a silver coin with some serious purchasing power, since it was a unit coin that could be divided into 100 centesimi. Even the little, copper one centesimo coin must have had a bit of clout, as they were minted for several years. But curiously, right from the get go, the one-lira coin was not the big gun among Italian silver. That honor went to the five-lire pieces. These were the silver dollars of a newly unified Italy, as it were. Each had 0.7234 ounces of silver in them, a weight and fineness that did not get reduced for decades. By comparison, each Morgan and Peace dollar has 0.77344 ounce of silver.

Right here a person may choose to draw their own line and form some kind of collection of Italian five-lire pieces. It would certainly narrow an otherwise huge field. There are plenty

of dates to collect within this series, and more than one royal portrait. As well, there are some choices for the reverse, with the quadriga design of the pieces of 1914 being both classical in look, as well as especially beautiful.

The big five-lire coins must have seen rather extensive use in their time, based on the number we can find for sale today. Since this is being written during the pandemic, when almost all the coin shows have been canceled, a person might do well to turn to the eternally-open swap fest that is eBay, just to see what is available. There we find that five-lire pieces with some wear on them generally cost \$35 - \$50. That's not too bad for a silver-dollar-sized piece with over 150 years of history to it.

Italy was one of the winners at the end of World War I, but sadly, its economy was not. The war had taken a heavy toll on the nation, and the devaluation of its coinage was



*This 1949 aluminum five-lire coin is a sad comparison to the haughty silver beauty at the beginning of the article.*



only one casualty of that “war to end all wars.” The silver five-lire coins minted around this time were still silver, but only 0.1342 ounces, and much smaller in diameter. This newer, leaner coin also went through some different designs. Interestingly, even as Italy embraced fascism and its dictator, Benito Mussolini, these retained the image of the king on the obverse. Collecting a string of the interwar year five-lire coins will not be as expensive a proposition as a date run of the classic pieces would be. But they won’t have that size and heft either.

The end of the Second World War saw Italy on the losing side, the nation exhausted, and its economy pretty much in ruins. The lira system would survive until the adoption of the Euro in the late 1990’s, but the devaluation at this point was extreme. The five-lire coins became little aluminum pieces, mere echoes of what they had started out as decades ago. A person can definitely collect these little guys, probably from dealers’ bargain bins. They are generally not worth much at all.

Coming back to where we started, the big five-lire pieces can be formed into a wonderful collection. King Victor Emmanuel II graces all of them from 1861 to 1878, although there are some changes in legends right at the beginning. There are even four mint marks from which to choose. In 1878

and again in 1879 there are two years in which Umberto I graces the obverse of these five-lire pieces. There also exists a 1901 dated piece, now with Victor Emmanuel III. But with only 114 pieces listed as an official total, it’s essentially an uncollectible coin. Yet this monarch also has his image on the 1911 and the 1914 pieces, these being the last years of possibilities for the big five-lire pieces.

If all these were not enough for us in the collecting community, for a very brief time – only 1863 and 1865 – there exist gold five-lire pieces which a person might consider for such a collection. Neither would be considered super-common today, although being made of gold they will definitely cost a bit. But neither is rare.

Like plenty of other national monetary systems, the Italian lire were all swallowed up in the change to the unified euro system right at the start of the twenty-first century. Because of this, we’ll never be sure of when the five-lire coin would have gone the way of the dodo bird, although it does seem like its time was getting close to some end. Even now though, there remain some very collectible, quite handsome, big five-lire silver coins from the time of another unification, that of Italy in the late 1800’s. These “silver dollars” of a different age can still become an impressive collection today.

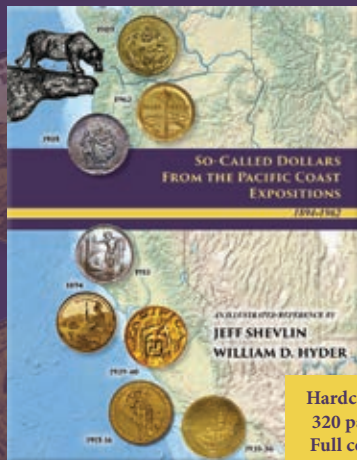
# NEW BOOK RELEASE

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PACIFIC COAST EXPOSITIONS 1894-1962

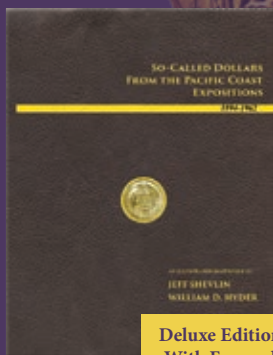
BY JEFF SHEVLIN & BILL HYDER

FORWARD BY Q. DAVID BOWERS

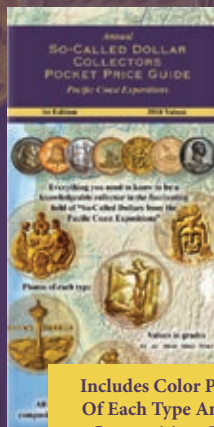
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# London Dealers in Curiosities of the 18th Century

by John Duff

Some of my favorite 18th Century British Provincial Tokens (Conder Tokens) are those produced by dealers in paintings, antiquities, stuffed birds & animals, and other curiosities from around the World. Conder tokens were produced between 1787 and 1804 in the United Kingdom. During the early industrial revolution there was a severe shortage of small copper coinage primarily farthings, half pennies, and pennies throughout the United Kingdom. The private industry stepped in and begin producing these wonderful tokens (private coinage) to fill this critical need.

Richard Summers, a curiosity dealer, and his Museum of Curiosity are today best remembered through his 1797 18th century British provincial token popularly known amongst collectors of these tokens as the “wild man” token. It has been estimated that there are around 100 or fewer of these tokens in existence so they are rare and sought after. The obverse



has the face of an ape-like wild man and states: “A WILD MANS HEAD FROM THE LAND OF JESSO CAN BE SEEN AT.” The Land of Jesso is a fictional land found on a 1717 English map drawn by H. Moll, Geographer (see map) that was based on an early British expedition to Japan and Korea. A web reference says the “Land of Jesso” can be said to be a combination of Hokkaido, Sakhalin, and Southeast Siberia. The indigenous group known as the Ainu are native to both Hokkai-



Right: “*Musei Wormiani Historia*”, the frontispiece from the *Museum Wormianum* depicting Ole Worm’s cabinet of curiosities. In this case, the “cabinet” is really a collection, typically housed in a dedicated room.



Below: An early eighteenth century German schrank with a traditional display of corals, which would be more aligned with today’s use of the word “cabinet”.



was apparently too cold for orang-outangs, but did have some hairy aboriginal inhabitants, the Ainu. As early as 1565 it was reported that Jesso was a great country of savage men, clothed in beast-skins, rough bodied with huge beards and monstrous moustaches, which they hold up with little forks as they drink.”

Richard Summers was a dealer in curiosities whose shop was located in the West End of London. Little is known or written about Richard Summers, so to better understand him as a London merchant in curiosities we need to look at the concept of curiosity cabinets as they developed during the

do and Sakhalin, so the unfortunate “wild man” was presumably of that ethnic group or just a made-up figure from a land that was unknown and unexplored at the time. Another theory stated, “the wild man was an orang-outang though the specimen on the token seems to have too large a mane. The Land of Jesso was the then little-known Japanese island of Hokkaido which



*Fold-out engraving from Ferrante Imperato’s Dell’Historia Naturale (Naples 1599), the earliest illustration of a natural history cabinet.*

16th and 17th centuries by nobility, wealthy merchants, and early scientists and philosophers with the means to create such collections. These cabinets of curiosities (cabinets of wonder or wonder rooms) were referencing rooms, not furniture, although early drawings and paintings of cabinets of curiosity have furniture cabinets in them as well. These actual furniture cabinets would become known as “curio cabinets.” Rulers, aristocrats, wealthy merchants, and early practitioners of science were collecting objects such as those belongings to natural history, geology, ethnography, archaeology, religious or historical relics, paintings and antiquities.

Curiosity cabinets (rooms) were precursors to museums and there were various types such as those that were created by nobles that were considered princely, some were practical, and some had a scientific purpose. They served to establish socio-economical status and to provide entertainment as well. Members of the Royal Society of England would show off their cabinets to create questions and ideas of meaning for discussions by members.

“Two of the most famously described seventeenth-century cabinets were those of Ole Worm, known as Olaus Wormius (1588–1654) (illustration), and Athanasius Kircher (1602–1680). These seventeenth-century cabinets were filled with preserved animals, horns, tusks, skeletons, minerals, as well as other interesting man-made objects: sculptures wondrously old, wondrously fine or wondrously small; clockwork automata; ethnographic specimens from exotic locations. Often, they would contain a mix of fact and fiction, including

apparently mythical creatures. Worm’s collection contained, for example, what he thought was a Scythian Lamb, a woolly fern thought to be a plant/sheep fabulous creature. However he was also responsible for identifying the narwhal’s tusk as coming from a whale rather than a unicorn, as most owners of these believed. The specimens displayed were often collected during exploring expeditions and trading voyages.”

The British Museum, founded in 1753 by an act of Parliament and considered the world’s first museum, would become a permanent home for so many of these objects of curiosity and much more. For the first time there would be a public institution, the British Museum, where curiosities, antiquities, and art from around the world could be visited and viewed by the public.

### **Richard Summers**

Richard Summers and his museum of curiosity tokens are dated 1797. *The Provincial Token-Coinage of the 18th Century Illustrated* by R. Dalton & S. H. Hamer lists these tokens as Middlesex DH 905 and 906. There is one obverse die, and two different reverse dies of these tokens. The obverse is the head of a wild man says: A WILD MANS HEAD FROM THE LAND OF JESSO TO BE SEEN AT. The reverse has a cypher: R. S . DEALER IN CURIOSITIES & C. in a scallop shell. SUMMERS MUSEUM NO. 24 OLD CAVENDISH STREET OXFORD STREET. PAINTINGS BOUGHT SOLD AND EXCHANGED. 1797. (Shown on this article’s first page is an example of DH 906.)





DH319c

## Thomas Hall

Thomas Hall was more than a Curiosity dealer in London. He was a well-known and successful taxidermist on City Road of Finsbury, London, during the latter part of the 18th century. His grandchildren Thomas Hall III and William Hall would continue the business well into the 19th Century. As a bird stuffer and animal preserver Thomas Hall would become known for having preserved a rhinoceros in 1793 that belonged to Gilbert Pidcock at his Curiosity House on City Road. There are some samples that exist today of Thomas Hall's work that have survived for hundreds of years with their labels.

Thomas Hall Penny tokens are dated 1795 manufactured by W. Lutwyche, Birmingham, England. There were three different obverse dies of this token and two different reverse dies with eleven varieties or combinations with different edges produced. They are listed in the Dalton & Hamer as DH Middlesex 25 through 30. Thomas Hall Half Penny tokens are undated. There were five different obverse dies of these tokens and three different reverse dies with fourteen varieties or combinations with different edges produced. They are listed in Dalton & Hamer as DH Middlesex 313 through 319c.



The sample shown here is a half penny DH Middlesex 319c. The obverse is a toucan bird sitting on a branch of a tree stating: TO . THE . CURIOUS . OBSERVERS . OF . NATURAL . PHENOMENA. The reverse states in four lines in the center: T . HALL . PRESERVER . OF . BIRDS . BEASTS . OR . REPTILES. In a double circle is: CITY . ROAD . NEAR . FINSBURY . SQUARE. The edge states: PAYABLE AT LONDON . + . + . + The word *city* on this token is misspelled "citty".

Besides his sales of taxidermy and other curiosities there was an admission to exhibits at his Curiosity House with a cost of sixpence for ladies and gentlemen and three pence for servants and children.

Hall's engraved portrait is in itself an advertisement, dedicated to the "curious observers of Natural Phenomena," and listing beneath his skills and some of his patrons. The enterprising Thomas is shown seated at a table, interrupting his reading of Buffon's *Natural History* to point out to us a cased toucan on the wall behind him. This bird appears in a similar pose on

two of his tokens including the one show here.

### Peter Ratley

Peter Ratley was another dealer in curiosities in London. His curiosity shop was in Duke's Court off St. Martin's Lane, London during the 1790's and where print and curiosity shops exist in modern times as well. Ratley sold a mixture of pictures, drawings, curiosities, shells, ores, minerals and coins, including a "great variety" of tradesmen's tokens.

This token has two different obverse dies and one reverse die with samples struck in silver and pewter or lead. DH 465 has two varieties with different edges and DH 466 has a blank reverse. The sample shown here is Dalton & Hamer's Middlesex DH 465. The obverse has a man holding a picture stating: P. RATLEY . DUKES COURT ST. MARTINS . DEALER IN DRAWGS . PICTES . & CURIOSITIES . The reverse has shells laying on the seashore, a rocky cliff, and a ship on the sea stating: SHELLS . ORES & MINERALS . BOT. SOLD

. OR EXCHANGED . 1795. The top of the cliff comes between "sold" and "or." The makers of this token are Thomas and Peter Wyon.

### George Bayly

George Bayly was also a dealer in curiosities at his museum at 242 Piccadilly in London with one undated token manufactured. There was a live crocodile to be found at George Bayly's natural history museum.

The token shown is Dalton & Hamer's DH Middlesex 253. The obverse has a crocodile and a tree stating: A CROCODILE TO BE SEEN ALIVE AT G. BAYLYS MUSEUM FOR. The reverse has a rattlesnake and a tree stating: ALL SORTS OF NATURAL HISTORY 242 PICCADILLY. Under the rattlesnake the word . JAMES . in minute letters.

So, few people during the late 1700's were able to travel the World and certainly the concept of tourism was very different then and this made what these dealers in curiosities were doing so interesting. These four curiosity dealers from London were both



DH465



DH253



dealers and also produced exhibitions and/or museums that you could pay to see.

There are other tokens from small museums and/or exhibitions of exotic animals both alive and stuffed. The most famous would-be Gilbert Pidcock and his tokens of exotic animals in almost a circus like setting including a living double headed cow in Middlesex DH 1065. There is also Richard Helsop's and his dancing monkey shown here in Middlesex DH 336b.



DH1065



DH336b



There were proprietors of more legitimate museums such as the Bisset and Boulter museums during this time period that included a few Far Eastern objects in their collections, though these were rich in memorabilia from Cook's voyages in the South Pacific.

I find all of these tokens a fantastic view of history as discovery and developments were occurring during the end of the 18th century.

**Sources:**

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

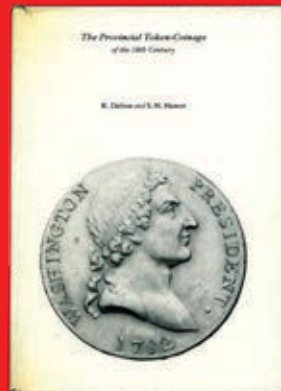
William J. McKivior, Past President, CTCC

David S. Brooke

Steve Gorman

**Good Luck Finding One!**

*Though thankfully digital and on-line versions are available, the Dalton and Hamer book is a scarce collectible itself.*



# The Potter: Southern California's Million Dollar Hotel

by William D. Hyder

The grand Potter Hotel on the Santa Barbara beach conveniently located not far from Stearns Wharf and the Santa Barbara Railroad Depot unofficially opened on January 1, 1903. Promoters praised the property for its views of the Santa Barbara Channel and islands, the city, and the magnificent Santa Ynez Mountains from atop a distinctive mound pictured in the earliest sketches of Santa Barbara as seen from offshore.

The hotel was built on the site of a major historic Chumash village, *Syujtun*. The prominent shellfish mound that accumulated over the centuries came to be known as Burton Mound after Lewis T. Burton bought the property in 1860. On his death in 1879, the recently formed Seaside Hotel Association acquired the property with the intention of building a hotel, but their funding fell through and they advertised the property for sale. The property passed to the Santa Cruz Island Co. for their sheep ranching operations and then in 1900 to Edward R. Spaulding, the wealthy son of a Buffalo, New York banker. Spaulding sold the property to Milo Potter a year later.

Milo Potter made his fortune in the hotel business in Los Angeles.

A November 20, 1901, *Los Angeles Times* article on the occasion of his marriage to Mrs. Nellie M. Jones, a housekeeper in the Van Nuys Hotel he managed, celebrated his transition from a Boniface (a well-doer) to a Benedict (blessed). Born in Michigan in 1854, Milo was orphaned at age eight, but he persevered and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1877. He then moved to Florida where he grew fruit and cotton before discovering his skill as a hosteler after losing his cotton crop to an insect infestation. That led to his construction of the Potter House hotel in Central City, Florida. When fire destroyed his hotel and assets, he moved to Atlantic City, New Jersey, where he leased the Congress Hall Hotel. Milo moved to Los Angeles in 1888 to work as a clerk in the Westminster Hotel. His reputation as a hotel keeper grew, leading to his management of the Hotel Van Nuys in 1896 and development of the Van Nuys Broadway in 1898 to meet demand for his hospitality.

Potter's success led to his prominence in the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and various business associations. His hard-earned wealth allowed him to pursue a stable of thoroughbred horses as a hobby or escape

The mound of an ancient village, which came to be called Burton Mound, and the Potter Hotel that was built upon it.

—THE—

# Seaside Hotel!

**ASSOCIATION**  
Have decided to put their valuable property

## THE BURTON MOUND

on the market for the purpose of having a

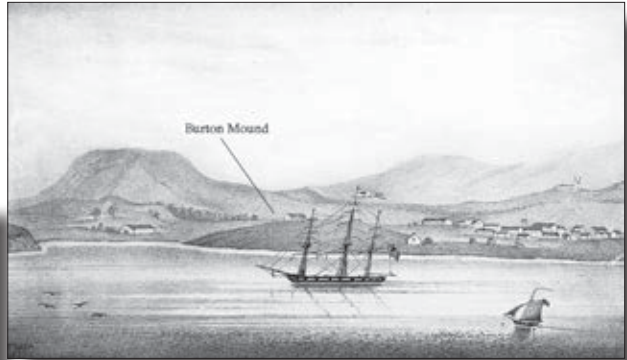
**First-class Hotel**  
ERECTED THEREON

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**IT CONTAINS SIX CITY BLOCKS OF**  
20 acres, over 1,000 feet fronting on Montecito street with about 60 feet on the beach running down to high water mark. The site is the finest on the Pacific Coast between British Columbia and Cape San Lucas. The scenery is beautiful and long, gentle; the Bay with the ocean free from storms than any other locality, even the Mediterranean coast.

For full particulars apply to

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Sixth Street,  
SANTA BARBARA, CAL.



from the hotel business. Less than a month after his wedding, the *Los Angeles Times* reported in its December 18, 1901, issue that Potter was leading a consortium of investors to acquire the Burton Mound property in Santa Barbara for a new hotel he planned to build. The *Los Angeles Evening Express* announced the filing of the articles of incorporation for the new venture on January 2, 1902. The Potter Hotel Company of Los Angeles broke ground on January 19, 1902. The Potter Hotel, as already noted, opened on schedule just shy of one year later.

Potter celebrated the official opening of the hotel with a grand ball on January 19, 1903; the 19th being a day of each month special to Milo

Potter's personal superstitions. The newly opened hotel services expanded over time to include 390 guest rooms, a small zoo, a rose garden, a grand ballroom, a Brunswick Balke bowling alley and billiard hall, an elegant bar and clubrooms, a newsstand and cigar store with a telegraph station, lounges, a tea garden, and gift shops. Fresh meats for the dining hall were sourced from their farm in Goleta. Potter also built a country club in Hope Ranch offering golf, trap shooting, horseback riding, a polo field, and tennis for hotel guests. Just one hitch emerged on opening day, the hotel did not have a liquor license.

Santa Barbara, under pressure from the temperance movement, had



voted to limit city liquor licenses to twenty-four, all of which had been issued. The city council, under the rationale that a hotel must be able to serve liquor, increased the number to twenty-five. Then someone realized that they had also passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of liquor within 1,600 feet from the boulevard running along the ocean beach requiring yet another ordinance change. Until then, liquor could only be served along with a meal in the dining room. The bar had to briefly remain closed.

One other hitch had quietly been dealt with. Burton Mound, as with every California coastal shell midden, held one or more prehistoric cemeteries and construction excavations exposed at least thirty burials. Potter had the bones and grave goods packed in a redwood “coffin” and buried elsewhere on the property fearing that the hotel might be saddled with a haunted reputation since it was built on a graveyard. In addition, a sulfur spring that had previously been touted for its medicinal value had to be cemented over as the fumes seeping into the building tarnished the silver flatware



K-113

used in the Potter’s dining halls.

On May 16, 1904, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that hotel guests lounging in a fifth-floor reception hall that had been closed for the season dropped a cigar butt behind a couch that smoldered, eventually catching fire. A routine fire patrol discovered the flames, and the hotel’s 30-man fire department extinguished the blaze before it had a chance to spread to other parts of the building.

Management promoted the Potter as being a self-contained venue, providing everything a guest might need. I suspect the first token (K-113) purchased for use at the hotel was a 21mm “Good for 5¢ in Trade.” The obverse simply states THE POTTER in two straight lines. The nickel-sized token was likely used in slot machines in the bar. Another souvenir likely sold in the hotel gift shops is a 56.5mm



Circa 1904-1905

photographic mirror back image of the hotel. Based on the sparse ornamental landscaping and the defined, but undeveloped circular area on the entry walk, the photograph likely dates to 1903 shortly after the hotel opened.

California cities, counties, and courts were arguing over the definition of a “banking game” in the state penal code. Were the so-called nickel-in-the-slot machines gambling devices or entertainment devices? In a surprise decision, the Appellate Court of Northern California ruled that slot machines did not violate California law if payouts were denominated in cigars (the specific case they decided was filed by a cigar dealer) or other non-monetary goods.

You Are Offered More Than a Million Dollars' Worth of Comforts and Elegance

**For \$2 A Day!**

Can You Afford to Overlook Such an Investment?

From May 1, 1903, to Jan. 1, 1904.

The Rates (American Plan Only) At the Famous

**POTTER HOTEL**

Santa Barbara-by-the-Sea

Will be as follows:

Rooms without bath—\$2, \$3 and \$4 each per day.

With bath—\$3, \$4 and \$5

Special Rates by the Month.

**M. M. POTTER**  
Manager.

The decision was summarized in newspapers as: gambling for money is illegal, gambling for merchandise is not.

I suspect that the Potter chose to distance himself from the controversy but saw the value in having its own tokens for guests to use and ensure that they made as many of their purchases as possible within the hotel grounds. A four-piece set of tokens (K-114, 115, 116, and 2K-240) covering 5 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, and a dollar token differentiated themselves by placing THE POTTER on two opposed curved lines.

One can speculate why there is no 10-cent token and it may be that one is yet to be discovered. My collection includes three of the four and are pictured here.



K-114



K-115



K-116

Being GOOD FOR / [an amount] / IN TRADE, they would have been illegal for gambling. Of course, they could have been used in card games in one of the lounges or club rooms, but that activity would have been illegal if someone complained to the local police. Given their relative rarity today, I suspect they were used in stimulating business in the hotel stores, some of which were run by private contractors. American plan costs for a night at the hotel were two dollars a night for a few years, so a fifty-cent or one-dollar token represented a significant sum of money and likely not tossed in a drawer and forgotten. Had they been used as gambling checks; I suspect more would have been struck and that they would be more common today.

I do have an ex-Ron Lerch token from the POTTER HOTEL BAR with 25 on the reverse. The obverse is signed L. A. RUB. STAMP CO. I have found record of a few other Potter Hotels in the west, but they post-date prohibition and are unlikely to have had a bar token. I include the token here in the event another collector has more information to offer.



*K-unlisted*

The *Santa Barbara Weekly Press* reported on January 25, 1906, that plans were being made for a new opera house on State Street. Milo Potter endorsed the effort and confirmed that he was connected with the scheme. The development proposal called for a

two-story building with the lobby and two store fronts on street level. The Potter Theatre opened in 1907 offering concerts, vaudeville, plays, and films. Controversy erupted again over the number of liquor licenses in the city when the city council voted to grant a license to the theatre for a bar ahead of pending applications waiting for an existing license to come available. The council was assured that it would be properly managed under the direction of John Lagomarsino.



The associated Theatre Bar offered the “Choicest of Everything” according to their ads in the Santa Barbara newspapers. A billiard and pool hall was added in 1910. In 1911, J. A. Raffetto and J. Lagomarsino filed a fictitious business name certifying that they were partners in the Theatre Bar in the Potter theatre building at 231 State Street in 1911. The Santa Barbara *Independent* ran a story in their December 23, 1903, issue that Raffetto was to manage a corporation established by five investors in December 1903 with the intention of the new corporation to conduct a wholesale wine, liquor, tobacco, and cigar business; to own and conduct stores, warehouses, and bottling works, and to buy and sell real estate. They formed the Lagomarsino-Parma Company in April 1904 and opened their wholesale/retail business at 725 State Street. They issued several different tokens, both listed and unlisted, over time.

Lagomarsino and Raffetto issued

a Theatre Bar ten-cent token (K-167) most likely in 1907 shortly after they opened.

The *Santa Barbara Daily News*



K-167

and the *Independent* reported on February 11, 1919, that Milo Potter admitted negotiating with D. M. Linnard for the sale of the Potter Hotel for \$500,000, but he denied that any deal had been reached. The next day, they reported a deal had been reached. Milo Potter would retain no further interest in the hotel business and the Potter would be added to a portfolio of world class hotels owned by an association represented by Linnard. They planned to make California a world playground through their hotels in San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and San Diego. Linnard pledged “to make Santa Barbara not alone a winter resort, but a pleasure resort for each of the year’s 12 months.” By March, Linnard was advertising in the *San Francisco Chronicle* “The World-Famous Belvedere Hotel (Formerly

Potter Hotel).”

The Belvedere was later rebranded as an Ambassador Hotel before Linnard’s plans could be realized when it was sold to the Ambassador Hotel group owned by S. W. Straus and Company. On April 13, 1921, a fire broke out in an air shaft and quickly spread throughout the structure. Winds gusting up to 50 miles an hour drove the blaze hampering firefighters in their efforts to save the building. The roof collapsed in the first hour and the building was reduced to ruins in just three hours. The remains of an unidentified victim was found in the ashes. Could they have been the remains of a Chumash burial exposed in 1911 and stored in the hotel basement?

The fire marked the end of the Potter Hotel and no attempts were made to rebuild. Archaeological excavations following the fire came to national attention in 1923 after a heavy caliche layer (formed by calcium carbonate leaching within the shell midden) was incorrectly interpreted as indicating a pre-Neanderthal antiquity. Burton Mound is recognized today as a California Historical Landmark located within the small palm tree lined Ambassador Park across from Santa Barbara’s West Beach.

The plaque mounted at Burton Mound in Santa Barbara noting it as “California Registered Historical Landmark No. 306” and stating that the village was recorded by Cabrillo in 1542 while on his voyage of discovery.





# Lauding Lafayette—The Medals of the Marquis de Lafayette and His Visit to the United States 1824 - 1825

by *Ross Irvin*

In researching this article, I asked a local high school history teacher, “How much is in your American History textbook about Lafayette and his contributions to our independence?” She answered quickly. “About a paragraph. It’s about how he worked to achieve a French alliance during our revolution. That’s it.”

Despite cursory treatment in present day high school textbooks, Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette, born in 1757, was much more than an aristocratic dilettante who persuaded the French government to intervene in the American’s behalf. Fired up with the ideas of liberty and freedom of the American Revolution, ironically after listening to the Duke of Gloucester, younger brother of King George III, he purchased a ship and provisions to take him and a few companions, including Baron Johann de Kalb, who also became a distinguished American general. He arrived in June of 1777. He was only 19. Shortly afterwards he met General Washington in Philadelphia. Congress commissioned him as a major general, originally intended as honorific only. At the Battle of the



*Lafayette’s wound at the Battle of the Brandywine came in the service of the fledgling United States during the revolutionary war with Britain. He would recount later in a letter to his wife: “the English honoured me with a musket ball, which slightly wounded me in the leg.”*

Brandywine, he was wounded. His courage and judgment made him a confidant of Washington who petitioned Congress to authorize him to command a division.



Returning to France in early 1779, he successfully secured French loans, troops, and support from the French fleet. By April 1780 he was back in America. He participated in the last major battle of the war, the siege of Yorktown and Cornwallis's surrender on October 17, 1781.

Lafayette returned to France in January 1782. The surrender at Yorktown and his role with the American army made him a national hero of both worlds. His position as a liberal aristocrat enabled him to participate in the early stages of the French Revolution.

The commemorative medal history of Lafayette begins in 1789 in France. A member of the Estates General, on July 15, 1789, the day after the fall of the Bastille, Lafayette presented his "Declaration of the Rights of Man," a non-Christian declaration based on the US Declaration of Independence. The same day, he was appointed Commander of the National Guard.

Every able-bodied citizen was supposed to serve in the National Guard. In reality, the day-to-day operations were conducted by a cadre of volunteers, whose pay and uniforms were funded by service-exempt citizens. Funds became short. The 3rd battalion of the 6th division, stationed in the Maids of St Thomas district of Paris hired the engraver, Rambert Dumarest to create a medal to be sold to raise funds for their unit.

Rambert Dumarest is a fascinating person himself. As a young engraver in Paris, he caught the attention of Matthew Boulton, the owner of the



*Rambert Dumarest's fund-raising medal for a French National Guard unit.*

Soho Mint in Birmingham. The Soho mint was the first to use Watt's new steam engine for producing medals and coins. Recognizing talent, Boulton lured Dumarest to Britain where he worked for two years. Shortly after the French revolution broke out, Dumarest returned to Paris. The Lafayette medal for the 3rd Bn, 6th Division was among the earliest he produced after his return.

The octagon medal depicts General Lafayette on the obverse facing left in his uniform wearing the Cross of St Louis. The inscription is his name and title as commander of the National Guard. The reverse shows the arms of Paris bordered by banners and olive branches topped by a grenade. The inscription gives the name of the unit; the voluntary grenadiers of the 3rd battalion, 6th division. The original medal was struck in silver but was later re-engraved in copper.

Dumarest in 1791 also created a set of medals called the "Collection of French Patriots." Included in this set is a medal with Lafayette in uniform facing left with the words, "Deputy of the National Constituent Assembly, born in 1757." The engraver's name appears below the bust.



*Dumarest's later 1791 piece on Lafayette.*

The reverse of the medal says, "Collection of French Patriots," and his title in four lines, "Commander of the National Guard 1789, 1790, and 1791 within a circle of olive branches.

By the summer of 1792, political turmoil caused Lafayette to flee and seek asylum in Austria. He was imprisoned as a dangerous radical. Claiming American citizenship, he was eventually released in 1795 but did not return to France until 1799.

In 1802, the French "First Consul" Napoleon Bonaparte, commissioned a set of medals by the Minister of the Interior recognizing those who were important to the French Revolution. (Obviously "importance" was in Napoleon's eyes.) The medals were numbered with Napoleon (1) Desaix (2) Kleber (3) Bailly (4) Lafayette (5) De Beauharnais (6) Cambaceres (7) Lebrun (8). The medals were engraved

by the Parisian medalist, P. G. Lienard, who was later famous for creating a large series of oval, uniface plaques of celebrated men, ancient and modern.

The medal depicting Lafayette shows him in uniform facing right.

The inscriptions translated into English are "General Lafayette, born September 1757." Below his bust in small print is "Commandant of the Parisian National Guard in 1789." The reverse has the inscription, "Object in turn of idolatry and hatred, we remember today his misfortunes and services were rendered to the freedom of the two worlds" The edge of the medal is engraved; "French Revolution by Lienard Year 5, Number 5."

Napoleon, despite the honor bestowed by his medal, was very suspicious of Lafayette. Consequently, Lafayette retired to a family estate at La Grange, about forty miles southeast of Paris, maintaining correspondence with his American friends.

At the fall of Napoleon and the installation of Louis XVIII as king, Lafayette cautiously resumed a place in French politics. His views on civil liberties were not particularly welcome. He was not commemorated on medals, nor forgotten.

In 1824 he received a letter from President



*Parisian medalist P. G. Lienard's 1802 homage to Lafayette.*

*Lafayette's popularity in the states resulted in numerous mementos commemorating his 1824 - 1825 visit.*



Monroe inviting him and three companions to visit the United States as the nation's guest. The trip would be a prelude to the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence celebrations and the included laying the cornerstone to the Bunker Hill Monument. He would be particularly honored because he was the oldest living senior general from the Revolutionary War. Lafayette agreed.

The trip was a tremendous success. Lafayette had a left a nation with thirteen states and now there were twenty-four. He visited all of them. He arrived in New York in August 1824. He was greeted by a thundering artillery salute from Fort Lafayette in the harbor while over 200,000 people greeted him at the Battery. The enthusiasm continued wherever he went. Incredibly in those days of no electronic social media, large crowds formed at each town or village his party passed through. His arrival was announced by cannon. He was received and complimented by local magistrates. People traveled for miles to see the hero.

There were of course, numerous tangible souvenirs of his journey. Plates, fans,

gloves, buttons, scarves, bottles, and mugs were designed commemorating his visits. The most popular medals showed the portrait of a middle-aged Lafayette in civilian clothes facing right with the inscription, "General Lafayette" on the obverse. The reverse inscriptions within a wreath varied. One which read, 'IN YOUTH, THE ARDENT AND INTREPID CHAMPION : IN AGE, THE ENLIGHTENED AND VENERABLE DEFENDER OF THE CIVIL & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OF HIS COUNTRY AND OF MANKIND. BORN SEP. 6, 1757' was struck, surprisingly enough by a British engraver Tom Halliday. His name appears under Lafayette's bust, as 'Halliday F' In case you wonder as I did, why he has

*British medalist Thomas Halliday even produced a medal of the visit.*





*Francois Caunois used a design strikingly similar to that used by Thomas Halliday.*

an 'F' after his name when his name is Tom, it is because the 'F' stands for "fecit" which means in Latin, "he made."

Apparently, the same design for the obverse of the British medal was used for a French version engraved by Francois Caunois. His name appears under Lafayette's bust as 'Caunois French.' Since other medals by him only show an 'F' instead of the name 'French', I assume that this had something to do with selling the medal on the American market. . . . The reverse inscription reads, "THE DEFENDER OF AMERICAN AND FRENCH LIBERTY 1777- 1824 BORN IN CHAVAGNAN THE 6 SEPTEMBER 1757."



The most famous gift to Lafayette during his trip, which has a contemporary tie to us was Washington's Golden Eagle Order of Cincinnati medal, which was presented to him by Washington's adopted daughter, (Martha

Washington's granddaughter)

Eleanor Parke Custis Lewis. She had grown up as a virtual sister to Lafayette's own son, George Washington Lafayette during young George's stay with the Washington's during 1796-1798 while his father was in prison. The spectacular medal was kept in Lafayette's family until the 250th anniversary of his birth. On December 11, 2007, it was sold at a Sotheby's auction for \$5.3 million, the greatest price ever for a medal at auction.

Concluding his triumphant tour, Lafayette returned to France on September 7, 1825 on the frigate USS Brandywine. He resumed an active political life. He participated in the revolution in July 1830 which overthrew King Charles X and resumed his old position as Commander of the National Guard.

His change in political prominence was reflected in numerous medals. A tin medal created by an unknown engraver depicts him in civilian clothes

*After George Washington's death, his medal of the Society of the Cincinnati was given to Lafayette by Washington's adopted daughter. The golden eagle medal was designed by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, the master planner of Washington, DC, and this particular medal is believed to have been crafted out of gold and enamel by Duval and Francastel of Paris sometime between December 1783 and April 1784.*



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facing left with the inscription translated to read, “Glory to the defenders of the fatherland, July 27, 28, 29.” (Dates of the overthrow of Charles X) The reverse says, “Honor to the constitutional deputies” along the rim and “Long Live Louis Phillipe D’Orleans.” King Louis Phillipe was invested a constitutional monarch, however by the time of Lafayette’s death in 1834, they had parted ways. Lafayette was not given a state funeral, but his name and legacy lived on.

I feel his legacy to both countries, their mutual esteem for him and the desire to fulfill reciprocal support was best expressed by Colonel Charles Stanton, aide to General Pershing at a Fourth of July, 1917, ceremony at Lafayette’s tomb when he said, “Lafayette, we are here.”

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# Small Sized US \$5 Federal Reserve Notes

by Rick Melamed

In a previous issue of TCN we explored collecting small sized \$1 notes; assembling a type set is interesting and affordable. In deference to the \$2 notes, which are limited in variations, the next logical step is a deeper dive into the \$5 denomination. As we ascend in the note value we also increase the varieties available to the collector. So much so, that this entire article will concentrate on just the \$5 Federal Reserve Notes (FRNs). A nice circulated type set of \$5 FRNs by year/series can be purchased for a reasonable amount

of money, but choice and gem uncirculated notes will drive up the price; a constant in all areas of collectibles. A more challenging way to collect is by Federal Reserve Bank districts. Amassing a full set of 12 districts on an early issue can be daunting. And for those who want the very rare, the \$5 FRN series is not without some incredibly expensive options.

Starting in 1928, the Treasury, in a move to streamline and economize, reduced the physical size of circulating currency by 32% - resulting in a small-

*At right the 1928 small-sized FRN, and below for comparison, the 1914 large-sized FRN that it replaced.*



*FRN's were released through the 12 Federal Reserve Banks scattered throughout major cities across the US. For the 1928 and 1928-A series, the district was represented by a large number encircled within a black ring containing the corresponding city and state. 1-12 district seals as shown.*



er sized note; the exact same measurements are still in use today. The first small sized \$5 bill printed was the Federal Reserve note. However, when there were any personnel changes in key positions (treasurer of the US and/or secretary of the Treasury) it would require a new signature on the note, moving the series forward...one letter at a time. From 1928-34 the series had 5 releases (1928, 1928-A...1928-D). The obverses of the first releases, 1928 and 1928-A, were similar in design to the 1914 large sized FRNs. The seal color changed from blue to green (there are some red seal large sized

FRNs) but many of the similar design elements remained including Lincoln's portrait and the FRN number district seal.

In the 1980's one could buy a choice Crisp Uncirculated (CU) number district FRN for as low as \$35. Over the ensuing decades as the scarcity of the 1928/1928-A number district notes became apparent, prices of choice to gem examples increased many times over. In some of the districts where the population was low, such as Minneapolis or St. Louis, the price of a gem graded example has increased exponentially. For example, Heritage Auction recently sold a gem uncirculated St. Louis 1928 FRN for \$16,450 (to date only four have been graded as uncirculated). I had a similar



*With the release of the 1928-B FRN the district seal changed from a number to a letter. The four district numbers abutting the large hollow numeral "5" in the*



*corners remained. Above the FRN district seal is the "Redeemable in Gold on Demand" clause found on all 1928 series FRNs.*



SERIES OF 1928 C



SERIES OF 1928 D

note, in AU, in my collection years ago and thought I did well when I sold it for \$200.

*Mule Notes:* Small-size mule notes offer an interesting way to collect currency. They certainly garner a premium. In 1938, the Bureau of Engraving & Printing made a switch from micro (.6 mm high) plate numbers to macro (1 mm high) plate numbers in order to improve readability. Rather than discard the existing micro plates, the BEP continued to use them side-by-side with the new macro plates until they were retired in 1953. Whenever a micro face plate was paired with a macro back during printing, one of these “mule” notes was created.

In 1933, when the 1928-C and 1928-D series were released into circulation, they quickly became obsolete when President Franklin Roosevelt took the U.S. off the gold standard. To put it into proper context, there were approximately 250 million 1928-B

FRNs printed; only 5.5 million were printed for the 1928-C and 1.38 million of the 1928-D.

The 1928-C was only released in three of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks: Cleveland, Atlanta, and San Francisco. They are extremely scarce and there are no San Francisco documented examples. A circulated 1928-C graded in VF will set you back ~\$400; in Choice CU, they have sold for over \$12,000 (a slabbed gem ‘65’ note once sold at auction for \$26,000). If a San Francisco 1928-C ever came to market (only 266,304 were printed), it could sell for \$75,000 or more at auction, regardless of condition. The 1928-D was only released in Atlanta and is even rarer. There are ~50 known. A 1928-D in a VF grade will cost ~\$2,000.

The 1934 series had 5 signatory changes (1934, 1934-A...1934-D). They were in use from 1934-1950. The redemption clause was changed with references to gold eliminated and



Right, the 1934-A showing the updated redemption clause (enlarged at lower right)



Below, the light (left) and dark (right) seals.



THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, AND IS REDEEMABLE IN LAWFUL MONEY AT THE UNITED STATES TREASURY, OR AT ANY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.

replaced with “Redeemable in Lawful Money.”

On the 1934 series of FRNs, the Treasury printed two different colored seals: the light green seal and the dark green seal. The light seal is often referred to as the “yellow-green seal.” The color variation is so pronounced that in the Friedberg Paper Money

reference book, each has its own catalogue number. The light green seal is Fr. 1955; the dark green seal is Fr. 1956.

One of the most desirable FRNs issued was the 1934-A brown seal Hawaii note. The US government issued these notes for use in Hawaii with the Hawaii stamp on the face and back. Released in 1942 during WW2, it was thought that if the Japanese took control of Hawaii, something that



A 1934-A with a brown seal and the “HAWAII” overstamp on the front and back.





1 THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, AND IS REDEEMABLE IN LAWFUL MONEY AT THE UNITED STATES TREASURY, OR AT ANY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.

*The 1950 series introduced eight different changes from the previous 1934 series.*

seemed possible after the attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the currency could be devalued and rendered worthless. The district seal “L” refers to San Francisco which is the closest FRB in proximity to Hawaii.

For the 1950 series, the Treasury implemented quite a few design changes from earlier issues.

- 1) The spacing of the redemption clause changed,
- 2) the “FIVE” superimposed on the green Treasury seal was reduced in size,
- 3) the “Washington, D.C.” under the date was removed,
- 4) the “series of date” to the right of Lincoln’s portrait was also eliminated,
- 5) both the Treasury and district seal were reduced in size,
- 6) the physical size of the serial numbers also shrunk,
- 7) the four district numbers were brought in closer to the portrait, and,
- 8) both signatures/titles moved to

align directly under the serial numbers.

The 1950 series of the FRN had six signatory changes (designated 1950, 1950-A...1950-E). The series was in use from 1950 through 1963. The 1950-E series was only released through 3 Federal Reserve Banks: New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

The 1963 series was a short run. From 1963-69, only two issue were released: the 1963 and 1963-A. This example displays a star, denoting it as a replacement note. The redemption wording on top of the district seal changed yet again. From 28 to 10 words.

In 1969 the \$5 FRN began using a new Treasury seal with wording in English instead of Latin. The seal wording between the concentric rings on the left, from 1969, reads: THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY – 1789.

On the right, in Latin, from 1963: THESAUR. AMER. SEPTEN. SIGIL.



Right, the 1963 series changed the redemption clause yet again, this time down to 10 words compared to the 28 on the 1950 series notes.

In addition, the phrase "will pay to the bearer on demand" was removed. Below, in 1969 the treasury seal was modified, replacing the previous Latin text with English.



THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER  
FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

WILL PAY TO THE BEARER ON DEMAND  
FIVE DOLLARS  
FIVE DOLLARS



Also at the bottom center of 1963 series note, the "WILL PAY TO THE BEARER ON DEMAND" on top of the "FIVE DOLLARS" in the center bottom was eliminated.

On the reverse, the "IN GOD WE TRUST" motto on top of the Lincoln Memorial is a notable addition. The note on the right is the reverse of a 1950 series without the motto.

From the 1963 series through the 1995 series the design remained mostly unchanged. With the release of the 1988-A series, the Treasury opened up a second printing facility in Fort Worth, Texas. Previously all bank notes were printed in Washington, DC. An "FW" for Fort Worth is engraved next to the check plate number in the lower right corner of the obverse. The 1993 and 1995 series incorporated a vertical embedded security strip just to the left of the district seal.

By 1990, with improved computer and printing technologies in the





A 1988 series printed in Fort Worth (“FW”).



private sector, forgers were readily able to produce highly deceptive counterfeit notes on widely available copy machines. The Treasury was forced to redesign all the currency implementing many anti-counterfeiting measures. The redesign started with the \$100 bill in 1990 working its way to lower denominations throughout the 1990’s. By 1999 the \$5 FRN went into production with a radically new design. Most noticeable is the enlarged and striking portrait of Lincoln. Much of the fonts have been redesigned and the FRN district seal with the encircled letter was dropped. It was replaced by a spread eagle perched

on a shield nestled on a bed of leaves. The upper-left serial number is a 2 letter designation referring to the issuing bank and year of issue. The first letter is A for series 1996; B for series 1999; C for series 2001; D for series 2003; F for series 2003A; H for series 2006; K for series 2006A, etc. The second letter of the sequence refers to the issuing city (A=Boston, B=New York...L=San Francisco). Right below the serial number is a two-character (letter/number) FRB bank designator. In this case the “F6” shown refers to Atlanta. Interesting to note, that references to the city of the issuing bank has been eliminated. The reverse has



The reverse of the 1999 series had a significant number of changes to the front, with a greatly cleaned-up back, eliminating the previously ornate scroll work that had flanked the vignette of the Lincoln Monument.



been simplified with much of ornate scroll work eliminated.

The Treasury included several anti-counterfeiting features: 1) A watermark portrait of Lincoln, to the right of the green seal, appears when backlit, 2) to the far left, an embedded security strip that glows blue under UV light was added, 3) in the bottom of Lincoln's portrait, under his lapel "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" is micro-printed in 2 places, 4) in the filigree on both ends of the note, "FIVE DOLLARS" is micro-printed 62 times. Fine line printing patterns are placed behind Lincoln's portrait and the Lincoln Memorial. The printing and engraving is so small, that no photocopy machine could ever capture the minuscule detail.

In 2009, the Treasury changed the design once again to include additional anti-counterfeiting measures and design changes. The 2009 \$5 bill contains the following:

- 1) The 2009 \$5 FRN includes an enhanced portrait of Lincoln and the Lincoln Memorial.
- 2) The oval borders have been removed from President Lincoln's portrait on the obverse, and on the Lincoln Memorial on the reverse.
- 3) The most noticeable difference between the 1999 and 2009 bills is the addition of light-purple coloring in the center of the bill, which blends into gray near the edges.
- 4) An American symbol of freedom, in the form of an eagle and shield, is printed in the background: just to the right of the portrait. An arc of (20) hollow purple stars surround both the eagle and the portrait.
- 5) When the Lincoln Memorial was constructed, the names of the 48 states were engraved on the exterior of the building. The image of the Lincoln Memorial on the 1999 and 2009 notes contains the names





*At left and below, examples of micro-printing technology used starting in 2009. At right, examples of the watermarks used in the paper for the same anti-counterfeiting purpose.*



*At left, the blanked-out areas on the back of the bill that appear under special infrared lighting.*

of 26 states. These are the 26 states that can be seen on the top, front side of the Lincoln Memorial above the columns:

- 6) The two large “5”s in the bottom corners of the face have changed from a gray filled gradation in 1999 to hollow in 2009.
- 7) Anti-Photocopy Circle Pattern: Small yellow “05”s are printed to the left of the portrait on the obverse and to the right of the Lincoln Memorial vignette on the reverse. The zeros in the “05”s form a “EURion constellation” to prevent photocopying of the bill. Photocopy machines and scanners can detect the particular pattern of yellow circles and will disable the copy/scan functions.
- 8) Watermarks: There are now two watermarks. A large numeral “5” watermark is located in a blank

space to the right of the portrait, replacing the watermark portrait of President Lincoln found on the previous issue from 1999. A second watermark—a new column of three smaller “5”s—has been added and is positioned to the left of the portrait and just to the right of the black seal. Both watermarks can be viewed when the note is back lit.

- 9) Security thread: The vertically embedded security thread runs is now located to the right of the portrait. The letters “USA” followed by the number “5” in an alternating pattern are visible along the thread from both sides of the bill. Like the 1999 series, the thread glows blue when held under ultraviolet light (black light).
- 10) Micro-printing: The redesigned \$5 bill features many examples

of micro-printing, which is the engraving of tiny text, on the front of the bill in four areas:

- a. The words “FIVE DOLLARS” can be found repeated inside the left and right borders of the bill.
- b. The words “E PLURIBUS UNUM” appear 3 times at the top of the obverse shield within the Great Seal.
- c. The word “USA” is repeated in between the columns of the shield.
- d. On the back of the bill, a larger, purple numeral “5” appears in the lower right corner to help those with visual impairments to distinguish the denomination. At the very tail of the numeral, the large “5” also includes the words “USA FIVE USA FIVE” in tiny white letters.
- e. Red and blue threads: Some small red and blue threads are embedded into the paper to reveal if a higher denomination counterfeit bill has been printed on the bleached paper of a genuine lower denomination

bill; a devious trick employed by currency forgers

- f. The reverse of the five-dollar bill has two rectangular strips that are blanked out when viewed in the infrared spectrum, as seen in the image taken by an infrared camera.

So much time and effort has gone into producing our circulating currency...especially in the last 20 years as the government inserted many design and anti-counterfeiting changes. The new bills can no longer be called nondescript. The improvements have created a new and more attractive note with a wonderful portrait of President Lincoln. The addition of the micro-printing is something virtually unknown to the general public. I've showed them to friends and almost universally the reaction has been quite positive. I've gotten comments like: “That’s cool” to “Wow, I didn’t know that.” In a future issue we will explore \$5 US notes, silver certificates, Federal Reserve Bank notes and national currency notes.

## Factoid

The government maintains a public education website for US currency at [www.uscurrency.gov](http://www.uscurrency.gov), where browsers can learn about all the denominations of currency, get the latest information on reporting counterfeits and counterfeiting, and even take a test to assess their knowledge about our paper money’s security features! Included are odd-ball facts like “It would take 4,000 double folds, forwards and backwards to tear a banknote,” or, “A stack of currency one mile high would contain more than 14.5 million banknotes.” Definitely worth a visit...





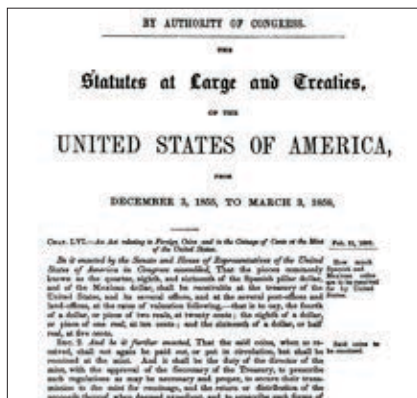
# The Act of 1857 Axed Collector Favorites

by Jim Wells

The passage of the US Congress' Mint Act in February 1857 ushered in a year of numismatic surprises and economic upheaval into a previously prosperous economy. The Act ended the life of (or "axed") the basically ignored and underused half cents and large cents. It also introduced the small cent and outlawed ("axed") the use of foreign coins, which were frequently portrayed on American paper money. Yet today these once "axed" rejects are popular collectibles.



The Act's full name was *An Act relating to Foreign Coins and to the Coinage of Cents at the Mint of the United States*. It drastically altered business in America. For decades, merchants who had tolerated any form of payment as long as it was specie (coinage) began to accept only the minted products from the US government. The recent increase in American silver coinage made much of the



foreign silver obsolete in the eyes of some. The non-decimal systems used in foreign coinage was also an issue, making prices subject to fractions of a cent and therefore making change was often troublesome. Even still, circulation of foreign coins lasted for decades longer in rural areas.

At the start of the year, gold shipments from California and agricultural, manufacturing, and railroad businesses were thriving. But financial markets were teetering, and in the autumn, insurance companies, banks, and stockbrokers began to fail. Specie payments were suspended, and the Panic of 1857 was underway.

To top all of this off, in September the steamship *SS Central America* loaded with more than a million dollars in gold coins, gold bars, and gold dust from San Francisco was lost in an Atlantic storm with most of its passengers, increasing economic uncertainty, and exacerbating the Panic.

*Right: the half cent's life lasted for 65 years from its 1793 introduction until ended by the Act of 1857.*



### **US Coin Series Axed: Two**

The Act ended two now-popular coin series: half cents and large cents.

Copper half cents were introduced in 1793 and progressed through numerous liberty cap, draped bust, and classic head designs, to the braided hair design, ended in 1857 by the Act. America's smallest denomination had become outmoded as few were seen in circulation near its end. The series has now become popular with many collectors, who seek the numerous types and varieties, rare dates, hand-cut rustic designs, and varying shades (green, brown, yellow, ebony) of the original mint-orange color.

America's large cents have been called the "foundation stones of American numismatics" by Dave Bowers. The original 1793 "chain" design was the Philadelphia Mint's first product, followed that same year by "wreath" and liberty cap designs. Thereafter the large cents were often similar to the designs of half cents. Their disappearance from circulation during the 1850s caused aficionados to become interested in collecting them, and that interest has only grown stronger over time. Especially sought are those three classic designs from 1793.

Enthusiastic half cent and large cent collectors now form a popular national club, the Early American Coppers, with their own grading standards, website, conventions, and publications.

*Below: our 1793 chain large cents were our mint's first coin. Their braided hair successors were retired in 1857.*



### **US Coin Series Begun: One**

The Act also led to the introduction of the flying eagle small cents. Patterns of this copper-nickel, 19 mm design had been produced in 1856, and regular production began in 1957 to replace the 27.5 mm large cents (which had previously measured 26.5, 27, and 29 mm.) The 19mm size continues on cents today. (Or will today's small cents be "axed" too, as frequently threatened?)

*The hard-to-strike flying eagle design lasted only through*



*1858, but small cents continue today.*

On the day the flying eagle cent was released, three million pieces were issued at the Philadelphia Mint to over 1,000 enthusiastic citizens. Packages of 500 small cents were traded at face for old copper large cents and half cents, or for silver coins, foreign and domestic, based on the silver's value by weight.

Shortly thereafter, several new numismatic publications sprang up to satisfy the sudden public interest in collecting these new coins and the newly-retired series. Within the year, a dozen coin dealers opened shops, numismatic societies were established, and illustrated coin books were published. Proof coins became popular, and the Mint became a major coin dealer by selling patterns and restrikes "off the books."

### **The Axe Wielder**

Franklin Pierce was the US president who signed the Act of 1857. He had formerly been a Congressman and Senator from New Hampshire. A decade previously, he had volunteered for the army when the Mexican-American War began. He quickly rose to become a brigadier general and accompanied Commanding General Winfield Scott in the capture of Mexico City.

In the last month of his Presidency, he was able to strike Mexico with another blow. The Spanish monetary system was once one of the premier currencies of the world, used on every continent. After Spain arrived to conquer the Aztec Empire in today's Mexico, the Spanish took control of all silver mines of the Aztecs and their tribute states. The Spanish "ocho reales," or "eight royals," and its subdivisions were minted in Spain



*Portrait of 14th president of the US, Franklin Pierce, oil on canvas by George Peter Alexander, 1853. President Pierce ended the legal tender status of Spanish coins in US commerce. But he was otherwise regarded as one of the worst presidents.*

and eventually six of its American colonies. These coins were numerous and recognizable in trade around the world and were considered the first international currency. They were more familiar in the US than our own coinage.

But Franklin Pierce's Act of 1857 ended the US use of the Spanish Empire's coinage. American mints had finally reached sufficient output to take their place.

### **Foreign Silver Coins Axed: 143**

After the Revolutionary War and up until the establishment of the US mint in 1792, the only specie in use was foreign coins. Alexander Hamilton had based America's dollar on the Spanish 8 reales. In fact all of



*Silver coins gaining and then losing legal tender status included the 1813 Brazilian 960 reis, the 1848 French 5 francs showing Hercules and 2 maidens, and the 1740 8 reales of Spain's Mexican dominion, a "Pillar dollar."*

*(This last piece, the long-standing "first coin shown in the Red Book," I bought for \$5 around 1950.)*

America's Continental Currency in 1775-1779 stated "This Bill entitles the bearer to receive (denomination) SPANISH MILLED DOLLAR(/S), or the value thereof in Gold or Silver..." Hamilton also proposed that foreign coins circulate freely for a period of three years until the new mint in Philadelphia was running at full capacity.

But this optimistic plan was not realized and was renewed several times after being first specifically spelled out by Congress in 1806. In 1830, about 25% of all circulating coins were from the Spanish Empire. President Andrew Jackson supported foreign coins as legal tender in his famous war with the Bank of the US. This new development ended up making it difficult for the US to retain its overvalued, worn Spanish silver in the 1840s. Not until the late 1840s

and early 1850s, was the US mint able to meet the demand for the nation's coins.

Over many years, foreign silver coins were assayed by the US Mint and many series and dates (back to 1701!) were approved as legal tender. Silver coin denominations accepted were selected dates of:

- 8, 4, 2, 1, and ½ reales from Spain and its dominions: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru
- 20 and 10 reales from Spain's concurrent De Vellon coinage system, in which 20 "reales de Vellon" equaled 8 old "reales de plata"
- 8 reales (but no other denominations) from the new Republics of Mexico and Peru
- 8 reales and 1 peso (and no others) from the new Republic of Chile





*Legal tender status was rescinded by the Act of 1857 on 319 foreign gold coins, including Spain's Charles III 1787 4 escudos, Great Britain's George II 1817 sovereign, and France's ANXI (1803-04) 40 francs showing Napoleon.*

- 8 reales (and no others) from the Central American Republic
- 8 sueldos (and no others) from the Republic of Bolivia
- 960 reis (and no others) from Brazil
- 1/20, 1/10, 1/5, 1/2, and 1 ecus; 6, 12, and 24 sols; 3 and 6 livres; and 5 francs from France (and no others) (But no silver coins from Great Britain!)

The Spanish “pillar coins” featured crowned world hemispheres or royal arms between crowned pillars. These “Pillars of Hercules” were the legendary symbols bordering the Straits of Gibraltar. They represented Spain’s vision of the nautical gateway to the New World.

Some collectors strive to collect these foreign silver substitutes, or at least those equal to one US dollar.

### **Foreign Gold Coins Axed: 319**

Trade with foreign countries also resulted in the arrival of numerous gold coins from Europe and the Americas. The mint carefully analyzed each series back to 1701, and accepted as

American legal tender, selected dates of the following denominations:

- 1/2, 1, 2, 4, and 8 escudos; and 80, 100, 160, and 320 reales from Spain and its dominions: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru
- 1, 2, 4, and 8 escudos; and 1, 2, 10, and 16 pesos from the new Republic of Colombia
- 1/2, 1, 2, 4, and 8 escudos from the new Republic and Empire of Mexico
- 400, 1,000, 2,000, 2,500, 4,000, 5,000, 10,000, and 20,000 reis; and 1/2, 1, 2, 4, and 8 escudos from Portugal
- 4,000, 5,000, 6,400, 10,000 and 20,000 reis from the new Empire of Brazil
- 1/4, 1/3, 1/2, 1, 2, and 5 Guineas; and 1/2, 1, and 2 pounds (sovereigns) from Great Britain (and no others)
- 1/2, 1, and 2 Louis d’ors; and 5, 10, 20, 40, 50, and 100 francs from France (and no others)

A total of 319 denomination/value combinations of foreign gold had been authorized for American use, then “axed” in 1857. The Schilke and Sol-



omon 1964 book *America's Foreign Coins* catalogs the specific designs and years of both gold and silver coins authorized as legal tender.

The foreign coin legal tender laws fell far short of the objective of driving out foreign money on a gradual basis. More likely responsible was the dramatic increase in gold production and coinage in the US. Legal tender authorization tended to prolong circulation of foreign coins, just the reverse of what the Founding Fathers had intended.

## **Foreign Denominations Axed: 12**

The original Mint Act of 1792 had declared the dollar as the American monetary standard, divisible decimally into 100 cents. America's initial fractional coinage was decimal: with coins of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents. Other nations sending coinage to America used their own monetary systems, and few were easily converted to dollars. Coins from Spain and its American dominions were on the octal system, with silver fractions of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, and 4 reales of the 8 reales coin, the "Spanish Milled Dollar," used around the world. Gold Spanish coins were denominated in escudos, each worth 16 reales.

Converting from these Spanish coins in general usage to the American decimal system created frequent confusion: a silver  $\frac{1}{2}$  real was worth  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents, a 1 real was worth  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents. The odd 3 reales was worth  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents. More easily converted was the 2 reales ("2 bits") to 25 cents, 4 reales to 50 cents, even 6 reales to 75 cents. How did one provide change for a " $6\frac{1}{4}$  cent" coin without an American

"farthing" (a British  $\frac{1}{4}$  penny)? The "12 $\frac{1}{2}$  cent" (1 real) coin at least had US half cents to help make change. Other foreign denominations created similar challenges.

South America's massive gold and silver deposits were being turned into large coin mintages in Spain and Portugal and their new world colonies. Silver reales and gold escudo coins were minted in Spain and six of its American dominions: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, and Mexico. Sixteen of their reales equaled one escudo. After the Spanish dominions achieved independence in the nineteenth century, most continued minting the same denominations. The Republics of Chile and Colombia's new systems added pesos (8 reales equaled 1 peso.) The Republic of Bolivia switched to gold scudos, divisible into 18 silver sueldos (or soles.) The new Central American Republic's silver reales (16 to the escudo) also became legal tender.

Great Britain's gold guineas (21 shillings) and pound/sovereigns (20 shillings) became legal tender, but none of their silver coinage was accepted. France's legalized coins were the gold Louis d'or (equal to 4 silver ecus) then francs (equal to 100 centimes) after the French Revolution. Portugal and its colony Brazil produced gold escudos and reis (1600 to the escudo) coinage. After its independence, Brazil continued with gold reis denominations.

Adding to the confusion was coinage from many other countries, and even additional denominations from the countries described above, that were not deemed acceptable as legal tender by the US Mint.



*“Pillar” coins of the Spanish Empire whose reverses appeared on American paper money include a Mexican 8 reales, Bolivian 4 reales, Peruvian 2 reales, Colombian 1 real, Chilean ½ real, and the Spanish 20 reales after a devaluation in the 1850s.*

Have all that straight? Pity the American merchants and exchange houses that had to deal with these monetary systems, perhaps daily. At least the Act of 1857 allowed the dollar and its decimal cents to finally replace those reis, escudo, reales, Louis d’or, livre, franc, guinea, sovereign, peso, ecu, sol, and sueldo denominations.

### **Foreign Coins on American Currency Axed: Six**

For decades, many American banks and other issuers authorized paper money in fractional denominations. This practice was especially prevalent during periods when coins were hoarded: the Hard Times period of the 1830s and the Civil War years of the 1860s. Many notes used decimal denominations akin to American coins: 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents. Others occasionally issued denominations matching the Spanish reales values:

6¼ cents, 12½ cents, even 37½ cents (3 reales.) Low-denomination paper money often printed the decimal value of the note and also showed an illustration of the (more familiar?) Spanish equivalent coin.

Several of these notes are illustrated at the end of the article. Noteworthy are the three lowest denominations of Spanish and Mexican reales. The Act of 1857 made these half reales (theoretically 6¼ cents,) reales (12½ cents,) and two reales (25 cents) receivable by the US government at the rates of 5, 10, and 20 cents, respectively. This exchange was set to expire in 1860. Some merchants had refused to pay full exchange for these denominations for some time, and the coins had circulated as 5, 10, and 20 cents. Several banknotes for 5 and 10 cents pictured the half-real or one-real coins, as shown at the end of the article.

Other bills illustrated the Spanish coins far into the Civil War decade,

well after the Act of 1857. Why is this? Issuers in the Confederate states did not have to comply with the US Act of 1857 – axing notwithstanding!

My conclusion? We can be thankful that we have a standard set of coinage and Federal Reserve Notes today that avoids much of confusion that existed in the past. But these colorful coins and bills make for interesting study, collections, and exhibits.

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## Foreign Coins on American Currency

Many lower-value American paper money issues illustrated their equivalence in Spanish real or reales coins. Along with vignettes that often adorn such notes, an interesting collection could be put together just in this specialty genre. Do you have any American banknotes that show foreign coins?

*This Virginia bank’s 6¼-cent bill from the 1839 Hard Times period displays a ½ real Spanish coin in the upper right.*



*Another 6¼-cent bill from a Nashville bank in 1838.*



*In 1857 Spanish half reals (6¼¢) and reals (12½¢) were ruled equal to 5¢ and 10¢ in the US. Many 5¢ and 10¢ bills like this showed the exchangeable coin.*





Oops! The 1-real (12½¢) coin is properly displayed on this TEN CENT bill but the right end states "FIVE CENTS." Apparently, this error was caught, and the bill was not signed.



This 1839 12½-cent note shows a Spanish coin, presumably a 1-bit denomination.



The one-bit denomination from 1837 was issued by a New Jersey Whaling and Sealing enterprise. It displays a 1-real coin.



This 25-cent New York bill of 1837 shows a 2-reales coin from one of Spain's American dominions.



Two 2-real coins are illustrated on this 1861 Tennessee 25-cent note from the Civil War era.



This Richmond bank's 37½-cent bill from 1861 represents 3 Spanish reales.



A steam train graces this 50-cent note, with four-reales coins on each side of the train.



This 1862 50-cent Natchez note shows a 4-reales Spanish coin in a circle surrounded by "Half a Dollar."



A New York Exchange Company printed a 75-cent note in 1837 equal to 6 reales. Three 2-reales coins are shown on the left edge.



A \$1 1861 Tennessee note illustrates two 20 reales coins of Spain's Ferdinand VII, struck only in 1821-1823. These were equivalent to previous 8-reales coins.



Three Spanish eight-reales coins appear on this 1837 Illinois \$3 note.



The Manhattan, Ohio \$5 note dated 1840 displays five eight-reales Spanish "pillar dollars."





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



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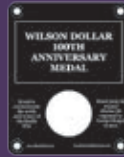
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# California Token Spotlight

**Shining on: Avila Beach**

*by Merle Avila*

Miguel Antonio Avila was born in Santa Barbara in 1796. In 1824, he was promoted to corporal of the guard at Mission San Luis Obispo. Avila, a member of a prominent family, married the niece of Pio Pico (the last governor of Alta California), Maria Encarnacion Inocenta Pico, in 1826. He petitioned and was granted two land grants from Mexico that encompassed what are currently known as Point San Luis, San Luis Bay, and Avila Beach, over 22,136 beautiful Central California acres.

Miguel died in 1874 at his beloved Rancho Quemada, located near San Luis Creek. Soon thereafter, Inocenta and one of their sons, Juan, began laying out the beach community of Avila

Moving to California in the 1860's with his wife, Margaret Harris, John Harford soon found business dealings in San Luis Obispo and the surrounding area. After purchasing land from the Avila family and buying into a lumber firm, Hartford led other merchants in forming the People's Wharf Company in 1868. The intention was to build a wharf at Avila to foster local commerce and trade. By 1869, the wharf had been completed, stretching 1,800 feet into the bay. After a few initial troubles, Hartford was able to hire local David Mallagh to run the People's Wharf, and business boomed.



*Above: John Harford.*

*Token: TC-102904; 2K-2*



Harford always strove for improvement, and not content with the scope of operations at Avila Wharf, he soon laid down plans for yet another pier. Beginning in 1871, a year before he would sell his share of the People's Wharf operation, Harford set out to construct a new wharf at the west end of San Luis Bay. Initially reaching 540 feet into the harbor, the pier was notable for Harford's ingenuity in building a horse-drawn narrow-gauge railway connecting it to Avila. He hired a man named Al Louis from San Luis Obispo to supply a Chinese work team, and the railway and pier were up and running by 1873.

Stiff competition amongst Pacific Coast steamships drove down the price of a ticket in the late 1800s. For John Harford, this meant that business was fantastic, as affordable trips to San Francisco and elsewhere were now within reach of the general public. In 1878, the People's Wharf, which Har-



Left: the Marre Hotel. Right: Avila mid-twentieth century, well on it's way to tourism.



*A wooden nickel  
from the  
Avila  
Grocery,  
still in  
business  
today.*



ford had been instrumental in building and whose share he later sold, was destroyed in a great storm that battered Avila. Harford's new wharf stood, a testament to his skill and patience, and is still in use today.

Luigi Marre traveled from Italy to San Francisco in 1854 at the age of 14. Physically well built and with a keen mind, Marre had intently set out in search of California gold and adventure. Throughout the 1870's he drove cattle from Mexico to Nevada and San Francisco. After spending some time in Southern California, Marre came to San Luis Obispo in 1879 and rented the Pecho Rancho. In the early 1880's, he bought the San Miguelito Ranch from John Harford, followed shortly by the acquisition of the Pecho Rancho plus another 2,500 acres of the Avila estate. In 1881, he married and had seven children. Marre and his two sons owned the largest cattle ranch in San Luis Obispo County and one of

the largest in the state.

In the early 1880's, Marre purchased half of Avila's waterfront, 90 acres between Cave Landing and Avila, and 20 acres above Port Harford. The Ocean Hotel, situated at the foot of the Harford Pier, was purchased by Luigi in 1882 with his partner Antonio Gagliardo, an old friend from his San Francisco days. They changed the name to the Marre Hotel. The hotel was known up and down the coast for its wonderful hospitality and fabulous bar. Luigi Marre died in 1903 in San Francisco and is buried in the family plot at the Catholic Cemetery in San Luis Obispo. The Marre Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1934.

By 1955, with the economy on the mend, more and more tourists found their way to the quaint seaside community. Townspeople petitioned Vicente Canet, the postmaster, to work with the federal government to officially change the town's name of Avila to Avila Beach.



# 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...

## Grandpa Fred Popular

Greg and Jim,

I very much enjoyed Jim Wells' article on his Grandpa's token. As an amateur token dealer, I always find it cool when one of my tokens finds its way home to a family member. I will keep my eyes peeled for you!

Token collectors really want to know the details and Jim has shed a lot of light on this token. Indeed, this brass token has the early 20th century look consistent with the beginning of Jim's Grandpa's store. But a question remains. What was this token used for? It is of the nickel size commonly used in slot machines of the day by saloons and cigar stands. But what use would a stationary store have for this type of token? Perhaps Jim's grandfather also sold cigars with a slot machine on the counter during prohibition? It was a common male vice of the time. Of course, such mystery is the allure of trade tokens.

Regards,

—**Michael Wehner**

*Thanks for the email, Michael; I'll copy Jim on this reply. Jim's always*



*a popular writer, but usually focuses more on coins and putting them in context with issuers, motifs, and political events, and only a couple of times on such a personal story. So I was very happy when he did so in this case. Interesting speculation on the purpose of Jim's token. That will be another question he can add to the list <grin>. Best regards, Greg*

## Positive Viewpoint

"We're in this together." This phrase is one we've heard over and over due to the pandemic. We have all been involved in canceled meetings, coin shows, get-togethers: all types of business and social plans have been affected. Maybe this is why we find ourselves with so much time on our hands. As a result, I found myself going through past copies of TCN, which I always enjoy, as each issue is a treasure-trove of intriguing and fascinating articles.

Being new to this position as CSNA corresponding secretary, I was re-reading an article from TCN's winter 2019 publication and I found an article written by Don Hill, former corresponding secretary, that I felt was a great reminder to utilize this "extra" time we have. Although he was al-

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luding to New Year's resolutions, his thoughts are all great goals for now... especially now. It resonated with me and I want to share it with you, thinking it might do the same for you. Here it is, Don Hill's column from TCN winter 2019 V16 N4, page 8:

- Pay my club dues and coin magazine subscriptions on the first notice.
- Read completely the coin publications I receive because there's always something I don't know.
- Be open to new numismatic opportunities by following the hobby more closely.
- Encourage others to participate more and that includes setting up and cleaning up.
- Introduce at least one new person to numismatics.
- Read at least one coin-related book each quarter.
- Spend my money on quality and focus, focus, focus.
- Sell off things I have lost interest in and reinvest in coins that make me happy.
- Submit a coin I like for grading.
- Attend a coin auction.

Many of us recognize from this list things we already do. Is there some-

thing we could add? This list could be the impetus to do something more than we already do, utilizing our time in a more productive way and maximizing results. Think about it...you've got to start somewhere...then do something!

We are all in this together and we can make a big difference in 2021.

—George Magann

## Spooky Possibilities

Greg,

After I wrote the article on "Emil J. Graff—Store Scrip" published in the summer issue of TCN last year, I sent a copy of the article to the current owner of the flower shop now housed in the building. I recently received a reply from the owner thanking me for the historic information about the building. She said they kept the original floor and markings on the windows and that she "loved the feel of this old building." Her response was greatly appreciated and I hope she does not see anytime a ghost of Mr. Graff walking around!

—Phil Iversen

*Well, as long as he's dressed as nicely as in the photo in the article, she probably won't mind... GB*

# ANA Educational Outreach

by *Walt Ostromecki*

Most numismatists and others have been stuck at home during the Covid-19 pandemic under stay-at-home orders since March 2020.

Coin shows across the nation and in-person club meetings have been canceled, including two major ANA conventions along with the ANA's Summer Seminars for 2020 and 2021 in Colorado Springs. Locally in Southern California the thrice yearly Long Beach Coin Expo as well as the NASC Golden State Coin Show which also hosted the Scouts Merit Badge workshop have faced a similar fate!

So, how can we keep the coin collecting hobby community safe and engaged *educationally* during these unprecedented trying times?

The ANA along with coin clubs nationally have focused on the “virtual” method to provide educational opportunities for collectors and clubs. While the circumstances of having to make the numismatic hobby more digital are unfortunate, this author believes we will find it may be easier for those interested in the hobby education aspect rather than a pure social one to become more involved now that many things are online.

It will certainly help the demographics of the hobby, by attracting and retaining younger people and families—and even clubs becoming more involved and growing because the resources are more accessible. And this

has already happened for several clubs who have embraced this new way to connect with members. And the results for clubs have been outstanding!

The ANA is offering an abundance of free educational digital content online to keep hobbyists informed, entertained, educated, and connected as they explore the world of money from the comfort of their home!

The ANA's education outreach through the ANA eLearning Academy is focused on keeping collectors engaged through a myriad of lively, fun, and informative presentations on a wide array of topics by a host of outstanding well-known speakers.

The free educational classes run from 30-60 minutes. They are ready for your use and await hobbyists of all ages and collecting experience levels! You can view the various topics available and make reservations for these classes online at: [info.money.org/digitalcontent](http://info.money.org/digitalcontent) or contact Red Gillis by email: [gillis@money.org](mailto:gillis@money.org); or telephone: 719-482-9845.

And, as of February 12th the ANA's Classic Commemorative Coin online resource has premiered. It was developed by an ANA staff education team spearheaded by Director of Education Rod Gillis.

The real value of these efforts is education of the club membership, the primary role upon which many clubs were founded and still plays a role to-



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day in the hobby, rather than a meeting with a mainly social focus. Programs are a *share and learn* feature which do more to attract new members of all ages, primarily youth, into numismatics and club membership rather than pizza parties, hot dog night, bingo, etc.

Education-focused virtual meeting programs have done wonders for increasing interest, membership, and donations to clubs such as the Glendale Coin Club (GCC) and the Sacramento Valley Coin Club (SVCC).

Of special note here for the SVCC is that at their February meeting two youths joined the club to learn more about the club and hobby after only one previous Zoom meeting, “because their focus was on sharing and learning about coins.” This writer was the Zoom speaker and witnessed the hunger of the two teenagers to learn and get more involved with the coin hobby, as the virtual format from home best fit their needs, and others of that age group nationwide.

This author, as a member of the ANA Education Committee, has attended and provided many an eLearning numismatic enrichment program for over 42 club meetings nationwide and three worldwide, two in Canada and one in Australia, over the last

seven months. Club reviews noted “a greater online membership meeting attendance and requests for club and ANA membership along with desires for more ANA eLearning style classes and presentations!”

The GCC online monthly meeting attendance has grown in the past seven months from 35 to near 75 which includes seven individuals from outside the USA. The club is reaping big rewards in both membership and finances. Thanks here go to the foresight and dedicated efforts of Mike Kittle, GCC and NASC president.

In the end, the use of more available digitized resources is helping the hobby and clubs grow, the latter for those who have embraced this technology.

Those clubs who have decided otherwise are faced with a greater challenge: how to remain a relevant educational resource and survive without adapting to the digital world.

The pandemic has made it more commonplace to do more things online and the numismatic world will need to become more and more digitized. This is the biggest factor in helping the hobby grow and changing and reshaping the demographic of the hobby.



# Around the State...



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**Ginny's Gleanings:** Happy New Year 2021! This year has just got to be better than last year. Many of the Southern California clubs have expanded their membership base from coin collectors all over the US by going “virtual” and are looking for ways to include these far-off friends when we are allowed to meet in person once again. Other good news for 2021 is the US Mint will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the end of the Morgan and the beginning of the Peace dollar by issuing these coins. I know Don Kagin had encouraged all the coin clubs to write letters and urge this passage. “Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated”. Coretta Scott King

**Michael's Musings:** Let me open with a huge and most appreciative compliment plus “shout out” to and for Brian Wagoner, of Fort Bragg, Mendocino County, who personally recruited and enticed ten new CSNA Members, even donating a year's dues for each! Thanks, Brian!

Separately—and this would be my procedure for new members—as CSNA president, yours truly would welcome each and extend well-wishes. This procedure would be also for life members, new or converting, and those renewing five years or more.

Following is what I was able to report for around northern California. With the pandemic continuing, vaccines and vaccination limited, and the economy still in decline, well, we just hope for the best, if and when. Note: This section of “Around The State” for Northern California was written in early February 2021.

Special appeal: Please email or conventionally mail respective newsletters and include who is the editor. Yours truly, most likely, has omissions or errors given. Thanks!

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

**ALAMEDA COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. Did have one Zoom gathering; No report. Newsletter: *Thick and Thin Times*, issued much limited format irregularly. Editor?

**ANCIENT COIN CLUB of LOS ANGELES** **Richard Basler** was featured speaker in December using Zoom and showed off spectacular glass artifacts from European museums. His talk was entitled *Roman Glass*. **Steve Rubinger** donated a nice gift to the club, over 130 books! In January noted numismatist **Dr. David Fanning** gave a presentation entitled *Ancient Coins in Early American Auctions, 1869-1939* from his home in Ohio. **Mark Markowitz** presented *Ancient Weights & Measures: Metrology for Numismatists* at their Sunday meeting from his home in Fairfax, Virginia.

**BURBANK COIN CLUB** **Phil Iversen** is still providing an informative and humorous bulletin to all the members even though they are not meeting. Phil recently told of a man with over \$200 million Bitcoins but lost his password. Wonder where that will end up?

**CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB** members have been meeting virtually using GoToMeeting with enthusiastic support by members. **Bob Fritsch**, from New Hampshire, shared his newest creation; a wooden nickel that says "I survived 2020". Very appropriate. Members enjoyed an ANA YN program done by a YN speaking about how to collect coins. It was very well done and gave good suggestions about how to interest kids and others about coins. In February, Bob Fritsch did his Powerpoint presentation entitled, *Which Came Before*. Bob has a large assortment of talks called "Money, Money, Money" and can present them when asked. This talk covered the creation of our modern monetary system from the colonial days to the present using beautiful images of the coinage. **Steve Fahrlander** was thanked for setting up most of the San Diego coin clubs with virtual meetings.

**COVINA COIN CLUB** **Helen Desens** is finally getting mobile after eight operations on her left knee. Thank goodness! **David Schwager** presented his talk *Eight Things To Do When You Don't Have Money to Buy Coins* in November using Zoom. **Mark Baskin** presented *Tips on Buying, Accumulating and Selling Your Coins* in December again using Zoom.

**CUPERTINO COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. But, has quite well-participated Zoom meeting each month, with *Show 'n Tells* and video programs. Much of the continued success can be credited to its energized **President Suzanne Trigo-**

**nis.** The club hopes for its show later in 2021. Newsletter: *Coin Press*, **Allison Paker** editor, monthly.

**DELTA COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. Newsletter: untitled, **Eric Gossesen** editor, not being issued currently.

**DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Unable to meet. But, has done Zoom gatherings and has scheduled programs for each 2021 meeting and social happening. The 2021 Officers are: **Kyle A. Anderson**, president; **Neil Robertson**, vice-president; **Charles Ludvik**, treasurer; and **Maria E. Stillwagon**, secretary. Newsletter: *Diablo Die Break*, “**Dave**” **Davis** editor, monthly.

**FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. Attempts to meet at its longtime regular venue were canceled. The 2020 officers continued for another year under the enthused leadership of **David J. Trimmingam**, who triples as its editor and secretary. Newsletter: *Moneygram*, David J. Trimmingam editor, monthly.

**FREMONT COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. **Matt Hutchinson** coordinates twice a month “social chat gatherings”, but no reports as to what happens. Newsletter: *The Double Eagle*, Irregular. Note: to FCC, your assistant editor, and also as a life member, is not receiving via any means *The Double Eagle*.

**FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Is able to meet! The society has arranged with Cecil Cox American Legion Post #147, most likely in one of the Post’s quite spacious fraternal rooms. These resurrected meetings began in January and February 2021. What is very good to learn: all the society’s regular meeting activities are being held. Even better, **Show Coordinator John Ward** is planning for the society’s show in October 2021. Best Wishes To FNS! Newsletter: *The Fresno Numismatist*, **James Obler** editor, monthly. Note: Other local coin clubs are encouraged to learn how FNS was able to resume meeting and request a complimentary issue of its very good *Fresno Numismatist*.

**GATEWAY COIN CLUB** Nothing. SOS: Does anyone have any information, contact, or update for the Gateway Coin Club of Merced?

**GLENDALE COIN CLUB** **Michael Kittle** has his own Youtube channel and the club uses it for their meetings. He has followers from all over the world. Each meeting provides an auction, programs, etcetera, and members can link to the recorded meetings as they have time. All the meetings are available. **Joe Boling** presented the November program, *Why do Counterfeiters Counterfeit?* **Ernie Nagy** spoke in January about *Satire of Hard Times Tokens*.

**GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB** Busy **Mark Baskin** presented his talk *Tips on Buying, Accumulating and Selling Your Coins* using Zoom at the December meeting. Other clubs are encouraged to log on so that they can partic-



ipate. **Paul Dofton** spoke in February on *Imitation Spade Guineas*. His talk was enjoyed by all and very informative

**HEARTLAND COIN CLUB President Jose Gallego**, a retired chemist, provided an informative demonstration in November on using chemicals properly to clean coins. It was so interesting that everyone took notes and asked him to do a hands-on demonstration when we can meet in person. In December, members shared their Christmas coins. **Bob Fritsch** was the lucky attendance winner and received a beautiful 14-coin Royal Mint proof set in a gorgeous wooden box. The January meeting was devoted to many members doing show and tells.

**HEMET COIN CLUB Editor Jim Phillips** manages to issue a monthly bulletin keeping members informed even though they are not meeting virtually. **Dennis Hogan** awarded his President's awards to three well-deserving individuals: **Ellen Busby**, **Rafael Flores**, and **Jim Phillips**. Jim displayed some currency with a Christmas theme in his December bulletin.

**INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO Ken Aring** shared the spotlight with **Joe Yager** in November. Ken presented his collection of medals celebrating the unification of the Netherlands. Joe provided a Powerpoint program displaying his latest love, *An Introduction to the Modern Banknotes from Scotland*. The notes had many new security features in them. Renowned numismatist **Steve Album** presented his talk in December entitled *Mongol Monetary Strategy in Iran* using Powerpoint. His talk was enjoyed by all and the coins were beautiful.

**LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Unable to meet. Newsletter: untitled, "**Bill**" **Hurja** editor, currently not being issued.

**LIVERMORE VALLEY COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. No reports have been received. Newsletter: untitled, currently not being issued. Editor?

**LONG BEACH COIN CLUB** Members are patiently awaiting the day when they can meet in person. **Howard Feltham** continues to issue a very nice bulletin.

**PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Unable to meet. But quite successful with its monthly Zoom meetings coordinated by the esteemed **Stephen M. Huston**, who the society's treasurer. PCNS began with its January 27, 2021



meeting via Zoom with *Star Provision Company Bread Token* by **Dean Neald**. Its new 2021 officers include also **Jason Macario**, president; and **Dr. Charles Catlett**, secretary. Newsletter: untitled, Stephen M. Huston editor, monthly.

**PENINSULA COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. Has done some Zoom gatherings but no reports. Newsletter: *Bulletin*, none since October 2020. Editor?

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. But, under the great leadership of **Merle V. Avila**, president, and **Dr. Charles Catlett**, the club consistently has monthly Zoom meetings, which have attracted participants from across the entire nation and even international! Wow! Regretfully, unable to report this success since have not received its newsletter since April 2020. Newsletter: untitled, Dr. Charles Catlett editor, monthly. Note: As life member #1, yours truly gets his hard copy but not an extra for the assistant editor.

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. But has had repeated outstanding Zoom meetings and consistently publishes a massive multi-page monthly newsletter, thanks, in part, to the great leadership of **President Patrick Carpenter**. Newsletter: untitled, editor not named, monthly.

**SAN BERNARDINO COIN CLUB** Members are looking forward to meeting in person and a more normal year but are keeping busy.

**SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** A virtual installation dinner was held in January co-hosted with the International Numismatic Society of San Diego which featured two speakers. Local San Diego coin dealer **Ted Koopman** spoke on his love of WWII military currency using Powerpoint followed by questions and answers. Guest speaker **Brad Yonaka** used Powerpoint and gave a very nice presentation of one of his favorite coin series, *Silver Coins Minted in Mexico from 1772-1821*. Brad is the author of several books on coins from Mexican mints. In February life member **Jim Wells** provided a very professional Powerpoint program, entitled *The Act of 1857 Axed Collector Favorites*. His talk covered the chaos caused by the dozens if not more, different coinages accepted by merchants because foreign coins were legal tender until 1857. It took three years to finally phase them out completely. It had to be very confusing.

**SAN JOSE COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. Has held monthly Zoom meetings. Newsletter: *Todo Dinero*, “**AI**” **Lo**, acting editor, monthly.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB** Unable to meet. But, has monthly Zoom gatherings, with excellent involvement. The club even had a “drive-by” *Holiday Basket Gift*, including Santa Claus, for its members. Newsletter: *Gold Strike*, editor not named, monthly.

**VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY** Unable to meet. Newsletter: *Bulletin*, **Michael S. Turrini** editor, presently quarterly or every four months.

# The Emerging Hobbyist

by Michael S. Turrini

*In this issue MST turns the reins over to Matthew Malvini... GB*

My name is Matthew Malvini, and I am a young collector from San Jose, CA. The year 2020 has come and gone. But, even though 2021 is in our grasps, we are still dealing with the pandemic. As the number of COVID-19 cases rise, we continue to be sequestered at home, preventing coin clubs and shows from being held in person. During a previous edition of TCN, I provided a few ideas to keep the thrill of our hobby going in these trying times.

One of my recommendations was promoting virtual tours of our coin collections through the Zoom app. Local coin clubs have adopted the “normal” Zoom meetings. However, said meetings are marginally beneficial. As a member of the Cupertino Coin Club, I’ve noticed that the vast majority of our online attendees fall into the younger crowd. Older participants are left out of the picture. The thought occurred to me...how can collectors of all ages come together during this lockdown?

For a while, this was a question that I could not answer. But, after recently speaking with CSNA’s President Michael S. Turrini, a solution presented itself! Before the pandemic, I wrote articles pertaining to coin roll hunting different denominations:



pennies, nickels, quarters, etc. For nearly six years, I’ve trekked to local banks in search of vintage coins. I can attest that my pursuits have been widely successful. Indian-head cents, buffalo nickels, and silver half dollars are a common occurrence amongst my finds. But, the most remarkable piece of American history that I’ve resurrected was an 1863 Civil War token that found its way into a penny roll. Think of what else is out there, waiting to be discovered!

Coin roll hunting is an ageless activity. Furthermore, some of our readers take part in this favorite pastime. Thus, I am all ears to hearing what *you* have found! If you would like to share coins that you’ve found hunting bank rolls, please contact me. My personal email is [legosrule1999@gmail.com](mailto:legosrule1999@gmail.com). This ongoing series, “The Thrill of the Hunt”, will begin with cents, closely followed by nickels. Our hobby is one of enjoyment...the same can be said for coin roll hunting. Not every hunt may produce a valuable coin, but that doesn’t mean the next search won’t! Thank you, and I look forward to hearing your responses!

# Directory of Member Clubs

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

- Alameda Coin Club**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 2880, Alameda, CA 94501-0880. (CSNA)
- Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles**—meets 2nd Sunday, 1:00 p.m., Skirball Cultural Center, Classroom 160, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles; mailing address: Ancient Coin Club of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 2364, Reseda, CA 91337; Website: [www.accla.org](http://www.accla.org); [klf1031@roadrunner.com](mailto:klf1031@roadrunner.com). (NASC, CSNA)
- Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Westchester Recreational Center, 7160 West Manchester Ave., Los Angeles; mailing address: P.O. Box 45233, Los Angeles, CA 90045. (NASC)
- Burbank Coin Club**—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Joslyn Center (Nutrition Room), 1301 W. Olive Ave., Burbank; mailing address: P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413. (NASC)
- California State Numismatic Association**—meets up to twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: CSNA, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590; email: [csnalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:csnalibrary@gmail.com); Website: [www.calcoin.org](http://www.calcoin.org). (NASC)
- Chula Vista Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., San Diego County Library, Bonita Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: [www.chulavistacoinclub.org](http://www.chulavistacoinclub.org). (CSNA, NASC)
- Coiners Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA, NASC)
- Covina Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., San Dimas Royal Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 1630 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas.; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (CSNA, NASC)
- Cupertino Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph of Cupertino Church, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; email: [CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com](mailto:CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com); Website: [www.cupertinocoinclub.org](http://www.cupertinocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Delta Coin Club of California**—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 690761, Stockton, CA 95269-0761; email: [deltacoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:deltacoinclub@gmail.com). (CSNA)
- DHHS Numismaniaics Coin Club**—meets periodically, Dana Hills High School, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, CA; Mrs. Mary Danna (club advisor), email: [dhhsnumismaniaics@gmail.com](mailto:dhhsnumismaniaics@gmail.com) or text @DHHSNumismaniaics to 23559 for updates about the club. (NASC)
- Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Museum & Event Center, 1928 Clayton Road, Concord; contact: President Robert E. Luna, 707-980-0618; email: [info@diablocoinclub.org](mailto:info@diablocoinclub.org); Website: [www.diablocoinclub.org](http://www.diablocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Downey Numismatists**—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)

- Edmonton Numismatic Society (Canada)**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:15 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion Br #255, 10427 174th St NW., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5T 6A1; email: info\_ens@yahoo.ca. (NASC)
- Fairfield Coin Club**—meets 4th Wednesday (except December), 7:00 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall #1, corner of First and Kentucky Streets, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094. (CSNA)
- Fremont Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Elks Club, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538-0140; Website: www.FremontCoinClub.org. (CSNA)
- Fresno Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Center, 2992 E. Clinton Ave. Fresno ; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525; email: admin@fresnocoinclub.com; Website: www.fresnocoinclub.com. (CSNA)
- Glendale Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:00 p.m., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: GCC, c/o Michael Kittle, P.O. Box 388, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0388; email: mike@kittlecoins.com; Website: www.GlenCoin.com. (NASC)
- Greater Orange County Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church, 2845 Mesa Verde Dr. E. Costa Mesa; mailing address: 2032 Kornat Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; email: bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net; phone: (714) 546-0931; Website: www.occoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Heartland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Rec. Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: P.O. Box 191448, San Diego, CA 92159; email: jmgallego@losgallego.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Hemet Numismatists**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; mailing address: P.O. Box 36, Hemet, CA 92546. (CSNA, NASC)
- International Numismatic Society of San Diego**—meets 4th Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., North Park Adult Rec. Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176; Website: www.inssd.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Las Vegas Numismatic Society**—meets 2nd Saturday, 3:00 p.m., University United Methodist Church, 4412 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; Website: http://lasvegascoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)
- Leisure World Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Mike Supple, 13421 Del Monte Rd., #24D, Seal Beach, CA 90740; email: supplemike5@gmail.com. (NASC)
- Liberty Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Website: LNS.ANAclubs.org. (CSNA)
- Livermore Valley Coin Club**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd., Livermore; mailing address: P.O. Box 610, Livermore, CA 94550. (CSNA)
- Long Beach Coin Club**—meets 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m., Millikan High School Cafeteria, 2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach; mailing address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808. (CSNA, NASC)
- Military Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Rd., Bonita; mailing address: Steve Fahrlander, 1342 Valencia Loop, Chula Vista, CA 91910; email address: MilitaryCoinClub@gmail.com. (CSNA)
- Northern California Numismatic Association**—mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; email: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA)
- Numismatic Association of Southern California**—meets four times per year; mailing address: Walt Ostromecki, 5914 Hesperia Avenue, Encino, CA 91316-1014; email: ostromecki@money.org; Website: www.NASC.net. (CSNA)



- Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Website: [www.pcns.org](http://www.pcns.org). (CSNA)
- Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists**—meets at PAN conventions; mailing address: PAN, 1985 Lincoln Way, Suite 23 #225, White Oak, PA 15131; email: [pancoins@gmail.com](mailto:pancoins@gmail.com); Website: [www.pancoins.org](http://www.pancoins.org). (CSNA)
- Polk County Coin Club (Oregon)**—meets 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, Monmouth, OR; John Brown, (503) 362-9123; email: [brownjohnheil65@gmail.com](mailto:brownjohnheil65@gmail.com). (NASC)
- Redwood Empire Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: 5850 Commerce Blvd., Suite 100, Rohnert Park, CA 94928; Website: [www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com](http://www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com). (CSNA)
- Sacramento Valley Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., North County Corporate Yard, 5026 Don Julio Blvd., Sacramento, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816; Website: [SacValCC.org](http://SacValCC.org). (CSNA)
- San Bernardino County Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Highland Senior Center, 3102 E. Highland Ave., Highland, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 311141, Fontana, CA 92331-1141. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council**—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 10:00 a.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: [www.coinarama.org](http://www.coinarama.org). (CSNA)
- San Diego Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard St., San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040. (CSNA, NASC)
- San Jose Coin Club**—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Website: [www.sanjosecoinclub.org](http://www.sanjosecoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Santa Maria Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 East Park Ave. Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA, NASC)
- Stanislaus County Coin Club**—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-1672; Website: [www.stancocoinclub.org](http://www.stancocoinclub.org). (CSNA)
- Upland Coin Club**—meets 3rd Saturday (January-November) and 2nd Saturday (December), 2:30 p.m., 331 East I Street (private residence), Ontario; email: [Sandragk57@gmail.com](mailto:Sandragk57@gmail.com). (NASC)
- Vallejo Numismatic Society**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador, Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; email: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com); phone: (707) 642-0216 or (707) 246-6327. (CSNA)
- Verdugo Hills Coin Club**—meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., La Crescenta Library, 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)
- Visalia Coin Club**—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Amigos Restaurant (Banquet Room), 5113 W. Walnut Ave., Visalia; email: [bill.terry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bill.terry@sbcglobal.net). (CSNA)
- Western States Token Society (WESTS)**—meets annually; mailing address: P.O. Box 723, Merced, CA 95341. (CSNA)
- Western Wooden Money Club**—meets at various San Francisco Bay area local coin shows, about four times per year; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 3467, Fairfield, CA 94533-3467; email: [EmperorI@juno.com](mailto:EmperorI@juno.com). (CSNA)
- Whittier Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 6:00 p.m., 10005 S. Cole Rd., Whittier, East Whittier United Methodist Church; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Ave., La Habra, CA 90631; email: [phil.chang540@gmail.com](mailto:phil.chang540@gmail.com). (CSNA, NASC)



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# Farewells

## **John Richard Reynolds**

*CSNA LM-56-02, Clovis. John Richard Reynolds passed away on 9/22/2019. He taught Science at Tioga Jr. High for 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Karen Moore Reynolds; daughter, Cathleen Kozielski (husband Kyle) and grand-daughters, Stephanie and Shelby Lynn; grandson, Damion Dunn and great grandson Damion Dunn Jr.; his sister, Carol Ankenman, and brother, Clyde Reynolds, and their families.*



## **Edgar “Ed” Dean Fulwider, Mr. “S-Mint”**

*Ed, who passed away on December 12, 2020, liked to remind everyone that he was at Iwo Jima, not on it, serving as a 17 year-old engine room fireman/water tender on a T2 Tanker. This service allowed him to be included with the famous Marines who fought on that speck in the Pacific, during the terrible ending months of the Second World War.*



*Ed had two grand passions. First, joining the United States Marines and remembering being true to its Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful), and second, his career at the San Francisco Mint, where he rose to be the mint's senior die setter.*

*Ed never forgot his Marines. He also said that he was a “China Marine”, one of the last to be assigned to mainland China before the communist 1949 takeover. In over four decades, there was not a Marine event in the greater San Francisco Bay Area that he did not attend, including saluting his fellow Marines as they answered their final orders.*

*After owning an independent business Ed learned that the San Francisco Mint was reopening. He applied, and with his mechanical skills, rose to senior die setter. One day, reporting on the day shift, he noticed the infamous missing mint mark on proof coins struck by the previous shift. His diligence earned him a cash bonus from the mint.*

*His highpoints at the mint, which he loved dearly, was being asked, as the only dedicated coin hobbyist on the staff, to strike the first proof Ike S-dollar in 1971. And later in the 1980s he was instrumental with open houses and first strike ceremonies, even to the point of creating and having invitations mailed to fictitious coin clubs, such as the USS Enterprise Coin Club!*

*Ed's sincere passion was readily displayed on his license plate: S-MINT.*

*Sometime ago, Ed passed to this eulogist his slides of the mint's operations, one of the few known times that photography was allowed within the mint and that included the subterranean vaults.*

*Ed was active, and served as an officer, with CSNA, Pacific Coast (San Francisco) Numismatic Society, Liberty Numismatic Society, and now gone San Francisco Coin Club, to name a few. He held membership in most all local Bay Area clubs. He chaired a few CSNA conventions held in San Francisco. Over the years, he gave talks, and always enjoyed sharing the world of money hobby with his numismatic sojourners. With his wife Lorelie, they were regulars at various numismatic dinners and banquets.*

*Ed was part of the soon gone Greatest Generation. He rose to the challenge of the Second World War, raised a family, built a career, and served and promoted our hobby, plus his beloved Marines.*

*To this eulogist, Ed was always kind, with a warm smile, and encouraging. He never*

found faults; rather, he sought to entice others, with whatever they had or collected, to thrive with our hobby.

Having written several eulogies during this “*annus horribilis*”, it is difficult to close and to offer some lesson. So, from the ancient Roman Seneca, “not how long, but how well you have lived is the main thing.” Ed achieved that. *Semper Fi*.

—Michael S. Turrini

## **Gregory T. Vistica**

Dec. 21, 1924 - Dec. 16, 2019, CSNA LM-52-02, Los Altos Hills. Greg was born in Stockton, CA, to immigrant parents, Nicolina and Martin Vistica, from Yugoslavia and spoke Croatian to the very end. Greg served in the 314th Troop Carrier Group that dropped paratroopers over Sainte-Mère-Église on D-Day, for which he received a unit citation.



Greg and Margaret Bogdanich were married on December 4, 1949. Greg grew a successful business as a contractor, insurance and real estate broker, and realtor. Greg was a pilot and an avid traveler. He piloted around the world in a twin-engine plane and took numerous other daring trips, such as flying over the Andes. He visited over 200 countries, many of those with Margaret, including Antarctica, and another to the North Pole with Jim Lovell.

## **Clyde Hubbard**

Born 2/16/1916, passed 10/26/2020 at the age of 104 in his home in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Clyde was born in the small upstate New York community of Philadelphia, just a few miles from the Canadian border. As a child, he would gather coins from his father's business and began collecting in earnest. He received his first Mexican coin in 1930 while in high school. Clyde served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a bombardier and instructor during World War II before joining the family business. He joined the Elizabeth Arden cosmetic firm, which assigned him to Cuba and then Mexico in 1947.



Clyde chose to remain in Mexico and pursued his interest in the native coinage. He joined the ANA in 1950 and founded the Sociedad Numismatics de Mexico in 1952. He was also a founding member of the Federation of Numismatists of Cuba and Numismaticos Colombiano. He was also a member of NASC. Among the world's foremost authorities on Mexican coinage, he wrote or contributed to many books on the subject of the region's coins. Among them are *A Guide Book Of Mexican Coins 1822 To Date*, co-authored with T. V. Buttrely; and *Hookneck: El Aguila de Perfil*, written with David O'Harrow.

He was honored in 1976 with the ANA's Medal of Merit. Seven years later, he was selected as the winner of the 33rd Farran Zerbe Memorial Award. He was inducted into the ANA's Numismatic Hall of Fame in 1994 and was an honorary life member of the American Numismatic Society.

In a 2010 interview at the ANA's convention in Fort Worth, Mr. Hubbard told David Lisot that numismatics is a great passion, saying, “My life has been made extremely rich by all the friends I have made in numismatics.”

## **Victor Saul**

NASC Sustaining Member (joined 1985) was active at one time with a couple of the Israel numismatic clubs in Southern California (all now defunct) and the Los Angeles Coin Club, also now defunct. Resident of Los Angeles.



# Calendar of Events



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

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

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

- April 4            **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 17-18      **Fresno Coin Show**, American Legion Post 509, 3509 N. First St., Fresno, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- May 2            **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 7-9          **Las Vegas Coin Show**, The Orleans Hotel and Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- June 6            **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).
- June 17-19      **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, [info@longbeachexpo.com](mailto:info@longbeachexpo.com).
- July 10-11       **64th Annual Coinarama**, San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South (Mission Valley), [www.coinarama.org](http://www.coinarama.org).
- July 23-25       **Las Vegas Coin Show**, The Orleans Hotel and Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- August 1          **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, [www.pacificexposllc.com](http://www.pacificexposllc.com).

- August 20-22 **Golden State Coin Show (GSCS)**, NASC, Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Road. Info: Don Berry, 626-786-0177, dberry@pressedsales.com, www.goldenstatecoinshow.com.
- September 5 **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
- September 16-18 **San Jose Coin Expo**, Doubletree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Blvd., San Jose, Scott Griffin, 415-601-8661.
- Sept 30-Oct 2 **Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**, Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, info@longbeachexpo.com.
- October 23-24 **Fresno Coin Show**, American Legion Post 509, 3509 N. First St., Fresno, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- October 24 **Glendale Coin Club Show**, Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, Mike Kittle, 818-451-9199.
- November 7 **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
- November 12-14 **Las Vegas Coin Show**, The Orleans Hotel and Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- December 5 **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, K. Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.

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# CSNA

## Elected Officers, 2019-2020

President.....	Michael S. Turrini emperori@juno.com, 707-246-6327
Vice President .....	José Gallego JMGallego@Los Gallego.com, 619-261-3610
Corresponding Secretary.....	George Magaan 1740 Sessler Drive, Yuba City, CA 95993, gemagann@hotmail.com, 530-822-9557
Recording Secretary.....	David J. Trimmingham moviemann8@comcast.net, 707-761-9752
Treasurer .....	Lloyd Chan lchanfixz@aol.com, for most current contact info please visit www.CalCoin.org

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Editor.....	Greg Burns gregsburns@gmail.com, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711
Librarian.....	<open> csnlibrary@gmail.com, CSNA Library, c/o Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum 734 Marin Street, Vallejo, CA 94590-5592

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

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# NASC

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President.....	Michael Kittle
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Phil Iversen (immediate Past-President)		

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Awards .....	John Duff
Awards Recognition Event.....	Don Berry
CSNA Representative .....	Phil Iversen
Editor.....	Greg Burns
Exhibits .....	John Duff
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# Writing for *The California Numismatist*



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

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

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

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

**Next deadline for material submission: May 15, 2021**

## Advertising

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



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

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

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

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

# Numismatic Nostalgia



## Fifty Years Ago

- NASC had just recently concluded their “sensational” sixteenth convention, and had already started planning for the following year’s event (the “super seventeenth”) in February 1972. The four-day show was to be held in the Los Angeles Hilton Hotel. The 1971 banquet was a black tie and formal affair, sold out with 350 in attendance.
- CSNA’s *Calcoin News* was being edited by Lesley G. Lodge, with assistance on club reports from Jerry Kroeger and Nona G. Moore. Jerry’s and Nona’s contributions were titled, “North of the Tehachapis” and “South of the Tehachapis” respectively, one of the forerunners of today’s column “Around the State”. The *NASC Quarterly*’s version was called “Club News”. The Tehachapi Mountains by the way were CSNA’s traditional dividing line between the north and south part of the state, and are coincident with “the Grapevine”, a road grade that ascends from the San Joaquin Valley to the Tejon Pass in the Tehachapi Mountains.

## Twenty-Five Years Ago

- *The NASC Quarterly* broke out the scoop that the “ANA Launches its World Wide Web Pages to Allow Easy Access From the Internet.” The announcement came from ANA Executive Director Robert J. Leuver, and the system was developed by ANA MIS Manager Susan Nulty. The descriptions sound positively primitive, but remember, from a tiny acorn grows a mighty oak.
- An a similar note, CSNA Vice President Joel Anderson had an item in *Calcoin News* that trumpeted, “CSNA is ‘On the ‘Net.’” In those early days of Internet access, virtually all folks linked up via modem. Remember the squealy-crackly squawking the little box would make as it established the connection? Ah, now that’s nostalgia!

## Ten Years Ago

- TCN was in pretty much the same format and look as today. Color throughout and roughly 80 or so pages in each issue. Jerry Yahalom was president of NASC, and Gary Beedon president of CSNA.
- Talk about déjà vu! I was reading the “Editor’s Page” in the spring 2011 issue, and it (unfortunately) seems as apt today as it did a decade ago: “I’m sorry to say that I’m wrapping this issue up about two weeks late. Funny, just six weeks ago it seemed I was ahead of the curve, then before I knew it, yikes!, the deadline to the printer had come and gone and I was barely half done.” Mmm, this year I’ll be retiring from my “day job”, and hopefully these types of calendar challenges will abate somewhat.

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